

Status of Sweetpotato in
Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA):
Progress Towards the SPHI
Goal

SPHI



Sweetpotato
Profit and Health
Initiative

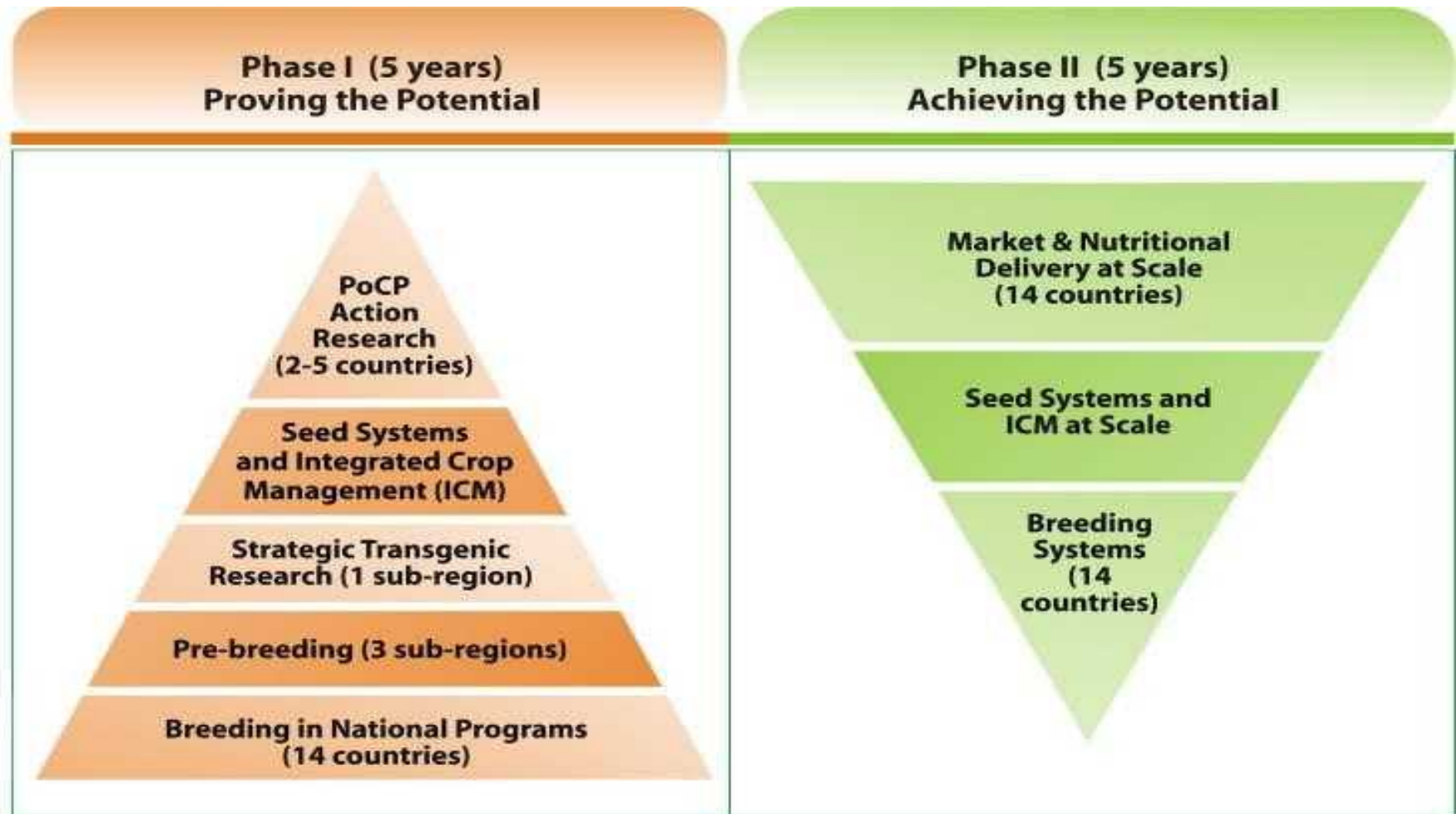
Jan Low, co-leader SPHI & SASHA Project Manager
28 April 2016, Kigali, Rwanda
2nd MLE Community of Practice Meeting



SPHI is a multi-partner, multi-donor initiative that seeks to reduce child malnutrition and improve smallholder incomes in 10 million African families by 2020 through the effective production and expanded use of sweetpotato.

The Sweetpotato Action for Security and Health in Africa (**SASHA**) Project is a 10 year project led by the International Potato Center that will develop the essential capacities, products and methods to reposition sweetpotato in the food economies of Sub-Saharan Africa. It serves as the foundation for the broader Initiative.

Two Phases: Greater Emphasis in first 5 years on Breeding and Seed Systems Research as the Foundation for Success



New Governance in October 2016: TOR for SPHI Steering Committee (SSC)



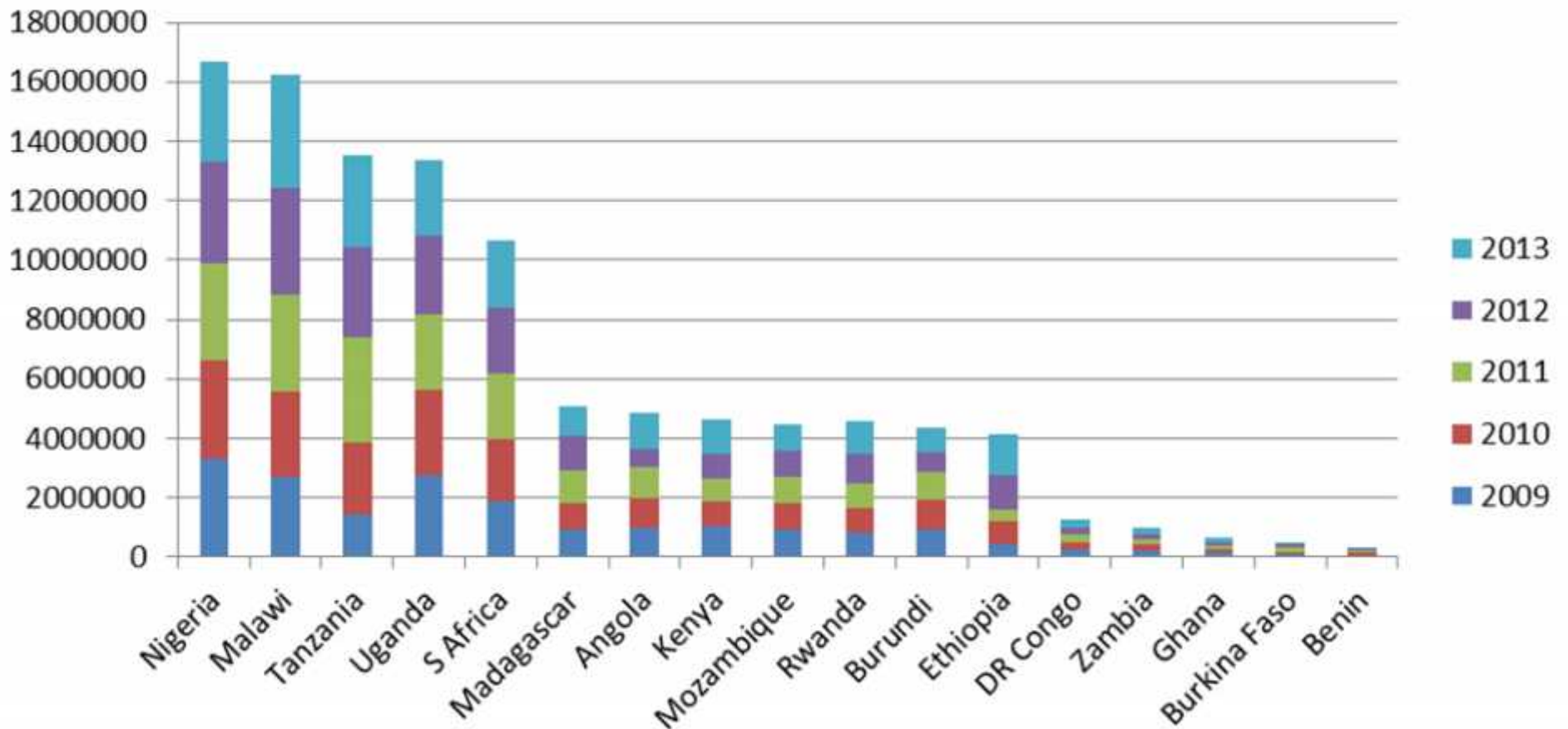
- Strategic Guidance on progress toward target, based on the annual report on *Status of Sweetpotato in SSA*.
- High level advocacy and resource mobilization for SPHI agenda.
- Review of and guidance of functioning of Communities of Practice.
- Review and guidance on impact of regional technical backstopping.
- Support the broadening of SPHI membership.

Members of the SSC Committed to Contributing Towards Goal





Trends in Sweetpotato Production (Tons)

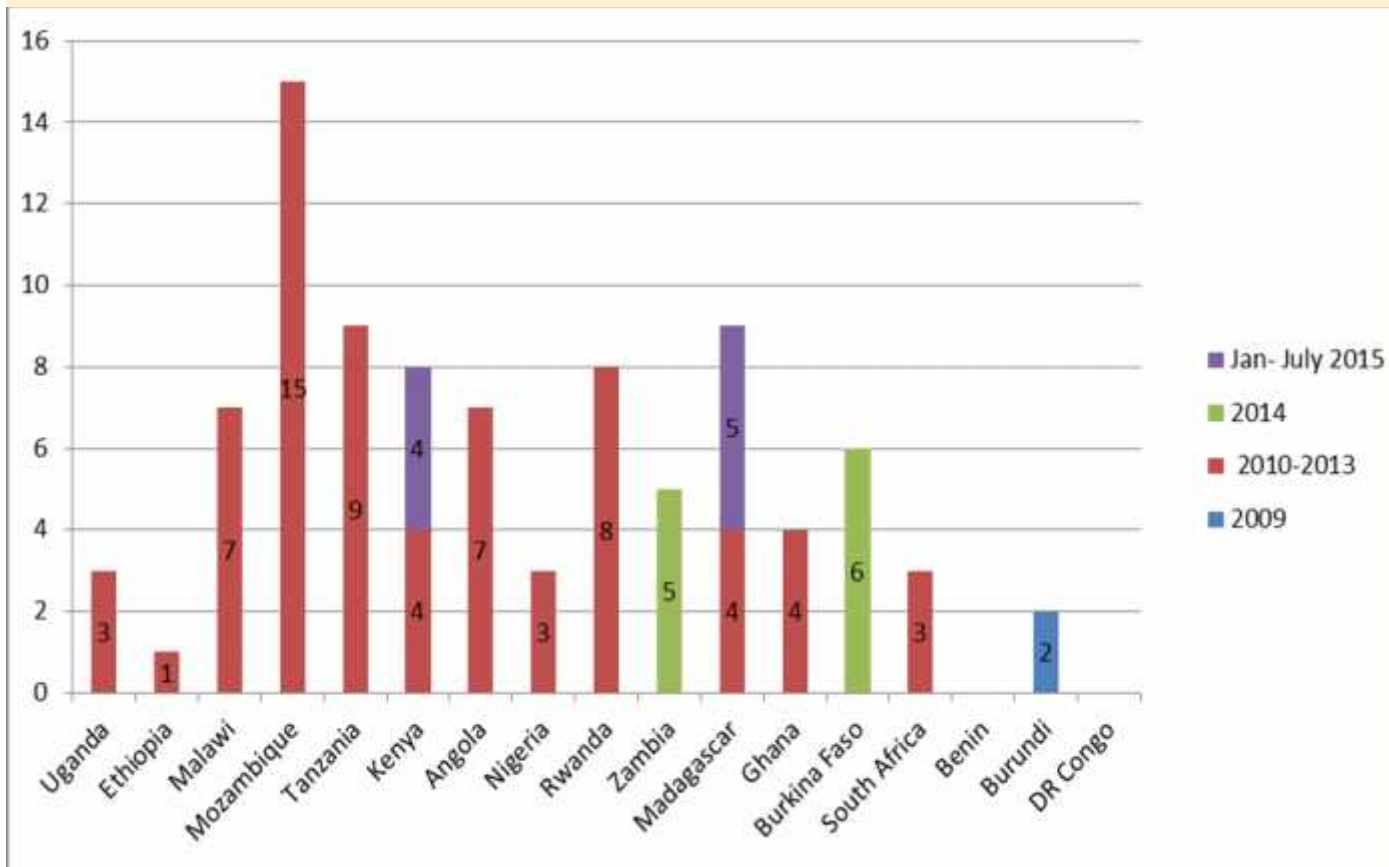


By 2020, what we set as our goal....



- Reach at 10 million households in 17 SSA countries with improved sweetpotato varieties
- Build consumer awareness of sweetpotato's nutritional benefits, diversify its use and expand market opportunities.
- Improve diet quality by 20% and crop incomes by 15% among beneficiary households

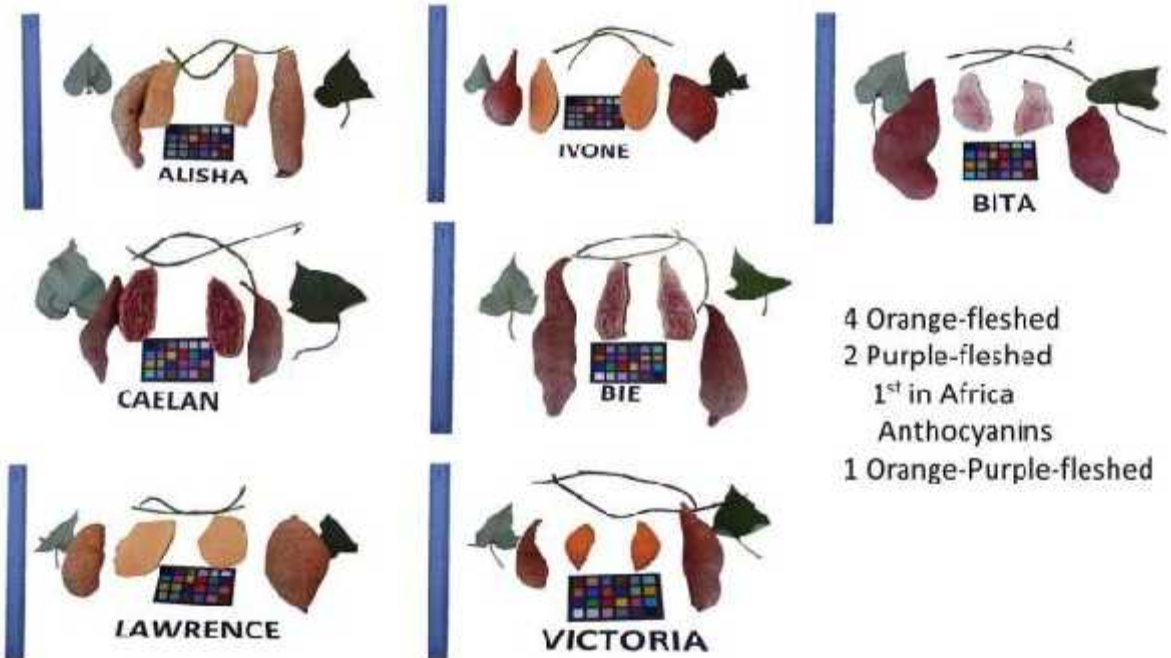
Having good varieties is key to being able to go to scale....



Since 2009,
53 OFSP varieties
31 non-OFSP
released in 14
of the 17 target
countries.

In Benin & DR
Congo know some
varieties OFSP in
Use, not formally
released

In 2016, Mozambique released 7 new varieties, out of 9 submitted

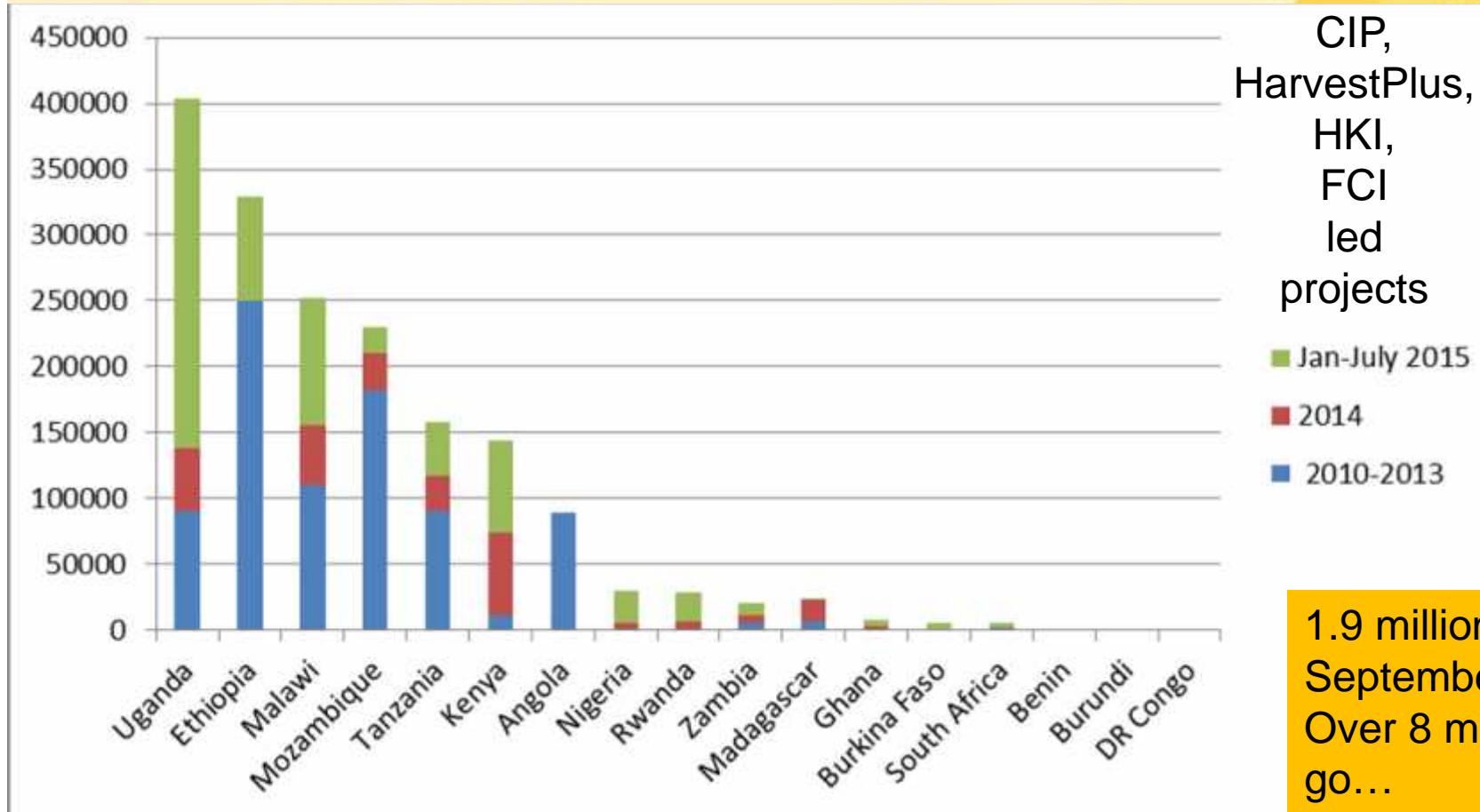


4 Orange-fleshed
2 Purple-fleshed
1st in Africa
Anthocyanins
1 Orange-Purple-fleshed

2ND Round of Accelerated Breeding in Mozambique
From crossing to release in 4-5 years instead
of 8 years

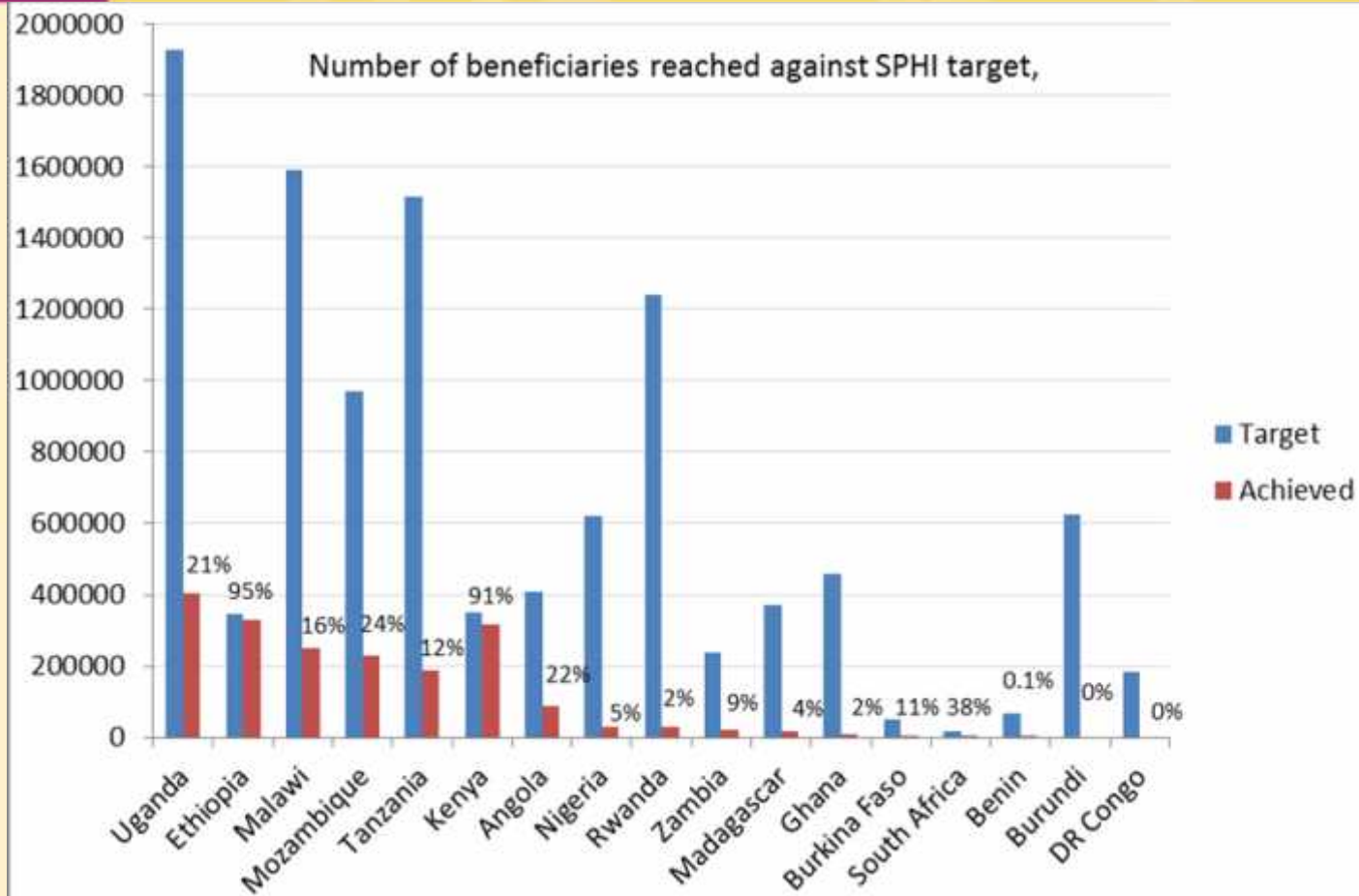


Progress in Reaching Target Beneficiaries

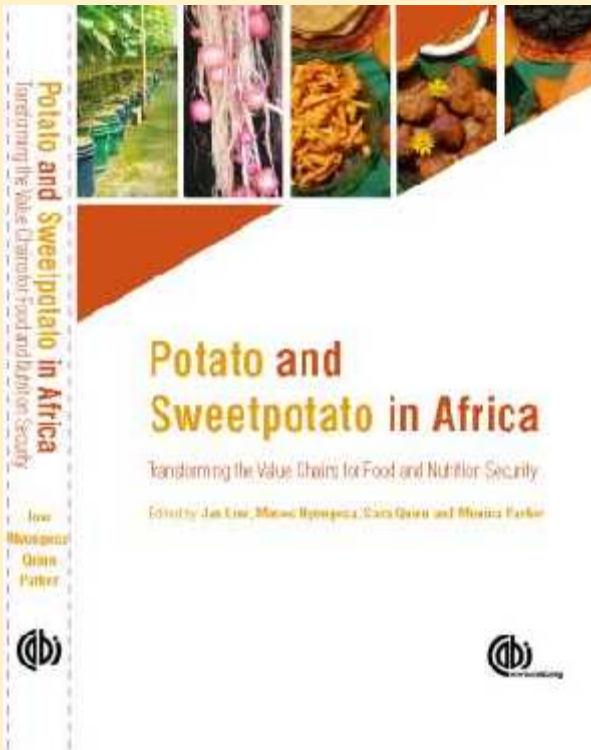


1.9 million by September 2015
Over 8 million to go...

Progress against Goals



Progress in Documentation & Sharing Our Findings



Published in October 2015

**10th Triennial Conference APA
9-13 October 2016: Addis Ababa**

7th SPHI Meeting Aligned: 7-8 October 2016

Progress in Advocacy



Commitment
of Nane &
Kofi Annan
to Support
OFSP in
Ghana

Progress in Advocacy



Participation
in World
Food Day
Borlaug
Dialogue
Panel
In Iowa
October 2015

Biofortification Increasingly Recognized As a Public Health Intervention



WHO/FAO
Technical
Convening
in April 2016:

Joint Statement
By April 2017

Challenge: Increased Government Investment & Partnership Expansion



Financial Support in Nigeria for 2 years
Minister of Agriculture & Rural Development



In-kind Extension Staff Support
From Mozambican Government

Expanded Use: Better Integration into the Food System & as a Climate Resilient Crop



Nutritious sweetpotato-livestock linkages

- Grows 0-2400 meters
- Produces on marginal soils
- Flexible planting times
- Wide range of traits
 - Early maturing varieties
 - Deep rooting varieties
- Incorporation into home gardening
- As a rotation crop
 - Increasing in rice schemes
 - In highland systems