

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Volunteers and Caregivers Want to Take Action to End Malnutrition for Children under Five Years in the next Three Years
DIALOGUE DATE	Friday, 29 November 2024 10:00 GMT +02:00
CONVENED BY	James Zimba, World Vision Zambia, National Campaign Coordinator
EVENT LANGUAGE	English
HOST LOCATION	Manyinga, Zambia
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Manyinga District
AFFILIATIONS	There are no affiliations.
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/55423/



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

50

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	12	19-29
25	30-49	13	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

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

0	Children, Youth Groups and Students	0	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
0	Educators and Teachers	10	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	10	Food Producers (including farmers)
0	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)	30	Parents and Caregivers
0	Science and Academia	0	Small/Medium Enterprises
0	Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives	0	United Nations
0	Women's Groups	1	Other (please state)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

The dialogue was reasonably diverse, including people from different backgrounds and understandings. In terms of wealth, the difference was minimal, while ethnicity was not an issue as everyone came from the same community. Educational levels were also noted. Faith leaders looked and exhibited higher comprehension levels than other participants.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

The activity occurred at the New Apostolic Church in Manyinga in the community. According to participants, the critical concerns over malnutrition in the community are limited resources in many households. People are poor and do not even understand what malnutrition or nutrition is about. There are severe gaps in knowledge and understanding of what people should eat to maintain their nutritional and healthy bodies. Participants submitted that poor soils have contributed to food insecurity as the soils have been cultivated for many using and growing one crop type. Faith leaders' views were more on parental care, and they insisted that there is gross parental negligence and high levels of immorality, leading to divorces. The high levels of divorce have created single and female-headed homes where malnutrition is high. Furthermore, due to a lack of moral guidance from children at home, children end up in child marriages, and others become pregnant. Parents cause all this confusion.

DISCUSSION

Caregivers' Fight to End Malnutrition Among Registered Children in the Next Three Years. ☒ What do you think are some causes of malnutrition in our communities? ☒ What are the feelings or concerns about nutrition in our community? ☒ How can we ensure good nutrition for all in our community? ☒ What actions might be needed to ensure good nutrition for our community? ☒ Who needs to be involved to enable us to achieve good nutrition for all in our community? What are your recommendations for improving nutrition in our community? Follow-up questions were also used during the discussion

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

1. Dependence on one type of food variety, e.g., Nshima from corn meal. Food is high in carbohydrates.
2. Vegetables are very difficult to find in rural communities, especially during the dry season, as water is unavailable for gardening.
3. Protein sources such as chicken, beef, and fish are very expensive, and markets are very far from those who can afford them.
4. For others, food is only available after harvest, and at other times of the year, food is scarce.
5. There is also poor knowledge on to prepare nutritious food despite food being available.

URGENT ACTIONS

1. Training caregivers, other faith leaders, and parents using celebrating families' models in nutrition and how to prepare nutritious foods.
2. They will foster strong linkages between households and health facilities to build capacity in skills, including malnutrition identification and treatment using a home-based care system.
3. There is a need for crop diversification beyond the traditional crops known and grown every season.
4. There is a need to strengthen the child protection systems and orient parents and caregivers to help single-parent homes prevent pregnancies and child marriage cases, which create a web of malnutrition in the community.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

1. Views differed significantly in this session. Faith leaders' position was more on parental responsibility as a way to deal with nutrition matters. Caregiver accused the church of making people lazy because of what they are told at church: God will provide for them.
2. Other views focused on government policies promoting a specific type of crops, which they have a ready market for, and tend to discriminate against other nutritious crops.

OVERALL SUMMARY

The session with faith leaders, caregivers, and food producers was exciting because each looked at nutrition differently, primarily because of their work. However, similarities were noted during the discussion, and there were also differences. Parental negligence has been cited as one of the causes of malnutrition because of the high divorce rate, teenage pregnancies, child marriages, low knowledge levels on nutrition, and child-headed and single mother-headed homes, which are significant issues that concern all groups when it comes to food at the community level. The actions proposed in the discussion are efficient, and given the space and support, they can potentially improve nutrition levels at the household level.

During the discussion, all participants agreed that food producers need to diversify their crops to improve nutrition levels in the community. Village head persons and other senior traditional leaders must be involved in information dissemination and behavior change activities. Another key to the transformation is children and youth groups. Engaging them in productive activities will divert their attention from immoral activities to producing food and helping the vulnerable. Food producers and childminders also discussed the need for support in investing in livestock rearing to create other sources of income rather than being dependent on the sale of crops after harvest.

Training in smart agriculture methods to defeat climate change was also provided because most farmers depend on rain-fed agriculture. The result is always negative when there is drought.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The dialogue followed the CSO-SUN Movement principles of engagement, where all views were respected. Order was always called upon whenever there were arguments or opposing views.

METHOD AND SETTING

The session was held in the community church building. It was an open discussion, and all participants were free to contribute their opinions. Group discussion was also used for closer consultations when discussing recommendations.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Always tailor your session according to the setting and the audience.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Many thanks to Mr. Ben Chawe, Development Facilitator for Manyinga Mufumbwe APs. I also appreciate the leadership of the New Apostolic Church for allowing us to meet in the church.

ATTACHMENTS

- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Care-1-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Care-2-scaled.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Care-4-scaled.jpg>