

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

WORKSHOP TITLE	World Vision Ghana Nutrition Dialogue Phase 2: Child Voices for Better Nutrition in Kpandai
WORKSHOP DATE	Monday, 8 June 2026 11:38 GMT +00:00
CONVENED BY	Williams Nkikia Event announced on behalf of the Convenor by: Joshua Okomongye. Local Level Advocacy/Acting Campaign Coordinator Feedback published on behalf of Convenor by: Joshua Okomongye. Local Level Advocacy Coordinator
EVENT LANGUAGE	Likpalkpaan and English
HOST CITY	Kpandai, Ghana
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	The dialogue being conducted at the community level in Kanbonwule Beposo, Kpandai District, Northern Region of Ghana, with outcomes feeding into national and global nutrition initiatives.
AFFILIATIONS	This event was organized as part of World Vision Ghana's Nutrition Dialogue Phase 2, which is itself a component of the wider Global Nutrition Dialogue initiative. The workshop is affiliated with World Vision Ghana and its partners, who are working to ensure that the voices of children, women, and vulnerable households inform nutrition policies and investments at both the national and international levels.
WORKSHOP EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/60528/



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

10 12-15

10 16-18

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

10 Female

10 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPATION DIVERSITY

The workshop engaged children from Kanbonwule Beposo community, bringing together both girls and boys aged 12-16 from varied socio-economic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. Conducted in Likpakpaanl and English, it ensured inclusivity across language groups. Safeguarding protocols promoted equal participation regardless of status or ability, while rural perspectives enriched discussions. The diversity allowed children's varied experiences to shape practical recommendations to improve nutrition

SECTION TWO: FRAMING

During the introduction, the workshop was framed around the local nutrition challenges and broader socio-economic realities of the Kanbonwule Beposo community in the Kpandai District. The facilitator highlighted how poverty, limited food availability, and seasonal variations in harvests contribute to food insecurity and malnutrition among children. Local anxieties were acknowledged, including the lack of balanced diets, poor food quality in schools, and widespread deficiencies such as inadequate protein and micronutrients. The discussion also touched on broader influences like climate change, which affects agricultural productivity, and the use of unsafe chemicals in food production, raising concerns about long-term health risks. Children were reassured that their voices were central to the dialogue, and the framing emphasized the importance of their lived experiences in shaping solutions. Safeguarding protocols were explained to ensure a safe and inclusive environment. The introduction connected local realities to national and global nutrition efforts, stressing that the insights gathered would inform policies and investments aimed at reducing hunger and malnutrition. By situating the dialogue within both the immediate community context and the wider nutrition landscape, the framing encouraged children to see themselves as active contributors to change, while recognizing the structural challenges that affect their daily lives.

SECTION THREE: CHILDREN'S WORKSHOP OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

The participants of the Children's Workshop faced several nutrition challenges that reflect both household and school feeding realities in the Kanbonwule Beposo community. A recurring concern was food insecurity, with children noting that they often do not have enough food to eat at home or in school. They highlighted the lack of balanced diets, with meals frequently missing essential components such as oil, protein, and vegetables. At school, children reported that food is sometimes poorly prepared, with issues like stones or pebbles in meals, excessive salt, and undercooked food, which not only reduces nutritional value but also discourages consumption.

Another challenge was irregular access to meals, as children mentioned that food is not cooked every day and they do not always receive meals when hungry. This inconsistency contributes to hunger and poor concentration in class. The absence of adequate protein sources such as meat, and limited use of fresh ingredients like tomatoes, further exacerbates nutritional deficiencies. Additionally, concerns about food quality were raised, including fears of expired food and unsafe chemicals used in food production.

Overall, the challenges identified by the children underscore the intersection of poverty, poor food preparation, and inadequate school feeding programs. These issues contribute to malnutrition, hinder healthy growth, and affect their ability to learn and thrive. By voicing these concerns, the children emphasized the urgent need for improved food security, better school meals, and stronger safeguards to ensure safe, nutritious, and consistent diets.

URGENT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

The participants identified several urgent actions to address nutrition challenges in their community, with a strong focus on improving school feeding programs and food quality. They recommended that the government provide adequate and consistent food supplies in schools, ensuring meals are cooked daily and include essential ingredients such as oil, tomatoes, and protein sources like meat. They emphasized the need for safe and nutritious food, calling for strict monitoring to prevent expired food from being served and for cooks to be held accountable so that food is not diverted or sold.

Children also urged the government to ban harmful chemicals used in food production, highlighting concerns about long-term health risks. Access to clean drinking water in schools was another priority, as they recognized its importance for overall health and nutrition.

To take these recommendations forward, the children proposed stronger government oversight of school feeding programs, including regular checks on food quality and preparation. They also suggested community involvement in monitoring, so that parents and local leaders can help ensure accountability. By voicing these urgent needs, the children demonstrated their commitment to shaping practical solutions that would directly improve their nutrition, health, and learning outcomes.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

During the workshop, children's views and opinions were largely aligned, but some areas of divergence emerged. Most participants agreed on the urgent need for adequate and consistent food in schools, better preparation, and inclusion of essential ingredients. However, differences appeared in how strongly they emphasized certain issues. For example, while some children focused on the lack of oil, meat, and vegetables in meals, others were more concerned about food safety, such as expired food or stones in meals. A few participants highlighted the importance of clean drinking water as a priority, while others placed greater emphasis on banning harmful chemicals in food production.

There were also variations in how children described their personal coping strategies. Some stressed hygiene practices like handwashing and covering food, while others emphasized eating balanced diets or well-cooked meals. These divergences reflected the diversity of experiences among participants, shaped by household circumstances and individual awareness. Despite these differences, the dialogue remained constructive, with children recognizing that all perspectives contributed to a fuller understanding of nutrition challenges. The areas of divergence ultimately enriched the discussion, ensuring that recommendations captured a wide range of concerns and priorities.

OVERALL SUMMARY

The Children's Nutrition Dialogue in Kanbonwule Beposo, under World Vision Ghana's Nutrition Dialogue Phase 2, was a deeply engaging and meaningful event. Framed within the realities of food insecurity, poverty, and malnutrition in the Northern Region, the workshop created a safe space for children aged 12–16 to share their lived experiences and propose solutions. The atmosphere was warm and inclusive, beginning with icebreakers to ease participation and supported by strict safeguarding protocols that ensured every child felt valued and respected.

The discussions revealed both the children's understanding of nutrition and the challenges they face daily. They described nutrition as food that gives strength, energy, blood, and protection against disease, showing a practical grasp of its importance. Yet, they also highlighted pressing issues: insufficient food at home and school, poor preparation of meals, lack of balanced diets, and concerns about food safety, such as expired food or harmful chemicals. These reflections underscored the intersection of poverty, weak school feeding programs, and broader systemic challenges.

Children's recommendations were clear and urgent. They called on government to provide consistent, adequate, and nutritious meals in schools, including oil, tomatoes, meat, and clean drinking water. They emphasized accountability in food preparation and distribution, urging authorities to monitor cooks and ban unsafe chemicals. Their proposals demonstrated not only awareness of immediate needs but also a vision for systemic improvements that could safeguard their health and learning.

Equally inspiring was the way children described what they are already doing to improve nutrition: practicing hygiene, covering food, washing hands, cutting nails, and striving to eat balanced diets. These actions reflect resilience and a willingness to take responsibility, even within limited circumstances.

From a facilitator's perspective, the event felt hopeful and empowering. The children's voices carried authenticity and urgency, reminding all present that they are not passive recipients of aid but active contributors to solutions. The diversity of participants—across gender, socio-economic status, ethnicity, and religion—enriched the dialogue, ensuring that recommendations reflected a wide range of experiences.

Overall, the workshop was more than a discussion; it was a collective affirmation of children's right to be heard in shaping nutrition policies. It bridged local realities with national and global initiatives, ensuring that the perspectives of rural children in Ghana inform broader strategies to combat hunger and malnutrition. The event left a strong impression of determination, resilience, and the power of child-centered dialogue to drive meaningful change.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

The Children's Workshop strongly reflected the Principles of Engagement by ensuring inclusivity, safeguarding, and meaningful participation. From the outset, the dialogue was designed to be child-centered, with icebreakers and a safe environment that encouraged openness and trust. Children were treated as active participants, not passive recipients, and their voices were central in identifying nutrition challenges and proposing solutions. The workshop embodied equity and diversity, bringing together boys and girls from varied socio-economic, ethnic, and religious backgrounds, and using both Likpakpaanl and English to ensure language inclusivity. Safeguarding protocols reinforced respect, dignity, and protection, allowing every child to contribute freely regardless of status or ability.

METHOD AND SETTING

The workshop was convened using a participatory, child-centered methodology. Children were first engaged in icebreaker activities to build comfort and trust, followed by clear explanations of the purpose, confidentiality, and safeguarding measures. They were divided into mixed-gender groups to encourage diverse perspectives and equal participation. Discussions were guided by thematic questions on nutrition understanding, challenges, and solutions, with children recording ideas on flipcharts.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

A useful piece of advice for other convenors is to ensure the workshop is child-centered and participatory. Begin with icebreakers to build trust, then clearly explain the purpose and safeguarding measures so children feel safe to share openly. Use small group discussions with mixed participants to encourage diverse perspectives, and provide simple tools like flipcharts for children to record and present their ideas. Incorporating local languages alongside English enhances inclusivity.

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to sincerely acknowledge the support that made this Children's Nutrition Dialogue possible. Special appreciation goes to World Vision Ghana for leading and coordinating the initiative, and to the Kanbonwule Beposo community leaders, parents, and guardians for their commitment and mobilization. We are grateful to the facilitators, volunteers, and safeguarding team who ensured a safe and inclusive environment for children's participation.