

**MUAC AND IYCF-E WORKSHOP**  
**ASSESSMENT INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**  
**TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP (AIM TWG)**

**TRAINING REPORT**

8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022  
Virtual Meeting, Myanmar

Facilitated by:

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TWG

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With technical support from:

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## ABBREVIATION/ACRONYM

ACF	Action Contre La Faim
AIM TWG	Assessment Information Management technical Working Group
CDN-ZOA	Consortium of Dutch NGOs
CHW	Community Health Worker
CPI	Community Partner International
CMMDA	Chan Myae Myittar Development Association
INGO	International Non-government Organization
GNC	Global Nutrition Alliance
IYCF-E	Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergency
KBC-HMD	Kachin Baptist Convention, Healing Ministry Department
MUAC	Mid-Upper Arm Circumference
MHAA	Myanmar Health Assistant Association
ODK	Open Data Collect
PC Myanmar	Positive Action Myanmar
RI	Relief International
SCI	Save the Children International
Tdh-L	Terre des hommes Lausanne
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

## INTRODUCTION

Myanmar has been suffering more armed conflicts with economic and food security challenges after huge political changes in February 2021 and COVID 19 restrictions. Assessments and surveys for nutrition are not allowed in most of the country although some organizations have been conducting their own assessments using MUAC and Weight-for-Height. In 2021, Bijoy Sarker, SMART regional advisor conducted capacity building trainings such as MUAC screening tool and IYCF KAP surveys. Following this, Action Contre La Faim (ACF), World Vision (WV), and Myanmar Health Assistant Association (MHAA) cooperated to implement a MUAC screening pilot project. In 2022, according to needs of country and humanitarian response plan (HRP) by the Nutrition Cluster, Alexa Humphreys provided technical support while Mabasa Farawo, Sanjay Kumar Das and Walton Beckley (UNICEF Myanmar) provided technical and coordination support. Dr. Ye Yint Thu lead and Win Lae, Dr. Saw Edin and Min Min Aung had also facilitated in the MUAC plus IYCF-E workshop/training (phase-I) to all interested partners of the Myanmar Nutrition cluster. Walton Beckley explained about current information flow and reporting and then, Chit Thal Wint facilitated the mobile data collection tool. As a result, key technical persons of 6 local NGOs and 10 INGOs including UN agencies participated.

## OBJECTIVES

There were three main objectives for the MUAC plus IYCF-E workshop/training (phase-I):

- To conduct a MUAC and IYCF-E training that could then be cascaded to Community Health Workers (CHW), volunteers and field staffs by the participants trained in this workshop/training
- To enhance awareness about needs of MUAC and IYCF screenings and use in HRP
- To expand the network of organizations that are conducting MUAC screenings using the SMART MUAC Tool and IYCF screenings nationwide

## TRAINING DETAILS

The workshop/training was conducted virtually using Teams and Zoom platforms for 2 days: 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022. The 30 participants included 10 participants (33%) from local NGOs and 20 participants (67%) from INGOs and among them, 7 (23%) were female attendees and 23 (77%) were male attendees. A complete list of participants is available in Annex 1.

Although we have targeted the training participants who work directly with CHWs, the training participants were the experts and senior level staffs in nutrition and their organizations, thus we considered it should be more similar with workshop. Thus, we discussed how to expand our active screening, possibility of inclusion of IYCF-E, logistical and technical challenges, and the training documents for phase II training. Consequently, we did not provide pre-tests, post-tests, or certification for this workshop. The training was co-led by Dr.Ye Yint Thu, Ma Win Lae, Saya Min Min Aung and Dr.Saw Edin. Alexa Humphreys and Walton Beckley provided technical support. As a special guest, Ma Chit Thal Wint from UNCIEF provided one session.



Picture 1: Screenshot picture of participants

After the training, the interest by other organizations had increased and Dr. Thant Zin, Health and Nutrition Specialist from UNICEF, Northern Shan requested to conduct capacity building of the partner organizations in Shan and Kayah State. On the other hand, the ACF had planned to conduct this screening training to its partner KMSS in Kayah State. Thus, Dr, Ye Yint Thu had conducted the follow up training virtually to those proposed 29 participants from organizations at Shan and Kayah State.

## **CONTENT**

The training/workshop was held over two days and was conducted in Burmese. Presentation slides were in English and Burmese, with all slides designed to be cascaded to the training of CHWs being in Burmese. In the first day, we discussed mainly on theory of anthropometric measurements (MUAC and oedema) and IYCF indicators with questionnaires. In second day, the workshop mainly focused on use of MUAC screening tool, reporting templates and ways and discussion of challenges with possible solutions. The detail is in annex 2. The training/working included the following twelve sessions:

### **Session 1: Introduction to MUAC and Oedema Screening**

The aim of this session was to summarise MUAC and oedema screenings, their objectives, and the limitations of screening data. The session also reinforced what information is required to ensure screening data is more informative, including sex and age (children above / below 2 years) disaggregated data, and information about the type of screening, where it took place, and how exhaustive the exercise was.

### **Session 2: Anthropometric Measurement**

This session aimed to provide a refresher training on the measurement of MUAC and the identification of oedema. In addition to reviewing technical slides, a video on measuring MUAC was played. This film was in Burmese and was produced by UNICEF.

### **Session 3: SMART MUAC Screening Tool**

The aim of this session was to familiarize participants with the SMART MUAC Screening Tool to be used for the planned screening exercises. The session explained step by step the different parts of the tool, the information that was required by the tool, and how to interpret the weighted results.

### **Session 4: IYCF Indicators and questionnaires orientation**

This session aimed to review the proposed IYCF indicators for the planned screening exercises. During the session there were various prompt questions to encourage participants to imagine how these indicators could be integrated into their ongoing screening exercises, as well as how they could best train their CHWs to collect them. The collection of IYCF information was optional but encouraged.

### **Session 5: Information flows and reporting**

The aim of this session was to clarify the different data information flows that partners could choose from for the screening exercise. For example, how data from paper forms could be collated and shared with the AIM-TWG, and how data that was submitted through an electronic questionnaire would be automatically received by UNICEF.

#### **Session 6: MUAC Screening Analysis Tool by using ENA and plausibility check**

This session aimed to take participants through the steps of applying the ENA for SMART Plausibility Check to a MUAC dataset. The session highlighted the fact that only the statistical tests for sex ratio, age ratio, and MUAC digit preference could be applied to the MUAC screening datasets.

#### **Session 7: Electronic questionnaires and mobile data collect app**

The aim of this session was to explain how partners could utilise the UNICEF InForm platform and an adapted electronic questionnaire using Open Data Kit (ODK) to collect screening data, thereby reducing the burden of data entry from paper forms. The use of this electronic questionnaire was optional but encouraged.

#### **Session 8: Standardisation Test orientation**

This session aimed to explain the objectives, principles and structure of a MUAC standardisation test to improve data quality. The session went as far as to explain how to enter the data into ENA for SMART, however, anticipating that few partners would be in a position to conduct a standardisation test given the short timeframe, partners were requested to contact the AIM-TWG for support on interpreting standardisation test results as needed. Conducting a standardisation test was optional but encouraged.

#### **Session 9: Discussion on challenges of expanding pilot active screening**

The aim of this session was to create a space for partners to discuss any challenges they foresaw in conducting the proposed MUAC and IYCF screenings in time for the data to be used for the HNO/HRP process.

#### **Session 10: Priority Referrals and Gender Based Violence**

This session aimed to ensure that practitioners and ultimately CHWs were aware of important reasons to refer someone for services aside from the diagnosis of acute malnutrition, as well as knowing what to do if someone discloses an incident of gender based violence (GBV) during the screening exercise.

## **CONCLUSION**

The workshop/training was timely, productive, and well executed. Although the training was not in-person, the participants actively discussed and learned. As the immediate training output, we surveyed the willingness and availability of partners for MUAC plus IYCF-E exercise. In addition, the training recordings and documents remained available in

a Google drive for any partner to access. Interested people could and can easily download and learn from the materials. In a summary, the workshop was excellent with great results and expectations such as awareness of needs in nutrition screenings for nationwide roll-out, the role of the AIM TWG and a readiness to cascade the training to CHWs.

## ANNEX I: LIST OF TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

No	Name	Sex	Designation	Organization	Local NGO / INGO	Duty station
1	Thuzar Win	f	Senior Technical Coordinator	SCI	INGO	Yangon
2	Aung Han Win	m	Project Coordinator	IRC	INGO	Loikaw
3	Hein Htet Aung	m	Capacity Building and Quality Control Manager	IRC	INGO	Yangon
4	Thein Win	m	Technical Advisor (EHC)	CPI	INGO	Mae Sot
5	Nay Lin Soe	m	Nutrition Technical Officer	RI	INGO	Sittwe
6	May Aryn Oo	f	Project Officer	MHAA	National NGO	Sittwe
7	Lal Nei Suma	m	Technical Coordinator(Nutrition)	Save the Children	INGO	Yangon
8	Lwin Moe Aung	m	Program Coordinator(Nutrition)	Save the Children	INGO	Sittwe
9	Mung Dang Aung	m	Program Coordinator	KBC-HMD	Local NGO	Myitkyina
10	Shine Htet Zaw	m	Operation Officer	Medical Action Myanmar	Local NGO	Yangon
11	Zaw Wai Yan Bo	m	Program Manager	Sun Community Health	Local NGO	Yangon
12	Soe Yu Mon	f	Senior Manager	Sun Community Health	Local NGO	Yangon
13	Kyaw Wai Phyoe	m	Nutrition Specialist	KMSS	Local NGO	Myitkyina
14	Kyaw Zaw Tun	m	Nutrition Officer	UNICEF	UN	Sittwe
15	Na Chu Dau Hkaung	m	Project coordinator	CDN - ZOA	INGO	Sittwe
16	Tin Nilar Win	f	Nutrition Officer	UNICEF_Myitkyina	UN	Myitkyina
17	Naw Cynthia Boss	f	Team Leader(Nutrition & WASH)	CDN - ZOA	INGO	Kyauk Taw
18	Tin Ko Ko Win	m	Nutrition Officer	UNICEF	UN	Hpa An
19	Tin Aung	m	Health and Nutrition Specialist	UNICEF	UN	Hpa An

20	Dr Swam Htet Ko	m	Health and Nutrition PM	ACF	INGO	Sittwe
21	Kabyar Thwe	f	Project Coordinator	CMMDA	Local NGO	Nahtogyi/Mahl aing
22	Than Htike Lin	m	Nutrition Technical Manager	ACF	INGO	Sittwe
23	Nay Min Win	m	Team Leader	PC Myanmar	Local NGO	Magway
24	Hein Htet Aung	m	Community Health Specialist	PC Myanmar	Local NGO	Magway
25	Zar Yee Win	f	Project Officer	MHAA	National NGO	Mrauk-U
26	Awng Shar	m	Health and Nutrition Specialist	UNICEF	UN	Sittwe
27	Thein Min Aung	m	Senior Nutrition Coordinator	Plan International, Myanmar	INGO	Myitkyina
28	Win Zaw Myint	m	Project Officer	Tdh-L	INGO	Hlaing Thar Yar, Yangon
29	Kyawt Kay Khaing Aye	f	Project Officer	Tdh-L	INGO	Shwe Pyi Thar, Yangon
30	Htet Bo Win	m	Nutrition Officer	UNICEF	UN	Maungdaw

*Table 1: Training Participant List*

## ANNEX II: TRAINING AGENDA

Table 2: Day 1 Training Agenda

Topic	Time	Responsible Person
Opening Remark by NCC	9:00 am to 9:30 am	Wai Mon Maung
Introduction to MUAC and Oedema Screening	9:30 am to 10:30am	Win Lae
Tea Break	10:30 am to 10:45 am	All participants
Anthropometric Measurement	10:45 am to 11:15 am	Ye Yint Thu
SMART MUAC Screening Tool	11:15 am to 12:00 pm	Ye Yint Thu
Launch Break	12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	All participants
IYCF Indicators and questionnaires orientation	1:00pm to 2:00pm	Saw Eden
Information flows and reporting	2:00 pm to 2:30 pm	Walton

Table 3: Day 2 Training Agenda

Topic	Time	Responsible Person
MUAC Screening Analysis Tool by using ENA and plausibility check	9:00 am to 10:30 am	Min Min Aung, Win Lae and Ye Yint Thu, (Alexa), Participants
Tea Break	10:30 am to 10:45 am	All participants
Electronic questionnaires and mobile data collect app (optional)	10:45 am to 11:15 am	Chit Thal Wint
Standardization Test orientation (optional)	11:15am to 12:00 am	Win Lae
Lunch Break	12:00 am to 1:00 pm	All participants
Discussion on challenges of expanding pilot active screening	1:00pm to 1:45pm	All participants
Priority Referrals and Gender Based Violence	1:45pm to 2:00pm	Saw Eden
AOB	2:00pm to 3:00pm	All participants