

# NS SAG MEETING

NS Coordination (In person/Virtual) | 03 June 2025 | 03:30 AM– 06:30 PM



## Meeting Minute

Chair: Kibrom Tesfaselassie, NS Coordinator

Note taker: Md. Fahimuzzaman, SHED and Suparna Das Toma, NS

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

## Agenda

1. Update on rationalization/cost-efficiency workshop organized by ISCG.
2. Health and Nutrition Integration from Rationalization and cost-efficiency lens
3. Proposed measures for the purpose of cost-efficiency
4. Mitigation measures for funding shortage for Q4, 2025 to support 11 INFs currently being supported UNHCR
5. Modality of supply distribution for BSFP beneficiaries

## Welcome and Introduction

Kibrom Tesfaselassie welcomed all the participants to the Nutrition Sector SAG meeting on 03 June 2025. Representatives from all the members were presented in the meeting. Following a brief introduction, the meeting was started.

### 1. Update on rationalization/cost-efficiency workshop organized by ISCG.

- NS attended a workshop arranged by ISCG on rationalization/cost-efficiency where each sector were asked to present the plan to continue the activities with the reduced fund. NS is expecting to reduce the overall funding by approximately USD 8 million in JRP 2026 focusing on the rationalization exercise.

### 2. Health and Nutrition Integration from Rationalization and cost-efficiency lens

- A task force is formed involving members from both health and nutrition sector. The task force has already drafted a checklist, and the Health Sector plans to carry out assessments across all health facilities. The Nutrition Sector has contributed additional questions to the checklist to help explore potential areas for integration between the Health and Nutrition sectors. The task force will visit PHC and INF to evaluate which activities could be absorbed using existing human resources and facility structure.

### 3. Proposed measures for the purpose of cost-efficiency

NS discussed with SAG members the possible measures to ensure cost efficiency without compromising the quality of the program and requested partners to identify and review the cost components during budgeting e.g. volunteers, supply items etc. Following points were discussed in the meeting-

- **To integrated SC with PHC:** The integration initiative is driven by the goal of reducing costs. Health sector will absorb four SC from nutrition sector with the existing human resources and without increasing the amount of budget allocated per health facilities (PHC). UNICEF will continue providing all kinds of nutrition supply required for stabilization centre (SC). NS also shared the SC mapping produced by CMAM TWG to the health sector to have a better

understanding of the coverage. There is email communication between health sector, nutrition sector and IRC regarding the integration which can be considered as documentation.

- **Volunteers at community level (do we really need them?) considering the presence of health volunteers:** SAG member mentioned the following importance of CNVs at community level-
  - ✓ Mass MUAC screening and vitamin A/deworming administration during campaigns. If no CNV, then employing new volunteers during campaigns who are not acquainted with the catchment would create further complications.
  - ✓ IFA distribution to adolescent girls which has major impact on the anemia prevention among them.
  - ✓ Follow up of beneficiaries before the distribution day. This following up reduces the risks of absence & defaulting to a great extent. It also helps in crowd management as this follows the time-slot mechanism.
  - ✓ Even if the mother-led MUAC is introduced, it needs to be monitored and supervised continuously.
  - ✓ Nutrition coverage will be hugely affected if nutrition and health volunteers (CHNW) are merged due to multiple health activities priorities.
  - ✓ A budgetary analysis is required to understand the impacts of CHNW modality as the modality follows 80-100 HH/CHNW contrasting to 300 HH/CNV, 1 CHW Supervisor/10 CHNW contrasting to no such thing in CNV modality, CHNW are counted as skilled volunteers contrasting to CNV being semi-skilled etc.
  - ✓ Innovative approaches need to be discussed in future in terms of CNV utilization as this is one of the major cost components in the overall implementation budget, while maintaining coverage and program quality.
- **Discontinuation of the CFM due to the lack of relevant complaints and the very low volume of submissions:** SAG members emphasised on the importance of CFM in program as follows:
  - ✓ Very important to ensure accountability. Beneficiaries can use this platform to share their views which ensures AAP.
  - ✓ Important to ensure neutrality and independence as part of Core humanitarian standard (CHS).
  - ✓ Donor concerns towards ensuring AAP.
  - ✓ However, a centralized system is agreed to be initiated. But till then consensus was to keep the component as it is now.
  - ✓ Further discussion needed to improve the current system till the centralized system is introduced.
- **Reduce frequency of cooking demonstrations:** NS requested SAG members to explore how to minimize cost in this component e.g. lead mother-led cooking demonstration, raw materials optimization, contributory CD sessions etc. NS tasked IYCF TWG to evaluate the feasibility.
- **Refer to health or protection sector for MHPSS:** MHPSS expertise are available at HF and GBV centre. At the INF, NS will focus on rapid assessment by IYCF/U6 month child & PBW Nurse in INFs and will refer the identified beneficiaries to the HF or GBV centre.
- **Exploring an alternative supplementary food for BSFP:** WFP is currently developing a new nutrition prevention strategy aligned with the updated WHO guidelines. As part of this strategy, WFP plans to phase out the use of Super Cereal (SC) and Super Cereal Plus (SC+) for the prevention of malnutrition in both pregnant and breastfeeding women (PBW) and children aged 6-23 months. For children, SC+ will be replaced with lipid-based nutrient supplements (LNS), while for PBW, a nutrition-sensitive e-voucher approach will be introduced where they will receive around USD 5 per month (to be confirmed later, Q4 2025). The plan is under process to receive clearance from senior management and some Govt.

entities. After receiving the clearance, WFP will deliver a detailed presentation to explain the implementation modality, nutritional content, and expected outcomes. The new approach is planned for rollout in 2026.

#### 4. Mitigation measures for funding shortage for Q4, 2025 to support 11 INFs currently being supported UNHCR

- NS provided an update on UNHCR's position regarding the 11 INF. Due to funding constraints, UNHCR is unable to support all 11 INFs through December 2025. As a mitigation measure, all 11 INF will be supported by UNHCR till September 2025. However, if adequate funding is not received for the fourth quarter, UNHCR will close two INFs - one in Camp 3 and one in Camp 4 - each of which currently hosts two INF.

#### 5. Modality of supply distribution for BSFP beneficiaries

- To prevent the selling of the nutrition supply and ensuring the proper utilization, WFP is introducing several control measures, including:
  - ✓ Bi-weekly distribution of BSFP supplies
  - ✓ Open the CS+ and CS++ nutrition packets and transferring contents into containers to discourage resale and extend the availability of supplementary food at the household level.
- WFP also acknowledged the increased workload due to this change in distribution modality. To manage this, it was agreed that complementary services such as health education, anthropometric measurements, Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP), and registration will be conducted monthly, while beneficiaries will collect their rations on a bi-weekly basis.
- The NS requested SAG members to review and approve the modality proposed by WFP and the task force. All SAG members agreed and endorsed the bi-weekly distribution approach. NS partners are requested to implement this modality starting from 15th June 2025.

#### Action points:

Action point	Focal point/agency	Timeline
To explore how to minimize cost in cooking demonstration component	IYCF TWG	ASAP
To start bi-weekly distribution of BSFP supplies in the facility level	IPs	15 <sup>th</sup> June 2025

#### Annex 1: List of Participants

##### In person:

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

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

