



23 de setiembre de 2015  
NU-1174-2015

UCR FM 14:46 23/09/15

**Dr. Luis Bernardo Villalobos**  
**Decano**  
Facultad de Medicina

Estimado señor:

Por este medio solicito permiso para asistir al Congreso "2015 SUN Movement Global Gathering (SUNGG)", el cual se llevará a cabo en Milán (Italia), del 20 al 22 de octubre del presente año. Además de estar invitada a asistir en la EXPO Milano – Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life, el 23 de octubre.

El permiso será del 19 al 25 de octubre, tomando en cuenta los días de viaje.

Adjunto copia de la carta de invitación.

Atentamente,

M.Sc. Emilce Ulate Castro  
Directora



rve/euc

Cc: Lic. Jorge Vega, Jefe Administrativo  
Archivo



**Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General  
(SRSG) for Food Security and Nutrition,  
Secretariat of the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement**  
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Milano



Comune  
di Milano

Geneva, 21 September 2015

### To Whom it May Concern

Please be advised that Dra. Emilce Ulate Castro, Director of Escuela de Nutrición at Universidad Costa Rica, is invited to participate in the 2015 SUN Movement Global Gathering (SUNGG) which will take place in Milan (Italy) from 20 October to 22 October 2015 at the Milano Congressi (MiCo). Dra. Emilce Ulate Castro will also have the opportunity to attend EXPO Milano -Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life- on 23 October 2015.

The SUNGG is a key moment for the mutual accountability within the Movement and a unique opportunity where the nutrition community can reflect on joint efforts to scale up nutrition.

This event is upon invitation only and restricted to our members. Dra. Emilce Ulate Castro has been nominated to participate.

All participation costs (accommodation, meals and all travel related costs) are covered by the United Nations - SUN Movement Secretariat.

We would be grateful for your approval to allow Dra. Emilce Ulate Castro's participation at this important event.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Florence Lasbennes

Head - SUN Movement Secretariat

Raffaella Scalisi

Director International Relations Dpt.

City of Milan

**Planning of SUN Global Gathering 2015 session on 'Science'**  
**DRAFT Version: 18th September**

**Theme and objectives**

**Title:** Use of information and evidence in policy-making – platforms and processes

The need for a greater use of information in policy-making for nutrition, including scientific evidence, is widely accepted. But both the scientific community and policy-makers report difficulties in connecting for different reasons. Procedural difficulties include the short supply of policy briefs, while structural reasons include the challenge in articulating the various networks MSP are forming. There is a need to share and learn from examples where these challenges have been overcome effectively, and also to consider new approaches being tested. In doing so, the importance of context needs to be highlighted to help the audience understand how technical arguments compete with political and financial considerations and the multiple power relations surrounding policy-makers.

**Areas**

- Various means through which scientific evidence contributes to policy-making, such as:
  - The use of policy briefs
  - Joint academia-government projects
  - SUN scientists platforms
- The informal ways in which researchers and academics interact with policy-making
- The pressure on decision-makers from their working relationships with other departments and levels within governments, partner organizations and opinion leaders
- The potential and limitations of country-level SUN Scientific or academic networks
- Aligning research agendas and policy needs

**Expected outcomes**

- Participants are more informed about the models that could be useful in their country for channeling the contribution of science to policy- and decision-making in nutrition
- Participants and experts acknowledge the complex context of decision-making, and the limits this imposes on formal processes and structures focused on evidence

**Format (preliminary)**

- Introduction by lead facilitator
- 3 country presentations
- Plenary discussion

**Relevant findings from the Science process to date being addressed (Science Country call, SUNGG 2014, In Practice Briefs):**

- Frequently, formal processes and structures don't exist wherein policy decisions are informed by data/systematic reviews
- Researchers and academics interact with policy-making in many and diverse ways, often outside of formal structures and processes
- Countries are beginning to form SUN Science Networks as one way of organizing the linkage between the Professional Nutrition Community and MSP
- Making research fit for political decision making purposes is a challenge as research agendas are not driven by policy needs

- Financial resources are insufficient to support local research and existing international research funds do not take into account the contextualized needs of countries
- Research and academic institutions barely participate in MSP meetings
- Research is not coordinated across regions and partners, and coverage is patchy
- More networking needs to be fostered within the professional nutrition community

### Countries sharing experiences

#### **Criteria for selecting countries and presenters:**

- Complement the In Practice Brief presenting other countries where feasible
- Countries that have a relevant and compelling experience to share
- A balance countries that have and have not established SUN Science Networks
- Countries that have confirmed at least one academic or scientist in their delegation
- Avoid countries that contributed to the SUNGG 2014 session on Science
- Avoid countries overly involved in other sessions at SUNGG 2015
- To ensure policy-makers view is reflected, ensure policy-makers are among presenters

#### **Country presenters, and potential focus:**

- Costa Rica (confirmed): collaboration between Government and Academia on a large-scale School Nutrition program
  - contrast between this relationship born around a very specific project
    - this is more of a process, rather than a structural relationship, like that between an MSP and a science-oriented network
    - this collaboration is very goal oriented
    - this relationship is operational, versus the more consultative networks
- Nigeria (confirmed): SUN Focal Person - Director of Nutrition, MoH - to discuss the complex ecosystem within which decision-making takes place, and which limits the impact of evidence
- Burundi, Chad (being discussed): vision for their recently formed SUN Scientific or Academic networks

### Advisory group to help shape session, and participation during the session

(The exact format of the session, and the need or not for a panel is TBC)

Name	Available to attend SUNGG	Role at SUN GG session
Dr. Patrick Kolsteren	Yes	Lead facilitator
Dr. Francis Zotor	Yes	Co-facilitator
Dr. V Prakash	Yes	TBC
Dr. Michael Krawinkel	Yes	TBC
Dr. Emorn Wasantwisut	Yes	Resource person/panelist
Dr. Hanns-Christoph Eiden	TBC	Resource person /panelist
Dr. David Pelletier	Can't attend	NA
Dr. Stuart Gillespie	TBC	TBC