

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Nutrition challenges amidst hope for improvement
DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 27 November 2024 09:00 GMT +02:00
CONVENED BY	Alice Hatungimana Event announced on behalf of the Convenor by: Javan Niyakire. Technical support Feedback published on behalf of Convenor by: Javan niyakire. Technical support
EVENT LANGUAGE	English
HOST LOCATION	Masasu, Burundi
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Community level
AFFILIATIONS	World Vision
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/57052/



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

23

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	9	19-29
12	30-49	2	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

14	Female	11	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0	Children, Youth Groups and Students	3	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
0	Educators and Teachers	5	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	0	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	3	National/Federal Government Officials and Representatives
0	News and Media (e.g. Journalists)	4	Parents and Caregivers
0	Science and Academia	2	Small/Medium Enterprises
3	Sub-National/Local Government Officials and Representatives	0	United Nations
0	Women's Groups	1	Other (please state)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

No, participants are the ones mentioned above

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

Almost all of them were from the rural area of Gasorwe commune in Muyinga province except few of them that came from the small city center of Gasowe. Some were educated/civil servants while others being from the private sector. Faith leaders were also represented.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

The general context related to nutrition was presented to participants as follows: 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. 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], $p = 0.00$. The participants were given time to share how in their neighborhood the situation is. They mainly shared that climate change, limited arable lands and lack of improved agricultural inputs make them not to get good harvests.

NUTRITION SITUATION PRESENTATION

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

DISCUSSION

1. What are the nutrition problems/challenges in your environment? 2. What are the possible solutions to overcome these problems? 3. What are the urgent actions and by whom?

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

1. Insufficient farmlands
2. Lack of awareness about good nutrition,
3. Lack of awareness of the role of consuming fruits.
4. There are families who have foods but unaware of preparing balanced diets,
5. Most of families sell harvest to get money,
6. Most of children are given much foods,
7. Poverty in families,
8. Insufficient facilitators to provide capacity building
9. Increase in number of sicknesses as a consequence of lack of balanced diets
10. Family income mismanagement
11. Climate change
12. Increase in diseases
13. Overpopulation
14. Poor hygiene in food preparation
15. No sufficient water supply
16. Insufficient improved seeds
17. Insufficient knowledge in modern farming techniques

URGENT ACTIONS

The following are actions participants think as urgently needed, and suggested that central and local governments should play a key role without forgetting NGOs and Faith denominations.

1. Sensitizing people to work in cooperatives and associations,
2. Sensitizing people to modern farming,
3. Good nutrition to children,
4. Sensitizing parents to great role of good nutrition.
5. Capacity building to all people categories about good nutrition,
6. Sensitizing people to avoid laziness,
7. Local administration should even punish anybody who do not take care of knowledge got from workshops
8. Capacity building about the period to start feeding children with balanced diet,
9. Sensitizing farmers to grow selected seeds on the basis modern farming techniques
10. Growing agroforestry trees
11. Communities water supply
12. Supply of medicines to malnutrition victims,
13. Distribution to balanced diet at medical centers.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Views, opinions and positions did not diverge as participants came from the same rural area.

OVERALL SUMMARY

Nutrition related issues are real in Burundi. Cases of malnutrition are frequent in Gasorwe commune of Muyinga province, North of Burundi where the dialogue took place. While participants agree on urgent actions and who should take the responsibility, they also agree on challenges. They think that climate change and lack of enough arable lands and improved agricultural inputs are big issues hampering their efforts of growing food.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The participants were invited ahead of the due date and were divided in small groups to facilitate an easy flow of information. Different groups that were present are: Health practitioners, education specialists, agronomists, faith leaders, local administration leaders. There was no competing interests expected.

METHOD AND SETTING

We invited the different groups we normally work with at community levels. The setting was formal. They were grouped in small groups and we worked in a room provided by the local administration at a youth center.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Inviting early participants is good and disclosing the theme ahead of time is also good as participants come with a clear view on what they will be discussing about and what would be their contributions in discussions. The participants should be a manageable number to avoid failing to capture their views.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I appreciate made by participants and their contributions and all World Vision Burundi staff who supported in getting things done.