



# THE USAID MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION STRATEGY: COORDINATING NUTRITION-SENSITIVE AGRICULTURAL INTERVENTIONS

---

WEBINAR CHAT TRANSCRIPT

JULY 23, 2014

## PRESENTERS

Michael (Mike) Manske, USAID Bureau for Global Health, Office of Health Infectious Disease and Nutrition

Sally Abbott, USAID Bureau for Food Security

Melanie Thurber, USAID Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance, Office of Food for Peace

Julie MacCartee, USAID Bureau for Food Security (Webinar Facilitator)

## WEBINAR CHAT TRANSCRIPT

**USAID Agrilinks:** If you've got any questions on the strategy so far, please do enter it into the chatbox!

**Havaca Ganguly:** Yes! I can hear this beautifully.

**KDAD AV Tech:** Thank you Havaca

**Jessica Wallach:** Could I ask that the presenter slow down a little bit? I don't have time to read the slides at all before it is changed to the next one.

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** you mentioned that you will create regular contact with mothers but why not focusing on role of men in nutrition of the family?

**Sabiu Auwal:** Is the soft copy of the presentation available for download later.

**UFITINEMA Adeline:** sorry i had a troubleshooting probleme, but now its okey

**Pinaki Panigrahi:** Does USAID scale-up nutrition sensitive agriculture or also support research and development of the same?

**USAID Agrilinks:** Yes, the presentation is available as a PDF at the end of the presentation

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** yes it is available.

**Sabiu Auwal:** Thanks for the info.

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** welcome

**Sullivan Kenneth Kandulu:** Does USAID link up with organizations that are doing or trying to improve nutrition and what do you look for

**Elizabeth Dodsworth:** What is the evidence that growing crops for income translates in better nutrition? Wouldn't it be better to focus on behaviour change in consumption

**Mary Allen:** how does the framework line up with FRESH & SABER?

**USAID Agrilinks:** thanks for the Qs so far! Can you please restate your name and org as you ask your Q? thanks!

**regine Nihoreho:** Speak louder please

**Todd Kirkbride:** How does USAID Strategy/programming align with GAIN and its agenda?

This document was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by the Feed the Future Knowledge-Driven Agricultural Development (KDAD) project. The views expressed are those of the author and do not represent the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

**Elizabeth Dodsworth:** how will be the evidence base be strengthened - what about access to the evidence base - information divide is that addressed

**Jessica Wallach:** Could you go into more detail on ways in which the private sector can be engaged to improve nutritional outcomes? This is from USAID/West Africa

**Katherine Stephens:** Jean, thanks for phrasing my same question well (men and nutrition)

**Pinaki Panigrahi:** Fundamental Question: Does USAID scale-up nutrition sensitive agriculture or also support research and development of the same?

**Mirette Ohman:** Mirette Seireg Ohman: What approaches have worked for tracking stunting rates during the life of projects?

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** sound is not ok

**\_ Ladd:** The biggest challenge with changing cash crops to consumption is the opportunity costs. Often a family has to get to a certain "tipping" point before they will consume. For example meat in Ethiopia is 6-8 times more expensive so bselling and then buying other foods is preferred due to cost opportunities

**Sarah Marshall:** Elizabeth, I think that in order to get nutrition buy in from small holder farmers, there has to be a livelihood and income generation component.....Mike or Sally, is that the thought process? Start with agriculture improvements and cross cut with behavior change curriculum?

**Kathleen Kurz:** Here at Malawi FTF-INVC we are integrating nutrition objectives into this USAID FTF project, with the agriculturists and nutritionists striving to improve maternal and child feeding, care and growth, as well as legume productivity and competitiveness. There are not, however, very many FTF projects integrating nutrition and agriculture simultaneously. What are the plans going forward?

**regine Nihoreho:** Which strategy Usaid will use to brise the different food habits

**Judy Canahuati:** Sound has gone

**\_ Ladd:** Judy I have sound

**Eunice Bonsi:** How do you intend to work with the existing NIL and HORT IL to collaborate and focus more on the sensitivity interventions

**Judy Canahuati:** Its coming and going.

**Karen Latham:** Hello, this is Karen Latham, CRS Guatemala. We would like to know if you have studied different ways to set up field teams and community organizational models that contribute to the integration of agriculture and nutrition/health interventions in the field and with participant families?

**Michael Viola:** Michael A. Viola: what specifically is being done so that activities with nutrition results are required in the Implementation Plans and Results Frameworks of agriculture projects. Without such specific activites, nutrition-sensitive development, which is critical, will not, based on my experience, be taken seriously and considered as important as traditional activities and results by Implementation Partners.

**Susan Pologruto:** I second Karen's question because it also relates to efective civil society engagement...

**Sullivan Kenneth Kandulu:** sullivan kenneth kandulu, play soccer malawi. we are trying to introduce school garden as a way of improving nutrition and teach the children how to grow them. we would love to work or learn more from USAID

**Daniel Bailey:** Here in Guatemala we've seen that income growth alone has not impacted chronic malnutrition. But other evidence shows that income growth is important to sustain the nutrition specific interventions.

**Judy Payne:** what are some concrete examples of behavior change being used to overcome cultural traditions that do not reflect good nutrition practices.

**Daniel Bailey:** It's also very specific to each country and people group.

**\_ Ladd:** most small holder farmers are 70% net buyers so we need to be focusing on how they spend their incomes...not that increase consumption of crops they do grow is not also important

**Judy Payne:** Are governments taking up this effort as well? which ones are great examples?

**Anina Tardif-Douglin:** we can't hear!

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** Welcome Katherine.!

**Theophilus Jlateh:** I cannot hear anything!!! Is that me or the general line?

**Amanda Pearson:** Amanda Pearson from Harvard: Within the USAID nutrition framework, IR 3 is to increase multisectoral programming. What is USAID's guidance on how to coordinate among siloed ministries at the country level? For example, how to encourage Ministries of Ag and Minstries of Health work together at the outset to improve nutrition?

**\_ Ladd:** I can hear clearly

**KDAD AV Tech:** Is anyone else having sound issues?

**Carol Jenkins:** Any thoughts on how to get extremely poor households to consume some level of animal-based products? Many keep the animals as a safety-net to meet emergency needs.

**Havaca Ganguly:** I am not having sound issues.

**Sonya Kibler:** my sound is not an issue at all

**Zachary Baquet:** I hear clearly

**KDAD AV Tech:** Please respond if you're able to hear clearly or not.

**Cynthia Donovan:** I am having sound come and go.

**KDAD AV Tech:** Thanks!

**Jean-Claude Bizimana:** yes

**UFITINEMA Adeline:** the sound is well

**Kathleen Kurz:** Our sound is good.

**Theophilus Jlateh:** Not Hearing anything

**Katherine Stephens:** no issues with sound (IL, USA)

**Susan Pologruto:** Yes, I can hear...sound is good.

**Patricia Neenan:** sound is good

**Theophilus Jlateh:** Good, I can hear now

**Elizabeth Dodsworth:** I can hear clearly

**Jean-Claude Bizimana:** sound is on and off

**\_ Ladd:** We have a FtF market systems strengthening program and we have integrated nutrition into that program

**Cynthia Donovan:** I would include the Legume Innovation Lab along with others, working on both evidence and with Assocaite awards with Mission.

**Carol Jenkins:** Question from Carol Jenkins with USAID/Malawi team

**Jay Papisan:** What role do you see for biofortification going forward in USAID's nutrition strategy?

**KDAD AV Tech:** FYI, there is a slight lag from our control room to the Adobe servers, but you should be hearing all conversation with some slight natural pauses as we determine who's taking the question

**KDAD AV Tech:** If you don't have any sound, please make sure you're not using the Google Chrome browser

**KDAD AV Tech:** If you are using Chrome, please close that and try opening the webinar in Mozilla Firefox or Internet Explorere

**ROD Dubitsky:** Is there recommended best practice for nutrition messaging and BCC? EG more effective via existing institutions like schools, religious leaders, etc or are community based nutrition committes more effective?

**UFITINEMA Adeline:** i see that you are focusing on agriculture to improve nutrition,so how about economie?

**Daniel Bailey:** @KDAD AV Tech. I'm using chrome just fine. No addons though.

**Carol Jenkins:** Carol Jenkins - USAID/Malawi - Comment rather than question - It would be most useful to get some examples from non-pastorial areas and animal product consumption. We have difficulty getting people to eat eggs, and milk consumption is very difficult in some cultures. I would greatly appreciate any other lessons learned. Thanks!

**Amanda Pearson:** Thank you, Mike.

**USAID Agrilinks:** for those of you online, if you have some examples to share, please do!

**Beatrice Rogers:** The focus on evidence-driven programming is welcome. is there provision for building in evaluation designs at the time the programs are initiated, so that impact can be attributed to the intervention?

**USAID Agrilinks:** Thanks for the Q Beatrice, can you remind us where you're joining from and your org?

**\_ Ladd:** carol Jenkins: until we get HH to a certain level of food security (total energy) most will not consume meat, dairy or eggs as they can sell that and buy cheaper foods that wll fill their bellies. Does not mean we don't

continue to message about the importance. Not much here in the US among our poorest are still going to eat cheapest food which is not animal source proteins.

**USAID Agrilinks:** and for all of you asking questions, don't forget to restate your org and location!

**Beatrice Rogers:** I'm from Friedman Nutrition School Tufts Univ

**regine Nihoreho:** In some african country, there are problems for access to animals proteins, which strategy for to access on this kind of food to the vulnerables houtholds? Thanks

**Francis Tucungwirwe:** Hi Francis Tucungwirwe, Value Addition Institute, kampala uganda. Just joining

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** Comment: for me I think that to create a sustainable solution to stunting reduction and eradication , it could be better also to target youth because :

**Jessica Bachay 2:** Are others not hearing the presenters? (not using Chrome)

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** stunting rate is increased by prostitution and ignorance about family planning and child spacement

**\_Ladd:** I am not using chrome and I can hear clearly

**Aurelie Attard Espinoza:** Chemonics International, Washington DC: could you tell us more about important gender considerations in the nutrition strategy and share best practices from programs that have successfully integrated gender into their activities?

**Sukhi Dosanjh:** Can you please repeat the question that was just asked

**USAID Agrilinks:** We've got a few minutes left! If you've got a question the time to ask is now!

**Cynthia Donovan:** Linked to Judy Payne's question, what is the evidence that behavior changes is more or less effective if all household members are engaged in educational programming (men and women, children)?

**UFITINEMA Adeline:** Adeline ufitinema intern at crs rwanda.i would like to ask if it will be possible to get all questions asked and answers ?thanks

**USAID Agrilinks:** ALL: I am pulling up some end polls - please take a minute to fill them out before you leave!

**USAID Agrilinks:** Ufitinema, if we have not answered your question so far we will try to follow up with the presenters after the presentation and post answers to the event page. A transcript of this event will also be posted on Agrilinks in about a week

**Reena Borwankar:** A more basic question - is there an operational definition for "integration" the strategy is adopting in its roll-out?

**Daniel Bailey:** Yes, Reena's question is very important to us in Guatemala.

**Carol Jenkins:** USAID/Malawi - the Government of Malawi is making an effort to end harmful traditional practices. The ones around nutrition are communicated through the community health workers.

**Hannah Guedenet:** Just wanted to encourage everyone to continue the conversation with ACDI/VOCA, GAIN, and IFPRI at noon (EST) today. Join our webinar, "Nutritious Value Chains: Unpacking the Black Box": <https://acdivoca.adobeconnect.com/brownbag/?launcher=false>

**USAID Agrilinks:** Yes, the webinar Hannah mentions should be a nice complement to this one!

**Hannah Guedenet:** Thanks @USAID Agrilinks!

**Jeremiah Tellewoyan:** when is it going to be hosted

**Daniel Bailey:** @Mike Manske - Please talk to SPRING, they presented us a guide toward integration a couple months ago.

**Hannah Guedenet:** @Jeremiah we are starting at 12pm DC time!

**Sullivan Kenneth Kandulu:** where can we download the slides

**Jeremiah Tellewoyan:** Thanks

**UFITINEMA Adeline:** Adeline UFITINEMA ,Student at UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA,HUMAN NUTRITION AND DIETETIC DEPARTMENT L3,intern at CRS.THANKS for imformation am waiting for answer and am very happy to attend the presentation Webinar,thanks

**USAID Agrilinks:** @Sullivan: The slides are available in the box on the left

**Havaca Ganguly:** Thank you!

**Patricia Orlowitz:** thank you

**Sullivan Kenneth Kandulu:** seen them n thanks

**\_ Ladd:** I was not suggesting there is one specific tipping point but until a HH has reached a point they are security they most often will not consume cash crops\

**USAID Agrilinks:** Ufitinema I don't believe I caught your question. Can you post it again?

**Carol Jenkins:** Thank you for hosting at a time that allows so many people to participate!!

**regine Nihoreho:** Thank you

**Fatimata Ouattara:** Thank you

**Patricia Neenan:** thank you

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** thank you for this discussions

**Goulda Downer:** Thank you all - this was quite informative

**USAID Agrilinks:** Thanks to everyone for joining us today! We will post a recording of this event on the agrilinks event page and a number of additional resources within a week!

**Jean Yves Ntimugura:** thanks

**Jennifer Rigg :** Thank you!

**Sarah Marshall:** Thank you for all the great information!

**Karen Latham:** Thank you!

**Silke Pietzsch:** Thanks guys!

**Julie MacCartee:** We really appreciate your attendance and hope this was useful to your work

**Francis Tucungwirwe:** Thank you team. Hope you send us the presentations! Francis T, VAI, Kampala

**KDAD AV Tech:** Thank you all for an excellent webinar. We'll leave the room open for about 10 minutes so you can download the powerpoint presentations and catch up with your colleagues

**Julie MacCartee:** We will send the presentation to all who attended

**Sullivan Kenneth Kandulu:** many thanks

**Francis Tucungwirwe:** K. thanks Julie

**Julie MacCartee:** Thank you, all - have a good day or evening!

**Patricia Neenan:** Julie when will the recording of the webinar be available? Thanks

**regine Nihoreho:** I Think you will share the slides

**USAID Agrilinks:** the recording should be up later this week. You will receive an email when everything is up on our site

**Patricia Neenan:** Thank you

**KDAD AV Tech:** Thanks again all, see you in September!