Progress report to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

Strengthening the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development to tackle malnutrition

UNICEF Cambodia
March 2020
**Programme** | Strengthening the Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) to tackle malnutrition  
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**Country** | Cambodia  
**Region** | Southeast Asia  
**Grant number** | SC160480 and SC180726  
**Duration of contribution** | 2 September 2016-28 September 2019  
**Total programmable amount** | US$250,320  
**Total funds utilized** | US$250,320  
**Programmable balance** | US$ 0  
**Strategic partners** | Council for Agricultural and Rural Development  
**Period covered by this report** | March 2017 – February 2020  
**Date prepared** | February 2020  

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## CONTENTS

Summary of contribution ........................................................................................................... 2
Contents ....................................................................................................................................... 3
Acronyms .................................................................................................................................... 4
Programme results ..................................................................................................................... 5
Funds utilization .......................................................................................................................... 9
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACRONYMS</th>
<th>EXPLANATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CARD</td>
<td>Council for Agricultural and Rural Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>FSN</td>
<td>Food Security and Nutrition</td>
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<td>FSNIS</td>
<td>Food Security and Nutrition Information System</td>
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<td>OVOP</td>
<td>One Village One Product</td>
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<tr>
<td>RGC</td>
<td>Royal Government of Cambodia</td>
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<td>SP</td>
<td>Social Protection</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>Scaling Up Nutrition</td>
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<td>TWG</td>
<td>Technical Working Group</td>
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I. Introduction

The Council for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) is a government agency responsible for assisting the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) in coordination, policy formulation and strategic guidance for the agricultural and rural development sector in Cambodia. The implementation in close and effective collaboration with relevant ministries, institutions, sub-national administrative bodies, development partners, civil society and private sector organizations. CARD has the duty to manage, coordinate, monitor, evaluate and advise on the preparation of programme implementation, policies and strategies related to agricultural and rural development, food security and nutrition, social protection, and the ‘One Village One Product’ movement.

CARD is also the chair of the **Technical Working Group for Social Protection & Food Security and Nutrition** (TWG-SP&FSN). USAID is the lead facilitator among development partners for intervention activities in food security and nutrition within this working group, and UNICEF has the role of lead facilitator on social protection. The TWG-SP&FSN is the main platform for government, development partners, civil society groups and private sector organizations to meet and to identify and address issues and challenges related to SP&FSN in Cambodia. This has been approached through setting up joint monitoring indicators and mobilizing resources to implement priorities outlined in them, as well as enhancing harmonization and alignment of development partner support for the social protection and food security and nutrition sector in Cambodia.

Since late 2016, USAID–as the lead facilitator of development partners working on food security and nutrition programmes–provided financial support through the UNICEF Cambodia country office to assist the CARD Food Security and Nutrition Coordination Unit to implement its designated activities as agreed in the attached work and budget plan. The scope of this work is:

2. Publication of the Cambodia Food Security and Nutrition Quarterly Bulletin and dissemination of this publication to relevant parties.
3. Content production and the operation and maintenance of the Food Security and Nutrition Information System (FSNIS) website to maximize a strong online presence.
4. Comprehensive support to the TWG-SP&FSN Secretariat and strengthening food security coordination among stakeholders.
5. Widespread support to the TWG-SP&FSN Secretariat to improve coordination, data analysis and the on-going effectiveness of the FSNIS website.
6. Production of an annual report on food security and nutrition in Cambodia.
7. Support to the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement Secretariat
8. Provision of office equipment for the TWG-SP&FSN Secretariat.
9. Capacity building for Food Security and Nutrition Officers
10. Capacity building for Commune Councillors and District offices

II. Achievement made against planned activities

**Activity 1**: Produce and endorse the *Cambodia Food Security and Nutrition Quarterly Bulletin*

**Main achievement**: Production of the *Cambodia Food Security and Nutrition Quarterly Bulletin* was suspended; due some members of line ministries were moved to work on other tasks and some data was not received from line ministries. CARD took on the task to finish these activities and requested to use the budget for translation and publication of the Annual Food Security and Nutrition Report.
**Activity 2:** Printing of the *Cambodia Food Security and Nutrition Quarterly Bulletin*.

**Main achievement:** Due to the suspension of the Cambodia Food Security and Nutrition Bulletins, at the end of the year, CARD requested that UNICEF allow it to use the budget to buy one printer and one LCD projector to support well-functioning of the secretariat.

**Activity 3:** Operation and maintenance of the FSNIS website.

**Main achievement:** The FSNIS website has been restructured and is operating effectively as an information and knowledge management sharing platform. CARD signed a contract with Trendsec Solution Co., Ltd. to restructure the website to increase its appeal as a communications medium. The website’s content was updated regularly to highlight on-going issues, challenges and solutions related to food security and nutrition. The following activities have been implemented to date:

- All hardware and software have been maintained for maximum operating efficiency
- Important data has been disseminated through the website
- Documents, news, events and related information have been updated regularly to maintain the website’s authority as a leading source of food security and nutrition information
- The FSNIS team has progressively conducted troubleshooting of local area network problems
- Files and the FSNIS database have been backed up regularly.

**Activity 4:** Support to the TWG-SP&FSN Secretariat and strengthening food security coordination among stakeholders.

**Main achievement:** Support to the TWG-SP&FSN Secretariat and the Food Security and Nutrition Coordination Unit, especially in terms of office supplies and stationary, has helped the secretariat to perform its tasks more efficiently and ensure effective daily operations. Knowledge sharing and awareness-raising activities held include:

- The TWG-SP&FSN meetings were conducted regularly and the minutes of the meetings have been circulated to stakeholders
- Food security forums were conducted every two months to date for stakeholders to discuss and share good experiences on food security and nutrition. The minutes of discussions from these meetings have been circulated to stakeholders and posted in the website of FSN
- Several core group meetings conducted to discuss joint monitoring indicators, the Cambodia Sustainable Development Goals and the mid-term review of the National Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition and social protection assessment tools on food security and nutrition. Several meetings were also held to discuss preparations for organizing the National Nutrition Day, which falls in November each year.
- SUN meeting was organized every year to discuss on inputs for the annual SUN report for the SUN Secretariat. In addition, the SUN meeting in 2017 was organized to provide updated information to the SUN coordinator who visited Cambodia to meet with different SUN networks

**Activity 5:** Support to the TWG-SP&FSN Secretariat to improve coordination, data analysis and the operation of the website.

**Main achievement:** Two support staff were recruited to provide support for well-functioning of the TWG-SP- FSN Secretariat. Mr. Meas Vanna has been employed as junior staff providing support
and assistance to the Food Security and Nutrition Data Analysis Team (FSN-DAT), updating CARD’s website and assisting the Food Security and Coordination Unit; while Ms. Khim Sreypov has been employed to assist the Secretariat of the TWG-SP&FSN on Social Protection and Food Security and Nutrition and performed as a secretary of the TWG-SP&FSN Secretariat with a wide range of administrative support duties. She also coordinated with the SUN network and Zero Hunger Challenges Initiatives.

**Activity 6:** Annual report on Food Security and Nutrition

**Main achievement:** CARD recruited a consultant to prepare the annual report on Food Security and Nutrition for three executive years (2017, 2018 and 2019). The reports were published in both Khmer and English languages and were shared with participants from line ministries, development partners, NGOs, civil society organizations, the private sector and university students during National Nutrition Day in November each year.

The National Nutrition Day aims to bring the importance of child nutrition and the best practices to the forefront of public awareness, as providing good nutrition to our children is the best investment in their future.

Each year, the National Nutrition Day has been organized with different theme as below:
- **2017** “Growth and Consume Diverse and Nutritious Foods to be Strong and Healthy”
- **2018** “Providing Good Nutrition to Your Child is the Best Investment”
- **2019** “Breastfeeding is the best choice for the development of human resources and the nation’s economy”

In addition to the National Nutrition Days organized at national level, several sub-national sessions organized in 9 provinces as shown below:
1. One session in Kampong Cham held on 21 December 2018
2. Two sessions in Tboung Khmum held on 25 December 2018 and 28 January 2020
3. One session in Prey Veng held on 3 January 2019
4. One session in Banteay Meanchey held on 10 January 2019
5. Two sessions in Battambang held on 16 January 2019 and 16 January 2020
6. Two sessions in Siem Reap held on 18 January 2019 and 17 December 2019
7. Two sessions in Kampong Chhnang held on 29 January 2019 and 14 January 2020
8. One session in Kampong Thom held on 19 December 2019
9. One session in Ratanak Kiri held on 30 January 2020

The sub-national nutrition day provides a good opportunity for all local stakeholders and local authorities to participate and increase their knowledge on FSN and understand how to cope with food insecurity at local level. Most of the participants are excited to gain more knowledge about the production, availability, accessibility and utilization of foods.

**Activity 7:** Support to SUN Movement Secretariat

**Main achievement:** CARD has held the following SUN meetings

- Three SUN Annual meetings discussion on achievements and priorities were conducted at national level and three sub-national level SUN meetings conducted in Kampong Cham, Kampong Thom and Pursat provinces.
- A SUN Civil Society Alliance (SUN CSA) dissemination workshop was held at province level to discuss a breastfeeding report, the SUN annual report 2016, and the SUN template report 2017
Two sessions of Youth Nutrition Forums organized at national level for students of Royal University of Agriculture and Prek Leab Agricultural School. In addition, 2 sessions were organized at sub-national level for high school students in Kampong Cham and Battambang provinces.

**Activity 8**: Office equipment for TWG-SP&FSN

**Main activities**: The procurement process for three laptops and three printers has been completed. Three computer supply companies submitted an interest in selling these items to TWG-SP&FSN by providing sealed quotations as per the terms of the bidding process. CARD selected Khmer Plus Computer to supply the equipment.

CARD has requested that UNICEF allow it to use the remaining budget from unimplemented activities (such as the Cambodian Food Security and Nutrition Bulletin) to buy one LCD projector and one printer from Khmer Plus Computer.

**Activity 9**: Capacity building for Food Security and Nutrition Officers

**Main achievement**: CARD organized a planning meeting for advisory group to review priorities actions and responsibilities as well as review curricular of FSN training.

A refresher training of trainer pool for Food Security was held in March 2018 aim to review the ten years activities of the trainer pool (progress, constraints and ways forward); improve the capacity of National Food Security of trainer pool; mainstreaming One Village One Product (OVOP) into the FSN concept; and prepare for development of new group of Food Security trainer pool.

A planning meeting for advisory group was organized to review priorities actions and responsibilities as well as review curricular of FSN training.

**Activity 10**: Capacity building for Commune Councillors and District offices

**Main achievement**: With financial support of USAID, through UNICEF, CARD is able to organize sub-national dissemination of FSN concept among the council councillors and district offices in Kampong Thom province. Another meeting was held to integrate the results of MTSR-NSFSN into the OVOP policy.

In May 2018, CARD organized a consultative meeting with council councillors and district offices to identify priority action for the development of new NSFSN 2019-2023.
During the reporting period 02 September 2016 to 28 February 2019, a total programmable amount of US$186,000.69 was utilized. USAID still needs to transfer US$48,289.46 to UNICEF, as shown in the table below.

### UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND (UNICEF)

**OTHER RESOURCES CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED FROM USAID**

**DONOR STATEMENT BY ACTIVITY (UNCERTIFIED) FROM 02 SEPTEMBER 2016 TO 28 JANUARY 2020 IN US DOLLARS**

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#### Status of Contribution

- **External Reference:** GHA-C-00-07-09007
- **Description:** Cambodia: Support to the Food Security & Nutrition Technical Working Group
- **Contribution Reference:** SC160480
- **Effective Date:** 02/09/2016
- **Expiry Date:** 28/02/2019
- **Recipient Office(s):** Cambodia
- **Agreement Currency:** USD
- **Agreement Amount:** USD 166,320.00
- **Funds Received:** USD 166,320.00
- **Refunds:** USD 0.00
- **Funds Receivable:** USD 0.00

#### Summary of Expenditures (USD)

- **Programmable Expenditure:** 154,000.00
- **Indirect support cost 8%:** 12,320.00
- **Total:** 166,320.00
- **Funds Received in USD:** 166,320.00
- **Unspent Balance:** 0.00

#### Summary of Expenditures by Recipient Office (USD)

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<tr>
<th>Country/Regional Office</th>
<th>Incurred Expense 2016-2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>Prepayments</th>
<th>Cumulative Expenditure</th>
<th>Commitments*</th>
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<td>11,201.28</td>
<td>166,320.00</td>
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*"Commitments" include undelivered purchase orders, payment commitments for implementing partners and travel advances approved but not yet paid. The amounts shown in this column represent the status and value of the commitment as of the date the report is produced. As goods are received and commitments in respect of implementing partners and travel advances are paid these amounts will be added to "incurred expense"
UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN’S FUND (UNICEF)

OTHER RESOURCES CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED FROM: USA USAID

DONOR STATEMENT BY ACTIVITY (UNCERTIFIED) FROM 17 AUGUST 2018 TO 28 JANUARY 2020 IN US DOLLARS

Status of Contribution
External Reference: GHA-05-07-00087
Description: Cambodia: Support to the Food Security and Nutrition Technical Working Group
Contribution Reference: SC180726
Effective Date: 17.08.2018
Expiry Date: 17.05.2019
Recipient Office(s): Cambodia
Agreement Currency: USD
Agreement Amount: USD 84,000.00
Funds Received: USD 84,000.00
Refunds: USD 0.00
Funds Receivable: USD 0.00

Summary of Expenditures (USD)
Description: Cumulative Expenditure
Programmable Expenditure: 77,777.78
Indirect support cost 8%: 6,222.22
Total: 84,000.00
Funds Received in USD: 84,000.00
Unspent Balance: 0.00

Summary of Expenditures by Recipient Office (USD)

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<tr>
<th>Country/Regional Office</th>
<th>Incurred Expense and Prepayments</th>
<th>Cumulative Expenditure</th>
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<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>84,000.00</td>
<td>84,000.00</td>
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* "Commitments" include undelivered purchase orders, payment commitments for implementing partners and travel advances approved but not yet paid. The amounts shown in this column represent the status and value of the commitment as at the date the report is produced. As goods are received and commitments in respect of implementing partners and travel advances are paid these amounts will be added to "incurred expenses".