

ENTERPRIZE Zimbabwe Project Experience Sharing
with WV Health and Nutrition CoP

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Outline

- Project overview
- Key project achievements
- Lessons learnt from implementation
- Case study on nutrition integration-
Findings and learning points



Project Overview

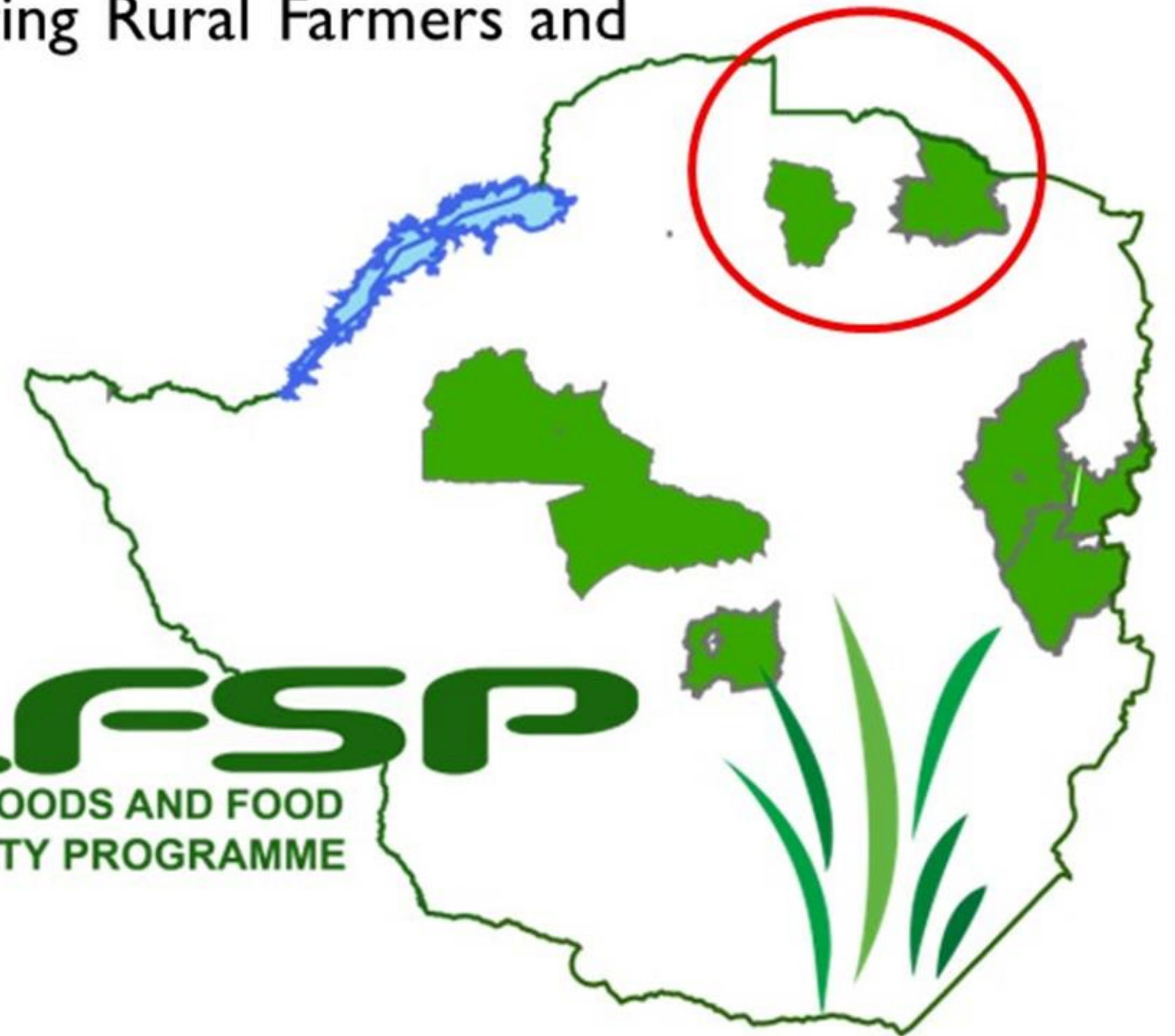
Ensuring Nutrition, Transforming and Empowering Rural Farmers and Promoting Resilience in Zimbabwe

Project Components

- Extension and Advisory Services
- Nutrition
- Market Development
- Rural Finance
- Gender



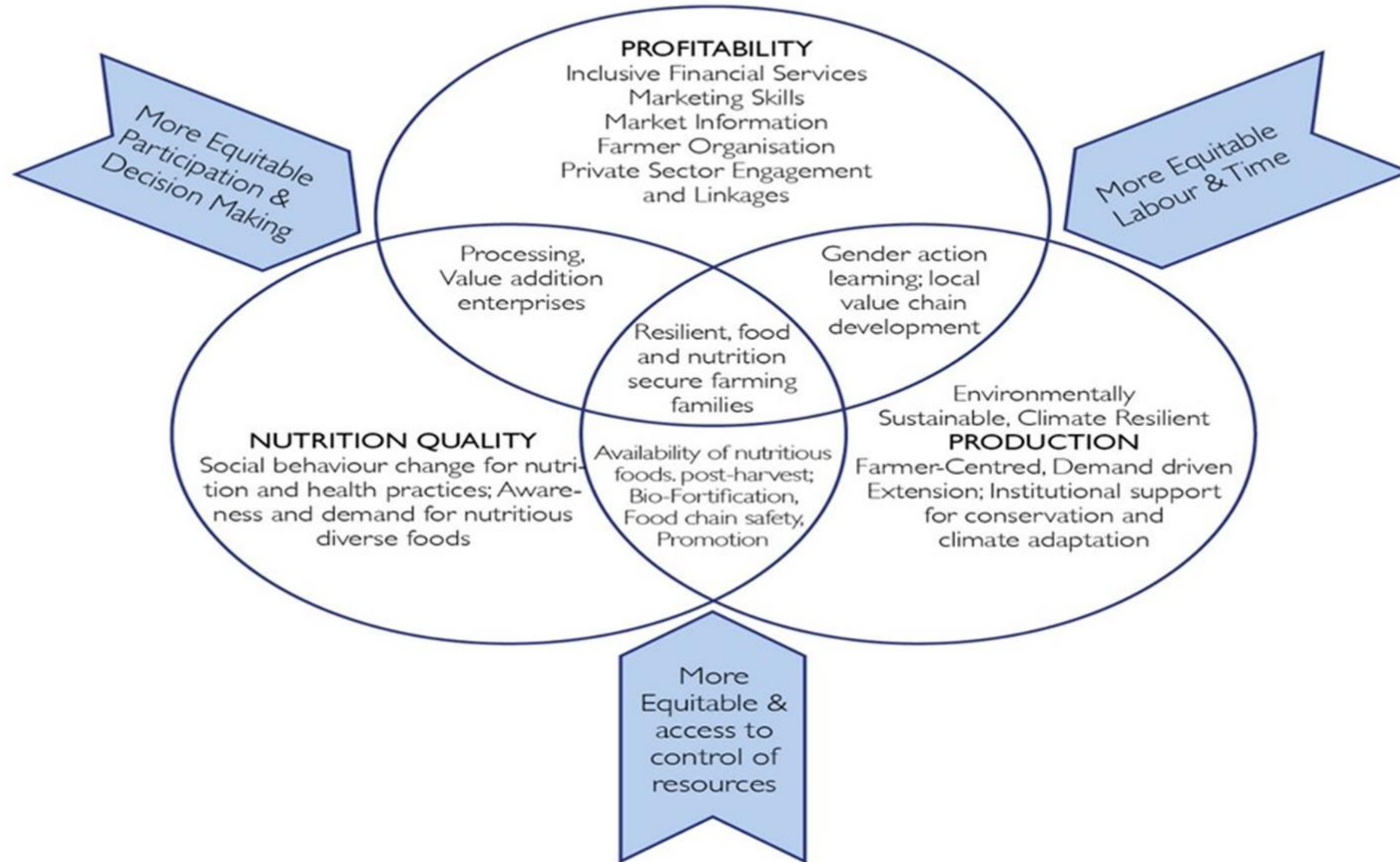
LFSP
LIVELIHOODS AND FOOD
SECURITY PROGRAMME



Project Overview

- ENTERPRIZE is part of a larger national Livelihood and Food Security Programme (LSFP) by DFID.
- Comprises of Agriculture Production and Nutrition (APN) & Market Development (MD).
- WV led consortium is one of 3 consortia managed by FAO.
- US\$ 5.3 million, 40 months project in Mashonaland Central– Guruve and Mt Darwin districts
- Direct target beneficiaries; 27,520 farmers and 11 400 pregnant and lactating women
- Implementing partners: Mercy Corps, Farmers Association of Community Self-Help Investment Group, ICRISAT, HarvestPlus and Palladium.

ENTERPRIZE Theory of Change



Improved food and nutrition security of 27,520 farmers In Mt. Darwin and Gurube

Women and Men farmers better able to manage farm enterprises in climate resilient ways

Extension service providers capacitated to respond effectively to farmer's changing environments

Awareness and local institutional support for conservation and climate adaptation increased

Women and men farmers have improved knowledge on good agricultural practices/ technologies (including CSA)

Increased demand, production and consumption of diverse nutritious foods

Improved availability and access to safe diverse nutritious food throughout the year at household level.

Improved positive nutrition and health behavioral practices (WASH, prevention and treatment of childhood illnesses)

Increased nutrition knowledge and awareness of target communities (project staff, extension officers, farmers, community volunteers, Village Health Workers & Environmental Health Teams)

Women empowered with knowledge to make decisions on better nutrition outcomes at household level

Commercial Markets, traders, processors better able to meet needs of men and women farmers

Farmers/ farmer groups engaged in formal and informal market arrangements

Improved access to marketing information

Increased access to inclusive financial services

Effective generation and sharing of evidence to inform programming and policy change

Lessons learnt on farm enterprise management, market development and nutrition documented

Information disseminated through various platforms (new and existing)

Policy recommendations shared with key stakeholder institutions and policy makers level

Key Achievements

- The project has capacitated 27 351 farmers on climate smart agriculture focusing on good agriculture practices and nutrition sensitive agriculture
- Trainings resulted in improved knowledge on good agriculture practices and improved yields (see adoption table below).

Key Achievements 2016/17

Indicator	Target 2017	Achievement Jan-Dec 2017		
		Male	Female	Total
Number of targeted farmers trained in application of new technologies or management practices	27,520	12,533	14,818	27,351
Number of households reached with nutrition information	11 264	2799	12,343	15,142
Number of LFSP farmers receiving extension messages through ICT platforms (ICT only)	16,000	8094	5312	13,406

Adoption of Good Agricultural Practices

Good agriculture practices	Total adopters(%)	Old adopters(%)	New adopters(%)
Conservation Agriculture	76	73	27
Ridges	61	54	46
Infiltration pits	38	85	15
Mulching	49	92	8
Certified seeds	88	71	29
Correct use of fertiliser/manure	91	68	32
Use of contours	70	92	8
Use of rippers	31	40	60
Use of ridgers	31	52	48
Use of shellers	3	55	45
Bio-fortified crops	58	16	84
Crop protection	86	58	42

Adoption of nutrition & health practices

Health and nutrition practices	Baseline	Adoption survey January 2017	KAP survey September 2017
Exclusive breastfeeding	27%	70%	88%
Hand-washing	14%	88%	92%
Meal frequency	-	80%	88%
Food Preservation	20%	79%	82%
Food Storage	-	71%	82%
Food Diversity	-	79%	84%

Key Achievements

- Group strengthening trainings for farmers and value chain commodity groups have enhanced capacity of farmers to demand services from public and private sector institutions.
- Shifts in decision making processes between men and women resulted in noticeable changes in women participation in markets, accumulation of household productive assets, and agriculture productivity for families trained in Gender Action Learning System.
- Continuous mobilisation of communities through care groups, resulted in increased adoption of practices on exclusive breastfeeding, hand-washing, meal frequency, diet diversification.
- Increased income, asset accumulation, savings and investments into diversified income generating activities for households participating in international savings and lending and SACCOS.
- Visible linkages between ENTERPRIZE farmer structures, private sector companies and financial institutions in marketing of commercial crops.

Key hole gardening



Lessons learnt

- Accelerated use of farmer based trainers in form of champions, lead farmers and peer trainers ensures continued beneficiary support.
- An integrated approach which incorporates extension services and support with the nutrition component enhances productivity and household nutritional security .
- Participatory monitoring and evaluation of projects with the stakeholders will not only improve partnership but is also critical for ownership of projects.
- The pluralistic extension approach represents a paradigm shift from the conventional models. It is a sustainable and empowering development model for smallholder farmers and extension staff.
- With a lean project structure community based volunteers e.g. lead farmers should be sufficiently be capacitated, overreliance on government extension staff limits reach
- Incentives for community volunteers need to be considered to maintain levels of enthusiasm and motivation. E.g. visibility of lead farmers is important for their credibility in the community and for motivation.

Lessons Learnt

- Uptake of behaviours promoted through care groups are best supported when there is integration of theory and practical approaches to health and nutrition interventions.
- Successful uptake of nutrition behaviours hinges on involvement of men during targeting for training and formation of care groups.
- Adoption of some child care behaviours is influenced by other family members and community norms.
- The care group model is silent on men involvement-they are key influences of health and nutrition practices like exclusive breastfeeding.
- Missed opportunity- care group approach did not incorporate the adolescent reproductive health programmes which would have catered for adolescent mothers and youth.

Lessons learnt

- Continuous engagement with the higher level government stakeholders at national and provincial levels ensures that the local level staff are fully supported and understand their mandate in the project.
- Stakeholders particularly government extension workers need to be supported with tools of trade to improve their participation in the project. e.g. lack of mobility by the extension workers was a barrier to programme implementation.
- Continuous capacitation and engagement with the District Food and Nutrition Security Committee will improve the partnership.

Case study on nutrition integration

Learning case study conducted in the second year of project implementation.

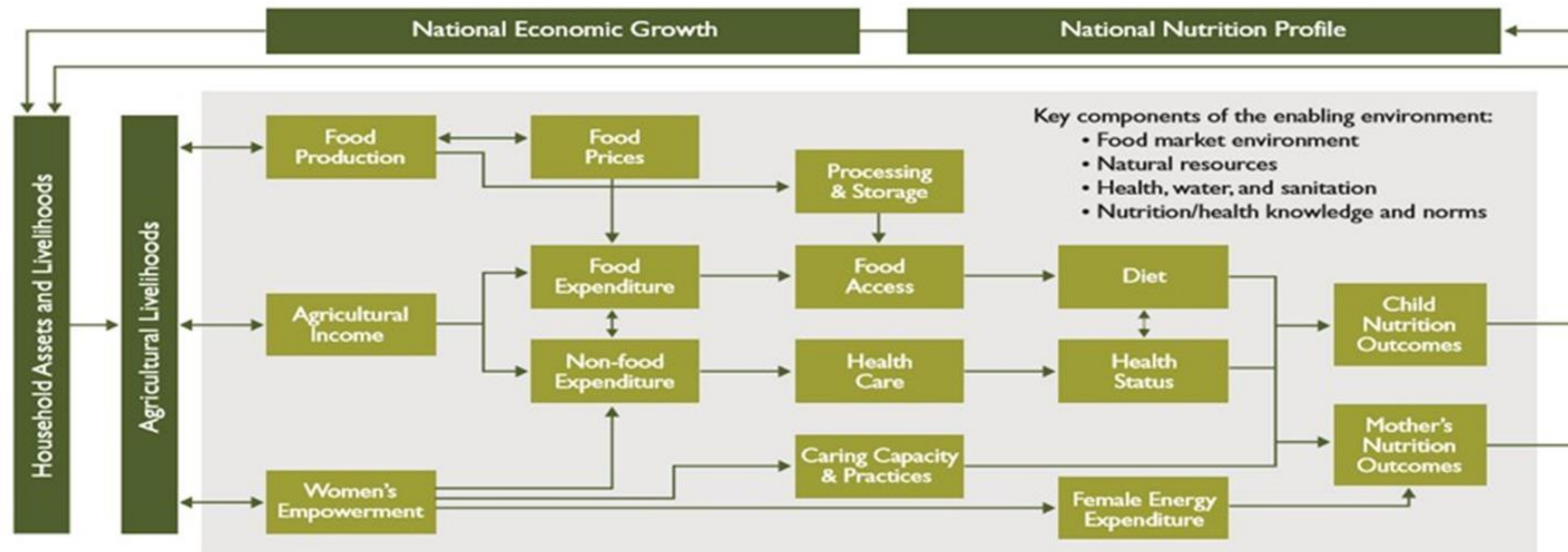
Case study question;

- What are the operational opportunities and challenges that programmes experience in integrating nutrition and agriculture interventions?
- What lessons can be drawn from practical experience to improve integration and nutrition sensitivity of programmes?

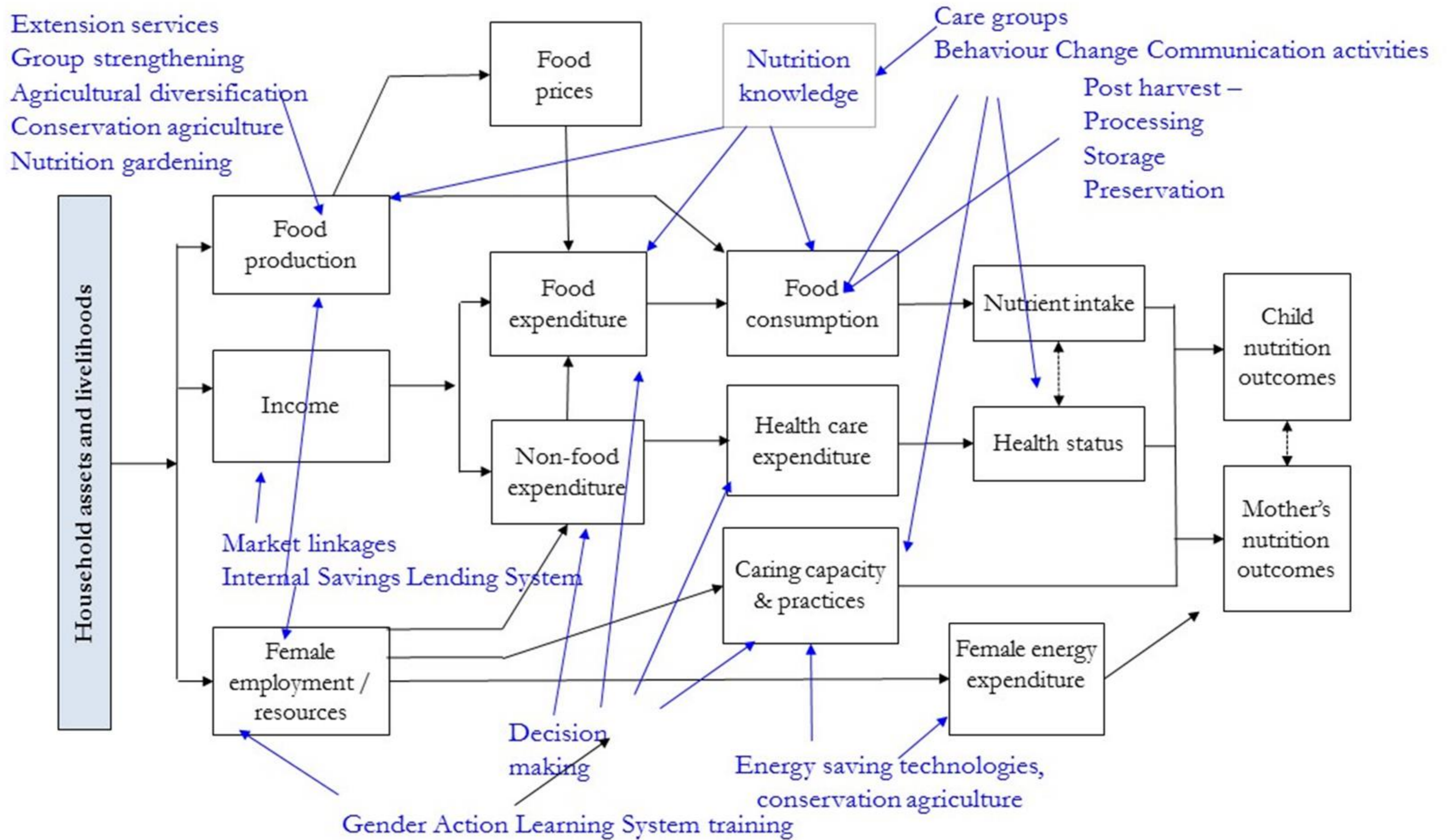
Review Frameworks

1. FAO Key Recommendations for improving nutrition through agriculture and food systems

2. **FIGURE. CONCEPTUAL PATHWAYS BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION**



Adapted for Feed the Future by Anna Herforth, Jody Harris, and SPRING, from Gillespie, Harris, and Kadiyala (2012) and Headey, Chiu, and Kadiyala (2011).



What were the potential enablers for nutrition- sensitivity?

- Multi-sectoral policies, strategies and coordination structures in place or established
- Behaviour change communication informed by thematic studies for nutrition and gender as well as nutrition KAP survey
- Technical project staff across nutrition and agriculture
- Strong gender focus- household centred approach
- Tested training modules- Care Group, Healthy Harvest module, Lead farmer approach

What were the challenges for integration and nutrition sensitivity?

- Co-ordination complexities – multiple trainings
- Limited cross-learning across training modules
- Challenges for agricultural diversification- drought
- Maize centric policy, market, preference- limited incentive for small grains and other nutritious crop production
- Limited government resources for agriculture and nutrition extension

Learning on nutrition integration

Forming Partnerships

- Clarity of nutrition purpose among diverse project stakeholders

Assessing Need and Context

- Undertake barrier analysis on nutrition
- Undertake a gender analysis
- Make value chain analysis nutrition sensitive

Theory of Change and Targeting

- Include nutrition objective with outcome/ impact indicators
- Relevant targeting for nutritional outcomes- households with young children, pregnant and lactating women, include the poorest
- Consider safety nets or other pro- poor approach for nutritionally vulnerable households with limited agriculture productivity
- A core gender approach - foundational activity for women's empowerment
- Consider the enabling environment- e.g. water availability



Learning on nutrition integration (2)

Training and capacity building activities

- Appropriate nutrition expertise- build capacity in nutrition sensitive approaches
- Cascading & group approaches - maximise reach with multiple interventions
- Multi-sectoral curriculum coherence - across livelihoods, agriculture, nutrition and health

Monitoring and Evaluation

- Monitor along the pathways of change for nutrition
- Test design assumptions- e.g. local market access for nutritious food
- Closely monitor effects on the poor and extreme poor
- Establish mechanism to recognise and mitigate unintended consequences

