

Technical Support and Information Initiatives on Acute Malnutrition

Collaborating to improve the management of acute malnutrition worldwide

This document summarises currently available and freely accessible technical support and information initiatives related to acute malnutrition. The list is not exhaustive and will be updated quarterly. If you have further suggestions or comments, please contact cmmforum@gmail.com.





Initiative	Focus Partnership	Overall objective	Services and/or activities	Publication, discussion forum or helpdesk with website link for access or sign-up [Availability in languages other than English]
CMAM Forum	Information sharing on acute malnutrition. Steering committee of 20 people from United Nations (UN) agencies, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), academic institutions and ministries of health (MOHs). www.cmamforum.org	Support scale-up of quality interventions for the management of acute malnutrition by sharing of information and collating of technical guidance, evidence and learning from the wider nutrition and health community.	 Online library of resources on the prevention and management of acute malnutrition, including policy documents, reviews, workshop reports, guidelines, case studies, training materials, e-learning, audio-visual materials, advocacy resources, classified by theme and by country. Technical summaries of current thinking on priority themes relating to acute malnutrition. Summary updates of new resources, technical support initiatives, key documents and ongoing research projects (and identified research needs). Interactive information sharing with options for submitting documents to the library or requesting information from a helpdesk. Country case studies and global surveys synthesising learning on effective ways to disseminate acute malnutrition-related resources. Website area for country-specific fora or task forces. Members messaging system linking actors involved in management of acute malnutrition. 	e-Library [French]: http://cmamforum.org/resources Technical summaries and updates [French]: http://www.cmamforum.org/briefs Monthly Resource Updates: http://www.cmamforum.org/briefs#GlobalUpdate Sign-up: http://www.cmamforum.org/Account/Create Helpdesk [French]: cmamforum@gmail.com Discussion fora or task forces [French]: Access on request
Coverage Monitoring Network (CMN)	Technical expertise on access to and coverage of management of acute malnutrition. Consortium. www.coverage-monitoring.org	Improve nutrition programmes by promoting quality and coverage assessment tools, capacity building and information sharing.	 Technical support for the design, implementation and analysis of assessments of coverage of management of severe acute malnutrition for individual agencies or interagency initiatives; Support can be direct (on the job, in the field) or indirect (remote) depending on programme needs and skill levels. Documentation on coverage, improving coverage and exploring trends in coverage assessments. 	Technical, project and practical documents [French]: http://www.coverage-monitoring.org/resources Coverage reports repository: http://www.coverage-monitoring.org/useful-reports/pre-cmn



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Centre for Research on the Epidemiology of Disasters (CRED)	Research and training on public health and epidemiology in disaster and conflict settings. Research centre at the University of Louvain. www.cred.be	Conduct research on the health impact of natural disasters and conflicts to improve preparedness and humanitarian response; train current and future health staff, decision makers and practitioners in technical response to disasters; and maintain a database for monitoring the health status of conflict-affected populations and for the production of trend analyses, impact briefings and policy recommendations.	The Complex Emergency Database (CEDAT) is an international initiative that monitors and evaluates the health status of populations affected by complex emergencies through a database of mortality and nutrition surveys. It was launched within the SMART initiative in 2000 and contains over 3,000 surveys serving as a unique source of nutrition, mortality and vaccination coverage data. The OFDA/CRED International Disaster Database (EMDAT) is a global database on natural and technological disasters that contains essential core data on the occurrence and impact of over 18,000 disasters worldwide from 1900 to present. Publications: reports, annual statistical review, books and peer-reviews papers. Newsletter: CEDAT Spotlight, CRED Crunch.	CEDAT database and CEDAT Spotlight: www.cedat.be EMDAT: www.emdat.be Publications: www.cred.be/publications
Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN)	Nutrition and other relevant sectors in emergencies and high burden contexts. International network of UN agencies, NGOs, government, academics and individual practitioners and researchers - Steering committees for research programmes. www.ennonline.net	Capture and disseminate experience and research on nutrition-related programming to strengthen evidence regarding effective nutrition interventions and support use of this evidence to inform policy and programming.	 Online library of resources on specific thematic areas of nutrition. Research and reviews: Policy and programme review and operations research related to acute malnutrition and developing training material. Publications (print and e-version). EN-net: Free and open resource discussion forum helping practitioners to access prompt technical advice on operational challenges, supported by technical experts, and moderated by the ENN. Thematic areas include, e.g., prevention and treatment of severe and moderate acute malnutrition, coverage assessment, urban programming, assessment, infant and young child feeding, training, and job vacancies. 	e-Library: http://www.ennonline.net/library EN-Net: http://www.en-net.org.uk Sign-up: http://www.cmamforum.org/Account/Create ENN meeting reports: http://www.ennonline.net/publications/ennreports Tri-annual Field Exchange (FEX) magazine on technical programme experience, operations research findings and news on nutrition and related programming, with annual thematic issue: http://www.ennonline.net/fex. Sign-up: http://www.ennonline.net/fex/subscribe Annual Nutrition Exchange (NEX) magazine summarising programme experiences and operations research from countries addressing undernutrition [French, Arabic]: http://www.ennonline.net/nutritionexchange. Sign-up: http://www.ennonline.net/nutritionexchange/subscribe



CMAM Forum Technical Support and Information Initiatives on Acute Malnutrition (Cont'd)

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Food and Nutrition Technical	Nutrition, food security and livelihoods. USAID-funded project managed by FHI 360. www.fantaproject.org	Improve the health and well-being of vulnerable groups through technical support in the areas of maternal and child health and nutrition in development and emergency contexts, HIV and other infectious diseases, food security and livelihoods strengthening, agriculture and nutrition linkages and emergency assistance in nutrition crises.	 Publications searchable by focus area (maternal and child health and nutrition, nutrition and infectious diseases, nutrition in emergencies and management of acute malnutrition, food security, and agriculture and nutrition linkages) and country, in English and (depending on country of origin) French, Portuguese, and Spanish. Tools for costing, coverage surveys, training, anthropometric measurement, and advocacy. Technical assistance to governments and nutrition actors. Research where evidence is missing. 	Publications [Other languages]: http://www.fantaproject.org/publications Tools for management of acute malnutrition [French]: http://www.fantaproject.org/tools Quarterly Email Updates. Sign-up: http://www.fantaproject.org/sign-up-for-email-updates
IASC Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC)	Nutrition in emergencies. Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) of key UN and non-UN humanitarian nutrition partners. www.unicef.org/nutritioncluster	Safeguard and improve the nutritional status of emergency affected populations by ensuring an appropriate response that is predictable, timely and effective ad at scale.	 Partnership, communication, advocacy and resource mobilisation. Capacity development in humanitarian coordination. Operational and surge support to country clusters. Information and knowledge management. 	Tools, resources and guidance on nutrition in emergencies: http://www.unicef.org/nutritioncluster/index_tools.html Training packages [Coordination package in French]: http://www.unicef.org/nutritioncluster/index_training .html Emergency nutrition response evaluations, reviews and lessons learned [Some in French]: http://www.unicef.org/nutritioncluster/index_evaluations .html Country nutrition cluster websites: Access pending Humanitarian Response Indicator Registry - Nutrition indicator databank: https://ir.humanitarianresponse.info/indicators/cluster/nutrition



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International Malnutrition Task Force (IMTF)	Severe acute malnutrition. Inter-agency advisory and advocacy group. www.imtf.org	Build capacity and provide technical support to improve treatment and prevention of malnutrition.	 Training and capacity building of health professionals and nutritionists to improve case detection and integrated management of acute malnutrition within routine health systems. Technical advice to international agencies, organisations, individuals and governments on, e.g., treatment guidelines and integration of malnutrition into other health and nutrition initiatives. Hosting and managing technical meetings. Interactive e-learning course. Website with resources, training materials, job aids, news and events, research articles, policy documents, FAQs. 	Training tools and resources: http://www.imtf.org/page/resources/training e-Learning course 'Caring for infants and children with acute malnutrition': https://www.som.soton.ac.uk/learn/test/nutrition/ courses/courselist/course3.asp?courseid=3
Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (SMART)	Assessment of nutritional status. IASC partners. www.smartmethodology.org	Share field survey methods for nutrition, mortality and household food security assessments; provide reliable information for multi-partner, systematised decision-making; and establish shared nutrition monitoring and evaluation systems and resources for governments and humanitarian or development organisations.	 Global and regional (East Africa) coordination mechanisms with GNC partners. Technical Working Group (bi-annual meeting) on technical issues around the methodology open to agency focal points for SMART. Essential Survey Service to improve the response capacity of organisations implicated in nutrition surveys through collaboration and coordination with the GNC and partners with technical experts who can be deployed to provide technical support to SMART surveys. Capacity Building for SMART in-country survey manager and master trainer training in collaboration with GNC partners and governments. 	Capacity Building Toolbox to prepare survey managers and field teams with the knowledge and skills to carry out a SMART survey, including SMART methodology manual and videos, standardized training package, Emergency Nutrition Assessment (ENA) software [French]: http://www.smartmethodology.org/index.php/article/index/capacity_building_toolbox Quarterly Newsletter [French]. Sign-up: info@smartmethodology.org Online Technical Forum: http://www.smartmethodology.org/index.php/forum_category/



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UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN)	Food and nutrition security knowledge sharing of the UN nutrition system. FAO, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, WHO; and IFAD, IAEA, and Bioversity International.	Provide a platform for interagency collaboration and harmonization of UN actions in nutrition, and engage the broader UN system and non-UN partners to further harmonize actions, maximize gains and minimize negative impacts of actions on nutrition.	 Overview of UN agency resources and support actions for the prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition. Meetings with multiple stakeholders for harmonization of actions (on request). Resources and Publications related to nutrition specific actions and nutrition sensitive approaches: UNSCN News, Newsletter. Community of Practice (CoP)(e.g., Agriculture-Nutrition CoP: Group discussions have led to a set of key recommendations for improving nutrition through agriculture addressing programmatic issues of nutrition sensitive development for combating acute malnutrition). Updates on the technical discussions in the UN Network for Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) (e.g., workshop on costing and tracking investments in support of SUN, which includes the prevention and management of acute malnutrition). 	Food and nutrition resource portal: http://www.unscn.org/en/resource-portal Nutrition in emergencies repository: http://www.unscn.org/en/resource_portal/nutrition_in _emergencies_repository.php IASC GNC Harmonized Training Package (HTP): http://www.unscn.org/en/gnc_htp UNSCN News (bi-annual), and UNSCN Newsletter (monthly). Sign-up: http://www.unscn.org/en/publications/publications- mailing-lists/mailing-lists.php Community of practice: http://www.unscn.org/en/nut-working/agriculture- nutrition-cop/join-the-group.php Latest updates on SUN: http://www.unscn.org/en/sun_un_network
UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)	Promotion of nutritionally adequate diets for all people. www.fao.org	Support national efforts that address and prevent all forms of undernutrition through mainstreaming nutrition in national food and agriculture policies, strengthening food and dietary diversification, and advocating and supporting comprehensive approaches that combine short and long-term interventions linking humanitarian and development activities.	 Promotion of improved complementary feeding practices: using locally available foods, through linking nutrition education and household food security programmes. Advocacy for the inclusion of nutrition education on complementary feeding and food hygiene as part of the rehabilitation of acute malnutrition to prevent relapse. Promotion of comprehensive targeted strategies on livelihoods support (e.g., through home gardening, aquaculture, small livestock raising, and food processing) that helps diversify food sources and generate income (where and when household food insecurity is a major contributing factor to acute malnutrition). Support of long-term awareness raising activities for households and agricultural extension staff on essential connections between their choice of crops and nutritional needs and dietary practices of the family. Strengthening the capacity of humanitarian actors on integrated food security and nutrition programming that help identify opportunities for better linking treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition in the short and long-term. 	Food-based dietary guidelines: http://www.fao.org/ag/humannutrition/nutritioneducati on/49741/en Food-based dietary guidelines by country: http://www.fao.org/ag/humannutrition/nutritioneducati on/fbdg/en Nutrition education: http://www.fao.org/ag/ humannutrition/nutritioneducation/en Challenges and issues on nutrition education: http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3234e/i3234e.pdf Promoting healthy diets through nutrition education and changes in the food environment, an international review of actions and their effectiveness: http://www.fao.org/docrep/017/i3235e/i3235e.pdf



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UN Renewed Efforts Against Child Hunger & Undernutrition (REACH)	Multi-sectoral nutrition governance in countries. FAO, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), UNICEF, WFP, and WHO. www.reachpartnership.org	Facilitate multi- sectoral nutrition governance working in close support with the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) country focal point and UN country staff to foster increased awareness and consensus of stakeholders, strengthened national policies and programmes, increased human and institutional capacity, and increased effectiveness and accountability.	 Repacking national data for comprehensive and visual analysis (e.g., compilation of nutrition analysis, stakeholder and activity mapping, dashboards). Facilitating national policy and plan formulation and review. Supporting with establishment, formalisation and operationalization of multi-stakeholder, multi-sectoral nutrition coordination platforms. Supporting implementation tracking as part of National Nutrition Information Systems. Knowledge-sharing particularly stimulating cross-sectoral exchange of information and experiences (including acute malnutrition). 	Dashboard (situation analysis and coverage): Access pending Country Facilitator Manual [French]: http://www.reachpartnership.org/country-facilitator-manual Nutrition Action Guides: Access pending
UN World Food Programme (WFP)	Nutrition www.wfp.org	Provide direct technical assistance for country level programming to treat or prevent acute malnutrition	 Technical assistance in advocacy, policy and protocol development, supply chain management, programme design and implementation of programmes to treat or prevent acute malnutrition in both emergency and non-emergency settings. Human resources for technical assistance exist at headquarter, regional and country level. References and guidance available on issues related to programmes to treat or prevent acute malnutrition. 	Moderate Acute Malnutrition: A Decision Tool for Emergencies: http://www.unicef.org/nutritioncluster/files/MAM_DecisionTool_July_2012_with_Cover.pdf Programming for Nutrition-Specific Interventions: http://www.wfp.org/content/nutrition-world-food-programme-programming-nutrition-specific-interventions Managing the Supply Chain of Specialized Nutritious Foods: http://www.wfp.org/aid-professionals/blog/blog/supply-chain-guide-nutritious-food Guidelines for Selective Feeding, management of malnutrition in Emergencies: http://www.unhcr.org/4b7421fd20.pdf Mapping of treatment of MAM and prevention of acute malnutrition in WFP supported countries: Access pending



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UN World Health Organization (WHO) Nutrition Information Databases and Systems	Nutrition for health and development (A selection of what WHO does in relation to nutrition information sharing) www.who.int/nutrition	Maintain nutrition information databases and systems to which people can contribute information to help WHO gain global databases.	 e-Library of Evidence for Nutrition Actions (eLENA) is an online library of evidence-informed guidelines, recommendations and related information for an expanding list of nutrition interventions. Global Database on Body Mass Index provides both national and sub-national adult underweight, overweight and obesity prevalence rates by country, year of survey and gender. Global Database on Child Growth and Malnutrition provides available child malnutrition data and reference tables from countries based on the WHO child growth standards. Global Database on the Implementation of Nutrition Action (GINA) is providing information on the implementation of numerous nutrition policies and interventions. Global Database on Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) pools information from national and regional surveys, and studies dealing specifically with the prevalence and duration of breastfeeding and complementary feeding. Nutrition Landscape Information System (NLiS) brings together global nutrition databases as well as food and nutrition-related data from partner agencies in the form of automated country profiles and downloadable data. Vitamin and Mineral Nutrition Information System (VMNIS) strengthens surveillance of micronutrient deficiencies at the global level by assessing the micronutrient status of populations, monitoring and evaluating the impact of strategies for the prevention and control of micronutrient malnutrition, and tracking related trends over time. 	eLENA: www.who.int/elena/en [English] www.who.int/elena/fr/index.html [French] www.who.int/elena/ar/index.html [Arabic] GINA: https://extranet.who.int/nutrition/gina Global Database on BMI: http://apps.who.int/bmi/index.jsp Global Database on Child Growth and Malnutrition: http://www.who.int/nutgrowthdb/database/en Global Database on IYCF: http://www.who.int/nutrition/ databases/infantfeeding/en/index.html NLiS: http://www.who.int/nutrition/nlis/en VMNIS: http://www.who.int/vmnis/en



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United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF)	Maternal, infant and child health and nutrition; Cluster Lead Agency for nutrition FAO, UNCHR, WFP and WHO and partners at headquarter, regional and country levels; Global and national nutrition clusters www.unicef.org	Advocate for maternal, infant and child nutrition with national scale-up of nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive actions through an integrated, equity-based and multi-sectoral approach at country level which involves working across the lifecycle, from prevention to treatment, and in development to humanitarian situations (including resilience building).	 Policy dialogue and advocacy engaging with governments and partners to define and update nutrition policies and technical guidelines. Technical support and capacity development for MOHs, NGOs and other implementing partners. Evidence generation and information systems for strengthening nutrition information systems and capacity to generate and using nutrition assessment and coverage data to improve programming. Partnerships and coordination platforms, e.g., GNC, REACH, SUN, UNSCN, and their application at country level to engage across sectors and across humanitarian and development contexts. Procurement of therapeutic supplies (E.g., main procurer of Ready to Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF), therapeutic milk (F-75, F100), ReSoMal, anthropometric equipment and other essential medicines that are critical in the treatment of SAM. Procurement and distribution of micronutrient supplements, micronutrient powders, and lipid based nutrient supplements Development of communication materials related to each area of work in nutrition. 	Global nutrition website with selected UNICEF publications related to nutrition, technical, policy and advocacy publications, and external links to partners (Update planned in 2014): http://www.unicef.org/nutrition/index_4050.html Annual updated Nutrition Information: http://www.childinfo.org/nutrition.html Annual mapping of SAM admissions (planned expansion to include information on MNPs, fortification and IYCF in 2014): Access pending IYCF e-learning, a collaboration between UNICEF and Cornell University (under revision to include maternal nutrition and monitoring): http://nutritionworks.cornell.edu/UNICEF/about Nutrition in Emergencies e-learning based on the GNC Harmonized Training Package: http://www.unicef.org/nutrition/training
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Improve the food security and nutrition situation of refugees, and reduce the prevalence of undernutrition amongst refugees. UNICEF and WFP at headquarter, regional and country levels.	Prevent undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies through ensuring access to adequate foods, and promoting adequate IYCF and care practices; manage acute malnutrition in refugee settings using the principles of CMAM; and provide up-to-date food security and nutrition information and analysis.	 Global roles and responsibilities in refugee situations defined through memoranda of understanding between WFP-UNHCR, UNICEF-UNHCR, and NGOs-UNHCR in implementation of activities. Effective co-ordination amongst partners in refugee nutrition. Access to adequate foods where relevant through food assistance programmes, blanket supplementary feeding, micronutrient supplementation and food security activities. Promotion of adequate IYCF and care practices. Management of acute malnutrition according to global and national CMAM guidelines. Provision of up-to-date food security and nutrition information and analysis (to enable appropriate and needs-based programming and preparedness), through Standardised Expanded Nutrition Survey (SENS) and twine (online platform to manage and analyse public health data collected in refugee operations). 	Nutrition website: http://www.unhcr.org/pages/49c3646cec.html Guidelines for Selective Feeding in Emergencies: http://www.unhcr.org/4b7421fd20.pdf Operational Guidance for the Prevention of Micronutrient Deficiencies and Malnutrition: http://www.unhcr.org/pages/52176e236.html SENS - Nutrition Survey Guidelines: http://sens.unhcr.org TWINE - Health and Nutrition Information: http://twine.unhcr.org/app Joint Assessment Mission Practical Guidelines: http://www.unhcr.org/521612d09.html Policy related to the acceptance, distribution and use of milk products in refugee settings: http://www.unhcr.org/4507f7842.html Standard Operating Procedures for the use of Breast Milk Substitutes in refugee situations: Access pending