

OFFICIAL FEEDBACK FORM

DIALOGUE TITLE	Nutrition dialogues.
DIALOGUE DATE	Wednesday, 11 December 2024 10:30 GMT -04:00
CONVENED BY	Danisel Martinez.
EVENT LANGUAGE	Spanish
HOST LOCATION	Castanet, Dominican Republic
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	There is no
DIALOGUE EVENT PAGE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/dialogue/56327/



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

21

PARTICIPATION BY AGE RANGE

0 0-11	21 12-18	1 19-29
0 30-49	0 50-74	0 75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

13 Female	8 Male	0 Other/Prefer not to say
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

21 Children, Youth Groups and Students	0 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

The Dialogue event held at the Pedro Antonio Pimentel High School in Castañuelas demonstrated a remarkable diversity in various aspects. Children of different ages participated, which guaranteed a broad representation of different stages development and perspectives. In addition, the event included children from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds, promoting inclusion and providing a platform for everyone to share their experiences and opinions.

SECTION TWO: FRAMING AND DISCUSSION

FRAMING

A detailed context on the local situation was provided. Several key issues affecting the community were discussed, such as climate change, which has altered cropping patterns and affected the availability of fresh food. Issues of poverty, which limit many families' access to adequate nutrition, and social conflicts that can exacerbate these problems were also addressed. Regarding the nutritional situation, concern about malnutrition in the community was highlighted, with prevalent risk factors such as water and soil contamination, which affect food quality. Seasonality was also mentioned as a critical factor, as variations in food availability throughout the year can lead to nutritional deficiencies at certain times. Furthermore, participants expressed a desire to improve the quality of school food, recognizing its impact on students' health and academic performance.

DISCUSSION

Open questions were asked such as what foods they usually eat, what they snack on, what they understand by nutrition and what the diet of people in their community is, which allowed for an enriching discussion about eating habits and understanding of nutrition among children of different ages and backgrounds.

SECTION THREE: DIALOGUE OUTCOMES

CHALLENGES

Participants in the dialogue at the Liceo Pedro Antonio Pimentel in Castañuelas face several significant nutritional challenges. These include malnutrition, caused by a lack of access to a balanced and nutrient-rich diet, and the prevalence of specific nutritional deficiencies, such as a lack of vitamins, which affect children's health and development. Seasonality also complicates access to certain foods at different times of the year, such as during drought. Poverty is another crucial challenge, as it limits the ability of many families to acquire nutritious food on a regular basis. In addition, participants expressed concerns about the quality of school meals, wishing for improvements to ensure healthier and more adequate nutrition for students.

URGENT ACTIONS

They identified several urgent measures to improve the nutritional situation of the community. They proposed the implementation of educational programs that inform families and students about the importance of a balanced diet and how to access nutritious foods. They also suggested improving the quality of school meals, ensuring that menus are nutritious and varied. To carry out these measures, they recommended collaborating with local authorities, health organizations and nutritionists to design and implement effective programs. In addition, they considered it vital to encourage community and school gardens to increase the availability of fresh food and educate children about food production. These actions, according to the participants, would not only improve nutrition, but would also strengthen the community by working together towards a common goal.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

Some highlighted the urgent need to improve the quality of school meals, others insisted that nutritional education at home and at school should be the top priority.

There were disagreements about the implementation of community gardens, with some participants enthusiastic about the idea and others skeptical about the long-term viability and maintenance. However, despite these divergences, there was consensus on the importance of addressing nutritional problems in a comprehensive and collaborative manner. All agreed that the support of local authorities and the active participation of the community are essential for any initiative aimed at improving nutrition.

In summary, although there were differences in opinions and priorities, the discussion was constructive and enriching, allowing for the identification of multiple complementary approaches to address nutritional challenges in the community.

OVERALL SUMMARY

Participation was diverse, including children of different ages and socioeconomic backgrounds, allowing for a wide range of perspectives and experiences. A number of critical topics were discussed, such as daily eating habits, nutritional deficiencies, and the importance of a balanced diet.

Participants expressed particular concerns about the quality of school food and the need for educational programmes to inform about nutrition. The urgency of creating community and school gardens to provide fresh food and educating children about sustainable food production was also underlined. Opinions and viewpoints varied, fostering constructive and thoughtful dialogue. Some participants prioritised immediate improvement of school food, while others emphasised nutritional education at home and school as the crucial first step.

From an overall perspective, the event felt like a genuine community collaboration, with a strong sense of shared purpose. Participants demonstrated a passionate commitment towards finding practical and sustainable solutions to the nutritional challenges they face. The atmosphere was open and participatory, allowing everyone to express their concerns and suggestions freely. This dialogue not only facilitated the identification of problems, but also promoted a feeling of community cohesion and collaboration in pursuit of a common goal: improving children's nutrition and health.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT & METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT

METHOD AND SETTING

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVENORS

FEEDBACK FORM: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ATTACHMENTS

- Parental consent <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Parent-consent-1.pdf>
- Children's consent <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/children-consent.-2-1.pdf>
- safeguard <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/safeguard-convocante.pdf>
- photo 1 <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/0236f1f4-82a4-4d58-9a15-35d39ca2de5c.jpg>
- 2 <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2f80570f-d70c-4803-a163-403073d5b02b.jpg>
- 3 <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2f80570f-d70c-4803-a163-403073d5b02b-1.jpg>