

## The Management of Small and Nutritionally at-risk Infants Under Six Months and Their Mothers (MAMI) Global Thematic Working Group Terms of Reference

The MAMI Global Network (MAMI GN) will function as the MAMI Global Thematic Working Group for the [Global Nutrition Cluster Technical Alliance](#). The [MAMI Global Network Strategy \(2021-2025\)](#) outlines the MAMI GN's vision, mission and governance structures.

The purpose of the Alliance is to support practitioners to improve the quality of nutrition preparedness, response and recovery, by enabling and providing coordinated, accessible and timely technical support through multiple channels. The Alliance is led by UNICEF, co-led by World Vision International and supported by a leadership team that includes Emergency Nutrition Network (ENN), International Medical Corps (IMC) and the GNC Coordination Team. Where technical gaps in guidance, or its translation in challenging contexts, are identified GTWGs will be engaged. GTWGs are created for specific thematic areas and are composed of those with a strong technical expertise in that area. Refer to the Alliance's summary document for more information on the role and purpose of the Alliance and GTWGs.

As the MAMI GTWG, the MAMI GN will (resources allowing):

- **Provide technical advice where technical guidance** is existing but the translation to practical implementation requires further expert interpretation of guidance. [The MAMI Care Pathway<sup>1</sup>](#) is the primary MAMI resource for practitioners used across humanitarian and development contexts. It requires adaptation to different contexts and settings. Its ongoing development is informed by an active research and learning agenda.
- **Develop, coordinate or contribute to the development of new interim consensus-driven guidance** in response to a pressing technical gap in MAMI, to a gap in implementation guidance to apply existing guidelines, and/or as relevant, flag an area where WHO normative guidance should be developed. [MAMI service delivery prioritises integrated continuity of care within and between existing systems and services across health and nutrition.<sup>2</sup>](#) The MAMI GN will access cross discipline expertise represented in its wider membership and connections and directly involve the steering committee, activate working groups/taskforces (convened on a case-by-case basis) and engage with country chapters as required to respond to this need.
- **Bring to the attention of the Alliance any important unaddressed technical issues** that are coming up within their network and explore ways to address them. [These may be identified through a range of outlets \(MAMI GN working groups, MAMI GN network meetings, en-net, etc.\).](#)
- **Identify research priorities in their areas of work** where additional research is required. [MAMI research priorities are outlined in Angood \*et al.\* \(2015\)<sup>3</sup>](#) and will continue to be informed by ongoing emerging needs. The MAMI GN prioritises research that informs policy and practice and members are actively engaged with WHO guidance development processes towards achieving this goal.
- **Collaborate with the Alliance in identifying knowledge management (KM) and learning needs** and facilitating the subsequent development of key technical KM products for practitioners within their thematic

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<sup>1</sup> The MAMI Care Pathway is available here: <https://www.enonline.net/mamicarepathway>.

<sup>2</sup> Maternal health and nutrition, including maternal mental health; early childhood development, newborn and postnatal care, wasting and

<sup>3</sup> Angood C, McGrath M, Mehta S, Mwangome M, Lung'aho M, Roberfroid D, et al. Research Priorities to Improve the Management of Acute Malnutrition in Infants Aged Less Than Six Months (MAMI). PLOS Medicine. 2015;12(4). Available from: <https://journals.plos.org/plosmedicine/article?id=10.1371/journal.pmed.1001812>

area as well as providing technical inputs to relevant KM products developed within the Alliance. The MAMI GN is committed to catalysing and supporting development of case studies of MAMI implementation experiences and using the MAMI GN communication channels as a means of communication.

- **Collaborate and actively seek cross-sectoral collaboration and commitment to support MAMI outputs, including the Health Cluster and the Global Protection Cluster.** Engagement across health and nutrition sectors and involvement of sub-specialities, e.g., reproductive health, is a central principle of the MAMI GN to achieve integrated continuity of quality care.
- **Collaborate with the Alliance in identifying and facilitating country-to-country sharing** of experiences on particular technical issues where there are questions as well as collaborating in the implementation of webinars to promote inter-country/region/partner learning. The MAMI GN is actively expanding its membership and is supporting development of MAMI Country Chapters that we will leverage towards this.
- **Periodically update the Alliance and GNC partners on their work**, achievements, lessons learned and challenges. The MAMI Global Network Coordinator will facilitate the process of sharing and updating information.