

RETURN FORM OFFICIAL

DIALOGUE TITLE	Nutritional Dialogue with stakeholders in the Kikula Community
DATE OF THE DIALOGUE	Monday, July 20, 2026 13:30 GMT +02:00
SUMMONED BY	Didier Lwamba
LANGUAGE OF THE EVENT	Swahili/French
HOST VENUE	Likasi, Democratic Republic of Congo
GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE	Likasi, Haut-Katanga, DRC
AFFILIATIONS	WORLD VISION DRC
EVENT PAGE OF DIALOGUE	https://nutritiondialogues.org/fr/dialogue/60812/



SECTION ONE: PARTICIPATION

TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	21
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PARTICIPATION BY AGE GROUP

0 0-11	0 12-18	0 19-29
16 30-49	5 50-74	0 75+

PARTICIPATION BY GENDER

16 Female	5 Male	0 Other/Prefer not to say
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NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS FROM EACH STAKEHOLDER GROUP

0 Children, youth groups and students	0 Civil society organizations (including consumer groups and organizations environmental)
0 Educators and Teachers	21 Religious Leaders/Religious 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 food companies and retailers
0 Marketing and Advertising Experts	0 Government officials and representatives national/federal
0 News and Media (e.g., journalists)	0 Parents and Caregivers
0 Science and Universities	0 Small/Medium-Sized Enterprises
0 Government officials and representatives local/sous-national	United Nations
0 Women's Groups	0 Other (please specify)

OTHER STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

The other stakeholder groups consisted of community leaders, household representatives, Members of savings groups, agricultural producers, and religious leaders participated. enriched the school

ADDITIONAL DETAILS ON THE DIVERSITY OF PARTICIPANTS

The participants in the dialogue consisted of 10 farmers and 5 representatives of civil society organizations. including the NGOs EVE and NLC, 2 block leaders, 2 community facilitators, and 2 traders. This diversity The number of participants made it possible to bring together different categories of actors involved in community life and in the promoting children's well-being. These representatives came mainly from the program's focal points, including Kolomoni, Kanona and Kap

SECTION TWO: FRAMEWORK AND DISCUSSION

MANAGEMENT

The dialogue was held in the worship hall of the United Methodist Church, Mumea Parish, located in the Kolomoni neighborhood, one of the program's focal points. This venue was chosen for its accessibility and strategic location near the main road, facilitating travel and participation for the various community stakeholders invited to the event. Thanks to this convenient location, participants were able to easily reach the dialogue site without major difficulty. The environment in which the activity took place was calm, safe, and free from any disturbances that could disrupt the discussions. These conditions contributed to creating a climate conducive to reflection, active participation, and concentration throughout the session. The meeting room was well-lit, sufficiently ventilated, and offered ample space to comfortably accommodate all participants. Its capacity allowed everyone to have a seat and participate effectively in the organized work. The room layout facilitated interaction among participants and the organization of group work. The groups were able to work easily, exchange viewpoints, and analyze the various challenges related to nutrition and food security in their communities. The available space also facilitated plenary sessions, allowing each group to present its reflections and recommendations to all participants. Sufficient equipment and materials were available for the smooth running of the activity. The whiteboards used for presenting the results of the group work greatly facilitated the visualization of ideas, note-taking, and sharing of conclusions among the different groups. Participants were thus able to follow the presentations effectively.

PRESENTATION OF THE NUTRITIONAL SITUATION

https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/photo_convertie.pdf

DISCUSSION

During a nutrition dialogue with adults in the Kikula community, participants engaged in in-depth discussions about the main factors contributing to child malnutrition and undermining household food security. The discussions revealed that poverty remains a major cause of the nutritional vulnerability observed in the community. Participants explained that many families live on insufficient incomes, limiting their ability to purchase a variety of nutritious foods that meet children's needs. Low household purchasing power was also identified as a significant obstacle to a balanced diet. Participants emphasized that a lack of employment opportunities and irregular income prevent many families from adequately meeting their children's nutritional needs. They indicated that some households rely primarily on small-scale economic or agricultural activities, the income from which remains low and unstable. This situation exposes families to periods of food shortages, particularly when harvests are poor or when income-generating activities do not produce the expected results. The discussions also addressed the challenges associated with agriculture. Participants highlighted the difficulties in accessing agricultural inputs such as improved seeds, fertilizers, and production tools. They explained that rising prices for these inputs reduce farmers' ability to improve their yields. Some participants also noted the gradual reduction of arable land, which limits opportunities for expanding agricultural activities and contributes to the low productivity observed in many households. Furthermore, the discussions allowed for an analysis of the consequences of malnutrition on children.

SECTION THREE: RESULTS OF THE DIALOGUE

CHALLENGES

Participants identified several major factors contributing to food insecurity and malnutrition within the community. Discussions initially highlighted the problem of agricultural land grabbing by certain mining companies. According to participants, the expansion of mining activities is progressively reducing the land available for agriculture, thus limiting household production opportunities. This situation directly impacts food availability and reduces families' ability to meet their nutritional needs.

Participants also highlighted the effects of climate change as a major challenge to food security. They observed a significant delay in the rainy seasons in recent years. While the rains used to typically begin around August, they now start around November.

This irregular rainfall disrupts the agricultural calendar, reduces crop yields, and increases the risk of crop losses. Farming households thus face decreased food production, further exacerbating food insecurity and nutritional vulnerability among children.

The discussions also highlighted the lack of public investment in the agricultural sector. Participants felt that support for farmers remains insufficient, limiting their access to improved seeds, fertilizers, agricultural equipment, and modern production techniques. This situation contributes to the low agricultural productivity observed in many households and reduces their capacity to produce enough for family consumption and for sale.

Furthermore, participants noted the lack of knowledge among some parents and caregivers regarding nutrition.

URGENT ACTIONS

To address the challenges encountered during the nutritional dialogue, participants formulated several recommendations aimed at sustainably improving food security and the nutritional status of households in the community. They first recommended promoting Income-Generating Activities (IGAs) to strengthen families' livelihoods and increase their access to nutritious, diverse, and quality food. According to participants, improving household incomes is an essential condition for reducing food vulnerability and better meeting children's nutritional needs.

Participants also recommended the regular organization of awareness sessions tailored to different segments of the population, including mothers, fathers, young people, couples, religious leaders, and other community groups. These sessions would strengthen knowledge about good food practices, nutrition, hygiene, and essential childcare, while promoting the adoption of behaviors that support children's health and development.

Furthermore, they recommended advocating with relevant authorities and technical partners to secure better support for the agricultural sector. This support should focus on access to improved seeds, fertilizers, agricultural tools, and technical assistance for producers. Participants felt that strengthening agricultural production capacity would contribute to improving food availability and household incomes.

They also suggested promoting crop diversification and developing poultry and small livestock farming to increase the availability of nutritious food in households. This approach should be accompanied by strengthening measures.

AREAS OF DIVERGENCE

During the discussions, some differing viewpoints were expressed regarding the main causes of food insecurity and malnutrition observed in the Kikula community. These differences in perception enriched the exchanges by allowing participants to analyze the issue from different angles and to better understand the multiple factors that influence the nutritional status of children and households.

Some participants emphasized the low household incomes and the difficult economic context facing the Kikula community. According to them, the lack of stable employment, the scarcity of economic opportunities, and the decline in purchasing power are the main causes of malnutrition. They explained that many families lack sufficient resources to regularly purchase a variety of nutritious foods. This situation often forces households to prioritize cheaper, but also less nutritious, foods. Participants in this group felt that improving family incomes through job creation and strengthening income-generating activities is essential for a sustainable fight against malnutrition. They also stressed that economic hardship limits access to healthcare, nutrition education, and other basic services that contribute to children's well-being.

Other participants emphasized the lack of involvement of local authorities in supporting small-scale farmers. According to them, agriculture remains the primary source of income for many families in the community. However, the inadequacy of policies and programs supporting the agricultural sector is a significant obstacle to improving food production. They noted that farmers

GENERAL SUMMARY

On July 20, 2026, a nutrition dialogue was held in the Kikula community to assess progress made in the fight against malnutrition and to follow up on the recommendations made during the community dialogue held in August 2025. The meeting was convened by Mr. Didier Lwamba, Child Wellbeing Development Facilitator (CWBF) for Kikula, and moderated by Mr. Traciss, a community volunteer. The discussions were facilitated and led by Mr. Adom Mwepu and Mr. Joseph Kindola, respectively Coordinator of the HIV/AIDS Project and Livelihood Specialist for the Likasi Cluster.

The activity brought together 21 participants, including 16 women and 5 men, from various segments of the community. The strong representation of women highlighted the concerns of key stakeholders involved in feeding, caring for, and ensuring the well-being of children within households. The session was organized in an atmosphere of active participation and constructive dialogue, fostering the sharing of experiences and knowledge among participants.

The main objective of this meeting was to assess the level of implementation of the recommendations made during the 2025 Dialogue, to evaluate progress made in nutrition and food security, and to define new directions for strengthening malnutrition prevention efforts in the community. To achieve this objective, three main activities were carried out: evaluating the recommendations made in 2025, analyzing progress made in the area of nutrition and food security, and developing new recommendations adapted to current needs.

Regarding the evaluation of the recommendations from the previous dialogue, participants conducted a detailed analysis of each recommendation. It was noted that four of the eight recommendations formulated for 2025 had been partially implemented. Discussions revealed that the main constraints to their implementation were related to households' limited financial resources, a lack of technical resources, and difficulties in accessing means of production. Despite these constraints, participants acknowledged the efforts made by several families to gradually integrate some of the recommended practices.

Among the recommendations that have begun to be implemented are raising community awareness about the importance of good nutrition and the pillars of adequate nutrition, diversifying and extending agricultural production, adopting climate-resilient agricultural techniques, and promoting dietary diversification within households. Participants explained that these initiatives have improved some people's knowledge of healthy eating practices for children. However, they also acknowledged that practical application remains limited in many households due to persistent economic hardship.

Regarding progress in nutrition and food security, participants noted several positive developments. They observed increased household awareness of nutritional issues and a growing commitment from families to promote a more balanced diet. Several participants indicated that they now pay more attention to the quality of meals served to children and to incorporating different food groups when resources allow. Some households have also begun diversifying their agricultural activities to improve food availability throughout the year.

To encourage active participation from everyone, participants were divided into working groups. Each group was given sufficient time to analyze the challenges related to nutrition, taking into account the specific context of the Kikula community. Discussions focused on the main causes of malnutrition, the obstacles to adopting good dietary practices, and solutions likely to sustainably improve the nutritional status of children. The discussions revealed that persistent poverty, low household incomes, the effects of climate change, limited access to agricultural inputs, and the reduction of arable land are contributing factors.

SECTION FOUR: PRINCIPLES OF COMMITMENT AND METHOD

PRINCIPLES OF COMMITMENT

To foster engagement and knowledge acquisition among participants, the moderator and facilitators adopted a participatory approach based on active listening and respect for everyone's opinions. All participants were encouraged to express themselves freely, without fear of judgment or prejudice, in an atmosphere of trust and mutual respect. Men and women were given equal opportunity to speak, thus ensuring inclusive and balanced participation. Discussions were conducted in a way that avoided any stigmatization or marginalization of certain categories of participants. The examples used during the discussions were adapted to the local context and presented in a general manner to preserve everyone's dignity. Community volunteers also contributed to a clear understanding of the messages by explaining certain concepts in everyday language. This approach fostered a constructive dialogue.

METHOD AND FRAMEWORK

Several methods were used to achieve the objectives of the 2026 Nutrition Dialogue, including assessing the level of implementation of the recommendations formulated in 2025. Among these methods, focus groups played a central role. Participants were divided into three working groups to analyze the degree of application of previous recommendations using checklists to identify actions already completed and those still underway.

ADVICE FOR OTHER CONVICTORS

Future organizers who choose a church as the venue for community dialogues are advised to thoroughly research the church's schedule and times, as well as other planned activities. This precaution will help avoid any inconvenience or overlap between dialogue participants and church members attending religious services. Good coordination with church leaders is essential.

RETURN FORM: INFORMATION ADDITIONAL

THANKS

We sincerely thank the United Methodist Church for generously making its worship hall available to us, thus contributing to the smooth organization and success of this nutrition dialogue. We also express our deep gratitude to the community volunteers for their commitment and availability. Their contribution was invaluable, particularly in mobilizing and raising awareness among households, taking photographs, and providing logistical support.

ATTACHMENTS

- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/Liste-de-Presence-Adultes.pdf>
- https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/image_1-2.jpg
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/image-5.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/image-6.jpg>
- <https://nutritiondialogues.org/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/image-7-1.jpg>