



© Tommaso Cinti. Road construction, Laos. June 2008

The Nutrition Advisory Service supports Delegations to examine the economic pressures that can cause undernutrition, and supports the identification of programmes to mitigate these situations at local level, such as improving access to markets and at household level, such as micro-enterprises.



The Nutrition Advisory Service supports the EC to tackle undernutrition in a way that recognises the fluidity of many contexts, not only in seasonal terms but also in building linkages between emergency, rehabilitation, recovery and development stages.

EC Delegation, Nicaragua. November 2005

Tackling undernutrition is critical to effective poverty reduction and is an integral part of the EC's growth promotion strategy. With support from the Nutrition Advisory Service, Delegations are better able to respond to the increasing demands they face, strengthening partner country ownership, supporting harmonization and alignment to country priorities and facilitating a coherent and collective EU response to undernutrition.

Nutrition Advisory Service – Who?

A team of nutrition experts, with technical skills in clinical nutrition, food security, agronomy, food economy and humanitarian response, has been established. Team members are able to work in French, English, Spanish or Portuguese.

- Claire Chastre (team leader)
- Dominique Blariaux
- Dr Carlos Navarro-Colorado
- Lola Gostelow
- Dr Yves Martin-Prevel
- Prof Lawrence Haddad

Additional technical expertise will be made available through the Advisory Service's collaboration with research institutes and Member States.

A one-stop e-mail account is available for your use:

nas@htspenas.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you!

The Nutrition Advisory Service uses existing channels of communication to disseminate resources, including ROSA (the Operational Food Security Network <http://www.rosa-network.eu/> or Réseau Opérationnel de Sécurité Alimentaire <http://www.reseau-rosa.eu/>).

This initiative is managed by the EuropeAid Co-operation Office. An inter-service group oversees the strategic work of the Nutrition Advisory Service, and is composed of: DG AIDCO, DG Dev, DG ECHO, DG RELEX, DG Research and DG SANCO.



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EuropeAid



NUTRITION ADVISORY SERVICE



To promote a common approach to nutrition across EU Delegations and Directorates General - in planning, implementing, monitoring and evaluating activities in EU Cooperation.



Nutrition Advisory Service - Why?



South Sinai Regional Development Program, Egypt. June 2007

Good nutrition can bring about fundamental benefits in poverty reduction and economic growth. By helping to secure the healthy development of children, both physical capacity and cognitive capability in adulthood are improved. However, around 200 million children aged less than five years suffer from undernutrition — the effects of this deprivation can become irreversible. Over 3 million under-five children die every year of nutrition-related causes; and by mid-2009, the total number of people suffering from hunger exceeded one billion.

Progress towards the nutrition indicator for the Millennium Development Goal 1 hunger target — reducing by half the prevalence of underweight children aged under-five years by 2015 — is slow and inadequate. Furthermore, the recent fuel, food and financial crises, as well as the growing effects of climate change, threaten to reverse the little progress made.

Undernutrition also undermines progress towards other Millennium Development Goals (MDG):- MDG 4 (Reduce child mortality), MDG 5 (Improve maternal health) and MDG 2 (Universal primary education). With less than five years to go to 2015, a massive effort is required as a matter of urgency.

The EC, in working with its national and international partners, is well-placed to respond to these challenges.

Nutrition Advisory Service - What?

In order to ensure that all sections of the EC have a shared understanding and a complementary approach, the Nutrition Advisory Service has been established to:

1. Support improved harmonisation and alignment of the EC and Member States with country priorities and processes, and develop linkages with other stakeholders working on nutrition issues, including partner agencies, research institutions and training centres.
2. Support EU Delegations in accessing strategic information on nutrition at country and regional levels, to feed in to a collective EU response to address undernutrition.
3. Provide technical support on policy dialogue, programme development and implementation.
4. Develop a user-friendly Toolkit that guides EU Delegations and DGs on integrating nutrition in programmes.
5. Develop and provide nutrition training to EC HQ and delegation staffs
6. Disseminate nutrition information through ROSA, Info points, development of country nutrition key facts and figures
7. Enhance horizontal collaboration and the exchange of lessons and best practices across EU Delegations, as well as documentation of relevant experiences.



Nutrition Enhanced Outreach and Therapeutic Feeding Programme
EU Delegation to Ethiopia. October 2009

Nutrition Advisory Service - How?

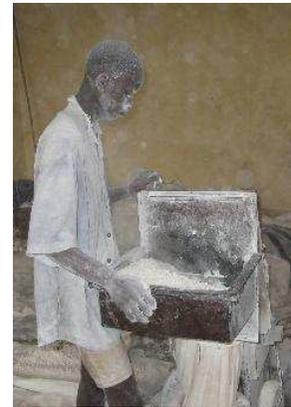
The Nutrition Advisory Service supports a wide range of EU Delegations working in countries where nutrition is a concern, and works closely with selected 'pilot countries' to develop the Toolkit.

Undernutrition is a complex phenomenon. It needs to be understood specifically in each context for appropriate responses to be designed. Reliable situation analysis is a critical first step.



Northern Rakhine, Myanmar
ACF nutrition programme
© EC/ECHO

The Nutrition Advisory Service draws on the strong links between nutrition outcomes, food security, health, education and social protection, so as to advise on comprehensive and complementary responses.



Flour production
Central African Republic
October 2009

This requires cross-sectoral approaches where nutrition objectives can be embedded in other sectors and funding streams — from agriculture or water to education, governance support or infrastructure.



EU Delegation, Afghanistan