About us

Who we are

The ENN is a UK registered charity. It was set up to improve practice and strengthen the institutional memory of agencies involved in the emergency food and nutrition sectors. Founded in Dublin in 1996 by Jeremy Shoham and Fiona O'Reilly, it moved to Oxford in 2004.

Find out more about how ENN started.

Our governance

The charity is governed by a board of trustees and steered by four technical directors. We are guided by our strategy (2013-2015). Our accounts are audited annually and submitted to the UK Charities Commission.

Our purpose

The ENN enables nutrition networking and learning to build the evidence base for nutrition programming. Our focus is communities in crisis, typically humanitarian emergencies, and where undernutrition is a significant chronic problem.

We consider both nutrition-specific programming, such as management of acute malnutrition, and nutrition sensitive programming, that involve sectors such as social protection, agriculture, health, and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

Areas of work

We are steered by what practitioners need to work effectively. A consultation with ENN stakeholders informed our revised strategy (2013-2015).

1. We capture and exchange experiences of practitioners through our Field Exchange and Nutrition Exchange publications and our online technical forum.
2. We undertake research and reviews where evidence is weak.
3. We broker technical discussion where agreement is lacking, such as MUAC and WHZ scores as indicators of SAM.
4. We support global level leadership and stewardship in nutrition.

Our capacity

The ENN has a small administrative office in Oxford, UK where four part-time finance and operations support staff are based. Five technical (nutrition) staff are home-based in the UK. A strong global network of ENN Associates (experienced independent consultants and researchers) and partnerships with academic institutions extends ENN’s capacity on a project by project basis. Find out more about the ENN team and associates.

How we develop work programmes

We develop projects based on gap areas we witness through our work and network, that are in keeping with
our mission and help realise our strategic objectives. We often work with international agencies, academic institutions and independent experts and welcome approaches from others to collaborate.

We do not undertake programme evaluations or ad hoc consultancies.

Our reach

We have a broad base of people who access and contribute to our work worldwide. They work in at a variety of levels (from programming to research to policy-makers) in many different specialities, particularly nutrition, food security, health. Find out more about our audience.

Our impact

We have conducted evaluations of Field Exchange in 2009 and 2012, Nutrition Exchange in 2012 and en-net in 2012. In 2009 we also conducted a snapshot of Field Exchange citations used in published literature.

“ENN provides an independent and neutral space for technical debates and meetings; makes things happen that otherwise would not” academic researcher

“The ENN has the vision and know how to bring many questions that others maybe struggling with to the forefront for open discussions and learning. The community needs such an agent of change”. Technical lead, international NGO

“…. consistently impressed with Field Exchange, it is very practical for practitioners, high quality and makes ENNs research relevant to humanitarian workers and their work” Government donor.

www.ennonline.net/aboutenn

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