The USAID Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy: Coordinating Nutrition-Sensitive Agricultural Interventions

Speakers
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Facilitator
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Upcoming Agrilinks Events:

• #AskAg Twitter Chat | July 24th | Linking Agriculture, Nutrition, and USAID Strategy

• AgExchange | July 28th – August 1st | Animal Science Research Priorities
Michael Manske
USAID Bureau for Global Health

Michael (Mike) Manske is the Nutrition Advisor in the Nutrition Division of the Office of Health, Infectious Disease and Nutrition within the Bureau for Global Health at USAID. Mike provides broad expertise in food security, nutrition programming, and monitoring and evaluation of nutrition programs. He serves as the Social and Behavior Change and Communication point of contact for the Nutrition team. Prior to USAID, Mike worked for over ten years with various non-governmental organizations in Africa and the United States. He holds a Master’s in Public Health Degree from Tulane University School of Public Health.
Sally Abbott
USAID Bureau for Food Security
Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy 2014-2025

Agriculture Sector Council Webinar

Mike Manske, Melanie Thurber and Sally Abbott, Nutrition Advisors, USAID

July 23, 2014
USAID Nutrition Legacy

For over 50 years, USAID has been a leader in international efforts to improve nutritional status in developing countries:

- Food for Peace (1950s)
- Food Technology for Development Program (1969)
- Multi-sectoral Nutrition Planning and Programming (1970s)
- Consumption Effects of Agricultural and Economic Policies (1970s)
- Social and Behavior Change Communications (1970s)
USAID Nutrition Legacy

- Nutrition Collaborative Research Support Program (1970s)
- Micronutrients Vitamin A and Iron Deficiency Anemia (1970s)
- Global Advocacy
- Breastfeeding Promotion (1970s)
- Essential Nutrition Actions (1997)
- Capacity Building
- Nutrition Assessment and Counseling (2000s)
- CMAM (2002)
- FTF & GHI (2009)
USAID Comparative Advantages in Nutrition

- Fifty years of investments, experiences, and successes in nutrition provide a strong foundation on which to build upon.
- USAID’s multi-sectoral development programs enable planning, programming, and learning across sectors to improve nutritional outcomes.
- The reach and strength of its programs in more than 100 countries provide a large delivery platform for scaling up nutrition services.
- USAID’s support to programs at all levels - national, regional, and particularly community.
Global Nutrition Challenges

• In 2011, under-nutrition contributed to 45 percent of under-five child deaths

• Malnutrition is comprised of:
  ✓ under-nutrition - stunting, underweight, acute malnutrition, and micronutrient deficiencies
  ✓ over-nutrition - overweight and obesity

• The first 1,000 days is the most vulnerable period and the window of opportunity to intervene

• Malnutrition is both a cause and consequence of poverty: it negatively affects all aspects of an individual’s health and development and limits societies’ economic and social development.
Countries with the Highest Burden of Stunting

The Lancet, Maternal and Child Nutrition, June 2013

Figure 3: Countries with the highest burden of malnutrition
These 34 countries account for 90% of the global burden of malnutrition.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Deaths per day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undernutrition (2013)</td>
<td>8,488</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holocaust (1941-45)</td>
<td>7,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Congo War (1998-2003)</td>
<td>2,959</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopian Famine (1983)</td>
<td>639</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More severe stunting, higher risk of death from infections.

Background for Strategy

- GHI and FTF initiatives with nutrition as a critical link

- Civil society advocacy for USG leadership and commitment to nutrition

- World Health Assembly targets 2025 and Nutrition for Growth Commitments for 2020

Aim of the Strategy

To guide the Agency’s policies and programs for nutrition in both emergency and development contexts with the goal of improving nutrition to save lives, build resilience, increase economic productivity, and advance development.
Process of Strategy Development

Technical Working Group Membership

- Bureau for Africa
- Bureau for Asia
- BFS Office of Country Strategy and Implementation
- BFS Office of Agricultural Research and Policy
- BFS Office of Strategic Planning and Performance Management
- DCHA Office of Food for Peace
- DCHA Office of US Foreign Disaster and Assistance
- GH Office of Health, Infectious Diseases and Nutrition: MCH Division
- GH Office of Health, Infectious Diseases and Nutrition: Nutrition Division
- GH Office of HIV/AIDS
- GH Office of Population and Reproductive Health
- Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment
- Bureau Latin America and the Caribbean
- Bureau for Policy, Planning and Learning
- Office of Budget and Resource Management

Feedback from over 100 individuals:

- Feedback from 22 Missions
- Extended technical team comprised of other USG agencies
- Individuals representing 35 INGOs, CSOs, networks, partners, and other donors

USAID Steering Committee:

- Chaired by DAA of Bureau for Food Security
- Senior Official from all Bureaus and Offices within the Agency
The Vision

• Set and Monitor Nutrition Targets

• Manage Nutrition Funds and Programs in a Rigorous Manner

• Focus on High Impact Actions
Our Goals

• Contribute to the reduction of child stunting by 20% wherever we work
• In GH, FTF and Food for Peace intervention areas, reduce the number of stunted children by 2 million over five years
• In humanitarian crises, maintain Global Acute Malnutrition below 15%
Rigorous Management

- Concentrate resources in target countries
- Set clear objectives
- Regularly monitor outcomes and impact
- Directly support the country’s own nutrition plan
- Increase impact and improve cost-effectiveness by better integrating our nutrition efforts across multiple sectors (health, agriculture, water, humanitarian)
High Impact Actions

- Special focus on the 1,000 day window from pregnancy to the child’s 2nd birthday
- Maternal nutrition, optimal breastfeeding, dietary diversity, community-based management of acute malnutrition
- Integrating key WASH actions
- Improved prevention and treatment of acute malnutrition including commodities
Sustainability

- Responsible private sector action to spur production & shape consumption patterns towards nutritious foods
- Increased number of professionals, especially women, trained and working in nutrition
- Political will by national governments
- Strong civil society engagement
- Global leadership, including expanding evidence for nutrition-sensitive agriculture
**USAID NUTRITION STRATEGY RESULTS FRAMEWORK GOAL**

Improve nutrition to save lives, build resilience, increase economic productivity, and advance development

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**STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE**

Scale up effective, integrated nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions, programs, and systems across humanitarian and development contexts

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**INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1**

Increased equitable provision and utilization of high-quality nutrition services

1.1 Increased timely delivery of critical services before and during humanitarian crises

1.2 Increased availability of and access to high-quality nutrition-specific services and commodities

1.3 Increased availability of and access to high-quality nutrition-sensitive services and commodities

1.4 Improved social and behavior change strategies and approaches for both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities

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**INTERMEDIATE RESULT 2**

Increased country capacity and commitment to nutrition

2.1 Increased professional and institutional capacity

2.2 Increased political will and resources for nutrition programs

2.3 Increased stakeholder engagement around national nutrition goals

2.4 Improved systems to plan, manage, and evaluate nutrition programs

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**INTERMEDIATE RESULT 3**

Increased multi-sectoral programming and coordination for improved nutrition outcomes

3.1 Increased joint planning across humanitarian and development sectors

3.2 Strengthened coordinated multi-sectoral programming and planning among nutrition stakeholders within the U.S. Government and at the country level

3.3 Strengthened engagement with the private sector to improve nutrition

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**INTERMEDIATE RESULT 4**

Increased nutrition leadership

4.1 Improved global coordination among donors, international organizations, partner countries, and other stakeholders addressing nutrition

4.2 Strengthened and expanded nutrition evidence base

4.3 Increased generation of innovative practices and technologies

4.4 Increased application of evidence-based approaches and innovation, including use of technology
Strategy Rollout

- More intensive nutrition efforts (not just reach children but promote behavior change)
- This means regular, quality contacts with mothers, households and communities
- Reinforced by community leaders, the formal health system, agricultural extension, mass media, etc.
- Tracking impact of behavior change messaging
Intensive Nutrition Programs

Four planks to intensive nutrition programs:

• Regular, quality **contacts** with mothers/direct caregivers
• Behavior change **messages** reinforced by government, communities, and media
• **Nutrition-sensitive**, health, agriculture, WASH
• Improve quality and expanded collection and use of **data**
Measuring Results

• Track outcome indicator(s) in target intervention areas (e.g., EBF, minimum acceptable diet, women’s dietary diversity, micronutrient supplementation/fortification, hand-washing, introduction of animal source foods)
• Tailor output indicator(s) that measure the intensified approach, e.g. coverage, commodity accessibility
• Improve and expand nutrition data collection and use, including nutrition assessment and surveillance.
Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture
What does this mean for you?
Definitions

- *Nutrition-specific interventions* - address the immediate determinants of malnutrition.

- *Nutrition-sensitive interventions* - address the underlying and systemic causes of malnutrition.
What is Nutrition-Sensitive for USAID?

- Agriculture and Food Security
- WASH
- Early Child Development-care at maternal, household and community levels.
- Access to Health Services
- Women’s Empowerment
- Social Safety Nets
## USAID Nutrition Strategy Results Framework Goal

Improve nutrition to save lives, build resilience, increase economic productivity, and advance development

### Strategic Objective

Scale up effective, integrated nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions, programs, and systems across humanitarian and development contexts

### Intermediate Result 1

**Increased equitable provision and utilization of high-quality nutrition services**

1.1 Increased timely delivery of critical services before and during humanitarian crises

1.2 Increased availability of and access to high-quality nutrition-specific services and commodities

1.3 Increased availability of and access to high-quality nutrition-sensitive services and commodities

1.4 Improved social and behavior change strategies and approaches for both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive activities

### Intermediate Result 2

**Increased country capacity and commitment to nutrition**

2.1 Increased professional and institutional capacity

2.2 Increased political will and resources for nutrition programs

2.3 Increased stakeholder engagement around national nutrition goals

2.4 Improved systems to plan, manage, and evaluate nutrition programs

### Intermediate Result 3

**Increased multi-sectoral programming and coordination for improved nutrition outcomes**

3.1 Increased joint planning across humanitarian and development sectors

3.2 Strengthened coordinated multi-sectoral programming and planning among nutrition stakeholders within the U.S. Government and at the country level

3.3 Strengthened engagement with the private sector to improve nutrition

### Intermediate Result 4

**Increased nutrition leadership**

4.1 Improved global coordination among donors, international organizations, partner countries, and other stakeholders addressing nutrition

4.2 Strengthened and expanded nutrition evidence base

4.3 Increased generation of innovative practices and technologies

4.4 Increased application of evidence-based approaches and innovation, including use of technology
Roll Out of Strategy within Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (Horticulture)

- Horticulture, aquaculture, legume, and livestock programs become more nutrition-sensitive
- As appropriate, track consumption of these nutritious foods in our zones of influence
- Have nutrition targets and activities in horticulture, aquaculture, livestock, and legume programs
- **Vision:** by end of 2015, have more intensive nutrition programs in place in FTF zones of influence
How is USAID looking at the Nutrition-Agriculture Nexus differently?

• New ways of looking at program designs – see results framework
• Greater variety of service delivery platforms (economic growth and health offices at mission level)
• Strengthening evidence base (food safety, e.g. mycotoxins)
• Policy level – SUN movement, country commitment also includes agriculture
• Plans for additional technical guidance and TA to missions forthcoming
Thank you for joining us!

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Stay In Touch

Contact Us:
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Upcoming Events

#AskAg Twitter Chat
Nutrition | July 24

AgExchange
Animal Science
Research Priorities
July 28 – Aug 1

Agrilinks and the AG Sector Council Seminar Series are products of the USAID Bureau for Food Security under the Feed the Future Knowledge-Driven Agricultural Development (KDAD) project.