Food Security COVID-19 Learning Event
Navigating new possibilities in a rapidly changing world
June 21 – 24, 2021 | Online

Learning from Engaging Local Governments During COVID-19

Ken Somanje – Titkulane's Governance and Accountability Lead
Tom Mtenje - Titukulane's Government Resilience Coordinator
Edwin Mbaya - Nawiri's Systems Strengthening and Institutionalization Lead

USAID
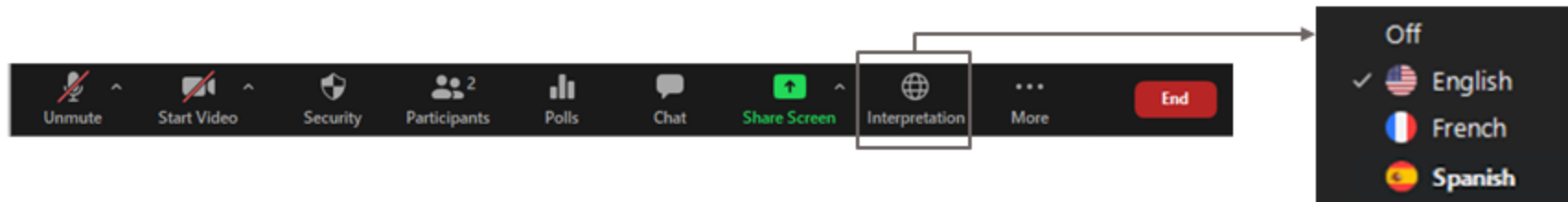FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Everyone must select a language!

- Click "interpretation" at the bottom of your Zoom window
- Select the language that you would like to hear: English, French or Spanish
- Please note that this feature is not available during breakout rooms

Chacun doit choisir une langue !

- Cliquez sur « interprétation » au bas de votre écran Zoom
- Sélectionnez la langue de votre choix : anglais, français ou espagnol
- Notez que cette fonction n'est pas disponible dans les groupes de discussion "breakout rooms"

¡Todos deben seleccionar un idioma!

- Clique "interpretación" en la parte de abajo de su pantalla Zoom
- Seleccione el idioma que prefiere : inglés, francés o español
- Por favor notar que esta función no es disponible en los grupos de discusión "breakout rooms"

Agenda

1) Welcome & Objectives
2) Setting the Context: Titukulane & National Resilience Strategy
3) 2 Titukulane Case Studies
4) 1 Nawiri Case Study
5) Breakout Group Discussions
6) Global Observations

Welcome & Objectives

- Discuss how engagements with local governments have evolved during the COVID-19 pandemic
- Highlight specific opportunities when it comes to engaging local governments during the COVID-19 pandemic

Let's start by getting to know each other and setting a foundation for discussion!

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Titukulane Case Studies

Ken Somanje
Titukulane's Governance
and Accountability Lead

Tom Mtenje
Titukulane's Government
Resilience Coordinator

About Titukulane & NRS

✔ $75M five-year USAID-funded Resilience Food Security Activity, running from 2019 – 2024

✔ Supports implementation and ensures effectiveness of the Malawi National Resilience Strategy

Case Study 1: Initial entry to working partnership with COVID-19

- District entry through technical subcommittees
- Demand driven – district C19 response and preparedness plan
- Mapping and tracking of supporting partners and resource gaps
- Joint activity planning
- Implementation through district government with Titukulane resources
- Facilitating vertical coordination including alignment with national plan

Case Study 2: Working with local governments to respond to pandemics

1. **Joint planning**
   participate in the development of national and district C19 preparedness and response plans

2. **Letting the local government lead**
   better access to participants, greater mobility

3. **Flexibility in allocating resources to address evolving needs**
   timing , channels and content

Nawiri Case Study

Edwin Mbaya
Nawiri's Systems Strengthening and
Institutionalization Lead

Nawiri Case Study

Nawiri's Goal: Sustainably reduce persistent acute malnutrition in Samburu and Turkana counties

Timeline Oct 2019 – Sept 2024 (5 Years)

Nawiri's Approach

01 Engage with county government

02 Promote broad participation

03 Synthesize available evidence, knowledge and experience

04 Co-design demand-led learning and pilots

05 Strengthen capacity and support the transition

06 Ensure joint learning and adaptive management

What did we experience?

What did we learn?

Nawiri: Government Engagement

Engagement of county government and other key actors were on:

1. Developing Nawiri's research and learning activities and processes.
2. Covid-19 Response – Design & Learning Sprints.
   - Support adaptation of **information and communication systems** to the COVID-19 context to reduce risks of COVID-19 and accelerate SBC for lasting improvements in nutrition.

Experience:

- Coordination challenges including duplication of efforts due to many actors willing to support.

- COVID resulted to shift from physical (Govt-preferred) to Virtual Engagement which posed challenges.
  - Slow uptake of virtual platforms e.g. Zoom; Connectivity Challenges.
  - Support through Virtual Conference equipments.

- Govt receptive to ideas and made the necessary adaptations especially in responding to the pandemic.
  - Periodic Learning Sprints during implementation.

Nawiri: Key Lessons

- Coordination support is key for interventions to be effective and also to ensure efficient use of resources.
- Despite its rigid systems, Govt has the willingness to learn where there is *evidence*adapt accordingly.

Global Observations

What have we learned?

What are the common challenges and common opportunities observed?

Where can and will we go with this information?

Thank You!

Ken Somanje – Titkulane's Governance and Accountability Lead
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