



## Final Narrative Report

# STRENGTHENING SUN CSA CAPACITY FOR ADVOCACY AND DOMESTIC FINANCING FOR NUTRITION IN KENYA



Reporting Period:

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<b>List of Acronyms</b>	
APHRC	Africa Population Health Research Center
CRF	Common Result Framework
CFLA	County First Ladies Association
CNAP	County Nutrition Action Plan
CSA	Civil Society Alliance
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CS-SUNN	Civil Society- Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GMT	Graca Machel Trust
HENNET	Health NGO Network
HKI	Helen Keller International
KEMRI	Kenya Medical Research Institute
KeWoPa	Kenya Women Parliamentarians
KNAP	Kenya Nutrition Action Plan
MNCHN	Maternal New-born, Child Health and Nutrition
MSP	Multi-Stakeholder Platform
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
OAY	Organization of African Youth
PINNS	Partnership for Improving Nigeria Nutrition Systems
RAG	Red-Amber-Green
SARN	SUN Academia and Research Network
SBN	Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
SUN CSA	Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Alliance
TA	Technical Assistance
OP	Office of the president
WVK	World Vision Kenya

## Background

Kenya has a stunting rate of 18%, wasting of 5%, and overweight of 3%<sup>1</sup>. As a country, Kenya is facing COVID 19 pandemic amid multiple threats such as desert locusts, drought and floods which have negatively affected diet, nutrition, food production and food security at household level and threatens to derail the gains made over the past years. Routine health services at the community level such as maternal new-born, child health and nutrition (MNCHN), vitamin A supplementation, family planning and HIV services have been affected as well. Kenya has made several significant commitments to respond to the burden of malnutrition and the Government priorities, reflect a shift from the hitherto existing focus on infrastructural and revenue generated responses to health and nutrition. Food security and nutrition is one of the President's commitments for 2022-2027. The vision is to ensure that all Kenyans are food secure by the year 2027.

The Food Security bill (2014) obligates national and county governments to promote childhood nutrition to the extent of their mandate as set out under the constitution. Kenya has also advanced in creating an enabling policy environment to support multisectoral nutrition interventions. These include implementation of Kenya Food and Nutrition security policy (2018-2022), Kenya Nutrition Action Plan (KNAP) 2018-2022 and translated into various sub-national action plans at County level.

Kenya joined the SUN Movement in September 2012 and has since set up various SUN networks (Government Network, United Nations (UN) Network, Civil Society Alliance (CSA), SUN Business Network (SBN), Academic Network and the Donor network). Through advocacy by these SUN networks, considerable effort has gone into pushing nutrition agenda at national and county level.

The SUN CSA in Kenya was established in 2013 with mandate to mobilize and develop the capacity of civil societies; inform the public on food and nutrition and hold the government accountable. The CSA works to empower the youth and women at community level on demand for nutritious foods. The CSA has a membership of 108 civil society organizations and a youth chapter of 38 youth groups with 1,054 members. The SUN CSA has been at the center of nutrition advocacy efforts in Kenya.

The external operating environment has changed since the start of the project with the transition to new government taking place at National and County level. We started the project during the electioneering period both at national and county level which officially started on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2022 and ended on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The general election was held on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The change in the external operating environment did not negatively affect the implementation of the work plan.

The capacity of Civil Society Alliances to take up advocacy initiatives for nutrition is a major challenge in many African countries, including Kenya; SUN CSA Kenya has partnered with Civil Society- Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN) on strengthening the alliance's capacity for effective nutrition policy and budget advocacy, resource mobilization, peer reviews of alliance structure, and policies. Other areas for future collaboration between the two alliances with the CS-SUNN Partnership for Improving Nigeria Nutrition Systems (PINNS 2.0) to contribute to a stronger SUN CSA in Kenya

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<sup>1</sup> KDHS 2022

have also been identified. The lessons learnt from this partnership will go a long way in inspiring other alliances and networks in other jurisdictions to also forge similar relationships and to leverage on comparative strengths which already exist within many CSAs.

**What has changed (big-picture results / achievements) at national/sub-national level during the reporting period in relation to your priorities?**

- With support from Nigeria SUN CSA, we were able to become independent from the hosting arrangement we had with Nutrition international. The SUN CSA Kenya currently has an office space where we conduct our official operations.
- Through this grant the SUN CSA has continued to strengthen institutional capacity to manage and account for resources (financial and human). We opened a bank account and built financial systems making it possible to effectively manage internal and external resources.
- The grant enabled the SUN CSA to produce the 1<sup>st</sup> annual new letter and audited accounts that has positioned us to be able to receive external funds.
- Through the cooperation of this grant, the SUN CSA Kenya has managed to grow the membership from 74 to 108 fully registered members. We are in the process of registering additional 300 members drawn from the County chapters.
- Through the partnership, we managed to establish 12 new SUN CSA chapters at the County level. This process of establishing county chapters is an effort to strengthen our County/ sub-national capacity to engage in advocacy activities.
- Through technical guidance from Nigeria team, we have trained and strengthened capacities of over 300 members on nutrition advocacy and how to engage with policy makers.

The activities under this grant were implemented under 3 objectives

1. Strengthen SUN CSA network capacity for Nutrition policy engagement at subnational level.
2. Strengthen coordination and engagement among nutrition stakeholders around national and County nutrition action plans.
3. Mobilize and Secure financial commitments from CSOs and county government in support of CNAP.

**Objective 1: Strengthen SUN CSA network capacity for Nutrition policy engagement at subnational level.**

To strengthen Kenya SUN CSA network capacity to engage on nutrition advocacy at National and County level, two trainings were conducted reaching 33 organizations. The first training was conducted in Nairobi. The Civil Society- Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN) team provided technical support in co-facilitating training from **25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July 2022** and a further on-line course to complete a full advocacy package. The training was attended by 14 organizations (BIBA Kenya, HENNET, Helen Keller International (HKI), Africa Population Health Research Center (APHRC), Child Fund, GAIN, World

Vision, Concern Worldwide, Nutrition International, We World, Organization of African Youth (OAY), KANCO, Feed the Children and the supporting team from Civil Society Scaling Up Nutrition in Nigeria (CS-SUNN). The second training took place on **22<sup>nd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November 2022** at Whirlsprings Hotel Kisumu, bringing together 19 organizations working in Kisumu County. This second advocacy training was supported by facilitators who had gained technical experience from the first training held in Nairobi.

On SUN CSA network members' capacity to support nutrition policy, three trainings were held on tools and strategies on engagement with political and policy leaders. The first training was conducted in Nairobi on **23<sup>rd</sup> August 2022** and attended by 22 participants drawn from 12 organizations. The second training was held on **18<sup>th</sup> October 2022** at the Golf Hotel, Kakamega County attended by 22 participants working in the county and experts from different organizations. The third training took place on **9<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at the Orient Hotel, Tharaka Nithi County and brought together 17 participants.

During the reporting period, four successful sessions on policy formulation and policy landscape analysis were held. The first one took place on **31<sup>st</sup> October and 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022** at Whirlsprings Hotel, Kisumu County and brought together 45 participants. The second training took place on **15<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at Ceamo Hotel, Turkana County and brought together 24 participants. The third training took place on **14<sup>th</sup> February 2023** at Lijam Legacy Hotel, Nyamira County and brought together 25 participants. The fourth engagement took place on **16<sup>th</sup> February 2023** at the Itoya Hotel, Busia County and brought together 30 participants.

In recognition of the important role that the media plays in information gathering and dissemination to educate the general public on health and nutrition, 24 CSA members were sensitized on strategies on CSO and media engagement on nutrition policies and accountability. The sensitization took place on **21<sup>st</sup> December 2022** at Waridi Paradise Hotel.

## **Objective 2: Strengthen coordination and engagement among nutrition stakeholders around national and County nutrition action plans.**

To enhance coordination and inform resource mobilization gaps, the SUN CSA mapped civil societies engagements and interventions across all 47 counties. The report provides information on WHO is doing WHAT and WHERE. The information helps in ensuring that we avoid duplication of efforts in counties we work in. For more information check our website- <https://suncsakenya.org/achievements/sun-csa-mapping-tool.html>

During the reporting period, there was establishment of 12 county chapters to aid in facilitating SUN CSA presence and support engagement at the county level.

The first county chapter under this project was established on 30<sup>th</sup> August 2022 at Victoria comfort inn hotel in Kisumu County and brought together 30 participants from 24 organizations.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Eunice Owino	JIU PACHI	Chairperson

2	Simba Nixon	FLAG	Co-Chair
3	Beth Odingo	Make Me Smile	Secretary
4	Job Oluoch	United Destiny Shapers	Treasurer
5	Charles Lwanga	KEMRI	Research
6	Fred Omondi	KIDOGO	Youth Representative

The second chapter under this grant was formed on **31<sup>st</sup> August 2022** in Makueni County and brought together 7 CSOs/NGOs/CBOs implementing nutrition and food security components. In addition, 3 representatives from the department of health Makueni county were present.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Isaac K. Wachira	Nutrition International	Chairperson
2	Jared O. Kiage	WVK	Co-Chair
3	Christine Kasina	Help a Child Africa	Secretary
4	David Matuku	Caritas	Treasurer

Nairobi County chapter was re-activated and new officials elected to support engagement at the county level.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Immaculate Nthiga	Concern worldwide	Chairperson
2	David Osogo	APHRC	Co-Chair
3	Catherine Wanjiku	Koch FM	Secretary
4	Gregory Kimani	City Shamba	Treasurer

Homabay county as the fourth chapter was established on **1<sup>st</sup> December 2022** at the Staridge Hotel, Homabay. The session brought together 29 participants drawn from different organizations working on nutrition programs in different aspects.

The fifth chapter was established in Kakamega county and took place on **17<sup>th</sup> October 2022** at the Golf Hotel, Kakamega County organized by SUN-CSA Network. The session brought together 22 participants.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Violet Shivutse	SHIBUYE	Chairperson
2	Raphael Wekesa	ADS-W	Co-Chair

3	Jenipher Atieno	OGRA	Secretary
4	David Anguba	CARITAS	Treasurer

Migori chapter was established on **16<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at the Heritage Annexe Hotel, Migori County as the sixth chapter. The session brought together 26 participants.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Philip Omondi	LWALA Community Alliance	Chairperson
2	Vincent Okonya	RAPADO	Co-Chair
3	Anastacia Gati	WORLD VISION	Secretary
4	Beatrice Achieng	ACEP	Treasurer

The seventh chapter was established in Narok County on **13<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at the Chambai Springs Hotel. The session brought together 13 participants.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Harriet Namale	UNICEF	Chairperson
2	Polycarp Waswa	WERK	Co-Chair
3	Harrison Khagai	WORLD CONCERN	Secretary
4	Daisy Chebet	NDMA	Treasurer

Tharaka Nithi chapter establishment activity that took place on **8<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at the Oriental Hotel, Tharaka Nithi County as the eighth chapter under the project. The session brought together 20 participants.

The officials elected were:

No.	Name	Organization	Position
1.	Joel Kithure	CARITAS Tharaka Nithi	Chairperson
2.	Irene Mokuia	Village Hopescore	Co-Chair
3.	Mercy Mwendu	Sweet N Dried	Secretary
4.	Beth Mungai	Hellen Keller International	Treasurer

The ninth chapter was established in Turkana County on **14<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at the Ceamo Prestige Hotel, and brought together 20 participants.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Kassim Lupao	PAN-AFRICARE	Chairperson

2	Hellen Okochil	NAWIRI	Co-Chair
3	Akutan Lobilia Nelson	SAVE THE CHILDREN	Secretary
4	Noelyne Otho	IRC	Treasurer

The tenth chapter was established in Nyamira County on **13<sup>th</sup> February 2023** at Lijam Hotel and was attended by 27 participants.

The officials elected were:

No	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Moses Mainye	Nyamira Women Sacco	Chairperson
2	Obed Masese	Manga Heart	Co-Chair
3	Sylvia Nyambane	BIMBO	Secretary
4	Aska Kerubo	NBP	Treasurer

The eleventh chapter was established in Kiambu County on **16<sup>th</sup> February 2023** at Maxland Hotel and was attended by 22 participants.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Samuel	Cheer Up	Chairperson
2	Hannah Mburu	Nutrition International	Co-Chair
3	Judy	ECD Network	Secretary
4	Peters Ogame	WVK	Treasurer

The twelfth chapter was established in Busia County on **15<sup>th</sup> February 2023** at Itoya Hotel and was attended by 30 participants.

The officials elected were:

No.	Official Name	Organization	position
1	Maureen Ayodi	BARIDI CBO	Chairperson
2	Patrick Ikwara	Linda Mazingira CSO –Western	Co-Chair
3	Susan Motanya	C.S.A	Secretary
4	Mary Makokha	REEP	Treasurer

Through the project, 4 quarterly all-SUN network meetings were held over a period of 7 months. The meetings brought together all the SUN networks in Kenya to discuss SUN multi-sectoral issues.

The first meeting was held on **29<sup>th</sup> August 2022** at Monarch hotel attended by a total 16 participants drawn from 6 networks namely SUN Business, SUN Academia, SUN Donor,



SUN UN, SUN CSA and SUN Government. The second meeting was on **16<sup>th</sup> November 2022** for a stakeholder consultative meeting on National Food Security and was attended by 45 participants. The third meeting was held on **25<sup>th</sup> November 2022** where SUN networks were sensitized on the new political and government leadership and the process of conducting a Joint Annual Assessment (JAA). The Fourth meeting was held on **1<sup>st</sup> March 2023** to identify priorities for 2023 and finalize the Joint Annual Assessment process in readiness for submission.

Through the joint project, the SUN CSA Kenya produced the first 2022 annual newsletter which contained a summary of SUN CSA achievement for 2020 and 2021. The newsletter is currently in use in disseminating best practices and success stories.

Bringing the SUN CSA County Chapters together to discuss and forge a way forward was instrumental at ensuring engagement of civil societies as a united front. Through the project we were able and successfully supported eight county chapter meetings.

We organized the very first joint meeting between the SBN and CSA Isiolo chapter to explore better ways of working together. The meeting took place on **1<sup>st</sup> of August 2022** at El Boran Resort Hotel- Isiolo. and was attended by 46 participants. Kisumu chapter was supported to discuss work plan and training needs which was held on **15<sup>TH</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> September and 7<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2022**. Homa Bay County met on **6<sup>th</sup> December 2022** to finalize discussion on the third generation county integrated development plan (CIDP). Mombasa county held a reflection and planning meeting on advocacy action plan for the year 2023 that took place on **20<sup>th</sup> December 2022** at Nyali Sun Africa Hotel with 20 CSA members. Nairobi County met on **22<sup>nd</sup> December 2022** to develop Advocacy strategy (3 change objectives) to address the growing food and nutrition crises in Nairobi County and identify critical levers to achieving long-term policy change in the county. Tharaka Nithi on **14<sup>th</sup> December 2022** met and discussed on the various strategies that can be used to reach out to the various civil society organizations working on nutrition in the county in order to bring them on board to form a strong partnership. Kakamega County chapter held a meeting on **17<sup>th</sup> March 2023** to develop their advocacy work plan for 2023. The eighth meeting was held on **4<sup>th</sup> April 2023** at Fairview Hotel to discuss progress and opportunity to grow the chapter.

### **Objective 3: Mobilize and Secure financial commitments from CSOs and county government in support of CNAP.**

Through the project 23 SUN members (Academia, SBN and CSA) were trained on budget analysis and financial tracking methodology and tools for budget making process. The 4-days training was an experiential learning workshop with SUN CSA advocates on budget analysis and financial tracking integrating effective advocacy communications approaches.

After the training the consultants went ahead and conducted a budget analysis and financial tracking for 24 Counties and produced a report.

### **Lessons Learned and Recommendations**

- Effective budget advocacy requires transparent participation of stakeholders and being at the right table at the right time. Furthermore, presenting technical information in simpler and easily understandable concepts has been effective at

increasing political and financial commitment from policy makers. This is the approach that was used for the Cost of Hunger in Africa Kenya (COHA) study, which was well received by policy makers who then committed to fund nutrition interventions.

- Engagement of members of county assembly is critical at securing political commitment since decisions towards service delivery are devolved.
- Involving legislators and policy makers in project advocacy from the beginning is critical at getting political support and solutions at the start of project implementation.
- Additional resources required for continued engagement to sustain long term commitments particularly from the political class.

### **Sustainability and Way-Forward**

- Through the network of nutrition champions at National and sub-national level, the CSA will continue to carry out nutrition advocacy, seek political commitments and institutionalization of nutrition in government planning processes specifically during the budget cycle. This will support in advancing and prioritizing of nutrition.
- The CSA will continue to coordinate network members implementing nutrition specific and sensitive actions. The CSA will also ensure establishment of nutrition coordination at the office of the president and this will support multi-sectoral engagement for better nutrition outcomes. The mid-term review of the costed plans at national and sub-national level will provide an indication of the progress made and how much more needed to achieve set targets.
- The sub-national governments have already picked the accountability aspect by the county assembly members and this will influence budget allocation and ensure they understand the return on investing in nutrition.

