

TERMS OF REFERENCE

NUTRITION CLUSTER IMAM TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

BACKGROUND

Nepal is located in a geographic region prone to natural disasters. Loss of lives and property are a regular phenomenon, and the number of such events is on the rise due to natural as well as human induced causes. Active tectonic and geomorphic processes, young and fragile geology, variable climatic conditions, unplanned settlement, increasing population, weak economic condition, low public awareness etc. are few prominent reasons of natural disasters in Nepal. It is therefore geologically found to be vulnerable to various types of natural disasters such as flood, landslide, fire, epidemic, earthquake, avalanche, windstorm, hailstorm, lightning, Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), drought etc.

The history of National Nutrition Cluster dates back to Apr 2006 when 'Emergency Health and Nutrition Working Group (EHNWG)' was formed under the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP). The National Nutrition Cluster (NNC) got a separate identity from Jun 2010, which is led by MoHP and co- led by UNICEF. Nutrition Section is leading the NNC on behalf of MoHP.

Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM) Technical Working Group (TWG) is in existence under Nutrition Technical Committee (NuTeC), led by Nutrition Section. This TWG was formed to provide technical and strategic guidance to the government on IMAM programme, especially in the stable or development context. However, following devastating earthquake of Apr 2015, IMAM TWG was formed in Aug 2015 under the NNC providing a forum for coordination, exchange, and problem solving among the stakeholders implementing IMAM programme during the emergency. The TWG played a key role to finalize the IMAM protocol and IEC/BCC materials aligning with National IMAM Guideline, which supported implementation of IMAM programme during the emergency. However, the TWG dissolved automatically without any formal notice. This is the revised ToR for the IMAM TWG.

OBJECTIVE

Provide a forum for coordination, exchange, operational guidance, technical discussions and problem solving among the MoHP, donors and I/NGOs implementing IMAM during humanitarian crisis

ACTIVITIES

1. Review, discuss and recommend to update national IMAM protocol aligning with global and national standards/guidelines
2. Review, discuss, update and recommend utilization of training designs, training/operational guidelines and other materials (e.g. IEC/BCC materials, supportive supervision and monitoring tools etc.) for the implementation of IMAM programme in the areas affected by humanitarian crisis
3. Provide technical assistance and advisory to all NNC members and partners implementing IMAM
4. Share programme plans, tools, and information and identify areas for collaboration and alignment to set standards
5. Advise National Nutrition Cluster (NNC) on issues related to the implementation and compliance on the agreed IMAM standards and guidelines

6. Provide guidance on barrier analysis and coverage assessments/surveys
7. Present IMAM agenda in the NNC and follow up technical and policy issues raised within the cluster forum
8. Discuss capacity gaps, implementation challenges and collaborate with the other sub-group members (and other TWGs) to overcome these challenges
9. Interpret data collected by NNC members/partners implementing IMAM programme and guide them

MEMBERSHIP

The IMAM TWG is chaired by Action Against Hunger | ACTION CONTRE LA FAIM (ACF) with following members:

1. Global Health Alliance - Nepal (GHAN)
2. Helen Keller International (HKI)
3. Himalayan Health and Environmental Services Solukhumbu (HHESS)
4. Nepali Technical Assistance Group (NTAG)
5. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
6. United Nations World Food Programme (UN WFP)

Each organization will nominate a permanent focal person (and one alternate) to ensure consistency in representation and facilitate communication. Group members will agree to regularly attend IMAM TWG meetings, endorse the IMAM TWG ToR and work plan, and abide by the ToR and fully implement the work plan.

Stakeholders not directly engaged in the delivery of IMAM programming are welcome to attend TWG meetings but they will have an observer status within the group.

WORKING MODALITY, MEETING FREQUENCY AND MINUTE

The IMAM TWG Chair will convene the TWG meetings. In absence of the Chair, Acting Chair nominated by the Chair can convene the TWG meetings. The TWG will be accountable to the NNC. Quorum will consist of two thirds of TWG members for key decisions. The TWG, however, can proceed to regular business without quorum. The meeting will convene on a weekly basis during acute stage and every month thereafter during non-acute stage. The meetings will be held in Nutrition Section or any other venues agreed by the TWG members. Any change on the schedule and venue, the TWG members shall be informed accordingly.

The meeting minute will be taken/prepared by TWG members on a rotational basis, which will be finalized after incorporating any suggestions/comments from the members. The final meeting minute will be shared with the NNC, which can share it to all members of the NNC. The TWG will share their progress/reports with all NNC members during the NNC meetings.

The NNC will dissolve the IMAM TWG after completing their tasks/activities, which will be documented and communicated to all NNC members.

Date of endorsement of IMAM TWG ToR: 21st March 2019