THE HUB
WFP Nutrition’s Quarterly Newsletter

November 2017/issue 02

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This weekend I just returned from a meeting of the UN Network of SUN and the SUN Global Gathering in Abidjan, Ivory Coast. Both meetings were tremendously uplifting and I was told that WFP had never been more visible than we were at these two events this year.

The meeting of the UN Network brought together over 100 participants from all 60 SUN countries. It was wonderful session with important discussions on everything from the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition to the humanitarian/development nexus and the business case for the UN Network going forward. The group was further motivated by a visit from Gerda Verburg, SUN Movement Coordinator, who stopped by to encourage all to keep up the good work. As you can see from the picture, WFP was well represented and was going strong even at the end of a long day.

The UN Network meeting was followed by a 3-day SUN Global Gathering of 900 participants. The event was tremendously well organized by the SUN Secretariat and key speakers included David Nabarro, Anthony Lake, H.E. Kikwete, Dr. Adesina of the African Development Bank and more.

There was also a very strong contingent of representatives from civil society, parliaments of many countries and the private sector. Many noted that the private sector was discussed in almost all the side meetings, something that would have been unheard of just several years ago.

For my part, I was so pleased to see such strong WFP involvement on side panels and enthusiastic participation from the floor – always with a hand in the air to ask a good question or make an important contribution. You made me very proud to be part of WFP. Finally, the meeting for me was very, very busy as I was also nominated to serve on the SUN Executive Committee. I intend to be actively involved and I will let you know what is in store after the Executive Committee retreat in mid-January.

Thank you so much to the OSN team, to the UN Network/REACH Secretariat and many more - for a great meeting and for coordinating the strong WFP participation.

I encourage all of you who participated in the two meetings to post your photos and thoughts on Communities to share with others.

All the best, Lauren
I have recently joined OSN to lead the Nutrition in Emergencies team. To this position, I bring more than a decade’s worth of experience primarily focused on nutrition in emergency responses in Africa.

In 2003, I started with WFP as a nutrition intern in the Republic of Guinea. Since then, I remain deeply convinced that WFP is an important nutrition player. I am eager to support WFP to now confirm its position as a key nutrition leader. The work of the Nutrition in Emergencies Unit is challenging at this time of unprecedented humanitarian crises, but I am excited to work with you all to ensure we deliver the assistance and services that are greatly needed.

In my new role, I aim to represent the voice of nutritionists in the field and to do my very best to provide useful and pragmatic assistance to accomplish your essential duties in line with our mandate.
I am excited to have recently joined headquarters as an intern on the nutrition–specific team. Trained as a nutritionist, I am now working in several areas to support OSN, including Social and Behaviour Change Communication and Rice Fortification. I am passionate about health communication, photography, and innovative thinking. My dream is to support the building of a balanced, fair and sustainable food system and I am both proud and honoured to be part of WFP.

NOEMI RENZETTI

I joined OSN as the Partnership Officer starting September 2017. I am supporting the strengthening of partnerships and forming new alliances for the new WFP Nutrition Policy, with a focus on UN Network and Business Network for SUN. I have extensive professional experience both in the public and private sectors, at global and country levels. Prior to joining the team, I worked with the UN Network/REACH Secretariat, WFP, UNICEF, Columbia University and Johnson and Johnson.

ILARIA SCHIBBA
ARE YOU READY FOR THE NUTRITION TEAM T-SHIRT?

As requested by many nutritionists worldwide, OSN designed a T-shirt with the support of the communications division. We hope that this tailored merchandise will foster a sense of belonging and connection for the nutrition family all over.

Reach out to us to know how you can get your own!

Ali El Nawawi
OSN EQUIPPED WITH A RAPID RESPONSE TEAM (Rome)

Submitted by: Allison Prather and Sara Bernardini

OSN Rapid Response Team
We just established a Rapid Response team (RRT) thanks to a USAID contribution.

Why a RRT? Addressing the nutrient needs of crisis-affected populations is a critical component of our emergency response. However, when crises hit, our Country Offices may require additional capacity to support appropriate and well-coordinated responses at the required scale. The RRT intends to fill short-term capacity gaps until medium- to long-term solutions are found.

Who are the RRT members? The team consists of 2 experienced emergency nutrition professionals, Gwenaelle Garnier and Lucas Alamprese, who have complementary language skills (English, French and Spanish) as well as expertise in surveys and assessments, rapid response mechanisms and community based management of acute malnutrition. One team member is already currently deployed in Bangladesh in support of WFP’s response to the Rohingya refugee crisis and the other will be deployed in support of another L3 operation very soon.

Where can RRT be deployed? Deployment of RRT will be prioritized in L3 and L2 operations and in rapid emergency onset.

As additional resources and candidates become available, we aim to expand the surge capacity and the RRT.

How much does a RRT deployment cost? IT equipment (laptop and phone) is provided by OSN. All deployment related costs, such as travel, R&R (where applicable), staff cost, per diem are covered by the receiving country office.

Duration of the deployment: The team is home-based and deployable within 72 hours of authorization for up to 3 months (with a possibility of extension). Approximately 60-70% of their time will be spent deployed and the remaining 30-40% utilized to contribute to OSN’s wider objectives, particularly learning around emergencies.

Call for action Please get in touch with Nicolas Joannic and Nora Hobbs to ensure that your Country Office has the necessary surge capacity to adequately address nutrition in your emergency response.

Process of Deployment: Please click here to see the diagram
NUTRITION & WELLNESS
JOIN FORCES?
(South Sudan)

Submitted by: Guillaume Amuli

Bor Sub-Office is one of the remote field locations in South Sudan where we provide food assistance annually to more than 500,000 people affected by the food insecurity and malnutrition due to the ongoing conflicts. The Sub-Office has 70 staff including 28 national staff and 7 international staff who live in a guest house. WFP contractors (including pilots) also live in the compound. The premises have a restaurant managed by a service provider serves breakfast, lunch and dinner there as well.

Ensuring we have the vitamins, minerals and nutrients we need is a top priority in the Bor Sub-Office. As we know, lack of these essential nutrients increases our risk to suffer from preventable and manageable diseases like osteoporosis, high blood pressure, heart disease, and diabetes.

There is really a lack of nutrient-rich foods in most of the deep field locations where we work. This affects not only the local population, but also humanitarian workers including our own staff. Therefore, the preventive measure is to produce organic food, eat veggies and stay active on weekends.

Tending to our vegetable garden has become our priority with the following objectives:

- **To provide fresh, non-GMO, organic and healthy food** to staff.
- **To produce dark green vegetables** such as broccoli leaves (known as Sukumawiki in East Africa), baby spinach, lettuce; and red and orange vegetables such as tomatoes and peppers.
- **To produce starchy vegetables** such as maize and sweet potatoes.

Recently, we have been harvesting and enjoying our fresh green food, produced locally just next to our room accommodations. In addition to the main garden, every colleague has been encouraged to have a small garden near his/her accommodation tent and it has helped many.

The Sub-Office has also been supplying vegetables to colleagues who work in the Country Office. Those who have spent some time with us while on field missions have testified that Bor is the only place in South Sudan where they eat fresh and healthy food.

We believe it’s important that we take care of ourselves to be able to take care of others.
“WE DON’T BUY VEGETABLES ANYMORE”
(Zambia)

Submitted by: Edna Kalaluka and Christine Hakunze

“Having a garden supports good nutrition, not only at school but even at home,” said 14-year-old Queen Litondo of Moono Primary School. Queen is one of hundreds of schoolchildren at her school participating in the home-grown school meals programme.

At WFP Zambia we are joining forces with the Ministry of General Education (MoGE) to make this programme a reality. We are reaching 1,060,000 school children in over 2,700 schools with a school meal every day of the school calendar year.

We introduced school gardens in seven schools in the Mumbwa District to serve the following purposes:

- **To transfer** basic agricultural skills to the children.
- **To teach** the children and community members about nutrition.
- **To supplement** the school feeding diet, hence improving children’s dietary diversity.

Using schools as platforms for agriculture and nutrition education has played out nicely.

The pupils create awareness on nutrition education through School Health and Nutrition (SHN) clubs.

This programme allows them to use creative communication channels namely **drama, dance, song, debate and poetry to learn and disseminate the knowledge** they have learned to others.

As a result of this intervention, some children have gone back to their homes to teach their parents about gardening. “My child taught me how to prepare the garden. She told me to add manure in this bed and fertilizer in the other. She learnt how to prepare the garden at school,” said Queen’s mother, Mary Litondo.

Participating schools have gardens where vegetables such as cabbage, spinach, tomato and rape are grown. Each garden is fenced off and has a solar submersible pump with a drip irrigation system.

“We don’t buy vegetables anymore,” said Queen’s mother. “We collect from the garden for us to cook at home. We also sell our vegetables to the school and to some community members.”
In the Pakistan Country Office, we are moving from “saving lives to changing lives”. One of the main goals of our school meals programme is to stabilise enrolment and retention rates at schools in the Federal Administered Tribal Regions. To hit two birds with one stone, we got involved as a nutrition unit in planning a pilot where we would be producing sun-dried nutritious snacks for the targeted schools. This ground-breaking pilot has the potential to impact the nutritional status of children in these regions. At the WFP Pakistan office we will be drying fruits in a green house solar tunnel dryer, a process that intensifies the taste while keeping all vitamins and minerals in the product. The end result would be a very tasty and nutritious product.

Where did the idea come from?

- Approximately 40% of the fruits and 30% of vegetables of the harvested food is wasted. This means that every year 2.2m tons of vegetables and 2.8-3m tons of fruits go to waste during and after harvest in the country.
- Dried fruits (mangoes, bananas, peaches or grapes) also have a high content of fibre and carbohydrates and are low in fat.
- Most dried fruits can be stored for 1 year at 15°C or for 6 months at 27°C.

This locally produced nutritious snack will be a promising indicator for scalability in other regions of Pakistan. At WFP Pakistan we are thrilled to be at the forefront of this initiative.

Reach out to us for more information!
Back 2 School Awareness Campaign (Egypt)

Carrefour is offering WFP all its platforms in Egypt for an awareness campaign of one year. This partnership aims to raise public awareness on a number of causes/issues that WFP is advocating for in Egypt.

The back to school nutrition awareness campaign focuses on using banners (danglers) in all 11 hyper markets of Carrefour with nutritional tips targeting parents of children returning to school. The messaging varies from tips on sources of calcium, iron and different vitamins, how much should a child’s intake of each vitamin be...etc. Other danglers will focus on tips on what to include in a healthy school lunch box.

Submitted by: Nourane Khaled

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Submitted by: Nourane Khaled
THE LATEST RELEASES ON THE NUTRITION LEARNING CHANNEL

Submitted by: Herve Nsama

These are the latest e-learning courses released by OSN to empower staff with knowledge and skills on areas identified to be relevant.

Browse, read and enjoy!

- WFP and Breastfeeding
- The Nutrition-Sensitive Learning Journey

NUTRITION FOR IDPs: THE APPROACH NEEDS A REVAMP?
(Republic of Congo)

Submitted by: Rufaro Musvaire

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qItdNeOuFgw&feature=youtu.be
At WFP Guinea we adopted a general food distribution approach that will also address nutrition needs of children aged 6 months to 5 years.

**What problem are you addressing?**
The lack of a diversified diet with adequate nutrients is a major cause for the rise of child acute malnutrition in the mining regions where we operate.

**Why this region of the country?**
The districts in the Kankan region targeted are deeply affected.
- 14.5% of the children of Siguiri and Kouroussa lie under the national Global Acute Malnutrition (GAM) rates.
- High prevalence of food insecurity and recurrent episodes of widespread diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections and parasitosis in those regions.
- These factors add to the lack of adequate care for the children in these gold mining areas.

**What are you aiming for?**
To prevent any further deterioration of nutritional status in these districts.

**What have you done so far?**
- We finished three distribution cycles of Supercereal Plus reaching 25,703 children affected by acute and chronic malnutrition.
- In parallel, we gave caretakers nutrition education briefings and guidance on how to use the Supercereal Plus.
- Furthermore, we focused also on the importance of hygiene in disease prevention.
- Finally, we encouraged pregnant women to follow their prenatal consultations.
Through the NutriFami app, food insecure communities access nutrition learning. This app allows all family members to learn through play. NutriFami is very intuitive to use, accessible via web and you do not need previous knowledge or familiarity with the use of technology.

As well as the promotion of lifestyles, it will help facilitate internet and technology access.

**Challenges that lead to the idea of Nutrifami:**

- Vulnerable communities and victims of the armed conflict in Colombia suffer from poor nutritional habits.
- Baseline WFP studies results show that beneficiary diets are cereals, tubers, oil and sugar, which they consume 5 to 7 days a week.
- Less than 30% of the people we serve consume fruits, vegetables and dairy products daily, rates which are lower than the national averages.
- A triple burden issue occurred, where displaced people face high prevalence of malnutrition and micronutrient deficiencies combined with overweight or obesity.

The WFP Colombia CO is committed to providing communication and training activities along with food and cash transfers with a family focus to promote healthy diets.