How to engage sectors in multisectoral nutrition approach such as NIPN?

Tips and best practices

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Collaboration across sectors is hard work and fraught with challenges...
What are the challenges encountered when collaborating with sectors?

What is in it for them?
What are some of the best practices to overcome these challenges?

1. Pro-active and regular communication on NIPN, its purpose, activities and progress
2. Establishing transparent rules of engagement
3. Ensuring transparent communication
4. Ensuring formal representation of sectors in a steering committee
5. Creating a win-win situation for the sectors contributing to nutrition
1. Pro-active and regular communication on NIPN, its purpose, activities and progress
2. Transparent rules of engagement

Example:

Protecting privacy by data anonymisation
3. Transparent communication

- Message to all partners
- Avoid bilateral communication
- Value face-to-face meetings
- Use email effectively
4. Formal representation of sectors

In your Advisory Committee

with well-defined Roles and responsibilities
5. Creating a win-win situation for the sectors contributing to nutrition

a. Establish and maintain strong individual relationships with focal points in sector ministries
b. Identify what their key priorities are - how can NIPN help them to advance these?
c. Be a knowledge broker to the sectors
d. Offer capacity building opportunities by inviting them to NIPN workshops or trainings
e. Offer them a service, such as joint elaboration of an impact pathway, or support in data cleaning or data analysis
f. Deliver high quality concrete outputs
5a. Establish individual relationships

- Stakeholder mapping
- Nutrition focal points
- Informal relationships
5b. Contribute to sectors’ priorities

- Sector focus on policy review or data landscape
- Nutrition-sensitive impact way
- Access to global evidence
- Identify relevant metrics & indicators
5c. Be a knowledge broker for others
5d. Offer capacity building opportunities

- Strengthens individual capacity
- Enhances understanding of NIPN
- Morivates engagement in future activities
5f. Engagement of sectors in high-quality, concrete outputs

- Review of indicators to monitor NPAN
- Data harmonisation & creating data repository
“Engaging sectors is not about one ad-hoc event but about long-term, trust-worthy and value-adding relationship”