

Abstract Title:

CHWs Support Nutrition Assessments in School Feeding Program in World Vision Malawi Area Programs





Objective:

To effectively utilize Community Health Workers (CHWs) in supporting nutrition assessments within Community-Based Childcare Centers (CBCCs) engaged in school feeding programs

Aim: To assess children's nutritional status and generate data for program improvement.



Methodology:

- A quantitative survey collected numerical data on selected anthropometric measurements (weight, height, MUAC) of 50,777 children enrolled in 858 Community Based-Child Care Centers participating in school feeding programs.

Analysis Techniques:

- Using *ENA for SMART* software.
 - Converted into Z-scores to determine nutritional status.
 - Descriptive statistics - prevalence rates.

Background:

- In 2023 and 2024, Southern African countries, faced adverse El Niño weather patterns—flash floods and drought.
- Severely disrupted crop seasons and threatened food security
- A **UNICEF SMART** Survey carried out in 2024 revealed the following levels of malnutrition among children 0-59 months:
 - Underweight: 12%,
 - Stunting: 36%
 - Wasting: 2.6%.
- **ENOUGH:** World Vision's global campaign addressing: hunger and malnutrition
 - Launch of School Feeding Program Corn Soya Blend
 - Partnership between Maternal and Child Health and Tiwerenge 365 days: an Education Initiative
 - Targeting 3–5-year-olds in CBCCs.



Results:

- **CHWs** (Volunteers & Health Surveillance Assistants) were key.
 - Anthropometric measurements (MUAC, weight, height) and referral.
 - 50,777 children reached (108% of the 46,800 goal).
 - 293 identified with malnutrition. (192 mild, 53 moderate, and 43 severe)
 - 1,699 children (3.3%) not fully immunized.
 - 5,475 (10.7%) age-appropriate Vitamin A not received.

