

Statement of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement
WHO Executive Board 156th Session
3-11 February 2025

Statement on Item 24.3 Global strategies and plans of action that are scheduled to expire within one year - Comprehensive implementation plan on maternal, infant and young child nutrition

As Coordinator of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement (with its broad membership of countries, civil society, donors, private sector, and the UN), I strongly support extending the WHA 2025 targets.

The targets are a guiding star in fighting malnutrition.

Progress has been made, especially on breastfeeding, but most targets are off track.

Undernutrition still causes nearly half of all child deaths. Anaemia and adult overweight/obesity are rising fast.

Climate change is set to increase malnutrition, affecting the poorest and least able to adapt.

An extension can help us stay on track where progress is strong—and catch up where it is not.

Extending the WHA targets is a chance to spur nutrition action. In a world of declining overseas development aid, it can bring attention to the need to integrate nutrition outcomes into health, humanitarian assistance, food systems, climate and social protection.

A \$100 million investment in nutrition, will yield \$2.3 billion in returns.

The cost of inaction? \$41 trillion over the next decade.

We cannot afford to do nothing. We must keep striving to build the foundation of healthy, productive and resilient individuals and societies.