



Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN): How we partner on research

Who We Are

ENN is recognised globally as an independent thought leader, convener, and trusted influencer in nutrition.

Our vision is that every individual confronted by malnutrition has access to the knowledge, tools, services, and resources they require to meet their needs. Through our collaborations we support practitioners to access, generate and amplify

know-how to rapidly improve policy and practice. Established in 1996, we are a UK-registered charity with an experienced team of over 25 technical and operational staff and a range of specialist associates who work globally.

Our Research Partnerships

Our research partners include a range of universities and other institutions with research interests, including national authorities, NGOs, and UN agencies.

We are committed to broadening and deepening our research collaborations and we particularly wish to support the increased localisation of research by establishing more partnerships in countries affected by a high burden of undernutrition. Our research engagement principles and practices are grounded in fair and collaborative partnerships to co-create evidence, ensure representative authorship, recognise each partner's full contributions, and maintain an emphasis on open access research outputs.

Our partnerships range from wide networks of

researchers participating in our special interest groups (for instance, a <u>study protocol</u> with the Wasting & Stunting Technical Interest Group bringing new evidence on undernutrition and mortality) to more focused collaborations for specific research questions (for instance, our <u>current partnership</u> with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Jimma University in Ethiopia and GOAL to test an integrated care pathway model within existing health services for small and nutritionally at-risk infants under six months and their mothers).

Our Support Across the Research Cycle



01/Research design

- Participate in and convene expert technical groups at global and country level
- Co-develop protocols and contribute data, knowledge and networks to help design fit-for-purpose research
- Pursue national representation on global research and policy fora
- Co-supervise Master programmes dissertations and support their publication

02/Implementation

- Advise research partners within our technical specialties
- Committed to conducting, prompting and publishing implementation research
- Provide creative opportunities for researchers to co-create and implement research of global relevance and impact



03/Research uptake



- Engage directly and consistently with national and international policy-makers to broker evidence to policy decision-making
- Support research partners to capture and widely disseminate research findings
- Produce media content to improve research uptake
- Co-author peer-reviewed publications, commentaries, technical and policy briefs
- Synthesise research and relay study findings to a global network of practitioners and policymakers

04/ Reflection and learning

• Embed periodic learning and reflection within our research areas to document and share lessons learned from research partnerships and process





Our Technical Specialisms

Our research currently spans 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)

- Women's nutrition
- School-age children and adolescent nutrition
- Infant Feeding in Emergencies (IFE)
- Food systems and climate change

See our <u>publications library</u>, with the following recent examples

Stunting in the first year of life: Pathway analysis of a birth cohort. *PLoS Global Public Health*, 2024. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pgph.0002908

Invisible pursuit: global policy guidance on care of vulnerable infants under 6 months and their mothers, a scoping review. ENN, 2024. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.25289917.v1

Multiple Micronutrient Supplements in Humanitarian Emergencies: A State of Play Report. ENN, 2024. https://www.ennonline.net/multiple-micronutrient-supplements-in-humanitarian-emergencies

Exploring new, evolving and neglected topics at the intersection of food systems, climate change and nutrition: a literature review. ENN, 2024. https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.25112246

Research priorities for nutrition of school-aged children and adolescents in low- and middle-income countries. *PLoS ONE*, 2023. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0280510

Anthropometric criteria for best-identifying children at high risk of mortality: a pooled analysis of twelve cohorts. *Public Health Nutrition*, 2023. https://doi.org/10.1017/S136898002300023X

Towards standardised and valid anthropometric indicators for adolescents. *Lancet Child and Adolescent Health*, 2022. https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-4642(22)00196-1

Women's nutrition: A summary of evidence, policy and practice including adolescent and maternal life stages. ENN, 2022. https://www.ennonline.net/womensnutritionasummarytechnicalbriefingpaper

Strategies and interventions for healthy adolescent growth, nutrition, and development. *Lancet*, 2021. https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(21)01593-2

The relationship between wasting and stunting in young children: A systematic review. *Maternal and Child Nutrition*, 2021. https://doi.org/10.1111/mcn.13246

Story of change: ENN's role in Knowledge Management related to the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement. ENN, 2020. https://www.ennonline.net/storyofchangesunkm

The relationship between wasting and stunting: a retrospective cohort analysis of longitudinal data in Gambian children from 1976 to 2016. *American Journal of Clinical Nutrition*, 2019. https://doi.org/10.1093/ajcn/ngy326

ENN hosts the Infant and Young Child Feeding in Emergencies Research Repository: https://www.ennonline.net/ife/iycferepository

Research 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. These not only offer research staff and students a range of resources for immediate use but also represent the ways that ENN showcases ongoing research to a wide audience.

In 2023:

Field Exchange Publication

Our <u>flagship technical publication</u> containing detailed field articles, research and evaluations on nutrition in emergency and high burden contexts. Published in print and available online.

- Real life case studies
- Insight into programming innovations and challenges to inform research needs
- Mentoring and editorial support to help authors reflect and write





180 countries reached



3,140 subscribers

Get involved

- Submit research articles and MSc. thesis summaries
- Submit summaries of existing research
- Encourage your partners to share experiences of nutrition programming
- Use our case studies to teach
- Submit news and events to share
- Subscribe to our newsletters

Media Hub & Webinars

Our <u>online media platform</u> hosts blogs, podcasts and videos which complement our written publications by providing a space for reflections, interviews and updates.

- Media Hub brings to life the perspectives of our publication authors and network partners
- We deliver webinars to support learning and research dissemination





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.

• Available in English and French



279 responses



177 countries



Get involved

- Gain inputs into emerging research theories and substantiate ideas by hearing about practical experiences and urgent challenges on the ground
- Link an en-net discussion topic to the research you have published
- Share the platform with regional and national institutions you are engaged with
- Encourage your staff to contribute their expert peer support in response to urgent questions



Networks and Convening

Our independence and neutrality position us well to convene and coordinate several international expert groups involving the most experienced practitioners and academics.

Examples include:

- The management of small and nutritionally at-risk infants under six months and their mothers (MAMI) Global Network, (584 members)
- The Infant Feeding in Emergencies (IFE) Core Group, (87 members, both individuals and organisations)
- The Wasting and Stunting Technical Interest Group, (43 members)
- The Global Adolescent Nutrition Network (106 members)

We regularly offer our technical expertise to strengthen the activities of organisations working to reduce malnutrition globally. For example, we contribute as a technical expert in World Health Organization guidance development, and we share our work in the Global Nutrition Report. ENN is a core team member of the **Global Nutrition Cluster**, overseeing and actively participating in several expert Global Thematic Working Groups.







Find out more

For more information about ENN's collaboration with research partners, please contact us on office@ennonline.net

For more information on any aspects of our work and to access our publications and networks connect with us at www.ennonline.net, LinkedIn @Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN),

Facebook <u>@Emergency Nutrition Network</u>, or Twitter <u>@ENNOnline</u>.

ENN is a UK registered charity (reg. no. 1115156) and a company limited by guarantee and governed by a board of trustees.

Our Impact

We prioritise evidence-based research that drives practical solutions for people working in nutritional emergencies. Some examples of how our work has impacted policy and programming include:

The development and subsequent global adoption of the first internationally agreed operational guidance on how to support infant and young child feeding in humanitarian crisis situations, endorsed by the World Health Assembly in 2010 and again in 2018.

Our research prioritisation exercises using the Child
Health & Nutrition Research
Initiative (CHNRI) approach
include wasting prevention, acute
malnutrition research, management
of wasting in infants under
six months and nutrition of
school-aged children and
adolescents.

The collection and dissemination of research and programming experiences of community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) helped to catalyse acceptance of this innovative, life-saving approach.

"Knowledge based learnings from [the Field Exchange] magazine is very helpful to develop nuanced programming to address issues related to child nutrition."

Associate General Manager, Child Rights and You, New Delhi, India

Our co-creative partnership with the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Jimma University (Ethiopia) and GOAL, testing strategies to ensure access to community-based care for small/nutritionally at-risk infants under six months and their mothers.

Our research has led
to increasing recognition
among international
organisations that children who
suffer from concurrent wasting
and stunting are particularly
vulnerable and require
attention.

"A relatively small but highly effective agency which 'punches way above its weight', ENN is widely viewed as a fair and impartial mediator allowing difficult issues to be constructively explored."

Academic researcher

Our Team

See ENN's website for <u>wider team</u> <u>profiles</u>. Our technical team working on research portfolios includes:





Marie McGrath, ENN Technical Director. ORCID: 0000-0002-0660-1873

Marie has worked in international nutrition for 28 years. With a background in paediatric dietetics and humanitarian programming, she has been with ENN for 22 years and is a part-time PhD student at LSHTM. Her specialities are at-risk infants, implementation research and technical brokerage.



Natalie Sessions, Senior Nutritionist

Natalie was responsible for the global coordination of ENN's Knowledge Management work for the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement. She has particular interest in wasting and stunting, the humanitarian and development nexus of nutrition programming and in situating nutrition within the broader humanitarian and development landscape.



Tanya Khara, ENN Technical Director. ORCID: 0000-0002-6251-0052

Tanya joined ENN in 2017 bringing with her more than 20 years' experience working on nutrition programming, policy, and research. She is ENN's technical lead on the relationship between wasting and stunting.



Anne Gitari, Senior Nutritionist

Anne joined ENN in April 2024 and works across different projects within ENN's portfolio, her main focus being support to the GNC. She brings over 12 years' experience working in CMAM programming with different organisations across several country programmes. Anne has an MPH (Human Nutrition) from Moi University, Kenya.



Dr Philip James, Senior Technical Associate. ORCID: 0000-0001-5448-8193

Since 2003, Philip has split his time between humanitarian and academic work in the maternal and child nutrition field. He holds a PhD and MSc. in Public Health Nutrition from LSHTM where his research focussed on the prevention of undernutrition. Philip's specialities include maternal and child nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies.



Amir Samnani, Nutritionist. ORCID: 0000-0003-3997-952X

Amir is an experienced nutritionist who has been with ENN since September 2022. He has expertise in maternal, child and adolescent health and nutrition. He joined ENN with a wealth of experience in public health departments, the UN and international NGOs.



Nicki Connell, Senior Technical Associate

Nicki is the Co-Editor of ENN's publication Field Exchange and brings over 16 years' experience to this role. In 2019, Nicki was recognised for her efforts in the nutrition sector by being awarded an MBE for services to emergency nutrition crises abroad. Key technical areas of interest to Nicki include MAMI, IYCF-E and CMAM.



Dima Ousta, IFE Core Group Coordinator

Dima has over 15 years' experience working in emergency and non-emergency contexts in low-, middle- and high-income countries. Dima's interests are in supporting infant and young child feeding in emergencies and joined ENN in September 2023 as the IFE Core Group Coordinator. She has an MSc in Nutrition from McGill University.



Dr Natasha Lelijveld, Senior Nutritionist. ORCID: 0000-0002-8452-0198

Natasha completed her PhD at University College London where her research considered the long-term effects of severe acute malnutrition in Malawi. She also then taught the "Nutrition in Emergencies" course for Master's students at the University of Southampton. At ENN, Natasha focuses on adolescent nutrition, and child wasting.



Rachael Menezes, Nutritionist. ORCID: 0000-0002-8596-4153

Rachael joined ENN in 2020. She previously coordinated Public Health England funded Start4Life intervention for pregnant women across London. More recently, she has supported nutrition programmes for earthquake survivors led by local NGOs in the Atlas Mountains, Morocco. Her current focus at ENN is on IFE and MAMI.



Thomas Stubbs, Field Exchange Sub-Editor and Content Coordinator.

Tom works across ENN's Field Exchange portfolio. Prior to joining ENN, he worked as a nutrition consultant for a multidisciplinary healthcare clinic in the UK and spent time working on FCDO-funded development projects in Nigeria and South Africa. He holds an MSc(MedSci) in Human Nutrition, as well as an MSc in Epidemiology.

We also draw on our pool of highly experienced research consultants to complement the specialisms, skills and knowledge of our team.