Working in partnership

The Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC) is a partnership that includes international NGOs, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, UN organizations, donors and individuals and is based around the principles of equality, transparency, responsibility and complementarity.

There are three levels of engagement within the GNC with the following groups: partners, observers and the Nutrition Cluster Coordinator Team at country level. The GNC also has a Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) that provides strategic guidance to the GNC Coordination Team and the GNC. Additionally, specific task forces are established when needed to work on specific tasks or to guide and support the implementation of the Work Plan.

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GNC vision

The Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC) was established in 2006 as part of the Humanitarian Reform process, which aimed to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response programmes by ensuring greater predictability, accountability and partnership.

The vision of the GNC is to safeguard and improve the nutritional status of emergency affected populations by ensuring an appropriate response that is predictable, timely and effective and at scale.

Operating in major emergencies

The GNC works with national clusters in both sudden onset disasters, whether natural or human causes, and protracted crises.

Effective coordination is only possible through close cooperation with partner organizations. The GNC provides guidance and tools for country level that supports response that is timely, predictable, effective and at scale.

The GNC supports country coordination in strategic decision-making, planning and strategy development, capacity building on coordination and information and knowledge management, advocacy, monitoring and reporting, and contingency planning/preparedness.

GNC Strategic Priorities

Strategic Pillar 1: Partnership, communication, advocacy and resource mobilization

This involves fostering internal (among GNC partners) and external (GNC to other clusters, agencies, institutions) partnerships; communicating essential information to all relevant stakeholders at global and country level in a timely fashion; and advocating with key decision makers to ensure policies, coordination and funding mechanisms enable an efficient cluster response.

Strategic Pillar 2: Capacity development in humanitarian coordination

This involves identifying specific capacity gaps hampering optimal cluster coordination, particularly at the country level; identifying and/or developing tools and resources to address those gaps; and training key staff (Nutrition Cluster Coordinators (NCCs), Information Managers, standby partners and GNC partners) in the relevant knowledge and skills required.

Strategic Pillar 3: Operational Surge Support to country clusters

This includes ensuring predictable support to country clusters in order to effectively provide coordination functions on the ground. The support to country clusters included visits and/or the provision of additional staff (i.e. Rapid Response Team (RRT) members or standby partners), supporting countries in the filling a gap through other internal CLA surges mechanisms such as the secondment through Standby Partners, supporting recruitment processes of longer term IMOs and NCCs.

Strategic Pillar 4: Information and knowledge management.

This includes managing appropriate nutrition response and coordination information and the capturing, developing, sharing and using relevant knowledge and experiences. This pillar will also focus on building the capacity of NCCs and IMOs to document and share experiences and learning.

For more information on the GNC Strategy and the Work Plan, please visit the GNC website: http://nutritioncluster.net/what-we-do/strategic-plan/.