IN-COUNTRY PARTNERS

USAID Implementing Partners: Boresha Jamii, USAID Nawiri, Resilience Learning Activity, OGRA Foundation and Centre for Behaviour Change and Communication, Kenya Crop and Dairy Market Systems Activity, USAID 4 the Child, Kenya Investment Mechanism, Partnership for Resilience and Economic Growth (PREG)

Implementing Partners: Save the Children, Concern Worldwide, GAIN, Nutrition International, World Vision, Helen Keller International

Local Partners: Catholic Diocese of Kitui–CARITAS, Shibuye Community Health Workers, Eshinamwenyuli Youth Community Based Organization, Sustainable Organic Farming and Development Initiatives, Make Me Smile, Kidogo Innovations Solutions, Kisumu Urban Apostolate Programmes, Jiu Pachi Community Based Support Centre, Anglican Development Services–Western and Eastern Regions National Government: Ministry of Health/Division of Nutrition and Dietetics, National Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Council of Governors

County Government: Departments of Health, Agriculture, Education, Social Protection, Water and Sanitation, and County Planning/Budgeting: Kakamega County, Kisumu County, Kitui County

Academia: Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, Maseno University, Kenya School of Agriculture, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Bukura Agricultural Training, College/Farmers Training Center, Kitui Agricultural Training Center

U.N. Agencies: UNICEF, World Food Programme, Food and Agricultural Organization

RELATED PUBLICATIONS AND TOOLS

- Multi-Sectoral Nutrition (MSN) Scorecards for Kakamega, Kisumu, and Kitui Counties
- MSN Financial Tracking Tool for Kakamega, Kisumu, and Kitui Counties
- County Policy Briefs; Demonstrating the Value of Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Investments (Kakamega, Kisumu, and Kitui)
- County Agri-Nutrition Implementation Strategy (CANIS) for Kakamega, Kisumu, and Kitui Counties.
- Kenya Nutrition Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization (ACSM) Strategy
- Kisumu County Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP)



Photo credit: USAID

USAID ADVANCING NUTRITION KENYA

Strengthening National Efforts to Improve Nutrition













OVERVIEW

USAID Advancing Nutrition worked in Kenya from August 2020 through September 2023. The project was active in Kakamega, Kisumu, and Kitui Counties as well as at the national level. Our primary objective was to strengthen government capacity to plan, finance, manage, and implement multi-sectoral nutrition interventions to improve the health of populations at risk of nutritional deficiencies. Through our work, we aimed to—

- Improve multi-sectoral nutrition resource allocation at the national and county levels
- Plan for nutrition at the national and county levels
- Strengthen government-led multi-sectoral nutrition (MSN) coordination platforms at the national and county levels





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ACHIEVEMENTS

1



IMPROVING ADVOCACY FOR MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION

- Facilitated identification and capacity strengthening of nine local civil society organizations to plan, implement, track, and advocate for improved nutrition services in Kakamega, Kisumu, and Kitui Counties.
- Supported the identification and training of 186
 community nutrition champions, including County
 First Ladies. To enhance evidenced-based advocacy,
 we facilitated the customization and utilization of
 county MSN scorecards and financial tracking tools. In
 our final year, we played a key role in the development
 of three policy briefs and investment cases for MSN to
 address malnutrition in Kakamega, Kisumu, and Kitui.

2



INCREASING ALLOCATION FOR NUTRITION

Assisted in the development of county integrated development plans (2023-27) and annual operations work plan across MSN sectors. Notably, Kakamega County allocated KES 60 million for the school feeding program for the first time. In Kisumu, KES 11 million was prioritized for coordination and recruitment of nine agri-nutrition officers. Additionally, Kitui budgeted KES 69.5 million for the school feeding program and created a nutrition subprogram with a KES 721 million allocation. At the national level, nutrition was included under the flagship programs of Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture and Family Health, and nutrition services allocation within the health department increased from KES 80 to KES 200 million.

3



IMPROVING COORDINATION FOR MULTI-SECTOR NUTRITION

- Increased agriculture, education, and social protection sectors' participation, ownership, and decision-making around nutrition.
- Supported the establishment of functional county and sub-county MSN platforms.
- In Kitui, supported establishment of a County Agri-nutrition Unit and redeployed nine home economics as sub-county agri-nutrition officers.
- Assisted the Government of Kenya in mapping food and nutrition coordination structures at the national level and in the three counties.
- Helped establish the Kisumu Scaling Up Nutrition Business Network to enhance private sector participation in nutrition.

4



REVIEWING NUTRITION POLICY AND CURRICULA

- Supported dissemination and customization of key policies and strategies, including the Kenya Nutrition Action Plan; Kenya Nutrition Advocacy, Communication and Social Mobilization Strategy; County Nutrition Action Plans, and Agri-Nutrition Implementation Strategies.
- Mainstreamed nutrition in the education systems by supporting curricula review and integrating nutrition content into the Ministry of Education Curricula for grades 9-12.
- Assisted in integrating nutrition-sensitive agriculture into the pre-service training curricula for BSc nutrition programs at Maseno University and Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology.