RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Agriculture for Nutrition and Health

CGIAR

LED BY **IFPRI**

Agriculture for Nutrition and Health, led by IFPRI

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SPIA IAFP Meeting Minneapolis, MN July 25 2014



Recently completed and planned studies

- Biofortification (HarvestPlus)
 - Large-scale RCTs in Uganda and Mozambique (2007-2009) found that distribution of orange sweetpotato vines led to adoption, consumption, increased vitamin A intake, and, in Uganda, improved vitamin A status (Hotz et al, 2012; REU, 2012; de Brauw et al, 2012). Lessons were also learned about cost effectiveness of alternative delivery strategies.
 - Additional evaluations planned for: iron beans in Rwanda and Guatemala; provitamin A cassava is Nigeria, provitamin A maize – Zambia or Malawi, iron pearl millet – India
 - Impact at scale:
 - Delivery of biofortified seeds at scale is underway in 9 target country (2014-2018); adoption (and other variables, especially among target individuals and households) is being tracked in monitoring systems
 - Complementary impact pathways: mainstreaming nutrition in breeding and biofortification in policies

- Food safety
 - An evaluation that compared participants and nonparticipants of a group-based training intervention to improve food safety among meat processors and retailers in Nigeria (Sep 2009) found that the training was associated with greater KAP about meat hygiene and better microbiological quality of meat (Grace et al 2012)
 - Evaluation of a similar intervention in informal dairy markets in Assam, India is being completed (Deka et al), and others are planned (with LaF CRP)
 - Challenge will be how to scale up the pilot successes. In Kenya, it was through policy.

- Integrated agriculture-nutrition-health programs
 - An evaluation (RCT + operations research) found positive impacts of HKI's Homestead Food Production intervention in Burkina Faso on diets and on some but not all nutritional indicators (Olney et al, forthcoming). Intervention also had positive impacts on women's ownership and control of assets (van den Bold et al, 2013)
 - Follow up work planned in Burkina Faso plus expansion to Tanzania and other countries

- Ex-post assessments of IFPRI's work
 - An assessment of IFPRI's work on high value markets, by Jonathan Kydd (ongoing)
 - "Diet quality, agriculture and health" GRP (planned)

New approaches/challenges for impact assessment in moving from Centers to CRPs...

- Creation of CRPs and work on IDOs and impact pathways/theories of change has potential to improve impact orientation of research and strengthen the evidence base for impact of research at scale
- 2 Examples of how we are trying to implement the new approach

Food safety: Theories of change for "training-certificationbranding" interventions in dairy and meat markets and of farm-level technologies for mitigating aflatoxin risk are contributing to a better, shared understanding of what the main outputs are, how they are expected to have impact (on exposure to FBD), and what the key evidence/research gaps are

Draft TOC change for farm-level technologies to mitigate aflatoxins (differentiated market pathway)



Integrated ANH programs

- Research output are the lessons from the evaluation findings. Impact pathway is through program implementers using the results to make their programs more effective.
- We are working with TANGO to document current program design, implementation and evaluation practices of INGO's that implement integrated ANH programs and to understand how NGO staff access and use evaluation findings