Challenges and Success Factors for the Implementation of Nutrition Links Project



Organizational and Procurement Challenges

About a years' delay in start up of WV's activities due to:

- Length of time for contractual agreements to be in place
- Delay in release of funds at the country level for program implementation

Complex Procurement Processes led to:

Long turnaround time for procuring trainers and equipment

Limited staff

- Only I full time project coordinator with 20% FTE each for finance and technical support in country.
- Advocacy & Support from SLT led to approval to hire more staff, however hiring process was also long.

These led to a delay in delivery of interventions for WV

Environmental and Social Challenges



Expectations from communities

 For provision of tangible packages, e.g. boreholes, school building, clinics, toilet facilities provided by previous development partners



Repayment for inputs for poultry and declaring use of eggs

- Participants expected to get inputs free of charge, repayment was an issue, and in some cases birds had to be retrieved
- · Some did not declare how eggs produced were used



Topography of the area (hills)

- Roads inaccessible made feed transport for Heifer a challenge
- Access to market to sell eggs



Incentives requested by opinion leaders and volunteers

- Motorcycles, bicycles, raincoats, torch/flashlights and dry cells (batteries)
- Access to market to sell eggs

Success Factors: Effective Roles and Partnership

Partner	Roles and Responsibility
McGill University	Overall Leadership in management, financial and technical aspects
World Vision International	Organization of Steering Committee Meetings Institutional and community capacity building with monitoring, quantitative and qualitative evaluation Curriculum development for Adolescent and behaviour change
University of Ghana	Overall oversight for in-country implementation Infant household and Adolescent interventions Monitoring of infant intervention and overall project evaluations
Heifer International	Implementation of agriculture component of project interventions
Farm Radio and Rite 90.1 FM	Behaviour Change Communication through interactive radio messaging
Ghana Health Service	Leadership role in all health and nutrition related activities, Partnership with NL and other sectors



Success Factors: Effective Roles and Partnership

Partner	Roles and Responsibility
District Assembly	Providing enabling environment, cross sector partnering and oversight
Department of Food and Agriculture	Leadership role in all agriculture related activities
Upper Manya Kro Rural Bank	Leadership role in all adolescent financial literacy activities
Ghana Education Service	Leadership role in all adolescent girls clubs activities
National Commission for Civic Education	Leadership role in all BCC activities using radio
Upper Manya Krobo District Community Representatives	Community mobilization and participation in all project activities



Success Factors

Establishment of Steering and Implementing Partners Committees that meet regularly

Nutrition Links Project activities were closely aligned with the needs and strategies of Ghana Health Service and other partner institutions

Sustainability planning in the beginning and assessment around mid-term leading to:

- i. Alignment of programming to communities' priorities
- ii. Engagement and capacitating community leaders and volunteers to facilitate program activities
- iii. Sustainability Committees formed a year before project ended.
- iv. Continuation of activities

Success Factors

- Introduction of monitoring, mentoring and supportive supervision activities into all our program implementation
- Capacity building and encouragement of cross sector implementation and use of evidence to inform decisions
- Social Behaviour Change Communication activities coupled with provisions to adopt new behaviours, e.g. seeds provided for vegetable gardens, poultry, eggs, fruit trees, bee hives and food and cooking demonstrations.



Thank you





Nutrition Links Dissemination of Evidence and Learnings

Dissemination Workshop, May 10, 2018



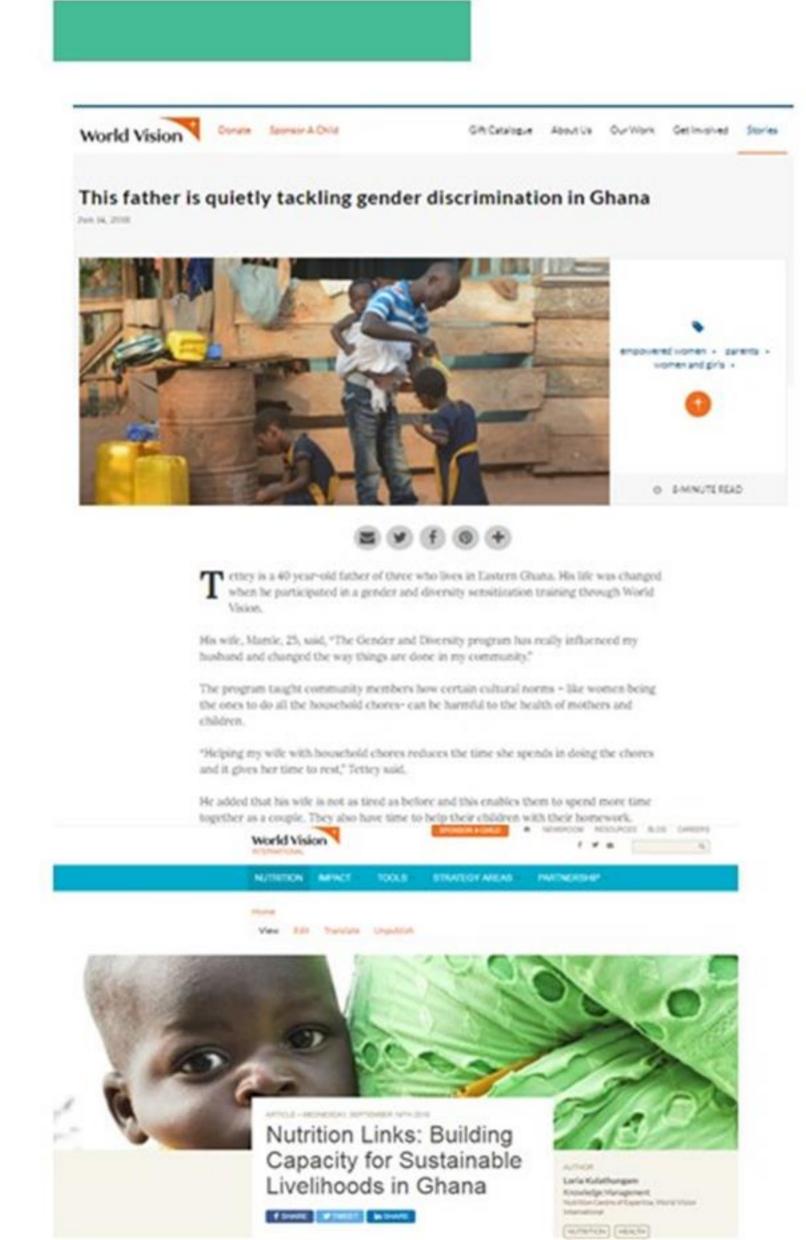
Paramount Chief, implementing and local partners, government, community members

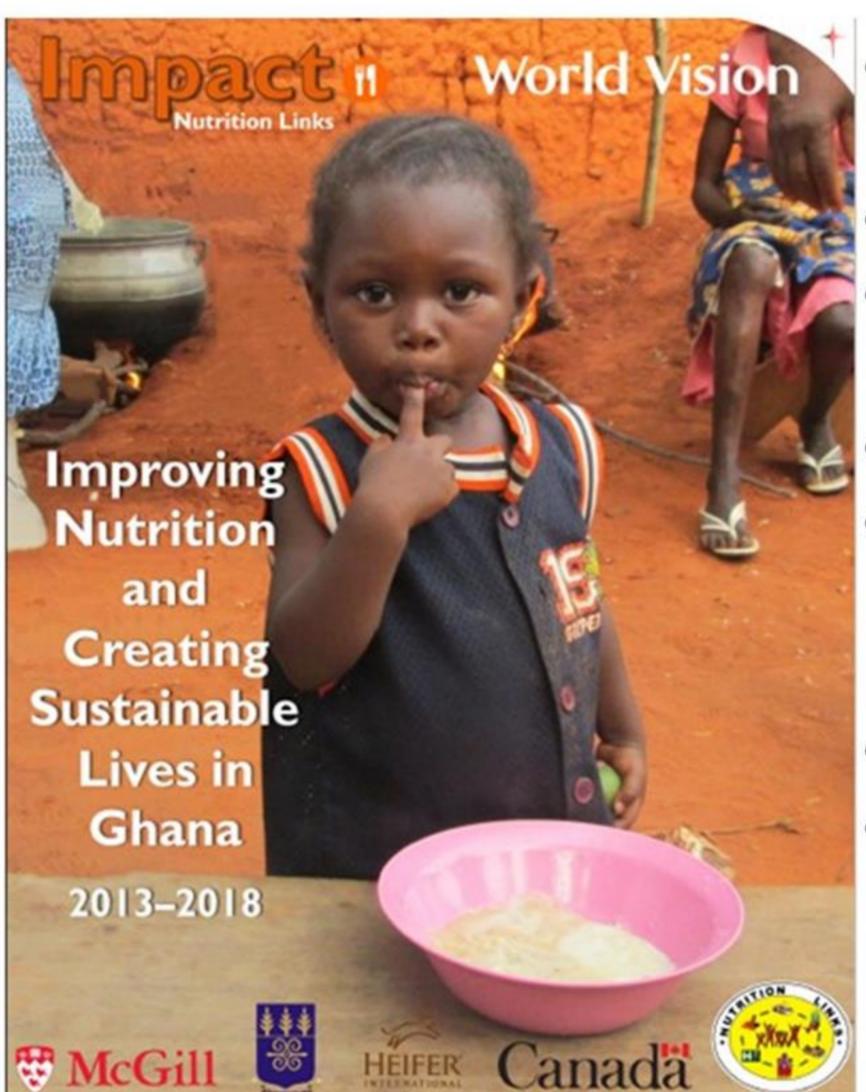
Nutrition Links Dissemination

- Local Govt and Ministries (Health, Agriculture, Education, Social Welfare) part of Stakeholder engagement and Steering Committee Meetings (Asesewa, Koforidua, Ghana)
- Global Affairs Canada local Mission (Accra, Ghana)
- International Conferences (Africa Nutritional Epidemiology Conference ANEC V,VII,VIII (Ghana, Morocco, Ethiopia)
- American Society for Nutrition's Experimental Biology Meetings (Chicago and San Diego USA)
- Micronutrient Forum (Mexico)
- 21st International Congress of Nutrition (Argentina)



Knowledge Products/Evidence Dissemination





- Gender story highlighted on Father's Day
- Impact Report
- Fact sheets/impact stories
- 2 videos
- Paper accepted by Maternal Child Nutrition peer-reviewed journal
- World Vision website
- McGill website