

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>WORKSHOP TITLE</b>	Adolescents' Indaba on hunger and malnutrition in the urban areas of Malkerns in Eswatini
<b>WORKSHOP DATE</b>	Friday, 13 December 2024 09:00 GMT +02:00
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Onias Hlungwani Program Design Evidence and Impact Coordinator
<b>EVENT LANGUAGE</b>	Siswati and English
<b>HOST CITY</b>	Malkerns, Eswatini
<b>GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE</b>	Neighborhood in Town
<b>AFFILIATIONS</b>	World Vision , Nutrition Council Eswatini
<b>WORKSHOP EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/56312/">https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/56312/</a>



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

40

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

24 12-15

16 16-18

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

28 Female

12 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

## ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPATION DIVERSITY

The participants were from urban area and made up of boys and girls. Other area of diversity was economic status of the participants with some coming from the informal settlements in the town.

# SECTION TWO: FRAMING

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The workshop topics of discussions were introduced to children through discussion of general conditions in their community. They were asked to discuss the good things they like about their community. After these were discussed, the topics of hunger and malnutrition were presented with a general picture was shared with the participants. They were asked to discuss the situation in their community and its effects on them as children.

# SECTION THREE: CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

## CHALLENGES

Limited access to food , especially for children from the poorest households in the informal settlements  
Malnutrition for children because of poor eating habits and no access to nutritious foods  
Drug and alcohol abuse has bad nutrition outcomes for those who use them which include children and caregivers  
Having no land to plant any crops and vegetables because of living in the peri-urban areas  
High levels of poverty and unemployment that leads to social ills like crime and prostitutions

## URGENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

The actions proposed was to improve access to food for vulnerable children through soup kitchens, cash and voucher assistance projects  
What is also key to sustain the families is to provide skills and Livehoods for caregivers so that they can provide for the children  
Provision of information to parents and children on the value of nutrition and the effects for malnutrition for children' development  
Provision of enough food in schools all the time for all children

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

There was general consensus on the issues discussed with no notable areas of divergence.

## OVERALL SUMMARY

The workshop was held in a peri-urban area of Malkerns in Eswatini and 40 children's attended the workshop. The discussions in the workshops evolved around the status of hunger and malnutrition in their community, its effects on children's and suggested recommendation by children to address these. The children observed that indeed hunger was prevalent in the community since many households are very poor. They highlighted that poverty was perpetuated by unemployment, underemployment, social conditions of living and poor access to services.

The children observed that other social conditions like drug abuse and alcohol abuse is causing children to malnourished as these deplete few resources in the families for food. In addition children are also involved in alcohol and substance abuse which puts their health in danger. There is high levels of malnutrition for children since their parents do not care for them well. Levels of teenage pregnancies' and abuse (including Gender based violence) are very high, which affects the children in the community.

Although the town is surrounded by farms lands, the children presented that their parents have no access to land for farming and their many source of food is through purchasing in the local town.

Children recommended that children from vulnerable households be supported by food and cash programs to enable them to access nutritious food. In addition they argued that livelihoods interventions need to be introduced to caregivers so that they can make income to be able to provide food for children. In addition there should be programs that will educate parents on nutritious foods so that they understand the value of nutrition for growth of children.

# SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

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## PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The facilitators observed the principles of engagement and also considered the safety and protection of children.

## METHOD AND SETTING

The workshop was held at a community center and adults were excused from the meeting so that children can be free to express themselves. Participatory methods were used to ensure that children participate. These include games, group discussions and feedback sessions.

## ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Planning is critical and making sure all the children are invited for the meeting way before the dates to minimize poor attendance.

# FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to appreciate the staff from world Vision who supported the event, Jabulani Dlamini, Khosi Dlamini, Cyprian Johnson , Nkosingiphile Kunene and Nolungelo Mamba