

MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION STRATEGY

Global Learning and Evidence Exchange

East and Southern Africa Regional Meeting



USAID/Rwanda: Examples of Coordination and Monitoring across Technical Sectors

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Nutrition status of children under 5 years: Rwanda

| Sex | Stunting 2010 | Stunting 2015 | Wasting 2015 | Underweight 2015 |
|--------|---------------|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| | 44% | 38% | 2% | 9% |
| Male | 47% | 43% | | |
| Female | 41% | 32% | | |
| | | | MAD 2010 (C) | MAD 2015 (C) |
| | | | 17% | 18% |



Coordination and Monitoring of Nutrition at Mission Level

- Commitment by the Mission Director – Multi-Sectoral Nutrition programming was prioritized
- Creation of the Mission Nutrition TWG, Co-Chaired by DMD
- All the offices (PRO, Health, EG, DG, Education) were represented by individual staff in the monthly meetings
- Involving Washington colleagues (Nutrition and WASH) on TDY Missions for gaps identification and designing



Coordination and Monitoring, cont.

- Key interventions identified to anchor the design process (nutrition, food security and WASH interventions).
- Involved the host government in the designing process esp. the line ministries
- Design team across offices (PRO, Health, EG, DG, Edu) was created.
- Kept in touch and involved Washington technical experts during the designing process
- Project (Activity) awarded to International Org and 3 local CSOs in line with *USAID Forward* objective.



Monitoring

- IPs reporting through AIDTracker plus (Web based reporting software) and FTFMS for accountability purposes
- New Nutrition and WASH customs indicators were introduced to tell our story.
- Mission Nutrition TWG transitioned into CHAIN Coordination team.
- Integrated site visits are encouraged
- Quarterly Multi-Sectoral Nutrition partners meetings



Coordination of Nutrition at GOR Level: Key Milestones

- In the beginning, Gov't addressed acute malnutrition
- Evidence convinced them and they shifted to chronic malnutrition
- In 2005, Created a national nutrition TWG
- USAID Co-Chairs the TWG meetings
- In 2011, District plans to eliminate malnutrition were developed



Coordination at GOR Level, cont.

- In 2013, Multi-Sectoral Food and Nutrition TWG was expanded.
- In 2013, a 5 year Multi-Sectoral Food and Nutrition Policy and Strategy developed
- Community based nutrition program prioritized (GMP)
- Length for age measurements (LfA) to track stunting introduced



Challenges at Mission and National Levels

- Mission Offices have different priorities (to engage in nutrition)
- USAID's traditional reporting of nutrition indicators limited the Mission's reporting of 1000 days nutrition interventions
- Addressing chronic malnutrition was late (2010) by GOR
- Multi-Sectoral goals hampered by dragging feet of some key Ministries.
- Reduction of Stunting is good but not impressive (44% in 2010 to 38% in 2014)
- Disconnect exists between Social Cluster Ministries and the TWG



Considerations – Design Features

- Introducing new nutrition and food security indicators was timely
- Creating a Nutrition Coordination Secretariat at national level should be considered.
- Multi-Sectoral nutrition Interventions requires cross teams involvement if you want to succeed
- Involving the host government during designing is key



Lessons Learned at Mission Level

- Mission leadership prioritizing nutrition was a key driver
- Creating a Mission Nutrition TWG and Co-Chaired by DMD worked wonders
- Involving Washington Nutrition and WASH experts during designing helped much
- Involving the host gov't to avoid delays/rejections at a later stage is key



Lessons Learned at National Level

- GOR commitment to address chronic malnutrition created a conducive working environment
- Creating and extending national Multi-sectoral Food and Nutrition TWG was timely as it drives nutrition policies
- District Plans to eliminate malnutrition (DPEMs) holds districts accountable to implement nutrition
- The community based nutrition program is succeeding due to mothers attending monthly GMP in big numbers



Key Takeaways

- If the Leadership leads the initiative, multi-Sectoral nutrition programming is possible
- The Nutrition TWG which later transitioned into CHAIN coordination team was/is the mover of the Mission multi-Sectoral nutrition programming
- If the host gov'ts prioritizes multi-sectoral nutrition policy and strategies, implementation becomes easy