

## **Summary Notes of a technical follow-up meeting on the Landscape Analysis project hosted by UNICEF in New York on 19 December 2007**

Taking the opportunity of a number of participants from the Partner Agency Consultation (Geneva, 5 - 6 November 2007) attending the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) Nutrition Strategy meeting in New York from 17 to 18 December 2007, it was agreed to have a technical follow-up meeting on the Landscape Analysis Project in order to further discuss the recommendations of the Partner Agency Consultation and prepare for the next steps in undertaking the in-depth country investigations. The meeting was attended by Dr Mickey Chopra of the Medical Research Council (MRC) in South Africa, Dr Bruce Cogill and Dr Ian Darnton-Hill of UNICEF, Dr Chizuru Nishida of the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr David Pelletier of Mainstreaming Nutrition Initiative (MNI) and Cornell University, Dr Ellen Piwoz from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Dr Victoria Quinn of Helen Keller International and Dr Roger Shrimpton from the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN).

In addition, at the suggestion of Dr David Pelletier, we also invited Dr Sylvia Vriesendorp, who is an Organizational Management Specialist from Management Sciences for Health (MSH) to give a presentation on how change management expertise may be able to contribute to the analysis of countries' readiness to act. We, therefore, asked her to focus her presentation on the following:

1. The What: In thinking about the 'readiness' of countries to accelerate reduction in malnutrition, what are the components of readiness we should be trying to assess, at the level of key individuals, organizations, and the 'nutrition-relevant community' in the country (i.e. "collective readiness")?
2. The How #1: What are some options for assessing these components?
3. The How #2: How could these be assessed in such a way that it helps the country move forward in addition to providing us (as 'outsiders') the information we need?

The meeting reviewed some of the lessons learned from the activities of Ending Child Hunger and Undernutrition Initiative (ECHUI)/ Renewed Efforts against Child Hunger and Undernutrition (REACH) that were reviewed at the recent meeting in Uganda, as well as from the experiences of MNI.

We then reviewed the preliminary list of countries developed immediately after the Partner Agency Consultation (i.e. **Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Niger, Uganda and Viet Nam**), with a view to further prioritize the list of countries based on the number of windows of opportunities as well as on-going activities in the selected countries, and agreed on a shorter list of countries. These included **Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Guatemala, Kenya, Madagascar, South Africa and Viet Nam**.

Possible structures and approaches for undertaking in-depth country investigations were also discussed, in particular, focusing on, but not limited to, the context of South Africa, as it would most likely be the first country for undertaking the in-depth investigation.

The agenda of the meeting is attached as Appendix 1 for more information about the issues discussed at the meeting.

### **The next steps agreed include:**

1. To continue the 36 country desk review, together with the development of the tracking system, with a view to present a preliminary analysis at the 35th Session of SCN in Hanoi in March 2008. The desk review will also provide background preparation for in-depth country investigation in those selected countries.

2. To prepare for the country visit to South Africa, possibly in early February 2008, given the opportunity presented by the Government of South Africa indicating their interest in taking action to improve their country situation in order to achieve MDG 1. An official request letter to the Government of South Africa for a country visit needs to be prepared and this will be initiated by WHO in consultation with its Regional Office for Africa (AFRO).
3. To explore the possibilities for the timing of possible country visits for other countries in the shorter list, in consultation with concerned WHO Regional/Country Offices, Partner Agencies and other key stakeholders.
4. To identify several countries to be invited to a planned preparatory workshop for in-depth country investigation to be held during the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of SCN.
5. To develop assessment tools and accompanying analysis tools and guides, building on the experiences of the project on Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) Scale up and Pediatric Care Implementation in Selected High HIV Burden Countries which Dr Mickey Chopra and his team from MRC, South Africa, undertook, as well as the work on the Mainstreaming Nutrition Initiative (i.e. indicators used for 10 recurrent challenge indicators) by Dr David Pelletier.
6. To prepare the lessons learned from the country investigation in South Africa to be presented at the 35th Session of SCN in Hanoi in March 2008.



**A Follow-up Partner Agency Consultation**  
***Landscape analysis on readiness to act in nutrition***

17 December 2007

19 December 2007  
 UNICEF, New York, USA

**PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE**

**Wednesday, 19 December 2007**

09:00 – 09:15	1. Since the Partner Agency Consultation in Geneva - Review of the Partner Agency Consultation - Review of the Progress (desk review, etc.)
09:15 – 09:20	2. Objectives of the meeting
09:20 – 09:35	2. ECHUI Activity Evaluation <i>Dr Ian Darnton-Hill, Special Adviser to the Executive Director, Ending Child Hunger &amp; Undernutrition, UNICEF</i>
09:35 – 09:50	Discussion
09:50 – 10:05	3. Mainstreaming Nutrition Initiative <i>Dr David Pelletier, Associate Professor of Nutrition Policy, Cornell University</i>
10:05 – 10:20	Discussion
10:20 – 10:50	Tea & Coffee
10:50 – 11:20	4. Change Management <i>Dr Sylvia Vriesendorp, Organizational Management Specialist, Management Sciences for Health</i>
11:20 – 11:50	Discussion
11:50 – 12:30	Countries selected for in-depth investigation: endorsement and priority - Several levels: "new" programmes", "existing" programmes

12:30 – 13:30	Lunch
13:30 – 14:00	5. Tools and Interview Guides for In-depth Country Investigation <i>Dr Mickey Chopra, Director, Health Systems Research Unit, Medical Research Council, South Africa</i>
14:00 – 15:00	Discussion
15:00 – 15:20	Tea & Coffee
15:20 – 16:00	6. Planning for the first in-depth country investigation: South Africa
16:00 – 17:00	7. Overall Discussion and the next steps
17:00	Closure and summary