

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

WORKSHOP TITLE	ENOUGH: What will you bring to the table?
WORKSHOP DATE	Monday, 10 June 2024 11:58 GMT +03:00
CONVENED BY	Arsho Tenbelian, Policy and Advocacy Coordinator
EVENT LANGUAGE	Arabic - English
HOST CITY	Beirut, Lebanon
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Lebanon, covering the area programs offices in North (Akkar and Triploj), Baalback and Hermil, Beirut and Mount Lebanon, South (Bnt Jbeil, Marjaayoun, Tyre, Sidon)
AFFILIATIONS	ENOUGH Campaign
WORKSHOP EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/58668/



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

1

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

7 12-15

0 16-18

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

3 Female

2 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPATION DIVERSITY

The workshop was diverse in terms of socio-economic status, ethnicity, and location. Participants represented a broad mix of rural and urban backgrounds, ensuring diverse perspectives. There were varying levels of access to resources, particularly in relation to food security and nutrition. The ethnic and religious composition was also diverse, which enriched discussions about local food systems, agriculture, and the barriers to healthy food access in different communities

SECTION TWO: FRAMING

The workshop was framed within the context of the local community's nutrition challenges, with a particular focus on food insecurity and the barriers faced by marginalized groups. Acknowledging the local socio-economic conditions, participants discussed how poverty and unemployment exacerbate food insecurity. The high cost of nutritious food was highlighted, with many households relying on cheaper, less nutritious options. Issues of seasonality in food availability and environmental factors, such as pollution and climate change, were also considered significant challenges. These challenges impact food security by affecting agricultural production, food safety, and nutrition quality. There was a focus on the importance of local agriculture in reducing food insecurity, with community gardens and small-scale farming seen as viable solutions. The local community expressed anxieties over the rising prices of healthy food and the growing reliance on processed foods, which contribute to various malnutrition-related risks. The need for stronger community initiatives and government support to address these challenges was emphasized throughout the workshop.

SECTION THREE: CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

Participants identified several key nutrition challenges in their communities, including limited access to fresh, healthy food due to high costs and poor availability in rural areas. This was compounded by the growing reliance on processed, low-nutrient foods, which are more affordable but lead to health issues like obesity and malnutrition. There was also a widespread lack of awareness about the importance of nutrition, with many families not understanding the long-term consequences of poor dietary choices. Furthermore, food safety issues, such as spoilage and nutrient loss, were common, especially with food being stored improperly due to financial constraints. The environmental impact of food production, including pollution and unsustainable farming practices, was also a major concern for participants, affecting food quality and availability. The workshop highlighted the need for better food education, improved access to locally grown produce, and practical solutions like community gardening to address these challenges.

URGENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

Participants proposed several urgent actions to improve the community's nutrition situation. First, they called for more community-driven initiatives such as establishing community gardens and increasing the availability of farmers' markets. These initiatives would make fresh produce more accessible and affordable. They also recommended the implementation of government subsidies and grants for local farmers to support sustainable practices and reduce dependency on imported food. To address the rising food insecurity, participants suggested expanding food banks and community kitchens, ensuring that vulnerable populations, including children, the elderly, and the homeless, have access to nutritious meals. There was also a strong push for nutrition education, with schools and community centers playing a key role in raising awareness about healthy eating habits. Lastly, participants advocated for policies that promote seasonal and local food production to reduce food waste and the carbon footprint associated with long-distance food transportation.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

While there was broad consensus on the need to address food insecurity and nutrition challenges, views diverged on the most effective strategies. Some participants emphasized the importance of large-scale policy interventions, such as government subsidies and agricultural reforms, while others believed that grassroots community initiatives, like local food cooperatives and school gardening programs, would be more effective in the long term. There was also a divergence in opinions on the role of technology in food production, with some advocating for modern agricultural technologies to increase efficiency, while others expressed concerns over the environmental impact of such methods. Participants from rural areas tended to focus more on agricultural solutions, while urban participants emphasized the need for food distribution networks and urban farming initiatives. These differences reflected the varied local conditions and needs across different regions, and highlighted the need for tailored solutions that take into account specific community context.

OVERALL SUMMARY

The workshop was a valuable exchange of ideas and experiences, bringing together a diverse group of participants from various socio-economic and geographic backgrounds. It provided a platform to discuss the pressing issue of food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly within marginalized communities. The session started by framing the topic within the broader context of local economic and environmental challenges, acknowledging how poverty, unemployment, and climate change exacerbate food insecurity. Participants shared their personal experiences, describing the struggles they face in accessing nutritious food, especially in rural and economically disadvantaged areas. There was a strong emphasis on local food production as a key solution to reduce food insecurity, with community-driven initiatives like community gardens and farmers' markets identified as vital strategies for improving access to healthy food. The need for stronger government support for local farmers was also a recurring theme. Discussions also touched on the environmental impacts of food production, with many participants calling for more sustainable farming practices to ensure long-term food security. The workshop highlighted a variety of challenges, such as the rising costs of nutritious food, food spoilage, and the lack of nutrition education. Participants suggested several solutions, including food banks, community kitchens, and educational programs aimed at raising awareness about the importance of healthy eating. The diversity of perspectives led to lively debates, with differing opinions on the role of technology in agriculture and the most effective ways to tackle food insecurity. Overall, the workshop was a successful platform for generating ideas and action plans to improve food security and nutrition within local communities. It was clear that a multi-faceted approach—combining policy changes, community initiatives, and education—was necessary to address the complex challenges faced by participants. The collaborative nature of the event underscored the importance of working together to find solutions that are both locally appropriate and sustainable.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The workshop reflected the Principles of Engagement by fostering an inclusive, participatory environment where all voices were heard, particularly those from marginalized groups. Participants were encouraged to share their perspectives and engage in open dialogue, ensuring that the solutions proposed were grounded in local realities. The principles of accountability and transparency were also emphasized, with clear actions identified to address the nutrition challenges faced by the community. The workshop respected cultural and social sensitivities, tailoring discussions to the specific needs of different groups. Child safeguarding standards were integrated into the methodology by ensuring that all activities were child-friendly and protected participants from potential harm. Overall, the event promoted collaboration, respect, and shared responsibility in tackling food insecurity.

METHOD AND SETTING

The workshop employed a participatory methodology, using group discussions, case studies, and practical activities to engage participants. Child safeguarding standards were adhered to by ensuring a safe, supportive environment for all attendees. The setting was informal, with activities held in community centers and outdoor spaces to foster a relaxed and open atmosphere. The focus was on hands-on solutions, such as community garden projects and food quality experiments, to facilitate learning and

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Jarah Scouts on the Tareeq Jdideh - Beirut