



Ethiopian Public Health Institute

Bridging Nutrition Research Information



NIPN at A Glance

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THE FIRST GSF-NIPN REGIONAL WORKSH KICKED OFF IN ETHIOPIA

The first NIPN regional workshop organized by the Global Support Facility (GSF), held from Jan 30 to Feb 1, 2019 at Elilly Hotel Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The three days training workshop intended to build capacity in policy question formulation and data analysis approach. Additionally it aimed to discuss issues related to the NIPN project and the key activities to be done.



The GSF in coordination with EPHI/NIPN conducted this training workshop in which an ample experience from the GSF



Global Support Facility (GSF) Team :

Marti Van Liere, Youssouf Keita, Perrine Geniez, Julien Chalimbaud

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Message from EPHI, NIPN Coordinator

What is NIPN and its purpose?



Ato Solomon Eshetu

It is with great pleasure that I am releasing this message in the inauguration of the first National Information Platform for Nutrition /NIPN/ Quarterly Newsletter.

In Ethiopia, NIPN was launched on May 2018 and the Ethiopian Public Health Institute (EPHI) is hosting and monitoring the NIPN project. NIPN is a four year project and technically supported by the International Food Policy Research Institute /IFPRI/.

The Global Support Facility /GSF/ based in France also provide a global guidance for the whole NIPN countries. It is a big and significant platform in which most of the national nutrition stakeholders are involved to benefit from it.

A lot has been done since the inauguration.

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"It is a significant platform in which most of the national nutrition stakeholders are involved to benefit from it".

(Ato Solomon)

Message from International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)



Anne Bossuyt,
Senior Policy Advisor
to NIPN, IFPRI.

It has been an exciting year for the collaboration between EPHI and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Early 2018, IFPRI was identified by the European Union and the EPHI to support EPHI in strengthening the national capacity to establish a National Information Platform for Nutrition (NIPN). IFPRI is well placed to provide this support, as it has a longstanding experience in strengthening capacities for undertaking evidence-informed policy analysis and communicating the evidence to policy makers in Ethiopia. Two IFPRI staff provide ongoing support to NIPN, which is complemented by additional targeted needs-based support.

Capacity will also be strengthened through collaborative research and by creating institutional capacity. In June 2018, EPHI and IFPRI signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which constitutes an agreement between the institutes to engage in a series of cooperative activities of common interest. This MOU is focused on IFPRI's leading role on behalf of the CGIAR A4NH research program and promotes collaborative activities. It fosters a long-term collaborative model between IFPRI and EPHI, including by IFPRI's support to the establishment of a NIPN. In addition, this partnership allows to tap into existing opportunities provided by IFPRI, such as the Ethiopian participation during the global conference on Accelerating the End of Hunger and Malnutrition which was organized by IFPRI and FAO in November 2018 in Bangkok, and which featured the First Lady and various Ethiopian experts on the program.

"It is not only important that NIPN produces high quality and evidence-based analysis, but also that the NIPN research outputs are produced in such a manner that they are seen, understood by, and acted upon by national decision makers"

(Anne Bossuyt)

NIPN Ethiopia

- Launched in May 2018
- Hosted by EPHI, but works with several NNP signatories.
- Supported by IFPRI
- NIPN team established at EPHI's FSNRD and collaboration established with other EPHI directorates.
- Various trainings implemented as of August 2018.
- Policy and Research seminars launched in September 2018.
- Supported and guided by the National Nutrition Monitoring Evaluation & Research Steering Committee (MER SC).

NIPN Global Facts

NIPN aims to support evidence-based decision making and consists of three operational elements

- **Policy question formulation** based on government priorities.
- **Analysis of existing data** to inform the questions.
- **Communication of the findings** to appropriate audiences that is, the decision-makers.

Global NIPN overview

- Working in 10 countries:- Burkina Faso, Bangladesh, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Kenya, Laos, Niger, Uganda, Zambia.
- Funded by the European Union.
- Co-funded by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and DFID-UK.

NIPN Operational Framework



The Fourth NIPN Seminar Held at EPHI Training Center

The fourth NIPN Nutrition Research and Policy Seminar covered the topic “Animal sourced food and nutrition outcomes” and was organized at the EPHI training center on March 7, 2019. Following the introduction by Ato Solomon Eshetu, NIPN coordinator, Dr Kalle Hirvonen, IFPRI researcher, shared the results of an analysis of DHS data of 130,432 children between the ages of 6 and 24 months from 49



countries, documenting distinctive patterns of animal sourced food (ASF) consumption among children in different regions. He highlighted strong associations between stunting and ASF consumption as well as

with fish and dairy consumption. Consuming multiple ASF was also found more advantageous than any single ASF. Despite these advantages, ASF consumption remains low and variable across countries. Non-tradable ASFs (fresh milk, eggs) are a very expensive source of calories in low-income countries and caloric prices of these foods are strongly associated with children's consumption patterns.

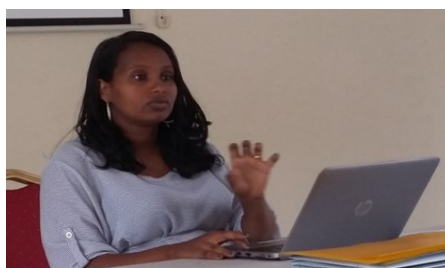
Silvia Alonso, Epidemiologist, Animal and Human Health at the International Livestock Institute (ILRI), presented a report which synthesizes the best current evidence on the influence of livestock-derived foods (LDF), such as meat, milk and eggs, on the nutrition of mothers and infants in Africa and Asia. She highlighted that the quantity and quality of nutrients in milk, meat and eggs makes LDF an important component of healthy diets. Consumption of LDF is rapidly increasing in low and middle income regions, but remains still much lower than in higher income regions.

Data Repository Training Given to NIPN and EPHI Team

The National Information Platform for Nutrition (NIPN) in coordination with International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has given a half day training on “Submitting data to a data repository: what are the requirements and experiences?”.

The training introduced the concept of a data

repository, the importance of and the functionality of it following sharing experience from IFPRI.



w/ro Yetmwork Habte, National Research Officer at IFPRI's country office



The EPHI NIPN team, the National Data Management Center (NDMC) and EPHI library representatives attended the training.

NIPN to Conduct Capacity Need Assessment in 23 Institutions

As of mid March, the NIPN team has started implementing a capacity need assessment (CNA) It's one process to define a Capacity Strengthening Strategy which will lead to an improved national nutrition monitoring, evaluation, research and policy decision making process.

Among many things, NIPN aims to build long term capacities of key stakeholders involved in the national nutrition monitoring, evaluation and policy agenda and the first step in this process is to identify the current capacities of the national multisectoral stakeholders.

The CNA will cover 17 ministries, 6 universities and one research Institute. This assessment will be conducted at an institutional level supported by key informant interviews in HR, M&E, nutrition units, general service and finance units. The assessment is expected to be finalized in April 2019.

The three days training workshop intended to build capacity in policy question formulation and data analysis approach. Additionally it aimed to discuss issues related to the NIPN project and the key activities to be done.



The GSF in coordination with EPHI/NIPN conducted this training workshop in

which an ample experience from the GSF experts was taken during the training.

The training workshop gave a concrete explanation on formulating nutrition policy questions, delivered guidance on data landscape and data analysis, data quality checking, data management and data repository.

Marti Van Liere, team leader of the GSF, Perrine Geniez, food and nutrition policy expert, Julien Chalimbaud an Epidemiology expert and Youssouf Keita a consultant, led and facilitated the training workshop.

A total of 22 participants from NIPN Ethiopia team and stakeholders attended the workshop.

Message continued from Page I

A team of different experts has been recruited and now working on the full cycle of NIPN project. The monthly Nutrition seminar has been going well with different topics. Different capacity building trainings has been provided for different stakeholders.

As we are envisioning a broad aspect of national platform formation, we feel that this project will contribute a lot in the decision making process on nutrition and also bridge the gap between researchers and policy and program makers.

Hosting organization /EPHI/ and other key stakeholders are working to make this vision a reality. Hence a lot of effort will be exerted and a lot of experts will be involved.

Therefore, I kindly, call up on all National Nutrition Program II signatory ministries, academia, and development partners to work closely and responsibly to the effective establishment and sustainability of the NIPN project .

Thank you!

Do you have Comments ?
Please contact us:-



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