

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

WORKSHOP TITLE	Effects of hunger and malnutrition on education of children in Neno District
WORKSHOP DATE	Tuesday, 10 December 2024 10:30 GMT +02:00
CONVENED BY	Ector Taibu, School Health and Nutrition Coordinator Event announced on behalf of the Convenor by: Yamikani Banda. Technical Support
EVENT LANGUAGE	Chichewa
HOST CITY	Neno, Malawi
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Community level
AFFILIATIONS	World Vision International
WORKSHOP EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/56149/



The outcomes from Children's workshops will contribute to developing and identifying the most urgent and powerful ways to improve nutrition for all, with a focus on children and young people. Each Workshop 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

6 12-15

9 16-18

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

7 Female

8 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPATION DIVERSITY

The dialogue session for Chilim'bondo AP was participated by 15 adolescents. Among them, 7 were most vulnerable children, and 3 children were living with some disabilities. 4 children were reported to have come from socially excluded households within the community, while 2 came from local leaders' households.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING

The children malnutrition dialogue sessions focused on how children understand hunger and malnutrition. Children discussed on what they know are definitions of hunger and malnutrition. They also discussed correlation that is between hunger and malnutrition. The children dialogue session also created a friendly platform for children to voice out how hunger and malnutrition affect them in their daily lives and how they impact on their long term goals. The dialogue also allowed the children to provide their views on what they believe can be solutions to help reducing hunger and malnutrition especially among themselves.

SECTION THREE: CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

- i. They said that hunger and malnutrition force them to think beyond their capacity on how they are to grow and develop in their communities with high levels of food securities
- ii. They reported that hunger and malnutrition disturbs them to prepare for their school
- iii. We are forced to be absent and sometimes drop out from school because of hunger and malnutrition
- iv. Sometimes our parents tradeoff our education with piece work for food because of hunger and malnutrition

URGENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- a. The children said that establishing farm input selling centers within the community so that parents of the children can access the farm inputs at low costs
- b. Children requested Office bearers and NGOs to continue and scaling up distribution of food and other relief items to their community
- c. They suggested that office of education should provide comprehensive trainings to teachers for effective delivery
- d. They requested office of agriculture to recruit more agri. Extension workers for the community
- e. They asked government and other NGOs to enhance support their community with business capital to promote income generating activities
- f. They wanted to see WV and other NGOs scaling school feeding programs

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There was no significant divergence worth recording.

OVERALL SUMMARY

The children's nutrition dialogue session provided a platform for participants to share their understanding and perspectives on hunger and malnutrition, their effects, and possible solutions.

Key Outcomes:

Understanding Hunger and Malnutrition: Children demonstrated insightful definitions of hunger, linking it to food unavailability, lack of farm inputs, and limited rains. Malnutrition was described as the absence of the six food groups, stunted growth, body weakness, and abnormal body weight and size.

Correlation Between Hunger and Malnutrition: Children identified that hunger leads to unmet nutritional needs and weak immunity, which are precursors to malnutrition.

Effects on Their Lives: Participants shared how hunger and malnutrition disrupt their education, force them to think beyond their capacity for survival, and compel parents to prioritize food over education.

Proposed Solutions: Suggestions included establishing affordable farm input centers, scaling food relief efforts, training teachers, recruiting agricultural extension workers, supporting income-generating activities, and enhancing school feeding programs.

This session highlighted the children's keen awareness of these issues and their commitment to finding practical solutions.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

During the session, children were encouraged to respect each other's views ensuring that no one laughs at someone's view in disrespect. Diversity and inclusivity were also followed.

METHOD AND SETTING

The dialogue session was conducted at a school ensuring a familiar child - friendly environment for children in a non - formal set up.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

1. Ensure children take the leading role of the discussion.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

World Vision Malawi for organizing children in their Area Program and also getting the required consent forms.