



# INTEGRATING OFSP INTO ENHANCED HOMESTEAD FOOD PRODUCTION

Mette Kinoti, Vice President Africa region  
7th Annual Sweet Potato for Profit and Health Initiative Technical meeting,  
Addis Ababa, 8 October, 2016

# OVERVIEW PRESENTATION

- Enhanced Homestead Food Production (EHFP) approach
- HKI's progress in OFSP delivery in Africa
- Next step
- Nurturing Connection
- Perspectives and future plans



# HKI EHFP IN AFRICA FROM 2012→

- Aimed to improve nutrition of women and children by supporting small-scale female farmers to grow, consume and sell micronutrient-rich fruits, vegetables
- Communal gardens and henhouses (‘Nutrition Action and Essential Hygiene Connection’)
- Education on nutrition and hygiene through a gender transformation approach
- Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Mozambique (Nigeria)



Country	Since	Varieties promoted	Vines distributed (2016)	Direct beneficiaries	Indirect beneficiaries
Burkina Faso	2012	Jewel, caromex, Tiebile etc.	603,000 (172,600)	8,430	76,650
Mozambique	2012	Delvia, Gloria, Ininda, Irene	7,604,350 (7,441,000)	9,897	62,845
Côte d'Ivoire	2011	Kakamega, TIB, Bela-Bela	450,000	2,876	15,060
Tanzania	2010	Jewel, Kabode, Ejumula	141,000 (37,745)	2,569	12,950
Nigeria	2014	Mothers' delight, King J	186,000	1,020	5,100
Senegal	2013	Kandee	300,820 (300,000)	1,000	5,950
Total			8,988,171	25,922	178,555

# Successes and lessons learnt from OFSP delivery efforts



## Successes

- Combination of Nutrition education, testing and demonstrations encourage adoption
- Adoption evident and result of SBCC
- Taste much appreciated by children, sometimes less by adults

## Constraints

- Access to land for women
- Late distribution of vines → late planting → low or no yield
- Livestock loves sweet potato leaves → damage in many instances
- Limited documentation of adoption and spread, ORANGE vs. White fleshed sweet potato

## Recommendations

More focus on local awareness raising (cooking demos etc.)

Envisage irrigated vine production for early start

Improve documentation (adoption, yield, consumption, sale)

# Next step

- Finalize RCT ongoing in Tanzania and Burkina Faso – encouraging initial findings
- New initiative anticipated in Cote d'Ivoire to start up primo 2017 ( OFSP vine distribution ( app 380.000)
- Potential for new initiative in Tanzania
- Integrated OFSP in other programs





## Empowering Women for Improved Agricultural and Nutrition Outcomes

-few initial results-



*International Center for Research on Women &  
Helen Keller International, Dakar, Senegal*

# THE INTERVENTION

*Nurturing Connections*: a four-month series of participatory exercises (games, theatre sketches, and storytelling) to facilitate conversations on gender equality and enhance communication around food production and nutrition decisions, division of labor, resource allocation





# MOTIVATION

- “Nutrition sensitive” agriculture
- Women's empowerment is considered essential for impacting nutrition through agriculture:
  - Agricultural production systems are gendered
  - Gender norms and practices influence intra-household bargaining & decision-making
    - Agricultural/Nutrition interventions can impact & be impacted by gendered norms and practices
- ...This motivates attempts to directly address and change gender norms and limitations
- But proven approaches remain lacking
  - few gender-transformative interventions
  - few of these have been rigorously evaluated



# THE INTERVENTION: *NURTURING CONNECTIONS*

- **Four months of weekly interactive sessions around gender issues within 3 groups:**
  - Women
  - husbands/ partners
  - community leaders
- **Every 4th week during a “community meeting”, participants shared experiences across groups**



# RESEARCH QUESTIONS



- **Research questions: Did NC implementation have an effect on...**
  - Intra-household communications?
  - Decision-making?
  - Community communications and support?
  - Purchasing authority?
  - Views on gender equity?

# RESULTS – DECISION MAKING

- Significantly larger shares of women report discussions within the past 4 weeks for 6 of 9 topics from baseline to end-line in NC villages
- Significant impacts: living in an NC-intervention village was associated with a comparative increase in women's roles in decision-making and more joint decision making within livestock, childcare/spending/health, domestic work - Excluding: agricultural decisions (partner's and one's own plot)



# PURCHASING AUTHORITY, SOCIAL SUPPORT AND COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

- **Purchasing authority**

- 7 questions on whether woman could decide to buy each item independently)

- **Social support**

- 4 questions about whether she knew someone who could aid her in various ways,

- **Communications with other women**

- 5 questions about discussing with other women subjects related to education, health, nutrition

- **No significant impacts on any of these metrics.**





# FUTURE ANALYSIS WILL EXPLORE:

- Nutrition and agricultural outcomes
- Men
- Mobility
- Asset/land ownership and rights







# THANK YOU.

*“Although the world is full of suffering, it is also full of overcoming it.”*  
-Helen Keller