

## Report on the Advocacy Analysis Workshop

Maputo, Mozambique June 28, 2012

In partnership with National Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition (SETSANO), the Reaching Agents of Change Project (RAC) held on June 28, 2012 the second workshop on Orange Flashed Sweet Potato's Advocacy Strategy. This workshop, followed the first workshop, held in April, that was devoted to analyze the nutritional situation of the country and ongoing actions, as well as the legal and programmatic framework for the promotion and dissemination of Orange-Flashed Sweet Potato.

The Advocacy Analysis Workshop aimed at analyzing the operationalization of the advocacy strategy and the possible contribution and role of different partners to the initiative. Specifically, the overall objective for this workshop was to discuss and validate the Advocacy Strategy for the promotion of Orange-Flashed Sweet Potato (OFSP) and its Action Plan. This was achieved through the following specific objectives:

- Present and discuss the Advocacy Strategy and mechanisms of political intervention and donor support;
- Agree on key objectives and priorities for the advocacy strategy;
- Discuss the levels of support and commitment of key stakeholders.

The workshop, counted on the intervention from SETSAN's National Coordinator, Eng. Marcela Libombo, as the high Government authority in food security and nutrition programming. Marcela emphasized in her opening remark that the Technical Secretariat for Food Security and Nutrition's role to the advocacy strategy is to coordinate and encourage interventions that lead to increasing of investment to improve the security and nutritional status of populations in Mozambique.

During her opening briefs, Eng. Marcela Libombo, also presented the current framework of Orange-Flashed Sweet Potato interventions by the Government of Mozambique and partners and its contribution in addressing the malnutrition in the country, reiterating important aspects of high rates of chronic malnutrition and acute challenges of fighting so called "hidden hunger" and the need for viable and sustainable interventions, in addition to the

initiatives already being implemented under the Multi-Sectoral Action Plan for Chronic-Malnutrition Reduction (PAMRDC). It was also mentioned the need for collaboration and cooperation between different partners to make effective interventions.

After the intervention of the SETSAN Coordinator followed a moment in which participants had the opportunity to meet and interact as to create an enabling environment that would lead to the achievement of the planned workshop results.

Participants had the opportunity to be informed about the objectives of the RAC Project through a brief presentation made by the Regional Project Coordinator, Mr. Adiel Mbabo. The RAC Promotion Expert from Helen Keller International, that hosted the event, presented the main advocacy strategy pillars, namely: i) Investment Promotion ii) Reforms in Policies, and iii) Creating Demand.

After the presentation, participants were asked to form groups according to the pillar of interest by each participant/organization, analyzed in detail the advocacy strategy proposal and made their comments for improvement of the strategy draft. These comments were then presented, analyzed and discussed in plenary, from which resulted in consolidated advocacy strategy draft.

In order to ensure the commitment of each organization and institution, participants, individually or in groups reviewed the advocacy strategy draft proposal and determined what contribution each organization or institution could give to operationalize the strategy. The ideas were fixed on the walls, for each of the pillars and the participants had the opportunity to appraise the commitment from each organization or institution present at the event.

The workshop ended with comments by participants about the work and closing session was officiated by the Regional Project Coordinator, Mr. Adiel Mbabo and the Eng. Marcela Lebombo, National Coordinator at SETSAN.