



## Overview of the GNC support provided to country-level Sector/Cluster Coordination

April 2020

The Global Nutrition Cluster (GNC) was established in 2006 as part of the Humanitarian Reform process, which aimed to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian response programmes by ensuring greater predictability, accountability and partnership. The GNC is a partnership that includes international NGOs, the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, UN organizations, donors and individuals and is based around the principles of equality, transparency, responsibility and complementarity.

UNICEF is the cluster-lead agency, hosting the GNC Coordination Team in UNICEF's Office of Emergency Programmes department in Geneva.

The GNC provides support to nutrition in emergency coordination platforms in countries, whether the cluster system has been activated or not, through a comprehensive set of services listed below.

The **GNC Coordination Team (GNC-CT)** provides global leadership and stewardship for coordination and functions as secretariat for GNC. It represents the GNC partners in global fora and offers operational support to country nutrition clusters or sectoral coordination mechanisms while linking stakeholders and ensuring effective communications.

The GNC-CT is led by a Coordinator (Stefano Fedele [sfedele@unicef.org](mailto:sfedele@unicef.org)) comprises two major sub-teams: **Partnership, Programmes, and Advocacy** and **Operational Support Teams**.

**Partnership, Programmes, and Advocacy Team led by** Anna Ziolkovska [aziolkovska@unicef.org](mailto:aziolkovska@unicef.org) is responsible for global level initiatives in evidence generation and knowledge management, development and implementation of the capacity development strategy, and development of the technical guidance on NIS and HPC.

**Operational Support Team** led by Anteneh Dobamo [adobamo@unicef.org](mailto:adobamo@unicef.org) provides operational support to country level nutrition in emergencies coordination mechanisms through helpdesk remote support and rapid response team in country deployments.

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## GNC Support

### Share Global Knowledge on NiE Coordination

An **annual GNC meeting** ([2019 meeting in Brussels](#)) is organised by the GNC to bring together all the Global Nutrition Cluster partners, Nutrition Cluster Coordinators (NCCs), Information Management Officers (IMOs) and donors. It 's aim is to discuss together the common challenges, achievements, best practices, to make decisions on common issues and set the way forward for the Nutrition Clusters. Additionally, smaller face-to-face events are occasionally organised to address specific

issues or support particular countries. To reduce the financial cost of travel and our collective carbon footprint, the GNC is increasingly utilizing telematic means to encourage dialogue, knowledge diffusion and capacity building.

The GNC-CT prepares the **GNC Annual and Mid-Year Reports** ([2019 GNC Mid-Year Report](#)) with contribution from all the countries with active nutrition coordination mechanisms and global partners. These reports provide an overview and updates of the GNC strategic priorities and actions at the global level, as well as a detailed presentation per country, a vital tool for advocacy purposes.

## Guidance and Tools

A [Nutrition Cluster Coordination Toolkit](#) and an [Information Management Toolkit](#) have been developed to harmonise and make readily accessible to nutrition in emergency coordination platforms the most frequently used tools. These include TORs (for staff and groups like Strategic Advisory Groups, technical Working Groups...), templates (e.g., survey database, nutrition bulletin...), monitoring tools (e.g., M&E spreadsheet...), etc.

The [Coordination Checklist](#) and the [Information Management Checklists](#) are two particularly important documents providing in a single spreadsheet a list and the detailed description of the most important actions that country-level coordination platforms are expected to implement to ensure better coordination and information management, respectively. Within these checklists, references to the most important guidance and tools are included.

The **Nutrition in Emergencies Technical Checklist** is a tool to self-assess the technical quality of the nutrition in emergency response and to agree on how it can be improved. The checklist is organized by nutrition in emergency themes; the four main themes tackled are Part I. [Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies](#) (IYCF-E), Part II. [Acute Malnutrition Management](#), Part III. [Nutrition Information Systems](#) and Part IV. [Micronutrients Supplementation](#) (the last three are under development).

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## Remote Support

The GNC-CT currently includes 6 Helpdesks who can provide fast and highly specialised support in the following areas:

- Cluster coordination (David Rizzi [drizzi@unicef.org](mailto:drizzi@unicef.org))
- Nutrition in emergency technical issues (Yara Sfeir [ysfeir@unicef.org](mailto:ysfeir@unicef.org))
- Nutrition-sensitive initiatives in other clusters (Danka Panchova [dpanchova@unicef.org](mailto:dpanchova@unicef.org))
- Cash and voucher assistance (Andre Durr [andurr@unicef.org](mailto:andurr@unicef.org))
- Nutrition information systems (Victoria Sauveplane [vsauveplane@unicef.org](mailto:vsauveplane@unicef.org))
- Information management (Shabib Alqobati [salqobati@unicef.org](mailto:salqobati@unicef.org))

They can be reached by email or phone for remote support and be deployed upon request, subject to availability and due notice. The most common support offered includes the following:

- orientation to all newly recruited coordination team members at a national level;
- review of cluster documents and guidance;
- support in development and review of strategies, work plans, critical decision making;
- support yearly Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring;

- orientation and continuous support in the implementation of the annual cluster coordination performance monitoring;
- support HNO/HRP development;
- sharing of documents, guidelines, tools, best practices, relevant to NCC work;
- provide training or orientation for national and sub-national cluster staff and partners, and others.

The **Global Technical Assistance Mechanism for Nutrition (GTAM)** GTAM is established by the GNC partners and co-led by UNICEF Nutrition Programme Division and World Vision International. The GTAM works along the three pillars: pillar 1 - Technical advice, pillar 2 - Consensus driven guidance, pillar 3 - Technical expertise. Under pillar 3 it can remotely provide answers and recommendations to technical questions that cannot be resolved at national, regional, GNC-helpdesk levels.

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## In-country support

The **Rapid Response Team (RRT)** is a partnership between the GNC, UNICEF and the following NGOs: Action Against Hunger International, International Medical Corps UK, Save the Children UK and World Vision Canada. Its purpose is to support cluster coordination and information management functions through rapidly deployable Nutrition Cluster Coordinators (Anteneh Dobamo [adobamo@unicef.org](mailto:adobamo@unicef.org) and Faith Nzioka [fznioka@unicef.org](mailto:fznioka@unicef.org)) and Information Management Officers (Shabib AlQobati [salqobati@unicef.org](mailto:salqobati@unicef.org) and Magnat Kavuna [mkavuna@unicef.org](mailto:mkavuna@unicef.org)). The RRT members are deployable within 72 hours and can provide dedicated surge capacity to any country clusters for up to a maximum of 8 weeks. Please contact Anteneh Dobamo at [adobamo@unicef.org](mailto:adobamo@unicef.org).

The **Nutrition Technical Rapid Response Team (Tech RRT)** is a team of experienced technical nutrition advisors who deploy within 72 hours to support humanitarian nutrition emergencies. The Tech RRT members can provide dedicated surge capacity to any country clusters for up to 6 weeks and in exceptional circumstances, expand this support up to 8 weeks. Areas of technical expertise include nutrition assessments, infant and young child feeding in emergencies (IYCF-E), community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) and social behaviour change (SBC). For more information or request an expert please visit the website: <http://techrrt.org/> or contact Ben Allen [ballen@internationalmedicalcorps.org](mailto:ballen@internationalmedicalcorps.org).

The **Standby Partnership (SBP)** is based on bilateral agreements between 31 NGOs, governments and private companies with UNICEF to accommodate expertise needs in countries facing a sudden increase in demand for specialised profiles. SBP can deploy mid-level specialists in coordination, information management and nutrition in emergencies for three to six months at no cost to the requesting office. For more information, contact Lauren Cheshire [lcheshire@unicef.org](mailto:lcheshire@unicef.org).

The above mentioned GTAM can also provide in-country assistance. A **roster of vetted consultants** has been established to support quickly actors working in emergencies with technical expertise.

There are five different rosters, each covering a specific technical area:

- Community Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM);
- Infant and young child feeding in emergencies (IYCF-E);
- Micronutrient supplementation in emergencies;
- Integrated nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions;
- Needs assessment and analysis for nutrition outcomes.

A level of expertise has been assigned to all vetted consultants and it ranges from junior, mid-level to senior. Recommendation of potential candidates from GTAM Consultant Rosters is fast (approximately three working days) and free of charge. Entire hiring process is under the responsibility of the requestor (note that background check is not performed by the GTAM Consultant Rosters). Requests can be sent to [gtamroster@unicef.org](mailto:gtamroster@unicef.org).

**UNICEF internal surge and stretch assignments** can cover HR needs in coordination, information management and nutrition in emergencies for 3-6 months (travel-related cost and DSA to be paid by the requesting office). For more information, contact local UNICEF HR office or the GNC-CT (Anteneh Dobamo at [adobamo@unicef.org](mailto:adobamo@unicef.org)) for more information.

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## Professional Development

The GNC can organise or provide support for **training and capacity building** actions at the country, regional and global levels for different profiles and levels, including one-on-one mentoring support as needed. The following are the main training packages available. Please contact Anteneh Dobamo [adobamo@unicef.org](mailto:adobamo@unicef.org) for more information.

Note that all training packages below are designed for a maximum of 25 participants due to an interactive nature of the trainings. If more people need to be trained, it is advisable to have several back to back trainings.

*Title of the training program:* **Nutrition Cluster Coordination training**

*Latest revision:* 2019

*Target audience:* National level Cluster Coordinators and co-coordinators, co-chairs, government focal points

*Summary:* The goal of this course is to introduce participants to coordination roles, responsibilities, approaches, tools and outputs through practical exploration of the Humanitarian Program Cycle and Core Functions of Clusters and to develop knowledge and understanding of the interpersonal skills and skills needed for leading coordination platforms.

*Duration of training:* 5 days

*GNC support in conducting the training:* Trainings organized globally or regionally by the GNC on a regular basis. Please find here the [agenda](#), the [concept note](#) and the [training package](#).

*Title of the training program:* **Nutrition Cluster Information Management training**

*Latest revision:* 2016

*Target audience:* National level Cluster Information Management Officers (IMOs), including government focal points for IM. It can be adapted by a national IMO to train subnational IMOs as needed. It is not recommended to use this generic package for the sub-national IM training in countries, unless adaptation to local context and tool has been made.

*Summary:* Course goal is to develop knowledge and skills in nutrition cluster information management and their application to the elements of the humanitarian programme cycle to ensure IM support of all cluster core functions.

*Duration of training:* 5 days

*GNC support in conducting the training:* Trainings organized globally by the GNC on regular basis. If a country wants to use this package for sub-national IMOs training, a request can be sent to the GNC for support, however training package adaptation should be made in the country. Please find here the [agenda](#), the [concept note](#) and the [training package](#).

*Title of the training program:* **Sub-national Nutrition Cluster Coordination training**

*Latest revision:* 2019

*Target audience:* Sub-national Nutrition Cluster Coordinators and other cluster coordination focal points from the government and NGOs at sub-national level

*Summary:* The goal of the course is to improve knowledge and skills of participants in coordination, their roles and responsibilities, approaches, tools and outputs through practical exploration of the Humanitarian Program Cycle and cluster core functions, and, to develop knowledge and understanding of the interpersonal skills and skills needed for leading coordination platforms at sub-national level.

*Duration of training:* 2 days training + 1 day country tailored workshop (to be designed in a country based on needs)

*GNC support in conducting the training:* Trainings should be organized by the National Cluster Coordinators. Support from the GNC (remote and in-country) can be requested as needed. There is a list of available vetted trainers (with the GNC) that can be hired directly by countries to co-facilitate the training. Please find here the [agenda](#), the [concept note](#) and the [training package](#).

*Title of the training program:* **Cluster Approach Awareness training for cluster/sector partners**

*Latest revision:* 2018 EN, 2016 FR

*Target audience:* National and sub-national level cluster partners

*Summary:* The goal of the training is to introduce partners to cluster/sector working group coordination, roles and responsibilities of partners and coordination team, and tools that can be used to improve coordination through the exploration of the Humanitarian Program Cycle and cluster core functions.

*Duration of training:* 3 days (2 days training days + 1 day Cluster Coordination Performance Monitoring workshop to develop an action plan for improvement of the cluster work for each of the cluster core functions)

*GNC support in conducting the training:* Trainings should be organized by the National Cluster Coordinators. Support from the GNC (remote and in-country) can be requested as needed. There is a list of available vetted trainers (contact the GNC to access list of vetted trainers) that can be hired directly by countries to co-facilitate the training. Please find here the [agenda](#), the [concept note](#) and the [training package](#).

*Title of the training program:* **Inter-cluster training for nutrition outcomes**

*Latest revision:* 2019

*Target audience:* National and sub-national coordination teams and partners of the Nutrition, health, WASH, Protection, Education and Food Security and Agriculture clusters/sector working groups.

*Summary:* The goal of the training is to strengthen the ability of country clusters/sector working groups to improve multi-sectoral programming supporting nutrition outcomes.

*Duration of training:* 3 days (2 days training days + 1 day development a plan to improve the convergence of efforts among clusters)

*GNC support in conducting the training:* Trainings are supported by the Inter-cluster Nutrition Working Group of the GNC and the Global Food Security Cluster, in collaboration with Global WASH and Health Cluster Coordinators. Please let us know if you are interested in rolling out this training to your country. There is also a pool of vetted consultants available to support this training. Please find here the [agenda](#), the [concept note](#) and the [training package](#).

*Title of the training program:* **GNC mentoring program**

*Latest revision:* 2019

*Target audience:* Members of the national cluster coordination teams (in both coordination and information management functions)

*Summary:* The goal of the program is to improve the skills of cluster coordination teams in a specific area that is self-identified competency gaps by each mentee with the mentor's support; this area can be in cluster coordination, information management, technical nutrition in emergencies, or soft skills.

Call for registration is announced 2-3 times a year.

*Duration of mentoring:* 3-6 months of one on one mentoring sessions (once every two week)

*GNC support in conducting the training:* Contact Anteneh Dobamo [adobamo@unicef.org](mailto:adobamo@unicef.org) or apply when the call for application is announced.

*Title of the training program:* **Harmonised Training Package (on Nutrition in Emergencies)**

*Latest revision:* 2011

Target audience: Anyone working in nutrition in Emergencies

*Summary:* The HTP is primarily a **resource for trainers** in the NiE sector and it can be used by individuals to increase their technical knowledge of the sector. It is designed to provide trainers from any implementing agency or academic institution with information from which to design and implement a training course according to the specific needs of the target audience, the length of time available for training and according to the training objectives. It consists on the 23 Modules, covering various aspects of Nutrition in Emergencies, each module consists of:

- Part 1: The Fact Sheet – provides an overview of the module's topic and is designed for non-technical people to obtain a quick overview of the subject area.
- Part 2: The Technical Notes – for trainers and trainees, provides detailed technical guidance on current policies and practice. Part 3: The Trainers' Guide – aims to help trainers develop a training course and offers tips and tools which can be adapted to the specific training context.
- Part 4: Resources – list of relevant available resources (including training materials) for the specific technical area
- Part 5: Presentation – a generic presentation that should be adapted as needed to country context

*Duration of training:* adjustable as needed

*GNC support in conducting the training:* Trainings can be organized by any partner using these freely available resources. GNC does not provide any assistance in organizing and delivering this training. Please find here the [training package](#).

Moreover, on the GNC website, you can find additional [online training resources](#) on NiE that can be adapted to specific contexts and audiences:

- e-learning resources for Nutrition in Emergencies programming;
- CMAM training packages;
- IYCF-E training package;
- training materials on nutrition assessments.