

Minutes of the 51th Nutrition Working Group Meeting

14:00 – 15:00

Wednesday, 16 February 2017

Venue: National Institute of Nutrition

1. Introductions

Giới thiệu

2. Programme updates

1. Short introduction by UN Assistant Secretary General- Coordinator of the SUN Movement, Ms Gerda Verburg
2. Discussion on the SUN strategy and Implementation in Vietnam

Discussion and Action points:

Agenda item	Discussions	Action points
1. Introduction and welcome speech by the Director of NIN		
2. Introduction by Ms Gerda Verburg	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Vietnam is the 1st country visited by the UN Assistant Secretary General- Coordinator of the SUN Movement, Ms Gerda Verburg, as part of her trip to Asian countries which has joined the SUN movement.• She emphasized the importance of SUN movement in Vietnam for better nutrition for Vietnamese people, especially children.• Vietnam signed for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which include 17 goals, and Nutrition is part of the 2nd goal (<i>“End hunger, achieve food security and improved</i>	

	<p><i>nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”). There are still big challenges to overcome in Vietnam in regards to nutrition, such as the too high stunting rate of 24%, but there are also big opportunities to improve nutrition. Based on World Bank estimation, if nutrition improves then the domestic growth can increase by 3%.</i></p>	
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3. Discussion on the SUN strategy and Implementation		
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>UNICEF:</u> UNICEF is established in Vietnam for 42 years. Nutrition is a key to improve the continuum of care, from breastfeeding to WASH. Nutrition was also one of the entry points for the MDGs, and now is one the SDGs. Need to raise to Prime Minister that stunting is still an issue for the country and therefore stunting reduction should be included into social and development growth plan of Vietnam. • <u>FAO:</u> FAO has worked on nutrition and food security in the country, with health and agricultural sectors. FAO supports the government of Vietnam and the ministry of agriculture on the Zero Hunger challenge, for which nutrition and food security are important indicators. FAO has just developed the country program framework for the next 5 years, and nutrition and food security are one of the most important areas of work. • <u>Ministry of Agriculture:</u> Two programs linked with nutrition will be developed, one in cooperation with NIN targeting children especially the ones under 2, and one which will focus on food safety. For this one the ministry would like to have NIN also involved. • <u>World Bank:</u> SUN movement is really important as it coordinates 	
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multisectoral partners.

World Bank is partnering with NIN on a project in highland mountains to improve the nutritional status of children.

World Bank has developed their East Asia strategy, emphasizing the importance of multisectoral cooperation to see how each partner can contribute in improving nutrition.

A multisectoral action plan will be developed, where nutrition will be included and seen as a window of opportunity for multisectoral cooperation.

- **WHO:**
WHO reiterated the importance of stunting and double burden issues in the country, with overweight and obesity rates increasing rapidly, and the importance of having commitment from government and provincial localities.
WHO has started a program for essential care for newborns and mothers, and supported the national plan to promote healthy diet and physical activities of the government.
- **MOH:**
The TWGN is one of the thirteen groups of the Health Partnership Group at MOH.
MOH engages the private sectors in policies dialogues on nutrition.
Regarding the SDGs and the 2nd goal, MOH has contributed by developing the 1st draft plan, but it needs to be linked with other sectors such as food security, climate change etc...
- **A&T:**
A&T is in the country since 2008, and their main work is focused on P&A on breastfeeding promotion and protection.
A&T also provides support to other countries of the SUN movement, and emphasized the need to leverage the SUN in Vietnam to higher level and the need to have a coordination structure to link government, institutions, business network etc...together.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>GAIN and NIN:</u> GAIN has partnered with NIN over the past 10 years, mainly on food fortification and home fortification with MNPs programs. GAIN started discussing with NIN their willingness and readiness to start in Vietnam the Sun Business Network (SBN), and on January 2017 there was a kick-off call between NIN, GAIN and the SBN Global team where the next steps to develop SBN were identified. NIN is currently reviewing documents from SBN and brainstormed ideas for entry points, and after internal meeting at NIN to discuss the next steps there will be a follow up call with SBN global team in the upcoming weeks. NIN also mentioned that they will need technical assistance to develop SBN and also resources for funding the 1st SBN meeting in the country.• <u>Close up remark by Ms Gerda Verburg:</u> There is a good opportunity for Vietnam to build a network of cooperation between the ministry of agriculture and MoH, as nutrition and sustainable agricultural sensitive interventions is a win-win. It is essential to coordinate well all partners to avoid having some starting alone initiatives, but rather encouraging them to cooperate, to bring all forces together.	
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Minutes prepared by: Marie Nguyen and XXXXXXXX (please add)

Attendees:

No	Organization	Name	Email
1	Ms Gerda Verburg	UN assistant secretary general and SUN coordinator	
2	Tahira Mustafa	SUN country liaison	
3	Martin Eklund	Special Assistant to the SUN Movement Coordinator	
4		UNICEF	
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8	Huynh Nam Phuong	NIN	
9	Trần Thúy Nga	NIN	tranthuynga@dinhduong.org.vn
10	Tran Khanh Van	NIN	
11		MOH	
12		MOLISA	
13		Ministry of Agriculture	
14		WHO	
15		World Bank	
16		Farmer Union	
17		Women Union	
18	NGUYEN Marie	GAIN	marienguyen21@yahoo.fr
19	Roger Mathisen	Alive & Thrive	
20	Pham Kim Ngoc	HKI	pngoc@hki.org
21		Health Bridge	
22		Save the Children	
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