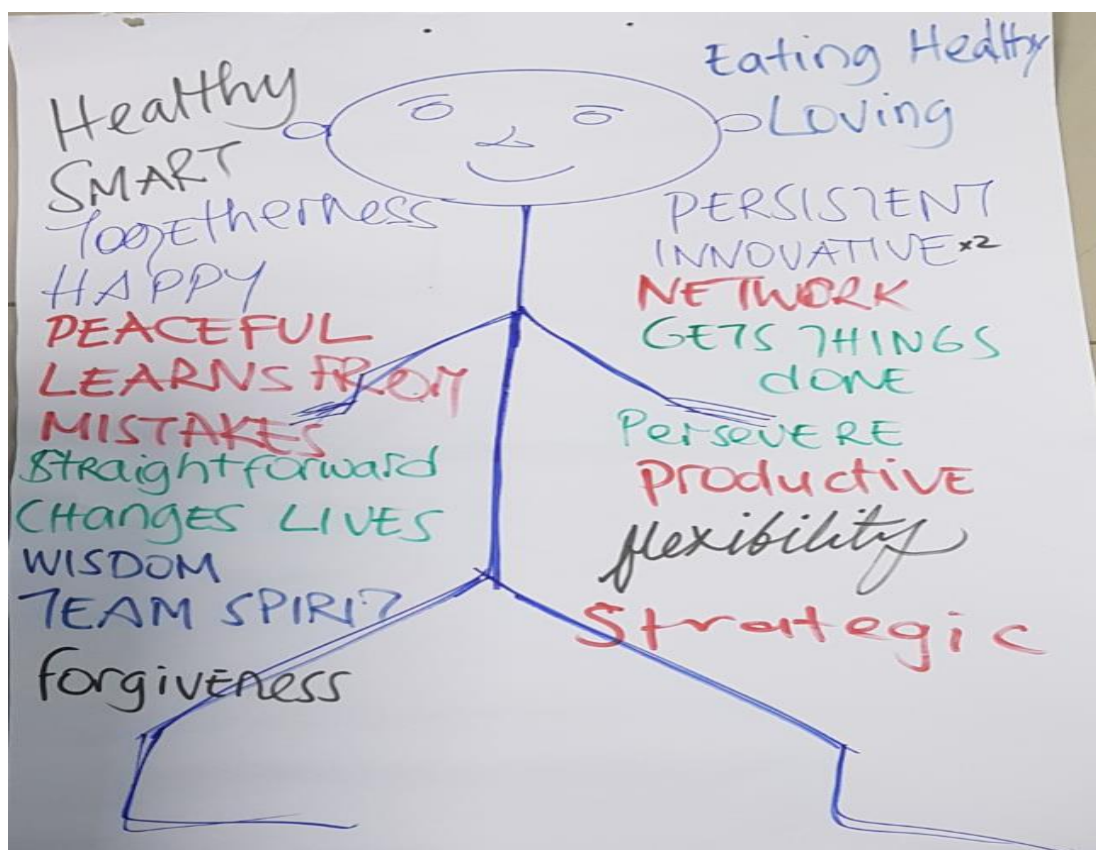


Development Partners Group- Nutrition Retreat: Activity Report Summary



Date of the retreat: 2nd July 2019

Main Themes:

Self-reflections and strengthening linkages
Annual Action Plan

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Discussion summary from DPG main presentation

The DPG main formal structures were established in 2004 and approved in 2008 by the Government of Tanzania. The group builds on two ways sharing among partners and the Government. Since its establishment the focus has remained on collaboration and dialogue. A previous report by the African Development Bank published in 2017 showed that there is a need to look at the realities DPs are facing and how to work in the changing context, understanding that the old donor-recipient relationship is over.

Among identified challenges include the complex architecture of the group which might have contributed to the noted weak linkages between sectors. In the recent past it has also been noted that the changing context results in a change in donor-recipient relationships. And finally, there is need for exploration to identify opportunities and improve communications with the government to inform better collaboration.

Identified actions points for DPs to remain relevant

- i. Credibility, effectiveness and delivery: There remains a need to demonstrate results and new innovations/discovery on what was reported to be done. Although there remains increasing demand and stretched resources, yet there is need to show results and be clear of the achievements.
- ii. Working effectively: DPG Nutrition is multi sectoral and multi-dimensional thus needs to harness partnerships (academic, research etc.) including better linkages with the government. DPs need to ensure that multisectoral approaches are incorporated and addressed at all levels i.e. sub-national and national levels.
- iii. Policy coherence: linkages with other sectoral policies – climate, gender, health, social protection and how to demonstrate good linkages and making efforts to bring good qualities to higher levels.

Questions responses

1. How DPG main is organized: DPG main is represented by 17 multilateral countries and DPs. DPG Main focuses on strategic dialogue with the Government.
2. The process to formalize DPG Nutrition: DPG-N should organize for a presentation to the DPG main which will initiate strategic dialogues. The presentation should be clear on how the formalization will make/ brings a difference
3. Key areas of discussions within the DPG main: These include strengthening connections with the Government and also other sectors (an area which even DPG main is weak) for effective development cooperation
4. Making clear action plans: Building on available agreed and specific joint actions. For instance, after the JMNR recommendations, what goes next? What are the policy discussions? What level of dialogue we have after the JMNR?
5. How will formalizing DPG-N make a difference in DPG-N's functioning: It was pointed out that DPG-Nutrition has a very good opportunity with the HLSCN. We need to use the opportunities available to influence the dialogue needed and being strategic to leverage existing relationships. DPG-Main focuses on higher level issues. At the same time, it is useful at this point is to recognize that we are in a challenging environment thus need to take on opportunities when possible.

Three issues for DPG-Nutrition to think through/food for thought

1. Remaining relevant: Ensure credibility and work with integrity in a competitive environment. Be clear on what we want to achieve, and the value added.
2. Strong partnerships: Effective partnerships with government and private sector, including learning sharing.
3. Ensuring policy coherence and alignment with national priorities; reflections across sectors like health, social protection, gender, agriculture, environment and climate changes etc.

DPG Nutrition engagement and participation in different for a including the planned monthly meetings

Issues

- a) Members to really engage and participate: Need to increase the level of commitment to the group, engagement and participation.
Create subgroups within the DPGN who can move things forwards, possibly develop sectoral task teams within the DPGN. This is something that relate to the existing TWGs co-chair ship.
→ *How do we strengthen all the areas?*
- b) DPG Nutrition needs to be a location where strategic decision are made and a platform on what is happening in nutrition. That should also build on;
 - ✓ Selling the value of participation into the meeting.
 - ✓ Accountability and creating synergy. This is in relation to the 6 KRAs where all partners identify with the area they are part. Identify one person to lead the area and partners to communicate with to coordinate updates.
 - ✓ Strengthen policy engagement?
 - ✓ NMNAP should come clearer in the TOR objectives.
- c) Strengthen the capacity of each partner and their work by capitalizing on each organizations strength and sharing of success stories
→ *Should there be a nutrition portal? Or Library?*
- d) What exactly should be reported during the DPG Nutrition from the TWG? Should the feedback focus on workshops, meetings, policies, or activities in general that fall under the TWG scope? It was discussed that reporting should be coordinated within the TWGs members. It is not limited to meetings and workshops however includes activities taking place that are within the scope of the TWGs, not necessarily feedback from meetings.
- e) Effectiveness of the DPGN members in dialogue and in meetings: it was pointed out that a lot of members are inactive. Information database should be maintained.
→ *Should the number of members remain those who are active? (maintain a lean list)*
→ *Need for a stronger M&E*
- f) A clause on the role of DPGN in supporting the SUN network.
→ *Can we include it in the TOR a description on support to SUN in monitoring/strategic dialogues?*
- g) Annex should be included in the TORs with the list of members

Improving DPG Nutrition performance

Discussion points/issues and recommendations

- a) Membership of CSOs is largely affected by project timelines.
 - ✓ We need to ensure membership be based on the organization rather than individual projects
- b) A need to strengthen the M&E part of the NMNAP implementation
 - ✓ Need to answer how interventions are delivered to beneficiaries?
- c) Need to work on addressing themes not adequately captured by the NMNAP.
 - ✓ School age children
 - ✓ Urban poor population
 - ✓ Adolescents
- d) Can the DPs present new projects to the TWGs before launching of projects?
 - ✓ Presentation slots are available for partners to book in advance so that they can be included in the agenda.
- e) Is it possible to use technologies ensure participation of some members who cannot attend meetings?
 - ✓ Secretariat to explore on apps that can suit the majority.
- f) Mapping analysis is noted to useful
 - ✓ DPs continuous dialogues on its improvement and linkage to other tools.
 - ✓ Important to inform the ongoing MTR, JMR etc.
 - ✓ DPGN come up with strategic paper or policy brief to submit to donors based on the mapping analysis?

DPG Nutrition Terms of Reference (TOR) and action plan discussions

The discussion was focused on strengthening the aim and objectives of DPG Nutrition. This level of focus was noted important to inform the development of required annual action plan.

Recommended aim of the DPGN: To support the Government to improving nutrition status of the population through coordination among development partners.

Recommended objectives of the DPGN: Two options came out from the discussions

OPTION 1	OPTION2
Scale up nutrition specific interventions	Enhancing linkages and information sharing
Scale up nutrition sensitive interventions	Enhancing harmonization and policy engagements
Enhance nutrition governance	Maintaining high level advocacy and coordination
Enhance multisectoral nutrition information systems	Resource mobilization
Enhance sharing and learning	
Advocacy for nutrition	

Option two was noted to answer the question “what will DPG-N do” and option one providing the “how will DPG-N operate”, thus both were used to inform the breakout sessions to clearly improve the recommended objectives and come up with activities and recommend a timeframe for each.

Results from the breakout sessions

Group 1: Bringing together donors and other stakeholders on sharing information

Team – FAO, IHI, CONSENUTH, Action against Hunger

Objective: To facilitate information sharing and learning among donors and other stakeholders working in Tanzania and outside on implementation, advocacy, coordination, research and evaluation of nutrition and related work.

Recommended Activities	Lead Agencies	Time line
1. Identify knowledge gaps and research priorities	IHI/ ASPIRE/ COUNSENUTH	30 th Sept 2019
2. Strengthen nutrition information sharing systems	Catalyst Team /WFP	December 2019
3. Capacity building on learning and documentation	UNICEF /DFID/ IRISH AID	October-March 2020
4. Strengthen quality of data and information generated	FAO /UNICEF	March 2020
5. Identify and organize information sharing forums	UNICEF /PANITA	1 st August 2019

- Bolded represent a lead organization

Group 2: Advocacy

Objective: To advocate for increased prioritization of nutrition in national policies, guidelines and other strategic documents

	Recommended Activities	Lead Agencies	Time line
1	Support TFNC to conduct orientation to new key decision makers	UNICEF	Dec 2019
2	Champion harmonization and refinement of existing nutrition advocacy packages	PANITA	Dec 2019
3	Support development and review of national strategic documents to ensure adequate inclusion of nutrition	UNICEF	ongoing

Group 3: Improve coordination

The objective: To strengthen coordination among partners across sectors on nutrition response in line with MNAP and the national development plan

SN	Activity	Assignee	Timeline
1	Orient nutrition focal points in line ministries on planning and budgeting of nutrition sensitive activities in relevant sectors	UNICEF	November 2019 – March 2020
2	Coordination meetings with government budget preparatory committees to advocate on nutrition priorities into budget guidelines	UNICEF/USAID	November 2019 – March 2020
3	Support representation of Tanzania nutrition teams in relevant regional, international and global cooperation frameworks to enhance scaling up of nutrition in the country	SUN, country donor network lead	Quarterly
4	To advise on the review and composition of TOR for NMNAP coordination structures (HLSCN, MNSC, thematic WGs)	DPG –N chair	July – Sept 2019
5	Advise on establishment of the functional secretariat to support HLSCN	DPG – N Co- chair	July – Sept 2019
6	Support setting the agenda for the coordination structure of the NMNAP	DPG – N chair	July – Sept 2019
7	Continue updating the stakeholders mapping matrix	Secretariat	Ongoing

Group 4: Linkages with SUN and other global platforms

Objective; Promote adequate linkages between and across SUN platforms with DPG Nutrition

Activities	Timeline	Assignee
Regular updates on various activities across platforms (SUN Govt, Donors, CSO, SUN Business Network)	Quarterly	Lead from each platform
Participate in high level Nutrition steering committees	Biannual	All platforms
Explore possibilities of establishing SUN Academia	Ongoing	DPGN
Streamline feedback mechanism between DPG platforms through designated focal persons from each platform	Quarterly	DPG SECRETARIATE
Participate in annual SUN self-assessment organized by SUN	Annual	All platforms
Mobilize SUN resources for example country pulled fund countries	ongoing	SUN Donor

Group 5: Resource mobilization:

Objectives: Contribute to the Government of Tanzania efforts to increase allocation and expenditure on nutrition from both domestic and external funds

Activities	Assignee	Timeframe
Facilitate the orientation, signing and implementation of the Nutrition Compact at ward level	DGs in respective regions and districts	
Ensure that contribution from partners are captured in both DPG-N and PORALG/GoT mechanisms, eg. PlanRep, and	DPG-N Chair, UNICEF/USAID (PlanRep)	

	maintain evaluations and assessments on domestic and external expenditure, including presentation at JMNR		
	Advocate for human resource for nutrition at MDAs, LGAs, facility and community levels	DPG Cabinet	
	Develop investment cases for underfunded nutrition priority areas for external resource mobilization (e.g. NCD, IMAM, anemia, adolescent nutrition. Business case should have co-financing (GoT and IP)	TWG leads, Task Teams	
	Explore opportunities to integrate nutrition into existing funding	World Bank	

Group 6: Policy engagement and strategic guidance

Objectives: Provide timely strategic policy engagement to the government and partners

	Activities	Assignee	Timeline
1	To engage HLSC, PMO and MOHCDGEC to get the revised Food and Nutrition Policy approved	ASPIRES, UNICEF, IRISH AID, DFID, USAID, WFP and PANITA	
2	To ensure nutrition is adequately integrated in the agriculture policy under review	FAO, USAID, WFP, ASPIRES, UNICEF, PANITA	
3	To develop and disseminate policy briefs from National Nutrition Strategies Mapping interlinkages on NMNAP and ASDP2	UNICEF, FAO, WFP, USAID, ASPIRES, PANITA	
4	Conduct quarterly policy consultative meetings with key government officials	DPG chairs, co-chairs, secretariat and others depending on identified issue	
5	To purpose innovative policy actions on nutrition specific issues among adolescents, anemia prevention and Dietary Related Non-Communicable Diseases (DRNCD)	UNICEF, NI, GAIN and USAID	

Annex: Participant list

DPG NUTRITION

Participants registration

DPG Nutrition Meeting on 02nd July 2019

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