



# Older Women Deliver Too

A Life-Course Approach to  
Women's and Children's Health



WOMEN DELIVER PARTNER EVENT 18TH MAY 2016, COPENHAGEN



# Mamanieva

## Engaging Grandmothers

to promote optimal nutrition & care  
of pregnant & lactating women  
&  
their young children

Christina Grünewald, World Vision Germany







# Mamanieva Basics

## Situational Context in Sierra Leone

Poor Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF) practices  
→ High levels of malnutrition

## Mamanieva Operations Research Project (2013-2016)

### Objective:

- Determine influence of GMs on IYCF
- Determine feasibility of GM-Inclusive Approach

Design: Quasi-experimental design; communities allocated to either intervention or control sites

Partners: Emory University, The Grandmother Project, Njala University, MoH





# Take Aways from the Baseline

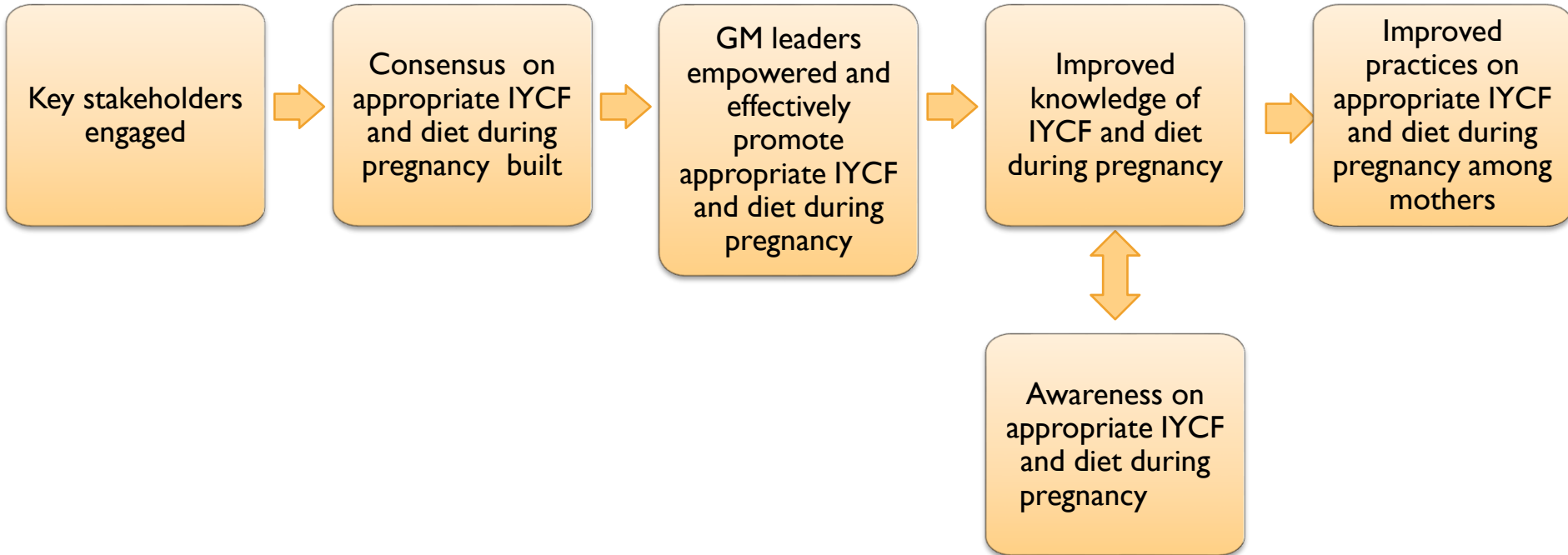
- Mothers are not independent decision-makers on nutrition
- GMs have large influence on mothers with regard to child care
- GMs command respect in their communities as advisors and coordinators of life
- Uptake of early exclusive breastfeeding is low
- Widespread confusion on how much, how often and which foods should be fed to a child

➡ The GM-Inclusive Approach





# Mamanieva Conceptual Framework





# Community Feedback and Process Evaluation

## Mid-Term Evaluation Findings:

- Mamanieva approach widely and highly accepted
- GMs and mothers learn and observe improvements in child health
- Participatory engagement contributes to sustained participation and uptake of practices
- Engagement of men critical

## Feedback on most significant changes:

- Mothers attending antenatal care
- Mothers delivering at health facilities
- Families have improved complementary feeding



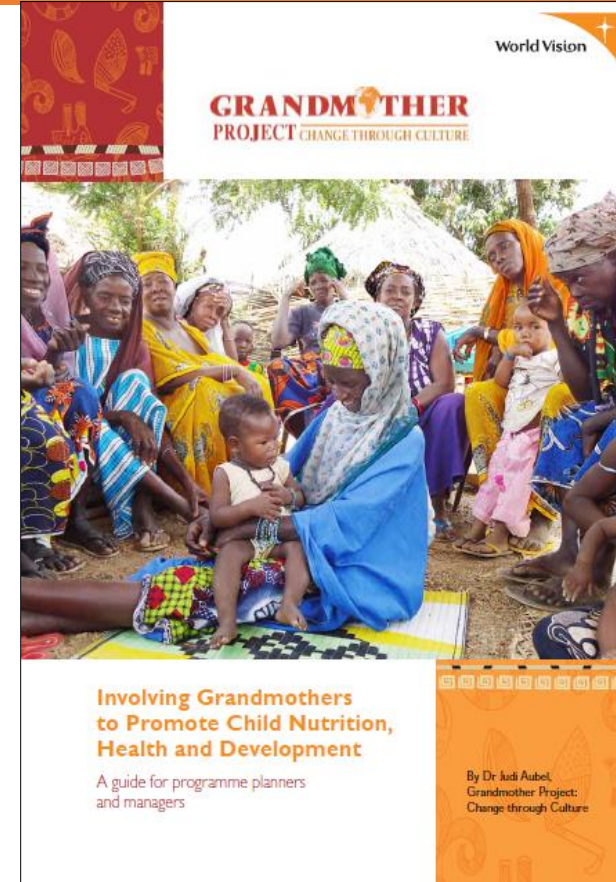




# Thank You!

*Involving Grandmothers to Promote Child Nutrition, Health and Development: A guide for programme planners and managers*

<http://www.wvi.org/health/publication/grandmother-guide>



# Thank you!

## Older Women Deliver Too

A Life-Course Approach to  
Women's and Children's Health

WOMEN DELIVER PARTNER EVENT 18TH MAY 2016, COPENHAGEN

