**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The First Quarter State Committee on Food and Nutrition Coordination Meeting held on the 18th of March, 2021. The meeting was organized by Planning and Budget Commission with support from Save the Children International to keep track of the progress made in improving food and nutrition activities with emphasis on women and children in the state. The Committee comprises of key players from relevant MDAs and Development Partners working to address malnutrition in the State. Director Aid Coordination welcomed everyone and enjoined all for active participation in the meeting. Goodwill messages were given by UNICEF, Save the Children, CS- SUNN and KADENAP. The objective of the meeting is to generate update from MDAs nutrition program implementation, identify challenges and opportunities and proffer solutions and way forward.Update on the action points from the last SCFN meeting was deliberated upon.

**Presentations**

All MDAs presented the update of their activities on Nutrition Response in Kaduna from January – December 2020. Also, there was a presentation of SCFN Appraisal Tool which was designed to help assess the extent to which the implementations of nutrition-specificand nutrition-sensitive interventions or strategies are in line with National Multisectoral Plan ofAction for Nutrition (NMSPAN)**.** The SCFN through PBC is responsible for the coordination of the tool which will be filled and submitted by the MDAs on a quarterly basis. Though these tools have been presented at all SCFN meeting, it is necessary to continually build members capacity to effectively utilize the tool which has been embraced by all. Questions, comments and observations were raised where necessary.

**Observations**

* MDAs present their update on nutrition activities haphazardly during the SCFN meeting

**Recommendation**

* There should be a harmonized reporting template for reporting of nutrition activities during the SCFN Quarterly meeting.

At the end of the meeting members unanimously agreed on the following next steps;

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| **S/N** | **Activity** | **Person Responsible** | **Timeline** |
| 1 | Develop Template for reporting during SCFN meeting | Nutrition Desk officer (PBC) | 5 April 2021 |
| 2 | P&BC to send Reminder to MDAs to submit SCFN Appraisal tool by 25 March 2021 | SPO PBC | 25 March 2021 |
| 3 | MDAs to complete the SCFN Appraisal Tool both hard and soft copies and send to P&BC by 1st April 2021 | MDAs Desk Officers | 1st April 2021 |
| 4 | Nutrition Focal Person to develop and Share report of SCFN meeting as well as their Quarterly work plan with Chief Executive/Perm Secs/Directors/Commissioners of their respective MDAs  Soft copies should be shared with PBC | MDAs Desk Officers | 25th March 2021 |
| 5 | Media Representative to send in proposal on media activity ( to identify sponsored and free activities) | Nutrition Desk Officer (KSMC) | 1st April 2021 |
| 6 | All Desk officers to send report of current quarter activities to PBC | Desk officers | 25th March 2021 |

**REPORT OF THE FIRST QUARTER MEETING OF THE STATE COMMITTEE ON FOOD AND NUTRITION (SCFN) HELD ON THURSDAY 18TH MARCH, 2021 AT THE CONFERENCE HALL, PLANNING AND BUDGET COMMISSION, KADUNA.**

**OPENING**

The meeting began at 10:30am with individual opening prayers and self-introduction of members present, facilitated by the Nutrition Desk Officer Planning and Budget Commission (P&BC), Priscilla Dariya.

**Welcome Remarks**

Director Aid Coordination, Salisu Baba Lawal, welcomed everyone to the meeting and tendered the apologies of the Honourable Commissioner for not being present for the meeting. He enjoined all for active participation in the meeting and provided update on progress, challenges and way forward in the implementation of nutrition activities in their respective MDAs in Kaduna State.

**ATTENDANCE**

Participants were drawn from Planning and Budget Commission, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agric, Ministry of Education, Ministry for Local Government, Kaduna Bureau of Statistics, RUWASSA, Kaduna Emergency Nutrition Action Plan (KADENAP), Kaduna Agricultural Development Agency (KADA) State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA), Nutrition Society of Nigeria, State Primary Healthcare Development Board, KSMC, Save the Children, CS-SUNN, UNICEF, ANRiN, and UNFPA

**Goodwill Messages**

**UNICEF**

Mrs. Chinwe Ezeife, Nutrition Specialist from UNICEF stated that UNICEF is committed to seeing that at least four quarterly SCFN meeting holds under an umbrella body to track implementation and to ensure that implementation of activities are derived from the multi sectoral plan of action. According to Mrs. Chinwe, UNICEF is coordinating four states, amongst which only Kaduna State was able to conduct the first quarter meeting which is a big achievement. She stated that Kaduna is a pace setter, but for us to continue on pace setting, the Development partners that are supporting us have to be also on point.

**Save the Children International**

Mr. Ifedichukwu Innocent, Advocacy, Campaign and Policy Manager on behalf of Save-the-Children expressed his happiness to be part of the meeting and wished everyone fruitful deliberations and also urged nutrition partners in Kaduna to work together to help curtail malnutrition in Kaduna State.

**Nutrition Society of Nigeria**

Mal. Sani Hassan, Nutrition Specialist from Nutrition Society of Nigeria in his goodwill message congratulated Kaduna State Government in sustaining SCFN. The Kaduna State Committee on Food and Nutrition is the strongest Committee as far as the implementation of nutrition intervention is concerned in Nigeria. The committee is making use of the available resources, technical support, and strongest team of partners in order to succeed. So while sustaining our individual responsibilities, he appeals to the ministry to also participate in ensuring that structures are put in place to improve coordination

**KADENAP**

The Project Manager, KADENAP, Mal. Umar Bambale expressed his appreciation to PBC for ensuring that the meeting took place as at when due as the importance of the meeting can never be over stressed. He stressed that this meeting is the apex decision making body on nutrition in the state. Therefore, without coordination the goals of the committee cannot be achieved. He also urged partners to ensure that all action points are implemented.

**Objectives**

* To ensure sustainable food and nutrition program coordination in the state in order to set a clear goals In enhancing multi sectoral food and nutrition programming
* To generate update from MDAs nutrition program implementation
* To identify ways of ensuring continuity of nutrition programming across sector even during COVID 19 so as to achieve maximum positive impact on women and children
* To get MDAs feedback on submission of their first and second quarter plan to KADENAP as agreed during the last quarterly meeting
* To identify challenges and opportunities of improving food and nutrition activities in the state

Added Objectives by Nutrition Society of Nigeria.

To come up with achievable resolutions and next steps

**Update on action Points from last SCFN Meeting**

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| **S/N** | **ACTIVITY** | **PERSON RESPONSIBLE** | **TIMELINE** | **STATUS OF ACTIVITY FROM LAST SCFN MEETING** |
| **1** | Train Nutrition Desk Officers both at State and LGA on proposal writing | **SCFN (KADENAP, Senior Management Officers from MoF & PBC)** | January 2021 | This was conducted at Kano |
| **2** | MDAs to submit completed appraisal tool to PBC | **MDAs** | Friday 27th November, 2020 | Appraisal Tool has been submitted by all MDAs to the Kaduna State P&BC except MHSSD  It was noted that there is need to present a list of MDAs who have complied |
| **3** | Setup a Committee chaired by PBC to develop/update, a comprehensive checklist that covers all the interventions on nutrition in the State for the purpose of supportive supervision. | **Proposed membership of the committee (KADENAP,PBC, SNO, Partners** | 30th December, 2020 | This is work in progress-  A PBC is working with KADENAP to develop the checklist. Letter has been sent to hold meeting to this effect.  Mr. Adole further added that the checklist development should encompass more members to develop a robust checklist including partners.  All nutrition Partners should be included |
| **4** | Develop a Supervisory schedule | **PM-KADENAP, SNO** | 30th December, 2020 | This will follow suit after the checklist is developed. |
| **5** | Nutrition Supervisory Visits | **SCFN** | Quarterly starting from March, 2021 | This is dependent on the development of the supervisory checklist. |
| **6** | The MoH nutrition focal person should be fully engaged in the SCFN to ensure that private facilities are covered in nutrition supervision. | **D(DAC) – PBC** | 30th December, 2020 | MOH nutrition focal person fully active |
| **7** | Advocacy visit to ALGON chairman, Commissioners PBC, MoF, Accountant General, NLC for support in nutrition funding. | **(DAC), PM-KADENAP, SNO, Partners** | 28th February, 2021 | This is in progress. A visit has been conducted by some members of the SCFN to the MDAs.  The DDAC also informed the house of the following key outcomes   * Some of the MDAs have promised to include nutrition funding Creation of Budget Line in their next budget. (all Desk officers should follow up on this) * That additional funding has been secured as a result of the advocacy visit. * The Commissioner Planning and Budget and the Accountant General promised to facilitate timely release if only done in good time. * It was noted that the Budget cycle starts from July, thus Desk Officers should take note and follow up with their MDAs on early submission of budget line. |

**Comments and Observations**

* Inclusion of NLC in the Advocacy visit is to seek support on implementation of the 6 months maternity leave declared by His Excellency, the Governor of Kaduna State. Series of discussion are ongoing to document this, currently feedback is being awaited from the Ministry of Justice.
* Reports of Advocacy visits held as noted above should be presented to enable Desk officers follow up. This was noted to be shared (online) before next meeting.
* Members commended the achievement of components of the next steps and prayed that the commitment of P&BC should be sustained
* The representative from the Mediaobserved that the media is left out and there is need to actively engage with the media in scaling up nutrition response in the State.
* She added nutrition funds application Work plan.

**Report and update of Activities by MDAs on Nutrition Response in Kaduna January – December 2020**

**KADA**

* Proposal was written through PBC and also Re-written proposal to KADENAP due to nonuse of nutrition budget line, they have been asked to write to KADENAP

**Ministry of Education**

* Conduct of Hands on training for Teachers on the Establishment/Activation of School gardens – N6,082,000.00
* Establishment/Activation of School gardens in Primary and Secondary Schools across the State – N14,872,000.00
* Review and adapt minimum standards (Nutrition and Health) for early - child care centers (ECCC) using revised checklist – N 1,459,500.00
* Build capacity on Food handling and Hygiene practices for Mother and Care-givers in Early Child Care Development Centers (ECCD) – N2,219,000.00
* Release of N14, 872,000.00 has been received from PBC awaiting cash backing from Ministry of Finance.

**Opportunities**

* Commissioner and Permanent Secretary of the Ministry were pioneer members of SCFN
* Availability of Budget line to conduct school garden activities.
* Federal Ministry through UBEC supported funds for establishment of poultry farms in 412 and fisheries in 6 Primary Schools across the State.

**Challenges**

* Delay in cash backing

**Ministry of Agriculture**

No Report presented. Though the responsible officer informed the house about some challenges

**RUWASSA**

* 13 activities planned
* There are pending activities yet to be allocated
* Only one activity carried out on Vlom activities based on WASH

**State Primary HealthCare Development Board**

* Activities are planned for the quarter, 1st quarter activities all centered on World Bank project
* Trained 12 NFPs, 50CM
* Procure drugs iron Folate and SP
* Nutrition corners

**Ministry of Health**

* 11 activities to be conducted in the year. There is no activity for the 1st quarter
* 2nd quarter has 4-5 activities, which will be supported by next quarter

**Planning and Budget Commission**

* Conducted first quarter coordination meeting with NFPs
* Advocacy visit to Nutrition relevant MDAs on BL and timely release of funds
* Meeting with chairmen of 23 LGAs and their Directors on resource mobilization
* Meeting on development of Anemia reduction plan.
* Creation of crèche with full equipment
* SCFN 1st Quarterly coordination meeting currently ongoing
* 2 proposals sent to ANRIN on training of Excel, Power Point and MSWord
* Proposal on training on filling of appraisal tool
* Conducted proposal writing training
* Proposal on budget tracking in progress
* Meeting with the Min for Local Govt. Each of 23LGA to commit 15million for the procurement of RUTF.
* AG committed to cash back releases

**Media representative**

* The Nutrition Focal Person from KSMC that the media is left out and there is need to actively engage with the media even in the Work plan

**KADENAP Presentation**

**REPORT OF ACTIVITIES 2017-2020**

KADENAP uses the following strategies to implement its activities: these are

* + Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)
  + Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF)
  + Advocacy and resource mobilization
  + Co-ordination of Nutrition activities.

KADENAP also engaged in advocacy and contributed to the strengthening of nutrition services in Kaduna State despite the challenges of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

From the CMAM intervention for instance, data from the state program report showed a drop in the cured rate and death rate by 9% (80% in 2019 and 71% in 2020), and 0.3% respectively, while recovery rate increased by 1%. Within the COVID pandemic period, the state also experienced Stock out on RUTF, this was later checked by a joint collaboration between the government and UNICEF which led to securing a bulk procurement of RUTF worth of **N900, 000,000:00**.

Under IYCF intervention, except for Birnin Gwari due to security challenges experienced in the LGA, IYCF intervention was being implemented in 15 LGAs in the state, with other 6LGAs supported by Alive and Thrive project.

There was a training and orientation of 383 Healthcare workers and 841 community volunteers on IYCF services. This saw to the increase in number of support groups to a total of 904 support groups. Number of caregivers mobilized to access nutrition and health services also improved; **435,657** people were reached with nutrition messages. Total number of people with improved access to Maternal, Infant Young child Nutrition and health services both at community and health facilities amounted to **2,683,134**.

**Challenges Experienced by all MDAs:**

* Lack of Harmonized template to facilitate report of activities by the various MDA
* Inadequate supply of ready-to-use-therapeutic food (RUTF).
* Inadequate Nutrition budget line and untimely cash backing of approved funds.
* Difficulty in accessing Nutrition budget line domiciled in MOH due to bureaucracy, in the current structure.

**Recommendation**

* There should be a harmonized reporting template for reporting of nutrition activities during the SCFN Quarterly meeting.
* There is need for improved Coordination of nutrition response for effective implementation of both nutrition specific services at facility and community levels.
* Creation of Nutrition Agency to effectively address operational level issues encountered in accessing nutrition intervention in the state should be considered by Kaduna State as already being done in other states of the federation.
* Further to the above, a Coordination Office under the Governor’s Office to push for result-based interventions, synergy, leveraging of resources, and reporting across all nutrition related MDAs, may also be established.
* While there is the need for increase in nutrition budget and timely release of funding, nutrition budget domiciled at MOH should be moved back to P&BC in line with the national policy and Kaduna state domesticated policy on nutrition, for timely access.

**Presentation of SCFN Appraisal Tool**

This was anchored by Mr. Silas S. Ideva from CS-SUNN. The Tool was designed to help assess the extent to which the implementations of nutrition-specificand nutrition-sensitive interventions or strategies are in line with National Multisectoral Plan ofAction for Nutrition (NMSPAN). Thus, it covers four (4) Core area of assessment

* Committee effectiveness
* Coverage
* Accountability of implementation
* Budget Allocation

The SCFN through PBC is responsible for the coordination of the tool which will be filled and submitted by the MDAs on a quarterly basis. Though these tools have been presented at all SCFN meeting, it is necessary to continually build members capacity to effectively utilize the tool which has been embraced by all.

**Next Steps**

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**CLOSING**

The meeting came to a close at 4:30pm with individual prayers