



2021 Scaling Up Nutrition National Conference



27th -29th April 2021
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Date: 29th April 2021



Presentation Title: **NUTRITION PROGRAMMING IN MONGU**
USE OF 2019 MCDPII BASELINE DATA IN DECISION
MAKING AND PLANNING FOR HIGH IMPACT
NUTRITION INTERVENTIONS

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Organization: Mongu District

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





Presentation Outline

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- SUNI Programme in Mongu
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Acknowledgements

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- Mongu DNCC wishes to acknowledge NFNC and UNICEF for the support during the development of the district nutrition multisectoral plans and during implementation.
- Gratitude is given to Mongu District Administration for providing leadership to the programme in the district.
- Special gratitude is given to Mongu DNCC members who have supported the programme in the district.
- Thanks to SUN LE not only for making it possible for us to be in attendance today, but also for leading the process of creating information base for planning.



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District Profile

- Mongu is the capital town of western province seating on about **10,075 km²** peri-desert land.
- The municipality has a population projection of about **162,211 people**, of which **34,480 are women of child bearing age**.
- The district has:
 - 2 constituencies with 24 Local Government wards.
 - 38 health facilities.
 - 33 Agriculture camps.
 - 24 Social Protection centers.

District Profile

- The district is predominately rural with the majority of employment found in the Agriculture and Fisheries sector with trade links to Angola, Lusaka and the Copperbelt.



District Profile

- The **Agricultural** and **Fisheries sectors** are all under-served by infrastructure, hampering urban-rural growth and trade.
- The majority of households are **subsistence farmers** and crop production is threatened by prolonged dry spells, floods and increasing climate variation, leading to **high levels of household vulnerability**.



District Profile

- The district climate favors Mangos, Cassava, Reeds, Cashew and Timber crops and has potential for processing.
- Small retail is a common livelihood for those without agricultural assets.



District Profile



- Mongu town has a number of **value addition industries** which include: Milling, Beef and Cashew processing, Water bottling, Fruit processing.
- The district has **potential for tourism** (Fishing Safaris in the Barotse flood plains and wildlife view in Luiwe Plains National Park, home to Africa's second largest wild beast migration).

SUNI Programme in Mongu

- Mongu District was one of the **SUNI pilot districts** that started the 1st 1000MCDP in 2014.

- Out of the 24 wards, the programme was rolled out to 12 wards in phase I:—
 - Kaama - Namushakende
 - Yeta - Imalyo
 - Lumbo - Mbekise
 - Lealui Lower - Nakanya
 - Looma - Siyowe
 - Nalwei



PHOTO COURTESY PHOTO OF MONGU DNCC: Nalwei WNCC sensitization meeting on unhealthy traditions that would contribute to malnutrition

SUNI Programme in Mongu

- **Mongu district has a stunting rate of 17%.** The main drivers of malnutrition in the district include:
 - ✓ High poverty levels
 - ✓ Household food insecurity
 - ✓ Poor health and nutrition behaviors
 - ✓ High illiteracy levels
 - ✓ Unhealthy tradition and cultural practices
 - ✓ Climate change
 - ✓ Under-developed food systems

SUNI Programme in Mongu

- During the phase one end-line programme performance review meeting, the DNCC recorded the following successes and challenges:

SUCCESSSES

- Established and capacitated sustainable nutrition coordinating structures.
- Developed the district nutrition multisectoral plan.
- Strengthened and capacitated already existing government systems.
- Creation of awareness on nutrition knowledge for (PLW) and (CU2). Adoption of health and nutrition practices.
- Implementation of high impact interventions.

CHALLENGES

- Low coverage of intensified high impact interventions.
- Poor convergence of high impact interventions at household level.
- Inadequate programme coordination.
- Low profile given to nutrition in the key implementing sectors.
- Poor district oriented nutrition data.

Introduction:

Approaches and Processes of Data Use

- This presentation seeks to report on the use of the **2019 MCDP2 baseline survey data** in programme decision making.
- With the aforementioned challenges at our disposal, the DNCC realized the need of **setting strategies** for formulating, implementing, and evaluating cross-functional interventions that would enable the programme achieve its objectives.



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Introduction:

Approaches and Processes of Data Use

- Early 2019, the Scaling Up Nutrition Learning and Evaluation (SUN-LE) conducted a baseline survey for the SUN programme.
 - ✓ Results were disseminated through a workshop - Booklets, Soft copies, fliers of summarized results were shared with the district.





Introduction:

Approaches and Processes of Data Use

- ✓ This was a special DNCC meeting where All HoDs from key government line ministries, the District Commissioner and the Town Clerk were present.
- Immediately, DNCC Technical Working Group (TWG) for Monitoring and Evaluation further reviewed and analysed the data with the aim of **developing information based action statements** that would guide the implementing sectors and the DNCC make informed decisions.



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Introduction:

Approaches and Processes of Data Use

- ✓ The DNCC-M&E TWG grouped the results into **sector specific** and analysed it into information that the sectors would **use for planning and decision making**.
- ✓ Each sector was requested to **set key nutrition actions** which were presented in the DNCC by the sector heads.



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Introduction:

Approaches and Processes of Data Use

- Some of the key statements developed by the DNCC TWG for M&E included:
 - ✓ Sectors should have situation-based interventions – no shooting in the air. (Which in turn would mean reduced duplication and repeated programming which is costly to the district).
 - ✓ Interventions should be focused – target oriented interventions.
 - ✓ Sectors to have forecast planning and implementation – seeing beyond tomorrow.

Results outcomes: Implications of Data Use

- The district developed an **Action Point Document (APD)** which is being updated with new information.
- The Action Point Document (APD) shows:
 - ✓ Policy Question – Area of concern
 - ✓ Evidence – Available statistics
 - ✓ Priority Action – What must be done
 - ✓ Achievement – What has been done
- Below are the examples of how the Action Point Document for Mongu DNCC looks like:



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Results outcomes: Implications of Data Use

POLICY QUESTION	EVIDENCE	PRIORITY ACTION	ACHIEVEMENTS
What is the coverage of HHs with children under 2 years reached with at least 90% of essential nutrition actions?	Only 19.8% HH with children less than 2 years were reached with community level nutrition specific interventions.	Establish community nutrition groups (Care Groups).	None yet; Target 202 CG; Reached out to: 20,164 Beneficiaries
		Train DNCC and WNCCs in Programme Impact Pathways (PIPs) and Orient them in the Care Group Model.	PIP training done to the 22 DNCC and 144 WNCCs members; Yet to orient them in the CG methodology.
		Orient Care Groups in various community level nutrition specific interventions.	After CG have been established, they will be trained in various community level nutrition interventions.
		Support Care Groups to conduct monthly household visitations.	Support shall be given in terms of bicycles bags etc.



Results outcomes: Implications of Data Use

POLICY QUESTION	EVIDENCE	PRIORITY ACTION	ACHIEVEMENTS
<p>What is the Proportion of HHs practicing safe food processing, preparation, storage?</p>	<p>Only 0.4% HHs practices safe food processing, preparation & improved storage.</p>	<p>Train CEO in food Processing, Preservation, Storage and Utilization.</p>	<p>21 CEO and 3 district staff were trained.</p>
		<p>Conduct community sensitizations on food processing, preservation, storage, utilization and consumption of locally available nutritious dense foods.</p>	<p>All the CEOs have conducted sensitization meetings with farmers.</p>
		<p>Conduct cooking demonstrations, food fairs and exhibitions in dietary diversity for children under two years and women of reproductive age using locally available nutritious dense foods.</p>	<p>Yet to be done.</p>

Results outcomes: Sustainability

- The DNCC used the Action Point Document to develop both the 2020 and 2021 nutrition multisectoral plans.
- Using the Action Point Document developed from the MCDPII baseline results, the DNCC will conduct bi annual programme reviews.
 - Indicator tracking
 - Forecasting
 - Focused budgeting

Next steps: Lessons learned

- As the DNCC utilized the MCDP2 baseline data, the committee appreciated the following lessons:
 - ✓ **Programming is easy** when you know what you are doing and how to do it. In the past, the DNCC would spend sleepless nights during planning, but this was not the case with the 2021 planning.

Next steps: Lessons learned

- ✓ Resources distribution is also easy during planning because data clearly shows where much effort is required – in our case, there was very little engagement with the programme beneficiaries, hence prioritizing community based activities in the 2021 plan.
- ✓ Sector data becomes more meaningful when compared to another sector's data.



Next steps: Recommendation

- Considering how meaningful the MCDP2 baseline data has been to the DNCC, we recommend that:
 - a) Instead of waiting for the baseline survey that may come after two years or more, **the programme needs to establish a strong Monitoring and Evaluation system that generates data and analyses it into information required for immediate decision making quarterly.**



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Next steps: Recommendation

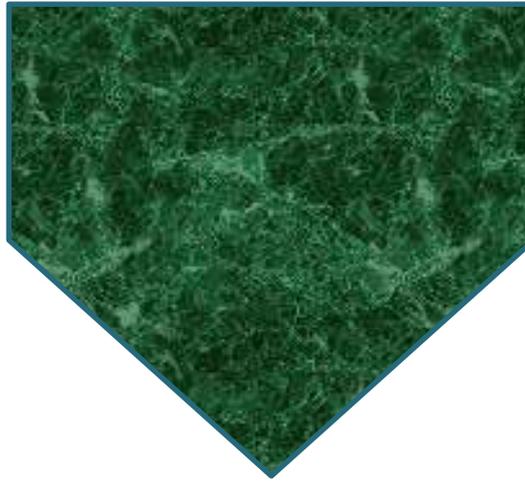
- Considering how meaningful the MCDP2 baseline data has been to the DNCC, we recommend that:
 - b) The national level should **build capacity in the DNCC and the WNCC in data management** – collection, analysis and sharing.
 - c) NFNC with support from partners should establish district oriented data base for nutrition.



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Additional Resources





Thank You



Republic of Zambia



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