

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Provincial Nutrition and Food Security Steering Committee Meeting
DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 4 December 2024 10:00 GMT +05:45
CONVENED BY	Shyam Adhikari, Advocacy and Campaign Manager, World Vision International Nepal Feedback published on behalf of Convenor by: Priscilla Dhakal. Support
EVENT LANGUAGE	Nepali
HOST LOCATION	Janakpur, Nepal
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Provincial Level
AFFILIATIONS	Madhesh Province
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/55792/

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

47

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	1	19-29
5	30-49	0	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

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

1	Children, Youth Groups and Students	30	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
16	Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives	1	United Nations
0	Women's Groups	5	Other (please state)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

NA

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

The dialogue had a good presence of local government representatives, CSOs, international and national non-government organizations, and a representative from a UN agency. This diversity helped explore different dimensions of nutrition during the dialogue.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

The dialogue was held in a formal setting. It was chaired by the Honorable Vice President of the Provincial Policy and Planning Commission (PPPC) of Madhesh Province. He began the meeting by sharing the objectives and agenda. The sharing from on Multisectoral Nutrition Program (MSNP) III, an initiative of the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration, Government of Nepal, to ensure and improve nutrition among children in Nepal. The discussion was focused on seeking collaboration among various stakeholders for the development of an implementation plan and monitoring and evaluation mechanism of MSNP III in Madhesh Province. The dialogue also explored ways to incorporate the positive interventions of development agencies that have been working in food security and MSNP within the nation. Along with the discussion, the participants also highlight about the issues, challenges and way forward around the implementation of nutrition actions.

DISCUSSION

The discussion remained focused on the agenda, and the floor was opened for participants to share their perspectives on the agenda items. After sharing about the MSNP III, the participants were asked to share their opinions on the issues/challenges and way forward to improve nutrition action in the communities of Madhesh Province.

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

The first challenge participants identified is the gap on coordination and collaboration among stakeholders working on MSNP III in the Madhesh Province. Another challenge is on implementation by effective and robust monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track its progress. Participants shared that there is a lack of knowledge about nutritious food and its preparation within the community. The easy availability of packaged food poses another challenge. Similarly, the poor implementation of school health and nutrition programs and the distribution of packaged food during the midday meal need to be addressed soon. At the same time, exclusive breastfeeding is in a decreasing trend, which needs immediate attention.

URGENT ACTIONS

1. To expedite the coordination and collaboration from the Government (PPPC), the discussion was made to formulate a special grant proposal development committee. Lead: Vice Chair of PPC; Co-lead: WVIN; Members: UNICEF, WHH, HKI.
2. Draft proposal development to be shared with all stakeholders by 13th Dec 2024, with the WVIN team taking responsibility for this task.
3. TOR for the development of a detailed implementation plan and M&E framework of MSNP by HKI - 25th Dec 2024.
4. Circular to be made from Government to all the schools to ensure nutritious food in schools.
5. Urge local government to implement nutrition friendly local governance (NFLG) in the local government level.
6. Facilitate the municipal and ward level nutrition steering committee to implement activities related to nutrition.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

The opinions were not differed as all the participants have good knowledge and background on nutrition interventions. However, the expectation from Government is huge among participants from accountability and execution of activities. Hence, some of the participants strongly advocated for expediting the actions.

OVERALL SUMMARY

The program was chaired by the Honorable Vice President of the Provincial Policy and Planning Commission (PPPC) of Madhesh Province. He began the meeting by sharing the objectives and agenda. The agenda was to discuss the development of a Multi-sectoral Nutrition Implementation Plan, the monitoring and evaluation framework of MSNP for Madhesh Province, the documentation and scaling up of multisectoral nutrition and food security interventions from both the development sector and the government that have shown a positive impact in the community, and to develop a project proposal on food security for a special grant.

After sharing the agenda, the meeting participants were asked to share their perspectives on each agenda item and how they could contribute. During the discussion, participants spoke about the situation of nutrition and food security in Madhesh Province and suggested interventions for the special grant. One PPC member emphasized that the special grant should focus on distributing nutritious food to marginalized and disadvantaged communities. Another member suggested that the grant should support farmers with irrigation, organic manure development, and agriculture-related skills. Representatives from HKI committed to finalizing the TOR for the development of the MSNP implementation plan and M&E framework. Similarly, a representative from WVI Nepal committed to developing the draft proposal for the special grant on food security based on lessons from existing interventions.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The program participants recognized that nutrition has multisectoral determinants and that all sectors should work together to create a nutrition-friendly community and a malnutrition-free Madhesh Province.

METHOD AND SETTING

The discussion was held in a formal setting in a meeting hall. Open discussions were made focused on various sectors that had a role to play for creating a nutritious community.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

This dialogue is unique and different than other dialogues conducted in Nepal as we have invited (through Government) high level Government bodies and agencies working in nutrition. Rather than being focused on the prescribed structure of the nutrition dialogue with stakeholders' flexibility on the flow of dialogue is required.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to Madhesh Province's government representatives and CSO for attending the dialogue and valuable inputs.

ATTACHMENTS

- **Meeting photo 1**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Media-2.jpg>
- **Meeting photo**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Media-1.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Invitation-letter.jpg>