Integrating Sweetpotato Seed Systems into Nutrition Kitchen Garden Intervention: A case study in Jigawa and Yobe states of Nigeria

The Nutrition Kitchen Garden intervention component of WINNN project supported the uptake of biofortified OFSP and other nutritious crops (Groundnut, PVA maize and Moringa) for effective and efficient reduction of malnutrition in children and women in two pilot states (Jigawa and Yobe) of Nigeria. Members of IYCF groups and female care givers/mothers of recovered SAM clients were sensitized and empowered to established Nutrition Kitchen Garden. They received series of training in good agronomic practices and on processing of OFSP roots into bio-available vitamin A-rich foods as well as enriching indigenous food products for household consumption and income generation. Linkages among these women groups improved within the communities and health care facilities, thereby promoting maternal and child health. To ensure sustainability of OFSP production and utilization in the system, DVMs were empowered to generate and disseminate quality OFSP planting materials to various women groups and household to sustain the Kitchen Garden. The project built strong demand for government, farmer organization, private sector to fully utilize OFSP and other nutritious crops for kitchen garden as nutrition-sensitive agricultural initiative in Northern Nigeria.