



Nutrition Sub-Sector Meeting, Sittwe, Rakhine

24 March 2020, 9:00-12:00, Rakhine State Health Department

Meeting Minutes

Chair: Dr. Sai Win Zaw Hlaing, State Health Director

Agenda

1. Opening remarks by Dr. Sai Win Zaw Hlaing, State Health Director
2. Updates shared by Dr. Thanlwin Aung, Deputy State Health Director
3. Reviewing of action points from previous February meeting
4. Introduction of the participants and updates shared by partners
5. Any Other Business (AOB)
6. Closing remarks by State Health Director
7. Next Nutrition Sub-Sector Meeting Schedule (Tentative)

1. Opening remarks and updates from Dr. Sai Win Zaw Hlaing (State Health Director)

- Welcomed and thanked the attendees for close coordination and continuation of necessary supports
- Wanted nutrition IPs to the continuum of support to township and state levels for the collection of nutrition data for MS-NPAN launching. That need to be prioritized in April
- Suggested to operate the nutrition services with a limited staff member and send enough nutritional supplies to the field for the long holidays.
- Encouraged to prepare a mechanism for sending the nutritional supplies and continued emergency supports in case of lock-down happens
- A preparatory meeting with IPs for the launching of the MS-NPAN event will be in mid of May 2020. It depends on the situation of COVID-19 and its impact

2. Updates shared by Dr. Thanlwin Aung, Deputy State Health Director

- This month will be the last month of working at Rakhine State Health Department
- Requested UNICEF, WFP, and ACF to support nutrition supplies chain and safety stocks.
- Requested SNT to update the existing nutrition supplies; # of MUAC, Hight Board—etc
- Regarding for the launching of MS-NPAN event, request IPs to support on data entry and compilation
- Maternal nutrition needs to be prioritized and implemented with the support of respective IPs

3. Reviewing of the action points from previous meeting

<i>Action points</i>	<i>Focal point/agency</i>	<i>Status</i>
Completion of the curriculum and PPTs for the nutrition volunteers training	ACF	SHD is reviewing on that
Meeting with SNT & IPs for contribution of state-level MS-NPAN related workshops and meetings	SNT & UNICEF	<i>End of May</i>



4. Introduction of the participants and updates, and operational concerns shared by the partners

State Nutrition Team- SNT

- There was a discussion on 20-23 March with SNT, Prof. Dr. Ye Ye Khin- National IMAM Consultant, Dr. Nay Tun Kyaw, and UNICEF H & N team for developing of the scaling-up plan of IMAM services across Rakhine
- Planning to do supportive supervisions with the Townships Health Nurses/ nutrition focal and SNT jointly to health facilities if possible

World Food Program- WFP

- Routine activities in Sittwe and Pauktaw were going well
- TA application for MHAA's SFP activities in Mrauk U, Minbya and Kyauktaw have not received for the month of March
- The budget and proposal are still reviewing for the continuation of SFP activities with MHAA from April to Dec 2020
- As an impact of the COVID-19, the rations imported countries and transportation difficulties thus only the half-rations were able to distribute since Feb 2020. The routine distributions will be resumed If enough supplies are in place

United Nations Children Fund- UNICEF

- Partnering with MHAA, ACF, and SC for health and nutrition interventions are ongoing
- Processing to support the COVID-19 related IECs to respective governmental departments and IPs
- Sharing of the Global Technical Assistance Mechanism for nutrition to reference and adapt the nutrition programs of the implementing partners

Action contre La Faim- ACF

- Life-saving activities will be continued routinely with the essential staff
- Precaution measures will be added as planned; Fever screening and mandatory handwashing for visitors, proper arrangement/ allocations for beneficiaries at service corners, preparing to provide the face masks for visitors who have fever or coughing
- Community group activity will be suspended
- Coordinating with WFP to maintain the SFP activities, reduce the frequency of visits so that to reduce physical contact
- RUTF and RUSF stocks had been sent to the field offices for the next 2 months (April and May)

International Organization for Migration- IOM

- As the IOM won an award to response COVID-19, Yangon IOM is discussing with the SHD to support as needed
- Requested BHS to continue home visits although group community and MtMSG activity are suspended. That will be done by the TMOs' decision and their supervision
- Discussion and planning stage for categorizing the essential and non-essential staff, critical and non-critical activities
- Wondered about the finalization of the newly developed 4-day nutrition volunteer package because CHW- refresher training is going to conduct at Buthidaung and Maungdaw



**SHD responded to use the existing 2-day refresher training package now and the volunteers' registration and refresher training will be followed. Thus, all volunteers will receive that 4-day training later.

Save the Children- SC

- Emergency life- saving/ critical activities like SFP distributions and OTP activities will be maintained with the essential staff
- RUTF and Multi Micro-Nutrients tablets had been sent to the field for coming 2 months (April and May)
- MtMSG, community awareness sessions were temporarily stopped
- Through discussion with the WFP, planning to establish more distribution points for SFP distributions to practice physical distancing

Relief International- RI

- With the support of A2H funds, RI implements at Kyauktaw, Mrauk U and Myebon townships
- Supported the midwives led GMP sessions at Kyauktaw, Mrauk U and Myebon
- At Myebon and Mrauk U, supporting of the COVID-19 related billboard installations and miking will be executed speedily through with discussion of TMOs and field staff
- In coordination with THDs, the mobile health care activities at Myebon and Mrauk U are running routinely.
- The infrared thermometer and face masks were distributed to the field staff to use as preventive measures. Field staff is providing the COVID-19 related awareness sessions to the limited community members.
- There is planning to discuss and support with the Kyauktaw TMO regarding the COVID-19 prevention supplies

Myanmar Health Assistant Association- MHAA

- With support of A2H funds, the routine nutrition HE sessions in 7 townships of the northern Rakhine state were ongoing.
- There was a discussion with ACF and respective TMOs and DMOs for the setting up the OTPs at Thandwe and Kyauk Phyu townships.
- MtMSG formation will be conducted if situation becomes stable. Training planning was postponed with the concern of COVID-19
- Planning to support for COVID-19 related IECs distribution and miking costs at the northern 7 townships
- Supplementary Feeding Program at Kyauktaw, Mrauk U, Minbya townships was unable to implement in March 2020 because TA was not granted.
- Continuation of SFP activity with WFP is under review stage
- Supported TA, incentives and workforces to Pauktaw THD on the EPI activity at 4 villages; Kone Tan, Taung Ywar, Set Kal Pyin (lower and upper)

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit- GIZ

- GIZ had been implementing the Food and Nutrition Security Project at Kyauktaw and Pauktaw in partnership with MHAA



- Suggested MHAA to suspend the planning of nutrition training as participants are around or over 15
- WASH in school activities are quitted as now is the school-off season. Although the GIZ-led community WASH activities were stopped, WASH facilities construction through suppliers were on-going
- Planning to do the installation of the COVID-19 related billboard and miking costs at the community levels
- Vinyl, hand gel, and soaps were supported to Sittwe THD in Feb 2020
- GIZ wondered the needy support for the COVID- 19 related training for local CSOs

**SHD replied that two batches of training for about 60 participants form CSOs had been conducted in 21/22 March weekend)

International Rescue Committee- IRC

- Started the community level MtMSG reforming and cooking sessions at Sittwe in the earlier weeks of March 2020 and suspended temporarily. Implementations in Rathedaung, Minbya, and Ponnagyun townships have not started yet and discussion stage to support
- Planning to support the THDs regarding the installation of COVID-19 related billboards

5. Any Other Business- AOB

Alternative plan to use BHS for SFP activities if possible

- ✚ SHD suggested alternatively WFP whether to use the BHS with some incentives to implement SFP activities while TA is challenging
- ✚ UNICEF shared to follow up the SAM cases through BHS at Kyauktaw, Mrauk U and Minbya that was discussed and agreed by the TMOs
- ✚ WFP discussed that they have not received the TA for supplies transportation and distribution activity in March
- ✚ WFP said that they will discuss it with MHAA and WFP’s Yangon office

6. Closing remarks by SHD and next Nutrition Sub-Sector meeting schedule (tentative)

- SHD thanked IPs for coming and attending the nutrition sector meeting as usual
- SHD thanked and valued to Dr. Than Lwin Aung (Deputy SHD) and Htet Bo Win (IOM) for their contributions and efforts while they worked in Rakhine
- Suggested to use the existing resources effectively and efficiently
- SHD highlighted the importance the scale-up internally and externally
- If support is needed regarding the COVID-19 prevention and response, it will be letting to IPs know

<i>Action points</i>	<i>Focal point/agency</i>	<i>Status</i>
Share the emergency contact list of nutrition IPs to communicate in Thingyan holidays	UNICEF	Done on 4 April
Sharing of the updated 4Ws to nutrition IPs	UNICEF	Done on 10 April

7. The next nutrition sub-sector meeting in March will be tentatively scheduled *on 28 April 2020/ Tuesday*



Participant Lists

<i>No.</i>	<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Name of participant</i>	<i>E-mail address</i>	<i>Phone number</i>
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