

NS COORDINATION MEETING

NS Coordination Office/Virtual | 30 January 2025 | 9:30 AM–11:00 AM



Meeting Minutes

Chair: Kibrom Tesfaselassie, NS Coordinator

Note taker: Suparna Das Toma, UNV Nutrition Officer, NS

Participants: ACF, Concern, FAO, Friendship, GK, HI, MSF, SHED, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP. See Annex I for the list of participants from each organization.

Welcome and Introductions

Kibrom Tesfaselassie, NS coordinator welcomed all the participants to the Nutrition Sector Coordination meeting held on 30 January 2025. With a quick introduction, the main agenda of the meeting was started.

Agenda

- Review previous meeting minutes
- IM Update
- Update from CMAM/IYCF/AIM TWG
- Nutrition Supply and Funding status
- TWG TOR review
- EoI for 2025 TWG Leads/Co-Leads.
- Nutrition Need Assessment (CiC request)
- New Initiatives/challenges (Partners update)
- AOB
 - NS Bulletin
 - Regarding the SC proposal and ToT on IYCFE by SCI

Reviewing action points of the previous meeting:

	Action points	Focal point	Timeline	Status
1	To finalize the modality to incorporate Child Functional Module in community outreach activities.	NS	Next NS coordination meeting	-
2	To finalize the recording and reporting tools and Provide orientation to implementing partners about the updated indicators.	IYCF TWG	By December 2024	Ongoing
3	To collect information on the duration of the refusal of humanitarian services and to understand their demand of the involved household in KTP RC	Concern Worldwide	Next NS coordination meeting	Updated
4	To circulate one pager on the distribution modality of IFA with the partners to start the activity.	IYCF TWG	ASAP	Ongoing
5	To arrange a follow up meeting with all lead organizations of the five thematic areas for sharing three or four top priority recommendations received from the workshop to focus on 2025	NS	12 January 2024	Completed

Discussion on Action Points-

- ✓ The strategy for implementing the Child Functional Module at the community level will be discussed in the upcoming IYCF TWG meeting.

- ✓ IYCF reporting tools and accompanying guidelines have been finalized. An orientation session for the INF focal point on IYCF reporting tools is scheduled for January 30, 2025.
- ✓ Concern Worldwide has reported that the refusal of humanitarian aid in KTP RC has persisted for approximately four years. The number of households refusing assistance has fluctuated over time. At the beginning of 2024, around 200 households were declining aid; by December 2024, this number had decreased to 50, according to the site management report. However, community outreach volunteers estimate that the figure could rise to 100 households. The primary reason for the refusal is that these individuals no longer wish to be associated with the refugee system. They feel they are treated the same as newly arrived refugees in makeshift camps, despite having lived in Bangladesh for an extended period—many of them since birth. They seek recognition as Bangladeshi citizens rather than as refugees. A key point of the sensitization would be focusing on how we are ensuring their dignity while providing the aids so that they are also comfortable with this.
- ✓ The one-pager on IFA consumption and blanket distribution has been reviewed by IYCF TWG. The document will be shared with NS SAG for review and endorsement on Sunday 02 February 2025. After endorsement by SAG, it will be disseminated to all partners for implementation in INF.
- ✓ NS shared an action plan template with all thematic area lead organizations for submission of the recommendations with activity description based on priority. NS will communicate with all lead organizations of the thematic areas bi-laterally.

Update from TWG

- **CMAM TWG**

- ✓ The revised CMAM admission/ discharge guideline has been shared with Nutrition Sector for review. Upon completion of the WHO recommendation piloting, discharge criteria for SAM and ration size for SAM and MAM will be updated following which the finalization process will take place.
- ✓ SOP and tools for management of under 6 months infants: SOP and tools have been developed in alignment with WHO 2023 wasting management guideline.
- ✓ WHO Recommendation piloting: Most of the SAM and MAM cases under the piloting have been discharged. TWG is expecting to have the final case and control lists by 2nd week of February 2025. UNICEF and WFP colleagues from CMAM TWG will support in analyzing the data.

- **IYCF TWG**

- ✓ The IYCF Reporting Guideline for 2025 has been reviewed, finalized, and shared with NS. A field orientation for NS partners is scheduled for January 30, 2025.
- ✓ The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for NBF child management and the Nutrition-Health Education Session has been prepared. Additionally, modifications to the training PPT have been completed. The TWG will soon share the final documents with its members.
- ✓ One-pager on IFA consumption and blanket distribution has been reviewed by IYCF TWG. The finalized document will be shared by the IYCF TWG for SAG review by February 2, 2025.
- ✓ Modifications have been made to the IYCF full assessment form based on inputs from the CMAM TWG workshop to develop assessment tool and finalize SOP for the management of children the under 6 months. The updated form has been shared with members for review and finalization.

- **AIM TWG**

- ✓ The initial technical workshop for the NCA was successfully conducted on January 28, 2025, with participation from multiple sectors and working groups.

- ✓ A five-day training session is ongoing for data collection on the qualitative component of the NCA, with representation expected from all UN agencies. Data collection will start soon after field test on 02 February 2025.
- ✓ Four locations have been finalized for data collection, and four designated supervisors will oversee and coordinate all activities in these locations.

IM update as of December 2024

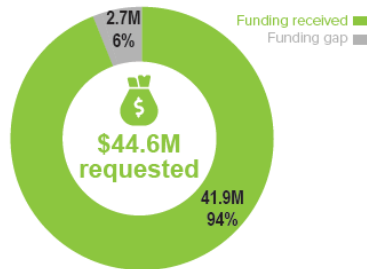
- ✓ As of December 2024, 96% of SAM target, 88% of MAM U5 and 77% of MAM PLW reached. IFA for PLW and Adolescent reached 74% and 78% respectively. There was NO IFA supplementations for PLW in the UNHCR operated INFs as they were covered through health ANC visit.
- ✓ Admission trends for SAM and MAM increased by 13% & 29% respectively in 2024 among children 6-59 months compared to the same period (Jan – Dec) in 2023.
- ✓ Out of total 33 camps, 15 camps for SAM and 21 camps for MAM U5 have reached over 100% of their annual JRP admission target as of December 2024.
- ✓ An indicator titled “admission on both criteria (MUAC and WFH)” will be added to the OTP and TSFP reports. NS will revise the reporting template accordingly and share it with all partners.
- ✓ In the SAM KPI, the cure rate as of December 2024 stands at 91.24%, compared to 89.87% in December 2023. Similarly for MAM, the cure rate is 98.74% in December 2024 compared to 97.5% as of December 2023.
- ✓ However, the average weight gain (AWG) for both SAM and MAM cases remains below standard, 3.26 g/kg/day and 1.85 g/kg/day respectively. Several factors may contribute to this issue, including extended discharge criteria, a minimum eight-week service period for SAM children, and inconsistencies in measurement procedures across visits. The CMAM TWG will identify these contributing factors and recommend appropriate measures to improve AWG outcomes.
- ✓ Every month almost 106% of children under 5 receive GMP as well as 98% children are receiving BSFP and 102% E-voucher Programme as well as 99% PLW are receiving BSFP service. 129% of IYCF target reached as of December.
- ✓ Overall, 115% of SC target reached (56% from NS partners and 59% from MSF). It was strongly advised to improve the communication and referral system between INF and SC and no doctor should visit any INF until he/she has specific reasons.
- ✓ Non-response rate was always an issue especially for children with SAM. From the analysis it has been noticed that only 12 sites out of 45 (27%) have non-response rate less than 5% whereas 13 (29%) have non-response rate over 10%. On the other hand, for MAM, seven sites (16%) have non-response rate over 3% whereas six sites (13%) with no non-response rate.

SAM		MAM	
Non-Response Rate	Number of sites	Non-Response Rate	Number of sites
>10%	13 (29%)	>3%	7 (16%)
5%-10%	20 (44%)	0%-3%	32 (71%)
<5%	12 (27%)	0%	6 (13%)

Nutrition Supply and Funding status

- ✓ 94% of the total funding required for 2024 JRP has been secured by NS appealing partners, as reflected in the Q4 NS bulletin. Although one of the appealing partners did not submit the funding status as of December 2024. So, their funding status has been used as of Sept 2024.

Overall Funding Status



- ✓ For the 2025 supply pipeline, WFP and UNICEF are the key pipeline managers for nutrition-related commodities. Supplies are secured until June 2025, with some items available until August 2025.
- ✓ Regarding financial status of 2025, an ongoing issue exists concerning the US government grant suspension, which accounts for over 60% of nutrition funding annually. As of now (30 Jan 2025), NS and appealing partners did not receive any official communication from the donor regarding this funding issue except CWW. So, the core nutrition program activities (BSFP, OTP, TSFP, IYCF counseling and other cross cutting issues) will continue as planned. However, CWW has been instructed to stop using PRM grant the nutrition prevention activities which was being provided in integrated manner with FS activities. Similar activities run by SHED (in consortium with CWW) has been affected as well. The key target of this programme were all SAM/MAM children enrolled in the programme in 17 camps (CWW =13 camps & SHED = 4 camps). The estimated budget for this project is 508,000 USD reflected in 2025 JRP.
- ✓ Note that while the meeting minutes is being drafted on 02 Feb 2025, UNICEF has received instructions from their HQ not to utilize US funds or branded supplies, including RUTF, for program implementation. This situation puts the entire nutrition program – Outpatient Therapeutic programme –(OTP) for the treatment of severe wasting (acute malnutrition), at immediate risk.

TWG TOR review

- ✓ NS IMO will circulate the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the TWG to all partners. Partners are requested to review and amend the ToR as necessary.

Eol for 2025 TWG Leads/Co-Leads.

- ✓ NS will circulate the Eol. Interested candidates are encouraged to discuss within their agency and submit their CVs for the roles of chair and co-chairs for the three TWGs.
- ✓ The process will commence in February 2025 and conclude by March 2025. The newly appointed chairs and co-chairs will begin their term from April 2025 to March 2026.

Nutrition Need Assessment (CiC request)

- ✓ NS is advocating with RRRRC that the annual submission of needs assessments is unnecessary. This is because the nutrition services are standard and have been implemented for many years. Need assessment is required of and only a new project or activity.
- ✓ There is a meeting minutes from ISCG where it was agreed that the yearly submission of need assessment is not required, and partners may refer to this document as needed.

- ✓ NS partners have requested NS to obtain any official documentation from RRRC on this matter to facilitate smooth CiC coordination at the camp level.

New Initiatives/challenges (Partners update)

- ✓ SHED reported that all field-level activities under its Nutrition-Sensitive Project, funded by PRM, were suspended on January 28, 2025, following the recent 90-day funding suspension declared by the US government.
- ✓ UNICEF indicated that approximately five INFs require reconstruction, while 10–11 INFs need renovation in 2025, necessitating proper coordination with donors. To facilitate this process, NS will share a template for partners to list the INFs in need of renovation or reconstruction and prioritize them accordingly.
- ✓ NS partners discussed the issue of INF facilities operating on rented land. Since the leasing process was discontinued after the refugee influx, land in refugee camps should not be rented. NS will escalate this issue to ISCG for further discussion.

AOB

- **NS Bulletin:** NS published the Q4 bulletin and disseminated widely.
- **Regarding the SC proposal and ToT on IYCFE shared by SCI:**
 - ✓ Save the Children has shared a concept note for the establishment of SC in the camp. NS will forward the concept note to the CMAM TWG for review and feedback.
 - ✓ Save the Children has also expressed interest in supporting the sector by conducting a Training of Trainers (ToT) on IYCFE in April 2025. They have shared the Terms of Reference (ToR) and requested guidance on identifying gaps to be addressed in the training. NS will forward the email to the relevant TWG for further input.

Summary Action Points

Action points	Focal point/agency	Timeline
To finalize the modality to incorporate Child Functional Module in community outreach activities.	IYCF TWG	ASAP
To share one pager on the distribution modality of IFA with NS to circulate for SAG endorsement.	IYCF TWG	02 February 2025
Add the indicator on “admission on both criteria (MUAC and WFH)” to the OTP and SFP reports and circulate among NS partners.	NS	ASAP
Identify the contributing factors responsible for poor average weight gain (AWG) and recommend appropriate measures to improve AWG outcomes.	CMAM TWG	ASAP
Circulate the ToR of TWG with all NS partners for amendment.	NS	02 February 2025
To circulate the Eol for the chairs and co-chairs of three TWG.	NS	February 2025
To obtain official documentation from RRRC regarding the need assessment submission to facilitate smooth CiC coordination at the camp level.	NS	ASAP
To share a template for NS partners to list the INFs in need of renovation or reconstruction and prioritize them accordingly.	NS	ASAP
Communicate with ISCG regarding the issue of rented land for integrated nutrition facility.	NS	ASAP

To forward the SC proposal and ToT on IYCFE shared by SCI to the respective TWG for review and guidance.	NS and IYCF/CMAM TWG	ASAP
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Closure: Nutrition Sector is grateful to all nutrition partners for their active participation and contributions. The meeting ended at around 11:00 p.m., and the next meeting will be held on Monday 24 February 2025 from 10.00 AM to 01.00 PM.

**Annex 1:
List of Participants:**

In person:

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