

Pamodzi! “Togetherness for Nutrition”

Learning from Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture activities in Zambia

January 23, 2018



SPRING review in Zambia

To conduct a technical review of three agriculture and food security projects that have documented results in nutrition-sensitive agriculture.

This was not an evaluation.

Constance Gewa, Lead Consultant

Lidan Du, Research Advisor

Sarah McClung, Project Officer

Victor Pinga, Agriculture Advisor

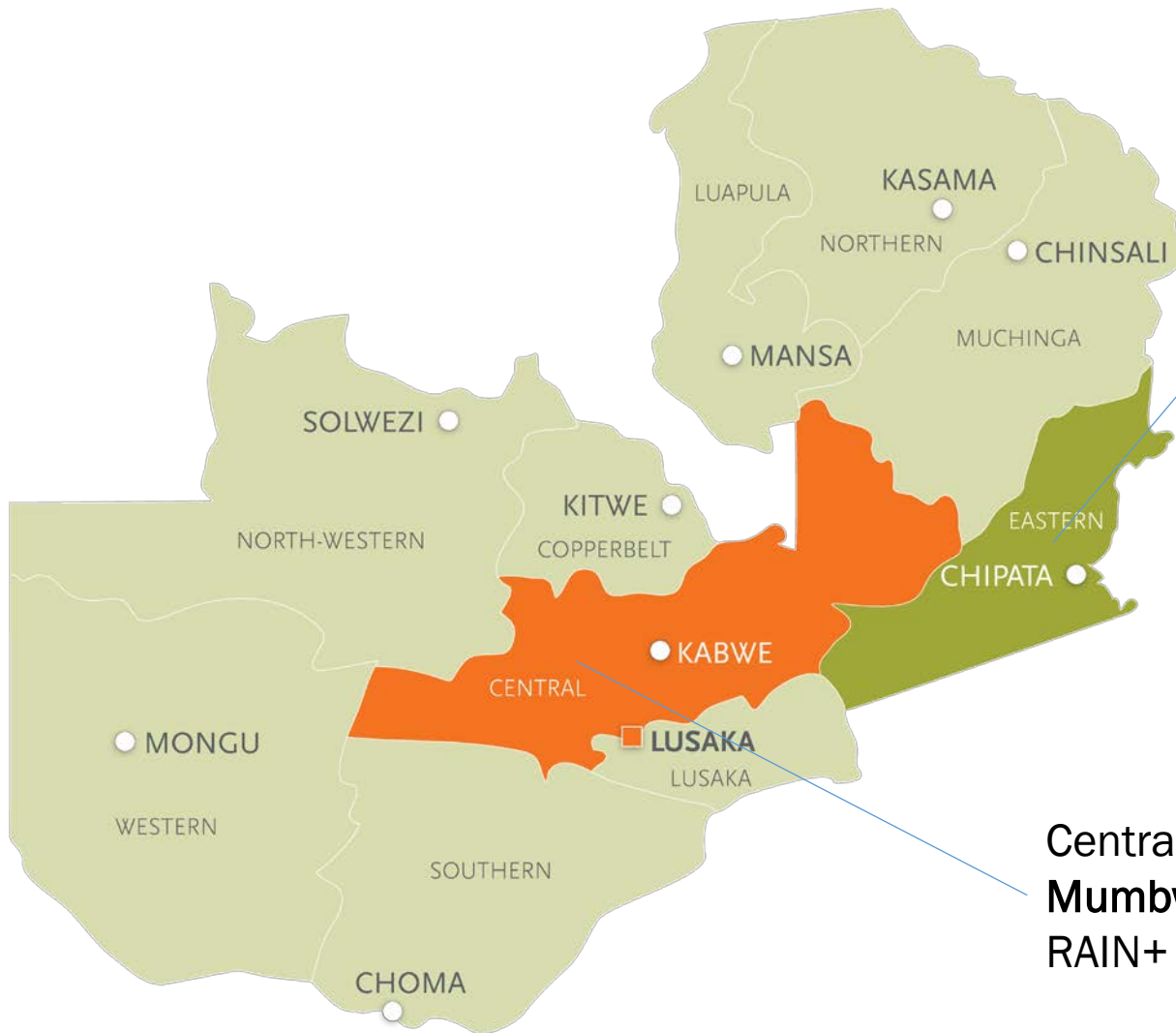


Methodology

- SPRING conducted this review in two phases:
 - A desk review of secondary documents, including reports and plans of each of the three activities
 - Field data collection in country via focus group discussions (FGDs) and key informant interviews (KIIs).
 - We validated our interim findings through a stakeholder workshop.



Locations of activities



Eastern Province
Chipata, Lundazi
Mawa (CRS) and
PROFIT+ (ACDI-
VOCA)

Central Province
Mumbwa
RAIN+ (Concern)



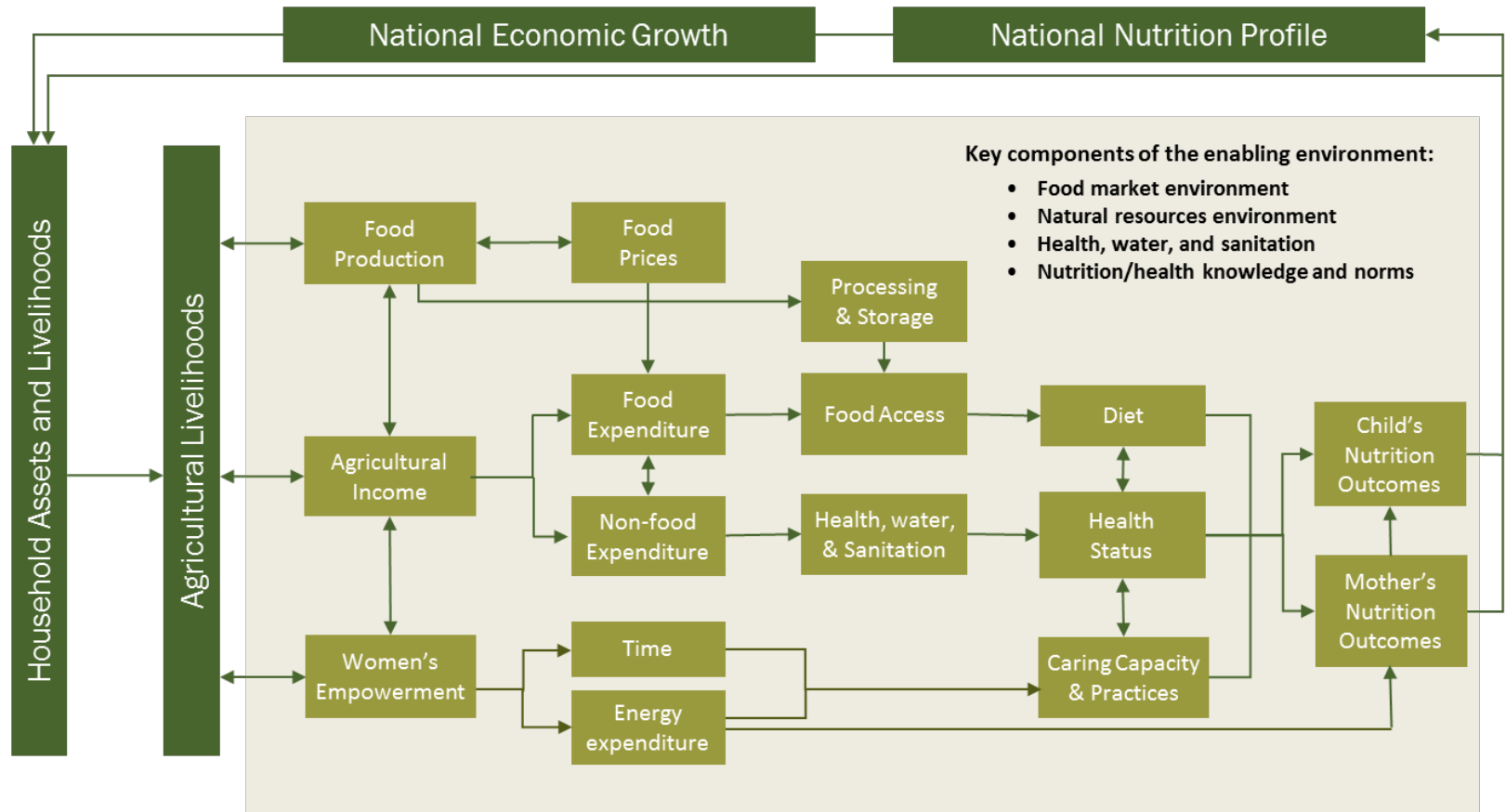
Review

Data collection (July 26 – August 11, 2017)

PROJECT	DISTRICT	No. of FGDs	No. of KIs
RAIN+	Mumbwa	14	6
PROFIT+	Chipata	6	13
	Lundazi	5	
Mawa	Chipata	5	6
	Lundazi	6	
TOTAL		36	26



Data summary and analysis



Snapshot of Activities

Activity	Feed the Future Mawa	Realigning Agriculture to Improve Nutrition (RAIN/RAIN+)	Production, Finance, and Improved Technology Plus (PROFIT+)
Locations	Chipata and Lundazi districts	Four wards in Mumbwa District	Chipata, Lundazi, Petauke, and Katete districts, peri-urban Lusaka
Donor funding	USAID US\$9.6M	RAIN: Irish Aid, Kerry Group/Ireland, 3M euros RAIN+: DFID, £1.4 million	USAID US\$24 million
Years	2012–2019* *MAWA WASH extends to Nov 2019	RAIN: 2011–2015 RAIN+ extends to 2018	2012–2017
Goals	Improve food and economic security in vulnerable smallholder farmers, particularly women, and households with children under two years of age	Develop a sustainable model that integrates and realigns agriculture and nutrition/health interventions to effectively prevent child and maternal undernutrition among poor rural communities	Increase food security and decrease hunger through agriculture-led growth and inclusive market access by smallholders
Focal agricultural commodities	Diverse food crops such as maize, soybeans, groundnuts, sunflower, vegetables including African Indigenous vegetables, small animals, and insects	19 different varieties of garden vegetables including biofortified crops (maize, sweet potato and iron/zinc mbereshi beans) in the distribution , some goats and chicken	Maize, soybeans, groundnuts, sunflower, tomato, and onion value chains



Mawa

- **Target population:** vulnerable smallholder farmers, particularly women, and households with children under two years of age
- **Main objectives:** to improve food and economic security
- **Approaches:** diverse agricultural production, promotion of improved health and nutrition practices, facilitating the formation of Savings and Internal Lending Communities (SILCs), and gender integration



Mawa

How it's different?

- Influencing nutrition through three distinct approaches
- Provided some but not all agricultural inputs
- Targeted the most vulnerable households



RAIN/RAIN+

- **Target population:** households with pregnant women and/or children below the age of two
- **Main objectives:** to develop a sustainable agriculture-nutrition model to prevent undernutrition
- **Approaches:** a multi-sectoral approach to improving nutrition by combining interventions on nutrition behavior change, women's empowerment, and the promotion of diverse food production



RAIN/RAIN+

How it's different?

- RAIN had a research objective
- Provided beneficiaries with all necessary inputs
- Targeted households with children under two
- Market access activities were deliberate in RAIN+ based on the learning from RAIN, were context specific



PROFIT+

- **Target population:** smallholder farmers, community agro-dealers (CADs)
- **Main objectives:** to improve smallholder productivity, create greater access to markets and trade, and increase private sector investment in agriculture.
- **Approaches:** increase agriculture productivity by introducing new technologies and building capacity, expand markets by increasing access and building capacity of community agro-dealers, increased private sector investment



PROFIT+

How it's different?

- No nutrition mandate
- Market facilitated approach
- Activity design increased access to agricultural inputs via CADs



Findings

Agriculture- Nutrition Pathways

Main Findings

Production- Consumption Pathway

1. In order for increases in household food production (quantity and diversity) to lead to improved diets, interventions must also include intentional nutrition-specific programming, as seen in RAIN and Mawa.
2. In more remote communities—defined by distance and/or poor road and bridge infrastructure—households struggle with marketing and selling their agricultural commodities.
3. Economic growth investments in market systems and value chains as seen in PROFIT+ can include nutrition-sensitive agriculture actions and messages as value-added interventions.
4. Homestead food production can and has been a successful way to achieve improved food security, however, it requires a stable supply of water, requiring a water pump and/or irrigation system, seeds, and access to markets.
5. If the objective of the development activity is food security (to sustainably increase the availability, access, and utilization of food), it helps to have a geographically focused approach.
6. Animal source foods are an integral part of a comprehensive nutrition-sensitive agriculture strategy.



Findings (cont.)

Agriculture- Nutrition Pathways

Main Findings

Household income expended on food, health, and care purchase

1. Increases in income enabled households to purchase ASFs from local food markets.
2. Community-based savings and lending groups such as those promoted by Mawa and to an extent, PROFIT+, provide a vital function in money management and are useful vehicles to manage household cash flow.
3. Cost savings on key agricultural inputs, whether from reducing dependence on external inputs or improving access to CADs, helps to sustain homestead food production, household finances, and self-sufficiency.
4. Farm households, in the interest of stability and food and nutrition security, cannot rely on staple commodity production as a sole source of income.
5. Marketing was a big issue that affected household incomes. We heard repeatedly how low commodity prices are the biggest threat.



Findings (cont.)

Agriculture- Nutrition Pathways	Main Findings
Women's Empowerment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="479 439 1765 711">1. Numerous studies have shown that proactive measures to reduce women's workload, such as labor-saving technologies, workload sharing, time management skills, explicit support from husbands, and even contracting hired help, results in better self-care and care of children.<li data-bbox="479 756 1779 916">2. The various approaches used by the three activities to address gender issues within their target communities were quite effective in reducing cultural tensions.<li data-bbox="479 962 1750 1233">3. Joint household decision-making, popularized in Zambia through the concept of <i>Pamodzi</i>, or togetherness, has elevated the role of women within the household, leading to a fairer distribution of household resources and workload sharing.



Recommendations

SPRING recommends that future programming:

1. Build smallholder farmer resilience;
2. Integrate appropriate nutrition-specific and/or sensitive messaging;
3. Develop sustainable access to farm inputs and market linkages;
4. Adapt interventions to specific community contexts;
5. Promote diversification and include ASF to mitigate against over-production and market saturation.
6. Explore investment opportunities in animals and ASF value chains.



Recommendations (cont.)

7. Integrate nutrition messages in community finance schemes.
8. Build capacity of small and medium agro-processors and facilitate linkages with producers;
9. Continue to strengthen and expand locally-owned small and medium enterprises (SMEs);
10. Continue to stress the importance of workload sharing within the household
11. Continue to promote the concept of *pamodzi* (working together or doing things together) and greater gender equity.



Remarks from USAID

Please comment on your original interest in the review. Were there specific questions you were hoping to have answered?



Remarks from IPs



Zikomo

Twasanta

Thank you!

For more info, please contact:

Twalumba

Taonga



www.spring-nutrition.org