Harmonising Nutrition messaging in Agriculture Extension

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Outline

• Why nutrition messaging in Agriculture
• The National nutrition strategic Plan
• 1000 MCD interventions
• The Field workers Reference Guide
• Key nutrition messaging Considerations
Why promote nutrition sensitive agriculture

• Agricultural production focuses on staple-need to shift the focus to nutrient dense
• key to achieving household food security and good nutrition.
• stresses the multiple benefits derived from enjoying a variety of foods
• Highlights the importance of agricultural sector in supporting rural livelihoods
The National Strategic Plan- Strategic directions

• Prevention of stunting in children less than two years of age: 1000 Most Critical Days
• Early identification, treatment and follow-up of acute malnutrition
• On increasing micronutrient and macronutrient availability, accessibility, and utilisation by improving food and nutrition security and other strategies
• Nutrition education and nutritious feeding through schools
The National Strategic Plan- Strategic directions

- Increasing linkages among nutrition and infection control through hygiene, sanitation and safe water
- Food and nutrition to mitigate HIV and AIDS
- Improving Food and Nutrition to prevent and control Non communicable Diseases
- Food and nutrition preparedness and response to emergencies
- Expanding communication support and advocacy in support of food and nutrition interventions (Promote practices that enhance sustainable availability, accessibility and consumption of a variety of foods at household level)
Interventions in the First 1000 MCDs

• Fe & folic acid supplementation
• Micronutrient powders (building on current pilots)
• Multiple micronutrients (pilot first)
• Promotion of Breastfeeding (Early initiation, Exclusive Breastfeeding and continued breastfeeding)
Interventions in the First 1000 MCDs

• Promotion of Complementary Feeding
• Promotion of Diverse Diets for pregnant and lactating mothers
• Zinc provision during diarrhea
• Promotion of safe water and hygiene and sanitation
• Growth monitoring and promotion (facility and community)
Interventions in the First 1000 MCDs

- Growth monitoring and promotion (facility and community)
- Deworming
- Expanding Integrated management of acute malnutrition
- Promotion of increased availability of diverse locally available and processed foods (with focus on women’s empowerment)
About the Field Workers Reference Guide

• A tool created to support all field workers in the implementation of the First 1000 MCDP
• Field workers – all those with direct contact with families/farmers- ie agriculture extension officers, Community volunteers, Community Development officers etc;
• The guide is a one stop ‘shop’ written in a simple language
The Field Workers Reference Guide

• Provides useful information regarding interventions that can prevent malnutrition in the First 1000 MCDs
• This is a tool that we expect will provide as a guide to all field workers (agriculture extension included)
• Organised in parts A, B, C
• The field workers reference guide explains in detail on each of the key interventions on the First 1000 MCD and key information to give out to the families
The Field Workers Reference Guide

• Has an annex with essential nutrition actions for all field officers.
Key nutrition messages should:

• Promote and support the production of nutrient dense crops and small livestock
  – ( eg horticultural )
  – (goats, rabbits, chickens, fish farming)

• Promote improvement in processing and preservation of foods to retain nutrients and to improve household food security.

• Promote production of enough and diverse food for household consumption.
Key nutrition messages should:

- Promote the marketing of nutritious crops - vitamin A rich maize, iron rich beans – value addition for nutrition improvement.
- Encourage and promote utilisation of the variety of foods grown by families.
- Support and promote home gardens that make contribution to household food supplies by providing a variety of food throughout the year.
- Link the other interventions in the 1000 days with agriculture such as water, hygiene and sanitation.
Thank you.