

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Citizen Voice and Action Group, Lead Farmers and Agriculture People's Implementation Unit Collaborate to Improve Nutrition in Nyimba District
DIALOGUE DATE	Friday, 20 December 2024 08:00 GMT +02:00
CONVENED BY	James Zimba, World Vision Zambia, National Campaign Coordinator
EVENT LANGUAGE	English
HOST LOCATION	Nyimba, Zambia
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Nyimba District
AFFILIATIONS	There are no affiliations.
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/56928/



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

16

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	0	19-29
6	30-49	10	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

03	Female	13	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0	Children, Youth Groups and Students	0	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
0	Educators and Teachers	0	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	16	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
0	Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives	0	United Nations
0	Women's Groups	1	Other (please state)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

All sixteen participants were from the same area. Yes, they were different in terms of wealth; some looked better than others, and others came to the meeting on motorbikes.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

The dialogue meeting was held informally under the trees at St. Paul Catholic Church. Participants informed the gathering of their severe nutritional challenges, partly due to the failed 2023 to 2024 season. Yes, participants confirmed the negative effects of climate change on farming and stated that going forward, there is need for better strategies and interventions to counter the effects of climate change. Malnutrition especially among children was confirmed and actually, even adults are equally affected as most household survive on one meal per day. Variations in the cases of malnutrition have been observed, and that the worst cases occur during the rainy season as most household exhausted their harvest.

DISCUSSION

CVA, Lead Farmers, and People's Implementing Units Collaborate to Improve Nutrition in the Community. The discussion questions were guided by the manual. Follow-up questions were also used to obtain more information on the topic. ☒ What do you think are some causes of malnutrition in our communities? ☒ What are the feelings or concerns about nutrition in our community? ☒ How can we ensure good nutrition for all in our community? ☒ What actions might be needed to ensure good nutrition for our community? ☒ Who needs to be involved to enable us to achieve good nutrition for all in our community Conclusion ☒ What are your recommendations for improving nutrition in our community?

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

1. High poverty levels among people with limited sources of income to buy food.
2. monocropping leaves people with no option but to eat one type of food, predominantly starch.
3. People don't understand what a balanced diet means or what crops they should grow to ensure food security at home. The lead farmers prioritize only crops that have market value.
4. Parental neglect is another serious problem observed in the community, especially during the cultivation period. Children are left in the care of other children at home while adults are busy farming. Children only receive food when their parents return from the field.
5. There is a lack of financial literacy among many parents who can afford food, especially after harvest. More resources are spent on alcohol than food for the children.

URGENT ACTIONS

1. Provide Nutritional Education for Farmers to increase crop production and diversify their farms.
2. Gardening is needed to increase nutritious crops at home.
3. Cooking lessons among women especially are required to impart skills.
4. Farmers need to learn food preservation methods. This will allow them to store food for a longer time than usual. Currently, most farmers complain of losing their harvest due to chemicals used to treat their produce.
5. Many are willing to generate income through other means besides farming, which disappoints them whenever there is drought.
6. Planting of fruit trees will be emphasized going forward.
7. Information dissemination on the dangers of malnutrition and reporting of suspected cases to the health facility

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Despite the differences in their background, participants agreed on all the views discussed regarding the causes and impact of malnutrition on the children. Women, however, emphasized male involvement in fighting malnutrition at home, which currently is not the case. All responsibilities of fending for children are left to mothers.

OVERALL SUMMARY

1. High poverty levels among people with limited incomes to buy food. Fighting Malnutrition entails fighting poverty and lack of knowledge at the community and household levels. Investment in infrastructure to eliminate poverty must be prioritized.
2. monocropping leaves people with no option but to eat one type of food, predominantly starch. Nutrition levels cannot be improved without nutritious food. Producers must produce this food through farming as ethically and locally as possible. This will make the food ready in most markets at affordable prices for all to afford.
3. People don't understand what a balanced diet means or what crops they should grow to ensure food security at home. The lead farmers prioritize only crops that have market value. Improving literacy in rural communities is necessary if the fight against malnutrition is to be won.
4. Parental neglect is another serious problem observed in the community, especially during cultivation. Children are left in the care of other children at home while adults are busy farming. Children only receive food when their parents return from the field. Besides education on nutrition in the community, child protection lessons are also important so parents can safeguard children from hunger.
5. Many parents who can afford food lack financial literacy, especially after harvest. More resources are spent on alcohol than on food for the children. Other factors also follow the fact that literacy levels are high. Fighting nutrition and implementing strategies to reduce poverty should improve financial literacy, too.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

CSO-SUN Movement principles of engagement were followed, and all opinions were respected.

METHOD AND SETTING

The event was an open discussion held under the trees on the grounds of St. Paul Catholic Church. The environment was conducive enough for all.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Prepare the necessary tools and questions, including outcomes for the meeting.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I want to acknowledge Mr. Mathews Mutunda, DF Nyimba AP, Manager Faustina Samboko and the Chairperson of the CVA team for organizing the activity.

ATTACHMENTS

- **CVA, Lead Farmers, and PIU**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/CVA-1-scaled.jpg>
- **CVA, Lead Farmers, and PIU**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/CVA-2-scaled.jpg>
- **CVA, Lead Farmers, and PIU**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/CVA-4-scaled.jpg>
- **CVA, Lead Farmers, and PIU**
<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/CVA-5-scaled.jpg>