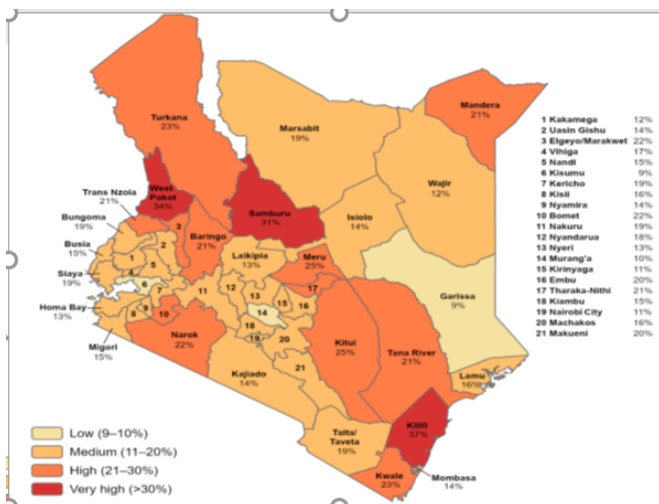


# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Baringo and Elgeyo Marakwet Counties' Nutrition Situation Review Forum
<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Tuesday, 10 September 2024 10:00 GMT +03:00
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Lamech Okello- Project Manager REACTS-IN Project , World Vision Kenya
<b>EVENT LANGUAGE</b>	English
<b>HOST LOCATION</b>	Kabarnet, Kenya
<b>GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE</b>	Baringo County- Koriema
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/54663/">https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/54663/</a>



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

24

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	3	19-29
16	30-49	5	50-74	0	75+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

15	Female	9	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0	Children, Youth Groups and Students	7	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
0	Educators and Teachers	2	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	0	Food Producers (including farmers)
11	Healthcare Professionals	0	Indigenous Peoples
0	Information and Technology Providers	0	Large Business and Food Retailers
0	Marketing and Advertising Experts	0	National/Federal Government Officials and Representatives
0	News and Media (e.g. Journalists)	0	Parents and Caregivers
0	Science and Academia	0	Small/Medium Enterprises
4	Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives	0	United Nations
0	Women's Groups	0	Other (please state)

## OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

The meeting was attended by county Health Management team, department of Education, National government administration units and the implementing partner

## ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

The participants were representatives of the diverse Baringo county communities including both the urban, peri-urban and rural population leaders.

# SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

## FRAMING

Nutrition is a vital building block in the foundation of human health and development. It has a direct relationship with child survival, physical and mental growth, learning capacity, adult productivity and overall social and economic development. Unacceptably high levels of malnutrition remain a public health concern and a hindrance to achieving the county's developmental agenda. Undernutrition has remained a persistent challenge to the greater population and especially to children 6-59 months and women of reproductive age (15-49 years). Stunting in Baringo County remains at 21% (KDHS, 2022) while SMART surveys informed integrated phase classification for acute malnutrition and food insecurity to be in Alert. Minimum Dietary Diversity for children 6-23 months and Egg and or Fleshy foods consumption is below average at 35% and 24.3% consecutively. The causes of this persistently high levels of malnutrition in Baringo County is multi-faceted. These include poor maternal, infant and young child nutrition practices and Exclusive breastfeeding. Food accessibility and consumption is poor across the county with only 33.7% and 66.1% of women consuming foods from the 5 recommended food groups. This translates to poor nutrition status among women of reproductive age which manifest in poor birth outcomes, complications during delivery and generally low economical productivity. The high rate of malnutrition in Baringo County is further complicated by other social/cultural economic challenges including high nutrition knowledge gap in the community, rampant disease outbreaks, insecurity and cyclic draught seasons which altogether complicate nutrition and food insecurity in the county.

## DISCUSSION

Complementary feeding is poor with negatives outcomes on child wellbeing like stunting attributed partly to the poor feeding practices or prolonged dietary inadequacy (chronic malnutrition) at 29.3% and 40.1% in Baringo North/South and Tiaty sub counties respectively. Such high levels paint a bleak future for the generations to come.

# SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

## CHALLENGES

Complementary feeding is poor with negatives outcomes on child wellbeing like stunting attributed partly to the poor feeding practices or prolonged dietary inadequacy (chronic malnutrition) at 29.3% and 40.1% in Baringo North/South and Tiaty sub counties respectively. Such high levels paint a bleak future for the generations to come.

## URGENT ACTIONS

The mission is to reduce all forms of malnutrition within the County through a coordinated multi-sectoral and community centered approaches for optimal health of the population and maximum contribution to economic growth. This will be achieved through;

1. Training Community Health Promoters on Baby Friendly Community Initiative and follow up on formation of Mother-to-Mother Support Groups to incorporate Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices
2. Partnering with Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries department to conduct sensitizations on establishment of kitchen gardens and starting 4K Clubs in schools alongside small animal rearing to solve the problem of food insecurity and promote dietary diversification.
3. Dietary formulations and cooking demonstration with mothers at community and village level.
4. Community sensitization on treatment of water at household level.
5. Routine Vitamin A supplementation at the facility level, during outreaches and malezi bora week. Conduct vitamin A sensitization training for all health workers. Conduct bi-annually vitamin A Data Quality Audit. Strengthen Vitamin A supply chain management.

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

1. Genetically Engineered Foods and Biotechnology: Divergent opinions also existed on the contribution of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and biotechnology to the problem of malnutrition. While some participants believed that GMOs and biofortification were necessary to increase crop yields and nutrition in environments with limited resources, others expressed worries about the long-term health effects.
2. Food System vs. Supplementation Approaches: Whether the emphasis should be on food system changes that support varied, nutrient-rich meals or on nutritional supplements and fortification initiatives (especially in addressing micronutrient deficiencies in low-income settings) was a topic of disagreement. Both sides agreed that supplements and other short-term fixes are important, but they disagreed on the long-term approach, with some calling for more significant systemic reform.

## OVERALL SUMMARY

The Nutrition Dialogue was a vibrant and multi-faceted event that brought together a diverse group of stakeholders with a mission to reduce all forms of malnutrition within the County. The event served as an important precursor to the Nutrition for Growth (N4G) 2025 Summit, aiming to deepen the understanding of current nutrition challenges and opportunities for action.

There was a shared commitment to finding common ground. The event reinforced the idea that while no single solution will suffice, a multipronged, inclusive approach that draws on the strengths of diverse stakeholders is necessary to combat the global nutrition crisis.

The energy and engagement at the event suggest that with continued collaboration and strong leadership, the N4G 2025 summit will serve as a pivotal moment for accelerating global nutrition progress.

As the dialogue concluded, there was consensus on several priority areas for action in the lead-up to Nutrition for Growth 2025:

The County Government was urged to place nutrition at the center of their development agendas, with strong calls for increased investment in nutrition-sensitive agriculture, education, and public health systems. Ensuring that these commitments are matched by clear, measurable targets and accountability mechanisms will be critical in turning aspirations into action.

A key message that emerged from the dialogue was the importance of equity in nutrition strategies. Participants emphasized the need for tailored interventions that address the unique challenges faced by vulnerable populations, including women, children, and marginalized communities. This will require context-specific solutions that respect local cultures and food systems, while also ensuring universal access to affordable, nutritious food.

There was broad agreement on the need for greater investment in research to support evidence-based policy-making. This includes better data collection on dietary patterns, health outcomes, and environmental impacts, as well as cutting-edge research into areas like personalized nutrition and climate-resilient crops.

# SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

## PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The Principles of Engagement were strictly followed during the Nutrition Dialogue to make sure that conversations were open, honest, and motivated by respect for other points of view. Throughout the event's development and implementation, these guiding principles helped to manage conflicting interests and ensure fruitful dialogues. The inclusion of participants from a wide range of sectors, including government, academia, civil society, and international organizations, was one of the dialogue's main strengths. This diversity made sure that no one viewpoint dominated the discourse. The polite recognition of opposing viewpoints was one of the conversation's most important features. Despite a number of contentious issues—like the usage of genetically modified organisms—participants were dedicated to hearing other points of view. By grounding the dialogue in evidence and fostering respectful debate, the event created a space where stakeholders could explore challenging topics while remaini

## METHOD AND SETTING

We used an inclusive and participatory approach to organize our Nutrition Dialogue in order to encourage participation and cooperation among a range of stakeholders. The venue, a community restaurant conference space, offered a formal yet warm atmosphere for the event. With its audio-visual equipment, the room could host productive talks and presentations. The round tables were set up to foster a cooperative atmosphere and increase participant interaction. The most recent facts and research cons

## ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

1. A diverse stakeholder engagement brings about valuable perspectives. Engaging a wide range of participants including Faith leaders, farmers, women groups and those directly affected by the nutrition issues is crucial. It is important to also encourage participants to share their experiences and insights. Using open-ended questions to foster discussion and ensure everyone has a chance to contribute. 2. Using Evidence-Based Content; incorporate the latest research and data to support discussion

# FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped make the Nutrition Dialogue event a success: Support Group: We would especially want to thank our hardworking support staff for all of their efforts in organizing and carrying out this event. This event was made possible by their dedication and hard work. Those in attendance: A huge thank you to everyone who took part for sharing their knowledge and experiences. The significance and influence of these conversations stem from t

## ATTACHMENTS

- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Nutrition-Dialogues-Baringo-County-Baseline.pptx>