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Enabling Nutrition Through Stronger Local Governance:

INSIGHTS FROM NAWIRI

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COVER PHOTO

Ezra Millstein / Mercy Corps

ABOUT NAWIRI

Nawiri is a US State Department funded Resilience Food Security Activity (RFSA) implemented from 2019-2025 by a Mercy Corps-led consortium of international, national, and local partners. The goal of Nawiri was to sustainably reduce persistent acute malnutrition (PAM) in Kenya's arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs), specifically across Turkana and Samburu counties. Nawiri aimed to reach 598,475 participants with a set of sequenced, layered and integrated (SLI) interventions, and reduce PAM to 12% by 2027.

DISCLAIMER

This learning brief was funded by a cooperative agreement (PRO-WASH & SCALE) from the United States Department of State. The opinions, findings, and conclusions stated herein are those of the author[s] and do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Department of State.

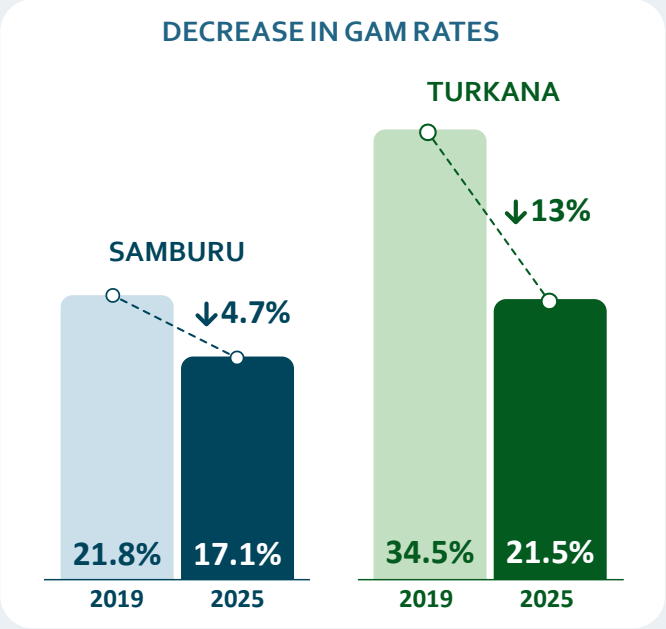
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Executive Summary

Drivers of acute malnutrition are complex and multi-sectoral, especially in vulnerable communities like those in the arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) of northern Kenya. Yet efforts to treat and prevent malnutrition have had limited impact. Nawiri's experience in Turkana and Samburu demonstrates that reducing acute malnutrition requires more than nutrition-specific services. Strong local governance systems are needed to translate policy into action, coordinate across sectors, involve communities in decision-making, and use evidence to anticipate and respond to shocks. Nawiri worked to strengthen county policy and legal frameworks, successfully passing and operationalizing policies like the Ward Development Fund Act in Turkana and the Water Act and Peacebuilding Policy and Bill in Samburu, among others. Nawiri facilitated the integration of nutrition into planning and budgeting, leading to a 350% increase in Samburu's nutrition budget and a 511% in Turkana's. Thirty-five new ward development planning committees were established and boosted their inclusion of women. This brief continues the learning journey outlined in *Governance and Systems Strengthening for Nutrition*, covering Nawiri's systems-strengthening activities, the outcomes they produced, as well as insights and learning opportunities to inform future nutrition programs.[1]

Nawiri (2019–2025) was established with the goal of reducing the prevalence of global acute malnutrition (GAM) in Turkana and Samburu counties. Both made gains, with prevalence in Samburu dropping from 21.8% to 17.1%, while Turkana's GAM rates fell from 34.5% to 21.5%. Although these figures are still above the World Health Organization's critical emergency threshold of ≥15%, they are promising trends.



Data on Nawiri's direct beneficiaries is even more promising. The acute malnutrition rate for program participants in Samburu and Turkana at program close was 11.1% and 19.6%, respectively.

While the overall situation in the two counties remains serious, Nawiri's intensive interventions successfully reduced acute malnutrition among participants— offering important lessons for future interventions.

1 Mercy Corps. (2022). *Governance and Systems Strengthening for Nutrition: Learning Brief*. USAID Nawiri.

Introduction

Food and nutrition insecurity in Samburu and Turkana counties is deeply rooted in systemic weaknesses. Recurrent drought, variable rainfall, geographic isolation, and pastoral mobility disrupt access to markets, services, and reliable sources of income for many households. These pressures are compounded by thin and fragmented markets and limited livelihood diversification. Many last mile communities in both counties still lack basic infrastructure and services.[2] Fragmented governance structures undermine policy implementation and limit allocation of resources. Moreover, county planning and budgeting frameworks often fail to consider nutrition as a critical, cross-cutting focus for government services. With limited opportunities for public participation in these formal systems and processes, accountability for these services is low and incentives for county governments to address them are few. But these systems—both formal and informal—are vital to improving nutrition in drylands contexts like northern Kenya, where government services and safety nets buffer against unpredictability and shocks.[3] As a result, effective local ownership and leadership of these processes are essential to reduce dependence on external, unpredictable donor support. Nawiri therefore prioritized interventions to strengthen the capacity of formal institutions and governance systems, improving the enabling environment for nutrition security in Samburu and Turkana.

Nawiri's institutional and local systems-strengthening approach embedded nutrition resilience within county systems. Interventions focused on:

- strengthening county-level policy and legal frameworks;
- enhancing cross-sectoral coordination and integrated nutrition programs within local governments;
- promoting community participation and government accountability; and
- improving systems and tools for monitoring, quality assurance, and preparedness.

The Challenge

Global acute malnutrition (GAM) in Samburu and Turkana counties has historically been at or above levels considered a humanitarian emergency.[4] Under Kenya's devolved local governance structure established in 2013, counties are responsible for delivering critical health and nutrition services and responding to the needs of local communities. However, systemic weaknesses at the county level have undermined these efforts, and high rates of malnutrition persist. Nutrition interventions have been hampered by gaps in nutrition policy frameworks and inadequate means to operationalize and monitor them. Policies that specifically addressed GAM were few and lacked clear operationalization plans, funding mechanisms, or monitoring approaches. As a result, many county government programs to reduce GAM were under-resourced, ineffective, and poorly monitored. Additionally, limited mechanisms exist for communities to hold local government accountable for delivering nutrition-related services. Local governments also frequently ignore the multi-sectoral nature of malnutrition, viewing it primarily as a health issue and missing critical links to water or economics. This is reflected in policies and programs, where siloed interventions lack the cross-sectoral coordination needed to treat and prevent acute malnutrition.

At the same time, low levels of community participation in local governance limited accountability and removed incentives to improve government services. Community members were often unaware of social accountability structures, and members of groups like ward planning committees or water users associations did not understand their importance in holding decision makers accountable for improving quality services and nutritional outcomes. Ward and village administrators also failed to engage informal community systems and structures not enshrined in law (e.g., community leaders and grazing committees), exacerbating the disconnect between community needs and government planning. Without this community input, county governments lacked understanding of the diverse drivers and impacts of malnutrition and were rarely accountable to their constituents for addressing them.

Both the supply and demand sides of nutrition policies and services have been hampered by inadequate systems to monitor progress, plan and adapt programs, and anticipate and respond to shocks. County governments lacked both the organizational

2 Resilient Livelihood Systems for Nutrition. Mercy Corps (2024). Available at: resilient-livelihood-systems-for-nutrition-7-1.6.2024-002.pdf

3 Young, Helen. (2020). *Nutrition in Africa's Drylands: A Conceptual Framework for Addressing Acute Malnutrition*. Feinstein International Center, Tufts University.

4 The 2024 SMART Survey indicated a 21.5% GAM rate for Turkana and 17.4% for Samburu (at population level); Recurrent Monitoring Survey analysis in 2025 showed a further drop to 19.6% in Turkana compared to 11.1% in Samburu (at participant level).

culture and the technical capacity to support data-driven decision-making and ensure timely risk analysis and response, leading to delayed resource allocation and out-of-date information. At the same time, community governance groups have limited access to the information needed to monitor the implementation and impact of government programs—and communities need more accessible, actionable information about risks and threats. Prior to Nawiri, geographic information systems (GISs) were not implemented in either county, and early warning and early action systems were underutilized and disconnected from communities. Without strong systems to collect, analyze, and share information, the region's devolved governance structure could not meet its potential to deliver effective, shock-responsive, community-driven nutrition services.



Nawiri's Approach

Recognizing that the complex, multi-sectoral nature of nutrition security requires strong local governance systems to enable and sustain improvements, Nawiri centered institutional and local systems strengthening in its approach. Nawiri created four intervention areas to help improve and implement nutrition policies, integrate nutrition progvrams across sectors, build community participation and social accountability, and develop systems and mechanisms for program planning and monitoring. The interventions, designed in response to extensive formative research conducted by Nawiri in its first year, were informed by a deep understanding of the contextual drivers of acute malnutrition, including the systems and formal and informal institutions that affect the success of response efforts.[5]

1 Strengthening County-Level Policy and Legal Frameworks

To create a stronger enabling environment for nutrition security, Nawiri assessed what prevented high-level policy from being translated into effective local service provision and resource allocation. The activity worked with county governments to evaluate the existing framework of laws, policies, and regulations supporting nutrition programming. In addition, Nawiri conducted advocacy sessions with county- and national-level governments to garner support for nutrition. In counties, policies were also developed to harmonize with national frameworks, such as national gender and monitoring and evaluation policies, further strengthening the framework for county leadership to implement nutrition programs. All of these efforts clarified nutrition policy and corresponding legal frameworks and ensured regulations and resources were in place to implement them.

5 For an overview of research insights on local systems that informed Nawiri's approach, see: Mercy Corps. (2022). *Governance and Systems Strengthening for Nutrition: Learning Brief* USAID Nawiri.

2 Enhancing Cross-Sectoral Coordination and Integrating Nutrition Programs Within Local Government

Beyond supporting policy and legal frameworks for nutrition, Nawiri worked to ensure practical integration and ownership of nutrition concerns across relevant sectors, including health, agriculture, water, education, and social protection. The activity formed and/or revitalized multisectoral platforms, sector working groups, and county nutrition departments while promoting structured staff orientation and fostering collaboration with civil society organizations for advocacy and accountability. Nawiri also worked with county governments to ensure that nutrition was clearly integrated into key planning frameworks like county integrated development plans and annual operational plans. These efforts were designed to break down silos in planning and budgeting, ensuring nutrition was prioritized and resourced as a multi-sectoral concern rather than a siloed health issue. Nawiri also sought to create a sustainable enabling environment for private-sector investment and public-led service delivery.

3 Promoting Community Participation and Government Accountability

Nawiri focused on strengthening the structures that enable community participation in local-government planning and decision, promoting government accountability. Where needed, Nawiri established and trained ward development planning committees and village councils. Nawiri worked with communities to develop committee selection criteria to ensure inclusion of vulnerable community members and representation from other local structures. At the village level, Nawiri supported the establishment of hybrid committees to integrate traditional community management structures across domains, such as water, peacebuilding, rangelands, and health committees. Training and sensitization of both community members and government officials were key. This ensured communities were aware of how county planning processes affected them and what opportunities existed for participation. Furthermore, government officials could use ward development planning committees as a resource for understanding and addressing the concerns of communities, bringing any issues to the attention of higher levels of government.

Civil society organizations are also important social accountability structures because they can channel community voices into government planning and coordinate responses. Nawiri worked closely with local civil society organizations to strengthen their institutional capacity and position them to take on greater leadership in nutrition governance. This approach aimed to support sustainability and localization by ensuring that local partners would be better equipped to maintain programmatic gains and achieve long-term goals, particularly in nutrition outcomes and service delivery.

4 Improving Systems and Tools for Monitoring, Quality Assurance, and Preparedness

Nawiri supported county-level monitoring and evaluation to develop and adopt policies that promoted a culture of data-driven decision-making, established technical frameworks for county-level data collection, and improved monitoring systems to enhance response strategies. Implementation of these policies was supported by the introduction of GISs in both counties, providing critical data to county governments and informing quality assurance and progress monitoring.

Nawiri also worked with local and national governments to improve how data and information feed into early warning systems and ultimately reaches communities to help them anticipate and respond to shocks. Working with relevant government departments like the National Drought Management Authority, Nawiri improved data-enabled scenario planning around periods of shock and stress. Communities received scenarios and analyses through hybrid committees and ward development planning committees, offering input when needed. And forums like radio shows, posters, and community dialogues disseminated final plans across the county. Technology like bulk and voice messaging helped the information reach as many people as possible, including last-mile villages.

Key Program Outcomes

1 Strengthening County-Level Policy and Legal Frameworks

Nawiri's efforts led to a number of policy successes, including passage of new county-level policies and acts, as well as the development of regulations and allocation of resources needed to operationalize them. Below are several key policy wins.

Ward Development Fund Act: Joint advocacy by Nawiri and its partners was instrumental in the enactment of the Ward Development Act in Turkana, a fundamental step towards institutionalizing the establishment of ward development planning committees. These committees provide a legal and financial mechanism for communities to shape government priorities, including the development of nutrition interventions and contingency plans to mitigate shocks. A similar effort was pending approval in Samburu at the time of writing.

Monitoring and Evaluation Policies: Passed in both counties, these policies set standards for data collection and analysis of county programs, align monitoring with strategic goals, and facilitate regular reporting to inform resource allocation and transparency. Monitoring supported by these policies has already improved counties' capacity to identify and respond to acute malnutrition hotspots and seasonal weather and migration patterns. Counties can also better monitor nutrition, health, and agriculture programs. Active committees at the village level now track the implementation of workplans and community integrated development plans, ensuring that commitments made in county plans translate into real progress.

Improved Financing: Nawiri worked with both county governments to establish a revenue management system that allows local health facilities to directly access revenue from fees generated at the facility, rather than requiring this revenue to be centralized at ward or county levels. This direct revenue stream allows individual facilities to make minor repairs and improvements, maintain critical supplies, conduct community outreach, and ensure continuity of essential services such as nutrition screening, counselling, and referrals. Management of these funds by facility health committees strengthened transparency and increased community participation.

Gender Policies: Both counties passed gender policies to guide gender-responsive planning, budgeting, and implementation across sectors, strengthening protection of women and children from harmful practices, and promoting inclusive decision making in households and communities.

Water Act: With Nawiri's support, Samburu passed the Water Act, which decentralizes water governance, service delivery, and resource management to the county level. It mandates the empowering and training of water users associations, establishes a county-level water and sanitation management company to oversee broader infrastructure and water supply, and spurs demand for sanitation and hygiene services by promoting safe sanitation practices and hygiene messaging.

Peacebuilding Policy and Bill: Nawiri worked with Samburu's county government to develop and pass a peacebuilding policy and bill. Both aimed to address the root causes of resource-based conflicts, which have undermined nutrition security by displacing families and destabilizing access to natural resources. These efforts helped bring Samburu into alignment with Turkana, where a similar peace policy and bill were already in place.

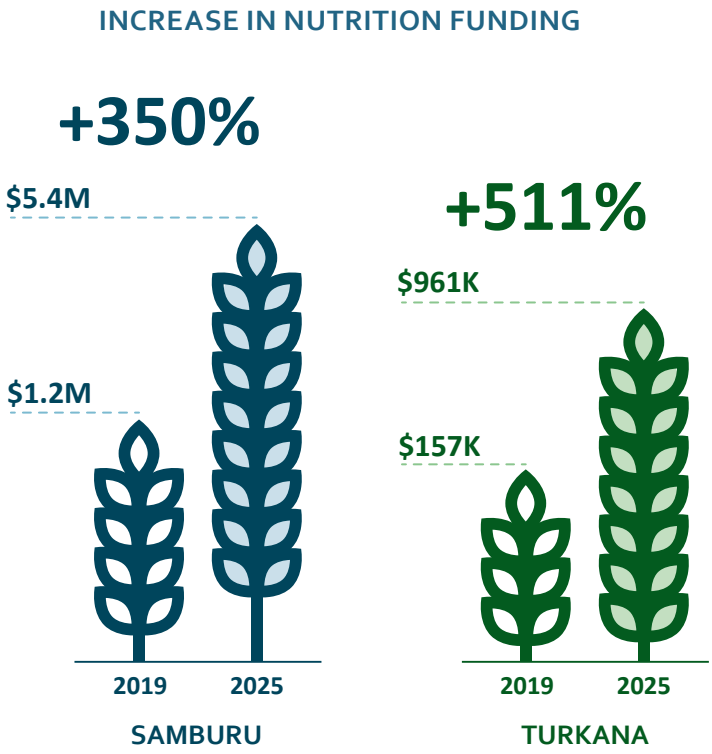
The Primary Healthcare Act: The Primary Healthcare Act shifts the focus of county-level health services from facility-based curative services to household-level prevention. It does this by increasing support for community health promoters and creating a primary care network to bridge the gap between community screening and facility-based treatment.[6]

Advocacy will continue embedding nutrition into county laws, frameworks, and planning processes—even those that don't target nutrition explicitly. For example, strengthened community resource management structures, such as hybrid committees (described below), are not nutrition-specific but still help address root causes of malnutrition related to land access and water quality.

6 For more detail on Nawiri's health systems strengthening efforts, see Mercy Corps. (2022). *Resilient Community Health Systems: Learning Brief.* USAID Nawiri.

2 Enhancing Cross-Sectoral Coordination and Integrating Nutrition Programs Within Local Government

Embedding nutrition across sectors has strongly impacted the planning, resourcing, and implementation of nutrition programs. Nawiri's technical and facilitation support to sector working groups influenced county-level priorities through planning and budgeting processes. Increased engagement between sector working groups and communities at the ward and village levels helped promote inclusive decision-making and use of cross-sectoral evidence for prioritization and planning. As a result, both counties completed their 5-year (2023–2027) county integrated development plans with significant increases in resource allocation for priority sectors. Samburu's nutrition budget grew from $1.2 million to $5.4 million—a 350% increase. Turkana experienced even larger gains, increasing 511% from $157,000 to $961,000. These investments support interventions that directly impact food security, such as by improving water infrastructure, grazing management, and health services.



In addition, counties developed and implemented nutrition action plans that provided guidance to sectors on ways to integrate nutrition. Independent nutrition departments have also been established in both county health departments, enhancing visibility and accountability. Hybrid governance committees (discussed in more detail below) further support improved cross-sectoral collaboration, integrating the work of land, peace, and water committees into county planning and governance processes.

3 Promoting Community Participation and Government Accountability

Nawiri's efforts have advanced the institutionalization of community-led planning structures at the ward, village, and landscape levels, facilitating community participation in local governance. For instance, Nawiri successfully established and/or operationalized 35 ward development planning committees. Targeted advocacy and communication training helped these committees influence county planning and budgeting. Community-led committee selection ensured inclusion, with women making up 33% of committees in Turkana and 25% in Samburu. These committees are now key platforms for participatory planning, priority setting, and information sharing between communities and county governments.

To ensure that local community input informs the work of ward development planning committees, Nawiri initiated the rollout of community integrated action planning processes across all 352 targeted villages (88 in Samburu and 264 in Turkana).

Hybrid committees also improved community-level natural resource management by bringing together traditional leadership and formal structures. The integration of land, peace, and water committees allowed effective resource management and safeguarding for nutrition security. For example, in Samburu, 41,000 hectares of rangeland were managed through grazing plans, and in Turkana, 80,000 hectares of land were set aside for a protected rangelands management unit carrying an estimated 17,000 livestock.[7]

7 For more detail on how hybrid committees have contributed directly to improved nutrition, see Mercy Corps. (2025). *Increasing Milk Availability through Fodder Production.* USAID Nawiri.

Participatory governance workshops in Turkana brought together 53 leaders (15 women, 38 men) to align budgets with local priorities. These included county assembly members, department heads and civil society and community representatives. Also, 48 county and national administrators (8 women, 40 men) took part in high-level coordination meetings that strengthened collaboration across government levels.

Nawiri-supported ward development planning committees submitted nine community budget memos for fiscal years 2025 and 2026 (six in Samburu and three in Turkana) advocating for roads, water points, and grazing corridors. The regular participation of these committees in public budget forums resulted in tangible improvements in service delivery. At the time of writing, a draft administration policy was under development to formally anchor ward development planning committees within county systems, ensuring that community engagement remains integral to governance.

Civil society strengthening under Nawiri started with partner organization capacity assessments, helping six local implementing partners to identify governance, policy, and systems gaps. This process strengthened institutional capacity and positioned local partners to take on greater leadership in nutrition governance, contributing to sustainability and localization of development outcomes. The findings from these assessments informed the development of tailored capacity-building plans for each partner, addressing organizational and technical gaps. Nawiri-supported civil society organizations have demonstrated their capacity for advocacy, submitting five access to information requests and four policy memos that influenced discussions on peace, youth, and gender policies.

In Poro Ward, Samburu County, the ward development planning committee was instrumental in mobilizing resources from partners, leading to the rehabilitation of 4 out of 13 broken boreholes. The committee also played a key role in articulating ward priorities by advising the county government to rehabilitate existing boreholes instead of drilling new ones, evidence of community participation in decision making, addressing development needs at the grassroots level. Similarly, in Waso Ward, Samburu East Sub-County, members mobilized resources from partners and used the funds to repair a dilapidated early childhood development education latrine. The remaining funds were used to construct a greenhouse for a women's group kitchen garden.

4 Improving Systems and Tools for Monitoring, Quality Assurance, and Preparedness

Nawiri's governance interventions have strengthened the policies, systems, and resources for ensuring data is collected, analyzed, and effectively used to inform decision making and shock preparation and response. As noted above, county monitoring and evaluation policies have institutionalized community participation in data monitoring to support tracking and implementation of community integrated development plans. Cross-sectoral collaboration and community participation efforts discussed above helped drive the allocation of $62,000 in each county to acquire and operationalize GISs. These efforts have advanced data-driven decision-making and allowed counties to better plan and track service delivery and development outcomes.

Improved data analysis capacity has helped strengthen community and local government capacity for anticipatory action and disaster preparedness. Data-enabled participatory scenario planning meetings, supported by Nawiri, have improved community preparedness and response to climate shocks. For example, community members in Nasunyai (Samburu) who were trained on contingency planning relocated from flood-prone areas, constructed latrines, successfully lobbied for the construction of a new school, and improved access to water. Communities now receive timely early warning alerts through bulk and voice messaging, enabling proactive decisions, such as adjusting grazing patterns and planting schedules. In Nawiri's final annual survey, over 56% of respondents reported accessing risk information through the program, and pastoralist groups in both counties have used these alerts to maintain milk herds during drought—a critical source of nutrition and income. This anticipatory action reduces livestock losses, stabilizes household food security, and prevents asset depletion that often drives families deeper into poverty. Communities are increasingly demanding early warning information for proactive action, signaling improved governance literacy and trust in local systems.

Lessons and Insights

The achievements outlined above demonstrate that addressing global acute malnutrition requires more than technical interventions. It demands robust, inclusive governance systems that integrate policy, cross-sectoral coordination, community engagement, and data-driven decision-making. By institutionalizing these systems, fostering accountability, and strengthening government, civil society, and community capacity, Nawiri has built a foundation for sustainable, locally led nutrition resilience in Turkana and Samburu. The following key lessons and insights from Nawiri's systems-strengthening approach will be essential to carry forward to future efforts to support nutrition security in northern Kenya.

Policies are only effective if they are feasible to operationalize. Prior to Nawiri, a number of national and some county-level policies were already in place to address critical elements of the nutrition enabling environment. Such policies were necessary, but not sufficient, to ensure practical implementation of nutrition-supportive activities. Nawiri's advocacy work therefore focused not only on the passage of policies and enacting laws but also on understanding and supporting the governance processes required to put them into practice. For example, joint advocacy by Nawiri and other partners for enactment of the Ward Development Fund Act led to the establishment and operationalization of ward development planning committees, which in turn were instrumental in advocating for, and monitoring, technical and financial resources to support nutrition security.

Strengthening nutrition security requires robust collaboration across technical sectors and throughout the county budgeting and planning processes. Nutrition-supportive efforts in Turkana and Samburu suffered from the tendency within county governments to view nutrition as primarily a health concern, siloing reactive responses to acute malnutrition and missing the connection to critical preventive work across agriculture, water, employment, education, and other sectors. Nawiri's support for county nutrition action plans and multi-sectoral platforms has helped build stronger support and resources for nutrition-enabling activities, such as adolescent-friendly health services and integrated natural resource management. At the same time, the tendency for government departments outside health to view nutrition as someone else's responsibility remains a challenge. Continued advocacy and support for nutrition-focused action plans and resource allocation will be essential to maintain and build on nutrition gains made under Nawiri.

Social accountability structures provide oversight and incentives for local government but require formal recognition, resources, and equitable representation to have meaningful impact. Nawiri recognized the need for greater community participation in local governance and focused on strengthening social accountability through local government planning bodies and civil society groups. ward development planning committees identified and advocated for critical resources and activities, helping deliver significant increases in nutrition budgets in both counties. Community resource management bodies, such as water users associations and hybrid governance committees, contributed to more equitable use of land, water, and other resources critical to nutrition security. Gender-responsive planning and the deliberate inclusion of marginalized voices, including people with disabilities, the elderly, women, adolescents, youth, and ultra-poor and minority households, were also vital for equitable outcomes and for breaking generational cycles of malnutrition. At the same time, strengthening civil society organizations meant communities had an effective pathway to influence government policy, and these organizations led advocacy efforts that ultimately improved government services. This kind of targeted support for social accountability will be essential to maintain focused, integrated nutrition security efforts.

Governance systems must embed adaptive scenario planning at the local level to safeguard progress during periods of uncertainty. Political transitions and external shocks, including elections, droughts, and migration, disrupt continuity but also create opportunities for reform. Nawiri supported water development planning committees with scenario planning, allowing committees to feed into the National Drought Management Authority's county-level contingency plans. Ensuring that scenario and contingency planning reaches, and is informed by, local governance platforms allows robust preparedness that reflects community realities and mitigates shocks. Similarly, by integrating scenario planning into community engagement strategies, Nawiri helped civil society organizations work across ethnic and political divides, bridging social capital and strengthening social cohesion. Continuing efforts like these will further bolster community resilience and preparedness.

Evidence-based advocacy is an effective tool to sustain political commitment and scale successful models. Strong, accessible data systems drive data-informed decision-making and can help secure long-term support for critical investments. However, frequent staff turnover, particularly due to political leadership changes, disrupts continuity and weakens institutional memory. Ongoing efforts to strengthen local government capacity should emphasize the institutionalization of structured orientation and transition protocols to maintain the momentum of recent nutrition gains and ensure knowledge transfer to incoming government officials.

Visibility and communication are critical to supporting community participation and government accountability. Nawiri has demonstrated that creating strong community accountability structures can influence and improve government services. Given that many of these structures are still relatively new, it will be important to continue educating communities and governments alike regarding the importance and effectiveness of these structures. Community participation structures like ward development planning committees, hybrid governance committees, and water users associations need branding to enhance their recognition and increase engagement from government officials and community members. Simple, user-friendly formats for delivering information can ensure broad understanding.

Ongoing Learning Opportunities

As efforts to reduce GAM in northern Kenya continue, a focus on continuous learning will be critical. The following questions are intended to inform future nutrition research and program design.

1. **Sustainability:** What institutional conditions support, or impede, the sustainability of governance systems and processes? How can the most effective structures and processes supported by Nawiri last without external support, particularly in the face of persistent shocks?
2. **Social Accountability and Inclusion:** What incentives are most effective at ensuring strong community participation in formal and traditional governance processes? What additional strategies are needed to ensure the voices of the most vulnerable are included in these processes?
3. **Scale and Transferability:** Which elements of Nawiri's governance and systems-strengthening approach are realistically transferable to other ASAL counties with fewer resources or weaker institutional capacity, and what adaptations would be required?

Conclusion

Nawiri's experience strengthening local governance systems demonstrates how an explicit focus on nutrition integration, cross-sectoral coordination, and social accountability can lead to meaningful improvements in nutrition programs and systems. A continued focus on strengthening these systems on both the supply and demand sides will be needed to maintain and build on Nawiri's successes and scale nutrition support within and beyond Turkana and Samburu counties. The ongoing strength and capacity of local government and communities will be essential to sustaining nutrition gains.