Can the integrated Ag - Nut approach be cost effectively scaled?

By Sylvia Magezi, HarvestPlus - Uganda
Presentation outline

• Agriculture Nutrition components
• HarvestPlus – Uganda scaling experience
  – NGOs
  – Markets
• Scaling through government structures
• Multi-sectoral approach
• Conclusion
Integrated Ag - Nut approach

Has components of:

• Seed access
• Agronomy training
• Nutrition education and communication
• Value addition
• Marketing
• Initially run through NGOS because of the complexity
HarvestPlus experience

- Used this through NGOs extension structure
- Rather intensive and complex approach
- Cost effective “World bank” standards
- Limited coverage (Direct reach)
- BUT new approaches using a market systems approach
- Engage different actors facilitate the process to increase uptake
- Linking to farmers; buyers in both input and output markets & dealing with the bottle necks
For scaling; - Govt involvement

• Advocacy for policy inclusion & increase uptake
• Done both at national level and district level
• Multi sectoral engagement;
  – MAAIF – Extension worker training, vine inspection, commercialization,
  – MoH – nutrition awareness,
  – MoTIS - Standards organizations ..... 
  – MoES – School curriculum and consumption,
  .......evolution of the BTWG
• At district level – DNCC similar members
• Becomes part of the national agenda
Agriculture extension system

• Agriculture extension system; incorporating biofortification in training of FEWs
• Incorporating inspection guidelines into seed policy
• Advocacy for inclusion in priority crops esp at district level
• Linking to seed producers/DVM
Health extension structure

• Health extension systems;
• Sensitization of health workers and village health teams about new food crops,
• Have small demo gardens at health centers
• Link to seed producers
• Challenges include keeping demo garden at health center productive
• Sensitization of teachers, inclusion in school curriculum, and school gardens,
• Establishment of demo/multiplication gardens at school enable pupils to take seed/vines home
• Promoting consumption and linking to producers to support commercialization
Cost effective?

• After the initial costs on training and advocacy, getting biofortified crops into policies, makes it get into the national agenda.

• African proverb “...it’s better to run slowly but include every body”

BUT

• Support commercialization to drive the process further
• Involve private sector for input and output markets – vibrant market
• Get support at district level through nutrition committees & national level through multi-sectoral platforms to fuel the scale up
• Supporting leaders in the system
To answer the question

Can the integrated Ag – Nut approach be scaled?

YES!!
• Special thanks to our donors:
Thank you!