

Capitalizing on takeaways, perspectives and lessons learned from N4G Paris

Executive Note

Introduction

The Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit, convened in Paris on March 27-28, 2025, represented a crucial global milestone for mobilizing financial and political commitments to eradicate malnutrition in all its forms. The Paris edition aimed to consolidate nutrition's position within the sustainable development agenda, foster universal engagement, and ensure the initiative's continued momentum. To gather insights from this significant event, the SUN Movement Secretariat, Nutrition International, and UNICEF collaborated to capture the perceived takeaways, perspectives moving forward and lessons learned from the preparations.¹ The insights - also available in a slide deck - are intended to contribute to the collective reflection and discussions in the nutrition community to take forward N4G Paris outcomes and efforts to combat malnutrition worldwide, as well as to inform and enhance the N4G process for subsequent Summits.

Key takeaways

1- N4G Paris successfully mobilized [new commitments for nutrition](#). Amidst a challenging context for international N4G Paris mobilized a similar number and financial value of commitments than in the 2021 Summit in Tokyo, which was perceived as a high benchmark. As of April 2025, financial pledges totaled \$29.5 billion, exceeding most stakeholders' expectations. This success was underpinned by an increased number of donor organizations making commitments, stronger financial contributions from Low and Lower-middle Income Countries (LICs/LMICs), and enhanced mobilization of development banks (notably the World Bank and African Development Bank) and philanthropies. Given the global uncertainties, the significant political and financial commitments and resilient outlook of LICs/LMICs were perceived as particularly notable.

2- N4G Paris fostered the engagement of a broad, high-level, and diverse group of stakeholders in addressing malnutrition issues. The Summit convened decision-makers from 211 delegations representing 106 national governments, international organizations, civil society, the private sector, research institutions, and foundations. Stakeholders welcomed this opportunity for critical discussions on major shifts in international development, such as evolving financing landscapes. In addition, the sessions format promoted shared learning between countries and the high-level attendance fostered rich networking opportunities to foster new collaborations. The launch of the [Global Compact on Nutrition Integration](#) underscored the collective willingness to address malnutrition through policy coherence and multisectoral action, reflecting nutrition's link to other policy priorities, such as social protection and climate action. The active engagement of the Civil

¹ This exercise was conducted as a light-touch, rapid initiative designed to capture perceptions of key takeaways, good practices, and recommendations from a limited number of stakeholders involved in the N4G Paris Summit preparations. Data was gathered through an online questionnaire (which received 18 responses) and targeted discussions (with 48 participants). This methodological approach is not systematic; consequently, the findings, while insightful, may not be representative of the diversity of perspectives.

Society and Youth representatives was noted as a particularly positive aspect, resulting in a [joint declaration from Civil Society](#) and a compelling [call to action by Youth](#). The private sector engagement led to a [Paris Declaration on Business & Nutrition 2030](#) and the call from investors for greater disclosure by food and beverage companies.

3- N4G Paris strengthened the Nutrition for Growth process of mobilizing stakeholders and galvanizing policy and financial actions to eradicate malnutrition. The Summit built upon the previous N4G events, particularly the Tokyo Summit, ensuring continuity in processes while adapting to the current context. The continued use of the Global Nutrition Report's (GNR) Nutrition Accountability Framework (NAF) strengthened this global mechanism to keep stakeholders accountable for their commitments to nutrition. The announcement of a stocktaking moment by the Government of France during their G7 presidency was viewed as a valuable step to ensure ongoing dialogue, monitor progress on commitments, and sustain the momentum generated by the Summit, reinforcing N4G as an ongoing process rather than a standalone event.

Improving future N4G summits

While the N4G Paris Summit was largely successful, the lessons-learned exercise identified opportunities that may be considered by future N4G hosts. Avenues for greater commitments from non-SUN countries, particularly domestic commitments from high-income and upper-middle-income countries, may be further explored. Future hosts may consider a consultation on how to engage with the private sector while respecting strong principles of engagement as no consensus was reached on this topic. As more attention is brought to the integration of nutrition within different sectors, there is an opportunity to further define the methodology for quantifying nutrition-sensitive financial commitments.

During the Summit, organizers should find a balance between sessions and the announcement of commitments. They may consider presenting a preliminary analysis of these commitments, including matching areas as well as gaps between donors' financial commitments and countries' policy commitments. Topics that may be of interest to further delve into at the next Summit include accountability, operationalizing integration across sectors and governance for nutrition.

Finally, future N4G hosts may aim to produce a joint call to action which is actionable and sets the strategic direction for key stakeholders to work on between N4G summits.

What's Next

Looking forward, stakeholders expect to see concrete steps to translate the momentum from Paris into tangible action and sustained accountability. This will require establishing clear mechanisms for follow-up at both country and global levels, ensuring donor pledges are effectively matched with country needs, and formalizing the process for reporting on commitments through the NAF to hold commitment-makers accountable.

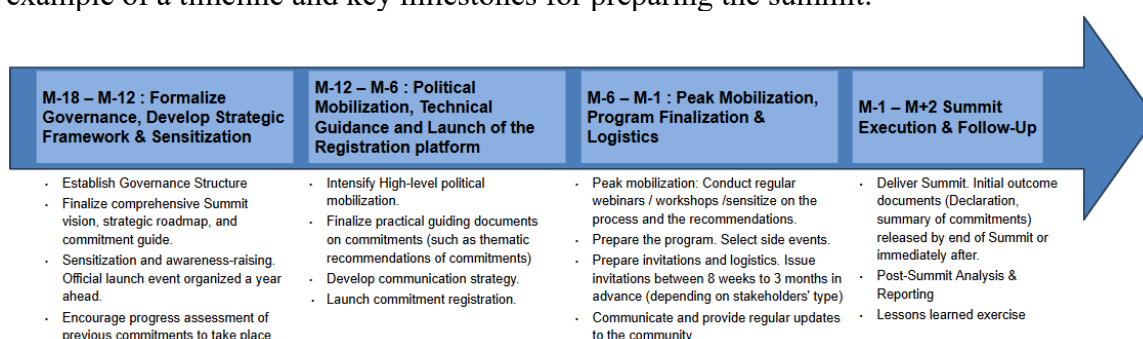
To sustain the momentum gathered at N4G Paris and maintain engagement between the quadrennial Summits, a more frequent cadence of communication, convenings, and stocktaking moments is essential, including in relevant global events. Addressing the need for leadership and continuity, including reflecting on an institutional home for N4G, are critical next steps to ensure

the long-term viability and impact of this initiative. The stocktaking announced by the Government of France during their G7 presidency in 2026 will provide a critical platform to assess initial progress on N4G Paris outcomes and prepare the lead up to the next Summit.

Key considerations for the organization of future N4G Summits

The exercise identified good practices and suggestions in preparing an N4G Summit. The key aspects are summarized below, and details were outlined in a note exclusively for future hosts:

- 1- **Start early.** Effective organizational planning should start ideally at least 18 months prior to the summit, as the mobilizing and preparing commitments requires significant lead time. An early and official launch, supported by timely and targeted communications and invitations, is crucial for leveraging the energy and efforts from the nutrition community, including for high-level political advocacy and technical support. The figure below provides an indicative example of a timeline and key milestones for preparing the summit.



- 2- **Build an inclusive and participative international governance structure.** This involves engaging diverse constituencies and geographies, including a group of state actors, international organizations, as well as representatives from the civil society, private sector and philanthropies. Involve members of the international governance to set the vision and amplify mobilization efforts. Engage technical-level stakeholders to advise on the technical content. Consider inviting non-nutrition stakeholders in the governance to foster broader integration. Maintain the Troika mechanism to foster continuity and knowledge transfer between Summits.
- 3- **Strategically plan the mobilization of commitments, leveraging high-level political advocacy and the nutrition community.** Identify a strategy for securing pledges, especially from potential large financial commitment-makers, aligning with their agendas and decision-making cycles. Engage decision-makers to generate political traction. Leverage existing groups and partners to mobilize across each constituency, including the SUN movement – whose critical role at N4G Paris was broadly acknowledged for the large mobilization of Low- and Middle-Income Countries. Communicate clearly the incentives for making ambitious pledges, such as visibility during the Summit, while carefully managing the trade-off with ensuring equitable recognition for all stakeholders. Build on existing N4G resources to update information about the commitment making process and recommendations.
- 4- **Design the Summit to maximize engagement.** Reiterate successful Summit components such as the 'Village of Solutions' and the CSO pavilion, promoting broad participation and spaces to showcase innovative solutions and promote advocacy. Continue providing a platform for the voices of the Youth in the Summit. Consider a more compact schedule with fewer competition between side events and the main summit, and a set-up which facilitates networking opportunities.