**Nutrition in Emergency (NiE) SAG meeting, Myanmar**

***Zoom meeting, 4 June 2020, 14:00-16:00***

**Meeting minutes**

**Chair**: UNICEF on behalf of the nutrition sector

**Agenda**

1. Updates on supply chain management – UNICEF, WFP and ACCESS
2. Updates on HRP addendum revision
3. Update adapted nutrition guidance package and capacity building
4. Update on the survey questionnaire
5. Updates on Nutrition sensitive guidance – Agriculture and food systems and social protection
6. Updates on policy briefs discussion outcomes - MS-NPAN
7. AOB
8. Melody: nutrition support to the quarantine centres and brainstorm on possible options that are realistic in given context

**Discussion**

Announcement by UNICEF that Hedy Ip is leaving Myanmar and her successor Sanjay Kumar Das, Nutrition

specialist, has joined UNICEF Myanmar remotely from Nigeria. Short introduction of all participants.

1. Updates on supply chain management

WFP had discussed with NNC and will support them on RUSF. The had discussed logistic issues and will support to Rakhine townships and [Hlaingthaya](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hlaingthaya_Township) township in Yangon with existing stock; 50-60 MT of RUSF. Once the plan is finalized with NNC, WFP will share the information.

UNICEF noted that there is a good opportunity for MS-NPAN to more systematically plan and scale up, where supply is a key part. Resource mobilization will be easier if we have scale up plan documented. A working meeting with NNC could be useful. UNICEF used to support MOHS with micronutrient till 2015. After 2015, MOHS procured most micronutrients (except Vitamin A) with own budget. UNICEF will facilitate NNC to conduct a working meeting on scale up plan for IMAM, IYCF and micronutrient supplementation for sustainability and program quality assurance. There are 3 batches of UNICEF micronutrient powder in pipelines. Some HRP micronutrient are already in stock and the next two batches (COVID and next HRP supplies) will arrive Myanmar in June and October. There has been an ongoing discussion with ACCESS and UNCIEF for distribution of micronutrient tablets and thiamine which would be done through MOHS and ACCESS partners. COVID response supplies will arrive Myanmar on 16th June. The supplies include RUTF, micronutrients and therapeutic milk. Amoxicillin and MUAC tapes have already arrived and they are in customs clearance process.

ACCESS – ACCESS is working with UNICEF for micronutrient powder distribution and already received approval from NNC for proceeding the distribution. For RUSF, NNC will recalculate for the township distribution plan with ACCESS if WFP could not cover all proposed areas. The current ACCESS RUSF stock is with small quantity and expected to cover <10% of the requirement

**Action point**: Kyaw will discuss with NNC on next step and let the SG members know.

1. Updates on HRP addendum revision

There had been an a ad hoc meeting earlier this week, where participants had agreed on parameters for revision of the HRP Addendum. The impact of COVID, and review progress from January until now compared to 2019 showed lower results. COVID outbreak had resulted in reduced ability to reach beneficiaries, and there was not enough evidence for increased need in nutrition due to COVID. It was agreed that all nutrition activities are important and should remain, no need to increase the target since we were already struggling, and no increase in cost. Four scenarios which all were considered in the planning.

Guidelines for nutrition in quarantine center was brought up. WFP to find out more info on quarantine centers, didn’t have any update at this stage. Number of centers had been requested and what nutrition support was feasible.

Promotion of breastfeeding and complementary feeding among mothers in quarantine centers were also suggested because they could be affected by fears and limited food availability due to COVID.

50,000 of quarantine beneficiary were estimated and according to the assessment, the proportion of under five and PLW are very few (U5- 2%, PLW-1.5%). The supports would be difficult to be sustained due to high population movement. IYCF, BSFP, micronutrient supplementations, dissemination of nutrition messages and milk plants (where wet nursing are available) are being considered for the quarantine targets. Virtual training for health care givers is also considered. WFP is collecting information on number of quarantine centers, code violation and wed feeding practices in the centers.

**Action point**: Jecinter to circulate a list of parameters for changing the target and a table of target figures to review.

1. Update adapted nutrition guidance package and capacity building

UNICEF had shared the second version to NNC, revised according to suggestions. Nutrition sensitive part to be included later. NNC to lead a new orientation session of the changes.

Orientation of the guidance note in May had more than 300 participants. Final assessment done, next IMAM training will start mid-June. The training module would then be improved with interactive and real case scenarios. Lesson learned will be developed and an online training course.Online capacity buildings would be continued. Lesson learnt from the training and experience will be documented and uploaded on online course links from University of Public Health, Yangon.

IYCF and maternal nutrition hotline counselling concept note has been shared with Dr.Lwin Mar and she will submit it to DyDG for the approval. The hotline counselling will be done by 7 volunteer petaradians to mothers with children less than 3 months. And recruited counsellors by government or consultants will perform the counselling to those with above 3-month children.Maternal nutrition and IYCF counselling hotline were being discussed. It was not only for COVID-19 response, but broader than that with possibility to integrate maternal and childcare in the future.

1. Update on the survey questionnaire to understand

Feedback form the SAG members had been incorporated in the questionnaire. It had been circulated to all participates in the orientation session. Multichoice options didn’t work properly and will be updated. A pre-test was useful.

1. Update on Nutrition sensitive guidance – Agriculture and food systems and social protection adapted

FAO and UNPOS had streamlined the document to make it easier to follow and with four clear annexes, including one for cross-cutting issues.The four annexes are (1) nutrition sensitive, (2) social protection, (3) education (school feeding) and (4) cross cutting themes (i.e: gender, mental health, etc). It will also be shared with relevant counterparts and ministries. The document is expected to be finalized by the next or following week.

Dr.Kyaw Win Sein shared that a meeting with government counterparts for resuming the school program will be done in the 2nd and 3rd week of June.

UNICEF regional team has circulated UNICEF back to school guidance and nutrition and education collaboration checklist/documents. Those documents will be reshared with SAG members for inclusion and adaption of school nutrition program in Myanmar context.

Currently school meal programs are implemented for primary and middle school children. It was discussed that advocacy for inclusion of preschool children and expansion of school meal into school nutrition program would be needed.

UNICEF mentioned the opportunity to build back better, to use the opportunity to strengthen the system, not least between education and nutrition.

SBCC components will be integrated into both nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive. UNICEF will also work and follow up for WASH integration into nutrition. Updates will be shared in next meeting. ACF will share WASH IPC assessment check list and triage for health facilities to SAG members.

**Action points**: The link will be shared today. Comments and inputs welcomed by Tuesday directly to the document. They will then edit and share with government counterparts. ACF will share their operational guidelines for different sectors. UNICEF will share school nutrition guidelines. UNICEF will follow up with SBCC WASH and share updates next week.

1. Updates on policy briefs discussion outcomes - MS-NPAN

Sansan Myint mentioned that multisectoral plans were complete in four states (Kayah, Kayin, Chin and Shan (South) and Ayeyarwady region. Implementation of these plans will be initiated shortly. Several preparatory steps will need to be taken to ensure implementation during this locked down state. A key step will be for a multi-sectoral online discussion among the four sectoral ministries at the national level. The ministries include (MOHS, MOE, MOALI and MOSWRR). This multi-sectoral group should then continue online discussions with their respective sectoral departments at the state/region level. Simultaneously, the national, min isterial level multi-sectoral group will need to organize a joint online consultative session with the state/region level joint sectoral departments through the state/region Nutrition Promotion Committees. Thus, several steps needs to be taken for the multisectoral plan to transition to implementation on the ground. Working with the various partners at the state and regions will be essential for effective implementation and oversight.

NNC will be organizing and leading a technical level multi-sectoral meeting in the coming week. The purpose will be to map out steps to be taken or to draw up a road map for the MS NPAN to be implemented within the COVID 19 context. It is expected that these discussions and brainstorming sessions will inform additional activities that may be required and new targets and extent of service coverage due to additional needs and gaps brought on by COVID 19.

Opportunity for MS-NPAN to have a clear plan for capacity building, blended modality of online and face-to-face. A learning forum under MNTN would be good. Will be useful to see what the survey will say. Work on a workplan and Advocacy briefs will start next week.

Is it possible to have an online meeting with MoHS? It needs to be planned and scheduled well ahead. Good to try a virtual MS-NPAN meeting first. Higher level meetings to be advocated by June/UNICEF.

**Action**: Update NNC of the SAG meeting and set a date for a high level meeting.

1. AOB

WFP mentioned the need for nutrition support to the quarantine centers and brainstorm on possible options that are realistic in the given context. They will share the costing of food basket by tomorrow.

ODK will be tested for monitoring of nutrition service, with data being collected at nutrition service points. IT will help generate dashboards which could be presented in SAG meetings. UNICEF will try it out first, then it is possibilities to scale up. Some components will be developed together with ACF.

The ToR for Tech RRT for online training is about to be finalized, which will accelerate capacity building of volunteers. Lessons learned. Blended approach between face-to-face and online.

Sansan Myint will share the meeting minutes from the UN network meeting for MS-NPAN.

LIFT wanted to know about oil recommendations. It depended on availability and funding. Dinesh will follow up.

WFP’s VAM unit has confirmed that they are available to make a presentation on Market Monitoring at the next SAG meeting.

The next meeting will be Thursday 11 June at 14:00. It was agreed to keep the weekly meetings until the nutrition sensitive guideline was finalized.

**Participants**

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