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“From Sciences to Nutrition Security”

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Conflict of Interest Disclosure

I have no conflict of interest to report in relation to this presentation.
Nutrition-sensitive agriculture programming: What SPRING has learned

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Historical events influencing nutrition-sensitive agriculture programming

- 2008: Lancet series on nutrition defines nutrition-specific
- 2009: G8 Summit in L’Aquila, Italy
- 2010: Feed the Future launched
- 2012: SPRING facilitates USAID Agriculture/Nutrition Global Learning Evidence Exchanges on 4 continents
- 2013: Lancet series on nutrition defines nutrition-sensitive
- 2014: Second International Conference on Nutrition
- 2016: MDGs → SDGs
- 2016: UN Declares “Decade of Action on Nutrition”
Feed the Future Results Framework

**FEED THE FUTURE GOAL**

Sustainably Reduce Global Poverty & Hunger

**INDICATORS:**
Prevalence of poverty &
Prevalence of underweight & stunted children

**OBJECTIVE**

**INCLUSIVE AGRICULTURE SECTOR GROWTH**

- Improved agricultural productivity
- Expanded markets & trade
- Increased investment in agriculture & nutrition-related activities
- Increased employment opportunities in targeted value chains
- Increased resilience of vulnerable communities & households

**OBJECTIVE**

**IMPROVED NUTRITIONAL STATUS (WOMEN & CHILDREN)**

- Improved access to diverse & quality foods
- Improved nutrition-related behaviors
- Improved use of maternal & child health & nutrition services

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From inclusive agriculture sector growth to improved nutrition

Objective
Inclusive Agricultural Sector Growth

Objective
Improved Nutritional Status (Women and Children)

“I think you should be more explicit here in step two.”
Conceptual framework underpinning SPRING’s nutrition-sensitive agriculture work
Our activities

- Landscape Analysis of the 19 Feed the Future countries
- Pathways and Principles for linking agriculture and nutrition
- Technical assistance
- Sharing and learning
- Tools and trainings
- Thought leadership
Key lessons learned

• Terms and a shared lexicon
• Gender and Do No Harm
  • Applicable to all agricultural development projects
• Design and measurement
  o Context assessment
  o Identifying key practices and targets appropriate to ag/EG objectives
  o Using a behavior-centered approach
  o Use high level as well as intermediate outcomes
• Implementation
  o Coordination, collaboration
  o Link nutrition-sensitive with nutrition-specific
• Learning and sharing
  o Use a range of knowledge management tools to highlight best practice and research
  o Share sooner rather than later
  o Strong learning agendas promote better communication re: what’s working, what’s not
Terms and a shared lexicon
Gender and Do No Harm
Design and measurement
Implementation

1. Prioritize collaboration to address nutrition
2. Develop a practical strategy
3. Communicate the strategy’s goals and expectations at all levels
4. Hold all stakeholders accountable for achieving the strategy
5. Share learnings and adjust during implementation
6. Report on collaboration efforts
Learning and sharing
Simplifying our messages

5 WAYS TO IMPROVE NUTRITION THROUGH AGRICULTURE

Here are five things we can do now.

1. Increase Availability of and Access to Diverse, Nutritious Foods
   - Invest in nutritious food value chains
   - Improve the availability of nutritious foods year-round through storage
   - Make nutritious foods safe and affordable
   - Promote good agricultural practices that protect the environment

2. Encourage Income Use for Better Diets, Health, and Hygiene
   - Improve household budgeting skills to afford the cost of nutritious diets
   - Stress the importance of investing in diverse foods, proper infant and child feeding, caregiving, and health

3. Recognize the Central Role of Women in Agriculture and Nutrition
   - Empower women and promote gender equity and an equitable division of labor
   - Introduce time and labor-saving farming technologies
   - Support time for self- and child-care, especially for pregnant and lactating mothers

4. Generate Demand for Diverse, Nutritious Foods
   - Increase consumers’ knowledge of nutrition
   - Make nutritious foods convenient and appealing
   - Overcome cultural barriers to consume nutritious foods

5. Establish Policies and Programs to Support a Broad View of Nutrition
   - Advocate for explicit nutrition goals within national policies and development activities
   - Establish and strengthen multi-sectoral partnerships
   - Collaborate and share knowledge and resources
Work still to be done

• Additional evidence regarding what works and HOW
• Food market systems and policy interventions to:
  • Complex dichotomies - what is our guidance?
• Measurement
• Leveraging the private sector for behavior change
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