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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative



Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Design Guide

Practical Guidance for Implementing Partners
February 26, 2020

Photo courtesy of the SPRING project



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USAID ADVANCING NUTRITION
The Agency's Flagship Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Project



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Welcome

In this webinar, the USAID Advancing Nutrition team is joined by the Feed the Future Rwanda Hinga Weze activity, and USAID Bureau of Food Security to talk about the Design Guide, its origin story, the Hinga Weze experience using it, and USAID's vision for its use around the world.

Speakers:

Ingrid Weiss, Senior Nutrition Advisor, Bureau for Food Security

Sarah McClung, Technical Advisor, USAID Advancing Nutrition

Daniel Gies, Hinga Weze Chief of Party

Laurence Mukamana, Hinga Weze Deputy Chief of Party,

Olivier Habimana, Hinga Weze Director of BMFD

Jeanne d'Arc Nyirajyambere, Hinga Weze Director of Nutrition Programs

Heather Danton, Project Director, USAID Advancing Nutrition



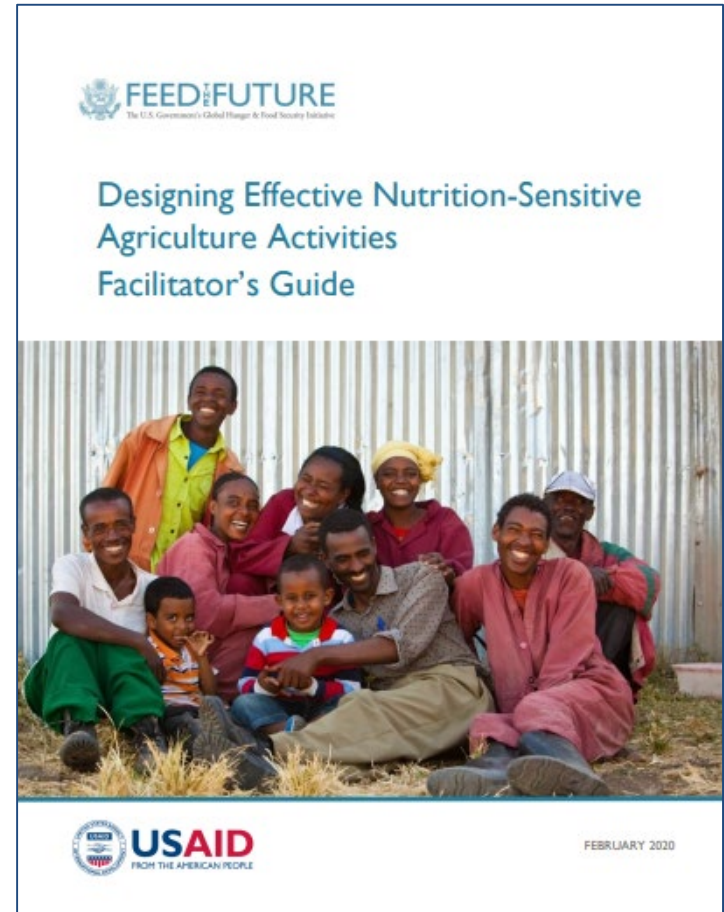
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The Bureau for Food Security

- Agriculture activities are not inherently nutrition-sensitive.
- Explicit thought is required during design and implementation to ensure positive impact on nutrition.
- Need for a practical guide for implementers





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The Bureau for Food Security

Vision for Guide: to help activity designers and implementers to develop appropriate nutrition-sensitive agriculture outcomes, interventions and indicators that will help integrate nutrition-sensitive approaches into their main agriculture/income-focused intervention



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Design Guide FAQs

- What is it exactly?
- Who is it for?
- When do you use it?
- Where can you find it?



Photo by Andrew Cunningham



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Inside the Guide

- The Guide begins with a background section on essential nutrition concepts
- A set of nutrition-sensitive agriculture outcomes are provided
- Participants think through their activity's nutrition-sensitive agriculture outcomes and corresponding strategies, practices, interventions, and indicators.



Photo courtesy of SPRING



Six Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcomes

- Improved **availability** of diverse, nutrient-rich foods in local markets
- Improved **affordability** of diverse, nutrient-rich foods in local markets
- Improved **desirability** of diverse, nutrient-rich foods among target consumers
- Improved environmental and **food safety**
- Increased **income control by women** and equitable opportunities
- Increased **time and energy** savings for women





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Activity Design Matrix

Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcome	Strategy	Practice	Intervention	Indicator



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Hinga Weze: Description of the program

- *What is Hinga Weze:* A \$33m, 5-year (2017-2022) USAID-funded initiative to **sustainably increase smallholder farmers' income, improve nutritional status of Rwandan women and children, and increase the resilience of the agriculture and food systems to the changing climate.**
- Hinga Weze achieves its results by effecting **behavior change at the household and community levels that prioritizes collaboration with partners** including the Government of Rwanda (GoR), as well as USAID and the wider development community.

**The Hinga Weze Motto: Produce more,
Sell more and Eat better!!!**



Hinga Weze deliverables and indicators are focused on better nutrition, more sales, higher levels of value-added processing and better agro-inputs that are benefiting thousands of farmers.



Hinga Weze: Description of the Program

As the project reaches now its halfway point, it has focused on the following activities:

- I. Implementation of program targets in 10 Rwandan districts.
- II. Changing the dynamic in agro-inputs and climate change.
- III. Providing policy advice and support to MINAGRI/RAB.
- IV. Sustainably transferring activities to local partners in Y3-4.
- V. Implementing new and innovative tools to achieve targets!



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Hinga Weze: Location of the Program

Map of Hinga Weze Target Districts

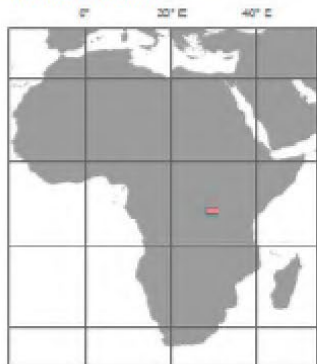
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Legend

- ★ Hinga Weze Head Office
- ★ Hinga Weze Field Office
- Main Roads
- Lakes
- Hinga Weze Supported Districts
- District Boundary
- Province Boundary

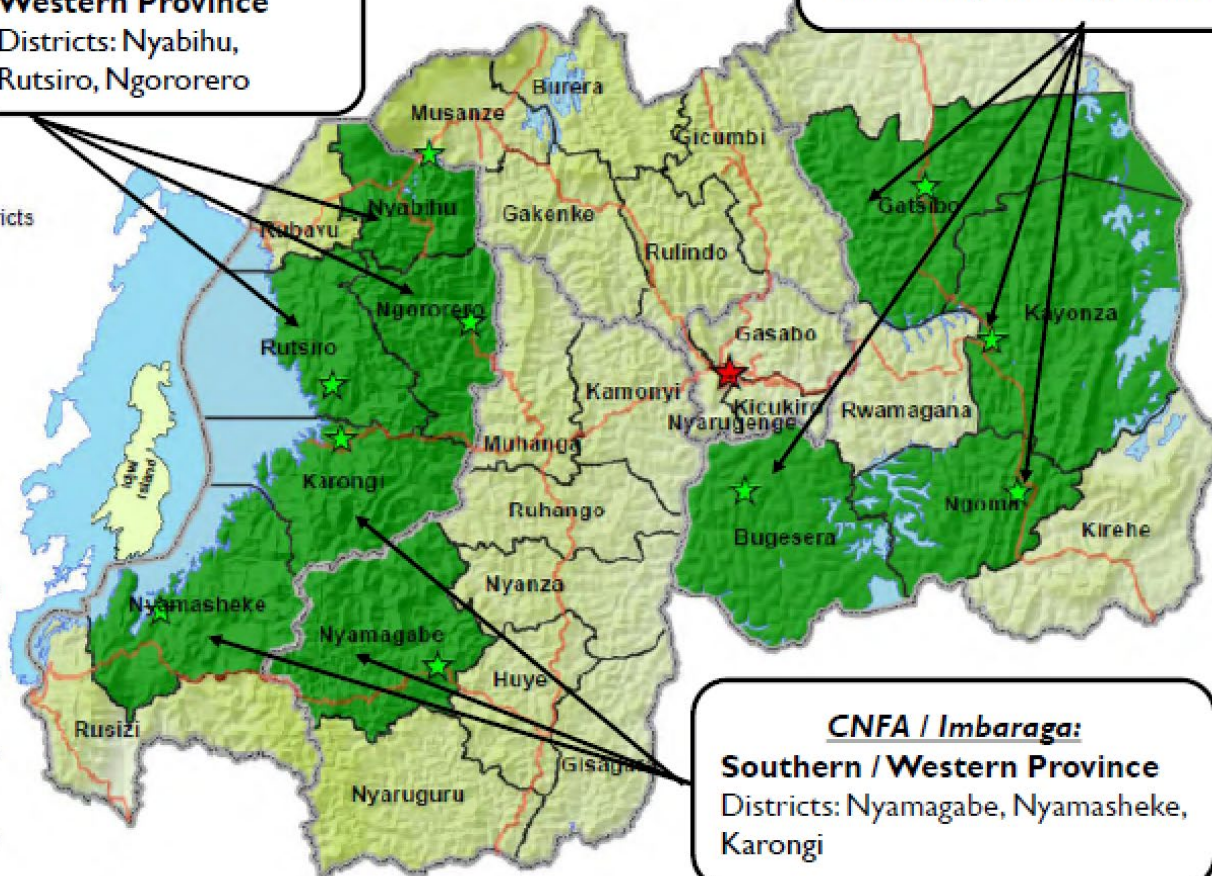
Source:
Administrative Boundaries revised by
MINALOC and NISR, 2005
Lakes, Roads digitized from
Topographic Maps (1988) by CGIS-NUR

Projection:
Rwanda Local Projection 92
Transverse Mercator



CNFA / Imbaraga:
Western Province
Districts: Nyabihu,
Rutsiro, Ngororero

CNFA / RDO:
Eastern Province - Districts:
Gatsibo, Kayonza, Bugesera, Ngoma



CNFA / Imbaraga:
Southern / Western Province
Districts: Nyamagabe, Nyamasheke,
Karongi



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Hinga Weze Components



Component 1:
Agriculture productivity
sustainably increased



Component 2:
Farmers' market access
improved



Component 3:
Nutrition outcomes of
agriculture interventions
improved



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Hinga Weze Experience

Among the six Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcomes, Hinga Weze followed three of them in Year 3 work plan development and implementation:

- Improved **availability** of diverse, nutrient-rich foods in local markets
- Improved **affordability** of diverse, nutrient-rich foods in local markets
- Increased **income control by women** and equitable opportunities

The Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Design Guide was useful and came at the right time of Year 3 planning





Hinga Weze Nutrition-Sensitive Outcomes: Availability

Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcome	Strategy	Practice	Intervention	Indicator
Improved availability of diverse, nutrient-rich foods in local markets (HIB, OFSP, horticulture and ASF)	↑ availability of nutrient rich seeds (HIB/OFSP/Horticulture) and ASF in all 10 districts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ↑ the number of seed multipliers producing seeds at community level and ensure their capacity building • Incentives through grants • RAB/MINAGRI extending subsidy program to HIB and OFSP seeds • Private sector engagement • Working with Uzima chicken to ↑ the availability of chickens in 10 districts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training new and existing seed multipliers on multiplication and storage (done) • Provision of grants to seed multipliers to access basic seeds at a more affordable price (Pipelines) • Start integrated poultry program to avail animal sourced foods (distributed 112,600 chickens to 18,000HHs and 23 care groups) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2: Value of annual sales of farms and firms receiving USG assistance. • 3: Number of individuals participating in USG food security programs • 5: Yield of targeted agricultural commodities among program participants with USG assistance (RAA) • 14&15: % of women consuming diversified diet and children consuming MAD





Hinga Weze Nutrition-Sensitive Outcomes: Affordability

Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcome	Strategy	Practice	Intervention	Indicator
Improved affordability of diverse, nutrient-rich foods in local markets	Improved packaging system for nutritious foods to sell in small quantities	Processors produce smaller packages of goods (HIB and OFSP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grant mechanism • Capacity building around packaging • Incentives to promote smaller packaging • Promotion of locally made packaging materials where possible • Distribution networks of nutritious foods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1: No. of individuals in the agriculture system who have applied improved management practices or technologies with USG assistance • 2: Value of annual sales of farms and firms receiving USG assistance.





Hinga Weze Nutrition-Sensitive Outcomes: Affordability

Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcome	Strategy	Practice	Intervention	Indicator
Improved affordability of diverse, nutrient-rich foods in local markets	Product swap arrangement between buyers/sellers and farmers for foods and services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farmers exchange products within communities and groups • Consumption of diversified nutritious foods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish/promote value of products • Information dissemination • Organization of farmers groups (youth, women, care groups, FPs) in collaboration with local leaders • ↑ nutritious food items available 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6. No. of individuals in the agriculture system who have applied improved management practices or technologies with USG assistance • 11. No. of farmers reached by new or improved market information systems • 14. Prevalence of women of reproductive age consuming a diet of minimum diversity • 15. % of children 6-23 months receiving a minimum acceptable diet (MAD)





Hinga Weze Nutrition-Sensitive Outcomes: Income Control

Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcome	Strategy	Practice	Intervention	Indicator
Increased income control by and equitable opportunities for women	Support couples to improve joint decision making on use of household assets and income through GALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Household planning and budgeting Prioritization of Household expenditures Household members jointly allocating income to purchase nutritious foods Household members are equally involved in productive work (nutrition and childcare) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training couples on GALS methodology Promoting behavior change using peer-to-peer approach (role models) to build women's self-confidence and [encourage] men to support women's empowerment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20. No. of households using improved supported food safety practices as a result of USG assistance; 22. % of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources; 23. % of participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources who are youth (16-30)



Hinga Weze experience with Poultry program

Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Outcome	Strategy	Practice	Intervention	Indicator
<p>Increased income control by and equitable opportunities for women</p>	<p>Promote women-owned businesses in agriculture</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women run their own businesses • Women are financially included • Women are creating jobs for others • Women participate in market negotiation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professionalization & BDS program for women including: Business model development, business registration support, standard and certification support, exchange study tours, linkages to financial service providers • Special grant for women involved in MSMEs businesses in agriculture 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20. No. of households using improved supported food safety practices as a result of USG assistance • 22. % of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources • 23. % of participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources who are youth (16-30)

Challenges and strategies to integrating nutrition

Challenges

1. Lack of animal-proteins in farmers' diets.
2. Insufficient diversity in vegetables and fruits grown on home gardens and only available during dry season.
3. Nutritious foods not available or too expensive in rural market (HIB/OFSP).

Strategies

1. Invest over \$1M in increasing access to animal-source foods (small livestock grant projects) for up to 36,000 families per year (total of 108,000 families accessing over 250,000 animals by EOY 3).
2. Improve home gardens to incorporate iron-rich green leafy vegetables, and Vitamin A rich fruits and vegetables to ensure access to micronutrients all year.
3. Work with Agro-Dealers, aggregators and Youth Groups to supply nutritious foods at affordable prices (concept of FSC as nutritious food stores) as well including facilitating agro-inputs and promoting climate-resilient practices at FSC.
4. Partnering with GOR, CSOs and the private sector to create synergies for nutrition outcomes

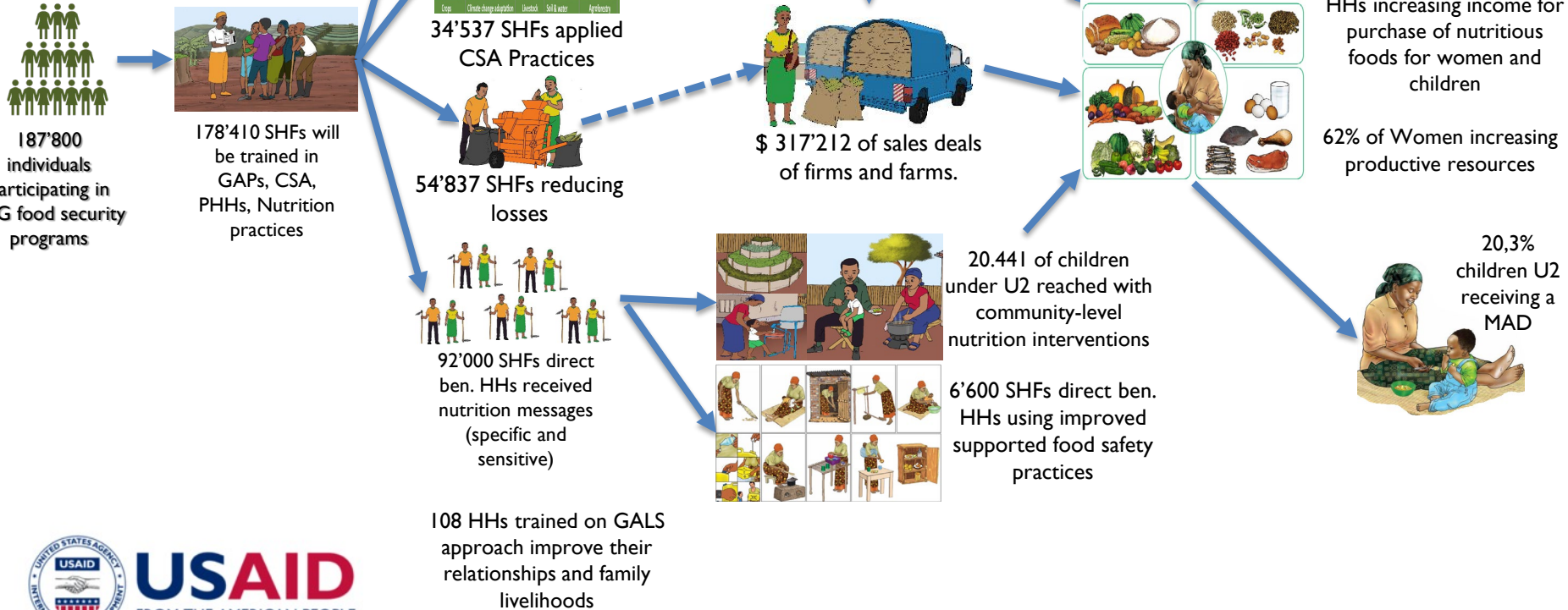


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Hinga Weze Diagram of integration framework of components

HOW THE DESIGN GUIDE IMPACTED THE PROGRAM



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Hinga Weze Experience in Integrating Nutrition in Agriculture

Hinga Weze is using five ways to improve nutrition through agriculture:

1. Increase Availability of and Access/Affordability to Diverse Nutritious Foods:

- ✓ Improve the availability of nutritious foods (HIB, OFSP, Horticulture and ASF)
- ✓ Make nutritious foods safe, available at the market, and affordable (HIB multiplication, vet. seeds in small packages, at least 3 Fruit trees at each HH)

2. Encourage Use of better diets, health and hygiene

- ✓ Improve HH budgeting to afford nutritious foods HH does not produce
- ✓ FSP networks and Competition awards of FSP kits

3. Recognize the Central role of women in agriculture and nutrition

- ✓ Empower women and promote gender equity and equitable division of labor
- ✓ Introduce time and labor saving farming technologies
- ✓ GALS as approach for joint decision making and planning

4. Generate Demand for Diverse Nutritious Foods

- ✓ Increase consumers' knowledge of nutrition
- ✓ Overcome cultural barriers to consume nutritious foods through cooking demos

5. Establish Policies and Programs to support a broad view of Nutrition

- ✓ Establish and Strengthen multi-sectorial partnerships
- ✓ Collaborate, share knowledge and resources





Hinga Weze Experience using the Design Guide

- It was not easy to use the Design Guide in an ongoing program. The Workshop helped the team to review existing strategies, identify what was already nutrition-sensitive, and adapt what could be nutrition-sensitive. The Guide helped to review and improve the strategies, practices, interventions and align the indicators accordingly
- We had time to come together as a staff around a common understanding of nutrition-sensitive agriculture and to reflect on the program, and improve our strategies

Especially useful experience for Hinga Weze:

- I. Serving as the facilitators helped us refine our communication skills related to nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and prompted us to reflect on the project and integration of all components to reach nutrition outcomes
- II. The development of the Activity helped to design the Year 3 work plan
- III. Be the pioneer of nutrition-sensitive agriculture in Rwanda.





Hinga Weze advice for future users of the guide

- Use the guide from the design of the project/program
- Use project staff as facilitators
- Then train the entire team on nutrition-sensitive agriculture to facilitate integration
- Refer to and revisit your matrix as you implement
- Regular review of the interventions as you implement





Group photo after the Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Design Guide Workshop
July 2019 - Kigali, Rwanda



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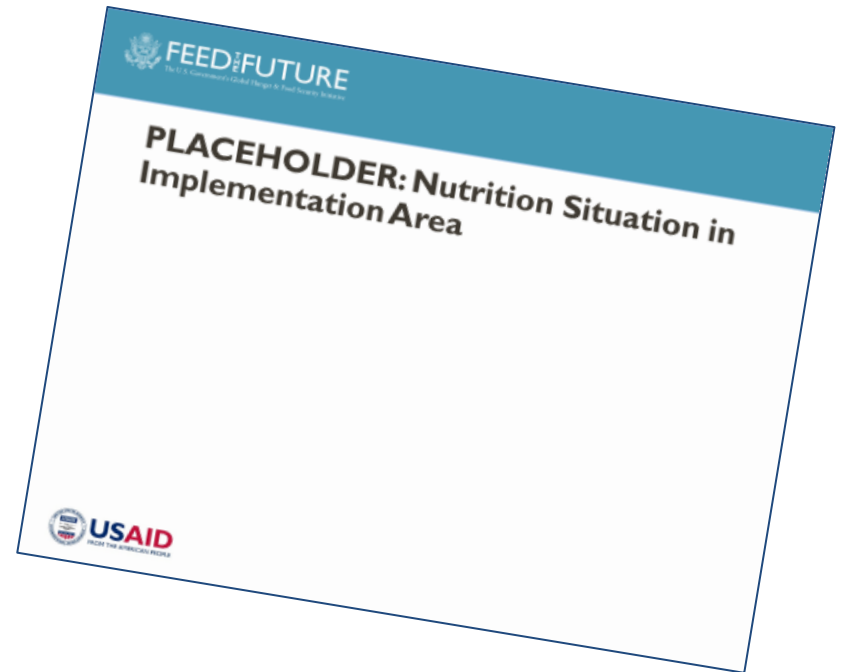


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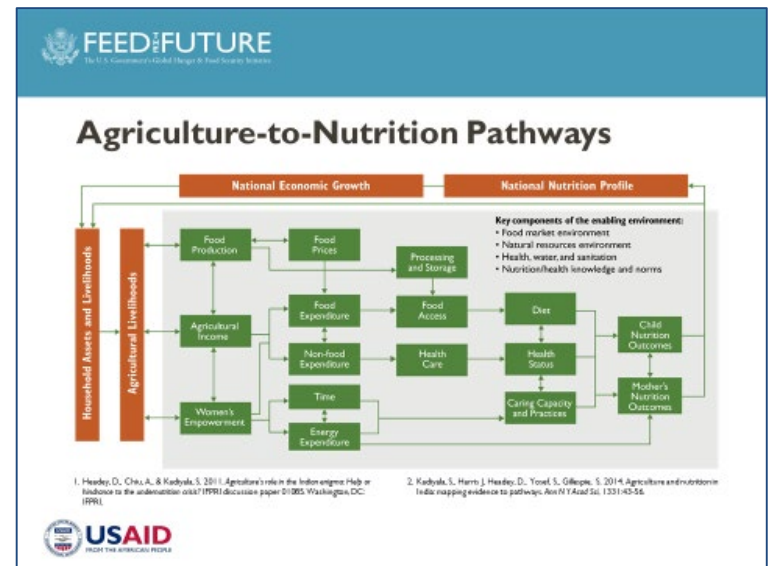
Lessons Learned in Developing the Design Guide

- Nutrition-sensitive agriculture programming requires an understanding of constraints and opportunities for nutrition.
- Good measurement is based on good design – define outcome indicators accordingly
- The design methodology presented in the Guide is valid for any context



Connections to the Food System

- The pathways are a part of more complex food systems
- Using a food systems approach to linking agriculture and nutrition provides an opportunity to engage more stakeholders and strengthen enabling environments
- There is even more of a need for guidance for implementing partners to put food systems conceptual thinking into practice





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The Training of Trainers

Would you like to be trained to facilitate the Design Guide Workshop for your team?

We welcome you to apply to participate in a three-day Training of Trainers in Washington, D.C. from **April 21-23, 2020**. This training will bring together participants interested in learning how to effectively facilitate and deliver the Design Guide workshop for their activity team.

Find a link to the application on our website:

<https://www.advancingnutrition.org/>



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Questions and Answers



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Month Year

USAID Advancing Nutrition is the Agency's flagship multi-sectoral nutrition project, addressing the root causes of malnutrition to save lives and enhance long-term health and development.

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