



Nutrition Sub-Sector Meeting, Sittwe, Rakhine

28 April 2020, 11:00-12:30, 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. Reviewing of action points from previous March meeting
3. Introduction of the participants and updates shared by partners
4. Any Other Business (AOB)
5. Closing remarks by State Health Director
6. Next Nutrition Sub-Sector Meeting Schedule (Tentative)

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

- Welcomed and thanked the attendees for close coordination and continuation of necessary supports
- Highlighted the importance of nutrition, the realization of the movement restrictions, difficulty of Travel Authorization- TA and quarantine measures with the concern of COVID-19
- Discussed to check the stocks-balance and therapeutic foods availability in the light of COVID-19 with forward-thinking of long and short-term. Alternative solutions need to be considered in case of transportation blocks or therapeutic foods that are unable to transport.
- Highlighted the importance of contact tracing as the Internally Displaced Persons- IDPs are high and criticality of proper management on COVID-19 response

2. 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 Power points- PPTs for the nutrition volunteers training	ACF	SNT and SHD is reviewing on that
Meeting with State Nutrition Team- SNT & Implementing Partners-IPs for contribution of state-level MS-NPAN related workshops and meetings *MS-NPAN- Multi Sectoral National Plan of Action on Nutrition	SNT & UNICEF	<i>End of May</i>

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

State Nutrition Team- SNT

- Routine nutrition activities were ongoing



- On behalf of Township Health Departments in Rakhine, SNT requested 2 types of nutritional supplies to National Nutrition Centre and knew that only item (343 boxes of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food- RUTF) is available
- Thus, SNT requested to partners for transportation support in the relocations of the RUTF amongst some townships so that to manage the different numbers of requested and receiving
- To IPs have been informed of their possible contribution for RUTF relocations

World Food Program- WFP (sent an email the updates with apologies to attend)

- Finished for the nutrition activities and nutrition support to TB patients in Sittwe, Pauktaw, Mrauk-U, Minbya, Kyauktaw, and Rathedaung townships with MHAA for the period of April to December 2020. Proposal and budget negotiations were finalized and signed on 27 April. All the nutrition activities with MHAA will be resumed in the last week of April.
- In proposal agreement with MHAA for 2020, Blanket Supplementary Feeding Program- BSFP will be extended to Rathedaung township and TB program will be extended to Kyauktaw township.
- WFP and cooperating partners- CPs did not get TA approval to Mrauk-U, Minbya, and Kyauktaw townships. Nutrition activities were approved to implement only in the downtown of those townships. TA was approved for Sittwe and Pauktaw townships.
- WFP is seeking possible options to reach Ready to Use Supplementary Food- RUSF to the village level in case of a TA issue in the future.
- The distribution of the half-rations will be continued until the pipeline situation is retained normal.
- WFP is planning to distribute hand sanitizer, hand washing facilities, gloves, mask, and infrared thermometer to WFP's CPs to prevent COVID-19 transmission

United Nations Children's Fund- UNICEF

- Partnering with MHAA, ACF, and SC for health and nutrition interventions are ongoing
- Supported 343 boxes of RUTF to 14 townships to use in treating the children with Severe Acute Malnutrition
- Shared the quarter 1- updated 4Ws to know the implementation coverage and emergency contact lists of nutrition IPs to communicate during Thingyan holidays in case of urgency and emergency or as needed
- Processing to keep the nutritional buffer stocks (RUTF, F-75, F-100) in Rakhine to use them if any disaster or emergency happening. RUTF will be stored with temperature-controlled in the warehouse of ACF and bilateral discussion is underway. Shared the training plan of nutrition IPs staff who were nominated for data collection of emergency response along with other sub-sectors.
- The NNC endorsed "Emergency Nutrition Guidance in the context of COVID-19", with an invitation of virtual orientation, was circulated to respective nutrition IPs. Dr. Kyaw Win Sein (UNICEF) shared virtually the technical orientation on 28 and 29 April. The recorded file could be shared for those who were unable to join that orientation session. With a reference of this guideline, the respective nutrition IPs could do program adaptations as necessary and appropriately
- The COVID-19 IECs would be supported to IPs for further distributions through appropriate channels. Stocks are on the way and will arrive sooner to Sittwe
- In order to assess and analyse the impact of COVID-19 on a nutrition program, a template will be shared to nutrition IPs to fill and send it back

Action contre La Faim- ACF

- Implementing emergency and development program with an existing MOU for 17 townships in Rakhine under Access grant



- There were few activities for Access to Health Funds due to the impact of current evolving COVID-19 and ongoing recruitment process
- Routine nutrition service centres are running as 6 in Sittwe and 4 in Buthidaung and Maungdaw

The Consortium of Dutch NGOs- CDN/ ZOA

- Received an award from the Myanmar Humanitarian Funds, with an intention to fill the gaps, CDN is trying to implement the nutrition activities in Kyauktaw IDP sites
- Currently, they are doing for permission to start-up the activities

International Organization for Migration- IOM

- Covering Pauktaw, Buthidaung, and Maungdaw
- Through the BHS, MtMSG and GMP session and referral costs for malnourished children were also supported
- Cooking demonstration and group activities were suspended

Save the Children- SC

- As the current nutrition interventions, Mid Upper Arm Circumference- MUAC screening and Out-Patient Therapeutic Program- OTP activities are ongoing in 23 camps in Sittwe and 5 camps in Pauktaw
- The additional provision of COVID-19 awareness to the staff and beneficiaries
- Although RUTF is enough till the end of May, this is planning to borrow some RUTF from MHAA so that to prevent stocks runout while the formal stock requisition is processing
- Some adaptations and prevention measures have been done at nutrition programs with the reference of global and Myanmar technical guidance in the context of COVID-19

Relief International- RI

- RI is not directly implementing the nutrition activities and just supporting to Basic Health Staff- BHS
- While RI implemented the mobile health care services, the following nutrition activities were also integrated; MUAC screening, Growth Monitoring Progress- GMP, referral of the detected Severe and Moderate Acute Malnourished children to partners or nearest health facilities
- Under the Access to Health funds, government health staff lead GMP session was supported, but group activities like Mother sessions were suspended

Myanmar Health Assistant Association- MHAA

- With the support of Access to Health funds, the routine nutrition group sessions and training plans in 7 townships of the southern Rakhine state were suspended temporarily with the concern of COVID-19
- Regarding support of the transportation of RUTF in nRS, MHAA is approaching the Fund Management Office-FMO and will support after getting the green light from UNOPS.
- Supported for COVID-19 related IECs distribution and miking costs at the northern 7 townships
- Regarding the response of COVID-19, logistical and human resources were supported specifically to Sittwe THD in the fever surveillance. In close coordination with Township Medical Officers, other townships were also supported as necessary and with the request
- Continuation of SFP activity with WFP from April to December 2020 was signed on 27 April and activity will be started tentatively in late April. Rathedaung will be a new township for the new SFP program.
- With the request of THDs, assisted and supported the mobile clinics in the IDP sites among Kyauktaw, Rathedaung and Myebon



- Although the supporting of 59 SAM children in Kyauktaw and Mrauk-U was able to continue through the BHS, follow up of 8-SAM children in Minbya is challenging with high escalation and active fighting now
- Although some group activities were suspended at the health and nutrition project, the staff engaged in COVID-19 responses and some adaptations have been done for continuation of doable activities
- Supporting of human resources to the health department is limiting as some (7) returnees/ MHAA staff were quarantined with community facilities in Rakhine.
- Starting from this month, MHAA is planning to submit the weekly COVID-19 activities report to the State Health Department

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit- GIZ

- GIZ had been implementing the Food and Nutrition Security Project at Kyauktaw and Pauktaw in partnership with MHAA
- Community group sessions were suspended temporarily in the light of COVID-19
- With the request of THD- Kyauktaw, the procurement process is underway for supporting 50 new-born kits to Pregnant and Lactating Women- PLW who are staying at the temporal camps affected by the current fighting. Hopefully, those kits might be donated in May

International Rescue Committee- IRC

- Planned nutrition activities in April was suspended temporarily because of the BHS are quite busy with the COVID-19 response activities. IRC can support if BHS are planning to do the nutrition activities
- Supported the THDs regarding the installation of COVID-19 related billboards, miking costs (once in March and April) and facility quarantine centres
- Supported non-pharmaceutical items for 4 townships were surgical masks, gloves, hand-sanitizers and infra-red thermometers.
- Emergency referral costs for the patients and TA for BHS were also supported
- Manual grid tents were procuring to support for quarantine facilities

People in Need- PIN

- The hygiene kits distribution to 9 IDPs in Mrauk-U and 2 IDPs in Minbya was undertaken in the last week of March
- There were few activities in April as the long holidays and most staff are work from home due to the impact of COVID-19
- Filling of the water in the IDP sites will be in the first or second week of May
- There is planning to implement nutrition activities in 17 camps of Mrauk-U and Minbya. Key activities are recruitments of volunteers, nutrition training provision, IYCF, cooking and mother session with the applications of physical distancing, MUAC screening and referral of malnourished children to the nearest health facilities

<i>Action points of April</i>		
<i>Action points</i>	<i>Focal point/agency</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Compilation of the IPs support for the needy transportation support of RUTF	UNICEF and SNT	8 May



4. Any Other Business- AOB

- ✚ SHD highlighted and suggested attendees think the possibilities to use the locally available foods if the therapeutic foods/ nutrition stocks are unavailable in Rakhine with the best utilization of local resources.
- ✚ SHD encouraged to use the partners' strengths in the collection of the MSN-PAN data in close collaboration with SNT
- ✚ SHD requested state nutrition team to review the short guide of MtMSG to further spreading out to the Township Medical Officers

5. Closing remarks by State Health Director

- SHD thanked nutrition partners for coming and attending the nutrition sector meeting as usual
- SHD highlighted the collection of MS-NPAN data from respective townships and nutritional supplies
- Suggested to work closely and collaboratively with TMOs for routine and COVID-19 activities
- Highlighted that IPs are reporting monthly with different templates thus better having a nutrition data set to reference. Encouraged nutrition partners to support SNT on data management process

6. Next Nutrition Sub-Sector meeting schedule (tentative)

The next nutrition sub-sector meeting for May will be tentatively scheduled *on 26 May 2020/ Tuesday*

**** *Special thanks to IOM for supporting of refreshment at April nutrition sub-sector meeting on 28 April***



Participant Lists

No.	Organisation	Name of participant	E-mail address	Phone number
1	State Health Department	Dr. Sai Win Zaw Hlaing	saiwinzawhlaing@mohs.gov.mm	09-5213648
2	State Health Department	Dr. Zaw Zaw Aung		09-2301689
3	State Health Department	Dr. Su Nandar Kyaw	htaysuw@gmail.com	09-795357001
4	GIZ	Zin Aung Htwe	zin.htwe@giz.de	09-428043998
5	RI	Zaw Min Than	Zawmin.htan@ri.org	09-261692725
6	CDN	Sonya Hahm	s.hahm@zoa.ngo	09-429976908
7	CDN	Nyein Chan Mg Mg	Nyein.chan@zoa.ngo	09-420064396
8	ACF	Dr. Kyaw Tun Zan	ahnuttm1-stw@mm-actioncontrelafaim.org	09-400500907
9	PIN	Wai Yan Aung	waiyan.aung@peopleinneed.cz	09402761012 or 09970564898
10	IOM	San Latt Phyu	slphyu@iom.int	09-795838278
11	MHAA	Wah Wah Aung	mhaa.dcpmstw@myanmarhaa.org	09-250804488
12	MHAA	Zayar Aung	hn.pm@myanmarhaa.org	09-257397886
	IRC	Khin Thida Naing	khinthida.naing@rescue.org	09-262611638
14	SC	Dr. Na Chu Dua Khaung	nachudua.khaung@savethechildren.org	09-793919201
15	UNICEF	Dr. Thant Zin	thantzin@unicef.org	09-79 9688 994
16	UNICEF	Kyaw Zaw Tun	kytun@unicef.org	09-254517761



Photo

