

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Nutrition dialogue with children
DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 26 November 2024 10:20 GMT +02:00
CONVENED BY	Prosper Ndayegamiye Event announced on behalf of the Convenor by: Javan Niyakire. Technical capacity Feedback published on behalf of Convenor by: Javan Niyakire. Technical support
EVENT LANGUAGE	English
HOST LOCATION	Cankuzo, Burundi
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Community level
AFFILIATIONS	The event was organized by World Vision
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/56925/



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

35

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	7	12-18	15	19-29
10	30-49	3	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

0	Female	1	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

7	Children, Youth Groups and Students	0	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
5	Educators and Teachers	3	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	4	Food Producers (including farmers)
3	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)	5	Parents and Caregivers
0	Science and Academia	0	Small/Medium Enterprises
1	Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives	0	United Nations
7	Women's Groups	1	Other (please state)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

No other stakeholder Groups

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

The dialogue was diverse in terms of age and what people do in their normal lives. Some were farmers, civil servants, and faith leaders. Almost all participants were from the rural area of Cankuzo, except very few of them that were from the small urban city of Cankuzo.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

Burundi, a country in the Great Lakes region, has an area of 27,834 km² including 2,700 km² of lakes and 23,500 km² of potentially agricultural land. Its total population is estimated at 13,097,399 inhabitants in 2023 with an average density of 470 inhabitants/km² (ISTEEBU projection, 2016). According to the Integrated Survey on Household Living Conditions in Burundi (EICVMB) of 2019-2020, 51.4% of the population lives below the poverty line. Burundi's economy is heavily dependent on the agricultural sector which, despite the scarcity of arable land, employs 80% of the population (ISTEEBU, 2021). The level of food insecurity is almost twice as high as the average for other countries in sub-Saharan Africa, with an estimated 1.4 million people in need of humanitarian assistance in 2023 (OCHA et al., 2023). This results in a critical nutritional situation among children under 5 years of age, exacerbated by recurrent economic shocks and epidemics, thus compromising child survival and development. Food insecurity is high due to low incomes, recurrent climatic shocks, high population density and limited access to land for production. While the acute malnutrition rate stood at 6.1% in 2020, stunting decreased from 58% in 2010 to 54% in 2019. (IFAD, BASIC SURVEY 2022/135/R.18). In Burundi, malnutrition is a major public health problem. On a national scale, according to the ENSNMB survey based on the SMART 2022 methodology, the prevalence of stunting was estimated at 55.8% [54.9%-56.8%]. This prevalence is well above the very high threshold of 30% set by the WHO on a national level, GAM was estimated at 8.0% between 7.4% and 8.7% during this survey. This prevalence is above the average threshold (alert) of 5% set by the WHO, placing the country in a so-called average (precarious) public health situation. It increased by 3.2 percentage points compared to that observed during the ENSNMB of March 2022 where it was 4.8% [4.6-5.1], p = 0.00.

NUTRITION SITUATION PRESENTATION

https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Nutrition-dialogue_CANKUZO_INTRODUCTION.pdf

DISCUSSION

The open ended questions used: A. Questions to adults: 1. What are the nutrition problems/challenges in your environment? 2. What are the possible solutions to overcome these problems? 3. What are the nutrition problems/challenges in your environment? 4. What are the urgent actions and by whom? 5. What are the urgent actions and by whom? B. Questions to the youth group: a. what is the children's appreciation or understanding of a good diet? b. What are the children's ideas for improving their diet? c. What is the situation of adolescents in terms of health, nutrition, stunting and child marriage/early pregnancy d. Recommendation of the youth group

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

1. The underproduction of these foods mainly due to climate change, lack of selected seeds, the lack of sufficient domestic animals to obtain organic manure
2. The youth is not interested in agriculture
3. Food insufficiency due to idleness, the degradation of arable land as well as unimproved agricultural techniques
4. The surge in prices of basic agricultural inputs and henceforth food products
5. Low income of the population
6. Selling food portions to be able to cater for other family needs
7. Insufficient improved seeds
8. The small size of arable land
9. Low family income
10. Agricultural inputs that are not available on time
11. Insufficient phytosanitary products as well as the related equipment
12. Lack of arable land for indigenous people (Batwa)
13. Lack of knowledge about balanced nutrition
14. Insufficient knowledge about preparing a balanced diet
15. Lack of sufficient capital to practice modern agriculture
16. Soil infertility
17. Women generally work alone
18. Climate change
19. Poor distribution of family assets due to lack of dialogue in household
20. New epidemic diseases including COVID 19, and MPOX affecting food production and sensitization around adoption of improved agricultural techniques.

URGENT ACTIONS

1. The administration should closely monitor price surge of food products
2. Encourage farmers to adopt improved agricultural techniques and the use of improved seeds. This should be done by the Local Government and the regional office in charge of agriculture.
3. Raise awareness among the population on improved agro-pastoral techniques. This work should be done by the Administration, religious denominations and NGOs
4. Raise awareness among households on the proper preparation of a balanced diet by the Administration, religious denominations and NGOs
5. Initiate kitchen gardens: recommendation for the community
6. Birth spacing: a recommendation to community members
7. Join community-based associations: recommendation to all members of the community
8. Avail improved seeds and chemical fertilizers on time: this should be done by the State
9. Soil erosion control by drawing contour lines, fighting bush fires and planting anti-erosion hedges: by the State and community members
10. Install handwashing devices in communities: for CHWs and the population
11. Setting up response teams to work in the event of a disaster: by the administration
12. Set up a contingency plan for these disasters: by government institutions
13. The ministry of health to build new health centers to reduce long distances in search of health services.
14. Security units and local leaders to prevent people selling food production in neighboring countries with approved permission.
15. Plan to set up community granaries: This should be done by government institutions.
16. NGOs and BPEAs should make pets available
17. Government institutions and non-government organizations should work to protect the environment through the administration
18. Sensitization of youth on agro-pastoral development by the administration and NGOs
19. Capacity building in nutrition by the State and NGOs
20. Capacity building on best agricultural techniques by government institutions and NGOs

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

The views, opinions and positions did not diverge on what should be urgently done to improve the situation.

OVERALL SUMMARY

The nutrition dialogue event has been an opportunity of bringing to the table different groups so that they are able to share their views on issues related to nutrition and on actions that should be carried out to bring solutions to such issues.

It became obvious that issues are so many and that the key players to decipher such issues are expected to be the government institutions and non-government organizations; this is according to participants in the dialogues.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

To engage with the participants, we simply briefed them on the theme and what we wanted to achieve. Then, they were divided in small groups to ease discussions and interactions.

METHOD AND SETTING

During the introduction of our Dialogue event, information about the local context and nutrition situation were provided to frame the discussions.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

The advice I have for other Dialogue Convenors is to make the participants aware of their participation and share with them the theme.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I appreciate everyone who participated in the dialogue for their time, ideas and support.