

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Youth Leaders for Nutrition
DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 29 October 2024 09:00 GMT +03:00
CONVENED BY	Lamech Okello- Project Manager REACTS-IN
EVENT LANGUAGE	English
HOST LOCATION	Iten, Kenya
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Kenya-Elgeyo Marakwet County
AFFILIATIONS	This is part of the REACTS-IN Project as implemented by World Vision Kenya through World Vision Canada with funding from Global Affairs Canada
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/55542/



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

25

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	24	19-29
1	30-49	0	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

13	Female	12	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

25	Children, Youth Groups and Students	1	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
0	Educators and Teachers	0	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	0	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)	0	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	0	Other (please state)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

The Stakeholder Dialogue meeting involved youth representatives from all parts of Elgeyo Marakwet County's four sub-counties. This was a representation of youths from both the rural and urban parts of Elgeyo Marakwet.

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

This activity brought together all participants with various education backgrounds. Equally all the communities of the County, i.e Marakwet and Keiyo were represented. Minority groups were equally represented with all the participants coming from the different ecological zones and from Urban and Rural areas.

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. According to the ENRICH project midterm evaluation, there was significant improvement in the prevalence of EBF from 42.5 percent in 2017 to 62.9 percent in 2019. However, the prevalence of early initiation to breastfeeding within one hour showed a decline from 34 percent in 2017 to 31 percent in 2019. The prevalence of minimum dietary diversity (25.5%), minimum meal frequency (88%) and MAD (23.4%) among children aged 6-23.9 months showed no significant difference at baseline and midterm. KDHS 2019, saw stunting levels in Elgeyo Marakwet County reduce from 29.9% to 22%. As much as progress is being recorded, chances of eliminating poverty and hunger by 2030 are still very slim.

NUTRITION SITUATION PRESENTATION

<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Nutrition-Dialogues-Youth-Reps-Elgeyo-Marakwet-County.pptx>

DISCUSSION

The discussion topic was how Youths can contribute to improve the health and nutrition status of under-fives, pregnant and lactating mothers of Elgeyo Marakwet County

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

Poor dietary practices among children and women of reproductive age
Lack of male involvement on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) Prevalent alcoholism among the population (both men and women)
Knowledge gap on maternal, infant and young child nutrition among health workers and caregivers Stunting at 22%

URGENT ACTIONS

Train and sensitize community on Maternal Infant and Young Child Nutrition Women Empowerment to reduce alcohol consumption among women Male engagements to sensitize men on Infant and Young Child

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Healthy eating, cultural context,

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. By grounding the dialogue in evidence and fostering respectful debate, the event created a space where stakeholders could explore challenging topics while remaining focused on shared goals.

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

Early preparation before the dialogue event Having enough energizers Having respect for each other's opinion

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We celebrate and honor the inspiring dedication and passion of young people who are shaping a brighter future for us all. Your commitment to improved nutrition status is a powerful testament to the change that is possible when driven by heart, resilience, and innovation. We are continually inspired by your creativity, courage, and relentless pursuit of a better world.

ATTACHMENTS

- **Stakeholders Report-Youth Dialogue**
https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Stakeholder-Dialogues-Feedback-Framework_-Youth-Leaders-for-Nutrition.pdf