



Nutrition Sensitive Programmes Workshop



Silver Springs Hotel
Nairobi

Wednesday
14th May 2014



Workshop Objectives

1. Share lessons learnt and best practices in nutrition sensitive programming in Kenya.
2. Disseminate the findings of the case study *'Reconciling Agriculture and Nutrition: Case study on agricultural policies and nutrition in Kenya'*.
3. Raise awareness around the importance of nutrition sensitive programs, build consensus and identify win-win approaches.

Workshop Presentations by:



Nutrition Sensitive Programmes Workshop



1.0 Introduction

Action Against Hunger (ACF) organised the ‘Nutrition Sensitive Programmes Workshop’ to enable active actors in the nutrition and agriculture sectors from the Government, NGO community, UN agencies, donors, the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement and private sector to share lessons learnt and best practices in nutrition-sensitive programming.

The 14th May 2014 workshop was also used as an avenue to disseminate the findings from a report titled ‘Reconciling Agriculture and Nutrition: Case study on agricultural policies and nutrition in Kenya’ which was part of a broader report commissioned by ACF International in July 2013 and covered Burkina Faso, Peru and Kenya. The study was implemented by the Agricultural Research for Development Center (CIRAD) in France. Dissemination of the findings elicited discussions on the subject matter, recommendations and action points.

Overall, advocacy on nutrition-sensitive programmes has been recognised as a priority under the SUN movement. The workshop brought together partners from the the SUN Civil Society Alliance (CSA) and other SUN networks, to discuss and raise awareness around the importance of nutrition-sensitive programs, build consensus and identify win-win approaches.

The moderator of the workshop was Prof. Ruth Oniang'o, the Editor-in-Chief of the African Journal of Food, Agriculture, Nutrition and Development (AJFAND), Adjunct Professor of Nutrition, TUFTS University, USA, and Chair of the Food Security and Nutrition Thematic Working Group, Kenya.

1.1 Participants

S/N	NAME	ORGANISATION
1	Titus Mung'ou	ACF
2	Beldine Atieno	Concern
3	Cara Flowers	SUN CSNUK
4	Katherine Richards	Save The Children UK
5	Panos Navrozidis	ACF
6	Ruth Oniang'o	AJFAND
7	Joy Kiruntimi	ACF
8	Imelda Awino	ACF
9	Morena Bassan	CISP
10	Dayan Wolde	IMC
11	Naomi Mwangi	USAID-KHCP
12	Wema Adere	SCI
13	James Njiru	ACF
14	Jacob Korir	ACF
15	Penina Muoki	CIP
16	Lucy Maina	MOH-Nutrition
17	Christine Nyaga	GAIN
18	Beryl Awuor	CCA
19	Bibiana Jumwa	CCA
20	Muthoni Waweru	KISS
21	David Munyendo	CBM
22	Pietro Nardi	EU
23	James Adede	GRACE Africa
24	Emilie Compignie	French Embassy
25	Beatrice Mwaura	MOALF
26	Grace Gichohi	MOH-Nutrition
27	Hjordis Ogendo	EU
28	William Chilufya	SCO-SUN, Zambia
29	Caroline Odandi	Matibabau Foundation
30	Adija Baraza	Ministry of Agriculture, HE

S/N	NAME	ORGANISATION
31	Eunice Maina	ECHO
32	Kennedy Shiundu	ECHO
33	Abdulaziz Odhiambo	Plan International
34	Rose Ndolo	World Vision Kenya
35	Jacopo Rouarini	World Friends
36	Esther Omosa	Mercy USA
37	Henry Narangu	Save The Children Kenya
38	Yacob Yishak	Concern
39	Joyce Owigar	WFP
40	Eunice Ngina	IRK
41	Deborah Kioko	AMREF
42	Margaret Wagah	DCI
43	Mathews Wanjala	SNU
44	Lina Njoroje	TLC
45	Jonathan Tench	SUN Business Network
46	Clementina Ngina	FTC
47	Adow Mohamed	The Star Newspaper
48	Julius Otieno	The Star Newspaper
49	Anne Chele	FAO
50	Yvette Ondachi	Ojay Greene
51	Claire Blanchard	SUN-CSN, UK
52	Grainne Moloney	UNICEF Kenya
53	Manaana Mumma	KANCO
54	Rosemary Ngaruro	MOH
55	Naomi Mwikali	ACF
56	Caroline Chebet	ACF
57	Sharon Kibera	ACF
58	Stanley Macharia	ACF

2.0 Presentations and Plenary Discussions

2.1 'Milestones in Scaling Up Nutrition in Kenya', presented by Lucy Maina from the Human Nutrition & Dietetics Unit, Ministry of Health (MoH). The presentation covered Kenya's progress since joining the SUN movement in 2012, causes and cases of malnutrition, milestones in the SUN objectives, national coordination structures, challenges such as devolved government and weak linkages between the mandated structures and the national Food and Nutrition Security Policy.



Lucy Maina

Discussion and Commitments

Comments by the Head of Human Nutrition and Dietetics Unit, Rosemary Ngaruro

The Human Nutrition and Dietetics Unit is committed to both nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions.

The goal of stakeholders should be to eliminate malnutrition. This is a complex situation that requires multisectoral approach.

Kenya has not solved the malnutrition problem because nutrition is a small section in various technical sectors.

Recommendations

- The nutrition sector should be well-coordinated in order to make a significant impact.
- The coordination structure in the Ministry of Health should include sectors such as infrastructure and transport.
- There is a need to position nutrition at the highest level in the government structure.
- Undertake nutrition advocacy in the counties, to ensure governors position nutrition in development plans.
- Nutrition actors and Ministry of Education should work together to link nutrition to education, by sensitising teachers and learners on the importance and value of good nutrition.

2.2 'Scaling Up Nutrition, UN Network', presented by Grainne Moloney, Chief, Nutrition Section, UNICEF Kenya. As of May 2014, there were 50 countries that had joined the SUN movement. The presentation highlighted topics covered during the Lancet Series workshop in Nairobi in February 2014, nutrition specific interventions and programmes, impact of nutrition specific and nutrition-sensitive programmes, targeted agricultural programmes and how to enhance nutrition sensitivity of programmes.



Grainne Moloney

Discussion and Commitments

Comment by Grainne Moloney (UNICEF): UNICEF has been working in Kenya for the last 25 years, directly supporting MoH and partners to implement nutrition programmes.

UNICEF's nutrition interventions also target communities at the county level.

Grainne reiterated UNICEF's commitment to scaling up nutrition in Kenya.

Recommendations

- There is need to revitalise the Food and Nutrition Security Policy.
- SUN Government Focal Point should have the highest political will to promote and take lead in nutrition programming.
- Nutrition actors should advocate for inclusion of nutrition targets in performance appraisals of senior government officials such as the President and Deputy President
- Many partners are doing a lot in nutrition, but there is inadequate monitoring and documentation, as well as reporting of some projects. The full picture of what is happening in the nutrition sector should therefore be captured.
- All partners should attend and make contributions during the nutrition sector meetings such as the Nutrition Technical Forum.
- Nutrition actors should work together to achieve great strides in their interventions.



James Adede of GRACE Africa, and SUN CSA Executive Committee member, makes his remarks during the workshop. Right, Dr Claire Blanchard SUN CSN Coordinator, left, Grainne Moloney of UNICEF.

2.3 'Role of SUN Networks in Promoting Nutrition Sensitive Programmes', presented by Dr Claire Blanchard, Global SUN CSN Coordinator. The presentation highlighted the causes of malnutrition, nutrition sensitive strategies and their impact on people's nutritional status, the SUN movement approach in advancing the nutrition sensitive agenda and the role of SUN CSN in nutrition programming.



Dr Claire Blanchard (left) is introduced by the Moderator, Prof Ruth Oniang'o

Discussion and Commitments

The SUN CSN supports capacity building of country CSAs and promotes the nutrition agenda in multisector platforms.

Comment by Jonathan Tench (SUN Business Network): This is the right time to move from multisectoral to multistakeholder approach in nutrition programming. There is need to build on the amazing work already done in nutrition by bringing on board new actors especially the private sector. The business community should be informed their role in scaling up nutrition. For example, big companies should be sensitised on how to improve their sales and production by ensuring that workers practice good nutrition.

2.4 'Role of Home Economics Programme in Food and Nutrition', presented by Adija Baraza, Home Economics, Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). The presentation covered the status of the Home Economics (HE) Unit in MoA, role of HE programme at national level, food and nutrition activities, achievements in food and nutrition, appropriate household technology and collaborative activities.

Discussion and Commitments

Question by Panos Navrozidis (ACF): What is the footprint of the Home Economics Unit in the county? How is the Unit's budgetary allocation? How many extension workers are in the counties?

Question by Christine Nyaga (GAIN): There is a lot of emphasis on food production but what happens after production? What is being done about excess production of food?

GAIN works closely with MoH's Human Nutrition and Dietetics Unit.

Comment by Adija Baraza (MoA): Kenya has a good Food and Nutrition Security Policy, but it has not been implemented.

Comment by Caroline Odandi (Matibabu Foundation): In most parts of the country, there is shortage of fresh foods and vegetables in areas where agriculture is mainly rain-fed. The main challenge is poor infrastructure that affects transportation of foods to the market.

Recommendations

- Since sustainable change takes time, patience is required among nutrition actors.
- Stakeholders in Kenya should ensure the SUN Government Focal Point is positioned at the highest level of the government structure, so as to influence policies.
- Nutrition actors should work closely with the private sector, especially the business community, to market nutrition in Kenya.



ACF Kenya Mission Country Director Panos Navrozidis makes a contribution during the workshop.

Adija Baraza

Recommendations

- The Home Economics Unit has officers in various counties. However, the Unit's main challenge in implementation of nutrition interventions in the counties is limited funds. This is mainly due to restructuring of the government and the decision to devolve funding to the counties.
- Nutrition should go beyond food production, to include more innovative ideas and scale up the current programmes.
- There is need to increase funding for the Home Economics Unit.
- There is need to empower women to participate in the value chain as we engage/involve men in the same aspects.
- Nutrition actors should engage the transport sector to invest in improvement of infrastructure in order to enable transportation of fresh foods and vegetables from the farms to the market.

2.5 'Reconciling Agriculture and Nutrition: Case study on agricultural policies and nutrition in Kenya', by James Njiru and Titus Mung'ou, Action Against Hunger. The presentation covered the objectives of the study, nutrition as a political agenda, M&E and Information Systems, funding, coordination mechanisms and key recommendations. The case study was formally launched at the end of the presentation

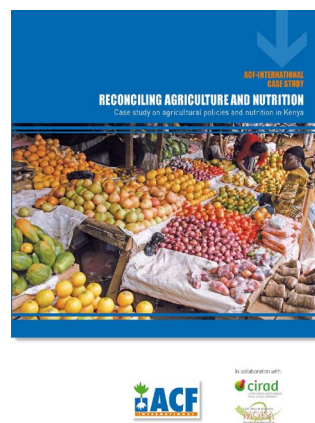
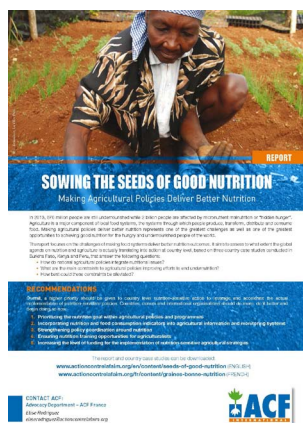


James Njiru (left) and Titus Mung'ou

Discussion and Commitments

Comment by Deborah Kioko (AMREF Health Africa): Nutrition partners are doing a lot, but their work at the community level is not highlighted well. Different partners have different areas of focus, but there is very little integration among the partners.

AMREF Health Africa started nutrition programmes in 2013. It implements Maternal and Child Health, and WASH projects. AMREF has integrated nutrition in its programmes. For example, in Turkana, AMREF through KHCP programme has trained ToTs to train communities to practice agriculture.



Recommendations

- Strengthen the Home Economics section to expand the MoA consideration of nutrition beyond its current scope.
- Include nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions as a module in relevant training curriculums.
- Increase funding for nutrition long-term development programmes in order to go beyond emergency contexts and include nutrition component in agricultural development programmes.
- Support trainings that have integrated nutrition in their curriculum. Involve Ministry of Education, in nutrition-sensitive programmes.
- Stakeholders to address this with national and county governments. Nutrition advocacy at county level will also focus on funding challenges in the sector.

Download case study 'Sowing the Seeds of Good Nutrition': www.actioncontrelafaim.org/en/content/seeds-of-good-nutrition

2.6 'Linking Horticulture and Nutrition', presented by Naomi Mwangi USAID-Kenya Horticulture Competitiveness Project (KHCP). The programme works under a 3-pillar framework: Household food sufficiency, improving the purchasing power and influencing behaviour change at household level. Influencing behaviour change is achieved by ensuring households grow, select, prepare and cook nutritious foods.



Naomi Mwangi



A family enjoys a nutritious meal, sweet potatoes sold in a road-side market and Applied Basic Agri-Nutrition Resource Toolkit for Trainers.

Discussion and Commitment

Comment by Joyce Owigar (WFP): Ministry of Agriculture and USAID have done a good job. WFP plans to implement a four-year project that will include nutrition sensitive indicators in schools and the community.

Recommendations

- Nutrition actors should share ideas and information, and encourage more coordination.
- There is need to enhance collaboration between sectors in order to create more impact in nutrition programming.

2.7 'Building capacity for better food security programming in emergency and rehabilitation context', presented by Anne Chele, Coordinator Kenya Programme FSN, FAO. The presentation covered features of the food and nutrition security component of the project, implementation process and capacity building to foster dialogue between food security and nutrition sectors.



Anne Chele

Discussion and Commitment

Question by Anne Chele (FAO): To what extent are we effectively utilising funds in our programming? To what extent are we involving planners and the Ministry of National Treasury?

Recommendation

Stakeholders in nutrition sector should involve other ministries in nutrition programming.

2.8 'Generation Nutrition Campaign', presented by Jacob Korir, Action Against Hunger. The main highlights were the introduction to Generation Nutrition Campaign, status of malnutrition at global and country level, objectives of the Campaign, partners and a petition to the governments/authorities.



Jacob Korir

Discussions and Recommendations

Generation Nutrition Campaign should have more input from different actors.

Comment by Rosemary Ngaruro (MoH): Nutrition sector partners should agree on what they want the government to do to tackle malnutrition. SUN CSA should take up the Campaign its advocacy agenda.

Other recommendations:

- Actors should demonstrate the benefits of ongoing nutrition strategies and how they contribute towards solving the malnutrition problem.
- Advocate for a link between research and practice or normal programming to ensure evidence is continuously accumulated.
- Generation Nutrition Campaign should have clear and realistic objectives that have been agreed upon by all partners.

- Partners in the Campaign should put in place sustainability plans - how nutrition will be recognised at the highest level within the government and donor structures.
- There is need to revitalise the Food and Nutrition Security Policy.
- Generation Nutrition Campaign should integrate other nutrition problems such as stunting, overweight and obesity.
- There is need to create awareness, not only about the campaign, but generally about nutrition issues among decision-makers at the county level.
- Nutrition actors should identify a forum that will bring together a multistakeholder platform to discuss both nutrition specific and sensitive interventions.

Generation Nutrition Campaign petition to the governments/authorities: <http://www.generation-nutrition.org/en>



Grainne Moloney

Quotes from the Workshop

- Prof Ruth Oniang'o (Moderator):** "We can't ignore the private sector; we need to engage with other partners too. Let's continue to reach out to them."
- Grainne Moloney (UNICEF):** "We shall continue with nutrition specific interventions as we think about nutrition-sensitive programming."
- Anne Chele (FAO):** "There is need to use a multi-sectoral approach in nutrition programming."
- Dr Claire Blanchard (SUN CSN):** "The main challenge facing the nutrition sector is that players are working in a new paradigm. It is therefore difficult to have the right governments in place to address nutrition issues. The SUN CSA's aim is to improve nutrition knowledge through advocacy."
- Hjordis Ogendero (EU):** "I would like to reiterate EU's commitment to reduction of malnutrition."
- Rosemary Ngaruro (MoH):** "Alone we cannot solve the problem of malnutrition. The need to advocate for positioning of nutrition at the highest level of the government is crucial."
- Jonathan Tench (GAIN):** "I applaud ACF for bringing people together. Let's maintain the momentum."
- Jacob Korir (ACF):** "All should sign up and be part of the Generation Nutrition."



Prof Ruth Oniang'o



Hjordis Ogendero



Rosemary Ngaruro



Jacob Korir



Jonathan Tench

2.9 Cross-cutting Issues

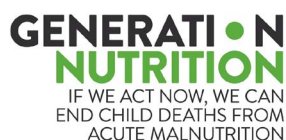
Discussion and Commitments	Recommendations
<p>Comment by Hjordis Ogendo (EU): The European Union is committed to reduction of malnutrition globally. In addition, EU is supporting the SUN Secretariat, the government and some NGOs to implement health and nutrition programmes. Currently, Ksh2 billion has been invested into these programmes.</p>	<p>There are only few members in the SUN Donor Network. Nutrition is often complex and cuts across many sectors. It is therefore imperative to link health and nutrition in order to get more donors in the pool (SUN Network).</p>
<p>Question by James Adede (Grace Africa): To what extent are we targeting children in Early Childhood Development (ECD) centers?</p>	<p>Nutrition partners should expand their targeting criteria to include other vulnerable groups like children with disabilities. Explore opportunities to leverage on inclusive programming so as to avoid working in isolation.</p>
<p>Comment and question by Dr Margaret Wagah, Lecturer at Kenyatta University and a consultant: There is a disconnect between research and practice. At what point should we intervene to create greater impact on nutrition?</p>	<p>As we strive to link agriculture and nutrition, there is need to address post-harvest losses which have implications on food and nutrition security.</p>
<p>Question and comment by Yvette Ondachi (Ojay Greene): What is being done about processed foods consumed by majority of the population? There is a governance issue to be resolved.</p>	<p>Enforce compliance with the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) regulations.</p>
<p>Comment by Beldine Otieno (Concern Worldwide): With the new government structure (devolution), there are more women representatives in parliament to advocate for nutrition issues. Since this is happening at the national level, nutrition partners advocate for nutrition at the county level</p>	<p>Efforts should be made to engage all stakeholders in nutrition programming. There is need for actors to focus at the counties, to influence the nutrition agenda.</p>
<p>Comment by Kennedy Shiundu (ECHO): The aim should be to monitor activities, measure the impact and contribute to the bigger picture.</p>	<p>Leverage on effective M&E by partners and the government.</p>
<p>Comment and question by James Njiru (ACF): Partners working with various communities should be cautious not to over-burden/overwhelm mothers at the community level with a lot of activities requiring their contribution. This can translate to less time spent in child care practices due to increased workload on the mother. It can dilute all efforts and strides made.</p> <p>What are we doing to influence social norms in the society?</p>	<p>Partners should focus more on social and behaviour change so as to translate knowledge into practice at the community level.</p>
<p>Comment and question by Lina Njoroge (Total Lifestyle Change): The problem in Kenya is that the public lacks knowledge on nutrition.</p> <p>How can we scale up nutrition and illustrate to the public the situation, using the statistics?</p>	<p>Involve the media in nutrition activities.</p> <p>Disseminate information to the public through the media.</p> <p>Use the layman's language when communicating nutrition issues to the public.</p>
<p>Comment by Prof Prof Ruth Oniang'o (Moderator): Breastfeeding levels in Kenya are very low at 32%. We are not addressing the causes and issues on poor breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices.</p>	<p>Scale-up breastfeeding and focus on 68% (of children) that are not breastfed.</p>

Key recommendations from Nutrition Sensitive Programmes Workshop

- **Food and Nutrition Security Policy:** Advocate for inclusion of nutrition sensitive programmes in the policy; revitalise the policy.
- **SUN Movement Networks**
 - Position the Government Focal Point at the highest political structure/office such as the Office of the President, so as to coordinate and integrate nutrition across the ministries and sectors.
 - Establish all SUN networks and mobilise members to join the networks at the national and county level.
 - Advocate for establishment of the SUN Multistakeholder Platform that will bring together all networks.
- **Multi-sector representation:** Involve the ministries of Agriculture, Education, Infrastructure, Treasury and the private sector, in nutrition programmes. Invite more partners to the Nutrition Technical Forum (NTF).
- **Funding:** Expand the scope of nutrition in the Home Economics Unit. Advocate for increased funding for nutrition sensitive programs through the Home Economics Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture, especially at the county level.
- **Nutrition advocacy:** Undertake advocacy in counties to ensure governors prioritise nutrition and allocate more funds in their budgets.
- **Media:** Build capacity of the media to cover nutrition issues, by involving media practitioners in nutrition workshops and events.
- **Documentation:** Enhance documentation of nutrition activities, best practices and sharing of information.
- **Generation Nutrition Campaign:** Involve more partners and expand the objectives of the Campaign.

Workshop report compiled by Naomi Mwikali, Caroline Chebet, Stanley Macharia and Titus Mung'ou.

Workshop supported by:



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