The nutrition cluster reached 82,152 children with treatment of acute malnutrition so far. Of the admitted acute malnourished children, 23,953 were admitted for SAM treatment and 58,199 for MAM treatment (page 2).

The main objective of the meeting was to review 4th quarter and annual Nutrition Cluster performance, review 3rd quarter review actions progress, and identify challenges, bottleneck and lessons learnt.

Major new initiatives undertaken by the cluster in this quarter includes service delivery sites geotagging, Cluster CRC election, Cluster assessment and survey development SoP and others.... (Page 10)

FSNAU 39 nutrition surveys across most regions and livelihood zones of Somalia, covering displaced, urban and rural populations. The assessments were conducted in collaboration with government institutions (Ministries of Health) and partners (Page 4).
Program Response

The nutrition cluster reached 82,152 children with treatment of acute malnutrition so far. Of the admitted acute malnourished children, 23,953 were admitted for SAM treatment and 58,199 for MAM treatment with cure rate of 91% and 95% respectively which is higher than the recommended sphere standards (>75%).

The number of acutely malnourished children at the beginning of 2016 is relatively close to the figures of 2015. Number of reached children with MAM treatment program shows a decrease during the beginning of 2016; while, SAM program is almost the same for both of the year. Though the response of the nutrition cluster has been intensified, the increase and/or sustained situation has been contributed by El Niño induced drought situation in the northern part of the country.

In response to the increased number of malnourished children, the nutrition cluster partners had increased the availability and accessibility of the services through emergency nutrition programs and deployment of mobile health and nutrition teams in drought affected regions of the country. Thanks to unreserved financial support from donors and close collaboration of local community, government, partners, UN agencies and donors.

Strategic Response Plan-Nutrition sector needs

PEOPLE IN NEED 1.3 million
PEOPLE TARGETED 800,150
NUMBER OF PARTNERS 32

https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/operations/somalia/nutrition
Central Management of Acute Malnutrition (IMAM)


The main objective of the meeting was to review 4th quarter and annual Nutrition Cluster performance, review 3rd quarter review actions progress, and identify challenges, bottleneck and lessons learnt.

In addition, the partners review and endorse major strategic priorities including HRP 2016 and agree, pave way and set technical team for the major tasks ahead, mainly: Geotagging project, Guideline revision and development of training modules.

Furthermore identify potential research and/or core areas/tasks for 2016. During the meeting partners were give brief updates about the innovations and initiatives including Causal Analysis Study results, REFAI Somalia study, accountability to affected population, inter-cluster updates, SUN initiatives and Early Warning Early Action triggering dashboard.

To the meeting provide a structured platform for reviewing the action points captured during the field coordination meeting, discussing, sharing information and lessons learned from cluster partner’s perspective with an aim to improve coordinated response, information flow and learning.

Nutrition Cluster Funding Status

- Despite the increase in the number of children with acute malnutrition treated this year, coverage of malnourished cases remains low. This is due to the funding available for the treatment of acute malnutrition is not sufficient for the needs across the country.
- Only 27 per cent of the required funds (US$18.1 million out of US$66.1 million) have been received to date and currently fewer than 20 per cent of those children in need have access to treatment.
Nutrition Survey and Assessments

Between January through March 2016, Nutrition cluster had review and endorsed different types of assessments and survey to enhance evidence based decision making. These include SCI SMART Survey, IYCN-KAP survey and FSNAU Quarterly survey.

FSNAU 39 nutrition surveys across most regions and livelihood zones of Somalia, covering displaced, urban and rural populations. The assessments were conducted in collaboration with government institutions (Ministries of Health) and partners. Results of the assessment revealed that 12.2 percent of all children under the age of five in Somalia were acutely malnourished, with 2.2 percent being severely malnourished. In 10 out of the 40 livelihoods assessed, the prevalence of acute malnutrition exceeds the UN trigger for emergency action (GAM ≥ 15% or Critical prevalence). Highest prevalence of acute malnutrition (based on Weight for Height Z-Scores) was recorded among livelihoods of Dolow IDPs (25%) and Guhan pastoral (22.3%) which was drought affected regions.

Meanwhile, Save the Children also conducted Nutrition SMART Survey specially drought affected regions of North West zone. The general objective of the study was to assess the nutrition, mortality, health and food security situations, and other contextual factors in drought affected districts of Awdal (Borama, Lughaye, Baki, Zaylac) and W. Galbeed (Gabiley and Hargeisa) regions of Somaliland. In addition, SNS and WFP released final report of Nutrition Causality Analyses study.

In response to the high level nutrition status of the IDPs of Dollow, Trocaire has conducted Infant and young child feeding practice, Knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) in Dollow, Luuq and Bula Hawa districts of Gedo region. The main objective of the study was to assess explore the factors influencing IYCF practices in Gedo.

Nutrition Response in Drought Affected Regions.

As a result of the reduced rainfall in most parts/regions Somaliland as well as Puntland; there had been significant production failure and severe water shortage. In Somaliland the harvest failure estimated to be about 87%. To respond the drought situation nutrition cluster had allocated the first allocation of the SHF to the partners giving emergency nutrition services to the drought affected populations in both regions. In addition, cluster produced series of updates drought situation plus the ongoing responses.

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New Initiatives in this quarter

**Nutrition Cluster—Geotagging Project**
The nutrition cluster in close collaboration with CLA and WFP had launched the geotagging project which will be instrumental in mapping all the nutrition service delivery sites. Emergency nutrition service delivery sites geotagging main objective is to validate, consolidate and strengthen the existing capacity of emergency nutrition units across Somalia to the overall emergency preparedness response towards resilient and sustainable development.

The project will undertake focus on understanding risks and generating risk information that will be used in the formulation of comprehensive IMAM (Integrated Management of Acute Malnutrition) Service coverage/expansion development plans. One of the requirements for risk analysis is a georeferenced database of SCs, OTPs, MCH buildings/structures and mobile site areas that will be overlain with the administrative and GAM (Global Acute Malnutrition) rate maps to produce the coverage and risk maps.

The purpose of the survey is to identify access, capacities and gaps in the whole nutrition Cluster across Somalia mainly in South Central Zone in order to inform better response by the cluster, MoH and development stakeholders. The survey will function as a foundation/base to the service plan that would be rolled out by the CLAs (Cluster Lead Agencies), MoH (Ministry of Health), and is intended to give a valuable overview for the planning and scale up of IMAM.

**GAROWE IDP MALNUTRITION – CASE OF INTERGENERTAIONAL CYCLE OF ACUTE MALNUTRITION**
During last 3 months, NC had authored two articles which has been published in global FEX bulleting. One of the articles were based on field trip by the NCC to Groowe IDPs. It was featuring the situation and daily life of the IDPs. During the visit to Garowe IDP on 24th February the author mentioned that there were 39 OTP beneficiaries of which only 14 (36%) beneficiaries arrived with their mothers of which eight (57%) of the mothers were children and/or less than 18 years.

In the article it mentions that there are situation were children coming to the OTP with their siblings despite being children by them selves. This was due to most of their mothers are away in town looking for pity business usually labor based as such cleaning, cooking, carrying and household services for residences in Garowe town. Implication is leaving behind children for siblings who themselves are children, significantly limiting the care children require and subsequently suffering from malnutrition. It was not only the caring practice but also the teenage mothers is another main culprit behind the sustained level of acute malnutrition. Finally the article proposes key recommendation to improve their nutrition situation.

**Cluster Contract Review Committee and Co-Chair Election.**
In this quarter, Nutrition cluster had concluded two main elections namely CRC members and cluster co-chair elections. During this process organizations included in the 3W matrix have nominated their candidate based on the cluster SoP. The shortlisted candidates went to the next stage of online voting, only candidates who had managed to secure the highest number of votes were considered and result was endorsed by the SAG members. In addition, The election of the cluster co-chair was concluded.

**SoP FOR CONDUCTING NUTRITION SURVEYS/ ASSESMENTS.**
With help of cluster partners, cluster finalized the SoPs of nutrition survey. Partners are expected to fill this format and submit to AIWG team for vetting and endorsement. This gives the cluster and MoH an opportunity to harmonize nutrition survey activities and, very importantly, to ensure that internationally and nationally recognized standards are being followed. Additionally, sharing nutrition survey plans with key stakeholders and other implementing agencies at the federal/State level offers an opportunity to promote collaboration and create a forum for discussing technical aspects of a survey design prior to data collection.
Key contacts

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About the Somalia Nutrition Cluster/Sector Quarterly Bulletin

The Somalia Nutrition Sector quarterly bulletin is produced by the Somalia Nutrition Cluster Coordination with the collaboration of cluster partners and it’s highest decision making body—the SAG.

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