The Mechanism for Addressing Nutrition Technical Issues in Humanitarian context

ASK. ESCALATE. RESOLVE. LEARN.
The issue: What is the best and most appropriate role of GNC in addressing nutrition technical issues and support?
Revisiting technical role definitions

Technical advice

“This refers to the process of providing feedback to questions from individuals working in countries in emergencies within a relatively short timeframe primarily when normative guidance exists/are available....................”

Consensus driven guidance

“This refers to the process of identifying and addressing the need for additional technical operational guidance for an emerging issue that must be addressed in order to enable a specific emergency response.......................”

Specialized technical expertise

“This refers to securing specific technical expertise that the cluster needs in order to deliver on cluster activities, which is beyond the capacity of country level resources due to either the complexity/newness of the issue or guidance or relative scarcity of the expertise....................”
Let us look at our journey.....

2015

- Decision to reassess GNC technical role

March 2015

- Save the Children US review of GNC technical role

March 2016

- Key recommendations prioritized by GNC
- Nutrition in Emergencies Technical Task Force constituted by GNC to address the key recommendations

October 2016

- NIE Technical Task Force presented to the GNC the models options & proposed definitions
- GNC agreed on a model “Model 5 Plus” and provided feedback on GNC technical role definitions

March 2017

- Model “5 Plus” endorsed by the GNC

2018 February “Going Live”

We are Here
How does the Mechanism look like?

.......Let use an example: “What is the protocol for measuring and treating adult malnutrition?”
NIE technical issue raised at county level. For example – What is the protocol for measuring and treating adult malnutrition?

Nutrition Sector coordination OR National Cluster Coordination (NCC) OR Government OR Partners

Issue raised by:

1. WHO CO
2. UNICEF CO
3. Partner CO

Resolved?

No

Issue recorded at country level

Resolved?

No

Issue recorded at RO

Resolved?

No

Issue recorded at HQ

Technical Lead Coordinator

Technical Lead Coordinator ensures links between GNC & PD

Technical Lead Coordinator escalates issue

Nutrition Technical Advisory Body in Humanitarian Contexts

Issue addressed by the TWGs and recorded & disseminated back to the requestor and to other countries for learning.
From our example; “What is the protocol on measuring and treating adult malnutrition?” remains unresolved, and has been escalated to 3, how is the Technical Body expected to address this issue?
But first, how is the Technical Body organized?

- Technical Lead Coordinator (co-hosted by UNICEF and NGO partner)
- Nutrition in Humanitarian Contexts Technical Advisory Body
  - Technical Workgroups:
    - a) Technical Advice
    - b) Operational Standard
    - c) Specialized Technical Expertise
  - GNC CT
  - GNC Members
  - Members of relevant platforms such as Micronutrient Forum, Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction, Academic & research institutions

Escalation level 2
How will the Technical Body Function?

Technical Working Groups

1. Technical Advice
   - Support in implementing existing guidance
   - Develop SOP for addressing NIE questions whose guidance exists
   - Address NIE technical questions
   - Establish mechanism for tracking NIE technical issues

2. Operational Standard Setting
   - Support the development of guidance
   - Identify & prioritize NIE guidance gaps
   - Identify & prioritize knowledge gaps
   - Advocate for evidence generation to inform guidance development
   - Link with WHO/FAO & other sectors to Develop interim guidance and contribute to normative standard evidence base based on processes in an SOP

3. Specialized Technical Expertise
   - Support increase the quantity and quality of staff and institutions in NIE
   - Support in updating NIE competencies
   - Identify additional opportunities & innovations to increase institutional and human capacity in NIE
   - Facilitate linkages to access specialized technical expertise for NIE

Protocol for measuring & treating adult malnutrition would be addressed under this TWG
Possible actions by the "Operational Standard Setting TWG" on, "What is the protocol for measuring and treating adult malnutrition?"

Operational guidance/protocol on measuring and treating adult malnutrition

- Work with normative agencies to develop operational interim guidance for countries
- Initiate process for updating/establishing normative guidance

Dissemination, documentation of guidance use & lessons learnt

Support the development of guidance

Operational Standard Setting

1. Identify & prioritize NIE guidance gaps
2. Identify & prioritize knowledge gaps
3. Advocate for evidence generation to inform guidance development
4. Link with WHO/FAO & other sectors to Develop interim guidance and contribute to normative standard evidence based on processes
With the Mechanism......

We hope to move from here

To here

ASK. ESCALATE. RESOLVE. LEARN.
What are the next steps.....

2018 February
“Going Live”
Key Actions: Now to “Going Live”

**Mobilize**
- Consultation & finalize the mechanism
- Develop tracking & documentation system
- Develop SOPs/principles
- Communication materials on model & dissemination
- Orientation of stakeholders
- Establish Tech Body membership parameters & constitute first TWG
- Establish NGO Co-Lead
- Establish TLC Functions

**Ramp-up**
- Resource Mobilization
- Content Issues
- Operational Issues

**Maintain**
- Resource Needed
- Resource Identified
### Key Milestones: Now to “Going Live”

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**KEY MILESTONES**

- NGO CO-lead identified
- TWG leads identified
- SOPs / communication materials developed
- Orientation of stakeholders undertaken
- First TGW established issues
- Priority tech issues identified
- Establish tracking system
- Launch
Technical Task Force Members

**Co chairs**
Diane Holland, UNICEF  
Leisel Talley, CDC  
Ruth Situma, UNICEF

and

- Colleen Emory, World Vision
- Megan Gayford - Save UK
  - Erin Boyd, OFDA
- Danka Pantchova, ACF
- Nicolas Joannic, WFP
  - Andi Kendle, IMC
- Juma Khudonazarov, Helpage
  - Jose Luis Alvarez, ACF UK
- Anne Dominique Israel, ACF France
  - Caroline Wilkinson, UNHCR
  - Julie Tanaka, Samaritan’s Purse
GROUP WORK