Data visualization tools for nutrition: Empowering decision-makers to accelerate progress
Outline of the Session:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:15-12:25</td>
<td>Introduction and session objectives</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:25-12:40</td>
<td>Presentation on data visualization tools for nutrition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:40-1:20</td>
<td>Panelist discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:20-1:45</td>
<td>Questions from the audience</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Objectives of the session

• Build awareness on the landscape of global data visualization tools (DVTs) for nutrition

• Discuss how DVTs in nutrition do or could better support decision makers globally and in country
Data visualization tools for nutrition

Results for Development
Presentation Outline:

1. What is data visualization and why should we care?
2. How do data visualization tools contribute to the nutrition landscape?
3. What do we know about user needs and practice?
What is data visualization and why should we care?
Why visualize data?

- Data are more persuasive as graphs compared to tables.
- Human brains more rapidly process visuals compared to text.
- Data visualization tools are useful for decision-making, advocacy, and communication.

The visualization of data should provide the most important information for the decisions we need to make, with speed as the central and most visible indicator.
There are Different types of DVTs
DVTs:
Different types of tools for different goals (1/3)

Promote accountability: Scorecards & indices
Management decisions & actions: dashboards & scorecards

Different types of tools for different goals (2/3)
DVTs: Different types of tools for different goals (3/3)

Provide information: profiles

2017 NUTRITION COUNTRY PROFILE

Cote d'Ivoire

ECONOMICS AND DEMOGRAPHY

Under-5 mortality rate
- Deaths per 1,000 live births

Income inequality
- Gini index score: 43
- Gini index rank: 104
- Year: 2008

Population
- 2017 projections from UN Population Division 2017

CHILD ANTHROPOMETRY

Prevalence of stunting among children under 5 (%)
- 2006: 34, 2012: 40, 2016: 30

Changes in stunting prevalence over time, by wealth quintile

Source: World Bank 2017. Notes: *0 = perfect equality, **100 = perfect inequality. The countries with a Gini index are ranked from most equal (0) to most unequal (100).
How do data visualization tools contribute to the nutrition landscape?
A three step approach was used to identify & ultimately select 22 DVTs from a pool of 32 DVTs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step I: Scope</th>
<th>DVTs that display nutrition data were selected for the review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Step II: Identification</td>
<td>DVTs were identified through a combination of desk review (via internet search) and partner recommendations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Step III: Selection</td>
<td>Only publicly accessible, global, and active DVTs were included in the review</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key finding #1

There’s a growing number of DVTs in nutrition – 22 of them
Key finding #1:
There is a growing number of global data visualization tools in nutrition – 22 of them.
Key finding #1:
There’s a mix of topics DVTs cover – singular or multiple

Singular

- **GLOBAL BREASTFEEDING SCORECARD**
- National Anemia Profile
- Global Scorecard of Iodine Nutrition
- Global Fortification Data Exchange
- Vitamin A supplementation interactive dashboard

Multiple

- SUN Movement Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Learning (MEAL)
- Country Dashboards
- NUTRITION COUNTRY PROFILE
- Country Profiles
- State of the World’s Children Report Dashboard
Key finding #1: DVTs have different goals
Key finding #1: Other facts about existing DVTs

By Typology
- **9** Dashboards
- **4** Scorecards
- **6** Indices
- **10** Profiles

By Visualization
- **14** Bar Graphs
- **8** Maps
- **7** Tables

By Production Frequency
- **9** DVTs refreshed annually
- **2** DVTs refreshed in 2-3 years

14 DVTs have had launches since June 2017

By # of Indicators Reported
- **1** to **150** indicators reported
- **1** average
- **11** median
- **33** maximum
- **150** maximum
Key finding #1:
There’s significant overlap across DVTs that display nutrition data

UNICEF State of the World’s Children (n=19)  
13

UNICEF State of the World’s Children (n=19)  
13

GNR Country Profiles (n=41)  
33

SUN MEAL (n=71)  
22

WHO NLiS (n=33)  
25

Countdown to 2030 (n=28)  
23
The growing number of tools covering similar domains and using different methodologies may lead to mixed messages
Key finding #2
The proliferation of global data visualization tools in nutrition may lead to mixed messages among users.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>WHA targets in nutrition plans</th>
<th>Nutrition targets in policy &amp; their quality</th>
<th>Political Commitment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>3-4 targets</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Low commitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>5-6 targets</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>High</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>3-4 targets</td>
<td>Low</td>
<td>Low commitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>3-4 targets</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Moderate commitment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madagascar</td>
<td>3-4 targets</td>
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<td>Low commitment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key finding #3

The broader the theory of change, the less clear the decision you're trying to influence
Key finding #3
The broader the theory of change, the less clear the decision you’re trying to influence
Key finding #4

DVTs don’t have enough actionable indicators to drive decision-making in nutrition
How are global data visualization tools used?
Online survey results 1
Most commonly used global data visualization tools

% of global stakeholders using tools
N = 177

- GNR: 75%
- UNICEF State of the World’s Children: 57%
- JCME Dashboard: 39%
- UNICEF datasets: 38%
- FAO State of Food Security: 36%
- World Bank: 36%
Online survey results 2
Challenges in accessing and using data

% of global stakeholders experiencing challenge
N = 196

- **Data is not available at the geographical level I need (i.e., subnational)**
  - Sometimes: 33%
  - Frequently: 49%

- **Data is often out-of-date so I cannot use data to make decisions as frequently as I’d like**
  - Sometimes: 37%
  - Frequently: 39%

- **Trend data does not exist / is not easily accessible so I am not clear on progress**
  - Sometimes: 39%
  - Frequently: 34%
Next steps on the DVT landscaping at the global and country levels

- Conduct “use case assessment” – a targeted set of consultations on data use, challenges, and needs
- Conduct country case studies (e.g., India) to complement the global level review
- Continue to disseminate our work
Thank you!
PANELISTS

Dr. Chris Isokpunwu
Dr. Ferew Lemma
Dr. Ruhul Amin Talukder
Dr. Jessica Fanzo
Mr. Sergio Teixera
Mrs. Ellen Piwoz (moderator)