



# 29 Acute malnutrition



## Community-based assessment

Make a map of the community and mark the information you gather on the map. Record other details.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How many children look skinny or malnourished?</li> <li>• How many people are sick with other diseases? When did these sicknesses start?</li> <li>• When did people start to run out of food or start to become malnourished?</li> <li>• How many children under five have died in the last month?</li> <li>• How many people live in the affected community or area? How many children under five years of age live in the area?</li> <li>• Who and where are the vulnerable people in the community?</li> <li>• Who is most affected by malnutrition? Who is most affected by a lack of food?</li> <li>• Is food still available in the market? Do people still have stores of food at home?</li> <li>• What types of food are available in the market? Have they changed recently?</li> <li>• What are the community's habits, practices and beliefs about breastfeeding, production of food, malnutrition, etc.?</li> <li>• What do people believe about vaccination? Are children under five vaccinated?</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do people cook milk and meat thoroughly before eating them?</li> <li>• Are there handwashing facilities in the community? Are soap and water always available?</li> <li>• How many people sleep under a bed net at night? Are the nets hung up and maintained properly? If nets are not used, why not?</li> <li>• How does the community dispose of rubbish and solid waste?</li> <li>• Where are the local health facilities and services? (Include traditional and community carers from whom people seek advice.)</li> <li>• What are the community's habits, practices and beliefs about caring for and feeding sick people?</li> <li>• Is a social mobilization or health promotion programme in place?</li> <li>• Which sources of information do people use most?</li> <li>• Are rumours or is misinformation about malnutrition spreading in the community?</li> </ul> |
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