



ADAPTATIONS DUE TO COVID-19 IN NUTRITION PROGRAMMES OF MOZAMBIQUE

ACTIVITY: GENDER TRANSFORMATIVE AND NUTRITION SENSITIVE (GTNS) PROJECT IN CHEMBA
BENEFICIARIES/MONTH: 1,500 HOUSEHOLDS (7,500 PRIMARY BENEFICIARIES) / 25,000 SECONDARY BENEFICIARIES

Overview

GTNS is a three-year multisectoral and multi-stakeholder pilot project which aims to prevent stunting. It innovatively integrates multiple nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions to address the determinants of chronic malnutrition, with a focus on women's empowerment. The three main activities are (i) *Food Assistance for Assets (FFA)* - construction of gender- and nutrition-sensitive household assets and community assets; (ii) *Post-Harvest Loss (PHL)* - trainings of smallholder farmers on food conservation, transformation and storage; and (iii) *SBCC* - multi-level communication strategies, emphasizing the social, community and household levels, in addressing gender inequality. The Austria Development Agency (ADA) is the donor for this project.

COVID-19 adaptations

The project's multi-stakeholder approach made it especially vulnerable to COVID-19, as the design brings together a variety of partners to ensure holistic implementation. As such, the majority of community activities were placed on hold in March 2020. Only lifesaving interventions, such as food distribution, and interventions which could easily be adapted to the strictest preventive measures, continued to be implemented. As of July 2020, extensive preventive measures are in place to resume all community implementation in accordance with current legislation.

Among these are the construction of handwashing stations ['tip-taps'] and provision of soap bars to ensure a safe environment for the participants during SBCC activities. The projects' SBCC cooperating partner Pathfinder International will provide materials for the tip-taps.



ACTIVITY: ROADSIDE WELLNESS CENTRE FOR HIV/TB SERVICES FOR MOBILE POPULATIONS AND VULNERABLE GROUPS
BENEFICIARIES: 2,850 BENEFICIARIES

Overview

In June 2020, WFP in partnership with IOM, UNICEF and WHO, launched a new HIV project in the Beira Corridor, one of Mozambique's main transport corridors and a hotspot for HIV transmission. The project aims at increasing access to HIV/TB treatment services, particularly targeted at key groups for HIV transmission such as truck drivers, female sex workers and adolescent girls and young women. North Star Alliance is WFP's implementing partner, offering the above-mentioned services at a container-facility ('Roadside Wellness Centre' (RWC)). UNAIDS is the donor for this project.



COVID-19 adaptations

To make the intervention COVID-19 sensitive at the project site, a handwashing station with clean water and soap have been installed at the entrance of the RWC. In addition, the waiting room and consultation rooms have been arranged to allow for the necessary social distancing of at least 1.5 meters. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has also been distributed to all personnel. Those accessing the RWC are temperature screened and must wear face masks and wash/disinfect their hands. Positive COVID-19 cases are referred to the local health facility.

Photo 1 page 1: WFP Partner World Vision Chemba/Nitusha Renato Beneficiaries queuing with social distancing to redeem WFP food basket at GTNS project distribution site

Photo 2 page 1: WFP/Mozambique Quelimane SO Tip-tap constructed and being used by beneficiary in home

Photo 3 page 1: WFP/Mozambique Manica SO WFP partner engaging in conversation with truck driver at RWC

ACTIVITY: NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR NUTRITION REHABILITATION (PRN) – MAM TREATMENT

BENEFICIARIES/MONTH:

9,860 CHILDREN UNDER 5 (CU5) AND
3,240 PREGNANT AND LACTATING WOMEN (PLW)

Overview

WFP supports the Ministry of Health (MISAU in Portuguese) to implement treatment of moderate acute malnutrition (MAM) under the national programme for acute malnutrition (Programa da Reabilitação Nutricional - PRN) in 38 districts across six provinces. These provinces are Cabo Delgado, Manica, Nampula, Sofala, Tete and Zambezia. A total of 320 health facilities are covered by WFP. The UK's Department for International Development (DFID) is the donor of all interventions related to MAM treatment supported by WFP.

The main activities implemented by WFP are:

- Procurement and delivery of specialized nutritious foods;
- Capacity strengthening of government health staff at provincial and district levels;
- Monitoring and evaluation (M&E)
- Demand generation (more on this below)

ACTIVITY: DEMAND GENERATION IN NATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR NUTRITION REHABILITATION (PRN) – MAM TREATMENT

BENEFICIARIES/MONTH:

2,950 CHILDREN UNDER 5 (CU5) AND
1,550 PREGNANT AND LACTATING WOMEN (PLW)

Overview

WFP, together with the local governments of Sofala and Cabo Delgado, conduct a community-based activity that involves community health workers identifying and referring children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women, including those with HIV, for treatment of acute malnutrition. It also includes community debates on topics related to malnutrition treatment services and HIV/TB treatment. Additionally, the project has a community radio element, where messages related to these topics and live interviews with community members are discussed and success stories disseminated. Interactive M&E Tableau dashboards can be found [here](#) for Sofala, and [here](#) for Cabo Delgado.



Photo 1 page 2 : WFP/Mozambique Nampula SO Health technicians at health facility in Nampula province overseeing PRN registry books

Photo 2 page 2: WFP/Mozambique Sofala SO Demand generation partners to WFP Nutrition programme in Sofala equipped with PPE

COVID-19 ADAPTATIONS FOR PRN (MAM TREATMENT AND DEMAND GENERATION FOR TREATMENT)

Several mitigation measures have been put in place to avoid the spread of COVID-19. In March 2020, when the first cases were diagnosed in Mozambique, MISAU reduced attendance frequency of CU5 and PLW with acute malnutrition at health facility level, to shield them from infection. For the continuity of services MISAU developed a community strategy to both provide basic health services, including nutrition services, and address COVID-19 at community level. In order for community health workers (CHW) to resume demand generation activities, PPE and other hygiene materials were essential. CHW are starting to receive the means necessary to be fully equipped and protected to carry out the outreach activities that allow the programme to reach the most vulnerable.



WFP is providing technical support to MISAU for a COVID-19 contextualized protocol for the Management of Acute Malnutrition at health facility level, and the strengthening of Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM). In addition, WFP is supporting:

- updates to the national inventory of nutrition therapeutic and supplemental supplies for the COVID-19 response for rest of 2020;
- communication materials on nutrition in the context of COVID-19, such as key infant and young child feeding (IYCF) messages;
- drafting the Nutrition Response Plan for COVID-19;
- constructing 'tip-taps' and providing soap bars in the communities where the PRN programme is being supported by WFP to ensure a safe environment for beneficiaries and reduce risk of COVID-19 transmission
- quantifying PPE and hygiene items needed for nutrition services, including at community level, and integrating needs in the COVID-19 health procurement plan of MISAU;
- strengthening the COVID-19 Social Protection programme and Agriculture response plan for improved nutrition;
- defining key messages for mother, infant and young child nutrition (MIYCN) in the context of COVID-19, and dissemination through mobile media, community engagement and radio.

WFP is also working with the Secretariado Técnico de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional (SETSAN) to integrate nutrition-related indicators in the next food security vulnerability assessment which will be carried out remotely.

All monitoring for PRN has been conducted remotely since April, to reduce risk of COVID-19 transmission for field monitors.