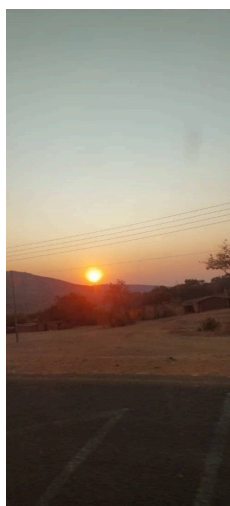


OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

WORKSHOP TITLE	"Children in Mayani, Dedza voices out on how hunger is affecting them, calling for action from key players"
WORKSHOP DATE	Thursday, 19 December 2024 10:00 GMT +02:00
CONVENED BY	Ephrida Nkhata and Rajab Afack Event announced on behalf of the Convenor by: Charles Percy Gama. Publisher Feedback published on behalf of Convenor by: Charles Percy Gama. Publisher
EVENT LANGUAGE	Chichewa
HOST CITY	Dedza, Malawi
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Community
AFFILIATIONS	World Vision
WORKSHOP EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/56839/



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

12

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

10 12-15

2 16-18

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

6 Female

6 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPATION DIVERSITY

The workshop was comprised of 12 children (6F) and one with disability. The children from Tchesa and Chitundu Aps . These were learners from Mdindo, Chitundu, Thombozi primary school and Chitundu CDSS. The activity was conducted at Chitundu AP office within WV's catchment area to make the venue reachable to the participants.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING

The session started with an opening prayer by Shamil (one of the children) and then after, each one of the participants was requested to introduce himself/herself by mentioning his/her full name, village where he is coming from, age, name of school and class which is attend. After the introduction, the facilitator noticed that the participants sat according to the villages or schools they were coming from. Then the facilitator asked every one to greet three people and sit next to the last person he/she is greeting. This brought flexibility among the children, they started laughing and talking to each other while greeting their fellows and it was easier to mix up, making a different sitting setup as compared to the former groups in isolation. Before coming into Nutrition dialogue, one of the children said we need to have ground rules, of which all of them were in agreement. And to them, they came up with three points considered valid, out of the seven points that they gathered. These points included:- 1. When someone wants to speak, he/she should raise a hand so that he/she gets recognized. 2. Speak while standing if recognized. 3. Valuing each others opinion.

SECTION THREE: CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

- Inadequate skill of mothers and caregivers on preparation of 6 food groups.
- Poverty in some families as they can't manage to till a reasonable piece of land to which can provide adequate food for their house holds.
- Laziness, not willing to participate on what can bring nutritious food on the table.
- Inadequate health workers and Agriculture Extension workers to train the community on what are six food groups
- Farm inputs becoming expensive and some community members only use their un fertile soil without fertilizer, hence harvesting little or nothing.
- Expensive food items at the markets-families failing to buy some food items that can add nutrition to the food that they already have in the household. For instance, having vegetables at home, they need cooking oil to make them nutritious
- Some culture and religious belief, denying people to eat some nutritious food found in the community regarding it as a taboo ie children and pregnant women being denied of eating eggs, other religious beliefs denying members to eat certain type of meat like pork.
- A culture of loving money and selling all food items at house hold.
- Negligence in timely seeking of health behaviours

URGENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

- Promote irrigation farming which should also include growing of fruit trees
- Increase the number of Health Workers and Agriculture extension worker to help intensify awareness messages on farming and nutrition and hygiene.
- Village chiefs to counsel lazy people so that they participate in nutrition activities.
- Chiefs to counsel their community members and discouraging them on the behavior of selling all the food.
- Job creation so that people should get employed and earn money to buy their needs.
- Conducting community awareness meetings -discouraging beliefs that can contribute to malnutrition.
- Encourage terming of ruminants animals at home which can help in availability of money as well as nutrition.
- Government to subsidize the prices of farming equipment like ploughs or ridger which will allow people to cultivate a bigger piece of land and produce more.
- Seeking timely medical support when someone feels sick.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Children learn most of the things by practically seeing them happening. They have a sense of comparison on what is best for their life though in some circumstances they need to be guided by adults on better way of doing things.

OVERALL SUMMARY

Children were observed as some of the key participants of the development of their communities, they have ideas on how to work out issues that do not contribute to their well being. They should always be involve during community planning and review meetings, so that their ideas should be incorporated in the development plans of their communities. During the dialogue, it was also noted that children believe in team work and supporting one another. For instance, when someone started elaborating an idea and is stuck, other children could come in quickly to add some facts/ideas on the point so that it is perceived as intended.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

Children and their parents had to be informed of the event, two days prior to the activity where parent and children and youth forms were read and interpreted to them line by line. Parents were asked to sign consent form if they agree for their children to participate. Children who had their parent forms signed, were requested to sign their consent form if in agreement to what was read.

METHOD AND SETTING

Venue: It was at World vision -AP office in the community of Chitundu. The sessions began with a word of prayer, introductions, followed by an explanation on the whole purpose of the workshop. Members had time for break where they had refreshment on half time of the work shop. The dialogue mostly happened in groups and individual to individual.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

- Inform the children and their parent in time or may be 5 days before the workshop.
- The event to be carried out within the children's proximity, avoid them to walk a longer distance and regard an activity as a boring event.
- Facilitator and convenor to plan together so that everyone is sure of what is going to do.
- Ensure time management
- Ensure all the materials supporting the workshop are available ie pens, Flip charts, pencils, crayons etc.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Acknowledgements go to the Ministries of Health, Education, and World Vision Malawi staff, WV Sponsorship volunteers, Chitundu ADC for collaborating to engage children on issues of hunger and malnutrition.