



African Union



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AFRICAN UNION DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

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Scaling Up
NUTRITION
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AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT HIGH-LEVEL NUTRITION SIDE EVENT

Achieving Nutrition Goals in Africa Post-Malabo:
Public and Private Sector Sustainable Nutrition Financing

EVENT PROGRAM

February 16, 2024



BACKGROUND

Many African countries have made progress towards reducing undernutrition, notably under-5 stunting, and adolescent and adult underweight. However, progress to address malnutrition across the region remains uneven. Only six countries are on course to meet the global target for stunting among children under 5, and obesity is on the rise across the continent as countries are faced with the double burden of malnutrition.¹

To achieve the global nutrition goals and SDGs, accelerated progress for nutrition financing is needed across all sources including the private sector.

Today's program offers insight on how to mobilize more funding for nutrition, how to leverage sources of funding to strategically maximize nutrition gains, and how to engage the private sector to improve nutrition. The event will begin with an official session, inclusive of opening remarks from esteemed colleagues, followed by the keynote address given by H.E. Dr. Dereje Duguma, State Minister of Health, Ethiopia. A technical session will immediately follow, showcasing experiences from Ethiopia, Nigeria, Ghana, Malawi, and Côte d'Ivoire on how each country has made significant progress in sustainable nutrition financing. Lastly, the technical session will include a presentation on new guidelines for engaging the private sector for win-win nutrition outcomes in home-grown school feeding programs, developed by AUDA-NEPAD in collaboration with Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and within the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) framework.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The aim of today's proceedings is to bring together experiences across African countries that have improved financing for nutrition sustainably. Objectives are to:

- Accelerate the Malabo achievement and review nutrition indicators and sustainable financing strategies for integration into the AU Post-Malabo Agenda.
- Introduce the Private Sector Framework for nutrition and accelerate home-grown school feeding.
- Share experiences and lessons on sustainable nutrition financing across African countries.
- Share tools and resources being developed to support countries in achieving nutrition financing goals and initiatives that can accelerate progress.

EXPECTED OUTCOME

Together, we aim to develop a call-to-action for sustainable nutrition financing for countries in Africa to feed into the Post-Malabo discussions.

¹ Global Nutrition Report, 2022

PROGRAM AGENDA

TIME	TITLE	LEAD
OFFICIAL SESSION: 09:00 - 10:00		
Moderator: Mrs. Estherine Lisinge-Fotabong <i>Director of Agriculture, Food Security and Environmental Sustainability - AUDA-NEPAD</i>		
09:00 - 09:05	Welcome and Introduction 5 min	Moderator
09:05 - 09:10	Opening Remarks 5 min	Her Excellency, Adanech Abiebie <i>Mayor of Addis Ababa</i>
09:10 - 09:35	Remarks 25 min (5 min each)	H.E. Mrs. Nardos Bekele-Thomas <i>CEO, AUDA-NEPAD</i> H.E. Amb. Sacko Josefa Leonel Correa <i>Commissioner for Agriculture Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment African Union</i> H.E. Elias M. Magosi <i>SADC Secretariat Executive Director</i> Dr. Hameed Nuru <i>United Nations Representative AU and ECA</i> ASG Ms. Afshan Khan <i>UN Assistant Secretary-General Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Coordinator</i>
09:35 - 09:45	Keynote Address 10 min	H.E. Dr. Dereje Duguma <i>State Minister of Health, Ethiopia</i>
09:45 - 10:00	Press Conference and Photo Session	
TECHNICAL SESSION: 10:00 - 11:30		
Moderator: Dr. Namukulo Covic, <i>Director General's Representative to Ethiopia, CGIAR Ethiopia Country Convenor, CGIAR Regional Director for East and Southern Africa, President of the African Nutrition Society</i>		
10:00 - 10:05	Opening of Technical Session 5 min	Moderator
10:05 - 10:15	Presentation The Seqota Declaration Resource Mobilization Plan Expansion and Scale-Up Phases 10 min	Dr. Sisay Sinamo <i>Senior Programme Manager Seqota Declaration Federal Programme Delivery Unit SUN Focal Point, Ethiopia</i>

PANELISTS	QUESTIONS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panelists from Ghana, Malawi, Nigeria and Côte d'Ivoire are asked to share a brief overview of the nutrition financing landscape in their country. 16 min (4 min each x 4 panelists) 	<p>Please describe actions your country has taken to strengthen nutrition financing across sectors (national and/or sub-national).</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panelists are asked to share their experiences, insights, and success stories related to nutrition financing and private sector engagement. 20 min (4 min each x 5 panelists) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Chito N. Nelson, Deputy Director, Head of Food and Nutrition Division, Dept. of Social Development, Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning, Nigeria 	<p>What strategies have worked well to increase financing for nutrition at state-level in Nigeria?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Blessings Muwalo, Deputy Director of Nutrition, Ministry of Health, Department of Nutrition, Malawi 	<p>How have districts in Malawi strengthened budgeting and planning for nutrition across sectors?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs. Mary Mpereh, Technical Advisor, Food Systems and Nutrition Security, National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Ghana 	<p>How can medium-term development plans be utilized to increase nutrition financing in Ghana?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Patricia N'Goran, Adviser to the President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire and SUN Focal Point 	<p>What are some of the challenges that Francophone African countries face to elevate nutrition financing?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Providence Mavubi, Director, Agriculture and Industry, COMESA 	<p>How can private sector investments be leveraged to support financing for nutrition programs?</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finally, panelists are asked to share closing reflections for other African countries. 12 min (2 min each x 5 panelists) 	<p>What lessons learned can you share with other African countries that aim to enhance nutrition financing?</p>	
TIME	TITLE	LEAD
11:05 - 11:15	<p>Presentation Guidelines for engaging the private sector for win-win nutrition outcomes 10 min</p>	<p>Ms. Kefilwe Moalosi <i>Nutrition and Food Safety Programme Officer</i> AUDA-NEPAD</p>
11:15 - 11:30	<p>Q&A: Interactive Session Questions and answers 15 min</p>	<p>Leading Facilitator</p>

SPECIAL CLOSING SESSION: 11:30 - 12:00

Moderator: Dr. Sisay Sinamo

Senior Programme Manager, Seqota Declaration Federal Programme Delivery Unit, Ethiopia

11:30 - 11:45	Presentation and Reflection from Special Session Speakers 15 min	H.E. Dr. Dereje Duguma <i>State Minister of Health, Ethiopia</i>
11:45 - 11:50	Press Conference with Special Session Speakers	
11:50 - 12:00	Closing Remarks 10 min	AUDA-NEPAD and Government of Ethiopia
12:00	Lunch	

MORE INFORMATION FROM TODAY'S PROCEEDINGS

ETHIOPIA'S SEQOTA DECLARATION RESOURCE MOBILIZATION PLAN

The Seqota Declaration is the Government of Ethiopia's high-level commitment to end stunting among children under two years by 2030. It builds on and catalyzes the implementation of the national Food and Nutrition Strategy by delivering high-impact nutrition-specific, nutrition-sensitive, and climate and nutrition-smart infrastructure interventions. After a successful Innovation Phase, the government of Ethiopia launched the ambitious Expansion and Scale-Up Phases that aim to reach more vulnerable households with multi-sectoral interventions.

According to the Seqota Declaration roadmap, the Government aims to reach 700 woredas by the end of the Expansion Phase and cover the entire country by the end of the Scale-Up Phases, based on a plan approved by the Government on January 1, 2024.

The Seqota Declaration Roadmap indicates that scaling up programs to achieve the eight strategic objectives of the Seqota Declaration would cost approximately 12 billion Ethiopian Birr (ETB), or about 378 million USD. To meet these costs, the federal government has committed to allocate 3 billion ETB annually from Treasury which will be matched by regions for an additional allocation of 3 billion ETB annually from regional governments. The Seqota Declaration has issued a request to partners to match the Government contribution of 6 billion ETB annually for a total of 12 billion ETB in government-managed funding to meet the Scale-Up Phase costs. To help achieve these funding targets the Seqota Declaration has established three sustainable financing goals and have established thirteen supportive partner actions to reach these goals.

THE SCALING UP NUTRITION MOVEMENT

The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement is a country-driven initiative led by 66 countries and 4 Indian States – collectively known as the SUN Countries, and includes thousands of stakeholders from across society – all united in their mission to end all forms of malnutrition by 2030. Since 2010, the SUN Movement has inspired a new way of working collaboratively to end malnutrition, in all its forms. With the governments of SUN Countries in the lead, it unites people—from civil society, the United Nations, donors, businesses and researchers—in a collective effort to improve nutrition. The Scaling Up Nutrition Movement Strategy SUN 3.0 (2021–2025) continues to highlight the importance of nutrition as a universal agenda – and one which is integral to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The SUN Movement will soon launch a new platform supporting sustainable financing for nutrition, in response to the high demand from countries. **The SUN Finance and Capacity Development Platform (FCDP)** aims to inspire and ignite government leaders to elevate nutrition financing in order to see impact across sectors.

PRIVATE SECTOR GUIDELINES FOR HOME-GROWN SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAMS

Recently, AUDA-NEPAD in collaboration with FAO, developed Guidelines for the Private Sector for 'Win-Win' Outcomes in Nutrition in Africa developed by embracing Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and a food systems approach, as a strategic and forward-thinking move. This integration recognizes the interconnected nature of agriculture, nutrition, and overall development, acknowledging that a holistic approach is crucial for achieving meaningful and sustainable outcomes.

By leveraging CAADP, the guidelines align with a continental framework that prioritizes agricultural development as a catalyst for economic growth and poverty reduction. This approach recognizes that nutrition is intricately linked to agriculture, as the availability and accessibility of diverse, nutritious foods are fundamental to addressing nutritional challenges.

AUDA-NEPAD NUTRITION SCORECARD FOR AFRICA

Many African countries have made progress towards reducing undernutrition, notably under-5 stunting, and adolescent and adult underweight, however, progress to address malnutrition across the region remains uneven. Only six countries are on course to meet the global target for stunting among children under 5, and obesity is on the rise across the continent as countries are faced with the double burden of malnutrition (GNR, 2022). Similarly, AUDA-NEPAD developed Nutrition Scorecard for Africa emanated from the 2015 Global Nutrition Report. The scorecard aims to provide a measurement tool on the progress made at country level to effectively reduce malnutrition in Africa. The data collected from various countries across the continent provides an illustration of the current status of nutrition and the scale of malnutrition in Africa. The document identifies seven areas of action to accelerate the process of reducing malnutrition. Also, African countries have made progress over the last decade to improve nutrition programs and policies with some countries costing their plans and several countries going farther by strengthening financial management, budgeting, and tracking of nutrition across sectors.

GOVERNMENT-LED DEVELOPMENT OF COUNTRY-LEVEL NUTRITION FINANCING FRAMEWORK

Today's program highlights the commendable progress Ethiopia, Nigeria, Ghana, and Malawi have made to improve nutrition financing. In Nigeria, 14 states developed state-level multisectoral financing frameworks for nutrition and are in the process of institutionalizing nutrition budget tagging and benchmarks into annual planning and budgeting processes. Ghana developed a nutrition financing framework across sectors after completing a close review of 17 district nutrition plans. In Malawi, a review of nutrition costs and spending in four districts helped generate district - level frameworks and a set of recommendations for scale up across all districts.

Based on these experiences, a common approach has emerged, captured in a Toolkit that government nutrition leaders can adapt to design their own national or sub-national nutrition financing frameworks. The Toolkit includes guidance on the process as well as a suite of practical tools, resources, and templates that can be modified to fit the need and used directly.

The Toolkit includes six critical elements that promote sustainable financing for nutrition:

- Policy foundations
- Mainstreaming nutrition into annual planning and budgeting
- Government benchmarking for nutrition across sectors
- External resource mobilization
- Effective advocacy planning
- Tracking and accountability

FRAMEWORK ELEMENT	WHAT THE TOOLS DO
Policy Foundations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Articulate the current nutrition financing landscape, challenges, and best practices ■ Establish sustainable nutrition financing goals to serve as the foundation for the financing framework
Mainstreaming Nutrition into Annual Planning and Budgeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop a planning and budget management cycle for nutrition mapped to the budget calendar year, specifying key actions, milestones, and criteria for success to elevate nutrition ■ Identify bottlenecks and facilitate discussion on strategic solutions to strengthen annual planning and budgeting to promote nutrition
Government Benchmarking for Nutrition Across Sectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop benchmarks for nutrition budget allocations for each sector ■ Establish expectations for the release and expenditure for nutrition (financing performance)
External Resource Mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Identify funding opportunities to support nutrition programming across sources ■ Establish resource mobilization targets for nutrition and fundraising strategies
Effective Advocacy Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Develop a Call-to-Action list ■ Articulate the target audiences required to support sustainable financing for nutrition and key messages to convey
Tracking and Accountability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Articulate indicators for successful implementation of this financing framework and develop a plan to monitor progress and hold partners accountable to their roles and responsibilities ■ Identify needs to strengthen tracking and accountability systems for nutrition

The Toolkit will soon be widely available through the SUN Financing Capacity Development Platform (FCDP) for nutrition. For access to the Toolkit now or more information, please contact Albertha Nyaku (anyaku@r4d.org) and Mary D'Alimonte (mdalimonte@r4d.org).



Thank you
for attending