Nut-5. Describe Any Characteristics of Study Settings That Might Affect the Dietary Intake or Nutritional Status of the Participants, If Applicable

Example 1.

“In a Matlab area, an embankment was constructed between 1982 and 1989 on the banks of the rivers Meghna and Dhonagoda to protect the area from seasonal floods. The study villages are therefore also categorized in relation to whether they are situated inside or outside the embankment. This embankment has a great impact on the pattern and production of major crops and fish on both sides and is believed to have an effect on food availability and consumption, which, in turn, could lead to effects on nutritional status”

Explanation.

Clear information about the study setting is needed to facilitate the interpretation and generalization of the findings. This includes external conditions that may affect dietary intake or nutritional status of the population, as well as the reporting of these. The time frame for the dietary assessment is also an important factor. Etiological studies mostly focus on dietary intakes over longer time periods, rather than intake during a certain day or week. Because the day-to-day variation as well as the seasonal variation, including holiday periods and special events, may influence observed estimates of habitual intake, the time period covered should be outlined. When using short-term dietary assessment methods, information is required with regard to the time period between examined days, and how weekdays and weekends are covered.