This presentation is part of the

Agriculture and Nutrition Global Learning and Evidence Exchange (N-GLEE)

held in Kampala, Uganda from December 10-12, 2012.

For additional presentations and related event materials, visit: http://spring-nutrition.org/nglee-africa
Making agriculture work for nutrition: from challenges to opportunities

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Nutrition in the context of food security

“Food security exists when all people at all times have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences to lead a healthy and active life” (WFS, 1996)

- National food security vs. household food security
- Need to create an enabling environment at community and household level to support good nutrition of individuals, esp. pregnant and lactating women and young children:
  - life-cycle approach
- Food security → Healthy diets (for all forms of malnutrition)
New challenges to food security

- A growing, young and urbanizing population
- Changing consumption patterns:
  - Greater reliance on markets
  - Increased used of processed foods
  - Increase or loss of diet diversity
- Food price volatility
- Climate change $\rightarrow$ Increased occurrence of shocks
- Access to productive resources
- Reconciling economic and nutritional priorities
- Diet-related disease and double-burden of malnutrition
A global momentum on food ... *and nutrition? ... security*

- L’Aquila Initiative – GAFSP
- CAADP – Maputo Declaration in 2003; “revival” in 2010
- G8 New Alliance
- Zero Hunger Challenge
- Committee for World Food Security
  - Discussions on Food and Nutrition Security
Production, processing, storage and marketing of nutritious foods

- Food availability - (year round)
- Income
- Access (year round)
- Utilization
- Biodiversity
- Biofortification
- Fortification

Natural and human resource management

Food safety and safe agriculture practices

Nutrition education

Labor saving technology

Income used for health and hygiene
Making agriculture work for nutrition

- First, do no harm!
- Design for nutrition impact and measure it
- Understand local causes of malnutrition by “livelihoods group”
- Identify and target the most vulnerable
- Promote production and access to diverse and safe foods (livelihoods diversification)
- While protecting the environment (sustainable diets)
- Provide nutrition counseling
- Gender-sensitive approach (supporting women, engaging men...)
- Promote urban-rural linkages
- Work with others – across sectors and stakeholders
“Nutrition-sensitive value chains”: identifying opportunities for enhancing the contribution of specific value chains. (e.g. promotion of nutritious varieties)

need to be put in the context of...

“Nutrition-sensitive food systems”: looking at food systems as a whole, ensuring environmental sustainability, dietary diversity and reduced dependency on single products

→ Planning agriculture to meet

CONSUMER NEEDS
Efforts in the food and agriculture sector to improve nutrition impacts

- Strengthening the evidence-base:
  - indicators and stronger M&E
  - operational research and impact evaluations
  - Capacity-development on planning and evaluating for nutrition impact
- Improve mapping and investment tracking for F(N)S (CFS)
- Guidance and capacity development for mainstreaming nutrition in agriculture policies and programs
- Joint programming and targeting to link agriculture to health and social protection
Challenges in making agriculture work for nutrition

- Agriculture = private sector
  - how to create incentives?
  - from “trade-offs” to “win-wins”
- Accountability???
- Joint targeting: reconciling different approaches (community/household targeting vs. individual targeting)
- Institutional capacities at national and local level
  - government
  - private sector
  - civil society
- How to scale up and sustain?
Entry points for linking agriculture to multi-sectoral efforts on nutrition

- Agriculture “waking up” to its role in improving nutrition
  - NEPAD CAADP Nutrition Capacity Development workshops
  - “nutrition-sensitive, responsible investments”
- Greater attention to governance and decentralization
- Increased attention to resilience / social protection
- School-based programmes:
  - School feeding
  - Link to local agriculture
  - Nutrition education and school gardens
Nutrition...

Putting people at the heart of agriculture