

# Technical Assistance to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO)

The Technical Assistance to Strengthen Capabilities (TASC) project, funded by UK aid, responded to priority requests for support to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement and the SUN Movement Secretariat (SMS) and to the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) from September 2020 to December 2021. TASC was a follow-on TA facility from the Maximising the Quality of Scaling Up Nutrition Plus (MQSUN+) programme (2015-2020) and as such followed the same approach established under MQSUN+.

## Technical assistance to FCDO

- 3**  **Coordination on FCDO nutrition investments and actions**
- 3**  **Nutrition governance and management systems**
- 4**  **Programme design and development of strategic cases**
- 2**  **Evidence synthesis**

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This brief describes the support provided to FCDO which covered four thematic areas including i) Coordination on FCDO nutrition investments and actions (3); ii) Nutrition governance and management systems (3); iii) Programme design and development of strategic cases (4); and iv) Evidence synthesis (2).

The TASC project responded to 12 requests from FCDO to help maximise the quality and effectiveness of its nutrition-related policy and programmes, to support evidence generation and lesson learning and to develop nutrition capacity.

Key deliverables from these assignments are used by FCDO country programme advisors and global nutrition allies working multisectorally, and have been disseminated during presentations (FCDO Nutrition Hubs, Nutrition for Growth Summit), discussed on blogs, and posted directly on stakeholder websites. Dissemination activities will continue throughout 2022.



## Coordination on FCDO Nutrition Investments and Actions

TASC assisted FCDO to coordinate new and existing nutrition investments and global actions.

### Nutrition spend analysis

To analyse FCDO's nutrition spend in 2019 based on the SUN Donor Network methodology; produce a standalone report of FCDO's nutrition spend from 2010-2019; and, score FCDO programmes (based on 2020 spending data) against the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Assistance Committee (OECD-DAC) nutrition policy marker.

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| 1 Master spreadsheet 2010 – 2019 spend data  | 4 FCDO / TASC collaborative blog                                  |
| 2 Data tables aggregate spending 2010 – 2019 | 5 Spreadsheet 2020 spend data with OECD-DAC policy marker applied |
| 3 Final report                               |   |

**What's next?** FCDO intends to repeat the analysis in 2022, in order to complete the analysis of FCDO nutrition spending for the full period 2010 – 2020 for which commitments were made during the 2013 N4G event

[Peter Forsey \(FCDO\)](#)

### Progressing Action on Resilient Nutrition Systems through Innovation and Partnership (PARSNIP) Feedback Mechanism

To develop a tool for soliciting feedback from UNICEF's partners including NGOs and government focal points on UNICEF's progress to reform prevention and treatment of wasting through the 5-year PARSNIP programme; administrate the baseline feedback mechanism to 13 countries; and, develop a methodology note to guide FCDO to administer the tool over the next four years of implementation.

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| 1 Questionnaire    | 4 Nutrition Hub presentation and presentation to INGOs |
| 2 Baseline report  |  |
| 3 Methodology note |  |

**What's next?** FCDO will implement the administering of the questionnaire over the coming years

[Emma Massey \(FCDO\)](#)

### Nutrition for Growth (N4G) support

To support the healthy diets/food systems thematic working group in the preparation and output of the session on day 2 of the Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) summit, whilst also contributing to the development and success of the thematic day as a whole.

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| 1 Narrative for thematic session on Food System Transformation for Healthy Diets (starting at 2h 26m into the recording) | 2 Note on thematic session outputs and related summit commitments |
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**What's next?** FCDO to implement commitments made during N4G

[Paula Chalinder \(FCDO\)](#)



## Nutrition Governance and Management Systems

TASC provided governance and management support to the SUN Movement and the government of Yemen.

### SUN 3.0 Support

To provide independent facilitation and moderation support to the Executive Committee to deliver a draft **SUN Movement Strategy 3.0 (2021–2025)** that clearly reflects the needs and priorities of SUN countries and the commitments of all parts of the Movement.

**1 Consultation report** (*confidential*)

**What's next?** Establishment of an Operationalisation Group (Ops Group) that includes members across the Movement to oversee the implementation of SUN 3.0, and further TA to support the change management process under auspices of the Lead Group (support by TASC as below)

**Maria Pizzini (SMS)**

### Support to Sun Operationalisation Group

To bring both external change management expertise and project management support to the work of the Ops Group and produce a report for the Lead Group with clear, actionable recommendations to implement SUN Movement Strategy 3.0.

**1 Report with recommendations on “Scope”**      **2 Summary of implementation report**

**What's next?** SUN Ops group is dissolved as planned and now the SUN leadership needs to take things forward. There are clear follow-up steps in the **Summary of Implementation report**

**Paula Chalinder (FCDO)**

### Yemen Nutrition Information Systems

To review the nutrition information and analysis systems in Yemen and prepare an analysis report with recommendations and presentation for validation. This assignment was undertaken in close collaboration with UNICEF Yemen.

**1 Scoping / Situational analysis report**      **3 Two PowerPoint presentations** (*validation meeting, FCDO Yemen Programme Board*)  
**2 Key findings & recommendations nutrition information and analysis systems in Yemen:**  
**Two volumes** (*also Arabic version*)

**What's next?** A follow-up action plan has been elaborated by the technical working group on nutrition information systems under the Nutrition Cluster

**Peter Forsey (FCDO)**



## Programme design and development of strategic cases

Four TASC assignments informed FCDO's programme design and development of strategic cases in response to the [2020 Independent Commission for Aid Impact \(ICAI\) Review](#).

### Improving how FCDO reaches those most at risk of malnutrition

To assess evidence on who is typically most vulnerable to undernutrition in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs), least reached with nutrition-specific services and least likely to access a nutritious diet and to provide recommendations on how FCDO can improve its design and targeting of investments to effectively reach those most at risk of undernutrition.

- 1 Evidence review
- 2 Nutrition Hub presentation
- 3 Guidance on improving how FCDO reaches those most-at-risk of malnutrition

[Peter Forsey \(FCDO\)](#)

### Social Protection and Nutrition

To assess evidence and provide guidance and recommendations on where FCDO could implement social protection programmes to target those most at risk of malnutrition and improve diets.

- 1 Evidence review (*internal*)
- 2 Guidance on how to promote better nutrition through social assistance
- 3 Nutrition Hub presentation

[Peter Forsey \(FCDO\)](#)

### Food systems and healthy diets

To produce guidance on how FCDO's policy engagement and aid investments in agriculture, economic development and other areas related to food systems can help improve access to sustainable and nutritious diets and thereby contribute to reducing all forms of malnutrition.

- 1 Evidence review
- 2 High level framework and potential intervention pathways linking food systems to diets
- 3 Guidance on aligning FCDO-funded food system activities with healthier diets for low-income households
- 4 Nutrition hub presentation

[Doreen Hashemi \(FCDO\)](#)

### Guidance to support the monitoring and evaluation of nutrition relevant FCDO programmes

To provide practical guidance to support FCDO advisers in developing monitoring and evaluation (M&E) approaches for nutrition specific and sensitive programmes, with a specific focus on monitoring and measurement.

- 1 Guidance on monitoring and evaluation of nutrition relevant FCDO programmes
- 2 An indicator database to assist with the selection of appropriate indicators
- 3 Nutrition hub presentation

[Emma Massey \(FCDO\)](#)

**What's next?** The guidance notes from all four assignments will be further disseminated by FCDO to stimulate use by their country programme advisors. In early 2022, FCDO will hold a Nutrition Hub meeting to generate feedback from advisors on the utility of the guidance notes and potential areas for improvement

