

# OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

<b>DIALOGUE TITLE</b>	From Dialogue to Action: Community-Led Nutrition Solutions
<b>DIALOGUE DATE</b>	Thursday, 22 January 2026 09:00 GMT +02:00
<b>CONVENED BY</b>	DIOCESE CATHOLIC OF BYUMBA/CARITAS BYUMBA/WVR Event announced on behalf of the Convenor by: DIOCESE CATHOLIC OF BYUMBA/CARITAS BYUMBA. IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS OF WVR Feedback published on behalf of Convenor by: Diocese Catholic of Byumba/Caritas Byumba. Implementing Partner of WVR
<b>EVENT LANGUAGE</b>	KINYARWANDA
<b>HOST LOCATION</b>	Byumba, Rwanda
<b>GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE</b>	DICUMBI DISTRICT
<b>AFFILIATIONS</b>	WVR
<b>DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE</b>	<a href="https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/60091/">https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/60091/</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

114

## PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	47	19-29
67	30-49	0	50-74	0	75+

## PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

67	Female	47	Male	0	Other/Prefer not to say
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## NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0	Children, Youth Groups and Students	1	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
0	Educators and Teachers	2	Faith Leaders/Faith Communities
6	Financial Institutions and Technical Partners	0	Food Producers (including farmers)
87	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
1	News and Media (e.g. Journalists)	18	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

Other stakeholders included community caregivers, local leaders, and representatives from Caritas Diocese Byumba who actively participated in the Hearth Session visit. They demonstrated nutrition practices, shared experiences on child rehabilitation

## ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

Participants in the Dialogue represented diverse community groups, including caregivers from different socioeconomic backgrounds and rural households in Kageyo AP. The session brought together community members, local leaders, and staff from Caritas Diocese Byumba, WVR and AEE, encouraging inclusive participation and knowledge sharing.

# SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

## FRAMING

The Stakeholder Dialogue was introduced by highlighting the nutrition situation affecting children under five in communities of Kageyo AP in Gicumbi District. Participants were informed that child malnutrition remains a concern for many rural households, mainly due to limited access to diversified diets, poverty, and gaps in nutrition knowledge among caregivers. Many families rely on locally available foods, but they sometimes lack information on how to combine these foods to prepare balanced and nutritious meals for young children. The introduction also emphasized the importance of community-based solutions that empower families to address malnutrition using resources already available in their environment. Participants were reminded that poor hygiene, unsafe food preparation, and inadequate feeding practices can contribute to illness and poor nutrient absorption in children. These factors often worsen the nutrition situation in vulnerable households if they are not addressed through practical education and behavior change. During the framing of the dialogue, facilitators highlighted the role of the 12-day Hearth model as an effective approach that enables caregivers to learn by doing. This model encourages parents and caregivers to share experiences, practice improved feeding techniques, and prepare balanced meals using affordable local ingredients. It also helps families monitor the progress of children affected by malnutrition and adopt healthier nutrition practices at the household level.

## NUTRITION SITUATION PRESENTATION

<https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/VISIT-TO-FIELD.pdf>

## DISCUSSION

The discussion focused on how community-based approaches can effectively address child malnutrition using locally available resources. Participants reflected on the role of the 12-day Hearth model in improving child nutrition and supporting caregivers with practical knowledge. Key questions explored how families can better use local foods to prepare balanced meals, how hygiene and food safety practices can be strengthened, and how communities can sustain improvements in child nutrition through collaboration with local leaders and organizations such as Caritas Diocese Byumba.

# SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

## CHALLENGES

Participants in the Dialogue highlighted several nutrition challenges affecting families and children under five in communities of Kageyo AP in Gicumbi District. One of the main challenges discussed was limited access to diversified and balanced diets. Many households depend on a small range of locally available foods, which sometimes leads to meals that lack important nutrients required for the healthy growth of young children.

Another challenge identified was limited knowledge among some caregivers about appropriate child feeding practices. Although food may be available, families may not always know how to combine different food groups to prepare balanced meals that include carbohydrates, proteins, vitamins, and minerals. This knowledge gap can contribute to inadequate diets for children.

Participants also emphasized hygiene and sanitation challenges that can affect child nutrition. Poor handwashing practices, unsafe food preparation, and unclean household environments can increase the risk of illness among children. Frequent illness reduces appetite and interferes with the body's ability to absorb nutrients, which may worsen malnutrition.

Poverty was also recognized as a significant factor influencing child nutrition. Some families struggle to access sufficient quantities of nutritious foods due to limited financial resources. This can affect the frequency and quality of meals provided to children.

## URGENT ACTIONS

Participants identified several urgent actions needed to address child malnutrition within their communities in Kageyo AP, located in Gicumbi District. One of the key actions highlighted was the need to strengthen community awareness on proper child feeding practices. Participants emphasized the importance of continuing practical learning through the 12-day Hearth sessions so that caregivers can better understand how to prepare balanced meals using locally available foods.

Another urgent action discussed was the promotion of improved hygiene and sanitation practices at household level. Participants proposed increasing community education on regular handwashing, safe food preparation, and maintaining clean cooking environments to reduce illness among children and improve nutrient absorption.

## AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

During the Dialogue in Kageyo AP, Gicumbi District, views, opinions, and positions among participants were largely aligned, reflecting a shared commitment to addressing child malnutrition. Caregivers, local leaders, and representatives from Caritas Diocese Byumba and AEE generally agreed on the importance of practical, community-led interventions such as the 12-day Hearth model. Participants consistently emphasized the need for improved feeding practices, hygiene, and balanced nutrition for children under five, as well as stronger family and community involvement.

## OVERALL SUMMARY

The Stakeholder Dialogue in Kageyo AP, following the partnership meeting, provided an invaluable platform for community members, caregivers, local leaders, and representatives from Caritas Diocese Byumba, WVR and AEE to exchange experiences, share knowledge, and reflect on practical approaches to improving child nutrition. The dialogue began with framing the local context, highlighting the nutrition situation in the area and the challenges faced by families. Participants were reminded that child malnutrition remains a pressing concern in rural communities, influenced by poverty, limited access to diverse foods, hygiene and sanitation issues, and seasonal availability of key nutrients. Facilitators also emphasized the value of community-led, practical solutions such as the 12-day Hearth model, which enables caregivers to learn through practice, peer-to-peer support, and local resources.

During the discussion, participants detailed the specific nutrition challenges they face, including insufficient dietary diversity, inadequate knowledge of balanced meal preparation, poor household hygiene, and the negative impact of illness on nutrient absorption. Poverty and seasonal fluctuations in food availability were noted as additional barriers to achieving consistent, nutritious diets for children under five. Despite these challenges, the community demonstrated high levels of commitment, actively engaging in discussions, and sharing testimonies of visible improvements in children's health and growth following previous Hearth sessions.

# SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

## PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The Dialogue in Kageyo AP reflected key aspects of the Principles of Engagement by promoting inclusivity, transparency, and respect for all participants. Caregivers, local leaders, and representatives from Caritas Diocese Byumba, WVR and AEE were invited to ensure diverse perspectives, representing different socioeconomic backgrounds and household contexts. Facilitators briefed participants in advance on the objectives, expected outcomes, and the importance of open, constructive dialogue. Potential competing interests, such as differing priorities between caregivers and partner organizations, were managed through clear guidance on discussion norms and by emphasizing shared goals improving child nutrition and sustainable behavior change. Participants were encouraged to share experiences and challenges while respecting others' viewpoints. No financial incentives were provided, and all contributions were voluntary, maintaining transparency and trust.

## METHOD AND SETTING

The Dialogue was convened using a participatory, community-focused methodology aligned with recommended approaches for stakeholder engagement. Facilitators guided discussions around child nutrition challenges, practical solutions, and experiences from the 12-day Hearth sessions.

## ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

Manage potential competing interests openly, foster respect for all viewpoints, and emphasize shared goals to strengthen collaboration and sustainable solutions for improving child nutrition.

# FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OUR SINCERE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO WVR, CARITAS BYUMBA AND AEE TO THEIR INITIATIVES AND VISIT

## RELEVANT LINKS

- **x**  
<https://x.com/CByumba/status/2014424843672784968?s=20>

## ATTACHMENTS

- [https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/IMG\\_7579\\_5000-1-scaled.jpg](https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/IMG_7579_5000-1-scaled.jpg)
- [https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/IMG\\_7562\\_5000-scaled.jpg](https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/03/IMG_7562_5000-scaled.jpg)
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