MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION STRATEGY
Global Learning and Evidence Exchange
East and Southern Africa Regional Meeting

The State of the Region and Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Programming

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Women in Food and Nutrition

• Make up a fair share of the food producers
• Household care takers
• Nurturers
• Yet very vulnerable and malnourished

Why? And what can be done to improve this situation?
The Malnutrition cycle – A reminder of priorities

OLDER PEOPLE Malnourished

BABY Low Birthweight

Impaired mental development
Increased risk of adult chronic disease

CHILD Stunted

Untimely / inadequate feeding
Frequent infections
Inadequate food, health, & care

ADOLESCENT Stunted

Reduced physical labor capacity, lower educational attainment
Inadequate food, health, & care

WOMAN Malnourished

PREGNANCY Low weight gain

Higher maternal mortality
Inadequate food, health, & care

Reduced physical labor capacity, lower educational attainment

Inadequate fetal nutrition

Inadequate infant nutrition

Reduced capacity to care for child

Inadequate food, health, & care

Restricted economic potential, shortened life expectancy

FAO

NEPAD 2015
Multiple forms of malnutrition

- **795 m people undernourished** in 2012-16  - *SOFI,2015*
- **161 m children stunted** due to chronic malnutrition *WHO, 2014*
- **99 m children underweight** *WHO, 2011*
- **51 m children wasted** due to acute malnutrition *WHO, 2013*
- **About 45% of 6.9 m child deaths** linked to malnutrition *WHO, 2011*
- **Over 2 b people affected by micronutrient deficiencies** *SOFA, 2013*
- **42 m overweight children under five years of age** *WHO, 2013*
- **Over 600m adults obese; 1.6b people overweight** *WHO, 2014*
Malnutrition: impact and implications

Malnutrition

- is greatest impediment to fulfillment of human potential
- acts as brake on development
- undermines economic, social and cultural fabric of nations

Investing in nutrition is not only a moral imperative, but also

- improves productivity, economic growth
- reduces health care costs
- promotes education, intellectual capacity, social development
Why the need for MSN?

• Address various gaps in;
  o Policies (convergence and coherence)
  o Capacities (technical, functional etc.)
  o Investments (including costing/expenditure tracking)
  o Data and information
  o Coordination and Governance

• Address both Nutrition-Specific and Nutrition-Sensitive issues/actions
Nutrition: A common development goal

Outcomes

Immediate causes

Malnutrition, death & disability

Inadequate dietary intake

Disease

Insufficient access to FOOD

Inadequate maternal & child CARE practices

Poor water, sanitation & inadequate HEALTH services

Underlying causes at household level

Basic causes at societal level

Quantity and quality of actual RESOURCES human, economic & organisational and the way they are controlled

Potential resources: environment, technology, people

Source: UNICEF
Challenges for MSN planning

• Weak collaboration and coordination
• Insufficient financial and human resources
• Few incentives for policymakers and practitioners to undertake multi-sectoral approaches and work in nutrition
• Investments take time for results to show – weak political traction
• Indicators and metrics for nutrition sensitive ??
Challenges for MSN(2)

- Accountability and M&E
- Roles towards common goals not clear
- Weak data and information systems
- Communication and contextualization of messages – social, cultural, economic etc.
- Are we putting nutrition first and foremost in development policies, planning, design and actions as a driver (vs. economics and profit)?
The CAADP Nutrition Approach

- Identified nutrition as weak Post Maputo 2003
- Need for integrating nutrition into NAIPs
- Convened 3 regional multi-sector workshops
- Brought together 7-10 participants per country from various sectors (Agriculture, health, nutrition, education, social protection, trade, finance, private sector (farmers associations, food manufacturers), NGOs.
- NAIPS reviewed – nutrition investments/actions articulated
- Road map for follow up
- Cost of Hunger Evidence backed up
- NEPAD Nutrition Platform set up – FAO/WFP et. al
- Leverage global initiatives to support action at country level
Policies with potential for MSN

- **Kenya**
  - Food and Nutrition Security Policy (FSNP); National Nutrition Action Plan (NNAP); Agriculture Sector Development Strategy (ASDS)

- **Ethiopia**
  - Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP); National Nutrition Strategy (NNS); Agriculture Sector Policy and Investment Framework (PIF)

- **Uganda**
  - National Development Plan (NDP); Uganda Nutrition Action Plan (UNAP); Agriculture Sector Development Strategy and Investment Plan (DSIP)
Global opportunities - leverage

- Second International Conference on Nutrition (ICN2)
- Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement and REACH
- The Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition
- The Global Nutrition Report - more food systems focus, data, and accountability
- The World Committee on Food Security (CFS)
- The UN – Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN)
Regional Initiatives-to leverage

• Zero Hunger Challenge and Africa 2025 Agenda Post Malabo and the CAADP Results Framework
• Cost of Hunger Studies and other evidence
• Sub-regional Regional Economic Community (REC) Food and Nutrition Policies and Strategies – SADC, EAC, etc.
• Regional/Sub-regional Nutrition Knowledge Platforms e.g. NEPAD/SADC etc.
Some Resources and Tools

UN support and normative guidance/tools

• Designing Nutrition-sensitive agriculture investments: checklist and guidance for project formulation
• Compendium of Actions for Nutrition (underway 2016)
• Compendium of Nutrition Sensitive indicators (uw 2016)
• E- Learning Course on “Agreeing on Causes of Malnutrition for Joint Action” – Free
Lessons from other crises

- HIV/AIDS
- EBOLA
- ZIKA
- Etc.

- Beyond a health issue alone
- Human-life, survival, resilience, economics, sustainability
So What? Now What?

How do we concretize and galvanize real action where it’s needed and matters most?
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Some final thoughts and takeaways

• Nutrition requires a systemic approach and solutions
• Continued and sustained conversations and advocacy
• Need more policy convergence and coherence
• Build capacities across all sectors and levels
• More investments for targeted key priorities
• Better data, evidence and metrics
• Better collaboration, coordination and governance
• Accountability – vertically and horizontally
A new vision for Food Systems & Nutrition

• In the past, focus on:
  • staple crop production,
  • Calories (undernourishment),
  • poverty reduction / income

• Today:
  • Food systems have changed: urbanization, globalization, market integration
  • Triple burden of malnutrition

• New vision captured in ICN2 & SDGs:
  • All forms of malnutrition
  • Agriculture and Food systems
  • Diverse and healthy diets
  • Multi-sectoral and integrated approach

→ Need to do business differently; to measure progress and impact differently, and optimize on and sustain the current global momentum...