

NUTRITION MONITORING GUIDANCE

A variety of guidance documents exist on the area of nutrition monitoring which are products of WHO, UNICEF, FAO, FANTA and other partners. Some of the guidance documents cover a wide array of nutrition sub-sectors while others are more sub-sector specific. (See excel sheet: Nutrition monitoring tool and guides Sept 14 for a sample of existing guidance documents). However, a guide which more comprehensively covers a full causal framework for malnutrition does not exist.

The Global Nutrition Monitoring Framework (GNMF) includes the set of indicators highlighted globally to track nutrition-related policies, process indicators, outcomes and the World Health Assembly (WHA) targets. A document *Operational Guidance for the Global Nutrition Monitoring Framework* which provides guidance around the 6 WHA target indicators and an additional four other indicators has been drafted for consideration at the upcoming WHA (yet to be released).

Some other guides referred to include the Infant and Young Child Feeding indicators document series and Anemia assessment guides. There are also a number of sub sector specific guides available which support monitoring of intervention coverage related to vitamin A supplementation, home fortification, and severe acute malnutrition (SAM) treatment. Programme managers can gain valuable information about the specifics of monitoring and use of local data for course correction from these sub-sector specific guides while the Global Nutrition Monitoring Framework can help local authorities develop and implement their overall nutrition monitoring plan to be in line with global reporting.

Household surveys such as MICS, DHS, LSMS and national nutrition surveys are common data sources to collect nutrition data. To date, most guides recommend and provide guidance on survey-based nutrition data collection and interpretation; there is a dearth of guidance around routinely collected non-survey data for nutrition. To fill this gap, UNICEF is working with partners to develop a set of standard data elements, indicators and visualization tools using routine data to support more frequent nutrition program tracking and review. Areas covered include: IYCF, micronutrient supplementation, growth monitoring/anthropometry and CMAM/SAM/MAM, etc. Examples of routine data collection on nutrition exist from many settings, and we plan to consolidate existing experience and propose standard tools that can be used to adapt or improve existing systems and be included in DHIS2 as well. Please contact Chika Hayashi at chayashi@unicef.org to join us in this work.