

# Grow Healthy, Grow Strong

## Newsletter Issue #7 - Sept 2023

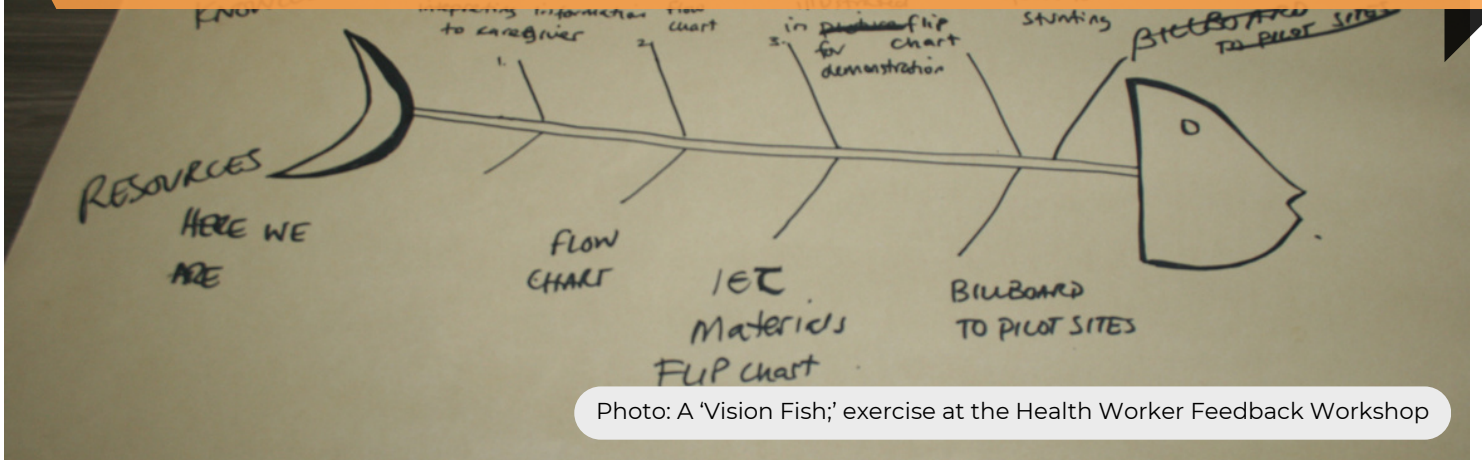


Photo: A 'Vision Fish,' exercise at the Health Worker Feedback Workshop

## GROW PROJECT UPDATE

September was a busy month for our GROW team. The project held two major events: a health worker feedback workshop, and the first Community Nutrition Advocacy Group (CNAG) meeting.

## HEALTH WORKER TRAINING

The health worker feedback workshop was facilitated by GROW team member Thalia Wat on the 20th of September. This was an important event to hear what the health workers had to say about how the various trainings and contributions have supported nutrition activities at their workplace. There was an overwhelming appreciation from the health workers for the trainings received. Through the Vision Fish exercise (photo above), further training topic ideas were suggested. This means the project will be able to target training to address the real needs of the health workers. The workshop also found some of the tools provided, such as the growth charts, were useful in their practice but health workers wished for further training to be able to express the importance of this information to their patients. Finally, a key finding of the feedback workshop was that health workers have made small but significant changes in their practice. For example, at Warangoi, the team have begun to keep a track of children they find who are stunted to encourage them to attend the parents groups that the CNAG are creating this year.

## COMING UP NEXT MONTH:

Given the enthusiasm of the Rieit ward to begin community engagement events, we will hold our first community leadership orientation training. Planned for the end of October, this orientation training will canvas the ideas of this group about the problem of nutrition in their communities while workshoping what possible local solutions may be. It will be an interactive workshop with many hands on activities. Participants will be equipped with the tools to then begin parent groups with support from the GROW team which are planned for November.

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# COMMUNITY NUTRITION ADVOCACY GROUP (CNAG) MEETING

The first CNAG meeting was held on the 27th of September at the Sinivit Local Level Government office. GROW project officer Onawuta Kesuwao chaired this initial meeting. Several topics were discussed including explaining the Terms of Reference to the group so they are aware of their obligations; planning of meeting schedules; discussion and planning of parent groups; and agreement on timing and planning of orientation training for CNAG members.

We are appreciative of the lively discussions and how CNAG members brought ideas to the table. It shows the level of genuine enthusiasm for the activities planned and their willingness to tackle stunting at their communities. The GROW team were able to confirm the planning details required to begin implementation of the activities proposed according to the agreed annual plan outlined by the Nutrition Advocacy Working Group (NAWG). While the NAWG oversees the entire project, the CNAG oversees the project activities in their designated ward.

The key outcomes of the CNAG meeting was confirmation of the draft Terms of Reference, details required to proceed with CNAG orientation training and planning of the parents groups. The GROW team is excited for what is ahead for our Community Engagement arm of our project work.



GROW Project Coordinator, Thalia Wats facilitating the Health Worker Feedback Workshop



Mr. Allan Tirang (Gender, Equity, Disability and Social Inclusion Officer) from the Provincial Health Authority at the CNAG meeting



GROW Project Officer Onawuta Kesuwao facilitating the first CNAG meeting