

# ORGANIZATION OF CIF-RIG AND CIF-WG

## COVID-19 Infant Feeding Working Group (CIF-WG)

### Steering Committee

**Leads:** Nigel Rollins (WHO), Dan Raiten (NIH), Shelley McGuire (University of Idaho), Mija Ververs (Johns Hopkins University), Jennifer Yourkavitch (USAID Advancing Nutrition), and Fatmata Sesay (UNICEF)

#### Role:

- Provides technical leadership and strategic guidance to the Sub-groups
- Facilitates the integration and harmonization of activities across Sub-groups



### Technical Sub-group

**Lead:** Shelley McGuire, University of Idaho

#### Role:

- Prioritizes the immediate and longer-term basic research needs
- Formulates and disseminates general protocols for collecting biosamples
- Recommends a core set of metadata to be collected in cross-sectional and longitudinal studies
- Harmonizes and shares outputs with the other sub-groups.



### Literature Collation Sub-group

**Lead:** Mija Ververs, Johns Hopkins University

#### Role:

- Compiles comprehensive citations of published literature about COVID-19 and maternal, child health, and nutrition (including infant feeding). As the pandemic evolves, this sub-group provides a biweekly overview of peer-reviewed journal articles
- Harmonizes and shares outputs with the other sub-groups.



### Communications Sub-group

**Leads:** Jennifer Yourkavitch, USAID Advancing Nutrition & Fatmata Sesay, UNICEF

#### Role:

- Distills and disseminates key messages on the findings and outputs of the RIG and Technical and Literature Collation subgroups
- Engages with networks to share resources that help answer public health questions
- Identify issues aimed at stakeholders, such as healthcare professionals, lactation counselors, milk banks, policy-makers, and others working with pregnant and lactating mothers and the people who support them.

## COVID-19 Infant Feeding Research Interest Group (CIF-RIG)

#### Role:

- Represents an informal multidisciplinary collaboration of international experts from around the world focused on research needs and what current and emerging research tells us about safe infant feeding practices during this pandemic
- Meets monthly and provides a venue for sharing, learning, and engaging with participating members, agencies, organizations, academics and civil society on the state of research and evidence, as it relates to infant feeding practices and COVID-19.

