HKI'S ORANGE FLESHED SWEET POTATO DELIVERY IN AFRICA

Helen Keller

Mette Kinoti, Vice President Africa region 6th Annual Sweet Potato for Profit and Health Initiative Technical meeting, Kigali, 30 September, 2015

OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

- Introducing Helen Keller International
- Enhanced Homestead Food Production (EHFP) and OFSP
- CHANGE an exmaple
- Lessons learned



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Helen Keller International

Mission:

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Helen Keller International is dedicated to saving the sight and lives of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged

- combat the causes and consequences of blindness and malnutrition by establishing programs based on evidence and research in vision, health and nutrition



Enhanced homestead food production approach Developed by HKI and partners in Asia and Africa

Ultimate goal: Improve the nutritional status of children under 5 years of age, women in their reproductive age, breastfeeding and pregnant women

Agriculture for nutrition

- Focus on women & children, women primary beneficiaries, gender mainstreaming
- Diverse and nutritious crop production
- Animal production
- Essential Nutrition Actions and Essential Hygiene Actions framework

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OFSP and other micronutrient-rich foods

Foods	Calories (kcal)	Vit A (RAE)	Vit C (mg)	Folate (µg)	lron (mg)	Zinc (mg)
Rice	365	0	0	8	0.8	1.09
OFSP	378	709	19.6	6	0.69	0.32
Liver (chicken)	119	4968	17.9	588	8.99	2.67
Spinach	23	469	28.1	194	2.71	0.53
Egg	143	540	0	47	1.75	1.29
Orange	49	12	48.5	39	0.09	0.06
Cowpea	336	50	1.5	633	8.27	3.37
RDA/AI	2000	900	90	400	8	11

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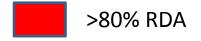
Nutrient contents based on 100 g of food (raw), RDA/AI based on daily needs of adult male



Staple with high energy content (many calories)

≥20-50% RDA

>50-80% RDA



HKI's efforts in OFSP delivery (accumulated figures, excluding RAC)

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Country (Funding)	Since	Varieties promoted	Vines distributed	Direct beneficiaries	Indirect beneficiaries		
Burkina Faso (McKnight, USAID, DFATD, Cargill)	2001	Jewel, caromex, Tiebile etc.	175,314	4,446	33,922		
Mozambique (Irish Aid)	2012	Delfia, Melinda, Irene, Gloria, Linda	163,350	1,320	22,869		
Côte d'Ivoire (DFATD)	2014	Kakamega, TIB, Bela- Bela	450,000	2,876	21,084		
Tanzania (Irish Aid, DFATD)	2010	Jewel, Kabode, Ejumula	141,000	2,569	18,130		
Nigeria (Gov. of Nigeria)	2014	Mothers' delight, King J	186,000	1,020	7,140		
Senegal (DFATD)	2013	Kandee	820	130	1,330		
Total			1,116,484	12,361	104,475		

Creating Homestead Agriculture for Nutrition and Gender Equity (multi-country EHFP project)

Objectives

- Improve nutritional status of women and children under 2 years of age
- Women's empowerment

Components

- Nutritious crop production
- Poultry production
- Gender transformative approach
- SBCC in Nutrition and WASH
- Village model farms (VMFs)

Partners

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- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- International Center for Research on Women (ICRW)
- Ministries (Ag, Health etc.)
- NGO's, Private sector

Countries

- Burkina Faso, Tanzania (focus nutrition research)
- Cote d'Ivoire, Senegal (focus gender research)

All promote OFSP as one of several nutritious crops

BURKINA FASO

- OFSP varieties tested with CIP and INERA
- Vine production: village model farms / producers / schools
- Yield: 7-12 t/ha, ~43 kg of OFSP per beneficiary
- 11% of women consumed OFSP in last 24 hours (July 2015, 3-4 months from new harvest)
- Strong indications that SBCC is increasing consumption of OFSP and nutrient rich foods in general (WDD from 3 to 6)



CÔTE D'IVOIRE

- Working with national agriculture research institute related to vine production
- Evidence of OFSP spread to neighboring villages
- 42 VMFs are producing OFSP vines for re-distribution in 2015
- Productivity: 15-25 t/ha (at VMF level),
 >50 kg per beneficiary per year
- 22% of women consumed OFSP in the last 24 hours (July 2015, 3 months before new OFSP is harvested)
- Nurturing Connection change gender roles





Successes and lessons learnt from OFSP delivery efforts

Successes

- Combination of Nutrition education, testing and demonstrations encourage adoption
- SBCC facilitate adoption
- Taste much appreciated by children, sometimes less by adults

Constraints

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- Access to land for women
- Late distribution of vines \rightarrow late planting \rightarrow low or no yield
- Livestock loves sweet potato leaves → damage in many instances
- Limited documentation of adoption and spread

Recommendations

More focus on local awareness raising (cooking demos etc.) Envisage irrigated vine production for early start Improve documentation (adoption, yield, consumption, sale)





Djeure Djef, Ini tse, Barka, Asante sana Thank you, Merci, Obrigado

"One can never consent to creep when one feels the impulse to soar."

Helen Keller