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SANA

Sustainable Approaches to Nutrition in Africa

Soutien pour la Nutrition Appliquée en Afrique

Trip Report

Planning and facilitating a NAPHI Regional Workshop: Constraints to Effective Nutrition Programs: The Role of Public Health Training Institutions

Jinja, Uganda: May 28-30, 1997

Facilitating A Curriculum Development Workshop with the University of the Western Cape

Cape Town, South Africa: June 2-4, 1997

Debbie Gachuhi
SANA Field Advisor

**Planning and facilitating a NAPHI Regional Workshop: Constraints to
Effective Nutrition Programs: The Role of Public Health Training
Institutions**

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**Planning and facilitating a NAPHI Regional Workshop: Constraints to Effective Nutrition Programs:
The Role of Public Health Training Institutions**

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Facilitating A Curriculum Development Workshop with the University of the Western Cape

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Planning and facilitating a NAPHI Regional Workshop: Constraints to Effective Nutrition Programs: The Role of Public Health Training Institutions

Introduction

Nutrition training is offered throughout the world in schools and departments of medicine, nursing, public health and home economics, among others. Training typically emphasizes dietetics and the definitions of nutritional deficiencies. Rarely is nutrition, as a technical subject, presented holistically, with its socio-cultural, economic and health-related dimensions discussed and analyzed.

In response to these shortcomings, the Bellagio Conference of 1994, launched a global initiative to increase nutrition program effectiveness through improved nutrition training, information dissemination, and program-oriented research.

The Africa Bureau Office for Sustainable Development (AFR/SD) of USAID has supported a series of activities that advance the goals of the Bellagio Declaration and Global Initiative. Through the Sustainable Approaches to Nutrition in Africa (SANA) project, AFR/SD also supports strengthening regional networks to improve program-oriented research and training in nutrition. One such activity includes support for African institutions for constraints assessments to identify gaps between existing curricula and the training and research required to effectively design and manage nutrition improvement programs.

As a part of the SANA project, a partnership was established with the Network of African Public Health Institutions (NAPHI) to carry out activities in three phases:

- ◆ Phase 1: Program Constraints Assessments
- ◆ Phase 2: Review of Existing Nutrition Curricula, Training Courses and Modules
- ◆ Phase 3: Development of New Modules and Materials.

This report focusses on Phase 1: Program Constraints Assessments.

Preparation for the Three-Day NAPHI Regional Workshop

The week of April 7–11, 1997, the SANA field advisor assisted the NAPHI Secretariat and the Institute of Public Health, Makerere University, with the preparation of the three-day NAPHI Regional Workshop: Constraints to Effective Nutrition Programs. Working together with Prof. Gilbert Bukenya, NAPHI Secretariat, Dr. Fred Wabwire, Head, Institute of Public Health, Makerere University, and Ms. Louise Sseronjogi, De-

The NAPHI Regional Workshop: Constraints to Effective Nutrition Programs: The Role of Public Health Training Institutions

partment of Paediatrics and Child Health and Development Centre, Makerere University, the following task were accomplished:

- ◆ Administrative arrangements for the workshop were finalized,
- ◆ A tentative timetable outlining workshop sessions was developed,
- ◆ Group work and tasks were identified and developed,
- ◆ A letter of invitation for participants was drafted,
- ◆ A workshop budget was developed, and
- ◆ A suitable venue for the workshop was identified.

The NAPHI Regional Workshop: Constraints to Effective Nutrition Programs: The Role of Public Health Training Institutions

A three-day Program Constraints Assessment Workshop was held from May 28–30, 1997, at Triangle Hotel, Jinja, Uganda. There were 22 participants including country teams from Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and South Africa. The workshop was facilitated by the SANA field advisor with assistance from a staff member from the Applied Nutrition Program, University of Nairobi. Technical inputs were given by Dr. Jim Levinson, School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University, USA, and Dr. Milla McLachlan, Development Bank of South Africa. (See Appendix A)

Workshop Objectives

The NAPHI Regional Workshop on Program Constraints Assessment had the following objectives:

- ◆ To give an overview of the Bellagio Conference of 1994,
- ◆ To present the Program Constraints Assessment methodology,
- ◆ To present the South African Primary School Health and Nutrition Program and the Tamil Nadu case studies, and
- ◆ To develop protocol for conducting Program Constraints Assessments in participating countries.

By the end of the workshop, all of the objectives had been achieved. Although a timetable had been prepared in advance, it was found necessary to revise it to meet participants' needs for more time on certain activities.

Workshop Evaluation

The workshop was evaluated daily using a participatory approach. Participants gave feedback on what went well, what didn't go well, and what could be improved. A summative evaluation of the workshop was also conducted.

Workshop Outcomes

By the end of the workshop, each country team developed a protocol for conducting a program constraints assessment. The participants also agreed to send their proposals to the SANA field advisor no later than 15th July, 1997.

Appendix A: Participants List

**NAPHI REGIONAL CONFERENCE
28-30 MAY, 1997
HOTEL TRIANGLE - JINJA
ATTENDANCE LIST**

| | | | | | |
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NAPHI REGIONAL CONFERENCE
28-30 MAY, 1997
HOTEL TRIANGLE - JINJA
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NAPHI REGIONAL CONFERENCE
28-30 MAY, 1997
HOTEL TRIANGLE - JINJA
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NOTE

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Persons Contacted

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Appendix C: Timetable for NAPHI Regional Workshop

Timetable for NAPHI Regional Workshop

May 28–30, 1997

Tuesday, May 27, 1997

| | | |
|------|--------------------------------|---|
| 4:30 | Arrival, Triangle Hotel | |
| 7:30 | Official Opening and Reception | Dr. N. Sewankambo, Dean Medical School |

Wednesday, May 28, 1997

| | | |
|-------------|--|--------------------------|
| 8:30–8:45 | Word of Welcome | Prof. G. Bukenya |
| 8:45–9:00 | Introductions | Dr. Wabwire/L. Haas |
| 9:00–9:30 | The Bellagio Meeting | J. Levinson |
| 9:30–10:00 | Program Constraints Assessment Methodology: A General Overview | J. Levinson |
| 10:00–10:30 | Workshop Expectations and Objectives | D. Gachuhi/ A. Omwega |
| 10:30–11:00 | Nutrition Break | |
| 11:00–1:00 | South African Primary School Health and Nutrition Program: Case Study Role Play | Dr. M. McLachlan |
| 1:00–2:00 | Lunch | |
| 2:00–4:00 | Group Work on Analysis of Information of South African Case Study | J. Levinson |
| 4:00–4:30 | Nutrition Break | |
| 4:30–5:30 | Group Presentations | |
| 5:30–6:30 | WAWA (Where are we at??) Steering Committee Meeting | D. Gachuhi |

Thursday, May 29, 1997

| | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| 8:30–8:45 | Feedback from Steering Committee Administrative Matters | |
|-----------|--|--|

Appendix C: NAPHI Regional Workshop

| | | |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|
| 8:45–10:00 | Tamil Nadu Case Study and Role Play | J. Levinson |
| 10:00–10:30 | Nutrition Break | |
| 10:30–1:00 | Tamil Nadu Case Study: Constraints | J. Levinson |
| 1:00– 2:00 | Lunch | |
| 2:00–3:00 | Country Teams Meet | |
| 3:00–4:00 | Country 1 Presentation and Discussion | |
| 4:00–4:30 | Nutrition Break | |
| 4:30–5:30 | Country 2 Presentation and Discussion | |
| 5:30–6:30 | WAWA-Steering Committee Meeting | |

Friday, May 30, 1997

| | | |
|-------------|--|-----------|
| 8:30–8:45 | Feedback from Steering Committee Administrative Matters | |
| 8:45–9:45 | Country 3 Presentation and Discussion | |
| 9:45–10:00 | Nutrition Break | |
| 10:00–11:00 | The Way Forward and Workshop Evaluation | A. Omwega |
| 11:00 | Departure for Kampala | |

Facilitating A Curriculum Development Workshop with the University of the Western Cape

Introduction

The SANA field advisor, Debbie Gachuhi, visited the University of the Western Cape (UWC) in October, 1996, to provide technical support and expertise to assist the Department of Human Ecology and Dietetics to plan a three-day workshop to review the objectives and content of their short course, Developing Community-based Nutrition Programs. The SANA field advisor also facilitated the workshop during the first week of November, 1996.

The University of the Western Cape (UWC) has been offering a course on Community-based Nutrition Programming as part of the Summer/Winter School program of the Public Health Program since 1993. The program has received USAID funding towards strengthening community nutrition training at the UWC. The purpose of the project is to:

- ◆ Strengthen, consolidate and allow replication of the existing short course, and
- ◆ Initiate the development of in-depth modules for the use in the Msc Nutrition Management and Mphil (Public Health).

The UWC Course Design Workshop

A three-day course design workshop was held from November 3–6, 1996 at Goudini Spa near Worcester. There were 17 participants. They came from the University of the Western Cape, the University of Nairobi Applied Nutrition Program, and the University of Natal. There were also representatives from different national nutrition programs. Both government and non-government organizations, including the Development Bank of South Africa and UNICEF, South Africa, were represented. The workshop was facilitated by the SANA field advisor with assistance from a staff member of the Centre for Adult and Continuing Education, University of the Western Cape. Among the key recommendations of this workshop were that a new block release course for programrs, managers, and trainers (PMT Course) be developed; the existing short course for implementors (1 week) be revised; the implementors course be phased out over three-to-four-year period when the PMTs have developed training capacity.

The UWC Curriculum Development Workshop for PMT's

To follow up on the recommendations made during the course design workshop last November, a three-day workshop was held at Belville, Capetown from June 2–4, 1997.

The Way Forward

The objective of this workshop was to develop a draft curriculum for the PMT Course. There were six participants at the workshop, which was facilitated by the SANA field advisor.

Following a review of the previous workshop on course design for PMTs, participants identified topics and wrote specific learning objectives and content for each objective. These were shared in plenary and improved through discussions. Resource persons and reading materials also were identified. By the end of the workshop, a draft curriculum had been developed.

The Way Forward

On the last day of the workshop it was agreed that by the end of June, UWC will have finalized the draft curriculum and circulated it to key people at UWC, SANA, and other institutions (MOH) for suggestions and feedback. These will be incorporated into the curriculum and it will be finalized. The course will be advertised and applicants invited to attend the course.

UWC plans to implement the course in January, 1998. To do this, they require financial support for part time tutors and resource persons to assist with teaching the course the first time.

It was also proposed and agreed that UWC use a distance education approach to design the training modules for this course and other courses (implementers and training of trainers) offered by UWC.

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