

# Support a ‘self-learning’ approach within NIPN teams, to course- correct and build sustainable and effective NIPNs

Country discussion

Webinar - 8 and 9 October



## Why are we having this webinar ?

- Country NIPN platforms are moving from setting up the platform and capacity building to implementing the NIPN approach.
- This means that the country teams find out what works and what does not work along the way
- It also means that barriers are encountered, solutions are needed and decisions will be taken that need to be validated by NIPN team
- Documenting the process and documenting the recommendations will help:
  - Providing clarity to all involved and informing superiors
  - Creating some ‘institutional memory’ which is important in case of staff turnover
  - Learning lessons on what works in case of sustaining / institutionalising the approach



## Quality & effectiveness

- Learning is about getting better => quality
- Quality of implementation in everything we do
- To achieve high quality, we need to be

**inquisitive and reflective**



## Objective of this webinar

- To discuss current practices of country teams
  - to reflect on and analyse what works and what does not work and
  - to document these points, decisions, actions
- To share examples from other countries / other projects
- To identify potential / additional practices that might help

**Purpose: to support NIPN country teams to  
develop their  
self-reflection and self-learning capacity**



## Points for discussion in this webinar

- A. Which opportunities exist / are being used for reflection on what works or not?
- B. What questions are being / could be discussed in these meetings?
- C. How are the discussions and outcomes / recommendations being captured, shared and archived
- D. How are action points / recommendations being followed up ?



## A. What opportunities are being used to reflect on what works or not ?

- Key institutions together brought together on a quarterly basis
- 80% of the nutrition data are within KNBS
- On-going survey
- Issues with quality of survey data
- NFS key government pillar
- KNBS has mandate to coordinate statistical system
- KNBS recognized institution



## A. What opportunities are being used to reflect on what works or not ?

- Team meetings within each institution & joint meetings
- About progress/lack of progress
- Inception meeting
- Meetings with other institutions likely to provide data
- Discussion paper on policies under peer-review process

## A. What opportunities are being used to reflect on what works or not ?

- Regular progress meetings: not enough time to go into the details of why it does not work
- Need to have specific times for that, to analyse challenges, involve staff and others => reflection meetings
- Can use the committee meetings for that, or the team meetings



# B1. What type of questions could be or are being discussed in reflection meetings?

- Role of the platform in government system
- Role of the different institutions in the platform
- How is it going to contribute to measure the impact of MS approach
- How the different institutions can work together

⇒ Key questions - needs to be addressed clearly - and modestly  
How do we do it as a team and how to learn from other platforms  
What are the weak and strong points  
How can we improve  
With whom can we work  
Who will implement our actions/decisions (inside/outside team)  
Need to be documented to avoid misinterpretation



## Ethiopia's experience

- Minutes of meetings and events
- Review of operational progress
- Reflection time based on minutes/documentation
- Identify areas of improvement
- Event evaluation (form filled by participants)
- Pilot NIPN working with only 1 sector (WASH & nutrition) to learn how to do the whole NIPN approach
- Pilot used to build capacity and draw lessons to work with other sectors

## Ethiopia's experience

- We are delivering one presentation per seminar after the evaluation
- We use google drive to share information among NIPN team
- We do use knowledge sharing emails

# B1. What are the questions that could be discussed in the ‘reflection or learning’ meetings?

1. What worked and what did not work ? (Successes & Challenges)
2. Why not ? (Weaknesses)
3. What can be done to improve ? (Opportunities, Course correction)
4. Who will implement these recommendations and
5. Who will support / reinforce ?



## B2. The reflection can pertain to any element of the NIPN approach

- ...



## B2. The reflection can pertain to any element of the NIPN approach

- Planning (clarity on accountability, roles and responsibility timelines, ...)
- Team (communication, how decisions are made and followed-through, collaboration, common vision & understanding, ...)
- Collaboration with stakeholders (common vision & understanding, participation, contribution, evaluation of workshops, sharing information & data, ...)
- Implementation of the steps (understanding, capacity, efficiency, effectiveness, ...)
- Quality and effectiveness of the outputs
- Quality and effectiveness of the support



## Examples of topics

- Difficulty to engage stakeholders => getting the buy-in
- Need consistency & coherence and shared understanding
- Transparent and clear communication

## Examples from Laos

- Development of a clear concept note before starting any activity
- Quarterly plan for all activities + roles & responsibilities of all stakeholders involved
- Create time for meetings with sectors
- DAU + PU brought together every quarter in meetings chaired by NIPN secretariat. Opportunity to analyse what is off-track and why and set new objectives
- Letting stakeholders know that they will be mobilised for some activities? First verbal info followed by formal letters sent to institution



## C. How are these discussions and outcomes / recommendations being captured

- Minutes for every meeting => discussed in the next meeting (raises issues) (LA)
- Validation of the minutes by the participants
- Use google drive to share these reports (ET)
- Use what's app platform (LA) every ministry has access to it
- Plan to develop short best practices booklets which explain what worked well and why, and which were the processes applied (ET)



## D. How are action points / recommendations being followed up ?

- ..



# Example: Learning-adaptation process in NEP- Mali



# Key lessons learnt over the course of the NEP implementation

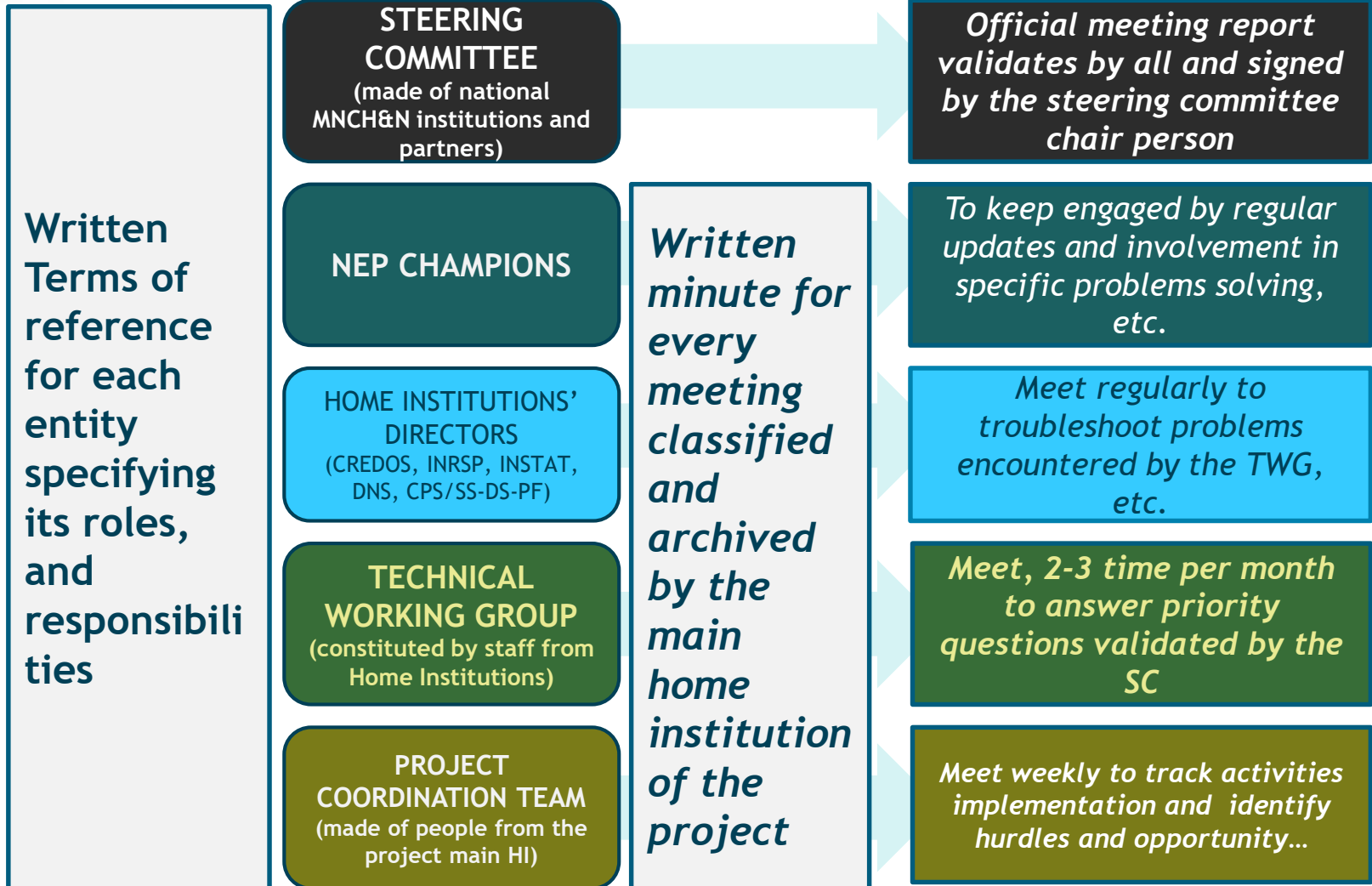
- I. Some key partners (*data owners, implementation, evaluation and planners institutions*) were not involved in the NEP implementation structure (*lesson learnt in 2014*)
- II. Turnovers of the Technical Working Group (TWG) members were not anticipated (*some members left after being reinforced*) (*lesson learnt in 2015*)
- III. NEP Home institution Directors could play relevant role in NEP visibility and influence as well as in supporting the TWG, but were not organised to do so (*lesson learnt in 2015*)
- IV. Steering Committee chairman could play much more important role, if he knew the NEP team expectation regarding to him, thus become more useful (*lesson learnt in 2015*)



# Solutions applied fill gaps and adapt...

- Two additional institutions (National directorate of health & Unit of planning and statistics) have been added to the NEP Homes institutions (HI)
- New additional members from NEP HI “called substitutes” have been to the working group to compensate turn overs and keep NEP staff capacitated
- New entity called “Home Institution Directors Advisory Committee“ have been created to increase support to the TWG, the NEP visibility and its influence
- Tailored ToR have been elaborated for the Secretary General of MoH which was the steering committee chairman to boost the NEP efficacy and influence





## Lessons on content, approach & steps

- The flexibility of the NEP:
  - increased its efficacy, visibility and influence
  - Led to strong commitment of MoH high level decision-makers
  - The findings led to strong, tailored and targeted recommendations which implementation was followed by the cabinet of the minister of health himself using official to institutions

# Which type of tools do country teams use ?





# Self assessment / reflection - tools

1. What do you originally plan to do ?

2. What did not work about the original plan? Why ?

3. What did you decide to do instead ?

4. What difference do you hope this change will make/ has this change made? How will do you know?



# Minutes template

Date:

Venue:

Participants: xx,zz,yy,

Issue under discussion:			
Details	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ..</li> <li>• ..</li> </ul>		
Decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ..</li> <li>• ..</li> </ul>		
Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ..</li> <li>• ..</li> </ul>		
Action points & next steps	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ..</li> <li>• ..</li> </ul>	<u>By whom:</u>	<u>By when:</u>

