

MODULE 7

Measuring malnutrition: Population assessment

PART 4: TRAINING RESOURCE LIST

The training resource list is the fourth of four parts contained in this module. It provides a comprehensive list of reference material relevant to this module including guidelines, training courses and reference manuals. Part 4 provides background documents for trainers who are preparing training material.¹

What can you expect to find here?

1. An inventory of existing **guidelines** and **manuals** listed alphabetically by agency name with details about their availability.
2. A list of known **training resources** listed alphabetically by agency name with details about:
 - Overall content
 - Intended use
 - Target audience
 - Length of time the course session has been designed for

Guidelines and manuals

Survey methodology

1. **Standardized Monitoring and Assessment of Relief and Transitions (2006). Measuring Mortality, Nutritional Status, and Food Security in Crisis Situations – SMART Methodology Version 1. SMART.**

A manual detailing a basic integrated method for assessing nutritional status and mortality rate in emergency situations. It includes details of how to use the Nutrisurvey software for analysing data. The manual is aimed at host government partners and humanitarian organisations as part of the SMART initiative to enhance capacity and draws from core elements of several existing methods and best practice. It includes an optional chapter on food security which is based on a simplified version of the household economy approach. Of particular relevance:

Chapter 2: Introduction

Chapter 3: The steps in undertaking a survey

Chapter 4: Nutrition and mortality survey

Chapter 5: Using Nutrisurvey software step by step

Chapter 7: Appendices

Availability: Downloadable in pdf form in English.

Contact: www.smartmethodology.org; check the SMART website for latest updates on manuals and associated standardised training materials.

¹ Survey and anthropometric measurements methodology and analysis are evolving. The resources indicated might not be totally up to date but give basic principles.

TRAINING RESOURCE LIST

2. WFP & CDC (2005). *A Manual: Measuring and Interpreting Malnutrition and Mortality*. Rome: WFP.

Manual is for WFP staff and aims to provide guidance on issues relating to nutrition and mortality surveys, and to standardise survey methodologies. It is aimed at WFP staff involved in nutrition-related data collection and intervention as well as WFP consultants and partners. A six-day training course has been developed to accompany it (separate reference). Of particular relevance:

Chapter 1: Defining and measuring malnutrition

Chapter 2: Defining and measuring mortality

Chapter 3: Designing a survey

Chapter 4: Using and interpreting survey results for decision making

Chapter 5: Ethical issues

Chapter 6: The end point: example of a good survey report

Availability: Downloadable pdf version in English.

Contact: www.wfp.org

Available at: www.unscn.org/en/resource_portal

3. FSAU & FAO (2006). *Nutrition, a Guide to Data Collection, Analysis, Interpretation and Use*. Nairobi: FSAU.

Manual aimed at mid-level managers in all sectors who would like to better understand nutrition information and its use. The manual sets out all the steps involved in nutrition data collection and analysis including practical guidance for use by survey enumerators, health facility workers and other field workers. Additional materials have also been prepared to support the use of the manual during training. Of particular relevance:

Chapter 4: Methods of nutritional assessment and analysis

Chapter 5: Analysis and interpretation of the nutrition situation

Appendices

Availability: downloadable pdf format in English.

Contact and available at: www.fsausomali.org

4. Save the Children United Kingdom (2004). *Emergency Nutrition Assessment Guidelines*. London: SCUK.

Manual intended to provide straightforward and comprehensive guidance to nutritionists and other fieldworkers responsible for assessments in emergency settings. It is divided into six parts including how to assess the causes of malnutrition and how to interpret assessment data alongside mortality and malnutrition information. The appendices include anthropometry tools and a glossary. Of particular relevance:

Part A: Assessing the causes of malnutrition

Part B: Assessing the prevalence of malnutrition

Part C: Assessing the rate of mortality

Part D: Interpreting the findings

Part E: Fifteen practical steps for conducting an assessment

Appendices

Availability: Printed version and CD-Rom in English.

Contact: www.savethechildren.org.uk

Available at: www.unscn.org/en/resource_portal

5. Oxfam (2001). *Oxfam's Approach to Nutrition Surveys in Emergencies*. Oxford: Oxfam.

Field guide on conducting nutrition surveys including anthropometry, the causes of malnutrition and report writing. Of particular relevance:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Why conduct a nutrition survey

Chapter 3: A public nutrition approach

Chapter 4: The causes of malnutrition

Chapter 5: What to assess

Chapter 6: Nutritional survey methods

Chapter 7: Analysis

Chapter 8: Report writing

Availability: Printed and downloadable pdf version in English.

Contact: www.oxfam.org.uk

Available at: http://www.unscn.org/en/resource_portal

6. **WHO Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (1995). *Field Guide on Rapid Nutritional Assessment in Emergencies*. Alexandria: WHO.**

A step-by-step field guide on how to plan and carry out nutrition assessments. Of particular relevance:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Planning the survey

Chapter 3: Selecting the survey subjects

Chapter 4: Selecting the sample

Chapter 5: Survey methodology

Chapter 6: Data recording

Chapter 7: Training and supervision

Chapter 8: Data analysis

Chapter 9: Interpreting results and reporting findings

Contact: www.who.int

Available at: www.unscn.org/en/resource_portal

General

7. **UNICEF (2007). *Emergency Field Handbook: A Guide for UNICEF staff*. New York: UNICEF.**

A guide for UNICEF field staff structured around UNICEF's Core Commitments for Children in Emergencies. These commitments make a clear distinction between life-saving interventions that should be carried out immediately (within the first six to eight weeks of any crisis) and the broader spectrum of essential activities that may be added once an initial response is well established. Of particular relevance:

Part 3. Assessment and monitoring

Availability: Printed version in English

Contact and available at: www.unicef.org

8. **The Sphere Project (2011). *The Sphere Handbook: Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Disaster Response*. Geneva: The Sphere Project.**

The new edition of the Sphere Handbook takes into account recent developments in humanitarian practice in water and sanitation, food, shelter and health, together with feedback from practitioners in the field, research institutes and cross-cutting experts in protection, gender, children, older people, disabled people, HIV/AIDS and the environment. It is the product of an extensive collaborative effort that reflects the collective will and shared experience of the humanitarian community, and its determination to improve on current knowledge in humanitarian assistance programmes.

Of particular relevance:

Chapter 1: The Core Standards

Food security and Nutrition Assessment in Chapter 3: Minimum Standards in Food Security and Nutrition

Availability: Printed version and pdf downloadable form website in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

Contact and available at: www.sphereproject.org

Survey Software

9. **Epi Info / ENA Software**

The purpose of Epi Info/ENA software is to make analysis of nutrition and mortality data collected in field surveys as easy and reliable as possible. By combining Epi Info and ENA for SMART, one software package was created that is able to generate anthropometric scores using both WHO and NCHS growth standards, produce automated analyses of key mortality and nutrition indicators, conduct automated plausibility and data quality checks, and generate reports that include results of these automated analyses.

Availability: Free, downloadable in English.

Contact: www.cdc.gov/nceh/ierh/ResearchandSurvey/enasoftware.htm

10. **SMART Software. *Emergency Nutrition Assessment for SMART*.**

Software developed as part of the SMART initiative to analyse nutrition and mortality surveys. It provides standard analysis of nutrition and mortality surveys in emergency situations and therefore contains all necessary calculations in one programme. The software has different sheets (planning, training, data entry, results, options) which follows the steps of a survey.

Availability: Free downloadable in English but can be translated into French.

Contact: http://www.nutrisurvey.net/ena_delta

11. WHO Anthro Software

WHO Anthro 2005 software consists of three modules:

1) Anthropometric calculator;

2) Individual assessment;

3) Nutritional survey (cross-sectional). The ENA for SMART software has been designed specifically to be used for combined anthropometric and mortality surveys (cross-sectional), along with the SMART manual. Anthro software therefore has a larger scope of use. Both software contain similar features for entering and analysing anthropometric data from children and will generate identical results.

Availability: Free, downloadable in English but can be translated into French.

Contact: www.who.int/childgrowth/software/en/

Training courses

12. SMART (2010) Training materials

Contact: www.smartmethodology.org; check the SMART website for latest updates on manuals and associated standardised training materials.

13. University of Nairobi, FSAU&FAO (2005). *Training Package of Materials for the course Food and Nutrition Surveillance and Emergency*. Nairobi: FSAU.

This training course provides an understanding of the nutritional outcomes of emergencies (malnutrition, mortality and morbidity), and also the causes of malnutrition and mortality in emergencies (the process and dynamics of an emergency). The course has an operational focus, and at the same time incorporates relevant applied research.

The course itself is divided into three parts. Of particular relevance: Unit II (Sessions 7 to 14) covers assessment and analysis of nutritional problems in emergencies with a view to guiding an appropriate humanitarian response.

The power point teaching aids are presented in the Appendix.

Availability: Free, download in English

Contact: www.fsausomali.org Available at: www.unscn.org/en/resource_portal

14. FAO. (2007). *FAO Food Security Information for Action Distance Learning Material* – Food Security Information

Systems and Networks; Reporting Food Security Information; Nutritional Status Assessment and Analysis. The Distance Learning Component offers self-paced e-learning, developed by international experts to support capacity building and on-the-job Training and Workshops at national and local food security information systems and networks. Courses available: Food Security Information Systems and Networks; Reporting Food Security Information; Availability Assessment and Analysis; Baseline Food Security Assessments; Food Security Concepts and Frameworks; Collaboration and Advocacy Techniques; Livelihoods Assessment and Analysis; Markets Assessment and Analysis; Nutritional Status Assessment and Analysis; Food Security Policies – Formulation and Implementation; Targeting; Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis

Availability: free of charge registration provides access to the material

Contact: http://www.foodsec.org/dl/dlintro_en.asp

15. NutritionWorks & Feinstein International Famine Centre, Tufts University (2007). *Sphere Training on Nutrition Module: Contents*. Geneva: The Sphere Project.

Training modules aiming to improve the technical capacity for humanitarian response in nutrition. They are aimed at staff with some responsibility for designing or monitoring nutrition related projects and aim to ensure an understanding of the scope and content of Standards in the Food Security, Nutrition and Food Aid chapter of the Sphere handbook, the key indicators, and the scientific/practical rationale behind these. The modules include a lesson plan, handouts and visual materials for each of the eight sessions. Of particular relevance:

Session 2: Assessment and Analysis

Availability: Printed version and pdf downloadable from website in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

Contact: www.sphereproject.org

Other reports of interest

16. **Checci & Roberts (2005). *Interpreting and Using Humanitarian Mortality Data in Humanitarian Emergencies – Network Paper No. 52.* London: ODI.**

Technical paper written for non-technical humanitarian actors using mortality data. It provides an overview of epidemiological concepts and indicators of mortality to allow for interpretation and use of mortality reports. Of particular relevance:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Applications of mortality data

Chapter 3: Overview of methods to measure mortality

Chapter 4: Interpreting and using mortality data

Chapter 5: The politics of mortality

Chapter 6: Conclusion

Availability: Downloadable pdf file in English

Contact: www.odi.org.uk

17. **Prudhon C. & Spiegel P.B. *A review of methodology and analysis of nutrition and mortality surveys conducted in humanitarian emergencies from October 1993 to April 2004***

Scientific manuscript reviewing the quality of the methodology used in surveys submitted to SCN NICS and examining the trends in quality from 1993 to early 2004. The objectives of this paper are to identify common methodological errors in nutrition and mortality surveys conducted in humanitarian emergencies, to examine the trends over time, and to provide recommendations on how to improve surveys in the future.

Availability: Free, downloadable pdf version in English.

Contact: www.ete-online.com/

18. **Young & Jaspars (2006). *The Meaning and Measurement of Malnutrition in Acute Emergencies. Network Paper Number 56.* London: ODI.**

Technical paper aimed at non-technical humanitarian actors, especially decision-makers, to understand, interpret and use nutritional data by looking at how it is collected, analysed and used. It also looks at how technical issues are linked to pragmatic institutional constraints. Of particular relevance:

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Basic concepts

Chapter 4: Estimating malnutrition in emergency-affected populations

Chapter 5: Interpretation and decision-making

Availability: Downloadable pdf file in English

Contact: www.odi.org.uk

Survey Database Repository

19. **CE DAT. *Complex Emergency Database***

CE-DAT is a global database on the human impact of conflicts and other complex humanitarian emergencies and serves as a unique source of health indicators for monitoring conflict-affected populations and for the production of trend analysis, impact briefings and policy recommendations.

Survey reports should be sent to: contact@cedat.org

Contact: www.cedat.org

20. **United Nations Standing Committee on Nutrition (2007). *Nutrition Information in Crisis Situations.* Geneva: United Nations.**

Quarterly report with updates of nutrition situations.

Each report presents the summarised results of nutrition surveys around the world.

Availability: Printed and downloadable pdf form in English.

Survey reports should be sent to: scn@who.org

Contact: www.unscn.org

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