

Efforts to establish the Scaling up Nutrition Business Network (SUN), a platform for coordinating private sector to Improve nutrition, have advanced. MCCCII said there is need to engage private sector in scaling up nutrition because the sector requires a healthy and well-nourished workforce which is critical for improved productivity, profitability and sustainability. “The private sector creates the demand for nutritious foods through manufacturing and sale of nutrition related products as well as promoting awareness through different marketing approaches used,” said MCCCII. A final round of regional consultative meetings hosted in Blantyre on October 2, 2018, brought together private sector and other partners to review key steps to move towards the launch. This follows two other regional fora which were held in Mzuzu and Lilongwe respectively. The initiative being led through the Malawi Confederation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry (MCCCII) is backed by strong support from the Department of Nutrition, HIV and Aids (DNHA), Civil Society Scaling-Up Nutrition Alliance (CSONA) and the World Food Programme (WFP). Malawi is primed to become the 3rd country in Southern Africa to establish the SUN Business Network after Zambia and Mozambique that were launched in 2014 and 2015 respectively.