

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Role of the Church leaders and faith-Based organizations in ending child hunger and Malnutrition
DIALOGUE DATE	Thursday, 28 November 2024 09:00 GMT +02:00
CONVENED BY	Lam Duop Lam Faith and Development Coordinator, Moses Phillip Sakondo communication coordinator
EVENT LANGUAGE	English
HOST LOCATION	Juba, South Sudan
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Juba city, National level
AFFILIATIONS	It was part of World Vision South Sudan
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/55582/

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

15

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

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

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

1	Female	14	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)
1	Educators and Teachers	14	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

Ony one lecture from Episcopal University the rest were Bishops, Reverends and Pastors

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

To collectively advocate and address the pressing issues of child hunger and malnutrition in South Sudan, World Vision South Sudan's communication and advocacy, along with faith and development, hosted a Faith Community Nutrition Dialogue on November 28, 2024. This dialogue brought 15 clergy out of the 20 invitees, including representatives from various faith-based organizations, reflecting a strong commitment among community leaders to tackle these critical challenges. The event provided a platform for fruitful discussion, sharing experiences, and formulating actionable recommendations to improve the nutrition situation for children in South Sudan.

DISCUSSION

The Role of Churches and Faith-Based Organizations in Ending Child Hunger and Malnutrition in South Sudan 1) What are the key nutritional problems in South Sudan? And what can be done from a faith perspective? (5 points or more). 2) More than 1.6 million children under five are expected to suffer from malnutrition in South Sudan in 2024. What is the role of churches and faith-based organizations in ending child hunger and malnutrition in South Sudan? (10 points or more) 3) What are your recommendations to partners, the donor's community, and the world leaders? (5 Recommendations).

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

URGENT ACTIONS

1. Flooding Affecting Farmlands; Raise awareness and sensitize communities on disaster risks and how to mitigate; pass information in time.
 2. Insecurity: The Church should advocate for social justice and national reconciliation and healing.
 3. National Reconciliation and Healing; Churches and FBOs should advocate for socio-economic justice, Create awareness within families, Promote peacebuilding among different communities.
 4. Cultural Values: Prioritize children's nutrition over adults, encourage both men and women to actively participate in farming and providing for the family, Address the attitude of idleness by promoting a culture of work.
- Use biblical teachings to change mindsets (e.g., Romans 12:2, 2 Thessalonians 3:10, 1 Timothy 5:8).
 5. High level Poverty and Limited Resources, change attitudes by encouraging a culture of work, such as church farms, Churches and FBOs should collaborate to provide vocational training (e.g., tailoring, bricklaying). Mobilize local resources.
 6. Poor Health; Strengthen local health facilities to offer nutrition services in communities and enable many communicates to access them
 7. Poor Socio-Economic Status and Low-Level Education and lack of political will; Advocate for the diversification of natural resources and agricultural allocations, Promote policy advocacy for equality and equity in government support and resource distribution regardless of political affiliations or geography
 8. Poor Feeding Practices: Advocate for farming and good nutrition awareness, integrate these messages into sermons and empower church workers to promote these practices.
- Moreover, Churches are committed:
Encouraging Large-Scale Agriculture, Coordinating Agricultural Tools and Implementation, Community Engagement in Food Production, Establishing and Supporting Feeding Centers, Sensitizing on Good Hygiene Practices, Supporting Vulnerable Populations, Advocating for Socio-Economic Justice, Transforming Cultural Values, Imparting Vocational Skills.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

OVERALL SUMMARY

The Faith-based Nutrition Dialogue started at 10:00 with a warm welcome from World Vision South Sudan Operations Director, Dorance Cooper, who outlined the expectations of the dialogue. Following the introduction, Dr. Sam Onapa led an opening prayer and Bible reflection, setting a spiritual tone for the discussions ahead.

The Country Director, Dr. Mesfin Loha, gave an insightful opening remark, highlighting the urgent need for partnership and collaboration among faith leaders to address malnutrition in South Sudan. Stephen Epiu presented a thorough overview of the current nutrition situation in South Sudan, highlighting the alarming rates of child malnutrition exacerbated by conflict, floods, and economic instability. His presentation paints a stark picture, prompting deliberations on the role churches and faith-based organizations can play in mitigating these challenges.

Pr. Lam Duop Lam then presented on the role of faith leaders in the Faith Community Nutrition Dialogue (FCND), emphasizing their unique position to influence and mobilize communities towards better nutritional practices and support. Following suit, Ronald Ngetich delivered an engaging presentation on the Enough Campaign, an initiative that aims to mobilize the government, partners, and community to commit more funding and support to addressing food insecurity and promoting sustainable nutrition practices.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

After the presentations, the dialogue transitioned into group discussions, which lasted for a significant 40 minutes. Participants engaged in meaningful conversations, sharing their reflections on the presentations. Key themes emerged, including the importance of faith communities educating their congregants about nutrition, advocating for policy changes, and mobilizing resources to support vulnerable families.

METHOD AND SETTING

The setting was formal

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

My advice is that people need to get prepare well specially when it comes to Faith Community Nutrition Dialogue

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I personally appreciate all the Bishops, Reverends and Pastors who have participated in Faith Community Nutrition Dialogue on December 28, 2024. More I appreciate the present of Country Director, Programmer area and all the Facilitators.

RELEVANT LINKS

- **WVSS FAITH-BASED NUTRITION DIALOGUE**
<https://wvi.box.com/s/fggpyj5nyptuwpv9zt7z1yu963u7rtwh>

ATTACHMENTS

- **WVSS FAITH COMMUNITY NUTRITION DIALOGUE- Notes, 28th Nov 2024 final**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/WVSS-FAITH-COMMUNITY-NUTRITION-DIALOGUE-Notes-28th-Nov-2024-Final.docx>