

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Gaibanda /Rangpur Stakeholder Dialogues
DIALOGUE DATE	Monday, 18 November 2024 10:00 GMT +06:00
CONVENED BY	Jamal Uddin , National Advocacy Coordinator , World Vision Bangladesh
EVENT LANGUAGE	Bengali
HOST LOCATION	Adarshapara, Bangladesh
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Gaibandha /Rangpur
AFFILIATIONS	CSO members will be part of this event
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/54272/



The outcomes from Nutrition Dialogues will contribute to developing and identifying the most urgent and powerful ways to improve nutrition for all, with a focus on women and children and young people. Each Dialogue 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

47

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	3	12-18	7	19-29
29	30-49	8	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

17	Female	30	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

19	Children, Youth Groups and Students	0	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
03	Educators and Teachers	04	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	0	Food Producers (including farmers)
05	Healthcare Professionals	0	Indigenous Peoples
02	Information and Technology Providers	04	Large Business and Food Retailers
0	Marketing and Advertising Experts	0	National/Federal Government Officials and Representatives
02	News and Media (e.g. Journalists)	04	Parents and Caregivers
0	Science and Academia	04	Small/Medium Enterprises
0	Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives	0	United Nations
0	Women's Groups	0	Other (please state)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Working Mother, Teacher, Sports Men, Faith Leaders, Farmer, Health Personnel, Housewife, NGOs, GOs, Students, Local Government Representatives, People with disability, Media personnel, Youth Groups Members, Local Elites, Village doctor, Community Vo

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

Many affected groups are marginalized communities, including stakeholders from poor and ultra-poor families, women-headed households, ethnic groups, marginalized farming families, and fishing communities, farmers, students, media people,

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

Climate change has significantly affected the environment, biodiversity, and human life in this region. The world, including this area, is getting warmer, leading to severe impacts on nature, wildlife, human settlements, and society. If we do not act quickly, these challenges will worsen. The effects of climate change vary across regions and are not evenly distributed. In northern areas, winters are extremely cold, while summers are intensely hot. Over the past few years, the entire country has experienced rapid warming, which is harming ecosystems, reducing soil fertility, and threatening food production. Rising temperatures also endanger food security and clean water availability. Human health is deeply impacted by climate change. Heat stress directly affects well-being, while the spread of infectious diseases poses additional risks. Vulnerable groups, such as the poor, women, children, and indigenous communities, face greater challenges, as they lack resources to adapt or recover from climate-related issues. Climate change does not affect everyone equally. Rich, industrialized countries, which are the largest emitters of carbon dioxide, are better equipped to manage losses due to their resources. In contrast, poorer nations and communities bear the brunt of global warming despite contributing the least to the problem. The impacts extend to various economic sectors, including agriculture, fisheries, forestry, energy, insurance, and tourism. Immediate action is crucial to address climate change and reduce its effects, especially for vulnerable populations and critical industries.

NUTRITION SITUATION PRESENTATION

https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/English-_ENOUGH-Presentation_Final.pdf

DISCUSSION

What are the feelings or concerns about nutrition in our community? How to ensure good nutrition for all in our community? What actions might be needed to ensure good nutrition for all in our community? "How do people feel about nutrition in our community?" "Who needs to be involved to enable us to achieve good nutrition for all in our community?" "What are three actions we can take to improve nutrition for everyone here?" Who needs to be involved to enable us to achieve good nutrition for all in our community? What are the perceptions of community on Food Security? Which groups of people are most sufferer for food insecurity?

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

In this region, there is a general lack of practice in feeding colostrum to newborns, limited awareness of exclusive breastfeeding, and poor understanding of daily food habits. Financial insecurity, lack of knowledge, poverty, natural disasters, and unawareness of essential nutrition further exacerbate the situation. Religious fanaticism also plays a role in maintaining these challenges. Many affected groups are marginalised communities, including children from poor and ultra-poor families, women-headed households, ethnic groups, marginalised farming families, and fishing communities. These groups are often marginalised, forcing them to live in hunger and poverty. Girls in this region are more malnourished than boys due to persistent gender discrimination. Boys are often prioritised because they are seen as future family caretakers. Social discrimination is still prevalent in the Gaibandha region, where male children are preferred over females. This preference leads to child marriage for girls, which causes malnutrition and results in them giving birth to undernourished children. Malnutrition is a significant issue, leading to weakened immunity, stunted growth in children, and vulnerability to illnesses. Financial constraints, low crop production due to floods and environmental degradation, and a lack of awareness among low-income families contribute to these problems. Starving pregnant women are unable to give birth to healthy children, leaving both the mother and child prone to severe health issues. Marginal farmers and those living in extreme poverty have limited opportunities for vegetable farming, poultry and cattle rearing, or small businesses. Addressing these issues requires targeted interventions to improve nutrition, increase awareness, and provide resources for sustainable livelihoods.

URGENT ACTIONS

Homestead gardening, rearing hens and ducks, and cultivating pond fish are effective ways to reduce malnutrition. Raising awareness about these practices is essential. Mothers and caregivers should be educated about proper nutrition. Local governments need to increase budgets for food security through food allowances and social safety net programmes. Activities like homestead gardening, livestock rearing, fisheries, entrepreneurship, and awareness sessions can address hunger and reduce discrimination. Training in small businesses such as tailoring, grocery shops, tea stalls, and handicraft production can also improve livelihoods. Mass awareness campaigns through seminars, discussions, and campaigns in mosques, churches, and temples can help spread the message. Promoting the use of vermicompost, iodised salt, eating meals together as a family, and preparing weekly food plans can improve nutrition. The livestock and fisheries departments require increased budgets and improved monitoring. Subsidies or special allowances for marginalized farmers and extremely poor people should also be provided. Additionally, budgets for pregnancy and maternity allowances need to be expanded, and a midday meal programme at the primary school level should be introduced. Awareness about safe and nutritious food should be raised through campaigns, learning sessions, meetings, gatherings, and workshops targeting both poor and wealthy families, as many remain unaware of these issues. Civil society organizations, child forums, youth groups, health service providers, teachers, Union Parishad members, faith leaders, and adolescent clubs play key roles. These groups can educate people about the importance of safe and nutritious food. The government, especially the agriculture and health sectors, along with NGOs such as World Vision, BRAC, Friendship, and SKS, can provide essential support. Women Affairs Officers, agricultural offices, fisheries departments, livelihood teams, and others.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Homestead gardening, livestock rearing, and TVET training are effective ways to improve livelihoods. Small businesses, such as tailoring, boutiques, grocery shops, tea stalls, and handicraft production, can also support economic stability. Awareness sessions, seminars, campaigns, and discussions in mosques and temples are valuable methods for educating communities.

Creating gardens near mosques, rearing hens, ducks, and livestock, and cultivating zinc-enriched rice with compost are practical initiatives. Using vermicompost and iodised salt, eating meals together as a family, and preparing weekly food plans are additional measures that can improve nutrition.

Budgets for the livestock and fisheries departments should be increased, along with monitoring efforts. Subsidies or special allowances for marginalised farmers and extremely poor people are essential. Expanding budgets for pregnancy and maternity allowances and initiating a primary school-level feeding programme are also crucial steps.

Raising awareness of safe and nutritious food through campaigns, learning sessions, meetings, gatherings, and workshops can benefit both poor and wealthy families, as many are still unaware of healthy practices

OVERALL SUMMARY

Most people believe that only expensive foods, such as fruits, meat, fish, and eggs, are nutritious. However, low-income groups such as fishermen, ethnic communities, marginalised populations, and those facing religious or cultural barriers lack proper education on food, nutrition, and health.

It has been observed that mothers and children continue to suffer from malnutrition. As a result, children may develop disabilities, suffer from anemia, or face severe outcomes, including the unexpected deaths of both children and mothers.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

First, select stakeholders from various categories within the community to participate in the Nutrition Dialogue, following the provided guidelines. Invite them and explain the purpose of the dialogue. The facilitator should provide participants with essential information about the schedule and discussion topics. Participants contribute to the success of the event by sharing the required information. According to the schedule, they are divided into small groups, and key insights are gathered through group work.

METHOD AND SETTING

The workshop took place in a hall at a renowned hotel, where participants attended with great enthusiasm. The venue provided ample seating, writing space, and a comfortable environment. For some participants, it was their first experience in such a luxurious setting, which created a positive atmosphere for everyone. The workshop was formal, well-organized, and adhered to the proper guidelines. Stakeholders from various levels participated actively.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

This was an excellent workshop that we thoroughly enjoyed and learned a lot from. My only suggestion is that the reporting/feedback format should be more user-friendly—easier and shorter—so we can capture the entire process more concisely.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am deeply grateful to the World Vision Bangladesh management for giving me the opportunity to work on critical issues like malnutrition and food insecurity. I would also like to sincerely thank Ms. Pratigya R Khaling for her in-depth guidance on conducting such dialogues

ATTACHMENTS

- https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/1.-Mst.-Asma-Hokkani_Head-Teacher-scaled.jpg
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/1-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/2.-Md.-Harun-Or-Roshid-Chairman-of-Ghagoa-CWBO-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/3.-Most.-Youth-leader-Football-Player-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/4.-Md.-Jahangir-Alam-SALO-Gaibandha-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/5-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/6-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/8-scaled.jpg>