

NS COORDINATION MEETING

NS Coordination Office/Virtual | 23 March 2025 | 10:00 AM–12:30 PM



Meeting Minutes

Chair: Kibrom Tesfaselassie, NS Coordinator

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

Participants: ACF, Concern, 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 23 March 2025. With a quick introduction, the main agenda of the meeting was started.

Agenda

- Review previous meeting minutes
- IM Update
- Update from AIM/CMAM/IYCF TWG
- Nutrition Supply and funding status
- SAG meeting update
 - ✓ TWG Lead/Co-lead
 - ✓ Blanket distribution of IFA
 - ✓ Nutrition Survey update
- Contingency plan
- New Initiatives/challenges (Partners update)
- Prioritization/mitigation measure/Integration H/N for the worst case
- AOB
 - ✓ Thanks to all ongoing TWG Lead/Co-Lead

Reviewing action points of the previous meeting:

SL	Action points	Focal point	Timeline	Status
1	To organize a brief orientation for key nutrition staff on the SoP for the management of children under 6 months and rapid assessment tool before implementation begins.	CMAM TWG	ASAP	-
2	To circulate the micro plan template of deworming campaign among partners.	UNICEF	7 March 2025	-
3	To initiate advocacy efforts to secure space for reconstruction in camp 1E site 1	NS	ASAP	Ongoing
4	To share the EPR document with NS partners for updating the document.	NS	27 February 2025	Completed

Discussion on Action Points-

- ✓ Each organization has completed the internal orientation on the SoP for the management of children under 6 months, the rapid assessment tool, and the reporting tool. The CMAM TWG will organize a joint orientation session for all partners within March 2025.

- ✓ UNICEF has shared the workplan with NS and will circulate it along with the reporting template and other relevant documents to partners. NS emphasized the need for monitoring by UN partners during the campaign to ensure quality implementation. The first round of the deworming campaign and mass MUAC screening is scheduled to take place from April 13 to 17, 2025, across 33 camps.
- ✓ NS is actively coordinating with ISCG and RRRC regarding land space for reconstruction. Implementing partners are requested to identify government-owned land that requires no rent to avoid future complications.
- ✓ The EPR documents have been shared with NS partners for review and updates. NS has requested all partners to assign the most relevant person to review the documents and provide feedback.

IM update as of February 2025

- ✓ As of February 2025, 15% of SAM target, 16% of MAM U5 and 16% of MAM PLW reached. IFA for PLW and Adolescent reached 26% and 76% respectively.
- ✓ In February 2025, 101% of the targeted children under 5 received GMP as well as 84% children received BSFP and 96% E-voucher Programme as well as 90% PLW are receiving BSFP service. 47% of IYCF target reached as of February 2025.
- ✓ Admission trends for SAM and MAM increased by 26% & 26% respectively in 2025 among children 6-59 months compared to the same period in 2024. For MAM PLW, the admission trend increased by 25% compared to the same period in 2024. Partners suggested that factor responsible for the increased admission should be mentioned with the information to disseminate clear message to the audience.
- ✓ The high admission may be caused by the new arrivals (as of February 668 SAM and MAM children admitted from new arrivals), overall population growth in the camps and other aggravating factors like cuts in WASH, Food etc.
- ✓ Higher number of children under 2 years of age was admitted as SAM compared to children over 2 years.
- ✓ In the SAM KPI, the cure rate as of February 2025 stands at 93.23%, compared to 92.53% in January 2025. Similarly for MAM, the cure rate is 99.36% in February 2025 compared to 99.27% as of January 2025.
- ✓ However, the average weight gain (AWG) for both SAM and MAM cases remains below standard, 3.19 g/kg/day and 1.85 g/kg/day respectively.
- ✓ Overall, 20% of SC target reached 11% from NS partners and 9% from MSF).
- ✓ NS is requested to analyses the contributing factors for relapse in April 2025.
- ✓ In February 2025, NS partners reached 7,700 children under five from new arrivals by nutrition services. But according to the UNHCR BIE, the total number of new arrivals under 5 years is 13,950. NS requested the partners to reassess the data during the mass MUAC screening to identify the children who are not reached yet. Meanwhile, NS will also share the data with all partners by camps.

Update from TWG

- **CMAM TWG**

- ✓ The SoP and rapid assessment tool for the management of infants under six months have been endorsed by SAG and shared to CMAM TWG for further circulation. The CMAM TWG will conduct a brief orientation for key nutrition staff on the SoP, rapid assessment tool, and reporting template on March 24, 2025.

- ✓ The WHO guideline recommendations piloting database for all SAM cases has been shared with UNICEF for analysis. UNICEF presented a preliminary analysis to the CMAM TWG members, identifying two feasible scenarios in the current context. A detailed analysis will be shared in the next meeting, and WFP will share the analysis result after receiving the complete database for MAM cases.
 - ✓ The current CMAM TWG lead and co-lead organizations, Concern Worldwide and SHED are in the process of handing over their responsibilities to UNICEF (lead) and WFP (co-lead) who will be effective in their role from April 1, 2025.
- **IYCF TWG**
 - ✓ The IYCF TWG conducted a pilot study to assess the time required for outreach screening when incorporating the Child Functioning Module (CFM) into outreach activities. The findings indicate that approximately 25 minutes are needed to complete the full package (CFM + Washington Group Questions + Home Visit + Screening).
 - ✓ The IYCF TWG has requested NS to coordinate with HI to obtain disability data from their assessment across 30 camps.
 - ✓ SCI has shared a proposal to conduct a Training of Trainers (ToT) on IYCF for 25-30 participants who will serve as trainers from various organizations. Two training guidelines will be developed for one-day and three-day training sessions. Participants will also receive training on facilitation skills based on these guidelines. The IYCF TWG has shared a live link with partners to gather field-level challenges and gaps to be incorporated into the training guidelines. Additionally, NS has requested the IYCF TWG to share the training materials and agenda in advance for better training outcomes.
 - ✓ NS will share the draft IYCF-E guideline, which will be prioritized by the TWG to finalize a contextualized IYCF-E SoP.
 - ✓ The handover of the IYCF-E TWG Lead position was discussed between SCI and UNHCR. SCI will share the relevant documents as soon as possible. Afrin Murtaza (UNHCR) will serve as the Chair, and Sharmin Rahman (GK) will be the Co-lead for 2025.
- **AIM TWG**
 - ✓ The AIM TWG shared the resolutions and final recommendations regarding SENS 2024 with SAG members for endorsement.
 - ✓ SAG members recommended seeking global input from GNC. In response, the AIM TWG engaged with GNC, which expressed interest in supporting the issue and identifying possible ways forward. The AIM TWG has submitted all relevant documents to GNC and the Global SMART Initiative for further review.
 - ✓ Given the current funding situation, the AIM TWG has requested NS partners to provide guidance on the support needed in the upcoming quarter for evidence generation. This will help the new TWG lead and co-lead with activity planning for 2025. NS has also requested that activities be prioritized and categorized based on budget availability, as sufficient data is available for analysis and evidence generation without requiring additional funding.

Nutrition Supply and funding status

- ✓ NS has requested all appealing partners to share their funding and supply status for 2025. UNHCR mentioned that they have been asked to prepare a 50% funding cut contingency plan due to the current funding situation. NS urged partners to frequently review their funding status and inform stakeholders at least one quarter in advance to allow sufficient time for necessary adjustments.
- ✓ UNICEF informed that the suspended BHA budget has been reinstated, and additional funding from other donors has been secured, ensuring funding stability until June 2025. Regarding supplies, RUTF stocks are available until June 2025, while therapeutic milk

(F-75 & F-100) will expire in June 2025. UNICEF is in the procurement process for new supplies, expected to arrive by mid-June 2025.

- ✓ WFP reported that their supplies are available until July–August 2025, with Super Cereal available until September 2025, Super Cereal Plus and RUSF until August 2025, and vegetable oil until November 2025. WFP is exploring additional funding sources and considering alternative options, such as shifting from food distribution to cash-based interventions.
- ✓ Concern Worldwide has been impacted by USG funding cuts but is resuming activities under the BPRM-funded program.
- ✓ ACF has no funding suspensions and will contribute as committed in JRP 2025, with 40% of their JRP funding already secured.
- ✓ SCI confirmed that their JRP budget remains unaffected, and they will contribute as per their JRP 2025 commitments.

SAG meeting update

- ✓ **TWG Lead/Co-lead:** Following the discussion among the interested partners on the lead/co-lead positions, partners informed NS of the selected organizations for the lead and co-lead roles in different TWGs as follows-

List of TWGs (Alphabetical)	Selected partners	
	Lead TWG	Co-lead TWG
AIM	WFP	UNICEF
CMAM	UNICEF	WFP
IYCF	UNHCR	GK

The newly selected lead and co-lead positions of TWGs will be effective from April 2025. NS emphasized that starting next year, NGOs and INGOs will lead/co-lead on a rotational basis, based on expressions of interest. If no NGO or INGO expresses interest, a UN agency will assume the lead/co-lead role by default. In case if no agency expressed interest to lead or co-lead, UNICEF will lead all TWG as a Nutrition Lead Agency.

- ✓ **Blanket distribution of IFA:** SAG members agreed to implement the blanket distribution of IFA across all INFs and officially endorsed the protocol and endorsed the IFA supplementation protocol

Contingency plan

- ✓ ISCG requested to prioritize the development of a Sector response plan for the "new arrivals" that are already in the camps. The latest estimate is that the number of such new arrivals is nearly 150,000 as of 31 Dec 2024. Among these, the budget for 50K has already factored in 2025 JRP. Sectors were asked to prepare operational plan for 100K individuals.
- ✓ Additionally, ISCG is anticipating new arrivals in 2025. Therefore, in terms of budgeting, all sectors are requested to provide estimated costs for 50,000 as scenario 1 and 100,000 new arrivals as scenario 2 in consultation with their respective lead agencies. NS will revise the existing contingency plan for new arrivals of 100,000 individuals considering only the supply requirement for the additional population.

New Initiatives/challenges (Partners update)

- ✓ HI had previously paused activities under the BPRM-funded project following an official directive due to funding suspension. With funding now resumed, the organization has reinstated all activities as planned.

- ✓ Concern Worldwide has successfully piloted the digitalization of the FCRM process and expressed interest in presenting the system to the Nutrition Sector. The presentation will highlight how the system reduces costs, particularly for paper and travel, while also enhancing efficiency and maintaining confidentiality. NS has agreed to allocate 30 minutes for this presentation during the NS Coordination Meeting in April 2025.

Prioritization/mitigation measure/Integration H/N for the worst case

- ✓ NS reflected on the current funding conditions and already prioritized the activities from the JRP budget of \$44.9 million. But, after the prioritization exercise, NS partners may also implement 2nd and 3rd priority activities including resilience depending on the availability of budget. In the event of a funding shortfall, NS will implement mitigation measures as needed.
- ✓ NS clarified the differences between merging, co-location, and integration by discussing their definitions. NS also highlighted that co-location and integration are distinct concepts and urged all implementing partners to maintain a common understanding. The model in Camp 11 exemplifies co-location, where nutrition and health services operate independently, with supply and operational costs remaining the same as in other non-co-located nutrition facilities.
- ✓ NS emphasized that co-location or integration will not result in cost reduction unless there are any nutrition activities that can be transferred to health services or human resources can be minimized. However, this is not feasible due to the high caseload in nutrition. Similarly, reducing the number of INF is not an option for the same reason. Also, reducing activities will put the nutrition beneficiaries in more vulnerable condition.

AOB

- ✓ The Nutrition Sector expressed sincere gratitude to all ongoing TWG leads and co-leads for their tireless dedication and invaluable contributions throughout the year. Their leadership, hard work, and commitment have played a crucial role in advancing the sector's objectives, and the Nutrition Sector acknowledged their efforts with deep appreciation. The continued support and collaboration from these leaders have significantly impacted the success of key initiatives.

Summary Action Points

Action points	Focal point/agency	Timeline
To analyses the contributing factors for relapse.	CMAM TWG	April 2025
To reassess the data of new arrival during the mass MUAC screening to identify the children who are not reached yet by the partners.	NS partners	April 2025
NS to share number of new arrivals U5 children by camp (if possible, at block level) for purpose tracking. Noticed that the coverage of nutrition services seems low.	NS IMO	ASAP
NS to share the micro-plan for Deworming campaign including the supervision matrix.	NS	ASAP
To coordinate with HI to obtain disability data from their assessment across 30 camps.	NS	ASAP
To share the IYCF ToT training materials and agenda in advance with NS partners	IYCF TWG	ASAP
To present the digitalized FCRM system at NS coordination meeting	Concern Worldwide	28 April, 2025

Closure: Nutrition Sector is grateful to all nutrition partners for their active participation and contributions. The meeting ended at around 12:30 p.m., and the next meeting will be held on Monday 28 April 2025 from 10.00 AM to 01.00 PM.

**Annex 1:
List of Participants:**

In person:

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