Morning session: Identify & formulate nutrition policy relevant questions

Global Support Facility
21st May 2019, Amsterdam
Focusing on the challenges related to question formulation
Morning session

Collectively learn about & improve how we formulate nutrition policy relevant questions

- Share country experience on question formulation about:
  1. the process
  2. its outputs
  3. related opportunities & challenges

- Discuss and exchange on common issues, challenges and solutions collectively

- Reflect by country on the challenges and adjustments / solutions
Session outline

I. Countries’ experience
   – Presentations from Niger, Guatemala, Ethiopia & BK

II. What can be learnt? What are the main challenges & possible solutions, common to all?
   – Discussions & exchanges

III. How these apply to each country context? Are there other challenges & how to overcome them?
   – working group by country teams
What do we mean by “nutrition policy-relevant question”?

A nutrition policy relevant question is a question:

- responds to a **relevant** policy need or decision maker demand
- can be answered using the existing data and technical capacities available to NIPN
- provides **timely** output for policy use
- Which answers lead to **actionable** recommendations & decisions to stakeholders
Steps & criteria proposed to formulate questions

**STEP 1. Identify nutrition policy demand & initial questions**
- Desk review & stakeholders' discussions

**STEP 2. Formulate policy relevant questions**
- Stakeholders’ workshop (consultative)

**STEP 3. Refine questions to be answered with available data and capacity**
- NIPN’s team internal work

**STEP 4. Finalise and validate questions**
- Back to stakeholders (MAC)
An impact pathway approach to formulate & refine questions

OUTCOMES
Immediate, underlying and basic determinants

OUTCOMES
Has increased coverage of nutrition-specific interventions such as breastfeeding promotion led to higher rates of exclusive breastfeeding, early initiation of breastfeeding and continued breastfeeding?

IMPACT
Nutrition status indicators (eg. stunting)

INPUTS
Investment in human and financial resources

ACTIVITIES
Availability, and quality of interventions

OUTPUTS
Coverage of interventions/utilization

Were financial investments made as planned in the MPPA? Was funding increased as compared to the previous MPPA? How was the funding distributed at subnational level?

Has coverage improved at subnational level? Has coverage increased in regions with high stunting levels as compared to MPPA-I?

Did availability of nutrition-specific interventions increase in the period of MPPA-II, as compared to the previous MPPA-I? Did the quality of the services improve?

Has increased coverage of nutrition-specific interventions such as breastfeeding promotion led to higher rates of exclusive breastfeeding, early initiation of breastfeeding and continued breastfeeding?

Is the country meeting its targets for reduction of stunting? Will the current trend allow to meet the target?
A bit of self reflection

• What worked well
• What worked less well
• What we would like to continue improving

⇒ This is just the beginning...
Now, we will collectively ensure this is turned into practice
Important take away points

• Different entry points
  – Ex: analysis can stimulate demand & provide triggers
• A guideline for a process; not a method
• Creating & sustaining demand
• The time element!
• Know your ‘target’ and/or your ‘window of opportunity’

➔ ALL ABOUT STRATEGIC CAPACITIES 😊
Countries presenting

**NIGER**
- Outcome produced and validated by their MAC
- Road map for the next 2 years

**GUATEMALA**
- Different levels involved: national level (high political & sectoral level) and decentralized one

**ETHIOPIA**
- Try and learn conducting a ‘pilot’ approach while awaiting for GSF guidance
- Strengthen capacities

**BURKINA FASO**
- Started the process & gearing up in engaging sectors
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The experts’ views 😊

What did I hear?

What are the opportunities / good practice to learn from?

What are the main/common issues & challenges?
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   - working group by country teams
Country working groups

You have 45mn to discuss

Discuss challenges & how to overcome them in your particular context:

→ it can be about the process, the outputs, the support needed...any aspect you like or all together

At the end, please report back to all on one particular issue or challenge in your context and solutions to overcome it - 2mn to report