

NS SAG MEETING

NS Coordination (In person/Virtual) | 23 March 2025 | 12:30 PM– 01:00 PM



Meeting Minute

Chair: Mr. Kibrom Tesfaselassie, Coordinator, NS

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

Participants: ACF, Concern, GK, SCI, SHED, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP. See Annex 1 for detailed participant list.

Agenda

1. Review coordination mechanism across the entire Rohingya Response (specifically Nutrition Sector)

Welcome and Introduction

Mr. Kibrom Tesfaselassie welcomed all the participants to the Nutrition Sector SAG meeting on 23rd March 2025 which was followed by the NS coordination meeting. Representatives from all the members were presented in the meeting.

1. Review coordination mechanism across the entire Rohingya Response (specifically Nutrition Sector)

- NS highlighted concerns regarding the global funding crisis and its impact on sector coordination mechanism here in Cox's Bazar. SAG members were requested to assess and provide recommendations on the sector coordination system.
- NS discussed the following two possible options for Nutrition Sector coordination in the protracted crisis-
 - ✓ **Deactivation (coordination function ceases and no handover):** Deactivation can be considered when at least one activation condition is no longer met, i.e.,
 1. The humanitarian situation improves, significantly reducing humanitarian needs and consequently reducing associated response and coordination gaps.
 2. The national structures gaining sufficient capacity to coordinate and address residual humanitarian needs in line with humanitarian principles.

However, SAG members agreed that the current humanitarian situation and the nutritional needs of the vulnerable population do not justify discontinuing Nutrition Sector coordination.

- ✓ **Continuing coordination:** After thorough discussion, all SAG members unanimously agreed that the coordination MUST continue to address the ongoing nutrition challenges.
- NS also discussed the possible approaches for continuing the coordination-
 - ✓ Handover to government leadership
 - ✓ Handover to identified NGO partners
 - ✓ Remain with the cluster lead agencies (CLA)
 - ✓ Integrated into UNSDCF or other UN-led coordination e.g., a durable solutions coordination architecture
 - ✓ Keep the same streamlined coordination team (current one).
- SAG members thoroughly explored all available options. Given that the existing national structures in Cox's Bazar are insufficient to independently manage coordination and

humanitarian needs, SAG members did not support this option. Additionally, NGO partners currently lack the full capacity to lead sector coordination. Considering the specific context of Cox's Bazar, integration into United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (UNSDCF) or other UN-led coordination mechanisms is not feasible.

- **Highly Recommended:** SAG members prioritized maintaining the same streamlined coordination team of three (Sector Coordinator, IMO and UNV Nutrition Officer) based on the following factors:
 - ✓ The Nutrition Coordinator position plays a crucial role in ensuring neutrality in decision-making.
 - ✓ The nutrition situation remains critical due to ongoing ration cuts and other aggravating factors, which could further worsen the situation. Continued coordination is essential to address these challenges effectively.
- **Mitigation Measure:** If the funding situation deteriorate significantly and sector coordination is not fully funded, the coordination responsibilities will be managed by the Cluster Lead Agencies (CLA) - UNICEF.
- **Advocacy & Next Steps:** Additionally, NS, in response to funding constraints, will develop and publish a one-pager highlighting nutrition-sensitive elements such as health service suspension/closures and food security concerns due to ration cuts. This document will be used for advocacy efforts to address malnutrition and will support discussions with donors to emphasize key messages from the SAG meeting.

Action points:

Action point	Focal point/agency	Timeline
Publish a one pager for advocacy considering the funding constrain and its effect on malnutrition.	NS with the support of all partners	ASAP

Annex 1: List of Participants

In person:

Name	Organization	Email
Shahana Hayat	Concern	shahana.hayat@concern.net
Md. Ariful Kabir Sujon	GK	nutri_coord@gkcox.org
Ziaur Rahman	SHED	ziaur@shedbd.org
Md Fahimuzzaman	SHED	fahim@shedbd.org
Md. Mahbub Murshed Khan	UNHCR	khanmd@unhcr.org
Anjuman Tahmina Ferdous	UNICEF	aferdous@unicef.org
Mohammad Zahidul Manir	UNICEF	mmanir@unicef.org
Mohammad ASHIKULLA	WFP	mohammad.ashikulla@wfp.org
Kibrom Tesfaselassie	NS	ktesfaselassie@unicef.org
Mohd Mostakim Ali	NS	mmoali@unicef.org
Suparna Das Toma	NS	stoma@unicef.org

Online:

Name	Organization	Email
Dr. Md. Abul Hasan	ACF	nuthod@bd-actionagainsthunger.org
Sadia Islam	SCI	Sadia.islam@savetherchildren.org

Jecinter Akinyi Oketch	UNICEF	jaoketch@unicef.org
------------------------	--------	---------------------

//////////////////// THE END //////////////////////

For more information: [Nutrition Sector \(NS\)](#)

Website: <https://rohingyaresponse.org/sectors/coxs-bazar/nutrition/>

