

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Savings For Transformation Groups commitment to all children under five years of age having access to the nourishment they need
<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Tuesday, 12 November 2024 14:30 GMT +02:00
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	James Zimba, National Campaign Coordinator, World Vision Zambia
<b>EVENT LANGUAGE</b>	English
<b>HOST LOCATION</b>	Manyinga, Zambia
<b>GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE</b>	Community Level
<b>AFFILIATIONS</b>	World Vision and Ministry of Agriculture
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/55329/">https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/55329/</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

1

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-11

0 12-18

0 19-29

25 30-49

20 50-74

0 75+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

37 Female

7 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0 Children, Youth Groups and Students

0 Educators and Teachers

0 Financial Institutions and Technical Partners

0 Healthcare Professionals

0 Information and Technology Providers

0 Marketing and Advertising Experts

0 News and Media (e.g. Journalists)

0 Science and Academia

0 Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives

0 Women's Groups

0 Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)

0 Faith Leaders/Faith Communities

0 Food Producers (including farmers)

45 Indigenous Peoples

0 Large Business and Food Retailers

0 National/Federal Government Officials and Representatives

0 Parents and Caregivers

0 Small/Medium Enterprises

0 United Nations

1 Other (please state)

## OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

## ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

The group of S4T was all local in composition and based in the rural district of Zambia. Although the group had a combination of ethnic groups, all were from the same areas and of similar economic status.

# SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

## FRAMING

The activity was held in the community, near the primary school where the Savings for Transformation Groups usually meet. The group confirmed the presence of malnutrition in the community and that several deaths have been recorded as a result of it. Among the risk factors associated with malnutrition include a lack of knowledge and understanding of nutrition and its effects on children and adults. According to this group, little to no efforts have been made to educate the people on what to eat for their health. This situation, coupled with high poverty levels, has fueled malnutrition at household levels, sometimes even where the food is available. Seasonality was also mentioned to be a contributing factor because parents and guardians tend to sell two-thirds of their produce after harvest, leaving limited food for home consumption, which does not take a family throughout the year. Families also grow one type of crop, which the farmer input program by the government supports. These factors intertwine and cause nutrition deficits at the household level, hence malnutrition.

## DISCUSSION

Savings for Transformation Commitment to Improving Access to Nutritious Food for Children under Five Years in the Next Four Years.

# SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

## CHALLENGES

1. Reliance and consumption of one type of food: starch-oriented.
2. Long distance to markets to access other nutrient-dense foods from different producers.
3. There is a limited understanding of nutrition and how to prepare nutritious foods for children because of the high illiteracy levels in rural communities.
4. The community has few water sources. Most are nearby streams and natural wells, which are also used for drinking by domestic animals.
5. Fewer families can afford food from the markets due to high poverty.

## URGENT ACTIONS

1. There is an immediate need to conduct community conversations to help parents, guardians, and caregivers understand nutrition and possibly conduct cooking demonstrations, especially for breastfeeding and expecting mothers.
2. The team is ready to conduct more recruitment of members into the S4T to help others improve their income levels. This will enable them to afford nutritious foods at home.
3. Traditional and faith leaders should be involved in educating families about the importance of storing enough food to last 12 months after harvest. Possibly come up with a by-law to enforce this undertaking.

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

The team did not experience significant divergent views during the discussion. However, some did submit that gender-based violence from their husbands after getting their share of the savings is real and a drawback to progress in terms of financial independence.

## OVERALL SUMMARY

The overall event was very educational and possibly provided the best platform for the community members to engage with us and help chat about the way forward on nutrition. Based on the causes of malnutrition as stated above, S4T Members vehemently submitted that there is a high level of illiteracy in rural communities, making it difficult for people to understand what is involved in improving nutrition. Access to nutritious food is also challenging for rural communities because of lower income levels and the distance to the markets where healthy food can be obtained.

Productivity is another factor surrounding nutrition matters at community levels. Most peasant farmers cannot afford to diversify their fields to include livestock and fish farming. The main crop produced so far is maize, which is supported by the government from two fronts, firstly with farming inputs and secondly with the market for the produce. This agricultural policy has disadvantaged crops such as beans, ground nuts, soya beans, sweet potatoes, etc. This means a diet with high starch is taken three times a day with poor relish, resulting in malnutrition.

On sources of clean drinking water, the S4T team submitted that help is needed from the central government and civil society institutions such as World Vision to install mechanized water systems in the community. This would help families access clean water not only for drinking but also for gardening, which is an income-generating activity. One farmer said, "If only you, World Vision, could create schemes and provide mechanized systems, our communities would change overnight because the presence of water would spur a lot of activities and guarantee clean water for children, too."

# SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

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## PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

CSO-SUN Movement principles were used during the discussion. Respect for each other's views, equal opportunity, and ensuring equal participation were all followed.

## METHOD AND SETTING

The setting was informal, conducted under a tree in the community. Skills during the discussion included open-ended questions and small group discussions.

## ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Arrangements to meet the audience should be made three to four before the meeting to allow people to create time for you. Understand the audience and direct the discussion to ensure time is respected. Avoid political comments.

# FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to acknowledge Florence Kunyi, CDW for Manyinga AP, Chawe Ben, DF Manyinga and Mufumbwe, and the AP Manager Mulambwa Sikopo for their role in mobilizing the community for this activity.

## ATTACHMENTS

- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/S4T-1-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/S4T-3-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/S4T-4-scaled.jpg>