

Nutrition Survey Proposal – Basic Outline

1. Objectives of the Baseline Survey

The main objective of this rapid survey is to assess the current nutrition status of the population that will be used as reference data.

Specific objectives

1. To assess nutritional status of children aged 6 to 59 months.
2. To assess morbidity affecting the underfive population in the last two weeks.
3. To assess mortality affecting the underfive in the population in the last three months

2. Survey Design and Methodology

2.1 Description of the study area

To be completed by implementing organization.

2.2 Study population

At the household level the main respondent will be the mother; however, if the mother is not available at the time of the survey, the father or caretaker of the children will become the respondent. The nutritional status assessment will target all children, aged 6 to 59 months.

2.3 Sampling

Eligible households will be selected using the WHO 30 x 30 two-stage cluster sampling methodology for epidemiological studies. Names of all villages in the project area will be recorded and a total of 30 clusters (villages) will be randomly selected using probability in proportion to the size of each cluster. To achieve this random sampling, names of all clusters in the survey district will be written on pieces of paper, shuffled and the survey team members shall draw the required number of clusters.

2.4 Selection Criteria

Upon arrival at the cluster, enumerators will gather at the centre of the village (cluster). A bottle will be spun, and enumerators will be asked to go in the direction where the smaller end of the bottle points upon falling on the ground. From the first household the enumerators will go to the next closest household by the front door until all they finish all pre-numbered. A household will be eligible to participate in the survey whether or not it has an under-five child.

2.5 Survey Personnel

enumerators

Supervisors

drivers

data entry clerks

Project staff will assist in the supervision. # data entry personnel will be hired to enter all the data on daily basis from second day of the survey.

2.6 Timeframe

The survey will be carried out from ___ to ____

Activity	Number of days
1. Development of survey protocol and tools	#
2. Training of survey personnel	#
3. Pretest and feedback	#
4. Survey	#
5. Data Entry	#
6. Data cleaning and analysis	#
7. Report writing	#
Total Days	##

2.7 Survey tools and instruments

- A questionnaire will be developed and used to collect data during the survey. An English version will be used; however, during training the enumerators will be asked to translate the questionnaire into the local language. The translations will be discussed in detail in plenary until consensus is reached on appropriate translations.
- Height and length board: this instrument will be used to take height/length measurements for selected children under 5 years.
- Roller meter: recumbent length will be measured for all the children who will not have attained the age of two on the day of the survey using a roller meter.
- MUAC tape: a special tape for measuring mid upper arm circumference (MUAC) of children.
- Weighing Scale: this scale will be used to take weight measurements for all children. A weight measurement will be recorded on the display.

2.8 Training

A one-day training session for all survey team members will be conducted. Survey personnel will be acquainted with the programs, objectives of the survey, as well as the survey tools, instruments and methodology.

2.9 Pre-test and feedback

Before commencement of the actual survey, the survey tools and instruments shall be pre-tested at one of the villages in the study area. Each enumerator will complete two questionnaires and all pre-tested questionnaires shall be entered on computer to test the practicability of data entry. The pre-test exercise shall be discussed in plenary session and necessary changes on the questionnaire will be done accordingly.

2.10 Data collection

Data will be collected in the program area for a period of ___ days. Enumerators will take anthropometric measurements on children from selected households in each cluster.

2.11 Data entry and analysis

All the survey data will be entered in EpiInfo 6.04b or equivalent statistical package. The data shall be cleaned and all outliers shall be discarded after verification with actual questionnaires. Anthropometric data shall be analyzed using EpiNut or equivalent.