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Zambia Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) 2021 National Conference

**“Sustaining stunting reduction through
creating an enabling environment for
nutrition programmes”**

27-29 April 2021

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REPORT:

Zambia Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) 2021 National Conference

“Sustaining stunting reduction through creating an enabling environment for nutrition programmes”

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Submitted by:

Khulisa Management Services, Inc.
4550 Montgomery Avenue, Suite 220
Bethesda, MD 20814, USA
Tel: +1 (301) 951-1835

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Prepared by:

John Manda, Learning and Dissemination Advisor, SUN LE
Mathews Onyango, Chief of Party, SUN LE
Patricia Sakala, Strategic Information Expert, SUN LE

Cover Photo credit: Group photo of Panel Discussants from line Ministries during the National Conference in Lusaka

DISCLAIMER: The authors' views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	Background	1
2	Purpose and Objectives of the 2021 National Conference.....	1
3	Planning the 2021 National Conference.....	2
4	Implementation of the 2021 National Conference.....	2
4.1	Conference Date, Venue, and General Structure.....	2
4.2	Day 1 Proceedings.....	3
4.2.1	Official Opening	3
4.2.2	Presentation of Performance Assessment and CFRS Findings.....	5
4.2.3	Plenary Question and Answer Session.....	7
4.2.4	Panel Discussion	7
4.3	Day 2 Proceedings.....	9
4.3.1	Ministry of Agriculture Breakout Session.....	9
4.3.2	Ministry of Health Breakout Session	11
4.3.3	Ministry of General Education (MOGE)	13
4.3.4	Ministry of Community Development & Social Services (MCDSS).....	15
4.3.5	Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock.....	17
4.3.6	Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection.....	18
4.4	Day 3 Proceedings.....	21
4.4.1	Presentations of Innovations, Lessons Learnt, Best Practices, and Studies Conducted under MCDP II.....	21
4.4.2	Closing Remarks	27
4.5	Participants.....	28
5	Conference Evaluation	29
6	Lessons Learnt/Good Practices	31
7	Next Steps	31

FIGURES

Figure 1. Mr Musonda Mofu. Acting Executive Director, NFNC, delivering the opening speech	3
Figure 2. Joseph Hirsch, USAID Zambia, addressing the national conference	4
Figure 3. Julia Kirya, GIZ Programme Coordinator, delivering a speech on behalf of GIZ's Country Coordinator	4
Figure 4. Ms. Silke Seco delivering a speech on behalf of the FCDO, EU, SIDA, and KFW partnership conference1000 MCDP II.....	5
Figure 5. Performance Assessment Focus Areas.....	6
Figure 6. Panel discussion during the national conference.....	8
Figure 7. In-person participants deliberating the proceedings of the agriculture sector breakout session.....	10
Figure 8: In-person participants deliberating the proceedings of the health sector breakout session	12
Figure 9: In-person participants deliberating the proceedings in the education sector breakout session	14
Figure 10. In-person participants deliberating the proceedings in the MCDSS breakout session	16
Figure 11. Physical participants deliberating proceedings in the WASH breakout session.....	19
Figure 12. Saskia de Pee and Zuzanna Turowska delivering the Filling the Nutrition Gap presentation	21
Figure 13. Mubanga Chilufya delivering a presentation on the use of mobile phones to implement SBCC interventions.....	22
Figure 14. Interactive dashboards and the NFNC website presented by Mr Boniface Kanjere.....	23
Figure 15. Dr Rhoda Mofya delivering the COVID-19 study findings.....	24
Figure 16. Miss Martha from Ndola DNCC delivering a presentation at the conference	26
Figure 17. Mr Freddie Mubanga, Head of Research and Planning, NFNC, delivering closing remarks	27
Figure 18. Participants who stated that the studies provided new or validated existing knowledge, by study..	29
Figure 19. Feedback on satisfaction of participants with SUN LE products and likelihood of using the findings	30

TABLES

Table 1. Organisation of the conference.....	2
Table 2. RPA Sample.....	6
Table 3. Summary of the panel discussion per domain.....	8
Table 4. Number of participants in the agriculture breakout session	9
Table 5. Ministry of Agriculture breakout session highlights	10
Table 6. Number of participants in the health breakout session.....	12
Table 7. Ministry of Health breakout session highlights.....	12
Table 8. Number of participants in the education breakout session	14
Table 9: Ministry of Education breakout session highlights.....	14
Table 10. Number of participants in the community development and social services breakout session	15
Table 11: Ministry of Community Development and Social Services breakout session highlights	16
Table 12. Number of participants in the fisheries and livestock breakout session	17
Table 13: Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock breakout session highlights.....	18
Table 14. Number of participants in the WASH breakout session	19
Table 15: WASH breakout session highlights	19
Table 16. Number of conference participants by day and mode of participation	28

ACRONYMS

ANC	Antenatal Care
CLTS	Community-Led Total Sanitation
CFRS	Community and Facility Readiness Survey
CSO-SUN	Civil Society Organizations – Scaling Up Nutrition
ENA	Essential Nutrition Action
FANSER	Food and Nutrition Security, Enhanced Resilience
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (in English: German Society for International Cooperation)
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IAPRI	Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute
IYCF	Infant and Young Child Feeding
MC	Master of Ceremonies
MCDP	Most Critical Days Programme
MCDSS	Ministry of Community Development and Social Services
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MOH	Ministry of Health
MWDSEP	Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation, and Environmental Protection
NFNC	National Food and Nutrition Commission
SBCC	Social Behaviour Change Communication
SNV	SNV Netherlands Development Organisation
SUN	Scaling Up Nutrition
SUN LE	Scaling Up Nutrition Learning and Evaluation
SUN TA	Scaling Up Nutrition Technical Assistance
UNC	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

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This conference was made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), which provided both financial and technical support to the success of the conference.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC) for coordinating the planning and the execution of the conference. We are also grateful to the Conference Planning Committee for its commitment and dedication to ensuring that every aspect of the conference was meticulously planned, and that conference materials were designed and delivered in a timely manner (see names in Annex 1).

Special acknowledgement goes to the event planner, Ms Victoria Sinkala's Blackpepper Events, and her team for coordinating with different subcommittees and vendors and ensuring that the conference planning and execution were successful.

Our deepest thanks go to the conference moderators, Dr Chiza Midenda and Maureen Chitundu, for professionally managing the proceedings of the conference, keeping the participants attentive, and ensuring their active participation.

1 BACKGROUND

Zambia's Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) 2021 National Nutrition Conference was organised by the USAID- funded Scaling Up Nutrition Learning and Evaluation (SUN LE) project in collaboration with the National Food and Nutrition Commission (NFNC). The conference was conducted as part of SUN LE's wider support to facilitate learning for the Government of the Republic of Zambia's (GRZ) SUN programme, supporting partners, and stakeholders.

The SUN program aims to reduce stunting among children under 2 years in Zambia. The programme is implemented by 7 line ministries (Box 1) in selected priority districts, and is technically and financially supported by a wide range of development partners. SUN LE supports the SUN programme with survey, research, evaluation, and dissemination services. Through these services, SUN LE aims to support the improvement of SUN implementation processes, adaptive and participatory management, and knowledge systems.

SUN LE is implemented by Khulisa Management Services, Inc. (Khulisa) in collaboration with three institutional partners – Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI), ICF, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC). SUN LE's four objectives are presented in Box 2.

As part of collaborative learning and adaptation, SUN LE supports the NFNC to undertake annual national conferences to share data and information relevant to the SUN programme generated during the year (such as baseline surveys, focused studies, and performance audits and assessments). National conferences are also platforms for sharing innovations, emerging best practices, or lessons learned from implementing SUN 2.0 interventions.

2 PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The overall purpose of the 2021 National Nutrition Conference was to disseminate the findings of studies and assessments, and to provide a forum for national-level stakeholders to engage around the SUN 2.0/Most Critical Days Programme (MCDP) II programme interventions, strategy, and innovations.

Specific objectives of the 2021 National Nutrition Conference were to share the following:

Results of SUN LE supported studies and assessments, namely:

- The 2020 Readiness and Performance Assessment (RPA) of the SUN 2.0/MCDP II

Box 1. GRZ Ministries implementing SUN 2.0

1. Ministry of General Education (MOGE)
2. Ministry of Health (MOH)
3. Ministry of Agriculture (MOA)
4. Ministry of Community Development and Social Services (MCDSS)
5. Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock (MFL)
6. Ministry of Local Government (MLG)
7. Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection (MWDSEP)

Box 2. SUN LE Objectives

Build a SUN 2.0 evidence base for programme and policy decisions through conducting high-quality:

1. Baseline, midline, and endline surveys
2. Focused studies
3. Biennial performance audits

Facilitate individual and organisational capacity to use data through:

4. Creating a culture of learning and adaptive management under SUN 2.0

- The Community and Facility Readiness to Implement Multi-sectoral Maternal and Child Nutrition Interventions (CFRS): An assessment of community service delivery points and health facilities (Focused Study # 2) – preliminary results
- Monitoring the Impact of COVID-19 on Household Food Security and Nutrition in Zambia (Focused Study #4) – preliminary results

Information and data pertinent to the implementation of the SUN programme, such as emerging best practices or new innovations

Experiences from selected districts on how they used the SUN II baseline survey results and other data during planning and programme decision-making

3 PLANNING THE 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

To ensure a successful conference with input from key stakeholders, NFNC constituted a planning committee with specific TORs (Annex 1) to coordinate and lead conference planning. The planning committee held several meetings during which they reviewed and finalised the conference scope of work, developed conference materials, and followed through with various activities leading up to the successful implementation of the conference. The committee was composed of staff from the 6 line ministries, civil society organizations, and SUN implementing partners (detailed in Annex 1).

National Conference Theme

The 2021 national conference was held under the theme : “Sustaining stunting reduction through creating an enabling environment for nutrition programmes.” The conference planning committee decided on this theme to reflect the GRZ SUN programme’s objective to implement evidence-driven interventions and commitment to learn and adapt based on evidence.

4 IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2021 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

4.1 Conference Date, Venue, and General Structure

The three-day hybrid (virtual and physical) conference—held from 27 to 29 April 2021 at the Hilton Garden Hotel in Lusaka, Zambia—was organised into four parts (Presentation of study findings; panel discussion; sector-specific breakout sessions and presentation of lessons, best practices and innovations), across three days (Annex 2).

Table 1. Organisation of the conference

Day 1
Plenary presentation: During the plenary presentations, detailed findings of the RPA and CFRS were shared, followed by a question-and-answer session.
Panel Discussion: The panel discussion was an extension of the discussion of findings based on the RPA and CFRS. It involved directors from line ministries reflecting on the findings of the presented studies and discussing short- and long-term responses their ministries would take to address the identified gaps.

Day 2

This day was dedicated to sector-specific breakaway sessions. This involved discussing the RPA findings, identifying factors contributing to the status quo, and identifying short- and long-term measures that could be implemented to address the gaps. The breakaway sessions were designed to give a platform for players (cooperating partners, implementing partners, civil society) under each respective sector to engage and discuss how an enabling environment could be established for improving nutrition programmes in Zambia. Participants were asked to self-select into sector-specific groups based on their field of work and interest.

Day 3

This involved different organisations and GRZ departments presenting key studies, innovations, lessons learnt, and best practices documented during the implementation of the SUN programme. A total of 10 presentations were delivered.

4.2 Day 1 Proceedings

4.2.1 Official Opening

The conference was officially opened by the Guest of Honour, NFNC's Acting Executive Director, Mr Musonda Mofu. Representatives from USAID, the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ), and the United Kingdom's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) also delivered remarks during the opening session, as summarised below.

Figure 1. Mr Musonda Mofu. Acting Executive Director, NFNC, delivering the opening speech



In his opening speech, the Guest of Honour highlighted the government's efforts in tackling the problem of nutrition in Zambia and acknowledged that cooperating partners were providing much needed support to the GRZ's efforts to reduce malnutrition. He noted that despite improvements in the nutrition status of children, malnutrition remains a serious problem in Zambia, and that climate change (floods, droughts) and COVID-19 were further threats to the gains achieved in the nutrition sector.

He also commented on the changes in the quality of food produced by households and the continued use of mono-cropping as the main mode of food production, resulting in non-diverse diets. He concluded by emphasizing the need to implement a well-coordinated, multi-stakeholder and multisectoral response to the nutrition programme and urged all stakeholders to embrace the wealth of information available to create an enabling environment for the nutrition programme.

In his remarks, USAID Representative Joseph Hirsch, emphasised the importance of using a multi-sectoral approach to solve the nutrition problem. He went on to make the following points:

- Improvement in agriculture and promotion of agricultural diversification, including food systems, are important in nutrition, especially for rural communities.
- The donor community is happy to be part of the movement to reduce stunting and malnutrition in all its forms and USAID will continue to support evidence-based decision making.
- COVID 19 has negatively impacted the positive gains achieved from implementing development programmes, and implementation of interventions has been slowed down.
- It is important to fully utilise findings from the RPA as well as other available evidence to help create an enabling environment for nutrition programmes.

Julia Kirya, GIZ's FANSER Programme Coordinator, spoke on behalf of GIZ's Country Coordinator, and noted that the conference offers a great platform for sharing knowledge and learning. She provided a brief overview of the FANSER project as follows:

- The GIZ FANSER project is implemented jointly with the NFNC on behalf of the German Ministry of Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) and is part of the One World No Hunger Initiative.
- The goal of FANSER project is to improve the nutrition of women of reproductive age and children under two years of age, as they are the most vulnerable and affected by malnutrition.

In her remarks, Ms. Kriya noted that the MCDP II programme faces the following challenges:

- Lack of harmonised reporting: The SUN II baseline and now the SUN II Readiness and Performance Assessment present findings in only 30 districts and do not include the other districts, for example, those supported by GIZ and SNV. There is, therefore, a need to harmonise reporting to so as to have findings for all SUN II districts.
- There is a need to align/harmonise approaches for engaging government partners in the SUN II programme.

Figure 2. Joseph Hirsch, USAID Zambia, addressing the national conference



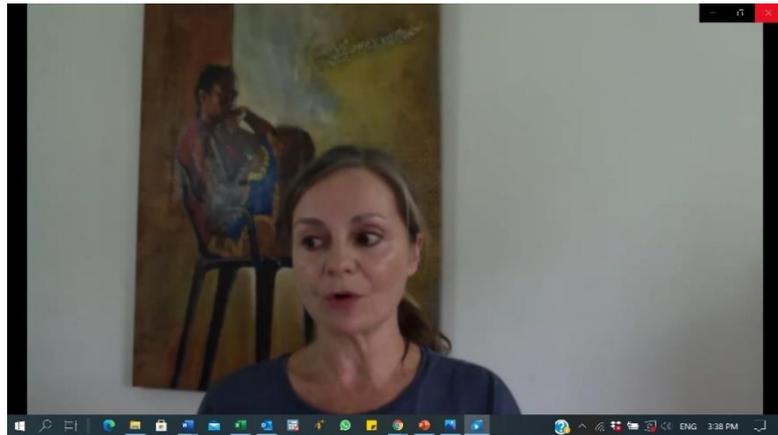
Figure 3. Julia Kirya, GIZ Programme Coordinator, delivering a speech on behalf of GIZ's Country Coordinator



Silke Seco, representing the Department for International Development—Foreign Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO), started by noting the other SUN II funders, including the EU, Sweden, and KFW, that support the SUN programme in 17 districts and highlighted the following key points:

- Cooperating partners are committed to the GRZ's efforts to end malnutrition in Zambia.
- The three focus areas of support are knowledge and evidence, politics and governance, and capacity and resources.
- There is a need for stunting reduction interventions to focus at community level for the MCDP II to have significant impact, especially through the promotion of dietary diversity, effective food systems, and agricultural diversification, among others. This can be achieved by leveraging the strategic role of the Ward Nutrition Coordinating Committees (WNCCs) in the fight against malnutrition.
- There is a need for continued support to local food small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and linking the SMEs and farmers to markets.
- There has been success in knowledge and capacity building. Now it is time to focus on turning knowledge into action and encouraging social behaviour change.

Figure 4. Ms. Silke Seco delivering a speech on behalf of the FCDO, EU, SIDA, and KFW partnership conference 1000 MCDP II

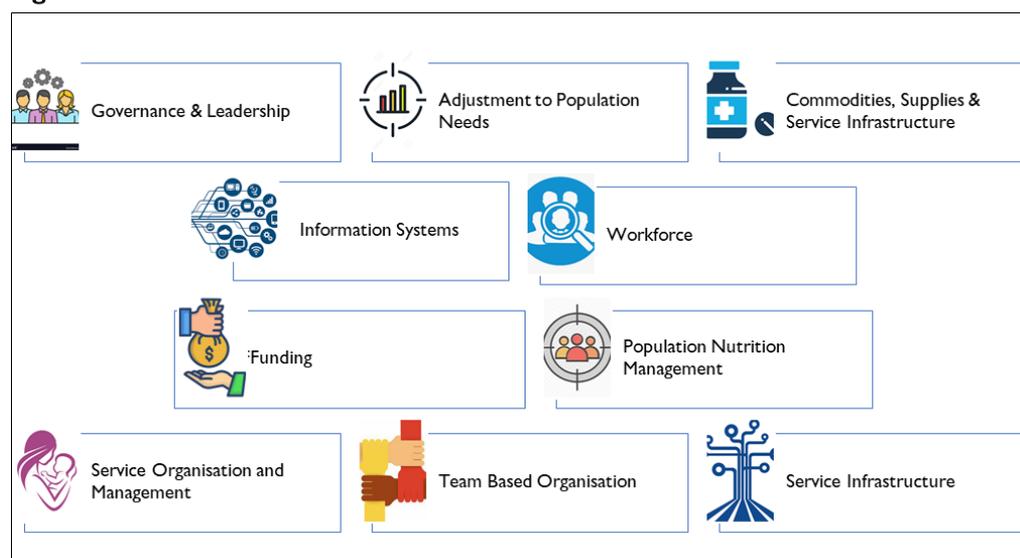


She ended her remarks by stating that Zambia now has a unique opportunity, through the MCDP II, to consolidate gains achieved in reducing malnutrition and sustain reduction in stunting rates.

Following these remarks, the SUN LE team presented findings from the RPA and CFRS.

4.2.2 Presentation of Performance Assessment and CFRS Findings

The MCDP II RPA and the CFRS findings were presented, with a focus on 10 key areas (Figure 5).

Figure 5. Performance Assessment Focus Areas

4.2.2.1 Methodology

Key highlights from the presentation were as follows:

- MDCP II is in the formative stages, so a “systems-oriented approach” was used. As such, the RPA assessed whether:
 - The programme has the necessary systems, structures, and capacity to achieve its objectives
 - The programme is being implemented as per nationally or internationally agreed standards, guidelines or best practice
- The RPA methodology was created by adapting the Primary Health Care (PHC) Performance Initiative (PHCPI) tool, the Guide to Evaluating Collective Impact, and Scaling Up Nutrition Global Strategy standards to assess the eight domains (Figure 5).
- A total of 31 assessors, led by 2 senior assessors, conducted the interviews to collect data by sector and level, for a total of 728 participants (Table 2).

Table 2. RPA Sample

Vertical Level	Target Group	Intended No Interviews	Comments
National Level	GRZ staff	7	In each of the 6 ministries and NFNC listed in Box 1, we targeted one interview with one or more respondents who have significant roles in SUN 2.0/MCDP II as well officials from the NFNC.
	Donors and Co-operating partners	10	We targeted one interview with nutrition/health focal points from each donor agency or co-operating partner involved in the SUN 2.0/MCDP II programme – namely: FCDO (formerly, DFID), USAID, European Union, SIDA, Irish Aid, GIZ, UNICEF, WFP, FAO, KfW
Provincial Level	GRZ staff	80	In each of the 10 provinces, targeted one interview with each of the 6 ministries and NFNC listed in Box 1 - preferably PNCC members (n = 1 respondent x 6 ministries x 10 provinces). Other experts within the respective ministries were identified and consulted to provide accurate information as part of the group

Vertical Level	Target Group	Intended No Interviews	Comments
			interview. We also targeted to interview provincial nutrition coordinators (10)
District	GRZ staff	240	In 6 ministries and NFNC listed in Box 1, we targeted nutrition focal-point persons (preferably DNCC members) in all 30 districts (n =1 respondent x 6 ministries x 30 districts). We also targeted interviews with district nutrition coordinators (30)
	Implementing Partners	30	In each of the 30 districts, we targeted one interview with an implementing partner supporting the district in the SUN 2.0/MCDP II programme implementation. In cases where more than one partner is involved, we selected the partner with the widest coverage (n=30 districts x 1 IP respondent).
Ward		360	In each of the 30 districts, we randomly selected 2 wards. In each ward, targeted interviews with representatives from each of the 6 sectors (n=30 districts x 2 wards x 6 sectors).
TOTAL Targeted / Intended Interviews		728	

4.2.2.2 Findings

The RPA presentation was delivered in two parts. Part 1 was the presentation of the RPA findings focusing on the national, provincial, and district levels, and Part 2 was the presentation of the CFRS, which focused on the community and facility levels. Summaries of the findings and recommendations are provided under Annex 4. The two PowerPoint presentations can be accessed on the NFNC website (<https://www.nfnc.org.zm>).

4.2.3 Plenary Question and Answer Session

Following the presentation of the RPA findings, conference participants were given the opportunity to ask questions (see Annex 5 for the questions and responses). The questions posed were wide ranging, including, among others, the GRZ's vision on how to sustain nutrition efforts using volunteers, and the need to further tailor the assessment beyond the perceived focus on the health sector.

4.2.4 Panel Discussion

The presentation of the RPA and CFRS results was followed by a panel discussion of implications of the findings on nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions. The panel comprised of representatives from line ministries (Health, Education, Fisheries and Livestock, Water Development, Community Development, and Agriculture) and one implementing partner (UNICEF). The main discussion question was how to enhance the enabling environment for nutrition programmes to sustain stunting reduction. Panellists were required to share their views on how to address the gaps identified in the assessments in the short- and long-term. The discussion was based on a panel discussion guide that included questions on the eight domains of the RPA and sections of the CFRS (Annex 6).

Figure 6. Panel discussion during the national conference**Table 3. Summary of the panel discussion per domain**

Domain	Summary
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Each sector has its own mandate, so the starting point is how best to bring all the sectors together. Collaboration should go beyond having meetings. There is hope for improved clarity on how the different players will be coordinated through the recently enacted Food and Nutrition Act of 2020. The Act clearly explains coordination mechanisms from the national level all the way through to the community level.
Adjustment to population needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nutrition programmes should be designed to be flexible and not rigid. Planning should consider eventualities, such as natural disasters (e.g., drought or floods). Improvement of surveillance systems under MCDP II is largely dependent on identifying and clearly defining indicators to be implemented by each sector. There is need to engage communities in a more meaningful manner on programme implementation. The programme should be transparent on what interventions are being delivered, what is not being delivered, and the role of volunteers.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Health has added therapeutic foods to the list of essential medicines as a way of highlighting the Ministry's commitment to preventing and treating malnutrition among children. Apart from social cash transfer, the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services implements important interventions such as the food security pack, which is an agriculture-based social intervention. The Ministry of Agriculture shared that Farmer Training Institutes and demo sites need to be revamped. Lead farmers should also be empowered because they also disseminate information to other farmers.
Workforce density and competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment in capacity building in the area of nutrition should be done at the ministerial level, especially in the MWDSEP With respect to the MOGE, there is an acute shortage of staff, as reflected in the RPA. The ministry's approach is to ask for more human resources trained by the MOH.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MOA, in the interim, is engaging partners to motivate lead farmers by providing incentives to enhance information dissemination.

Domain	Summary
Population nutrition management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Data should be made to be consumable at community level, and there is a need to simplify indicators for communities to understand the programme.

4.3 Day 2 Proceedings

The second day of the conference was a continuation of the previous day's discussion and review of the RPA and CFRS results. There were six breakout sessions, one for each participating GRZ line ministries. During registration, participants were asked to register for a breakout session of their choice. The deliberations in each of the breakout sessions were moderated by respective line ministry directors or their representatives. Each session had both virtual participants and a small team of physical participants who coordinated and managed the proceedings. Session discussions were guided by a breakout session discussion guide (Annex 7). Each ministry discussed the implications of the findings on their ministry under each of the eight RPA domains (governance and leadership; adjustment to population needs; commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure; information system; workforce; funding; population nutrition management; and service organisation and management). Each line ministry provided feasible short- and long-term measures to be implemented to improve the identified gaps under each domain.

4.3.1 Ministry of Agriculture Breakout Session

The agriculture breakout session had a total of 32 participants representing 5 institutions .

Table 4. Number of participants in the agriculture breakout session

Participation method	Organization	No. of participants
Physical participants	IAPRI	2
	NFNC	1
	MOA	3
	USAID	1
	Environmental consultant	1
Online participants		24
TOTAL		32

Figure 7. In-person participants deliberating the proceedings of the agriculture sector breakout session



The following table highlights the breakout session for the agriculture sector/ministry.

Table 5. Ministry of Agriculture breakout session highlights

Domain	Summary notes
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry highlighted the main area of improvement being at the district level, where there is a need to reinforce guidance on how district-level coordinating officers should work. The main challenge highlighted was inadequate funding needed to support activities aimed at translating policies into actions at lower levels. Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Districts/wards should be supported with provision of clear TORs and financial support as well as a line of command. Need more involvement of agricultural camp officers in the district-level committees as they work with the people on the ground in implementing the nutrition-sensitive interventions. Agricultural extension activities should include nutrition programmes at all levels of management (national, provincial, and district levels) in the planning and implementation stages to improve collaboration.
Adjustment to population needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry attributed the poor performance in this domain mostly to failure to adequately incorporate nutrition indicators into the monitoring and evaluation systems of the respective ministries.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry attributed the current state of affairs to funding challenges as well as the lack of standardised indicators related to the domain.

Domain	Summary notes
Information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need for clear reporting structures, tools, and indicators. For example, it should be made clear as to who should be reporting to whom and when. • An M& E system with clear nutrition indicators that should be tracked periodically should be created. The agriculture sector surveillance system can feed into or be linked to the national-level surveillance system and to other sectors (e.g., health, social protection). • Agriculture-specific indicators should be collected (e.g., dietary diversity, production diversity, storage, consumption), and these should be incorporated into the M&E system. This also includes the quantity of bio-fortified crops grown and consumed. • There is a need for capacity building on reporting systems and tools for all officers at different levels.
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, there is an extremely low camp officer/extension staff to farmer level ratio (over 1,000). • Not all staff working on nutrition issues at lower levels have a background in nutrition. • Camp officers and extension workers need to be trained and qualified to implement nutrition-sensitive agriculture. • There is a need for qualified nutritionists. There are many graduates on the market, and the ministry should come up with a strategy for employment.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inadequate funding is allocated to programme activities. • There are delays in receiving allocated funds, resulting in delays to implement activities. • Given the limited funding, explore closer collaboration and joint implementation of activities, where applicable, across line ministries working on SUN. • Encourage other partners at the local level (e.g., private sector) to fund some activities. • Encourage farmers to mobilise resources and call for training and other activities. • There is need for more incentives to be given to volunteers and community workers. • Information and materials should be readily provided to facilitate trainings for farmers who are ready and motivated to work.
Population nutrition management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a need to harmonise outreach activities across the sectors, for instance, close collaboration with the MCDSS at the district level. • Make use of social media and other effective communication platforms for reaching out. • Modalities must be developed on how nutrition-sensitive extension operations are conducted and there should be uniformity in view of the new normal under COVID-19.
Service organisation and management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to embrace technology and encourage district, ward, and community-level staff to engage with people on the ground using various media, such as social media. • Continue sharing information using traditional media (e.g., radio [at least in rural areas almost all households may have a radio]) and also SMS. • Have a broader perspective when addressing the challenge of undernutrition in Zambia and improve on coordination between key players. • Ministry must define service organizations and clearly break them down to find solutions to this particular domain.

4.3.2 Ministry of Health Breakout Session

The Ministry of Health breakout session had 6 physical participants and a total of 47 online participants. Four institutions coordinated the room at the command center (Table 6).

Table 6. Number of participants in the health breakout session

Participation method	Organization	No. of participants
Physical participants	NFNC	2
	SUN LE	1
	MOH	1
	BlackPepper Events	5
Online participants		47
TOTAL		56

Figure 8: In-person participants deliberating the proceedings of the health sector breakout session

The following table highlights the health sector breakout session:

Table 7. Ministry of Health breakout session highlights

Domain	Summary notes
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to orient staff running MOGE School Health and Nutrition programmes in nutrition. • Emphasise/encourage the implementing institutions on the need for documentation of collaboration activities. • Partners and government need to organise logistics for meetings. • Need to include nutrition as a stand-alone agenda other than discussing it ad hoc. • Give nutrition its own space in the future, to ensure that it is not engulfed in other related matters, such as child health.
Adjustment to population needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data from lower levels are not included in the reports, so planning is usually not informed by that evidence.

Domain	Summary notes
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff who are expected to supervise volunteers (nurses and environmental health technologist) are themselves not trained in nutrition, yet they are expected to supervise community volunteers who are trained. There is a need for nutrition surveillance across all levels, from the community through to the national level. Health workers need to be trained/oriented in nutrition programmes. This will help them appreciate data being generated by the CBVs and improve submission of the data to higher levels. There is a need to establish technical working groups at all levels.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry attributed the poor performance to poor funding for procurement of commodities. Poor nutrition data collection to use for planning. Districts do not consider nutrition equipment as a priority. Need to intensify evidence-based advocacy, which shows where we are and where we want to be as well as prioritising nutrition commodities. Include more nutrition commodities (consumables) on the list of essential commodities.
Information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Need for a repository at all levels where the paper-based registers can be stored and made available whenever needed. Need for an M&E team to improve nutrition data collection and reporting tools. Need to digitalise the data collection and reporting system.
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The main cause of the current state of affairs is failure to employ nutrition staff in the required numbers. Use interns to assist with service delivery at various levels as they await to be employed. Need for refresher courses for already practicing nutritionists. Need for short courses for the nurses and EHTs because they are the ones delivering nutrition services in facilities with no nutritionists. E-learning should be used as an opportunity to improve competencies.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There no specific funding/ budget for nutrition, making it difficult to have funds allocated to nutrition activities/services. Identify minimum standard competencies of the CBVs to be able to determine appropriate remuneration. Devise income-generating activities for CBVs as part of the support mechanism. Need for a system to monitor various incentives received by CBVs.
Service organization and management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The poor results are said to have been among others due to lack of printed materials like take home flyers to give target beneficiaries as well as poor publication on nutrition matters in the media. NFNC to make flyers available, not only in Lusaka but all other areas. Need to work with ZANIS and other media houses to deliver nutrition-related information to the target audiences. Need to involve the media from the beginning of nutrition studies, not just involving them at the point of dissemination of research findings.

4.3.3 Ministry of General Education (MOGE)

The education sector breakout session had a total of 10 participants representing 4 institutions (Table 8).

Table 8. Number of participants in the education breakout session

Participation method	Organization	No. of participants
Physical participants	MOGE	4
	NFNC	1
	WFP	1
	CSO SUN	1
Online participants		3
TOTAL		10

Figure 9: In-person participants deliberating the proceedings in the education sector breakout session

The following table highlights the education sector breakout session.

Table 9: Ministry of Education breakout session highlights

Domain	Summary notes
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Focus on collaboration with external stakeholders by first mapping stakeholders and then planning to engage with them after defining areas of collaboration. Implement collaborative planning with other partners. MOGE to include collaboration in their strategic plan. Revamp the Nutrition Working Group (NWG) so it is not limited to feeding programmes and has a broader perspective. Revise the TORs. Conduct joint quarterly review meetings.

Domain	Summary notes
Adjustment to population needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The weaknesses is that the information system is administered annually, making it difficult to track changes within shorter timeframe. Late submission of information prevents appropriate interventions to be implemented. Need to migrate to a real-time surveillance system. School monitoring should be scaled up from district level to the ministry's headquarters. There is also need to push for nutritional data on WASH data available. Nutrition data points are needed to help adjust to sector needs. There is a need for technical working groups at all levels.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Schools should have health rooms. Include a chart showing BMI classification under essential consumables in schools. Under basic equipment, include a kitchen as essential, including equipment and utensils, and energy sources that are environmentally friendly. Include a height board, Seca scale, and MUAC measuring tape as essential diagnostic tools.
Information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a lack of a standardised, consolidated SUN programme management information system. The ministry has planned to roll out a pilot study on an integrated information system aimed to improve access to information in schools.
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry has plans to improve the current ratings through orientation of nutrition staff using a manual that was developed from the SUN I and II. NFNC is currently working on pilot project that will see how learners become the agents of change in the home and community. District Board Secretary Office to be allocated a SHIN officer who will manage the affairs of the sector.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry did not have a budget or funding for the MCDP II. Identify minimum standard competencies of the CBVs to be able to determine appropriate remuneration. Devise income-generating activities for CBVs. Need for a system to monitor various incentives received by CBVs.
Population nutrition management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry has recommended to intensify efforts to engage the community to come up with strategies, such as a meeting scheduled for May 2021 in Chongwe. The ministry has also instituted proactive population outreach through enhanced regular nutrition assessment using SHIN platforms.
Service organization and management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A nutrition education manual/guide is underway to support Social Behaviour Change Communication (SBCC) being supported by WFP. Use Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) meetings as platforms to sensitise parents.

4.3.4 Ministry of Community Development & Social Services (MCDSS)

The community development and social services breakout session had a total of 18 participants representing 6 institutions (Table 10).

Table 10. Number of participants in the community development and social services breakout session

Participation method	Organisation	No. of participants
Physical participants	PAM	1
	SUN TA	1

Participation method	Organisation	No. of participants
	SUN LE	1
	MCDSS	1
	NFNC	1
	USAID	2
Online participants		11
TOTAL		18

Figure 10. In-person participants deliberating the proceedings in the MCDSS breakout session



The following table highlights the community development and social services breakout session.

Table 11: Ministry of Community Development and Social Services breakout session highlights

Domain	Summary notes
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry stated they lacked a clear understanding of the MCDP II nutrition components by the implementers, especially external stakeholders. Ministry plans to include nutrition objectives, particularly in the social protection sector. The Ministry has developed guidelines for mainstreaming nutrition. In the long term, the ministry plans to implement measures to strengthen coordination structures.
Adjustment to population needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry was developing guidelines and the M&E to clearly incorporate nutrition into social protections programmes. In the long term, the ministry plans to reinforce the inclusion and tracking of nutrition indicators and objectives in its existing structures.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a lack of clearly defined nutrition objectives in the ministry.

Domain	Summary notes
Information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry identified lack of nutrition indicators, lack of budget for nutrition programming, including nutrition M&E, as well as lack of support for social protection from external partners as contributing to the current ratings. In the long term, the MCDSS will continue to make a case for increased funding from MoF for nutrition programmes. Strengthen advocacy both within GRZ and other stakeholders for support towards nutrition-sensitive programmes in the ministry. Operationalise the Common Results Framework (CRF) that is being developed by NFNC. Work on the single window initiative where the providers of services are being provided and through this data are being developed. MCDSS should share the already existing tools with NFNC to ensure that indicators are included in the revised Multi-sectoral Activity Reporting Form (MARF). Need to strengthen linkages with other partners to avoid duplication of information (e.g., through the SMART Zambia). There is need for NFNC to develop the SUN system and ensure that all ministries' data are linked to other sectors.
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that capacities are built on nutrition at different levels and competencies. There is need for a standardised package of nutrition for social protection at different levels as well as enhancing the nutrition topics in the colleges. For sustainability, the ministry proposes establishment of nutritionist posts in the ministry, even at the district level.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry is developing guidelines on the involvement of community-based volunteers, especially on issues related to incentivising volunteers. The ministry has identified main reasons for poor performance in this domain as low staff availability, poor funding for the ministry, and inadequate availability of inputs, which may be related to funding.
Service organization and management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase availability of information, education, and communication materials. Use cascaded SBCC training and involve SBCC specialist to ensure that the capacities of nutrition in SBCC are provided in all the ministries. Use existing infrastructure to ensure that the SBCC programmes are well implemented.

4.3.5 Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

The fisheries and livestock breakout session had a total of 11 participants representing 4 institutions.

Table 12. Number of participants in the fisheries and livestock breakout session

Participation method	Organisation	No. of participants
Physical participants	CSO SUN	2
	PAM	1
	NFNC	1
	MOFL	1
	OTHER	1
Online participants		5
TOTAL		11

The following table highlights the Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock breakout session.

Table 13: Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock breakout session highlights

Domain	Notes
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Fisheries and Livestock department should enhance capacity of technical staff to ensure that the budgeting guidelines are well considered when developing implementation plans and updating the necessary tools required for implementation under SUN II. In the long run, the ministry should mainstream nutrition in all its policies and implementation plans.
Adjustment to population needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry has plans to establish a nutrition-sensitive surveillance system at the same time reviewing the M&E framework to include nutrition-sensitive indicators. The ministry also will be working on development of a mechanism for enhancing learning and innovation at the community level. The ministry proposes to conduct a study to understand the existing structures and resources at the community level.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry cited a lack of clearly defined commodities and supplies as well as service infrastructure to address nutrition needs under MCDP II. The ministry is advocating for enhanced sector collaboration in service delivery among all players.
Information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry plans to establish user-friendly sector information management systems as well as improve on capture of beneficiaries.
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ministry is lobbying for recruitment of 180 employees whose vacancies are currently frozen. In the interim, the ministry plans to train existing member of staff in nutrition-sensitive programming and implementation.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen collaboration and leverage resources with other sectors (e.g., MOA). Establish effective financial management systems—that meet donor requirements. Include all the districts into the sector FMS subject to improving connectivity district level. Engage community-based volunteers while following MCDSS guidelines. Information and materials should be readily provided to facilitate trainings for farmers who are ready and motivated to work.
Population nutrition management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The MFL also plans to strength collaborations with other stakeholders for instance GIZ under the FANSER project to ensure joint implementation of nutrition sensitive interventions. At the community level, the ministry proposes to strengthen community outreach activities (e.g., radio listening groups) and provide training to volunteers.
Service organization and management measures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a SBCC strategy in collaboration with NFNC. Enhance nutrition messaging via radio, phone, and other social media platforms. Enhance collaboration with projects such as GIZ projects. Fully review the communication strategy and get fully engaged so that the document can speak to the livestock and fisheries. Fully review the communication strategy and get fully engaged so that the document can speak to the livestock and fisheries sector.

4.3.6 Ministry of Water Development, Sanitation and Environmental Protection

The WASH breakout session had a total of 14 participants representing 5 institutions (Table 14).

Table 14. Number of participants in the WASH breakout session

Participation method	Organisation	No. participants
Physical participants	MWDSEP	1
	NFNC	2
	SUN LE	1
	USAID	1
	MOA	1
Online participants		8
TOTAL		14

Figure 11. Physical participants deliberating proceedings in the WASH breakout session

The following table highlights the WASH breakout session.

Table 15: WASH breakout session highlights

Domain	Summary notes
Governance and leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the interim, the ministry plans to set up a platform for nutrition consultations, mainstreaming of the nutrition agenda into the WASH sector, and empowerment of DNCC and PNCC chairpersons with information on WASH programs. Encourage line ministries to be seating, planning, and monitoring activities together as the different sectors. Externals may include NGOs and the private sector, and these may be engaged through existing TWGs to ensure coordination. There should be plans for steering committees to have regular engagement and information sharing (e.g., the cholera elimination programme has started a good platform). In the long run, the ministry proposed improvement in priority setting and clarification on key players in nutrition-sensitive activities.
Adjustment to population needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The plan is for the sectors to work in clusters where relevant sectors are in one place working together. The ministry is currently developing an integrated management system. Everything done in the subsector should be reported. If all is reported, there should be a section for lessons learnt, and this will highlight the lessons. Once these are

Domain	Summary notes
	documented, it is much easier to scale up what is required is to strengthen this at all levels.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumables for the ministry may include water treatment reagents, disinfection, testing reagents, etc. • Currently the system is more reactive; if they see incidence of diarrhoea going up, then they react. • Rural areas receive water from boreholes. Therefore, the need for treatment is usually not a major requirement because the establishment and positioning of the borehole is informed by appropriateness and safety of the borehole. The assessment therefore needed to be context specific. • Basic equipment for the sector includes water reticulation systems, boreholes, Sustainable Operation and Maintenance Project shops and spares, etc. • The low score could also have resulted from a misunderstanding of questions and perhaps wrong people being interviewed.
Information systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WASH sector uses the District Health Information Software 2 that captures sanitation and hygiene and partly water supply data. • Ministry largely depends on volunteers who are not very dependable because most of the them easily abandon the work, especially when incentives are not coming through as expected.
Workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We only have focal point persons. There is need to strengthen more capacity in the areas of nutrition to WASH officers so they appreciate the interface between WASH and nutrition. • Because of the realisation of the lack of resources to hire more people, the few that are hired are provided the required training.
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receives one of the smallest proportions of the national budget and is largely funded through project financing (external). • There is a volunteer mechanism being put in place. This will guide how volunteerism is managed. Once this is put in place, it will be more clarified. Ministry of community development is leading this effort. • Need to come up with a volunteer package which should be budgeted for (e.g., community health assistants under MOH should be replicated in other sectors) • We need to guard against over-rewarding volunteers to avoid dilution of the concept and there is need to coordinate so that volunteers do not receive support from multiple sectors while the resources are coming from the same pot.
Population nutrition management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall, there is need to include Ministry of local government on the SUN programme and also in assessments such as these to fully understand the whole range of issues based on the decentralisation approach that is being used. The ministry does not reflect a clear picture of what is obtaining on the ground. • Beneficiary recording is currently project driven (SUN TA) and it is the intention of the government to adopt and scale up the approach. • Problems identified include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some partners go into the community without conducting community engagement. • There is need for collaboration. • Need to come up with WASH framework for community engagement, unlike depending on individual initiative and experience. • Need to strengthen collaboration from higher level from top to bottom.

4.4 Day 3 Proceedings

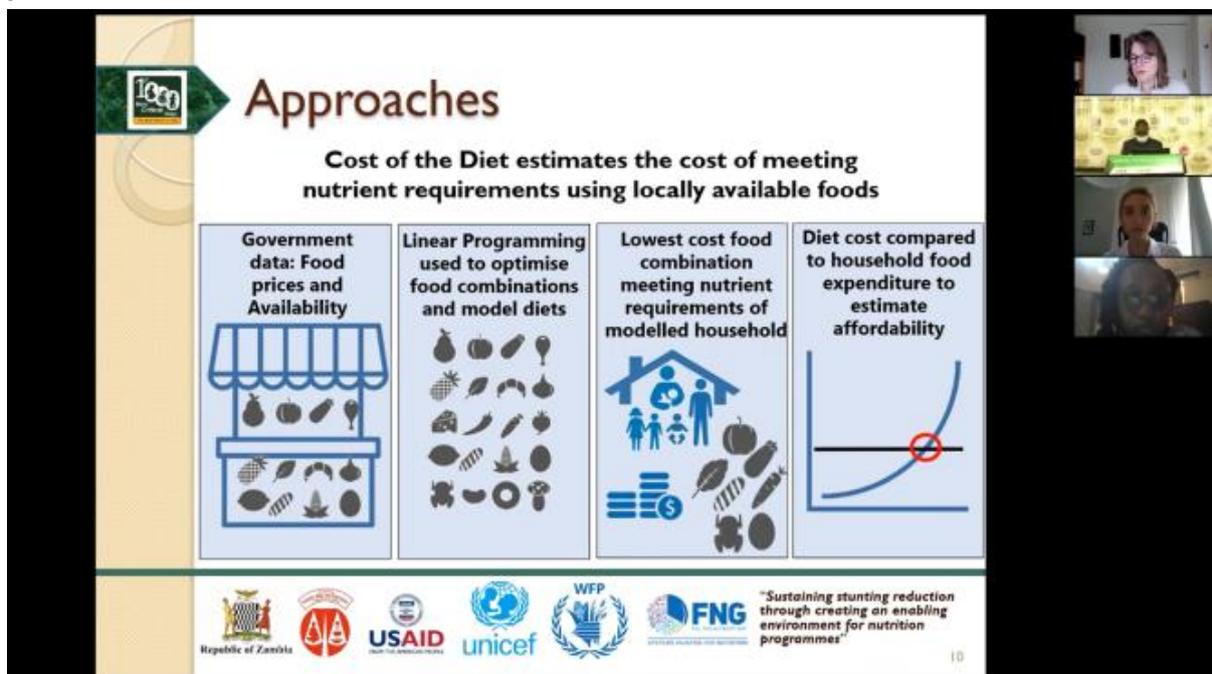
4.4.1 Presentations of Innovations, Lessons Learnt, Best Practices, and Studies Conducted under MCDP II

On the last day of the conference, SUN partners conducted presentations on innovations, lessons learnt, and best practices under MCDP II and study findings to inform ongoing programming.

4.4.1.1 FILL THE NUTRITION GAP STUDY (WFP)

WFP shared findings from its Filling the Nutrition Gap study, which showed the income deficit of most households to achieve optimal diets, and made recommendations for some interventions to help alleviate the problem.

Figure 12. Saskia de Pee and Zuzanna Turowska delivering the Filling the Nutrition Gap presentation



Key points from the presentation included the following:

- Nutritious diets are three times more expensive than diets that meet only energy needs.
- Inflation has increased, causing an increase in food prices, but incomes have not changed.
- There is a need to:
 - Increase coverage of home-grown school meal programs.
 - Continue diversification of food production.
 - Scale up nutrition-sensitive interventions such as social protection.
 - Review opportunities for fortification.

Q&A

Question: Zambian population consume forest foods. Did the study include those food in the analysis?

Response: The study did include in the model all available foods including forest foods.

4.4.1.2 Using phone-based technology in the SUN Programme (SUN TA)

VIAMO (a SUN TA partner) showcased the use of mobile technology to deliver social behaviour change communication (SBCC) messages to households. This presentation was based on the innovation of using mobile phone technology to reduce barriers and achieve improved communication of nutrition messages to targeted audiences. The presentation showed that mobile phone technology has helped break many barriers that prevent people from accessing information, including distance; infrastructure (which include poor access to internet services); literacy - 40-50% of Zambians have very low literacy; language, with more than 72 tribes in Zambia, sometimes information gets lost in translation; and, finally, COVID-19 which has become a major barrier to interactions with beneficiaries, thereby making intervention delivery even more of a challenge.

Below are key highlights from the presentation:

- Eighty-eight percent of households in Zambia have access to a mobile phone, at least a simple phone.
- Using mobile phones helped cut across the barriers listed above by transmitting personalised messages directly to target audiences.
- Target audiences received information in real time.
- The programme used a software called Interactive Voice Recording that could be installed on any type of mobile phone.
- The programme included four interventions (WASH, nutrition, agriculture, and health).
- The programme had more female listeners than males.
- The major challenge faced by the project was the targeting of messages. Sometimes messages were sent to unintended audiences.

Figure 13. Mubanga Chilufya delivering a presentation on the use of mobile phones to implement SBCC interventions



Q&A

Question 1: Do participants need to use smart phones to access the information?

Response 1: The target audiences only require using basic phones.

Question 2: Do you use local languages to communicate information?

Response 2: All messages are translated to the local languages depending on the location and the target audience can choose which language they would like to receive the information in.

4.4.1.3 Interactive Dashboards (NFNC)

NFNC presented on how interactive dashboards can enhance data access and, ultimately, use in programme decisions. NFNC showcased the interactive dashboard which includes nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive indicator findings from the 2019 MCDP II baseline survey (Figure 14). The presentation included a live demonstration of how to access and navigate the dashboard. The presentation also showcased the upgraded NFNC website, the home of the interactive dashboard, its features, and how it was organised (Figure 13). Participants expressed excitement about the upgraded website and applauded NFNC for its achievement and SUN LE for supporting the initiative.

Figure 14. Interactive dashboards and the NFNC website presented by Mr Boniface Kanjere



4.4.1.4 MAP AND GAP ANALYSES (UNICEF)

UNICEF presented a map and gap analysis, which showed gaps in the SUN programme environment and documented the presence and distribution of partners currently working in the SUN target areas through a mapping process. The presentation focused on the tools used to conduct the map and gap analysis. These tools are designed for use at the district level to periodically measure changes taking place over time. UNICEF also showcased dashboards currently under development which will be linked to the data from the map and gap analysis. The next steps for the initiative are to:

- Finalise the dashboards.
- Build capacity for implementing the map and gap analysis tool at the district level.
- Link the tool with existing information systems.
- Use the findings for planning, implementation, and monitoring of interventions.

4.4.1.5 Use of Keyhole Gardens to Improve Household Food Security (GIZ)

GIZ presented the innovation of using keyhole gardens to meet household food dietary needs in the context of limited water resources and minimal cultivable land. Key aspects of these gardens include the following:

- Keyhole gardens use less water.
- Keyhole gardens are less labour-intensive.
- The beneficiary household can have access to more vegetables.
- The gardens are cost effective and easy to build.

The major challenge to sustaining the initiative is for households to build strong keyhole gardens that do not collapse easily.

Q&A

Question 1: To what extent are men engaged in the keyhole garden initiative?

Response 1: Men are usually engaged from the beginning to ensure buy in and also because it is mostly men who have the expertise to construct the keyhole gardens.

Question 2: The keyhole gardens appear to have some unused space, isn't that a waste of space?

Response 2: The space is left deliberately to allow easy access to the vegetables and avoid damage to the vegetables when one is picking.

4.4.1.6 COVID-19 and Household Food Security (SUN LE)

Figure 15. Dr Rhoda Mofya delivering the COVID-19 study findings



SUN LE presented the preliminary findings of a COVID-19 and household food security study currently being carried out by the Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute (IAPRI). The presentation highlighted the challenges that households are experiencing due to COVID-19 and some of their coping mechanisms. The study provided insights on possible interventions that could be implemented to help alleviate the negative impact of COVID-19 on household food security. Among the preliminary findings are the following:

- More households are experiencing hunger compared to the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- COVID-19 has a negative effect on incomes.
- The mean number of meals consumed by households has reduced due to COVID-19.

The preliminary recommendations include the following:

- The COVID-19 government assistance should reach the targeted beneficiaries, with more focus on the lower-income groups and daily income wage earners.
- There is need for an emergency social cash transfer.
- There is need for more awareness messages on COVID-19.

Q&A

Question 1: Did the study assess correct use of masks and frequent hand washing?

Response 1: The study assessed whether households the shops (marketplace) where they bought household food, required them to use masks before entering and whether they had handwashing facilities.

Question 2: The study showed that some mothers had concerns breastfeeding their children after suspected exposure to Covid 19. Did the Ministry of Health recommend the duration during which the mothers should avoid breastfeeding?

Response 2: The duration was not asked but mothers expressed that they avoided breastfeeding for some time if they suspected to have been exposed to Covid 19. The ministry has not given any guidance related to breastfeeding.

Question 3: Seeing that this year has had good rainfall, what do you think could have resulted poor food security in the month of March. Was is the fear of Covid 19?

Response 3: That question might require an indepth study. However, what we noticed is that the same period saw reduced income among households and because incomes predict access to food, that somewhat explains the observed state of affairs.

4.4.1.7 Improving Measurement of Minimum Dietary Diversity for Women (University of Zambia)

The University of Zambia (UNZA) shared findings on measuring dietary diversity for women. The presentation highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of different measures and shared recommendations on the more reliable methods and how the measures can be better interpreted, depending on the method used.

The following are a few of the recommendations:

- There is need to adequately train the teams for data collection.
- For high-quality dietary data to be collected, close supervision of data collection should be done throughout the exercise.

- The choice between open-based and list-based dietary assessment to assess minimum dietary diversity for women should be based on cost, time, and training needs.
- Community leadership engagement is critical before, during, and after a data collection exercise.

4.4.1.8 Impact of Home-based Growth Charts on Community Monitoring and Stunting (Innovations for Poverty Action)

Innovations for Poverty Action presented a study that measured the impact of home-based growth charts and community monitoring on stunting rates. Pilot interventions using home-based growth monitoring showed significant promise for contributing to stunting reduction. Although the assessment is still underway and pending validation and approval, the preliminary finding below is worth noting:

- The intervention has the potential to contribute to stunting reduction (by up to 20%).

Q&A

Question 1: How did you take the measurements for the under 2 months old children?

Response 1: We are working with the Ministry of Health who have trained study enumerators to take height measurements for children.

Question 2: How long was the study?

Response 2: the trial was for about 10 months – 2014 -2015. However, there is a follow up study to measure the long-term effects. The study will run for four years and it is likely to show more comprehensive measurements.

4.4.1.9 District Presentations

Three districts (Ndola, Mongu, and Petauke) showcased how they had used the 2019 MCDP II baseline survey and other related information products as a basis of their 2021 work plans. They showed the process they undertook and how specific activities on their work plans were directly informed by the results of the baseline survey. The presentations also showed some of the steps the districts have taken to ensure sustainability in the use of the concepts and data use tools shared with them during the 2019 and 2020 SUN LE district dissemination and data use workshops.

The key highlights were as follows:

- Data dissemination and data use workshops helped enhance understanding of the nutrition problem.
- The workshops helped communicate knowledge across sectors—building political commitments and coherence among decision makers.

Figure 16. Miss Martha from Ndola DNCC delivering a presentation at the conference



- The workshops provided a platform for giving feedback on existing policies and programme interventions.

The following were highlighted as the next steps:

- Make the data use sessions routine both in sectors and at the DNCC level.
- Cascade this process to the WNCCs starting in June 2021.
- Strengthen capacity building both at district and sub-district levels.
- Scale up intervention coverage and stakeholder involvement.

Q&A

Question 1: How are the loan groups organized to ensure success of the groups and to avoid members running away with other people's money?

Response 1: The loan groups have not had any challenges so far? The groups are self-selecting and so members admit other equally honest members to join their groups.

4.4.2 Closing Remarks

Mr Freddie Mubanga, Head of Research and Planning and Acting Deputy Director at NFNC, delivered the closing remarks. He highlighted the following next steps in his remarks:

Improve leadership and governance through:

- Widely sharing policy documents at all levels
- Improving engagement with stakeholders, including joint planning and sharing updates on implementation
- Establishing quality management mechanisms in all sectors

Improve programme adjustment to population through:

- Establishing sector surveillance systems and then interlinking them
- Documenting all lessons and sharing them through reports or other platforms (website, newsletters, etc.)

Improve supply of essential commodities and equipment through:

- Improving advocacy for increased budgetary allocation
- Implementing needs-based distribution of commodities and equipment
- Updating essential supplies/equipment lists to include nutrition supplies and equipment

Improve information systems through:

- Establishing simple systems that can easily be used even by volunteers
- Establishing a standardised M&E system for nutrition and related indicators
- Continuing the finalisation of the CRF

Improve workforce efficiency through:

- Investing in training existing human resources
- Exploring engagement of interns/recent graduates

Figure 17. Mr Freddie Mubanga, Head of Research and Planning, NFNC, delivering closing remarks



- Developing a framework for structured involvement of the volunteers
- Ongoing development of volunteer guideline is an important step

Improve population nutrition management through:

- Implementing participatory programming involving communities
- Conducting improved targeting of programme beneficiaries
- Harmonising approaches for working with communities

Improve service organization management through

- Relevant TWGs reviewing the best practices/innovations presented to:
 - Identify those that can be potentially scaled up
 - Advise on mechanisms for scale up
- NFNC will continue engaging all stakeholders to ensure the identified actions included in the action plans are tracked
- Different sectors are encouraged to continue to engage and share updates through steering committees and TWG meetings

He concluded his speech by expressing his happiness that the conference succeeded to provide a platform for sharing nutrition evidence, lessons, innovations, and best practices. Such a platform, he noted, provides an opportunity for sectors to identify areas in which they can support the MCDP II programme and contribute to the achievement of its objectives. He encouraged all partners to fully utilise the findings, noting that focused interventions will lead to success in reducing malnutrition in Zambia.

He went on to express NFNC'S appreciation of the support that USAID and other partners are giving the GRZ and the NFNC to generate the evidence required to design effective interventions. He also thanked all participants (virtual and in-person participants) for making time to participate in the conference.

He finished his speech by extending special thanks to USAID, and in particular the SUN LE project, for successfully organising the conference, the planning committee for coordinating the national conference, and all partners that shared innovation and lessons learnt during the implementation of the MCDP II programme.

4.5 Participants

The 2021 national conference targeted high-level GRZ policy makers and programme leads (i.e., directors, department heads, and senior programme officers) from the six key line ministries, as well as representatives from cooperating partners, implementing partners, research and academic institutions, civil society organisations, and the media. A total of 149 participants out of the targeted 150 participants attended, representing 67 institutions (including the media) (Annex 3).

Table 16. Number of conference participants by day and mode of participation

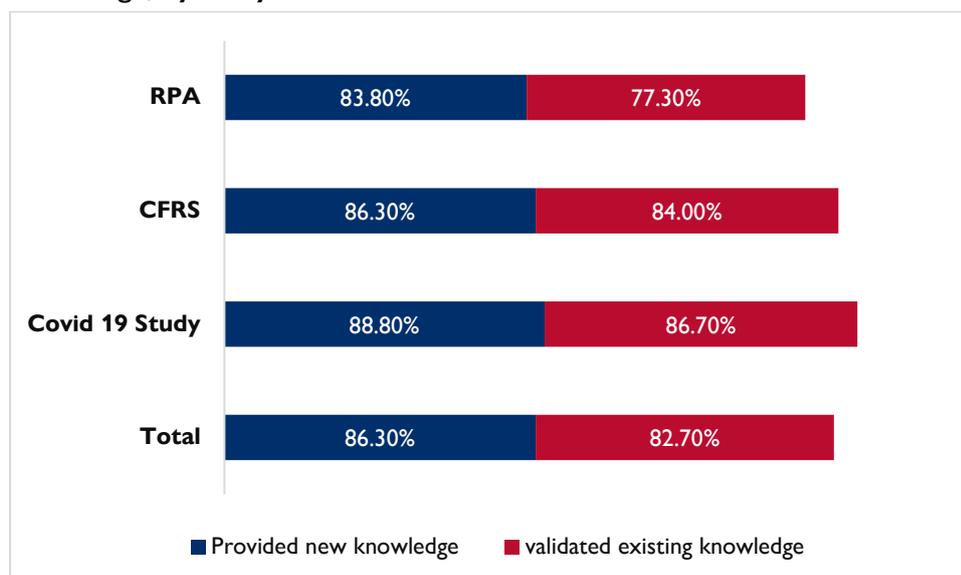
Day	Breakout Group	Participation mode		
		Physical participants	Online participants	Total
Day 1 - Plenary		49	100	149
	Agriculture	8	24	32

Day	Breakout Group	Participation mode		
		Physical participants	Online participants	Total
Day 2— Breakout sessions	Education	11	7	18
	Community Development and Social Security	7	3	10
	Water Development, Sanitation & Environmental Protection	6	8	14
	Fisheries and Livestock	6	5	11
	Health	4	47	51
Day 3—Plenary		26	101	127

5 CONFERENCE EVALUATION

Feedback on the conference was obtained from conference participants through an online self-administered questionnaire (Annex 8) using the Survey Monkey Platform. A link to the survey was sent to participants via email. Overall, participants stated that they were satisfied with the delivery of the conference. The following were some of the feedback on specific findings delivered during the conference.

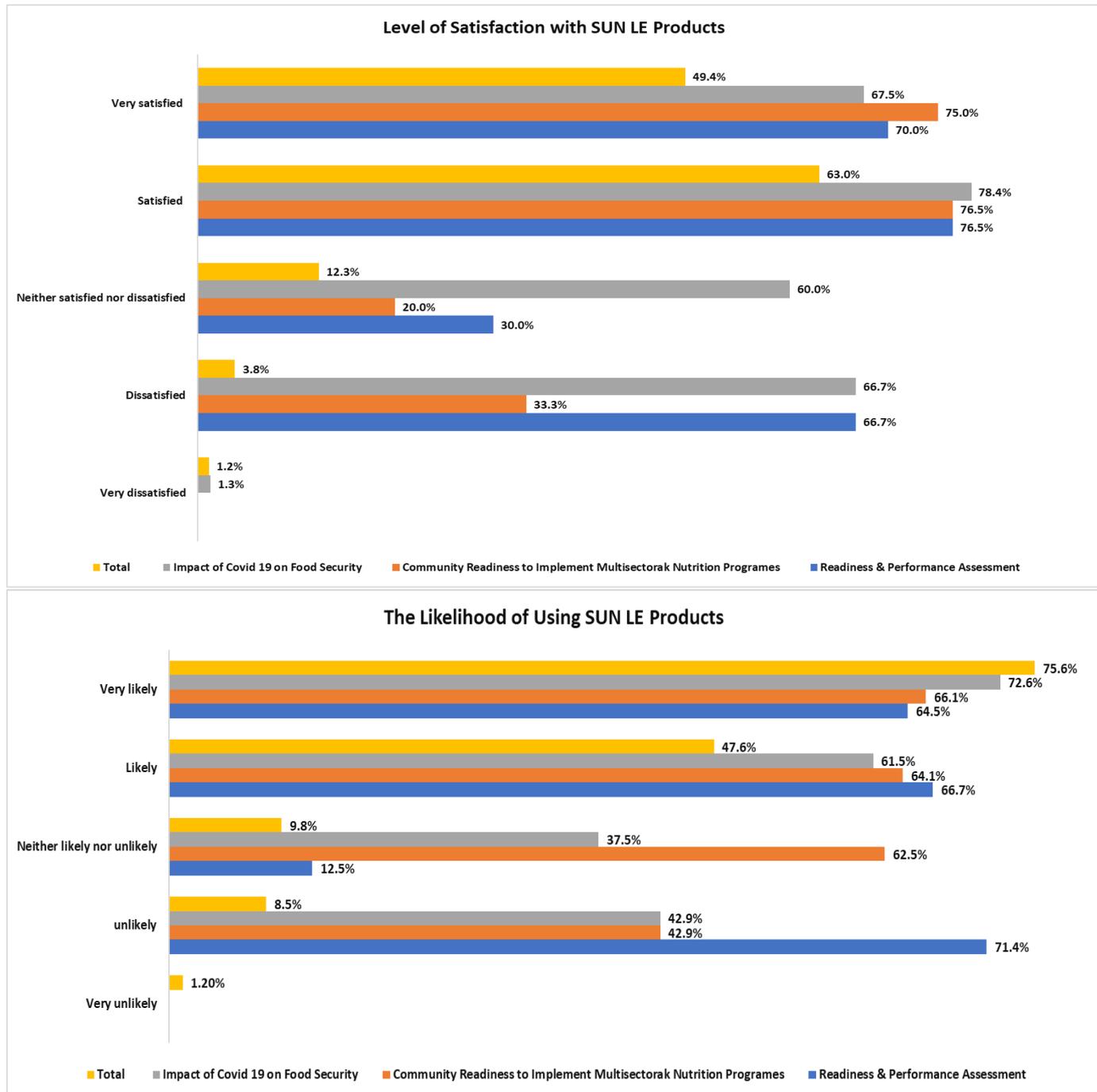
Figure 18. Participants who stated that the studies provided new or validated existing knowledge, by study



Most participants reported that the findings shared during the conference provided new knowledge (86.3%), and a similar proportion (82.7%) reported that the information shared validated their existing knowledge.

Figure 19 shows that a large proportion (63.0%) of participants said that they were satisfied with the information products and almost half (49.4%) said that they were very satisfied with the products. Furthermore, more than three-quarters (75.6%) of participants reported that they were very likely to use the findings for decision making in their work.

Figure 19. Feedback on satisfaction of participants with SUN LE products and likelihood of using the findings



6 LESSONS LEARNT/GOOD PRACTICES

The national conference provided a number of lessons that could help improve the delivery of future conferences. One lesson learned was that NFNC should engage all SUN partners much earlier in order to identify all the partners that are willing to support the conference and bring them on board. SUN LE noted that other SUN partners were willing and did make financial contributions towards the conference but these were identified at a much later date and their support would have been better managed and coordinated if it was identified much earlier. This derailed progress because the situation required SUN LE to share the conference concept for the new partners to review, resulting in a delay in starting implementation. Going forward, SUN LE and NFNC plan to arrange a stakeholders' meeting so that all interested stakeholders are identified at the very beginning of the process.

NFNC is in the process of developing a directory of all partners implementing nutrition programmes. This directory should be the basis for developing a mailing list for events such as the national conference. This would avoid the kinds of difficulties experienced in identifying and inviting relevant nutrition partners to the national conference.

SUN LE noted the need for upfront engagement of line ministry staff especially senior ministry officials prior to their participation in the conference, the panel discussions and breakout sessions. This engagement is important to ensure their understanding of the programme, the role of each partner and the findings being implemented. This engagement would be more effective if conducted throughout implementation of studies such as study designing, data collection, analysis, report writing, dissemination and data use.

The partners proposed a fixed date for the conference. Stakeholders proposed that wider commitment to the conference would be achieved if the programme identified a fixed date so that all the partners could be aware of it and work towards its implementation over time. Deciding on the conference date on a row over basis negatively affects commitment from the partners.

The project noticed that virtual participants were not as actively engaged as the physical participants. The planning team learnt that, ideally, a virtual conference should be exclusively conducted as a virtual event and not as a hybrid. The inclusion of physical audiences tended to divert the attention of presenters from focusing on virtual participants. During a hybrid event, less attention is given to virtual participants, which negatively affects their engagement and contribution.

7 NEXT STEPS

SUN LE, in collaboration with NFNC, will incorporate recommendations made from the conference into the final reports of the studies presented at the national conference (i.e., RPA, CFRS, and COVID-19 and food security survey reports and other studies), as applicable. Some of the recommendations were that SUN LE need to present some of the findings in line with the correct context within each sector to avoid misrepresentation of facts. Another important recommendation for the IPA study was that they should relook at the methodology and ensure that the impact of the programme is correctly measured.

Following the national conference, all SUN LE study reports will be finalised based on input, and the approved content will be the basis for conducting district-level dissemination and data use workshops to the 30 SUN priority districts.

The MCDP II RPA, CFRS, and COVID-19, Filling the Nutrition Gap (FNG) study, and Map and Gap Analysis (MGA) study results will be used as a basis for developing the district multi-sectoral action plans by the District Nutrition Coordinating Committees. At the national level, SUN LE will compile the

action points which were identified during the sector-specific Day 2 breakout sessions and submit the compilation to NFNC to follow up and work with the line ministries to make suggested improvements.

Annex 1: Terms of Reference for the National Conference Planning Committee

TORs	Members	Institution
Technical Subcommittee		
<p>Before the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop guidelines for submission of papers to be presented at the national conference Review technical reports/presentations and provide feedback to facilitate finalization of the documents Develop layout for presentations <p>During the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the moderation of breakout sessions Document the proceedings of the national conference – compile technical notes <p>After the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop the conference technical report based on reports from other committees and conference organiser Participate in the after-event review 	Boniface Kanjere	NFNC
	Erwin Miyoba	NFNC
	John Manda	SUN LE
	Patricia Sakala	SUN LE
	Mr. Mike Mwanza	NFNC
	Phililo Nambeye	WFP
	Freddie Mubanga	NFNC
	Theresa Kinkese	GIZ
	Andela Kangwa	MFL
	Idah Chama	NFNC
	Lwiindi Kabondo	MCDSS
	Beatrice Nyambe	UNICEF
	Precious Mumbi Habeenzu	UNICEF
	Mainza Kawanu	UNICEF
	Sumit Karn	UNICEF
	Rose Musumali	UNICEF
Yaled Sichivula	MOH	
Tresphor Chanda	MOGE	
Venantious Mulenga	MFL	
Dorothy Sikazwe	MOH	
Paul Mboshya	MWDSEP	
Finance and Logistics Subcommittee		
<p>Before the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Book conference venue Book meeting venues Facilitate timely payments to all vendors/recipients. Procure/hire all required equipment. <p>During the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all equipment is available. <p>After the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participate in the after-event review 	Abeaut Banda	SUN LE
	Victoria Sinkala	Rotivita
	John Manda Gladys Kabaghe Ruth Siyandi	SUN LE NFNC UNICEF
Communications and IT Subcommittee		
<p>Before the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all IT equipment is in place for the conference Develop a publicity plan Develop keynote speeches for GO Develop opening and closing speech for NFNC director 	Gladys Kabaghe	NFNC
	Reginald Ntomba	SUN TA
	Koji Soneka	NFNC
	Barbara J Hamoonga Ndhlovu	NFNC
	Brian Kunda	NFNC
	Jossy Phiri	NFNC

TORs	Members	Institution
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop press pack including invitation letters for media. • Provide technical assistance in developing branding materials (pop ups, back drops, banner etc) <p>During the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee the work of the conference organiser <p>After the conference:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhance visibility by sharing content on conference on social media platforms • Prepare communication report • Participate in the after-event review 	Nsungwe Mulendema	CSO -SUN
	Belinda T. Tembo	NFNC
	Siwisha Brian	ZANIS
	Wilbroad Zimba	MCDSS

Annex 2: Conference Programme

PROGRAMME FOR NATIONAL NUTRITION CONFERENCE

27-29 April 2021

(Location: Virtual/Lusaka)

Day 1 – 27 April 2021			
Time	Activity	Presenter/Responsible	Chairperson
08:30	Meeting start	Conference moderator	Conference moderator
08:35	Arrival of invited guests and Guest of honour	NFNC	Conference moderator
08:40	Opening prayer		Conference moderator
08:45	National Anthem	Conference moderator	Conference moderator
08:50	Welcome	Conference moderator	Conference moderator
08:55	Remarks from donor representatives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USAID • FCDO Zambia • GIZ 	Conference moderator	Conference moderator
09:25	Remarks from designated GRZ official and introduction of the Guest of Honour	Ag. Deputy Executive Director NFNC	Conference moderator
09:30	Official Opening of Conference speech from the Guest of Honour (GO)	Acting Executive Director NFNC	Conference moderator
09:45	Break		
09:50	Overview of conference programme	Conference moderator	Conference moderator
09:55	Plenary: Presentation of Readiness and Performance Assessment (PA) findings and Q&A	Dr Moses Simuyemba Nicholas Mwale	Conference moderator
11:00	Break		
11:10	Assessment of Community and Facility readiness to provide multisectoral nutrition services and Q&A	Dr Wilbroad Mutale Dr Oliver Mweemba Mike Mwanza	



10:25Hrs		Break		
10:40hrs		COVID-19 and Household Food Security	Dr. Rhoda Mofya Mukuka – IAPRI	Conference moderator
11:00hrs		Measuring Diet Practices	Dr. Chiza Kumwenda – UNZA	Conference moderator
11:20Hrs		Impact of Home-Based Growth Charts and Community Monitoring on Stunting	Tamara Bilima – IPA	Conference moderator
11:40Hrs		Use of data for decision making	Martha Mwale – Ndola DNCC	Conference moderator
12:00Hrs	Use of data for decision making	Mundia Mwangala – Mongu DNCC	Conference moderator	
12:20Hrs	Use of data for decision making	George Zulu – Petauke DNCC	Conference moderator	
12:40hrs	Plenary: Way forward & closing	NFNC Representative	Conference moderator	
13:00	Closing Remarks	GRZ Representative	GRZ Representative	



Annex 3: List of Conference Attendees

No.	Name	Institution
1.	Dorothy Namuchimba	APEX
2.	Mary Banda	Cavendish
3.	Olatubosun Akinola	Clinton Health Access Initiative (CHAI)
4.	Linkson Zulu	Churches Health Association of Zambia (CHAZ)
5.	Jim Mwandia	CHAZ
6.	Carol M Mufama	Clinton Health Access
7.	Wendy Anna Rose	Catholic Relief Services (CRS)
8.	Abigail Yikona	Civil Society Organisation Scaling Up Nutrition (CSO – SUN)
9.	Matthews Mhuru	CSO – SUN
10.	Maxwell Mumba	CSO – SUN
11.	Nsungwe Mulendema	CSO – SUN
12.	Domia Phiri	Civil Society for Poverty Reduction (CSPR)
13.	Linda Nyonda	Daily Mail
14.	Silke Seco	Department for International Development (DFID)
15.	Xlicoliene Oudwater	DFID
16.	Dante Bwayla	Diamond TV
17.	Victoria Kayoye	Diamond TV
18.	Mwiya Munda	Embassy of Ireland
19.	Solenli Chibwe	European Union Delegate
20.	Carla Henzler	GIZ
21.	Dennis Lohmann	GIZ
22.	Emily Mwale Banda	Harvest Plus
23.	Ballad A M Zulu	IAPRI
24.	Mulako Kabisa	IAPRI /Khulisa
25.	Mulenga C Napanje	Lusaka Apex Medical University (LAMU)
26.	F Monde Lisulu Hatembo	MOA
27.	Nancy Chella	MOA
28.	Christopher Mbewe	MOA
29.	Chrispin N Soko	MOA
30.	Elizabeth Nakamanga	MOA
31.	Trespchor Chanda	MOGE
32.	Nkole Chanpala	MOGE
33.	Maybin Luulu	MOGE
34.	Rebecca Nkole	MOH
35.	Martin Mzumara	MOH
36.	Dorothy Sikazwe	MOH
37.	Mwewa Kaliliti	MOH
38.	Fransica Mubamba	MOH
39.	Tina Chisenga	MOH
40.	Jane M. Hamomba	MOH

No.	Name	Institution
41.	Christine Makukula	MOH
42.	Sandra Mwanamani	MOH
43.	Jane M Hamomba	MOH
44.	Eunice H Peleka	MOH
45.	Mirriam Kunda	MOH
46.	Jonathan Mwewa	Musika
47.	Miranda Mateyo	Musika
48.	Margret Kundwe	MWDSEP
49.	Paul Mboshya	MWDSEP
50.	Kwegi Jere	MWDESP
51.	Lemana Washingstone	National Agriculture Information Services (NAIS)
52.	Chiluba Kawimbe	NAIS
53.	Nicholas Mwale	NAIS
54.	Stanley Mulenga	National Assembly
55.	Florence Mbewe	National Assembly
56.	Fatima Abdoola	Nutrition Association of Zambia (NAZ)
57.	Gloria Chola	NAZ / Liutebum University
58.	Augustine C Kaunda	NAZ / Liutebum University
59.	Sosten Banda	NFNC
60.	Chisela Kaliwile	NFNC
61.	Kalimbwe	NFNC
62.	Majorie Simumbwe	NFNC
63.	Mike Mwanza	NFNC
64.	Boniface Kanjere	NFNC
65.	Mulanji Choongo	NFNC
66.	Brian Kunda	NFNC
67.	Jossy Phiri	NFNC
68.	Koji Soneka	NFNC
69.	Belinda Tembo	NFNR
70.	Hilda Nyambe Silawwe	National Institute for Scientific and Industrial Research (NISIR)
71.	Henry Njapau	NISIR
72.	Nchimunya Chimuka	Natural Resources Development College (NRDC)
73.	Neleya Siyumbano	NRDC
74.	Tippor Ntini	Oxfam
75.	Astridah N Phiri	Programme Against Malnutrition (PAM)
76.	Francis Kasamala	PAM
77.	Melita Lungu	PAM
78.	Favourite Kalando	QFM/TV
79.	Lomphande Phiri	Radio Phoenix
80.	Manjoh Tumwa	SNV Netherlands Development Organisation (SNV)
81.	Kennedy Chipampe	SNV

No.	Name	Institution
82.	Jeff Kapembwa	Southern Times
83.	Mary Pat Selvaggio	SUN LE
84.	Edna Berhane	SUN LE
85.	John Manda	SUN LE
86.	Lwendo Moonzwe Davis	SUN LE
87.	Mathews Onyanga	SUN LE
88.	Patricia Sakala	SUN LE
89.	Beatrice Kawana	SUN TA
90.	Casius Chuma	SUN TA
91.	Makabaniso Ndhlovu	SUN TA
92.	Philippe Lemay	SUN TA
93.	Reginald Ntomba	SUN TA
94.	Solomon Mbewe	SUN TA
95.	Audrey M Muchemwa	Swedish Embassy
96.	George Sinkala	The Globe News
97.	Hellen Tembo	Times of Zambia
98.	Stephanie Martin	UNC
99.	Dorothy Nthani	UNZA
100.	Anafridah Bwenge	USAID
101.	Erin Berghammer	USAID
102.	Elizabeth M Chisala	USAID
103.	Kayt Erdahl	USAID
104.	Edward D	USAID
105.	Jeff D	USAID
106.	Dimuna Mwange	Water Aid
107.	Emmanuel Kiles	World Food Program
108.	Matridah Mukombo	World Vision
109.	Kelvin Chimbinde	ZANIS
110.	Milton J Lungu	ZANIS
111.	Kabisa M Situmbeko	ZANIS
112.	Nora Chimupi	ZANIS
113.	Siwisha Brian	ZANIS
114.	Sunday Bwalya	ZANIS
115.	Tamara Billima	Zambia Institute for Policy Analysis and Research

Annex 4: Domain Objectives, Summary Findings, and Recommendations

Domain Objectives	Summary Findings	Recommendations
Governance and leadership domain		
<p>The governance and leadership domain focused on assessing whether strategic policy frameworks exist and are combined with effective oversight, coalition-building, regulation, attention to system-design, and accountability.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The governance and leadership environment for the SUN is relatively weak. National level performed relatively better than the subnational (province, and district) levels. Districts under SUN I.0 performed slightly better than those under SUN 2.0. NGO influence was strong across all levels. NFNC had the highest average score in governance and leadership. Factors that contributed to poor performance in governance and leadership included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of common measurement system Lack of continuous communication Lack of cross-sector integrated planning Sub-optimal financial authority at NFNC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve collaboration both between government sectors and with external stakeholders. Develop an overarching M&E framework for the SUN programme and strengthen existing sector-specific M&E systems/structures, Create a process to review policy implementation. Develop an overall quality improvement plan for SUN. Enhance NFNC financial sustainability to facilitate its effectiveness, authority, and accountability.
Adjustment to population needs domain		
<p>The domain measured whether MCDP II stakeholders had a surveillance system for nutrition, whether selection of interventions was based on the assessment of need of the target populations, and whether there were mechanisms for learning and rolling out interventions based on lessons learned during implementation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance on adjustment to population needs was very poor and showed there is no overarching surveillance system for nutrition. Sector-specific systems were largely paper-based, lacked nutrition indicators, and had limited functionality. Although sectors reported that there was use of data during priority setting, resource allocation was often not informed by data. Learning and innovation was reported to occur irregularly, and application of lessons to scale interventions was not systematic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Put in place an overarching surveillance system for the nutrition programme that each sector's surveillance system can link to. Establish institutionalised mechanism for learning and innovation and do not depend on current informal arrangements. Strengthen the use of data in priority setting, including the use of data to inform resource allocation.
Commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure domain		
<p>The domain measured availability of commodities, supplies, and service infrastructure.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There was poor availability of essential commodities, equipment, and diagnostic tools in most management units. This implies that delivery of the minimum package of interventions was negatively affected by the 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Government and cooperating partners need to support the provision of basic equipment, essential commodities, and supplies at the district and ward levels to improve the convergence of interventions across ministries.

Domain Objectives	Summary Findings	Recommendations
	<p>inadequate availability of these inputs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coverage of services in all wards was also low in most districts, reducing the chances of convergence of interventions at the ward level. • Programme impact on stunting reduction is likely to be low if efforts to improve coverage of interventions to the lowest level is not improved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SUN 2.0 sectors should formally define commodities, supplies, and equipment requirements at each level for stakeholders to effectively support stock management and service delivery.
Information system domain		
<p>The domain assessed availability of a functioning information system and beneficiary records.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The findings showed that the majority of sectors did not have a standardised SUN MIS in place. • Most of the sectors use longitudinal beneficiary records that include more than three required components. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support sectors to establish standardised SUN MIS at all levels to facilitate routine monitoring and reporting. • Strengthen beneficiary records management for tracking of beneficiaries over time.
Workforce domain		
<p>The domain examined the sufficiency of the number and distribution of nutrition workers/service providers to meet population needs and promote equitable access to quality care and service delivery, and the ability of the system to ensure quality of workforce education and practice.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overall domain score of (2.1) implied there was insufficient SUN workforce density and competencies to achieve high coverage across the broad range of nutrition services specified in the minimum nutrition package. • Community workers (camp extension officers, community health assistants, etc.) only provided limited scope of nutrition proactive outreach services in few geographic areas. • Findings showed that the SUN workforce was inadequate to achieve high coverage across the broad range of nutrition services specified in the minimum nutrition package. • More than half of administrative units/sectors or SDPs had a workforce density below 50% of the recommended staff. • Although there were specific/ dedicated permanent positions appointed to SUN with clearly defined roles, some positions and competencies have not been clearly defined, particularly in nutrition-sensitive sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sectors should ensure that systematic efforts and mechanisms are in place to ensure that competencies among current staff are kept up-to-date with SUN priorities to sustain operational excellence. • Explore short- to medium-term measures to meet critical manpower shortages (e.g. internship programs, volunteerism).

Domain Objectives	Summary Findings	Recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Competency updates were infrequent and involved mostly ad hoc activities and trainings. 	
Funding domain		
<p>The domain assessed availability of an appropriate system for managing funds at each level to address recurrent and fixed costs incurred, including payment of staff salaries; the availability of funds at various levels, looking at the ability to address recurrent and fixed costs incurred at each level; and mechanisms and funding to support remuneration of community volunteers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Findings indicated that the funding systems (budget, financial management information system, and remuneration of community workers) were not robust across all levels, ministries, and implementing agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve funding consistency across all sectors to make it more stable, predictable, and timely. Strengthen the FMIS and budgeting procedures across all the levels. Increase funding for nutrition activities generally across all sectors. All stakeholders to harmonise interventions and coordination.
Population nutrition management domain		
<p>Domain measured: (1) local priority setting: the translation of national or provincial policies into local strategic action plans that respond to needs and preferences of the population; (2) community engagement: a process of developing relationships that enable stakeholders to work together to address nutrition-related issues and promote well-being to achieve positive nutrition impact and outcomes; (3) empanelment: an iterative process to identify and assign populations to services, teams, or providers who have a responsibility to know the individuals in their assigned population and to proactively deliver coordinated nutrition services to them; and (4) proactive population outreach: nutrition systems put in place to actively reach out to priority communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All the districts performed poorly on proactive outreach to nutrition target groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen existing efforts to translate policies into action plans that address local nutrition needs. Engage the community's stakeholders in the development of action plans. Ensure that communities are engaged in the design, implementation, and monitoring of interventions. Empanelment: Apply the rostering of the population being targeted for nutrition interventions to ensure 90% coverage of the population. Use volunteers to provide services to the identified beneficiaries to help ensure that the population nutrition needs are met. Maintain registers for vulnerable populations to track their access to services and progress on services provided for their nutrition situations.
Service organisation and management domain		
<p>The domain focused on service management capability and leadership, information systems, and supportive supervision as they relate to service organisation and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Findings showed a weak supportive and supervision system for the nutrition programme in all sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen supportive supervision, information use, and service management capability and leadership.

Domain Objectives	Summary Findings	Recommendations
<p>management. Five measures were assessed: team-based service delivery, service management capability and leadership, information systems, performance targets, and supportive supervision.</p>		

Annex 5: Question and Answer Session

Question/Issue	Discussion points	Response
Study: Readiness and Performance Assessment		
Issue of volunteers	Community level volunteers have a particularly important role in the successful implementation of the SUN programme given the low number of GRZ staff at lower levels. Therefore, they should be recognised and appropriately incentivised.	Government recognises the contribution of volunteers as such, the govt is currently developing the volunteer policy. The policy will guide on a number of aspects including incentives, coordination and supervision Recommendations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include volunteers in planning in programming. • Stakeholders encouraged to use the policy once launched.
Definition of qualifications assessed in the study	How were the qualifications defined in the study under the workforce domain?	The data collection tool was developed with input from the sectors/line ministries and defined based on the guidance they provided. Therefore, the results were based on the bench marks set by the sector/line ministry from the beginning.
Study: Community and Facility Readiness Survey		
Methodology	The assessment on community readiness appears to have focused more on MOH and less on other sectors.	Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considering that the national nutrition response is multisectoral, there is need to be inclusive in the assessment.
Findings -Growth monitoring	Why is training on growth monitoring and promotion low while there are a number of capacity building interventions in this area? Is it due to staff turnover?	There is possibility of staff turnover Recommendation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rotation of the staff within the facilities can help sort out the low numbers
Human resources supply	Given the low levels of skilled manpower in the service delivery points and the high number of people graduating every year, do we know where the nutrition graduates go?	The aspect of human resource supply was not explored in the study

Annex 6: Panel Discussion Guide

Panel discussion guide

Introduction to the Panel Discussion

Purpose: The Panel discussion is to provide a forum for senior government officers from the line ministries and implementing partners to reflect on the results of the readiness studies and identify existing opportunities (short- and long-term) to address the identified gaps.

Model of delivery: Moderators to pose the specific questions to relevant panellists to address.

Mode: Panellists are encouraged to physically attend the meeting at the designated venue.

Thereafter, other panellists can contribute towards the responses provided.

Duration: 1 Hour, Panellist will take approximately 3- 5 minutes to respond to specific questions.

1. Governance and Leadership - NFNC

Collaboration, both within government, across different ministries and levels, and between government and external stakeholders was weak and needs attention. To successfully achieve collective impact of the SUN 2.0/MCDP II programme, there is need for a more clearly articulated vision, a common measurement framework, and use of a clearly defined minimum package of mutually reinforcing interventions. While communication structures and processes have been established to facilitate collaboration, there is need to enhance these for overall improvements in collaboration, accountability, and performance.

- What measures can be instituted to ensure that governance, leadership, and coordination of the SUN programme is strengthened for the success of the MCDP II programme? How can these measures be achieved/implemented?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

2. Adjustment to Population Needs - UNICEF

Overall, there is little to no evidence that the SUN 2.0/MCDP II programme is systematically adjusted to meet population needs. The weakest point in this domain is related to weak nutrition surveillance in most of the sectors and the absence of an overarching surveillance system across all sectors, especially at lower levels.

- What plans do you recommend to ensure that the programme addresses the evolving nutrition needs of the population? How can the programme establish a unified, effective surveillance system?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

Resources were often not allocated according to set priorities but allocated according to fund availability from government and other funders, with the funders' priorities at time taking precedence. Also, learning and innovation is ad hoc and successful lessons are rarely scaled up.

- How do we improve resource allocation based on need?

- How do we make learning and innovation more structured – from design to implementation, and scaling up of best practices/successful innovations?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

3. Commodities, Supplies, and Service Infrastructure (Directors) (10 minutes)

The findings imply a poor overall supply chain management to support SUN service delivery across most institutions. The lowest scores were observed on availability of essential nutrition consumables, basic equipment, and availability of essential diagnostic supplies. Overall, only 17.1% of management units had basic equipment and supplies available; only 10% had essential commodities available; and only 8.7% of wards were implementing all SUN interventions. No management units had all the required essential diagnostic tools.

- What measures would we put in place in individual sectors to ensure we are able to account for the implementation of interventions within our sectors?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

4. Information System - NFNC

There is no overarching, standardised, SUN information system to track the ongoing performance of the SUN 2.0/MCDP II programme, although separate ministry-specific management information systems do exist, with varying degrees of functionality.

- What, in your views, are the factors hampering development of standardised information system? How can these be addressed to ensure MCDP II indicators are collected within the ministry-specific information systems and reported in a multisectoral monitoring system?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

5. Workforce – Directors

Compared to international and Zambian benchmarks, workforce numbers are insufficient to achieve high coverage of nutrition services specified in the SUN 2.0/MCDP II minimum nutrition package. More than 50% of sector management units had a workforce density below 50% of the recommended GRZ staff allotment. The assessment also showed that competencies among current staff to implement the SUN programme is limited at lower levels i.e. districts and community. Despite the existence of capacity building mechanisms (e.g., staff training programme), these were mostly characterised by infrequent ad-hoc trainings. The critical gap was noticed in the MOFL.

- What measures are being considered to improve the workforce density and competencies in the different ministries, especially in the MOFL, to implement the MCDP II programme?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

6. Funding - Directors

Funding is critical to the success of this programme and various partners are supporting the MCDP II programme. The assessment found that the flow of funds to management units was mostly unstable, irregular, and unpredictable. More than 50% of management units did not maintain a financial

information system for tracking SUN-related revenues and expenditures, especially at ward level. Remuneration of community volunteers at ward level was also highly unstable, unpredictable, and almost always delayed.

- What measures are we putting in place to ensure that the financial support is timely and adequate to support the implementation of programmes?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

7. Population Nutrition Management

Although districts and wards collect or receive data for strategic action planning, at least annually, engagement of communities and local leaders in data interpretation and priority-setting is limited.

- What measures are we putting in place to improve engagement of communities and local leaders in data interpretation and priority-setting?
- If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim?

Annex 7: Breakout Session Guide

2021 SCALING-UP NUTRITION NATIONAL CONFERENCE

13 APRIL 2021

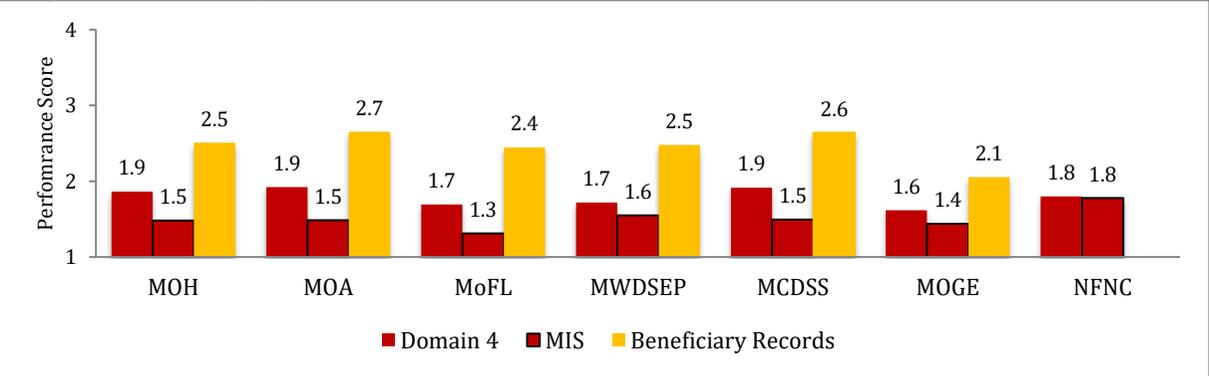
QUESTION GUIDE FOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS DISCUSSIONS

SECTOR BREAKOUT SESSIONS: Each group will discuss the following questions...

Domain	RPA Summary/highlights	PROBES																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																	
Domain 1 Governance and Leadership	<p>Internal collaboration between government ministries and external collaboration with partners was generally fair, with room for improvement.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="371 571 1693 1010"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="6">Nutrition/SUN Policies</th> <th colspan="5">SUN policies- Leadership</th> <th colspan="5">Quality Management Infra</th> <th colspan="5">Collaboration with External Stakeholder</th> <th colspan="5">Collaboration across govt Sectors</th> </tr> <tr> <th>CATEGORY</th> <th>Policy Exist</th> <th>Nutrition Prominence</th> <th>Evidence Base</th> <th>Participatory Process</th> <th>Legal/Admin Framework</th> <th>SUN fundamental</th> <th>Joint Review</th> <th>SUN National Authority</th> <th>Accountability</th> <th>Operational Capacity</th> <th>Authority & Resources</th> <th>Sustainability/Financial</th> <th>Commitment Quality</th> <th>Quality Policy/Guideline</th> <th>Quality Assurance Int</th> <th>Routine Quality Data</th> <th>Willings to Learn</th> <th>Stakeholder Engagement</th> <th>Stakeholder Influence</th> <th>Public Disclosure</th> <th>Common Agenda/Visions</th> <th>Mutually Reinforcing Interventions</th> <th>Continuous Comm</th> <th>Common M&E</th> <th>Integrated Planning</th> <th>Subnational Intg planning</th> <th>Common Agenda/Visions</th> <th>Mutually Reinforcing Interventions</th> <th>Common M&E</th> <th>Common M&E</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Overall Score</td> <td>3.3</td><td>3.1</td><td>3.1</td><td>3.4</td><td>3.0</td><td>2.8</td><td>2.2</td><td>3.6</td><td>2.5</td><td>3.2</td><td>2.5</td><td>1.5</td><td>2.0</td><td>2.5</td><td>3.5</td><td>3.0</td><td>3.5</td><td>3.4</td><td>4.0</td><td>2.5</td><td>2.8</td><td>1.7</td><td>1.7</td><td>1.4</td><td>2.8</td><td>2.4</td><td>2.8</td><td>2.5</td><td>1.8</td><td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="32">MINISTRY/AGENCY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MOH</td> 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Interventions	Continuous Comm	Common M&E	Integrated Planning	Subnational Intg planning	Common Agenda/Visions	Mutually Reinforcing Interventions	Common M&E	Common M&E	Overall Score	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.0	2.8	2.2	3.6	2.5	3.2	2.5	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.4	4.0	2.5	2.8	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.8	2.4	2.8	2.5	1.8	1.5	MINISTRY/AGENCY																																MOH	3.5	3.3	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.2	2.3	4.0	2.9	3.4	2.7	1.5	2.0	2.7	3.7	3.7	3.5	4.0	4.0	2.4	2.7	3.1	1.7	1.5	3.0	2.3	2.7	2.5	1.7	1.4	MOA	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.7	3.2	2.8	2.1	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.5	1.2	2.0	2.5	3.3	2.8	3.5	4.0	4.0	2.8	2.9	2.9	1.7	1.4	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.6	1.8	1.5	MoFL	3.0	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.6	3.0	2.6	1.5	2.0	2.2	3.4	2.8	3.3	3.0	4.0	2.2	2.4	2.1	1.6	1.2	2.4	2.0	2.6	2.1	1.7	1.4	MWDSEP	2.8	2.6	2.2	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.4	4.0	3.0	3.1	2.5	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.7	3.1	3.4	4.0	4.0	2.5	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.4	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.4	MCDSS	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.4	3.1	2.6	2.1	4.0	2.9	3.1	2.6	1.8	2.0	2.4	3.3	2.7	3.5	3.0	4.0	2.4	3.0	2.7	1.7	1.4	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.6	1.9	1.5	MOGE	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.5	2.7	3.1	2.0	4.0	2.5	3.2	2.4	1.2	2.0	2.8	3.4	2.9	3.4	4.0	4.0	2.3	2.4	2.5	1.6	1.3	2.8	2.2	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.4	NFNC	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.1	3.4	2.4	4.0	3.6	3.4	2.7	1.5	2.0	3.2	3.7	3.3	3.8	4.0	4.0	2.4	3.8	3.7	2.0	1.8	3.3	3.6	3.6	1.9	1.8	<p>What are the feasible actions/measures in your sector for addressing the identified gaps in governance and leadership in your sector/ministry (short- and long-term plans)?:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why do you think this is the case (SUN policies, leadership, quality management, internal collaboration, external collaboration)? <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? What are the long-term plans?
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Overall Score	3.3	3.1	3.1	3.4	3.0	2.8	2.2	3.6	2.5	3.2	2.5	1.5	2.0	2.5	3.5	3.0	3.5	3.4	4.0	2.5	2.8	1.7	1.7	1.4	2.8	2.4	2.8	2.5	1.8	1.5																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
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MOH	3.5	3.3	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.2	2.3	4.0	2.9	3.4	2.7	1.5	2.0	2.7	3.7	3.7	3.5	4.0	4.0	2.4	2.7	3.1	1.7	1.5	3.0	2.3	2.7	2.5	1.7	1.4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
MOA	3.5	3.5	3.1	3.7	3.2	2.8	2.1	3.0	2.9	3.0	2.5	1.2	2.0	2.5	3.3	2.8	3.5	4.0	4.0	2.8	2.9	2.9	1.7	1.4	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.6	1.8	1.5																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
MoFL	3.0	2.1	2.1	2.4	2.1	2.0	2.0	3.0	2.6	3.0	2.6	1.5	2.0	2.2	3.4	2.8	3.3	3.0	4.0	2.2	2.4	2.1	1.6	1.2	2.4	2.0	2.6	2.1	1.7	1.4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
MWDSEP	2.8	2.6	2.2	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.4	4.0	3.0	3.1	2.5	1.4	2.0	2.4	3.7	3.1	3.4	4.0	4.0	2.5	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.4	2.6	2.6	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
MCDSS	3.3	3.1	2.9	3.4	3.1	2.6	2.1	4.0	2.9	3.1	2.6	1.8	2.0	2.4	3.3	2.7	3.5	3.0	4.0	2.4	3.0	2.7	1.7	1.4	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.6	1.9	1.5																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
MOGE	3.3	3.2	3.1	3.5	2.7	3.1	2.0	4.0	2.5	3.2	2.4	1.2	2.0	2.8	3.4	2.9	3.4	4.0	4.0	2.3	2.4	2.5	1.6	1.3	2.8	2.2	2.7	2.3	1.7	1.4																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
NFNC	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.1	3.4	2.4	4.0	3.6	3.4	2.7	1.5	2.0	3.2	3.7	3.3	3.8	4.0	4.0	2.4	3.8	3.7	2.0	1.8	3.3	3.6	3.6	1.9	1.8																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						

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Domain 2 Adjustment to Population Needs	<p>The overall mean score of 1.3 of 4 is one of the poorest performing areas of the SUN 2.0 programme and signifies the need for improvement.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="376 327 1697 767"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="376 327 629 440" rowspan="2">Ministries / Institution</th> <th data-bbox="629 327 976 440" rowspan="2">Overall Domain 2 Score at National Level</th> <th colspan="3" data-bbox="976 327 1697 363">Domain Measures</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="976 363 1252 440">Surveillance</th> <th data-bbox="1252 363 1447 440">Priority Setting</th> <th data-bbox="1447 363 1697 440">Learning and Innovation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 440 629 483">Overall</td> <td data-bbox="629 440 976 483">2.1</td> <td data-bbox="976 440 1252 483">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1252 440 1447 483">2.6</td> <td data-bbox="1447 440 1697 483">2.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 483 629 523">MOGE</td> <td data-bbox="629 483 976 523">2.0</td> <td data-bbox="976 483 1252 523">1.3</td> <td data-bbox="1252 483 1447 523">2.3</td> <td data-bbox="1447 483 1697 523">2.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 523 629 563">MCDSS</td> <td data-bbox="629 523 976 563">2.6</td> <td data-bbox="976 523 1252 563">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1252 523 1447 563">3.0</td> <td data-bbox="1447 523 1697 563">4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 563 629 603">MWDSEP</td> <td data-bbox="629 563 976 603">2.6</td> <td data-bbox="976 563 1252 603">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1252 563 1447 603">3.0</td> <td data-bbox="1447 563 1697 603">4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 603 629 643">MOFL</td> <td data-bbox="629 603 976 643">1.5</td> <td data-bbox="976 603 1252 643">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1252 603 1447 643">1.6</td> <td data-bbox="1447 603 1697 643">2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 643 629 683">MOA</td> <td data-bbox="629 643 976 683">2.2</td> <td data-bbox="976 643 1252 683">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1252 643 1447 683">2.0</td> <td data-bbox="1447 643 1697 683">3.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 683 629 722">MOH</td> <td data-bbox="629 683 976 722">2.6</td> <td data-bbox="976 683 1252 722">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1252 683 1447 722">3.0</td> <td data-bbox="1447 683 1697 722">4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 722 629 767">NFNC</td> <td data-bbox="629 722 976 767">2.1</td> <td data-bbox="976 722 1252 767">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1252 722 1447 767">3.3</td> <td data-bbox="1447 722 1697 767">2.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ministries / Institution	Overall Domain 2 Score at National Level	Domain Measures			Surveillance	Priority Setting	Learning and Innovation	Overall	2.1	1.0	2.6	2.7	MOGE	2.0	1.3	2.3	2.3	MCDSS	2.6	1.0	3.0	4.0	MWDSEP	2.6	1.0	3.0	4.0	MOFL	1.5	1.0	1.6	2.0	MOA	2.2	1.0	2.0	3.6	MOH	2.6	1.0	3.0	4.0	NFNC	2.1	1.0	3.3	2.0	<p>What are the feasible actions/measures in your sector for addressing (short- and long-term plans):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Non-existence of an overarching surveillance system 2. More engagement of stakeholders in priority-setting exercises 3. Allocation of resources based on data 4. Systematic scaling up of innovations based on set mechanisms for learning and innovation <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? • If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? • What are the long-term plans?
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Domain 3 Commodities, Supplies, and Service Infrastructure	<p>Poor overall infrastructure and supply chain management to support SUN 2.0/MCDP II service delivery across all sectors was found.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="371 296 1664 679"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="371 296 539 400">Ministries</th> <th data-bbox="539 296 707 400">Overall score Domain 3</th> <th data-bbox="707 296 976 400">Availability of Essential Nutrition Consumables</th> <th data-bbox="976 296 1184 400">Availability of Basic Equipment</th> <th data-bbox="1184 296 1435 400">Availability of Essential Diagnostic tools</th> <th data-bbox="1435 296 1664 400">Ward coverage of all interventions</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 400 539 440">MCDSS</td> <td data-bbox="539 400 707 440">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="707 400 976 440">xx</td> <td data-bbox="976 400 1184 440">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1184 400 1435 440">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1435 400 1664 440">1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 440 539 480">MWDSEP</td> <td data-bbox="539 440 707 480">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="707 440 976 480">xx</td> <td data-bbox="976 440 1184 480">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1184 440 1435 480">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1435 440 1664 480">1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 480 539 520">MOA</td> <td data-bbox="539 480 707 520">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="707 480 976 520">xx</td> <td data-bbox="976 480 1184 520">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1184 480 1435 520">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1435 480 1664 520">1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 520 539 560">MOGE</td> <td data-bbox="539 520 707 560">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="707 520 976 560">xx</td> <td data-bbox="976 520 1184 560">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1184 520 1435 560">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1435 520 1664 560">1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 560 539 600">MOH</td> <td data-bbox="539 560 707 600">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="707 560 976 600">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="976 560 1184 600">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1184 560 1435 600">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1435 560 1664 600">1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 600 539 639">MOFL</td> <td data-bbox="539 600 707 639">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="707 600 976 639">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="976 600 1184 639">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1184 600 1435 639">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="1435 600 1664 639">1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="371 639 539 679">NFNC</td> <td data-bbox="539 639 707 679">1.0</td> <td data-bbox="707 639 976 679">xx</td> <td data-bbox="976 639 1184 679">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1184 639 1435 679">xx</td> <td data-bbox="1435 639 1664 679">1.0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ministries	Overall score Domain 3	Availability of Essential Nutrition Consumables	Availability of Basic Equipment	Availability of Essential Diagnostic tools	Ward coverage of all interventions	MCDSS	1.0	xx	xx	1.0	1.0	MWDSEP	1.0	xx	1.0	1.0	1.0	MOA	1.0	xx	xx	xx	1.0	MOGE	1.0	xx	xx	xx	1.0	MOH	1.0	1.0	xx	1.0	1.0	MOFL	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	NFNC	1.0	xx	xx	xx	1.0	<p>What are the feasible measures for your ministry/sector to address the gaps below (in the interim and long term):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Availability of Essential Nutrition Consumables 2. Availability of Basic commodities and equipment 3. Convergency of interventions to ensure an impact on stunting reduction <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? • If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? • What are the long-term plans?
Ministries	Overall score Domain 3	Availability of Essential Nutrition Consumables	Availability of Basic Equipment	Availability of Essential Diagnostic tools	Ward coverage of all interventions																																													
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NFNC	1.0	xx	xx	xx	1.0																																													

Domain	RPA Summary/highlights	PROBES																																
Domain 4 Information System	<p>The MIS score is one of the lowest scores in the entire RPA and is due to lack of a standardised, consolidated SUN programme management information system.</p>  <table border="1" data-bbox="376 327 1585 703"> <caption>Performance Score Data</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Ministry</th> <th>Domain 4</th> <th>MIS</th> <th>Beneficiary Records</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>MOH</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>2.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MOA</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>2.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MoFL</td> <td>1.7</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>2.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MWDSEP</td> <td>1.7</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>2.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MCDSS</td> <td>1.9</td> <td>1.5</td> <td>2.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>MOGE</td> <td>1.6</td> <td>1.4</td> <td>2.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NFNC</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>-</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ministry	Domain 4	MIS	Beneficiary Records	MOH	1.9	1.5	2.5	MOA	1.9	1.5	2.7	MoFL	1.7	1.3	2.4	MWDSEP	1.7	1.6	2.5	MCDSS	1.9	1.5	2.6	MOGE	1.6	1.4	2.1	NFNC	1.8	1.8	-	<p>What are the feasible measures for your ministry/sector to address the identified gaps (in the interim and long term):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Management information systems, especially at lower levels of service delivery 2. Management of beneficiary records <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? • If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? • What are the long-term plans?
Ministry	Domain 4	MIS	Beneficiary Records																															
MOH	1.9	1.5	2.5																															
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Domain	RPA Summary/highlights	PROBES																																
Domain 5 Workforce	<p>Overall, the low mean score for workforce density and distribution (1.8) indicates critical workforce shortages to meet basic nutrition needs.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="376 336 1695 695"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="376 336 680 411">National Ministries</th> <th data-bbox="680 336 940 411">Overall Domain Score</th> <th data-bbox="940 336 1263 411">Workforce density</th> <th data-bbox="1263 336 1695 411">Workforce competencies</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 411 680 448">MOH</td> <td data-bbox="680 411 940 448">2.7</td> <td data-bbox="940 411 1263 448">2.4</td> <td data-bbox="1263 411 1695 448">3.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 448 680 485">MOA</td> <td data-bbox="680 448 940 485">2.3</td> <td data-bbox="940 448 1263 485">2.3</td> <td data-bbox="1263 448 1695 485">2.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 485 680 521">MOFL</td> <td data-bbox="680 485 940 521">2.1</td> <td data-bbox="940 485 1263 521">2.1</td> <td data-bbox="1263 485 1695 521">2.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 521 680 558">MWDSEP</td> <td data-bbox="680 521 940 558">2.8</td> <td data-bbox="940 521 1263 558">1.5</td> <td data-bbox="1263 521 1695 558">4.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 558 680 595">MCDSS</td> <td data-bbox="680 558 940 595">1.9</td> <td data-bbox="940 558 1263 595">1.6</td> <td data-bbox="1263 558 1695 595">2.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 595 680 632">MOGE</td> <td data-bbox="680 595 940 632">1.7</td> <td data-bbox="940 595 1263 632">1.8</td> <td data-bbox="1263 595 1695 632">1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 632 680 695">NFNC</td> <td data-bbox="680 632 940 695">2.3</td> <td data-bbox="940 632 1263 695">1.8</td> <td data-bbox="1263 632 1695 695">2.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	National Ministries	Overall Domain Score	Workforce density	Workforce competencies	MOH	2.7	2.4	3.0	MOA	2.3	2.3	2.3	MOFL	2.1	2.1	2.0	MWDSEP	2.8	1.5	4.0	MCDSS	1.9	1.6	2.3	MOGE	1.7	1.8	1.5	NFNC	2.3	1.8	2.8	<p>What are the feasible measures in your sector/ministry for addressing the identified gaps (in the interim and long term):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Workforce density 2. Workforce competencies to ensure capacities are built to improve delivery of SUN services. <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? • If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? • What are the long-term plans?
National Ministries	Overall Domain Score	Workforce density	Workforce competencies																															
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Domain	RPA Summary/highlights	PROBES																																
Domain 6 Funding	<p>Preparation of budgets was one of the dimensions measured under the funding domain. The findings showed that although sectors prepared budgets, they did not receive commensurate funding to support planned activities.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="376 328 1697 651"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" data-bbox="376 328 1697 363">District Level</th> </tr> <tr> <th data-bbox="376 363 792 405">Ministry</th> <th data-bbox="792 363 1126 405">Budgets</th> <th data-bbox="1126 363 1368 405">FMIS</th> <th data-bbox="1368 363 1697 405">Volunteer remuneration</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 405 792 445">MOH</td> <td data-bbox="792 405 1126 445">2.4</td> <td data-bbox="1126 405 1368 445">1.8</td> <td data-bbox="1368 405 1697 445">2.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 445 792 485">MOA</td> <td data-bbox="792 445 1126 485">2.3</td> <td data-bbox="1126 445 1368 485">1.4</td> <td data-bbox="1368 445 1697 485">1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 485 792 525">MOFL</td> <td data-bbox="792 485 1126 525">1.9</td> <td data-bbox="1126 485 1368 525">1.5</td> <td data-bbox="1368 485 1697 525">1.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 525 792 564">MWDSEP</td> <td data-bbox="792 525 1126 564">2.1</td> <td data-bbox="1126 525 1368 564">1.5</td> <td data-bbox="1368 525 1697 564">1.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 564 792 604">MCDSS</td> <td data-bbox="792 564 1126 604">2.4</td> <td data-bbox="1126 564 1368 604">1.4</td> <td data-bbox="1368 564 1697 604">1.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 604 792 651">NFNC</td> <td data-bbox="792 604 1126 651">2.9</td> <td data-bbox="1126 604 1368 651">1.5</td> <td data-bbox="1368 604 1697 651">2.2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	District Level				Ministry	Budgets	FMIS	Volunteer remuneration	MOH	2.4	1.8	2.1	MOA	2.3	1.4	1.9	MOFL	1.9	1.5	1.7	MWDSEP	2.1	1.5	1.8	MCDSS	2.4	1.4	1.9	NFNC	2.9	1.5	2.2	<p>What are the feasible measures in your sector/ministry for addressing the identified gaps (in the interim and long term):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The financial management systems 2. Remuneration of volunteers <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? • If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? • What are the long-term plans?
District Level																																		
Ministry	Budgets	FMIS	Volunteer remuneration																															
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MCDSS	2.4	1.4	1.9																															
NFNC	2.9	1.5	2.2																															

Domain	RPA Summary/highlights										PROBES
Domain 7 Population Nutrition Management	Performance was generally poor for this measure both at district and ward levels, although districts tended to have slightly higher scores than wards. MOGE scored highest both at district (1.8) and ward level (2.0) while NGOs scored lowest at district level (1.3). MOH and MWDSEP had the lowest scores at ward level (1.3).										<p>What are the feasible measures that can be implemented by your sector/ministry to improve proactive population nutrition management?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Community engagement Empanelment Number of wards covered with ALL interventions <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? What are the long-term plans?
Ministry	Domain 7 Overall Score		Priority Setting		Community engagement		Empanelment		Proactive Population Outreach		
	District	Ward	District	Ward	District	Ward	District	Ward	District	Ward	
MOA	2.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.4	2.4	2.7	1.7	1.5	
MCDSS	2.3	2.1	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.6	2.3	1.5	1.5	
MOH	2.5	2.3	3.2	2.8	2.7	2.3	2.6	2.7	1.6	1.3	
MOFL	2.2	2.1	2.5	2.4	2.2	2	2.1	2.3	1.9	1.7	
MOGE	2.2	2.0	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.1	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.0	
NGO	2.5	NA	3.1	NA	2.7	NA	2.9	NA	1.3	NA	
MWDSEP	2.3	2.3	2.6	2.8	2.7	2.6	2	2.6	1.9	1.2	
NFNC	2.4	NA	3.2	NA	2.5	NA	2.3	NA	1.5	NA	
Overall	2.3	2.2	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.3	2.3	2.4	1.7	1.5	

Domain	RPA Summary/highlights	PROBES																				
Domain 8 Service Organisation and Management	<p>This domain's performance was very low.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="376 296 1697 687"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="376 296 1252 328">Sector/Ministry</th> <th data-bbox="1252 296 1697 328">Mean Score</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 328 1252 365">MOH</td> <td data-bbox="1252 328 1697 365">1.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 365 1252 402">MOA</td> <td data-bbox="1252 365 1697 402">1.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 402 1252 438">MOFL</td> <td data-bbox="1252 402 1697 438">1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 438 1252 475">MWDSEP</td> <td data-bbox="1252 438 1697 475">1.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 475 1252 512">MCDSS</td> <td data-bbox="1252 475 1697 512">1.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 512 1252 549">MOGE</td> <td data-bbox="1252 512 1697 549">1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 549 1252 585">Service Management Capability & Leadership measure</td> <td data-bbox="1252 549 1697 585">1.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 585 1252 622">Information Systems measure</td> <td data-bbox="1252 585 1697 622">1.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="376 622 1252 659">Supportive Supervision measure</td> <td data-bbox="1252 622 1697 659">1.6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Sector/Ministry	Mean Score	MOH	1.3	MOA	1.3	MOFL	1.5	MWDSEP	1.3	MCDSS	1.4	MOGE	1.5	Service Management Capability & Leadership measure	1.3	Information Systems measure	1.3	Supportive Supervision measure	1.6	<p>What are the feasible measures that can be implemented by your sector/ministry to address gaps in Service Organisation and Management?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is your ministry going to do in the interim to help improve service organization and management? <p>Probes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are priority interventions within the next 5 years? • If the ideal is not achieved, what are the alternatives in the interim? • What are the long-term plans?
Sector/Ministry	Mean Score																					
MOH	1.3																					
MOA	1.3																					
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Service Management Capability & Leadership measure	1.3																					
Information Systems measure	1.3																					
Supportive Supervision measure	1.6																					

Annex 8: Conference Evaluation Questionnaire**2021 National Nutrition Conference Evaluation Form****Background**

The 2021 National Nutrition conference was organized by the National Food and Nutrition Commission with support from the USAID supported, Scaling Up Nutrition learning and Evaluation project, and Scaling Up Nutrition Implementing partners. The conference is an important annual event aimed at sharing research results, innovations, and best practices on nutrition programs in Zambia. The 2021 conference was a virtual event that took place from 27 April to 29 April 2021.

we are glad that you registered to participate in the conference therefore, we would like to hear your opinion on some key issues that will help us to improve in organizing future events.

Please take your time to answer a short evaluation of the event, the survey will take approximately 5 minutes of your time.

Your responses will be kept anonymous and your participation voluntarily.

We look forward to your feedback. Keep safe!

Please note that your responses will remain anonymous.

1. You registered to participate in the national conference, did you attend the national nutrition conference
 Yes
 No
 2. Which category does the organization you work for belong?
 NGO
 GRZ
 Private Sector
 3. At what level do you work:
 National
 Provincial
 District
 Other (specify)
 4. What is your position in the institution you work for?
-

5. Did the following presentations provide you with new knowledge?

Response	Study		
	Readiness and Performance assessment	Community and Facility readiness survey	Impact of COVID 19 on food security
Yes			
No			
N/A			

6. Did the following presentations validate your existing knowledge?

Response	Study		
	Readiness and Performance assessment	Community and Facility readiness survey	Impact of COVID 19 on food security
Yes			
No			
N/A			

7. How likely are you to apply or use the knowledge /information that you obtained from the following presentations?

Response	Study		
	Readiness and Performance assessment	Community and Facility readiness survey	Impact of COVID 19 on food security
Very likely			
Neither likely nor unlikely			
Unlikely			
Very unlikely			
N/A			

8. How likely are you to apply or use the knowledge /information that you obtained from the following presentations?

Response	Study		
	Readiness and Performance assessment	Community and Facility readiness survey	Impact of COVID 19 on food security
Very satisfied			
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied			
Dissatisfied			
Very dissatisfied			
N/A			

9. How easy was it for you to register and participate in the proceedings?

Response	Conference segments				
	National conference	Sessions	Presentations	Session	Breakaway sessions
Very easy					
Easy					
Neither easy nor difficult					
Difficult					
Very difficult					

N/A					
-----	--	--	--	--	--

10. How would you rate the following organizational aspects of the conference?

Response	Conference Organisation					Quality of the presentations	During the sessions
	Registration of the event	Login during the event	Login during the presentations	Login during breakaway sessions	Discussion sessions		
Extremely professional							
Very professional							
Somewhat professional							
Not so professional							
Not at all professional							

11. Overall, how satisfied were you with the conference?

- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- N/A

12. How well did the event meet your expectations?

- Much better than expected.
- Better than expected.
- About what I expected
- Worse than expected.
- Much worse than expected.
- N/A