



AGRIDIET STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS IN TANZANIA



OBJECTIVES

Overall, to ensure that the findings of the AGRIDIET research influence policy and practice in the respective countries

Specifically:

- i. To facilitate cross-sectoral sharing of experiences in linking agriculture and nutrition
- ii. To tap stakeholders' views on opportunities and constraints to cross-sectoral collaboration
- iii. To identify practical steps for linking agriculture and nutrition



THE WORKSHOPS

- ❑ A total of eight workshops, four in each country, were held at different periods during the duration of the project
- ❑ Four were held at national level and four at District level
- ❑ A total of 177 stakeholders from various sectors - agriculture, nutrition, health, planning, education, water and sanitation, and gender were involved
- ❑ Stakeholders represented different institutions – ministries, local and international NGOs, research institutions, local authorities and donor organisations



MAIN FINDINGS

National level



- Coordination between agriculture and nutrition is improving as National Nutrition Strategies emphasize multi-sectoral collaboration
- However, Nutrition still falls within Ministries of Health while other sectoral ministries do not generally include targets for nutritional outcomes
- Ministries of Agriculture still not well sensitized on nutrition issues
- Lack of reliable data for evidence-based policy and programmatic decisions is a challenge which calls for more research
- Nutrition is still very much seen as a food security or emergency issue, while agriculture is still very much concerned with production
- Implementation of the nutrition strategies is progressing very slowly because of institutional barriers



MAIN FINDINGS

District level

- ❑ There are many interventions dealing with agriculture and with nutrition
- ❑ Nutrition improvement being addressed through production and promotion of nutritious foods
- ❑ Largely driven by NGOs, who are better-placed to link agriculture with nutrition
- ❑ Govt. workers tend to work in silos, and more focused on increasing productivity and production



District level

- Nutrition Officers recruited for every District but their roles and responsibilities still unclear
- Planning at District level is still sectoral with little inter-sectoral collaboration
- Agricultural policies and programmes are generally production-oriented rather than nutrition focused, concerned with main staples with little consideration for diversifying diets
- Lack of financial and human capacity at District level is a real challenge
- Lack of clear guidelines on institutional or sectoral collaboration is a major limitation to collaboration among various actors

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- More involvement of decision makers in stakeholder forums to facilitate a common understanding of the importance of linking agriculture to nutrition outcomes
- Participants in such forums should actively lobby their bosses and colleagues for stronger inter-sectoral collaboration
- Clear guidelines on how to collaborate between sectors should be developed



RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

- There should common indicators or targets across sectors to ensure they are working towards the same goal
- Regular training of staff on nutrition and how agriculture can address under-nutrition
- Funding for nutrition activities needs to be predictable and sustainable

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING



LESSONS FROM AGRIDIET STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOPS IN ETHIOPIA



The Ethiopian part, the objectives of the stakeholders workshop was

To share knowledge among stakeholders on agriculture and nutrition linkage

To see how policies are formulated w.r.t. agriculture and nutrition

Understand the coordination activities done between agriculture and nutrition at regional, woreda and community level after the development of the revised nutrition strategy (2012/13,

Identify problems encountered in coordination among agriculture-nutrition activities

Identify mechanisms to build better coordination and cooperation among stakeholder in nutrition



THE WORKSHOPS

- ❑ A total of 4 stakeholders workshops were in Ethiopia
 - ❑ 2 in Addis Ababa
 - ❑ One in Mekelle
 - ❑ One in Dire Dawa
- ❑ The stakeholders are from agriculture, nutrition, health, planning, education, CSO, Academia,
- ❑ Stakeholders represented different institutions – ministries, local and international NGOs, research institutions, local authorities and donor organisations



MAIN FINDINGS



The implementation of the revised program took much time, and started to be implemented after one years

We realized that there are many pilot programs designed to improve nutrition by NGOs

- school feeding, seed development, soil management, health and nutrition promotion, MN supplementation, capacity building)

Collaborations among stakeholders of nutrition increased since the Nutrition policy has revised

However, there are still challenges that hinders collaborations:



MAIN FINDINGS



The main challenges for collaboration are

- Bureau of health is still the leading body and Bureau of Agriculture is not very involved at national level
- Weak communication between sectors
- Working structures are not supportive of collaboration
- Lack of clear guidelines to collaborative works
- Lack of awareness/knowledge on why collaboration is important
- Unclear roles and responsibilities
- Planning happens in isolation



MAIN FINDINGS



- It was felt that coordination was good between food security and health, but not necessarily nutrition
- Command Posts need clear responsibilities and to be familiarized with the NNP (at woreda and kebele level),
- They should also engage with the development armies (women and men) and consider nutrition in production planning
- Policies are identified as positive for Nutrition outcomes – Agricultural growth and development , but it was noted that this is production focused), NNP, Health policy



Way forward identified by the stakeholder workshop

The need for more policy advocacy work (use of media to propagate successful efforts)

Decision makers need to be involved in discussions and workshops

Experts who attend workshops need to go back and advocate to their decision makers

Clear guidelines are needed for HOW to collaborate between sectors

Common indicators or targets are required across sectors

Regular training of staff on nutrition issues, and why agriculture is important and how it can help address undernutrition is required

Way forward identified by the stakeholder workshop

As an incentive

- Creation of a database and documentation on who is doing what and communication
- Creation of forum at different levels for planning and sharing of experience
- Interventions should be presented to the regional technical groups

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING