OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Improving Maternal and Child Nutrition Through Better Feeding Practices and Community Action on Food Insecurity.
DIALOGUE DATE	Tuesday, 27 October 2026 05:45 GMT +01:00
CONVENED BY	Nafisat Rabiu Abdullahi Event announced on behalf of the Convenor by: SUN Civil Society Youth Network Nigeria . Technical Support
EVENT LANGUAGE	English and Hausa
HOST LOCATION	Kano, Nigeria
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Community level
AFFILIATIONS	SUN Civil Society Youth Network Nigeria
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/61861/

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

1

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0	0-11	0	12-18	3	19-29
7	30-49	2	50-74	0	75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

12	Female	0	Male	1	Other/Prefer not to say

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

12	Children, Youth Groups and Students	1	Civil Society Organisations (including consumer groups and environmental organisations)
0	Educators and Teachers	0	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

ADDITIONAL DETAIL ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

On 27 October 2026, youth advocate Nafisat Rabiu Abdullahi facilitated a community dialogue with 12 nursing mothers in Jae'n Yamma B, Gwale LGA, Kano State. The discussion examined malnutrition and food insecurity, with particular attention to how poor feeding practices and household poverty affect mothers and children. The session created an opportunity for nursing mothers to reflect on nutrition-related challenges within their households, discuss the effects of malnutrition and identify measures that could improve maternal and child nutrition. It also explored the role of government, healthcare providers, NGOs and community stakeholders in making nutritious food and essential nutrition services more accessible.

DISCUSSION

Participants discussed four guiding questions: - What is nutrition, and what does malnutrition mean? - How does malnutrition affect individuals, particularly mothers and children? - What practical measures can address malnutrition and food insecurity? - What should government and other stakeholders do to improve nutrition outcomes?

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

1. Poor nutritional outcomes remain a concern for households, particularly where mothers and children do not receive adequate nutrition.
2. Difficulty accessing sufficient and nutritious food makes it challenging for families to maintain healthy diets. Inadequate knowledge and inappropriate feeding practices can affect the nutritional wellbeing of children.
3. Limited household income restricts families' ability to purchase diverse and nutritious foods and meet other essential needs.

URGENT ACTIONS

Expand nutrition education: Increase public awareness of balanced diets, appropriate infant feeding and the importance of exclusive breastfeeding.

Improve household access to nutritious food: Provide food assistance and other forms of support to vulnerable households facing food insecurity.

Strengthen nutrition services: Equip healthcare facilities to identify, assess and provide appropriate treatment or referral for children affected by malnutrition.

Increase government investment: Allocate adequate resources to nutrition programmes and ensure that interventions reach vulnerable communities.

Mobilise additional resources: Encourage government, NGOs and development partners to contribute financial and material support towards nutrition interventions.

Take awareness closer to communities: Organise nutrition outreach and sensitisation through health facilities, schools, markets and religious centres.

Build frontline capacity: Train healthcare workers and community volunteers to recognise nutrition problems and respond appropriately.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

OVERALL SUMMARY

The discussion in Jae'n Yamma B highlighted a concern that directly affects families: the difficulty of preventing malnutrition when nutritious food is not easily accessible and households have limited resources.

The 12 nursing mothers who participated identified malnutrition, food insecurity, poor feeding practices and poverty as major challenges. Their contributions pointed to the need to address both the knowledge and economic barriers that influence how mothers feed themselves and their children.

A major part of the discussion focused on what needs to change. Participants called for more public education on balanced diets and exclusive breastfeeding, alongside practical support for vulnerable families who struggle to afford nutritious food. They also emphasised that awareness alone is insufficient where households lack the resources to put healthy feeding practices into practice.

This priorities emerged from the dialogue:
- Support mothers and households: Improve access to nutritious food, provide assistance to vulnerable families and strengthen awareness of appropriate feeding practices.
- Make nutrition services more effective: Strengthen healthcare facilities and equip health workers and community volunteers to identify and respond to malnutrition among children.
- Make government and partners more accountable: Increase funding for nutrition programmes, mobilise resources and ensure interventions reach communities and households most in need.
The participation of two nursing mothers with physical mobility impairments also highlights the importance of considering accessibility and inclusion when designing and delivering community nutrition interventions.

The discussion concluded with a call to move beyond identifying nutrition problems towards practical action. Sustainable funding, accessible nutrition services, community education and stronger coordination among government, NGOs, development partners and local stakeholders were identified as important steps towards reducing malnutrition and improving maternal and child health in Kano State.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

METHOD AND SETTING

Informal in a room

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

RELEVANT LINKS

- **LinkedIn**
  https://www.linkedin.com/company/sunyouthnetworknigeria/