Integrating Nutrition in different conditions in Kenya

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Integrated Agriculture-Nutrition-Market Approach for Scaling up OFSP

**Project activities & outputs**

- Disseminating planting materials of preferred varieties and training farmers
- Integrating OFSP & vitamin A into nutrition education and counseling
- Providing technologies and training for sweetpotato storage & marketing
- Improving information flows, evidence base, and stakeholder learning

**Project outcomes**

- Increased production of nutritious sweetpotato
- Improved nutrition knowledge and practices
- Increased availability of sweetpotato roots and farmer incomes
- Enhanced technology development and dissemination
- Increased access to diverse and quality food
  - Improve nutrition related behaviors
- Increased market access and trade

**Enhanced stakeholder capacities**
Nutritional Indicators for Western Kenya

- 84% Prevalence of VAD among children under 5
- 39% prevalence of VAD among women of reproductive age
- 50% of children do not get Vitamin A Supplementation

- Low Birth rate is at 5%
- Infants weighed at birth-58.8%
- Exclusive breastfeeding is at 35.8%
- Minimum meal frequency at 32.2%
- Stunting -40%

- Marriage before the age of 18% (45.4)
The focus on nutrition integration

- Focus is on the 1st 1000 days (the window of opportunity to reverse malnutrition)

- Contribute to implementation of WHO/UNICEF recommendations for Infant and young child feeding
  - Exclusive breastfeeding
  - Continued breastfeeding till 2 years or more
  - Safe, appropriate and adequate complementary feeding
  - Frequency of feeding
  - Integration of minimum WASH practices

- Promotion of affordable balanced diet during pregnancy

- Adherence to ante and post-natal care
Integration of Nutrition through collaboration

- Previously collaborated with PATH
- Currently collaboration is with county government directly
- Department of Nutrition and department of public health
- Utilizes elaborate community structure whereby households are clustered into community units
- About 100 households are manned by a community health worker
Linking agriculture and nutrition

- Vine multipliers linked to health facility

- Vine beneficiaries recruited at the health facility during ante and post-natal consultation.

- Over 27,000 households have been reached with vines and some form of nutrition education

- 90 health workers trained on Agri-nutrition

- 760 community health workers trained
Approaches to integrate nutrition activities

• **Nutrition Education:** These are guided modules facilitated by a trained community health worker. Training manuals are provided by the project (adapted from Mama SASHA)

• **Nutrition Counselling:** Could be at the health facility or at the community. Mainly conducted by a trained Nutritionist. Often project has to facilitate activity.
Community Based cooking demonstrations:
These are conducted by community health workers. Supervision is provided by either MOH or MoA staff. Project facilitates
Social and behavior change communication

- Completed a knowledge, attitude and practice survey
- Study necessitated by the need to document drivers and barriers to adoption of OFSP, its inclusion in usual diets including infant feeding
- Study results are being used to come up with messages to achieve behavior change.
- Full time staff hired.
Monitoring progress and learning

- Baseline survey - results being used to guide implementation
- Baseline - Knowledge, attitude and practices
- Elaborate monitoring plan
- Operational research - Collaboration with A4HCRP
- Annual survey - AVCD