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DIALOGUE TITLE	Malnutrition: The Luwowowshi community speaks out!
DATE OF DIALOGUE	Thursday, December 12, 2024 12:15 GMT +02:00
SUMMONED BY	Edouard Musasa and Augustin KAZADI Event announced on behalf of the organizer by: {advertiser_name}. {explanation} Feedback published on behalf of the organizer by: Edouard MUSASA. Co Facilitator
LANGUAGE OF THE EVENT	Swahili
HOST PLACE	Lubumbashi, Democratic Republic of Congo
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Community
AFFILIATIONS	World Vision DR Congo
EVENT PAGE OF DIALOGUE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/fr/dialogue/57916/



SECTION ONE: PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS

14

PARTICIPATION BY AGE GROUP

0 0-11

0 12-18

2 19-29

3 30-49

9 50-74

0 75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

3 Female

11 Male

0 Other/Prefer not to say

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0 Children, youth groups and students

2 Educators and Teachers

8 Financial institutions and technical partners

1 Health professionals

0 Information and Technology Providers

0 Marketing and Advertising Experts

0 News and Media (e.g. journalists)

0 Science and Universities

0 Government officials and representatives
local/sous-national

0 Women's Groups

1 Civil society organizations (including
consumer groups and organizations
environmental)

2 Religious leaders/Religious communities

0 Food producers (including farmers)

0 Indigenous peoples

0 Large food companies and retailers

0 Government officials and representatives
national/federal

0 Parents and Caregivers

0 Small/Medium Enterprises

0 United Nations

0 Other (please specify)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

Nothing to report at this level

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON PARTICIPANT DIVERSITY

The Nutrition Dialogue activity session benefited from a diverse participation in terms of leaders premises, from different local structures, neighborhood offices and churches. Among them: DYNAMIC, CCR, AAME, ADSTP, ADCI, OMSF, APDS; Kipanta district, Community Health Agent (RECO) and Orthodox Church, which reflects arepresentation

SECTION TWO: FRAMEWORK AND DISCUSSION

MANAGEMENT

Participants were oriented on the concept of nutrition, hunger, malnutrition, food insecurity, food security, types of malnutrition, poverty, etc. Viewing photos on malnutrition in different contexts of emergencies, development, during social crisis or armed conflict, as well as in the context of disruption or climate change observed in the environment, etc. Understanding these concepts in the local context and how this manifests itself in our daily lives. Discussions in three subgroups of 6 to 7 people to delve deeper into open questions on nutrition. The restitutions of the subgroups were made by the different subgroups in plenary for feedback and comments by the other members. The discussions in the room were participatory, without discrimination and everyone had the latitude to express their point of view. The speaking time of the participants was well managed and the floor was given in turn at the request of the participants in order to allow everyone to express themselves and allow their point of view. The participants were encouraged by applause or thanks each time they answered the questions to promote the participation of all.

DISCUSSION

We discussed the challenges and recommendations for actions to be taken on the ground to mitigate or reduce the effects of malnutrition at the community level. Open-ended questions below were administered to men and women divided into groups and subgroups and the restitutions were made in plenary for additional comments and validation by the other members: What is nutrition, hunger, food security, food insecurity, malnutrition, food insecurity, food security, types of malnutrition, poverty, etc. How does this manifest in your families and within our communities? What contributes to good nutrition? What are the determinants of the nutritional status of children? What are the challenges that prevent community members from enjoying good food or nutrition on a daily basis? In your opinion, how can these difficulties in accessing nutrition be resolved at the community level, taking into account the resources available at the local level? Or what are you doing at the local level to overcome these challenges at the individual, family and community level? In light of our traditions, cultures and food practices, are there taboo foods or foods that are forbidden for a specific category of people in our context? What are the reasons? What do these reflections on nutrition teach you in your individual life, families and in life at the community level?

SECTION THREE: RESULTS OF THE DIALOGUE

CHALLENGES

Participants in the Nutrition Dialogue workshop identified several challenges that hinder good nutrition for children in their community. These challenges include:

- Low income and socio-economic instability in households;
- Food scarcity in the local market, not to mention currency fluctuations;
- Poor access to arable land, which is already occupied by mining companies (Malta Forrest, ChemaF and Ruashi Mining);
- Low knowledge of parents about food diversification;
- Lack of employment for parents.

URGENT ACTIONS

To ensure good nutrition for everyone in the Luwuwoshi community, the participants wanted to:

- Reduce unemployment among community members: the community is unable to claim from mining companies operating in its environment to find the favor of locally recruiting unemployed community members, or even in smaller numbers. This is the example of the mining company ChemaF and Ruashi Mining.
- Strengthen agricultural production: the community would like to improve pig breeding conditions already in operation and promote the agricultural sector with food crops for the community
- That the provincial government influence local companies to support the grassroots community in agricultural activities: faced with the inadequacy of materials, the community needs to be supported, in a more sustainable way, with tractors and equipment likely to promote good performance of agricultural activities
- Set up a committee to advocate: the community would like World Vision to support it in advocacy with decision-makers to enable local companies to support it in its needs. However, participants promised to organize themselves to discuss it together in a community meeting;

Regarding actions needed to ensure good nutrition, participants suggested:

- Creation of IGAs: the community would like there to be several income-generating activities in households and would like capacity building on the management of income-generating activities (IGAs)
- Community awareness on the importance of food security and good nutrition in households.
- Community awareness on the importance of promoting agricultural production in the community and households. This is the case of local markets and local farmers.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

During this discussion, a divergence was noted among the root causes of malnutrition in children. Some participants emphasized economic factors, highlighting low household incomes, with consequent low access to adequate food, while others emphasized the availability of arable land and the importance of sustainable agricultural practices with access to agricultural equipment.

This divergence highlighted a gap in the interpretation of the roots of the problem, highlighting different perspectives on the solutions to be favored. Some participants emphasized the weak support of the provincial government and local mining companies. On the other hand, others stressed the importance of public policies oriented towards equitable access to nutritious foods, thus emphasizing the role of local and national authorities in solving these nutritional challenges.

Some participants stressed the importance of community involvement, emphasizing the role of households in improving children's nutrition and food security conditions, i.e. households must take ownership of actions implemented by the government and Non-Governmental Organizations and enable their sustainability in the community.

GENERAL SUMMARY

The Nutrition Dialogue Workshop, held on Thursday, December 12, 2024, brought together local leaders to discuss nutrition challenges within their community. The day was marked by a series of lively discussions, fruitful exchanges, and expressions of sincere concerns from participants. The diversity of perspectives, opinions, and experiences allowed for an in-depth exploration of nutrition issues, highlighting the complexity of the challenges facing the community.

Participants shared the various underlying causes such as low household incomes, limited access to arable land and nutritious foods, as well as lack of employment and low knowledge on dietary diversification. These discussions highlighted a notable divergence in understanding the roots of the problem, highlighting the importance of considering the multiple facets of nutrition issues when developing solutions. Furthermore, participants identified a number of urgent actions to improve the nutrition situation in their communities. They highlighted the need to strengthen nutrition education, promote access to nutritious foods, and actively involve children and youth in promoting good nutrition practices.

They proposed some stakeholders that need to be involved to help achieve good child nutrition as follows: • The provincial government of Haut-Katanga, to benefit from arable land. It could also influence local companies, including Ruashi Mining, Chemaf and Forrest to give their special attention to the community of Luwuwoshi for improving nutrition and household food security. • Local mining companies (Malta Forrest, Chemaf and Ruashi mining), to support the acquisition of tractors, agricultural equipment and support for agro-pastoral projects in the community.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF ENGAGEMENT AND METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF COMMITMENT

The Nutrition Dialogue Workshop was sanctioned by a commitment from all participants; namely: equity and social inclusion: all participants, regardless of origin or affiliation, expressed themselves in a participatory manner during the discussion on Hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity. The principle of equity was implemented by ensuring that everyone had the opportunity to participate equally and meaningfully in the discussions, regardless of their socio-economic origin or status. In addition, the principle of inclusion was respected throughout the event (man, woman or person with reduced mobility). The event was published on the website before the community conversation session took place. Participants were selected from the database of program beneficiaries and informed about the theme, the location of the meetings and the time.

METHOD AND FRAMEWORK

We used a participatory approach that encouraged open discussions. Group discussions were structured around four main themes: nutrition challenges, urgent actions to be advocated, points of divergence/convergence and recommendations. Interactive activities and brainstorming sessions were also used to encourage the active participation of all stakeholders.

TIPS FOR OTHER CONVENERS

Take into account the setting or place and the time of conducting the discussions because there are rains that disrupt the holding of activities on the ground since we are in the rainy season. People are still not available since we are during the growing season. For distant programs, it is necessary to plan this activity in two days and or have 3 teams of facilitators to lead these sessions in one day because the weather goes and back

RETURN FORM: INFORMATION ADDITIONAL

THANKS

We thank the cluster manager of Lubumbashi for his support in this process of conducting a dialogue on nutrition with the stakeholders of Luwowoshi. We thank Dina Kasongo for taking the photos and Augustin KAZADI for facilitating this dialogue session on nutrition at the community level.

ATTACHMENTS

- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/listes-de-presences-luwowoshi-1-1.pdf>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/FR-Introduction-to-Nutrition-Slideset-2-1-3.pptx>