

## **TOR : GNC Climate Crisis Working Group (version 2: June 2024)**

### **Background information**

Following the launch of the GNC's 2022-2025 Strategy, climate was recognized as a cross-cutting theme<sup>1</sup> requiring additional technical support for country nutrition clusters/sectors. In response, the GNC TST Climate Change workstream was launched in April 2022 and formalised in December 2022, with foundational members including the GNC CT, GNC TST, UNICEF, WFP and Action Against Hunger Canada. The group's first action was to gather GNC partners' views on climate crisis issues and gauge interest in a climate change dialogue through an online survey conducted in October 2022. Results from 37 respondents and the initial focus of the Working Group were presented at the GNC Annual Meeting in January 2023.<sup>2</sup> By September 2023, it was agreed to formalize the workstream as a GNC cross-cutting working group within the evolving context of the GNC Technical Alliance.

Since then, the Working Group has provided an important platform for exchange of ideas, including a webinar on the implications of the COP28 for nutrition in emergencies practitioners. The Working Group is also leading actions to further define the GNC's NIE and climate approach. One area included technical oversight in a scoping in Jan-June 2024 to support the GNC in further defining its NIE and climate crisis approach to inform the GNC's next strategy and the Working Group's workplan. The Working Group name was updated to reflect the NIE and climate crisis focus.

This document clarifies the scope, objectives and ways of working of the GNC Climate Crisis Working Group. This document complements annual workplans.

### **Objectives of the GNC Climate Crisis Working Group:**

- 1) Raise awareness on the climate crisis and nutrition nexus of GNC partners and the wider humanitarian community;
- 2) Stimulate technical collaboration, knowledge exchange and sharing of evidence and experience, to support translation into programming and coordination actions to support country-led action for NIE in the climate crisis;
- 3) Identify current gaps, and develop guidance as relevant by mobilizing appropriate resources including expertise and financial support;
- 4) Liaise with existing climate-related initiatives – including within the IASC Cluster System – and identify opportunities for collaborations and joint work;
- 5) Update the GNC including its partners on achievements, lessons learned and challenges faced by the Climate working group in implementing its workplan.

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<sup>1</sup> Localisation, gender, disability, accountability to affected populations and humanitarian development nexus.

<sup>2</sup> [TST Retreat Climate Change Poster GNC Annual Meeting.pdf \(nutritioncluster.net\)](#)

## Scope of work for the GNC Climate working group

The working group has identified four focus areas to guide discussions and strategize around the climate crisis and NIE issues:

1. NIE climate crisis lens in current approaches for nutrition risk analysis, preparedness and anticipatory actions: With the increasing number of emergencies linked to extreme weather events, seasonality shifts, and subsequent displacements, the GNC prioritizes proactive risk management and preparedness approaches. This area focuses on explicitly considering how the climate crisis alters disaster risk and nutrition profiles, addressing these risks with existing tools and approaches to ensure continuity of services. Anticipatory Action is a key approach representing a shift towards more proactive disaster management in response to the changing dynamics of climate risks.
2. Climate-adapted NIE: This area addresses additional climate crisis-related risks and vulnerabilities that cannot be managed through current approaches, potentially requiring changes, expansions, or new methods, guidance, tools, or ways of working. The GNC prioritizes exploring approaches to support healthy, sustainable diets in preventing and treating all forms of malnutrition and functional care pathways that consider gender, environmental, and climate impacts.
3. Climate and environmental justice, anti-oppression, and localisation: This area expands on the GNC's principled approach to NIE and the climate crisis and cuts across other focus areas. These aspects inform the way in which the GNC develops and delivers on its NIE work in the context of the climate crisis through a restorative process by which disproportionate impacts of the climate crisis and its impacts on the nutrition status of individuals are addressed, and not further exacerbated, by the GNC. This area aims to foster broad-based engagement in shaping its NIE and climate crisis work, recognizing the importance of decentralized and local inputs in crafting effective NIE action for the climate crisis. These aspects are in line with the GNC Localisation Roadmap and the IPCC stance on equity and inclusion.
4. NIE climate and environmental impact mitigation: This area involves updating NIE approaches to mitigate negative climate and environmental impacts by the nutrition cluster/sector. It includes better impact analysis and continued exploration of adaptations in nutrition supply recipes, packaging, and localization of supply chains to reduce environmental impact.

### Criteria for membership:

The Working Group is comprised of regular members who participate in developing the workplan and leading/contributing to work plans. To have continuity and momentum, members are requested to participate for a minimum of one year.

Participation is open to members of the GNC ecosystem (GNC CT, GNC Programming Team, GNC global partner agencies), research institute and academia, donors, representatives from national governments, national and international organisations, individuals under the following criteria:

- have clear/demonstrated interest on the climate crisis and NIE agenda (expertise; current projects/initiatives);
- are committed to contributing to the objectives of the working group and taking an active part in the implementation of the Working Group's workplan.

The Working Group will also welcome participation of climate experts to create a space where climate and nutrition experts can exchange and jointly identify issues, opportunities and solutions to take forward nutrition programming in the face of the climate crisis.

The Working Group will also seek additional climate and nutrition expertise to support specific deliverables as per workplan, through its technical resource network.

### Ways of working:

#### Anticipated time commitment

- Members can anticipate 1.5 hours per month for email communication and the monthly meeting.
- Additional time may be required for participation in specific workplan activities that the member opts into.
- Members may be requested for additional input on time sensitive or strategic decisions, identified by the chair and co-chair.

#### Meetings and communication

- The working group meets monthly through a virtual meeting on Teams. Minutes are circulated.
- The Working Group shares information externally on its website (to be developed 2024), and internally to support timely access to materials.

#### Implications of localisation and a principled approach

- The GNC supports a principled, rather than prescriptive approach, to address NIE in the climate crisis through its action at country, regional and global levels. For the Working Group, this includes intentional action to engage local perspectives through i) inclusion of country level voices in the Working Group membership and ii) inclusion of country level voices in Task Teams to support development of Working Group deliverables.

#### Workplanning

- Members of the working group develop and update a 12-24 month workplan for the working group – outlining activities, timeframe, responsible members, etc. The workplan is to be reviewed annually.
- Members of the Working Group self-select to lead on workplan activities, with support of the chair and co-chair in leveraging GNC human resources to deliver on the activities (e.g. call for additional expertise across GNC partner agencies and across country clusters).
- The chair and co-chair liaise with the GNC CT, GNC Programme Team and GNC OMG to support alignment of the Working Group workplan with climate crisis activities across the GNC, including GTWGs and CCWGs.

#### Chairing:

- Chair and co-chairs are identified on a voluntary basis for a period of 6 months, renewable up to a maximum of 24 months.
- Chair and co-chair should come from different types of organisations (i.e. UN, International NGO, Local NGO, academia, others).
- The chair and co-chairs liaise with the GNC CT and GNC Programme Team to support alignment across the GNC on climate crisis related work.
- Chair and co-chair report on Working Group progress to the GNC.