

Agriculture to Nutrition (ATONU) – Research Questions for mapping nutrition sensitive interventions (NSI)

Primary Production

Inputs: soil, germplasm (seed varieties, breeds), fertilizer, environmental implications

How can sustainable soil fertility management improve micro-nutrient content in crop and animal products?

How can fertilizer use improve micro-nutrient content in agricultural products (e.g. ZN, Se)?

How can we improve the quality of crop and animal products by using appropriate varieties and breeds (e.g. high protein maize)?

How can we reduce agro-chemical residues in crop and animal products?

Crop Agronomy and Animal husbandry

How can agronomic and animal husbandry practices improve the nutrient content of agricultural products?

How can agronomic and animal husbandry practices be used to minimise contamination of crop and animal products, e.g. aflatoxin

How can harvesting practices prevent leakages of nutrients and improve safety of agricultural products?

How can we save women's labour time in husbandry practices?

Post harvest and marketing

Post-harvest handling, storage, and processing, packaging and marketing

How can post-harvest practices prevent leakages of nutrients?

How can storage practices prevent contamination of products with aflatoxin?

How can micronutrient leakages during storage be minimised?

How can we minimise micronutrient leakages during processing?

How can we save women's labour time in preparing food?

What policy incentives can Governments provide to encourage fortification of foods?

What regulatory mechanism can we promote to improve food safety and quality?

Utilisation and consumption

Quality of food on the plate

What guidelines are needed to influence dietary diversity among smallholder households?

How can women be empowered to make decisions about household diets?

How do social norms and practices affect dietary quality?

Design, Implementation and Evaluation of Interventions

ATONU will do the following:

- Gather secondary data on what each factor in the Ag-value chain can do for nutrition;
- Design, implement and measure, through country implementation partners and existing Ag-projects the impact of different interventions on appropriate factors;
- Analyze the change in nutrient content of a given commodity following the nutrition-sensitive intervention(s);
- Measure the impact of interventions against baseline data;
- Intervene in the areas of diversity of production, dietary diversity and decision-making on dietary composition and women empowerment.



Possible Factors to Consider in Nutrition Sensitive Interventions (e.g. Maize)

- Soil fertility management;
- Fertilizer use;
- Germplasm (seed varieties/animal breeds);
- Agrochemical use and management;
- Agronomy/husbandry practices;
- Harvest practices;
- Storage practices;
- Processing;
- Marketing;
- Gender;
- Environmental sustainability;
- Policy Environment;
- Social practices.



Prioritised Commodities

Cereals



Maize



Millet



Sorghum



Rice

Roots & Tubers



Cassava



Yam



Sweet Potato

Legumes



Beans

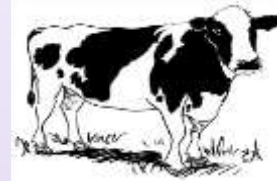


Cow peas

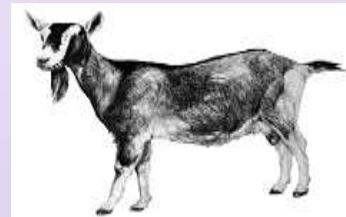


Ground nuts

Livestock



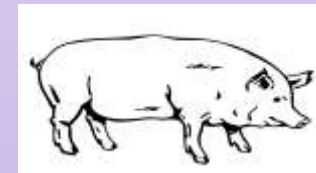
Cow



Goat



Chicken



Pig

Other



Plantain



Local vegetables



Fish

ATONU Project Focal Countries

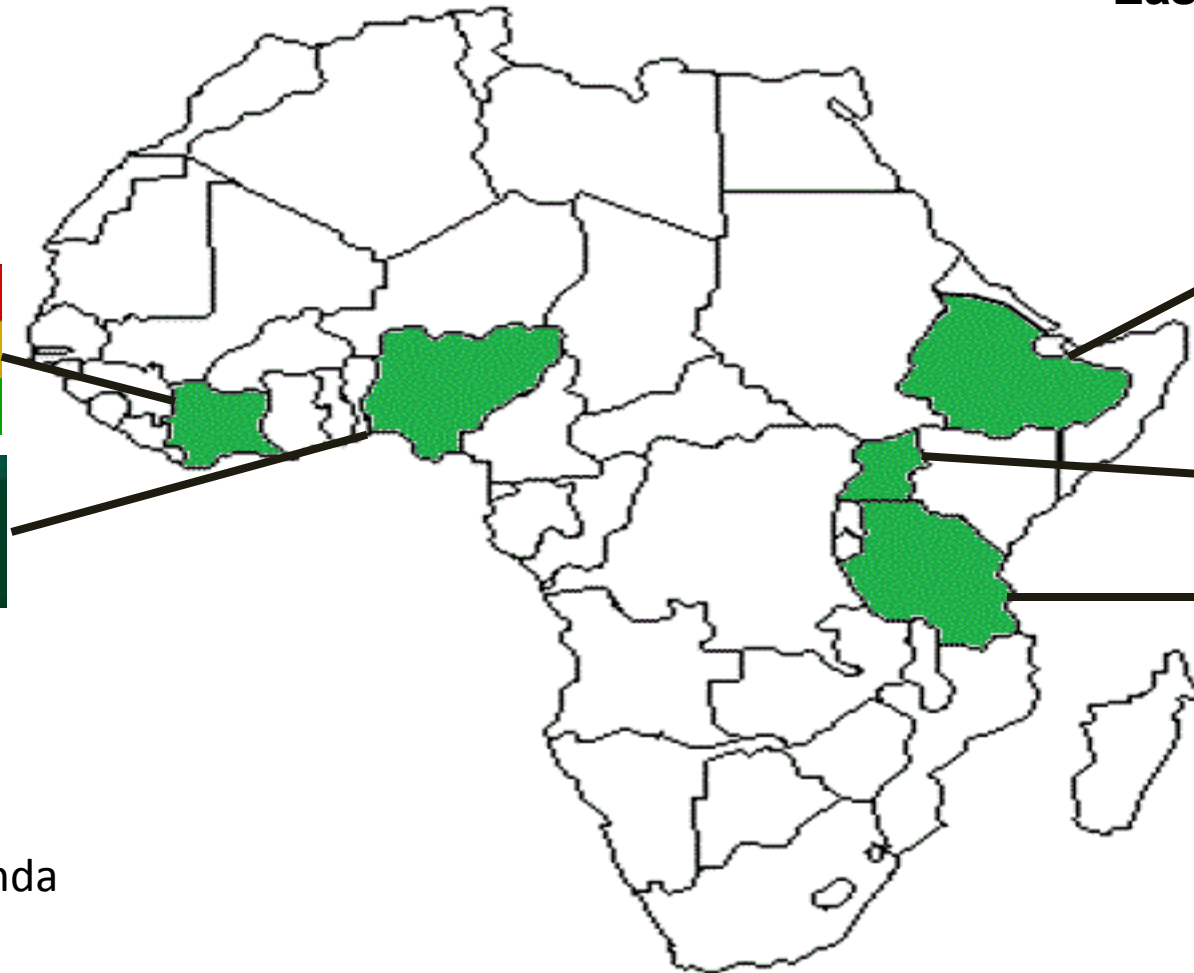
Must Countries

West Africa

Nigeria
Ghana

East Africa

Ethiopia
Tanzania
Uganda



Choice Between:

- Ghana & Uganda



ATONU Work Streams

Four main work packages:

1. **DIMELT** - Design, Intervention, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Tools
2. **POCTA** - Proof Of Concept and Technical Assistance
3. **PACK** - Policy Advocacy, Communications and Knowledge Management
4. **Capacity Building** – will focus on strengthening the capacity of individuals and African institutions involved in the ATONU project which will be a critical requirement for achieving the necessary impact in the four target countries.

Two cross cutting themes:

1. Gender mainstreaming
2. Environmental sustainability

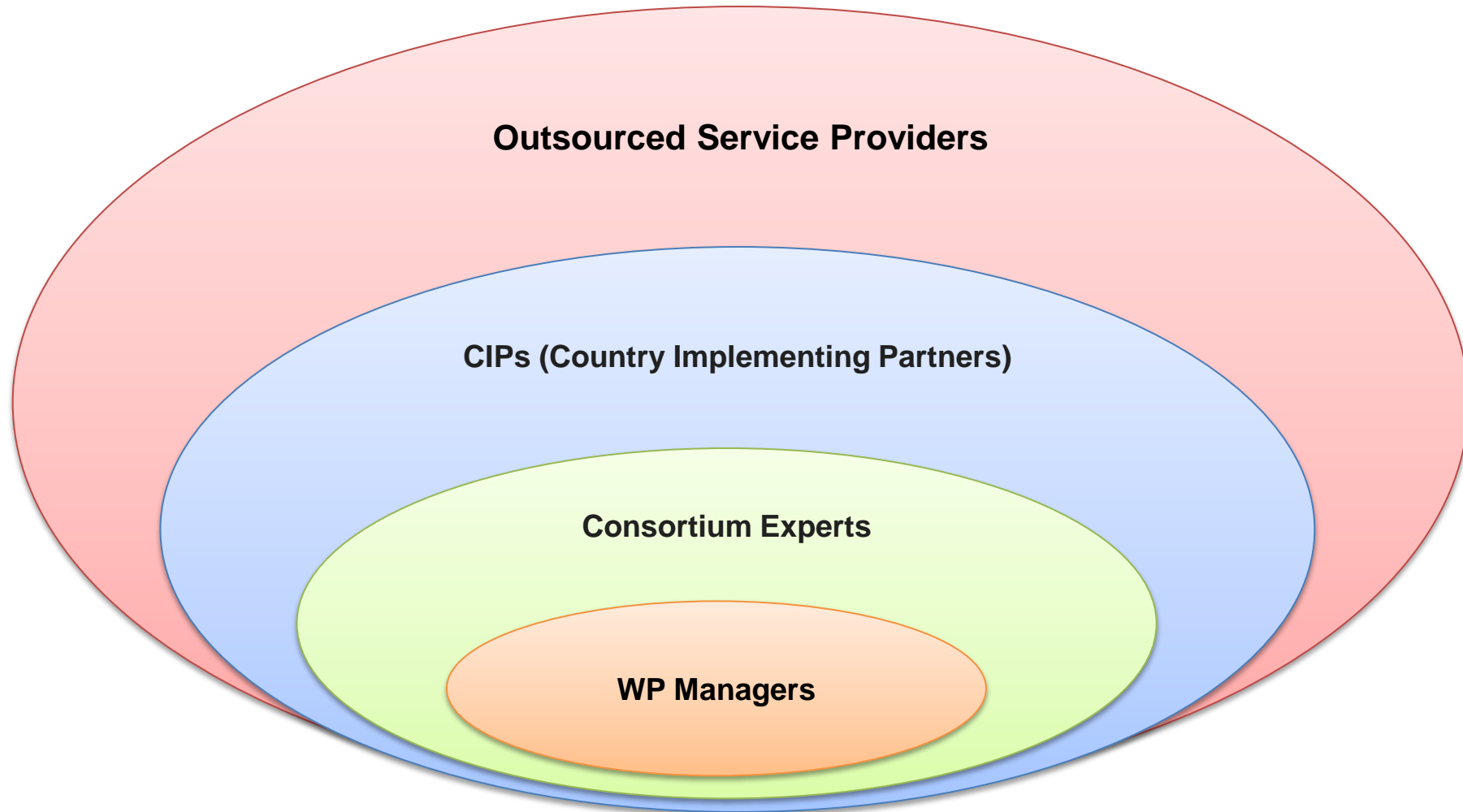


ATONU Consortium Members

<p>Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy Analysis Network (FANRPAN)</p>		<p>www.fanrpan.org</p>
<p>Africa Innovations Institute (AfrII)</p>		<p>www.afrii.org</p>
<p>Agribusiness Systems International (ASI)</p>		<p>www.asintl.org</p>
<p>Farm Africa</p>		<p>www.farmafrica.org</p>
<p>Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health (LCIRAH)/London School of Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)</p>		<p>www.lcirah.ac.uk</p>
<p>Natural Resources Institute (NRI)</p>		<p>www.nri.org</p>
<p>Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA)</p>		<p>www.suanet.ac.tz</p>



ATONU Institutional Arrangements



What ATONU will NOT do

- NOT set up new/independent agriculture-nutrition projects;
- NOT implement nutrition-specific interventions;
- NOT conduct clinical nutritional investigations and measurements, e.g. using blood samples.



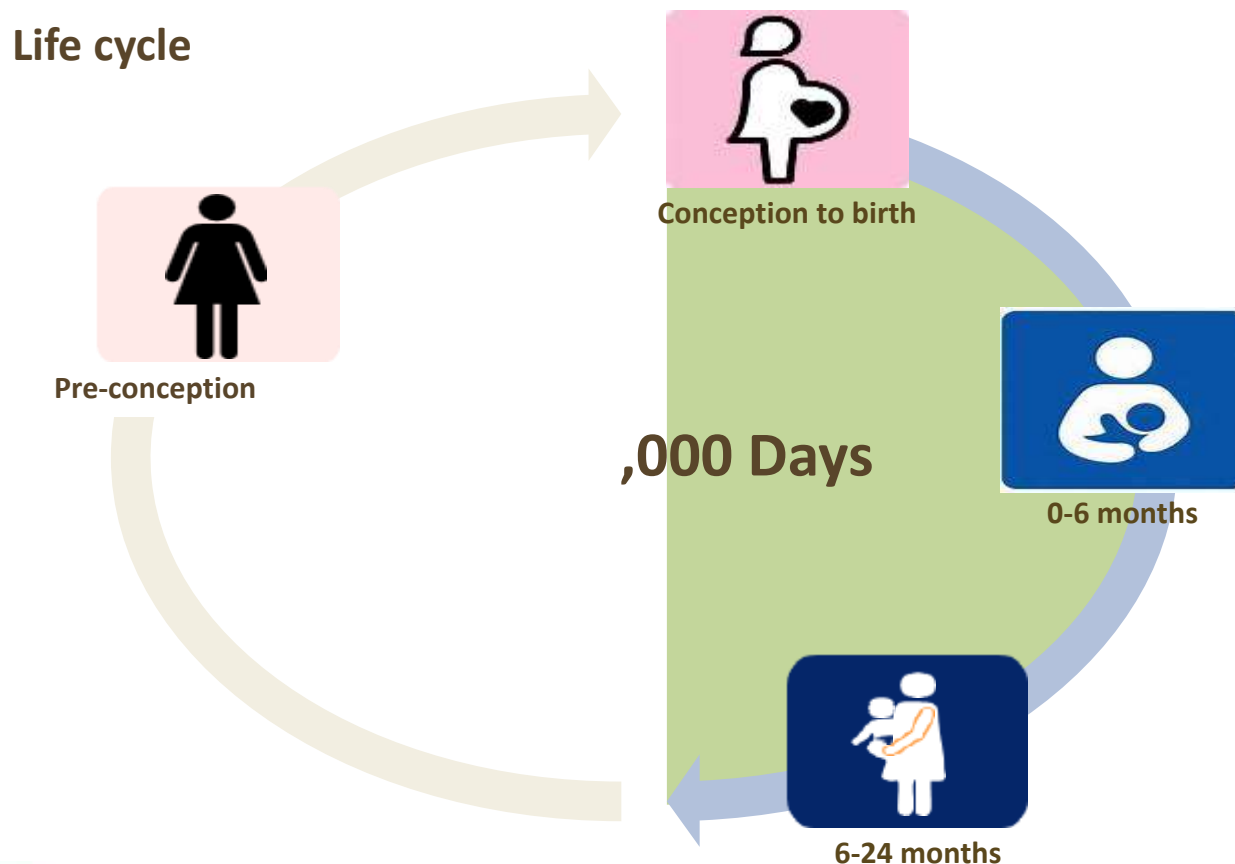
What would ATONU Success Look Like?

1. A unified Consortium that can act as an Advisory Group for similar initiatives.
2. Validated evidence of nutrition interventions delivered through the agricultural sector and lessons and successes from ATONU out-scaled.
3. Ag-Nutrition community of practice in the focal countries, knowledgeable and equipped with evidence on how to design nutrition sensitive agriculture projects.
4. African agricultural organizations institutionalize a culture of working with nutrition and health experts in ensuring that agriculture projects have a positive nutrition impact.
5. Policy makers and investors incorporate a nutrition lens in the design of agricultural policies and programmes.



What would ATONU Impact Look Like?

Healthy rural smallholder farm families



THANK YOU

