



Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN)
32, Leopold Street, Oxford, OX4 1TW, UK
tel/fax: +44 (0)1865 324996/324997



e:office@enonline.net www.enonline.net

**Meeting on CMAM scale-up
An Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN) Initiative in collaboration with
the Government of Ethiopia
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, November 2011**

The Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition approach (CMAM, formerly known as CTC, Community-based Therapeutic Care) was endorsed as the treatment of choice for Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) in the 2007 joint UN agency statement.¹ This change in policy was one of the enabling factors for governments to start establishing and scaling-up CMAM programming at national level in Africa and parts of Asia, over the past few years.

The scale-up of CMAM programming in developing countries across the world is continuing at a rapid pace and has government and multi-donor support. In Ethiopia during the food crisis of 2008/9, the Federal Ministry of Health (F-MoH) announced full 'roll out' of decentralized OTP services in-line with current policy, outlined in the National Nutrition Programme (NNP) of "increased access to treatment for the management of SAM".

While the provision of services at-scale undoubtedly provides a host of challenges (especially with respect to ensuring the quality of programming), Ethiopia's national roll-out strategy is proving to be effective in reaching large numbers of SAM children across the wide and challenging geographical areas of the country. Results are improving, with outcomes reaching International Sphere Standards.^{2 3} Many lessons regarding best-practice have been learned during this period that should be shared with other countries that are implementing, or embarking on CMAM programmes at-scale.

A number of international meetings have been held during recent years to discuss CMAM implementation modalities and for experience sharing. However, as yet, a meeting to share lessons learned from national roll-out strategies has not been organized in Africa. Major policy decisions and considerable resources are required to support and sustain the scale-up of services. An urgent need was identified for a forum to share experiences and identify evidence-based best practices from countries already undertaking national roll-out; in order to compare and contrast the successes and various obstacles that different countries have faced.

The Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN) is a UK registered charity that was set up originally in 1996 to improve practice and strengthen the institutional memory of humanitarian agencies involved in the food and nutrition sector of emergencies. The ENN has facilitated/produced proceedings of several international technical meetings, including meetings to date on CMAM programming (Dublin 2003, Washington 2005 and 2008). The ENN endeavours to improve the effectiveness of interventions through the identification and rapid dissemination of lessons learnt, through research and evaluation, capacity development and network-

¹ Joint statement by WHO, WFP, UN-SCN and UNICEF, 2007

² A set of standards agreed by the international community that humanitarian emergency programmes aim to meet – they include rates for recovery (>75%), default (<15%), death (<10%).

³ Chamois, S, 'Case study: The decentralisation and scaling up of the outpatient management of severe acute malnutrition in Ethiopia, 2008-2010'. Field Exchange Issue 40. Emergency Nutrition Network.

building. In this capacity, the ENN will lead this inter-agency learning initiative in collaboration with the Government of Ethiopia.

CMAM Meeting: Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 14 to 16th November 2011

Three day meeting focusing on CMAM

A meeting is to be held in Addis Ababa over 3-days in November 2011; to facilitate the sharing of lessons-learned and build consensus on a range of issues relating to national scale-up of SAM services. The meeting is being co-funded by DFID and Irish Aid.

The goal of the meeting is to identify and document the policy environment, coordination, funding mechanisms, technical and operational considerations that are required to establish, expand and sustain service provision at national level. Many donors are putting considerable resources into the support of CMAM programming; this policy and strategy forum aims to encourage the most effective use of future resources. This forum is also intended to provide policy and programme related information and guidance to countries from Africa and Asia that are planning national level scale-up of CMAM.

Half-day meeting focusing on the SUN initiative, 17th November 2011

A key allied global initiative under which this meeting is located is SUN (Scaling Up Nutrition) ⁴. The Road Map for SUN details the means through which national, regional and international actors will work together to establish and pursue efforts to Scale up Nutrition in countries with a high burden of malnutrition, utilising proven interventions and through multi-sectoral and integrated nutrition focussed development policies and processes. The Road Map for SUN clearly articulates a pressing need for improved sharing of experiences between countries and regions on policy development and programming as one mechanism by which to build national capacity in nutrition.

In order to share the lessons learnt from the CMAM meeting directly with key actors involved in SUN (country and global level) a half-day meeting will take place on Day 4 during which issues relating to scale up of actions to address all forms of malnutrition (prevention and treatment) will be discussed.

Participants⁵

Participants will be sought from a minimum of 16 countries from Africa and a number of Asian countries of which some will be from countries already engaging in the SUN initiative. Participants will likely comprise the following:

- Two participants from government of 10 African/Asian countries currently implementing national roll-out of CMAM. These participants will be facilitated to write-up the CMAM scale-up experience in their respective countries; as background papers and for presentation at the meeting.
- One or two participants from government of 6 Asian/ African countries, identified as planning to adopt and/or roll-out CMAM.
- Donors, UN agencies, humanitarian agencies, RUTF producers.

Thematic areas

⁴ In April 2010 a Road Map for Scaling up Nutrition (SUN) was launched based on a SUN Framework endorsed by over 100 entities including national governments, UN agencies, civil society organisations, academia, philanthropic bodies and the private sector. For more information on SUN, go to http://www.unscn.org/en/nut-working/scaling_up_nutrition_sun/sun_purpose.php

⁵A variety of media will be considered to reach stakeholders unable to attend the meeting.

The meeting will focus on **ten** thematic areas. These are:

1. *Policy environment*: institutional stakeholder interests, governments' ability to take on and sustain roll-out strategies.
2. *Funding*: estimates, sources, mechanisms, sustainability.
3. *Linkages*: within the nutrition sector and other sectors (Agriculture, Food security, Education).
4. *Effectiveness of public health systems*: to support national roll-out strategies.
5. *Operational issues*: supplies, logistics, reporting, monitoring and supervision. Evidence of coverage and impact. Appropriate indicators for MoH-led programming. Scale up/down of services in emergency/non-emergency situations.
6. *Capacity development*: national health systems
7. *Linkages with HIV programming*: particularly in high-burden countries.
8. *Integrating infant and young child feeding measures into CMAM*: other preventative strategies.
9. *Future research*: needs and priorities.
10. *RUTF supplies*: importing, local production challenges, private sector involvement, development of standards within the industry.

Results and Outcomes

- CMAM scale-up meeting convened.
- Half day SUN meeting convened.
- Background papers prepared on selected country experiences with lessons learned in specific thematic areas and a synthesis of lessons and considerations to share with the SUN initiative.
- Major obstacles and challenges to national OTP roll-out set out (based on case studies and meeting discussions) and key next steps to address these outlined and agreed.
- Operational research priorities agreed and identification of short-term and medium-term next steps to take research priorities forward.
- Generic approach and guidance for national scale-up agreed at meeting and identification of next steps for ratification/finalisation.
- Identification of the key issues for CMAM scale-up relevant to SUN which focuses on actions to address all forms of undernutrition.
- Meeting report produced by ENN, providing an overview of the key issues identified and recommendations for research and policy directions and actions in relation to SAM and the SUN initiative

Key contacts

Ethiopia: Dr Ferew Lemma, Senior Nutrition Advisor, F-MOH, Ethiopia, email: ferew.lemma@yahoo.com

Emily Mates, ENN, tel: +251 (0)911 653901, email: emily@ennonline.net

UK: Marie McGrath, ENN, tel: +44 (0)1865 249745, email: marie@ennonline.net

Carmel Dolan, ENN, tel: +44 (0) 1252 710006 email: carmel@ennonline.net