

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

WORKSHOP TITLE	Khulna/Barishal Children's Workshop
WORKSHOP DATE	Monday, 11 November 2024 10:00 GMT +06:00
CONVENED BY	Jamal Uddin, National Advocacy Coordinator
EVENT LANGUAGE	Bengali
HOST CITY	Dhaka, Bangladesh
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Khulna/Barishal Area Program
AFFILIATIONS	Khulna Child Forum
WORKSHOP EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/54269/



The outcomes from Children's workshops will contribute to developing and identifying the most urgent and powerful ways to improve nutrition for all, with a focus on children and young people. Each Workshop contributes in four distinct ways:

- Published as publicly available PDFs on the Nutrition Dialogues Portal
- Available as public data on the Nutrition Dialogues Portal "Explore Feedback" page
- Available publicly within a .xls file alongside all Feedback Form data for advanced analysis
- Synthesised into reports that cover which nutrition challenges are faced, what actions are urgently needed and how should these be taken forward - particular, in advance of the Nutrition for Growth Summit in Paris, March 2025.

SECTION ONE: PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

25

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

14 12-15

11 16-18

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

13 Female

12 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPATION DIVERSITY

Multidimensional participants participated the workshop like participants from Khulna divisional City, Sub-district, urban, rural, rich family, poorest family, Girls, Boys, children with disability, ethnicity (Shawtal, Garo), minority(Hindus, Christians) , School students, collage students etc.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING

During introduction 25 number of children's representatives participated in the workshop. Significant number of high-level GO/NGO and partner organization's staff were present in the workshop such as Dr. Sadia Monowara Usha, Government medical officer- civil Surgeon Office, Khulna, Liza Sarker, AP Sponsorship and Child Protection Officer, Raju William Rozario, Deputy Director: Field Operations, Dr. Atish Kumar Bachhar, Maternal Child Health and Nutrition Advisor-NJP2, Md. Mushfequr Rahman; TP manager-Integrated Livelihood, Mst. Beauty Queen, Field Advocacy Coordinator, Dr. Sankar Kumar Saha, Fuli Sarker, Senior Manager, Khulna and Jamal Uddin, National Advocacy Coordinator. AP invited children from different sub-districts of Khulna, covered different level of family children like, rich, poor, Bengali, Non-Bengali, ethnic minority, children with disability girls' boys etc. Some children experienced climate change issues, natural disaster such as Aila, Sidor, flash flood, Remal etc. They also experienced political conflict and its negative impacts. Most of the participant's perceptions about malnutrition is quite common however little diversified knowledge was found in different groups. Actual definition of malnutrition was not known by the respondent's rather little knowledge was found in terms of the causes and vulnerability of malnutrition. It was mentioned that a large number of children in the community do not have good health and nutrition. Many children are growing with malnutrition in different forms. Some of the children with malnutrition have low weight for age (Underweight and some are Low height for age (Stunting) By observing physical and mental appearance, physical structure of the body, loss of appetite respondent realized that children are suffering from malnutrition. In addition to that some respondent said that they identify the suffering from malnutrition by anthropometric (age, weight and height) measurement.

SECTION THREE: CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

Child malnutrition is the biggest challenge in the community particularly affecting girls, children with disabilities, and marginalized groups. Children stated many others challenges are existing in the community like-

- ☒ Sufferings from infection & diseases
- ☒ Some of them do not get three times meal in a day
- ☒ Growth failure or beaning stunted due to malnutrition
- ☒ Parents are not clear about balanced food
- ☒ Local government have no visible initiatives
- ☒ Lack of Knowledge on hunger and nutrition.
- ☒ No significant academic education on hunger and nutrition.
- ☒ Authorities have no specific budget allocation by the local government
- ☒ Poor Nutrition monitoring system by the government and other CSOs as well.
- ☒ Parents are not aware about nutritious food
- ☒ Food cost is high according to the food price at present.
- ☒ Poor Children such as Street Children, Rickshawpullers children, slum, street, day laborers are facing malnutrition problem.
- ☒ Children with disabilities are vulnerable to hunger and malnutrition.
- ☒ Street beggars and working children are suffering from hunger and malnutrition

URGENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Mass Awareness on Health and Nutrition including negative impacts;
- Enhance practices of parents and caregivers;
- Create job opportunity of male & female and reducing the poverty rate;
- Need to increase the ration's serving size;
- Increase allowance for pregnant and vulnerable families;
- Be aware and prevent early marriage;
- Ensure quality health service access;
- Prevent gender discrimination and aware father/husband for family and child care;
- Initiate Kitchen gardening and use fellow land for cultivating vegetable and fruits;
- Increase technical capacity to face disaster related risk/challenges;
- Take wide scale initiatives for modern agriculture production, domestic animal rearing and fisheries;
- List down the ultra-poor family of a community and provide financial support Go/ NGO and implement Govt policies properly;
- Increasing the rate of education and start school feeding program;
- Reduce child labor;
- Tree Plantation/ forestation in large scale;
- Take initiatives for keeping balance on food price in market and preventing the reserve syndicates of regular products;
- All sector stakeholders should take initiative accordingly like health institute, agriculture department, social welfare department, Upazilla & Union parishad and parents;
- ☒ Ensure safe food & natural compost for production.
- ☒ Influence government policies
- ☒ Advocacy to increase budget allocation by the local government
- ☒ Find the policy gaps of Health, nutrition and food security
- ☒ Influence donors to allocate 50% budget on children and women nutrition
- ☒ Nutrition sensitive crops should be introduced
- ☒ Saves money with the help of upper-class people or different organizations etc to make gardening
- ☒ Providing small scale financial resources to the families
- ☒ Income is the key to eliminating hunger.
- ☒ Employing women through various trainings

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Community perception is different according to the children's discussion. Some said the cause of malnutrition is unawareness but others mentioned malnutrition is prevalent due to unavailability of nutritious food.

During consultation it was found that most of the participants' perceptions about malnutrition are quite common however little diversified knowledge was found in different groups. Actual definition of malnutrition is not known by the respondents' rather little knowledge was found in terms of the causes and vulnerability of malnutrition.

OVERALL SUMMARY

The global food insecurity and malnutrition are the largest in modern history. Many countries are currently facing acute hunger and malnutrition crisis that impacts of the 4 Cs: rising Costs, Conflict, Climate change and COVID-19. Bangladesh is not isolated from such global trend rather recently political unrest can be a bigger cause of hunger and malnutrition. In many contexts, food insecurity and malnutrition remain a sensitive issue which often hampers meaningful measurement efforts. Children and women are at the heart of these frightening statistics, including hidden hunger which is a micronutrient malnutrition that has been identified as a major public health issue. Children have given their opinion through the workshop, which is very unbelievable. Below are some of the insights shared by children to increase nutrition and food security status.

- Need to initiate Nutrition related community awareness programs by different actors like taking balanced diet during pregnancy
- It is very important to have MENCARE during pregnancy and to lactating mothers.
- We can do work for homestead gardening at our household level
- Saline variety crop production by different NGOs/Govt as Khulna is a salinity area in Bangladesh
- Social safety-net program to strengthen special focus on nutrition.
- Immunization program for children
- Anti-natal and post-natal care services for mother through community clinic
- Use IEC BCC materials for awareness like Wall-painting, Leaflet distribution, Pot song and drama by NGOs.
- Massive sensitization on child nutrition through media.
- Family counseling on holistic health services, nutrition and hygiene
- Policy/Law implementation (mentioning age specific nutrition need)
- Increase budget from local to national level
- Local govt can take initiative by providing food to poor families
- Re-start the school meal program.
- Parent education is essential on nutrition
- Farmers can take initiatives of fruit gardening
- Rich people need to come ahead for poor.
- INGO/NGO need to start more interventions on nutrition and food.
- Businessman, Youths and religious leaders can take part to work for malnutrition and hunger.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

World Vision Bangladesh followed the reference manual to conduct the children workshop. Total 25 children participated in the workshop on 11 November, 24 at Khulna. The area is in the southern part of Bangladesh where salinity is high due to nearby Bay of Bengal (Sea). Children from different subdistrict, different religion, ethnic minority and representatives from children with disability participated. Personally, convener myself conducted the session. Invited GO/NGO nutrition and livelihoods experts were invited to share country context regarding hunger and nutrition. They shared how children can play leadership role for nutrition and food security.

METHOD AND SETTING

Ice breaking by balloon game Discussion and sharing in individual, small group and larger groups. Group work by using flip chart, pen and VIP card Capture picture & video Sharing perception by the participants Sharing experiences Sharing community practice and procedures

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Need to select maximum younger children above 12 years old because through the workshop younger children can share the perception. Intentionally engage those who are vocal and aware on nutrition issues as well as national international agendas Be mentally prepared, have patience and give extra time to conduct the workshop.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Record keepers and others supporters provided relevant support instantly to success the workshop. They ensured all necessary logistics on time and arrange delicious and nutritious food for the children. Supporter's captured the opinion of children through capturing action picture and videos.

ATTACHMENTS

- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/1.jpeg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/2.png>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/3.jpeg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/4.jpg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/6.jpeg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/7.jpeg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/8.jpeg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/9.jpeg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/10.jpeg>
- **Photos of the Children's Workshop**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/11.jpeg>