SAVING CHILDREN’S LIVES IN HUMANITARIAN CONTEXTS: INFANT AND YOUNG CHILD FEEDING IN EMERGENCIES (IYCF-E)

Building Capacity and guiding response

WHY?

During emergencies it is the youngest children who are the most vulnerable. Risks associated with malnutrition, disease, and deaths of children increase during emergencies. Child mortality can soar up to 70 times higher than average. Protecting, promoting and supporting breastfeeding and complementary feeding practices is imperative if we want to prevent illness and deaths during an emergency. To do so, capacities, tools and guidance are needed.

WHO?

Save the Children (SC) has been on the forefront in ensuring IYCF in emergencies (IYCF-E) is a core component of any health and nutrition response. In recent years and based on experience in responding to emergencies, SC has documented learning and good practices, and developed relevant tools and resources to benefit the collective in the effort to improve the quality and scale of IYCF-E interventions.

WHAT?

SC has worked towards creating tools, guidance and resources to strengthen the capacity of the collective to deliver quality IYCF-E programming.

The 5 day IYCF-E curriculum:

Based on recent evidence, aligned with international recommendations and informed by documented best practices, the training develops capacity in health and nutrition managers to design IYCF-E responses that meet the needs of the affected population.

The IYCF-E tool kit:

Version 3 of the toolkit an open source resource that contains a compilation of key guidance, tools and materials, and documented good practices to be used as a resource for all IYCF-E program managers and other emergency responders.

The IYCF-E project monitoring and evaluation system:

An on-going effort, that aims at having a simple and standardised set of programme indicators and tools that will help monitor and track progress of IYCF-E programming in a specific context (coming soon in 2019).

WHERE?

The goal is for the guidance, tools and resources to be available and utilised in all contexts (low, middle and high income countries), to reaffirm IYCF-E is a universal intervention.

ACTIONS TO DATE:

A total of 193 participants from at least 20 COUNTRIES have been trained using the IYCF-E training materials.

The IYCF-E tool kit is now an open access resource accessible at: bit.ly/IYCF-E toolkit.

86% of the participants to the training have used the IYCF-E tool kit.

Use of the IYCF-E Toolkit post-training

Imputed and (last 3 months post-training)

- Yes – I have used the Toolkit
- No – I have not used the toolkit

14% participants reported use of IYCF-E Toolkit

- Program monitoring and supervision resources
- BMS Management guidance
- Assessment guidance

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