

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	Faith and development
<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Tuesday, 14 January 2025 08:30 GMT +02:00
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	Moruti Pitso Feedback published on behalf of Convenor by: Moruti Pitso. Coordination, implementation and reporting
<b>EVENT LANGUAGE</b>	Sesotho
<b>HOST LOCATION</b>	Maseru, Lesotho
<b>GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE</b>	community level
<b>AFFILIATIONS</b>	District level government ministries: Health, Education, Social development and Agriculture
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/58701/">https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/58701/</a>



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

40

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	10	19-29
20	30-49	10	50-74	0	75+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

25	Female	15	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0	Children, Youth Groups and Students	10	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
10	Educators and Teachers	20	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
0	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	0	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	0	Other (please state)

## OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

N/A

## ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

The dialogue comprised of faith leaders, representative of females, youth and males.

# SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

## FRAMING

The dialogue purpose and methodology were introduced to the participants. A brief of the nutrition status and dynamics in the Lesotho context was provided. The facilitators created a space for participants to engage and share their opinions. Faith leaders were asked to provide their feedback to the best of their knowledge and honesty

## DISCUSSION

The discussion began with sharing national nutrition data and facilitators presented the following questions to the group: 1. Kindly share the factors contributing to high poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition in Lesotho 2. What are the strategies/actions/approaches the country can put in place to fight poverty, food insecurity, hunger and malnutrition in Lesotho? 3. Explain effects of poverty, food insecurity and hunger to communities/families/children 4. What are the challenges in fighting food insecurity, poverty, hunger and malnutrition in Lesotho? 5. How would different stakeholders (communities, churches/youth/CSOs etc) work together and with government to fight poverty, hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition? 6. Kindly share experiences (lived experience, your neighbour experience, community experience etc) associated with food insecurity and hunger?

# SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

## CHALLENGES

- ☒ Unemployment, limited income for agricultural production.
- ☒ No access to water.
- ☒ Denial of climate change realities.
- ☒ Negative cultural beliefs. E.g Belief insufficient feeding is strengthening a child.
- ☒ Laziness.
- ☒ No policies that foster agricultural production.
- ☒ Lack of sufficient equipment to farm.
- ☒ Poor understanding of soil conservation.
- ☒ No Regulation of imports, affecting local markets.
- ☒ Supporting the same people, i.e the most vulnerable not having interest on farming or livelihoods projects

## URGENT ACTIONS

The faith leaders highlighted some key action to be undertaken in support of nutrition outcomes. Some of the other urgent actions raised in the dialogue are noted as follows:

- ☒ Mobilize communities and conduct awareness campaigns.
- ☒ Capacity building on production of food and best practices on agricultural production
- ☒ Coordination by local government in communities working together, bring resources together i.e one would be having land when another has financial resources
- ☒ Climate smart methods of production, using available resources.
- ☒ Focus on agriculture, increasing support of Agric inputs.
- ☒ Scale Early child learning centre - school feeding programmes

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Some faith leaders made a submission climate change is a spiritual effect of decayed morals in the world. The issue was discussed among the group and concluded that an in-depth engagement is needed to learn on climate sciences and biblical perspectives of the ecology

## OVERALL SUMMARY

The dialogue had meaningful conversations. Key ideas were shared by faith leaders. The role of faith in nutrition was strongly highlighted as crucial to supporting relevant stakeholders towards achieving nutritious meals for children in Lesotho. Lesotho is reportedly 95.1% Christian, the faith leaders' role in addressing malnutrition is well registered. The commitment was made to significantly raise awareness and foster initiatives that contribute to nutrition outcomes

# SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

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## PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The dialogue was conducted on principles of reflective honesty and stewardship. The participants were informed these principle as guiding anchors in the meeting. Faith leaders exercise stewardship over things and human beings. The meeting information would be important to contribute in addressing nutrition challenges faced by children

## METHOD AND SETTING

The conveners made welcoming welcomes and briefed the faith leaders on the exercise. The 17 participants were divided into 2 teams and discussions were held in smaller groups. The questions were administered in the smaller group while conveners were recording. The groups came into plenary to finalize the meeting and appreciate them for their feedback

## ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Conveners have to resist being prescriptive and taking over the meeting but rather ask open-ended questions and propping question to get as much data as possible

# FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special appreciation to the Rothe AP faith leaders who graciously engaged us in the dialogue and provided invaluable information that enriches efforts to nutrition outcomes.