

5 years of nutrition learning in Africa: Articles from ENN

Read articles from 2019-2023



About us

Emergency Nutrition Network ([ENN](#)) has a long history of working to support nutrition-related policies and programmes by capturing learning and experiences, bringing actors together, establishing and coordinating networks and carrying out research to improve knowledge and build evidence.

Our vision is that every individual caught up in a nutritional emergency, or suffering from malnutrition anywhere in the world, receives the most effective help possible.

Our work is driven by country needs. Through our collaborations, we provide support to practitioners and decision-makers involved in nutrition and related interventions. Established almost 30 years ago, we are a UK-based non-profit organisation with an experienced team of 25 technical and operational staff and a range of specialist associates who work globally.



Write for Field Exchange

Our flagship peer-to-peer publication, [Field Exchange](#), publishes programmatic experiences and learning related to nutrition in high-burden contexts. Anyone can submit articles for Field Exchange, and we welcome suggestions for articles on nutrition policy, programming and research at any time in French or English. [Read more.](#)

Field Exchange Publication (FEX)

Our flagship technical publication containing detailed field articles, research and evaluations on nutrition in emergencies and high burden contexts. Downloadable from the online [FEX library](#). Published in print and online.

- Real life case studies for teaching
- Insight into programming innovations and challenges to inform research needs



26k
page views
a month



120+
countries
receive FEX



7,905
subscribers

Get involved

- Submit original research articles
- MSc. thesis summaries
- Submit summaries of research you have published elsewhere
- Encourage the partners you work with to share their experiences of nutrition programming
- Use our case studies in your teaching
- Submit news and events to share
- Encourage your staff and students to subscribe to FEX for free [here](#)

Media Hub & Webinars

Our [online media platform](#) hosts blogs, podcasts and videos. These channels complement our written publications by providing a space for reflections, interviews and updates.

- Provides the opportunity to bring to life the perspectives of our publication authors
- We deliver webinars to support learning and research dissemination



Webinars



Written
publications



Videos and
podcasts

Get involved

- Contact us to collaborate on podcasts, videos, blogs and webinars that showcase your research
- Encourage your staff and students to browse our library and listen to a wide variety of stakeholders sharing their experiences

en-net

We provide vital 'real-time' technical advice to programme implementers and researchers through our online platform, [en-net](#), linking people to an extensive network of peers and experts.

- Free, bilingual online platform for field practitioners seeking urgent technical advice on a broad range of nutrition issues



3,000
active users



127
countries



1,450
new users
in 2020

Get involved

- Gain inputs into emerging research theories and substantiate ideas by hearing about practical experiences and challenges on the ground
- Link an en-net discussion topic to the research you have published to generate interest and further uptake
- Encourage your staff and students to ask their technical questions on en-net and to participate in peer discussions

What we do

Our technical specialisms

Our areas of work currently span the following topics, amongst many others:

- The management of small and nutritionally at-risk infants under six months and their mothers ([MAMI](#))
- The relationship between wasting and stunting ([WaSt](#)) in children
- [Maternal nutrition](#)
- School-age children and [adolescent nutrition](#)
- Wasting prevention
- Food systems and climate change



Our research partnerships

Our research partnerships include a range of universities and other research-focused institutions such as NGOs, donors and United Nations agencies. We are committed to further broadening our research collaborations and, in particular, to supporting greater localisation of research by establishing more partnerships in countries affected by a high burden of undernutrition.

Our partnerships range from wide networks of researchers working on research prioritisation exercises and those participating in research via our special interest groups to more focused collaborations for specific research questions. A [current research collaboration in Africa](#) involves partnership with Jimma University in Ethiopia, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and GOAL, to test an integrated MAMI care pathway model within existing health services. We are also developing a collaboration in Malawi to explore contextual drivers of wasting & stunting and what they mean for prevention, and exploring a collaboration with national research institutes in Uganda and Ghana, to bring the newest evidence we have generated on mortality into the targeting of treatment approaches ([here](#)). Kenya to explore drivers of wasting & stunting and what that means for prevention.

We have recently conducted case studies on complementary feeding in emergencies ([South Sudan](#) and [Nigeria](#)), on maternal nutrition ([Madagascar](#) and Somalia), on adolescent nutrition policies ([Malawi](#)), and on COVID-19 ([Kenya](#), [Tanzania](#), [Zimbabwe](#)). A MAMI deep dive case study is underway (South Sudan).



Networks and convening

Given our neutrality, we are well placed to convene and coordinate several international expert groups. Our networks are focused on small and at-risk infants under six months and their mothers ([MAMI Global Network](#)), infant feeding in emergencies ([IFE Core Group](#)), the relationship between wasting and stunting ([WaSt Technical Interest Group](#)) and Nutrition in Adolescence ([Global Adolescent Nutrition Network- GANN](#)).

We offer our technical expertise to strengthen the activities of organisations working to reduce malnutrition globally,

including policy makers, practitioners and researchers. For example, we are core members of the Global Nutrition

Cluster ([GNC](#)), and we contribute as a technical expert in World Health Organization guideline development. ENN is part of the leadership of the [GNC Technical Alliance](#) overseeing learning and contributing to a number of its Global Thematic Working Groups.



Research and technical dissemination

To help the international community to strengthen nutrition policy and programming, we offer the following free [publications](#) and [resource platforms](#) to [share evidence, experiences and learning](#). See figure on first page for more detail. These not only offer research staff and students a range of resources for immediate use, but also represent the ways ENN showcases ongoing research to a wide audience.



Nurturing our connections in Africa

Meaningful connections have always been in ENN's DNA and are essential to fulfilling our role in informing and enhancing the effectiveness of nutrition policy and practice. As a small organisation based in the UK, our connections and networks play a central role in informing our areas of focus – i.e., what technical needs and challenges to address, in which country/region, and for which population group (who are the most vulnerable).

Our network approach provides us with opportunities to listen to, and amplify, the voices of nutrition practitioners, and to identify, document and share evidence and resources to improve nutrition policy and programming at global, regional and national levels so that we can ensure that our strategic priorities remain relevant to the external landscape. Our regional focal points (East & Southern and West & Central Africa) ensure we to better link with country realities and influence research and policy agendas.

While we have translated and disseminated resources in [French](#) for a long time, we have become more systematic about it, and we have also started working in French to better capture realities of francophone countries and to better disseminate our resources. We can provide you with writing support so that FEX articles can be developed directly in French.

We've collated field articles and reports published over the period 2019-2023 by ENN in Africa. Organised by theme and by country, this collection of over 100 articles from Field Exchange aims to capture five years of stories and evidence highlighting our diverse research in Africa.

Articles also available in French are marked with an * in the list of articles.



Scan QR code to access articles

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

- > [Survey data for the prevalence of concurrent wasting & stunting](#)

MALAWI

- > [Embedding nutrition within the Farmer Field School approach*](#)
- > [Improving complementary feeding through home fortification*](#)
- > [An integrated multi-sector approach to improve nutritional status in school age children and adolescents](#)
- > [Impact of maternal mental health on recovery from malnutrition](#)
- > [Ready-to-use therapeutic food for treatment of malnutrition](#)
- > [MAM and SAM cases reduced: stunting prevention programme*](#)
- > [Policies to prevent all forms of malnutrition among adolescents*](#)

ZAMBIA

- > [Prevention, early detection & treatment of wasting COVID-19](#)
- > [Effectiveness of a community-based management of acute malnutrition programme*](#)
- > [SUN Movement networks: Business & civil society working together for nutrition*](#)

ZIMBABWE

- > [Sally Mugabe Children's Hospital: A Snapshot](#)
- > [Use of RapidPro for remote collection of nutrition data](#)
- > [Promoting youth leadership on nutrition](#)
- > [Improved WASH & improved complementary feeding effects on child stunting & anaemia](#)

ACROSS THE CONTINENT

- > [Burundi, Ethiopia, Tanzania: National social assistance programmes*](#)
- > [Effect of age rounding on weight-for-age z-scores: Sub-Saharan Africa*](#)
- > [Casual factors of wasting in Africa using available data](#)
- > [Food systems for safe, nutritious & affordable diets: central Sahel*](#)
- > [Regional Perspective: Eastern and Southern Africa \(ESA\)](#)
- > [Ethiopia, Tanzania, Zimbabwe: Conducting situation analysis to improve young children's diets*](#)
- > [Nutrition hotspot analysis in the Sahel countries*](#)
- > [Antenatal malaria prophylaxis plus iron & folic acid](#)
- > [Regional Perspective: West & Central Africa](#)
- > [Estimating the burden of wasting during COVID-19 in the Sahel*](#)
- > [Improving addressing acute malnutrition in Africa's drylands*](#)
- > [Supplementation and nutrition education in Africa and Asia*](#)
- > [Community health worker-led treatment for wasting*](#)
- > [Investing in the data value chain for nutrition in West Africa*](#)
- > [How countries can reduce child stunting at scale*](#)
- > [WFP programmes on moderate acute malnutrition in the Sahel*](#)
- > [SAM and MAM programming in East & West Africa](#)
- > [Continuity of care in acute malnutrition treatment](#)
- > [UNHCR experiences of continuity of acute malnutrition care*](#)
- > [Interpretation of WASH intervention effects: WASH & SHINE trials](#)
- > [Sub-Saharan Africa: Field study of body composition among infants and young children](#)
- > [Management of severe acute malnutrition by community health workers](#)
- > [World Vision's Positive Deviance/Hearth programme*](#)
- > [Use of combined/simplified acute malnutrition protocols](#)
- > [ComPAS trial in South Sudan and Kenya*](#)
- > [West and Central Africa: Perspectives on simplified approaches for management of children with acute malnutrition*](#)
- > [Leveraging the 'Banking on Nutrition' partnership initiative](#)
- > [Nutrition budget analysis at national level in West Africa*](#)
- > [Ethiopia & Niger: Multi-sector programmes at sub-national level*](#)

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

- > [Addressing acute malnutrition during an emergency*](#)

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

- > [Cost of the Diet analysis*](#)

CHAD

- > [Mother-MUAC approach improves treatment access for malnourished children*](#)
- > [Seasonality of acute malnutrition & its drivers](#)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- > [Nutritional care for patients](#)

Find out more

About ENN's collaboration with research partners, please contact us: research@ennonline.net

To write for Field Exchange, please visit: <https://www.ennonline.net/fex/writeforus>

For more information on any aspects of our work and networks visit our website: www.ennonline.net

EASTERN AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

- > [Coordination of a nutrition response in conflict*](#)
- > [Testing double-fortified salt with iodine and folic acid](#)
- > [Does mothers' employment status affect stunting?](#)
- > [Educational videos to improve maternal breastfeeding](#)
- > [Implementing the family-MUAC approach during COVID-19*](#)
- > [GOAL's experiences of MAMI programming*](#)
- > [Community-based approach improving rural nutrition outcomes*](#)
- > [Gender dynamics of phone ownership & Fresh Food Voucher](#)
- > [Meeting the health & nutrition needs of adolescents & youth*](#)

KENYA

- > [Streamlining SMART survey processes*](#)
- > [Implementing the IMAM Surge approach](#)
- > [Individualised breastfeeding support for acutely ill infants](#)
- > [High-impact nutrition interventions in informal settlements*](#)
- > [Linear growth following complicated severe malnutrition](#)
- > [Decentralising data-driven decision-making*](#)
- > [Changes in Kenya's health & agriculture ministries*](#)
- > [Cash transfers & health education to address young child diets*](#)
- > [Relapse and post-discharge body composition of children treated for acute malnutrition using a simplified, combined protocol](#)
- > [Strengthening health system to transition from humanitarian aid*](#)

MADAGASCAR

- > [Remote Integrated Phase Classification during COVID-19*](#)

RWANDA

- > [Peer-to-peer model improving maternal, infant & child feeding*](#)
- > [RCCE response to support maternal, infant & child nutrition](#)
- > [Improving practical skills for breastfeeding vulnerable infants](#)

SOMALIA

- > [GNCTA experience of providing technical support to ARDI](#)
- > [Wasting & stunting risk factors for internally displaced persons](#)
- > [Adapting infant & young child feeding interventions in COVID-19*](#)
- > [Implementation of the EAC for acute malnutrition*](#)
- > [Testing an adapted severe acute malnutrition treatment protocol*](#)
- > [Bottleneck analysis for management of malnutrition services*](#)
- > [Cash-based intervention for internally displaced persons camps](#)
- > [Developing a Common Results Framework for nutrition*](#)

SOUTH SUDAN

- > [International Medical Corps strengthens nutrition alert and surveillance systems*](#)
- > [Emergency nutrition response: Scaling-up care for malnourished children*](#)
- > [Can low-literate health workers treat severe acute malnutrition?](#)

SUDAN

- > [Complementary feeding in emergencies programming*](#)
- > [Nutrition Impact and Positive Practices \(NIPP\)](#)

TANZANIA

- > [Diet & nutrition status among school-age children & adolescents](#)

UGANDA

- > [Implementation of a school-based nutrition programme](#)

WESTERN AFRICA

BENIN

- > [Putting communities at the heart of improving nutrition*](#)

BURKINA FASO

- > [Determinants of adolescent nutritional status & practices*](#)
- > [Transforming food systems to improve diet affordability](#)
- > [OptiMA study: Emerging findings & additional insights*](#)
- > [Mobilising innovative financing & domestic resources*](#)

MALI

- > [Cost-efficiency of a simplified protocol for wasting treatment*](#)
- > [Improving uptake of family mid-upper arm circumference screening*](#)
- > [Using satellite imagery in conflict-affected areas to support WFP](#)
- > [The role of coordination in CMAM Surge scale-up*](#)

NIGER

- > [Exploring the relationships between wasting & stunting](#)
- > [Impact evaluation of WASH on morbidity & acute malnutrition](#)

NIGERIA

- > [Father-to-father support groups in northern Nigeria*](#)
- > [Cost of Diet Modelling: Affordable & nutritious child feeding*](#)
- > [Complementary feeding in emergencies programming*](#)
- > [Using routine data for nutrition accountability*](#)
- > [A review of the humanitarian nutrition response*](#)
- > [Impact evaluation of a nutrition-sensitive social protection programme*](#)
- > [CMAM information system using a 'toolbox' approach*](#)
- > [Simplified approaches to treat acute malnutrition*](#)
- > [UNICEF Protocol adaptations to deal with programme realities*](#)
- > [USAID experience of advocating for expanded admission criteria*](#)
- > [Nutritional response: Approaches to increase service availability*](#)

SENEGAL

- > [Concurrent wasting and stunting among under-five children](#)
- > [Improving screening for malnourished children at high risk of death](#)

SIERRA LEONE

- > [Treatment: therapeutic food compared with nutrition counselling](#)
- > [Defining and treating "high-risk" moderate acute malnutrition](#)

NORTHERN AFRICA

EGYPT

- > [Improving complementary feeding practices through comprehensive health systems strengthening approach](#)

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