Scaling up Biofortified Crops through a "*Food Basket*" Approach in Nigeria and Tanzania

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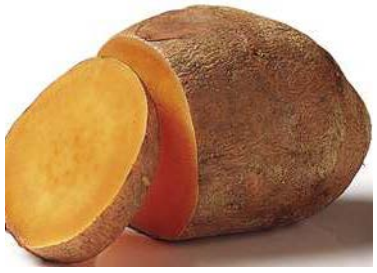
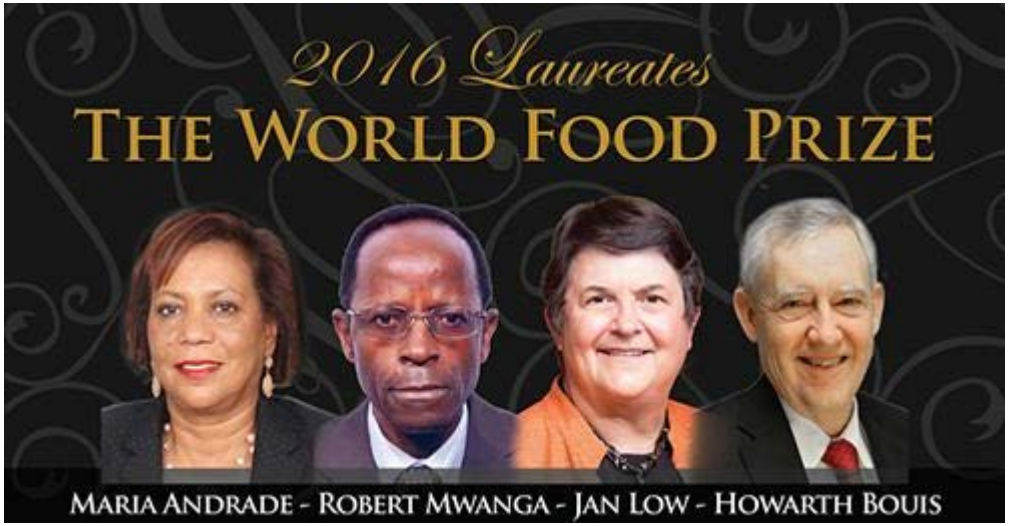
Biofortified foods
Building Nutritious Food Baskets

SPHI
Sweetpotato for Profit and Health Initiative
Reaching 10 million African households by 2020

Outline

- Background
- Goal, Purpose and Objectives of BNFB
- Outcomes and Outputs
- BNFB Scaling up Approach
- Key Targets
- Progress to Date
- Summary



Recognition of **Laureates**

- **Biofortification** - breeding critical vitamins and micronutrients into staple crops,
- **Helped reduce hidden hunger**

Biofortification is gaining importance! ***Seize the moment!***

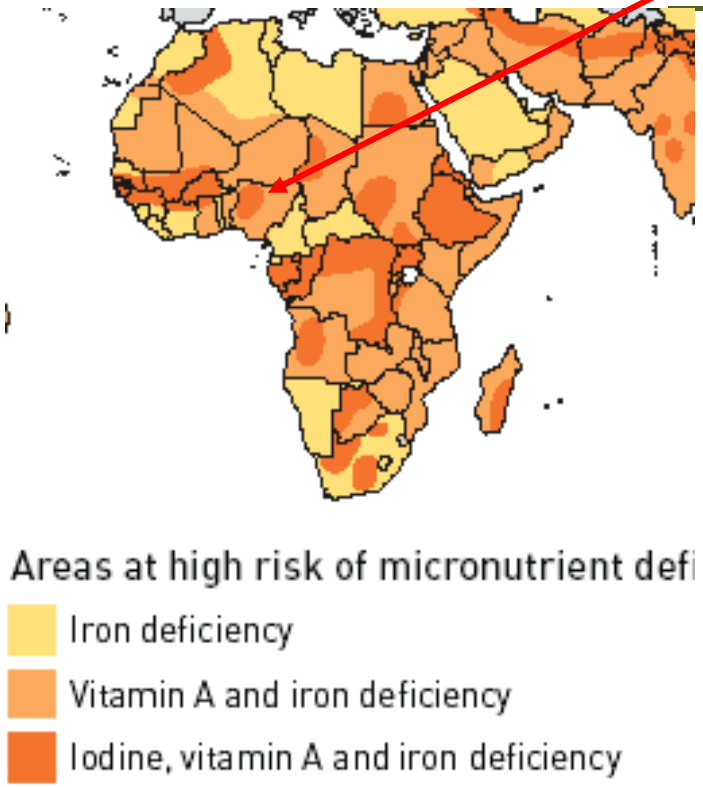
Background

- **Hidden hunger** - characterized by **chronic deficiency of essential vitamins and minerals (micronutrients)**

- **Hidden hunger** - severe among poor rural, and other vulnerable populations in sub-Saharan Africa

- Most women of reproductive age, infants, and young children suffer from **deficiencies in vitamin A, iodine, iron, zinc, and folate,** leading to high mortality rates, birth defects, anemia, blindness, infertility, increased infections, reduced growth and mental development

… Background



Nigeria:

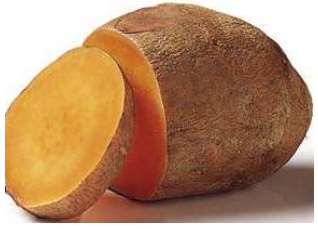
2.5 million children suffering acute malnutrition

Over one third of child deaths due to undernutrition

30% of preschool aged children are deficient in **vitamin A**

49% of women of reproductive age are deficient in **iron**

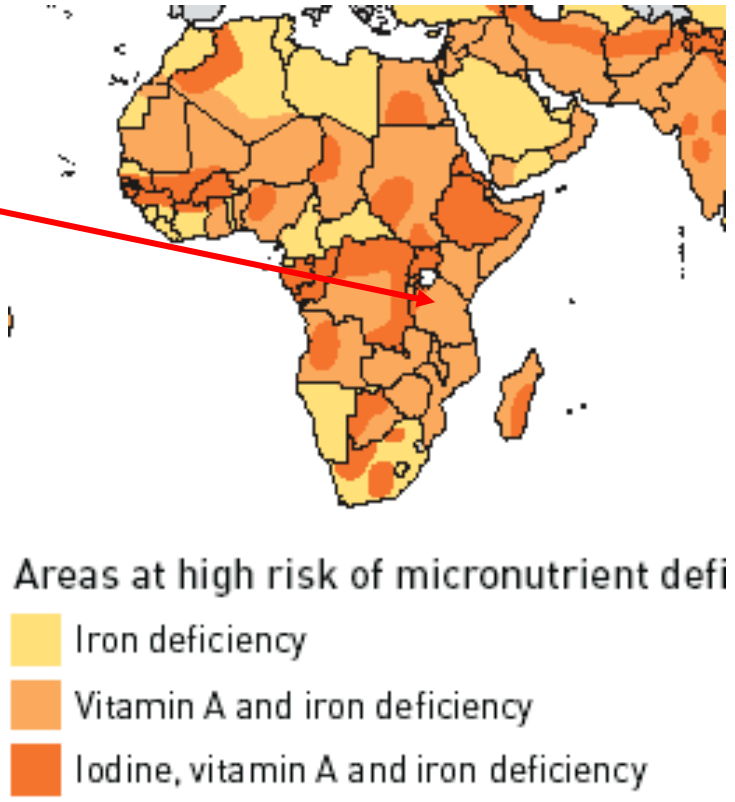
36% prevalence of under 5 **stunting**

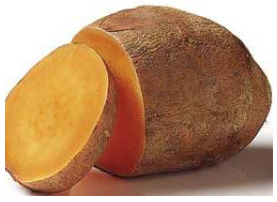


… Background

Tanzania:

- **2.4 million children** malnourished
- **one third** of children **deficient in iron and vitamin A**.
- **24% preschool children** are **deficient in vitamin A**
- **40%** women of reproductive age are **deficient in iron**
- **35%** prevalence of under 5 **stunting**



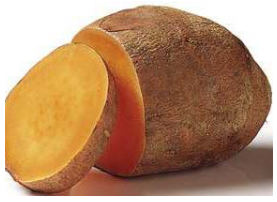


… Background

- **Comprehensive, holistic approach (multiple strategies)** to reach different populations (**supplementation, fortification, food-based approaches)**

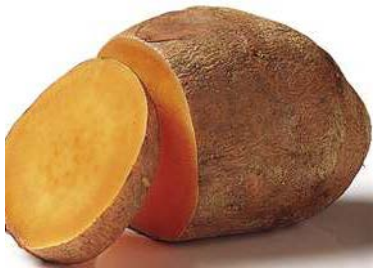
- **Biofortification –** most cost effective, sustainable and culturally acceptable

- Need to **catalyze the scaling up of proven biofortified innovations**




Development Goal

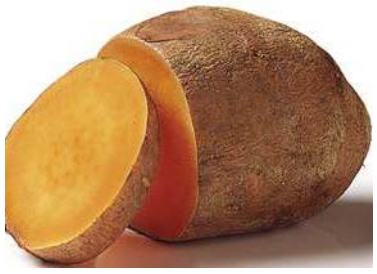
To help **reduce hidden hunger** by catalyzing sustainable investment for the production and utilization of biofortified crops at scale in **Nigeria** and **Tanzania**



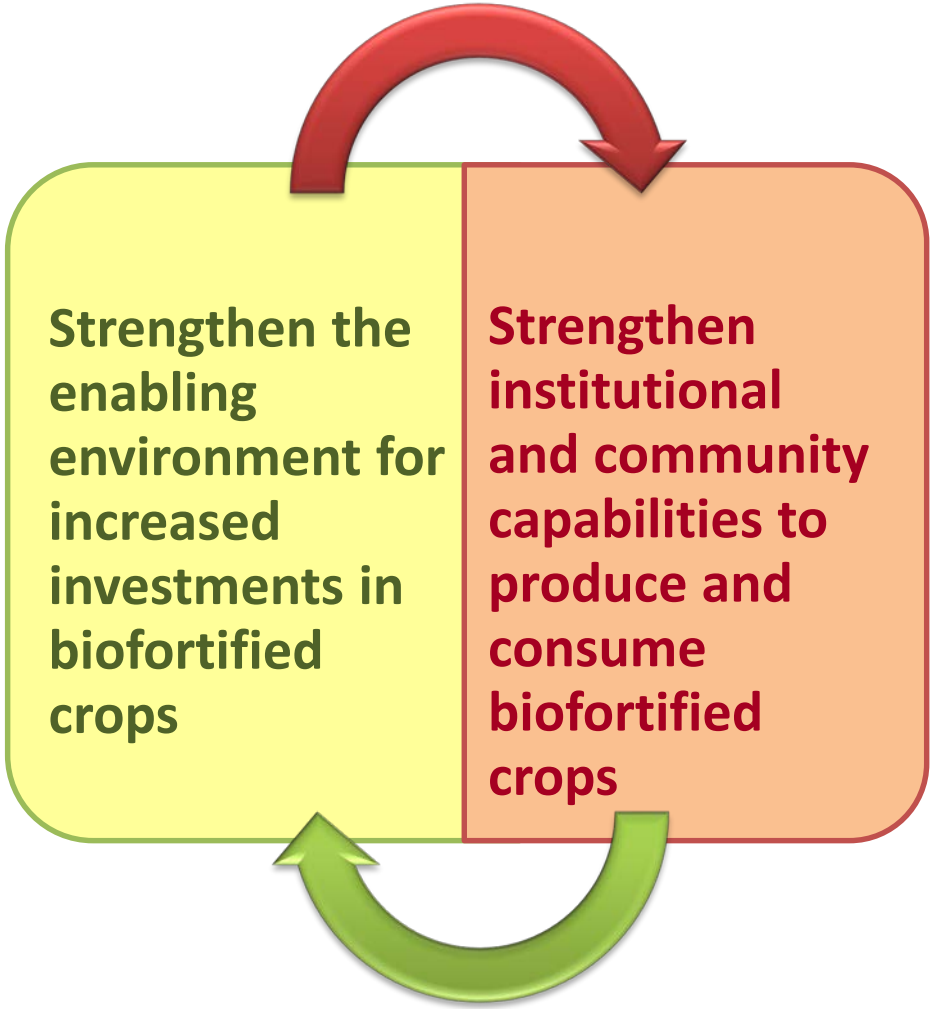
Purpose

- To demonstrate how scaling up of "multiple biofortified crops" (**vitamin A cassava, sweetpotato and maize**, and **iron beans**) can be achieved through a concerted effort by a range of CGIAR centers and programs, FARA along with national, community, regional, and international stakeholders

*"scaling up is dependent on **supportive policy environment**, **strong institutional capacities** and **proven technologies**"*



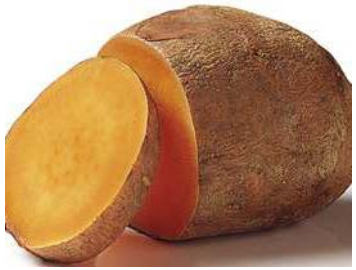
Specific Objectives



Outcomes / Outputs

1. Improved supportive policy and investment environment for biofortification in the two countries

2. Strengthened institutional and community capabilities to produce and consume biofortified crops




BNFB Approach … build on the success of *RAC*

1. **Improved supportive policy and investment environment for biofortification**

1.1. Bring together partners to ensure a coordinated and joint approach to advocacy: - policies, strategies, and plans developed and implemented (Situation analysis + advocacy strategies – regional and national)

1.2. Identify and strengthen the capacity for advocates and champions for continued advocacy at regional and national levels

1.3. Advocate for increased investments by public, private, NGO sectors and development partners

1.4. Establish multi-sectoral technical and policy platforms that actively promote evidence-based support for biofortification

1.5. Improve global understanding of scaling-up approaches




… BNFB Approach

2. Strengthened institutional and community capabilities to produce and consume biofortified crops

2.1. Strengthen capacities and competencies of investors and executing institutions (institutional strengthening + ToTs + step-down courses)

2.2. Enhance awareness of and increase organizational action for biofortification among key stakeholder groups (producers, farmer organizations, marketers, processors)

2.3. Mainstream biofortification in national nutrition programs and NARS crop programs

Design and implement a Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation Plan and facilitate results-based management and organizational learning




Key Targets

- $10 million raised for biofortified crops programs in Nigeria and Tanzania
- 7 country and 3 regional policies/strategic plans developed and implemented that prioritize support to biofortification
- 5 technical programs supporting or utilizing biofortification designed and implemented
- 12 varieties of biofortified crops in the pipeline expedited for release
- At least 10,000 change agents have the capacity to design and implement gender sensitive projects
- Ultimately, 2.175 HHs grow biofortified crops




Achievements to Date

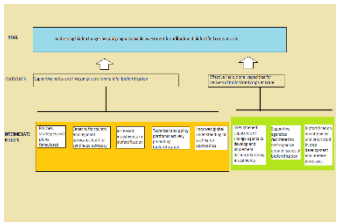
1. Improved supportive policy and investment environment for biofortification

- Project launched in Mar 2016 and planning meetings held with key stakeholders
- Biofortification promoted at key regional and national conferences, events, fairs, shows
- A number of advocacy engagements carried out with public, private and development partners in Nigeria and Tanzania
- Situation analysis study commissioned to inform the advocacy strategies
- Biofortification integrated in the draft Multi-Sectoral Action Plan for Prevention of Micronutrient Deficiencies in Tanzania. In this Plan, **$1,646.48 is earmarked for investment in nutritious crops**
- A range of advocacy and communication materials developed

… Achievements to Date

2. Strengthened institutional and community capabilities to produce and consume biofortified

- Rapid needs assessment conducted and gaps for training and learning materials identified
- Capacity of 5 seed companies, 12 extensionists and 24 farmers built in Tanzania
- National seed agencies in Tanzania supported to self-organize and are now multiplying and conducting multi-location testing for large scale production of seeds of biofortified crops
- Special criteria for release of biofortified crops initiated in Tanzania
- BNFB has engaged processors in Nigeria and Tanzania on the processing of nutritious foods
- A monitoring, learning and evaluation plan was developed to facilitate systematic monitoring, data collection, reporting and evaluation
- A workshop was held to facilitate internalization and ownership of the MLE plan



Summary

What does BNFB want to achieve?

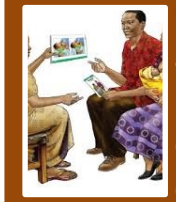
Goal:

Reduce hidden hunger

Purpose

Demonstrate how scaling up of "multiple biofortified crops" can be

OBJ 1:
Strengthen enabling environment for investments



OBJ 2:
Strengthen institutional & community capabilities

*"scaling up is dependent on **supportive policy environment**, **strong institutional capacities** and **proven technologies**"*

Thank you for your attention!

BNFB Project Inception Meeting in Arusha
MARCH 15 - 19,2016 AT KIBO PALACE
ARUSHA - TANZANIA