



World Vision

Scaling Sustainable Food-Based Solutions to Tackle Hidden Hunger

Statement Released at Signing of HarvestPlus and WorldVision MoU, World Economic Forum Annual Meeting, Davos-Klosters, January 23, 2014

Hidden hunger is a chronic lack of vitamins and minerals in the diet that affects more than two billion people worldwide, diminishing their prospects for healthy and productive lives.

HarvestPlus is a leader in the global effort to end hidden hunger by developing and disseminating staple food crops that are rich in vitamin A, zinc and iron (identified by the WHO as most limiting in diets). Developed through conventional plant breeding methods, these nutritious food crops are high yielding and have other improved traits that farmers desire.

World Vision is a Christian relief, development and advocacy organization dedicated to working with children, families and communities to overcome poverty and injustice.

Both organizations recognize that collaboration across business, government and civil society organizations is required to sustainably scale up nutritious staple food crops. In tandem with other proven strategies—dietary diversity, fortification, and supplementation—the goal is to improve nutritional status, especially among those most vulnerable.

Working together, HarvestPlus and World Vision seek to increase the production and consumption of nutritious staple food crops throughout rural communities in the developing world. The partnership builds upon the different skill sets and networks of each organization to expand access to these crops in new countries and to integrate them within farming systems.

HarvestPlus and World Vision began their collaboration in 2007 with the successful introduction of vitamin A orange sweet potato in Mozambique. They are working together to disseminate orange sweet potato, as well as iron beans, in Uganda. They have since identified other countries to work in where World Vision has experience and where nutritious staple food crop varieties could have significant impact in improving nutrition. These include Burundi, Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, and Zimbabwe.

Realizing that the goal of providing adequate, nutritious foods in these and other countries will require participation of all sectors of society, HarvestPlus is organizing a [global consultation](#) on 'Getting Nutritious Foods to People', which will take place from March 31 to April 2, 2014 in Kigali, Rwanda. As stakeholders from public, private and civil society gather together, the partnership with World Vision will demonstrate the value of collaborative action to help people lead healthier and more productive lives.

For More Information:

HarvestPlus, USA	Pam Wuichet P.Wuichet@cgiar.org	www.harvestplus.org
World Vision, UK	Richard Dove Richard.Dove@worldvision.org.uk	www.wvi.org