## **CIP BI-WEEKLY UPDATES**

# Major accomplishments during the last two weeks Regional-Nairobi, Kenya Hilda Munyua – Project Manager a) Grants and Sub-grant agreements and contracts developed and signed - CIAT SGA is signed and follow-up made on disbursement of funds. Project staff recruited and project management – Backstopped induction for Capacity Development and Communications Specialist Discussed and followed up on staff work plans of Capacity Development and Communications & Seed Systems expert – Nigeria; Work plan of Seed Systems (OFSP-Nigeria) reviewed and revised Reviewed and revised BNFB Budget submitted to BMGF; Followed-up on equipment and facilities – computers and accessories, CGIAR email connections, OCS access for new staff; Worked with GnC to draft a cover letter for revised budget; Initiated process on developing bi-annual report; Advocacy to influence policy change and entrench biofortification in national / regional strategies, plans: Reviewed the draft Food and Nutrition Policy – Tanzania; Supported the development of regional advocacy materials – BNFB flyer and 3 banners Backstop team travelling to Kigali for the 7th FARA Africa Agriculture Science Week (AASW) in preparation for the Conference, BNFB exhibition and BNFB's participation at the session on capacity development; Monitoring, learning and evaluation system implemented: • Reviewed draft M&E plan Others: Participated and contributed to the FAO's e-conference on innovation on food security and Supported placement for student from Braeside High School Linked the CIP-Missouri project on drones to the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives to pursue joint production of video Meeting with Patrick Murphy – CIP board member 26 May 2016 Godfrey Mulongo – Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist **Major accomplishments Last Two Weeks** Implement BNFB MEL system - Revised the M&E plan for BNFB given PM's comments Support advocacy Support seed systems; Supported the national agronomist of Nigeria to review the OFSP work-plan Others: Provided feedback on the minutes, 4th consultative meeting with BMGF **Moses Mnzava – Country Coordinator Tanzania** c) On Leave Phorbee Olapeju – Country Coordinator Nigeria d) Held discussions with DFID team who are designing strategic nutrition plan for Nigeria. The team visited us at 2 different times and I advocated for investment/inclusion of OFSP in their on-going project in Nigeria. RAC materials on investment guide were shared which the team leader Consultant, Carol Lewin

- took to US to be shared with DFID in the UK. The Consultant promised to make a business case for it. As a follow up on this, the bigger team invited us to their strategic nutrition design process meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> June asking for our contribution/participation in the design process.
- We advocated for the inclusion of bio-fortified crops in the national school feeding menu. The stakeholders meeting took place on Thursday (9<sup>th</sup> June) at the State house in Abuja with the vice president who in anchoring it. Representatives from all the 36 states in Nigeria were there to deliberate on the way forward and implementation of the project till 2020. We were invited and it was a great opportunity to advocate for inclusion of bio-fortified crops in all the sate menu knowing the importance of bio-fortified crops. OFSP was cited we shared the successful story of its inclusion and the possibility of replication in all the other states of the country. The governor of \Osun state with the successful school feeding program was there and PCD (Partnership for Child Development) that is consulting for the program.
- CRS in its smile project is actively using bio-fortified crops (precisely yellow cassava & OFSP) in its developmental program in Nigeria. We are being contacted for the OFSP while Harvestplus is helping with yellow cassava. They get contractors to supply the planting materials and are using bio fortified crops. USAID-NIGERIA is supporting the project and has committed NGN 60 Million (USD300,000) towards distribution of yellow cassava and OFSP planting materials this year. Some of the stakeholders are asking for clarification on the fact that these crops (bio-fortified crops) are not GMO I am responding to them to dispel the myth.

#### e) Wende Mengesha – IITA NIGERIA

• Short listing of applicants for the research supervisor position was accomplished and the final interview will be carried out on the 17<sup>th</sup> of June, 2016.

## f) Nelson Ojijo – FARA GHANA

- I attended the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the African Task Force on Food and Nutrition Development (ATFFND) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia May 26-27, 2016.
- Co-developed posters and banners for BNFB Project to be used during the 7<sup>th</sup> AASW and FARA General Assembly, 13 June 2016, Kigali, Rwanda
- Prepared the booth for the BNFB project (books, leaflets, banners, flyers) for display at the 7th AASW and FARA General Assembly, 13 June 2016, Kigali, Rwanda;

#### g) Nancy Munyeki – Senior Program Assistant

- Reviewed the BNFB Budget to confirm the expenses for Kenya, Nigeria and Tanzania correspond with payments made;
- Supported in the procurement process of the BNFB Project Communications material to be used during the 7<sup>th</sup> FARA Africa Agriculture Science Week (AASW) in Kigali, Rwanda;
- Travel logistics for the Capacity Development and Communications Specialist to Kigali Rwanda;
- Organized and liaised with the Country coordinator for BNFB Nigeria regarding shipping of Computer accessories for the BNFB Office in Nigeria;
- Assisted in sourcing for Camera accessories for the BNFB Project;
- Prepared the bi-weekly reports for BNFB Project;
- Supported in editing the BNFB Project Inception Workshop report, compiled the presentations and the photos to be annexed to the report;
- Updated the Calendar for BNFB;

## 2 Major challenges being faced

#### KENYA

• Delay in reviewing and submission of revised budget to the Gates Foundation

#### Any major events planned for the next two months

## a) **Project Manager - Hilda Munyua**

Grants and Sub-grant agreements and contracts

- Finalize collaborative agreement between CIP and HarvestPlus and SGA with SRI-Kibaha
- Follow-up on disbursement of funds to CIMMYT and CIAT

• Follow-up with BMGF approval on revised BNFB budget and effect changes proposed upon approval

Staff recruitment / Project management

- Follow-up on revised work plan for Senior Country Coordinator Tanzania and Nigeria
- Finalize review and revision of budget and work plan Senior Country Coordinator Nigeria
- Follow-up on recruitment of Program assistants for Nigeria and Tanzania and driver in Tanzania Situation analysis studies conducted in Nigeria, Tanzania and at regional level
- Coordinate the SITAN consultancies in Tanzania and Nigeria based upon approval of BNFB revised budget
- Initiated plan on drafting of data collection checklist to fast-track the process upon approval of revised budget

Regional / National offices for BNFB

- Follow-up on finalization of MoU between CIP and TFNC and renewal of agreement in Nigeria Advocacy to influence policy change and entrench biofortification in regional / national strategies, plans
- Support the development of regional advocacy information package
- Follow-up on development of national advocacy materials

## b) Godfrey Mulongo – Regional M & E Specialist

Support the launching of BNFB project

- Finalize the M&E plan for BNFB
- Draft the bi-annual report

## c) Moses Mnzava – Country Coordinator Tanzania

On Leave

#### d) Nelson Ojijo – FARA Ghana

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### e) Nancy Munyeki – Senior Program Assistant

- Organize travel logistics for the BNFB Project staff members;
- Analyse the budget to confirm the projected purchases are included in the budget;
- Update the BNFB Project Calendar.
- Coordinate with the staff members and partners the activities being undertaken in the Project;

## 4 What are the five major things your team will undertake in the next 2 weeks?

#### a) Project Manager - Hilda Munyua

Sub-grant agreements and contracts

- Finalize and send the SRI- Kibaha SGA upon approval of revised budget
- Finalize collaborative agreement between CIP and HarvestPlus
- Follow-up on disbursement of funds to CIAT and CIMMYT

Staff recruitment

- Follow up on recruitment of Program Assistants (Tanzania and Nigeria) and driver (Tanzania) Inception workshop
- Follow-up on distribution of BNFB inception workshop report

#### **SITAN**

- Engage consultants for the SITAN and coordinate study based upon approval of revised BNFB budget
- Lead efforts to draft the data collection checklist

Advocacy to influence policy change and entrench biofortification in regional / national strategies, plans

• Finalization of regional advocacy materials

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	Finalize preparations for BNFB exhibition at 7 <sup>th</sup> AAAS Week in Kigali
b)	Regional Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist - Godfrey Mulongo
- /	Implement BNFB MEL system
	Revise the M&E plan for BNFB given comments
	Lead the development of SITAN tools
	Support the Country Coordinator of Tanzania to launch the SITAN
	Others: Develop the BNFB organogram
c)	Country Coordinator - Tanzania Moses Mnzava
	On Leave
d)	Nelson Ojijo – FARA Ghana
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e)	Nancy Munyeki – Senior Program Assistant
	Preparation or travel logistics for the BNFB Project staff to Kigali, Tanzania and Nigeria;
	Prepare the consultancy contracts for the BNFB Situational Analysis Consultants for Nigeria and
	Tanzania.
	Office administration for BNFB Office;
	• Prepare the bi-weekly reports for the BNFB Staff in Kenya, Tanzania, Nigeria and the partners;
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5	Any upcoming missions / visitors the team should know about
	Travel to Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania – 29-30 June 2016 – Hilda Munyua
	Travel to Kigali, Rwanda – June 12 – 17, 2016 – Joyce Maru