

IN-COUNTRY PARTNERS

- **Government Institutions:** Nigeria Governors' Forum; Office of the Vice President; Ministry of Health; Ministry of Finance and Planning; Ministry of Agriculture, Agriculture Development Program; Ministry of Local Government; Primary Healthcare Development Agency
- **United Nations Agencies:** UNICEF, World Food Programme, World Health Organization
- **USAID Implementing Partners:** IHP, Eatsafe, Rural Resilience for Agriculture, Breakthrough Action Nigeria, USAID LEARN
- **Private Sector:** Harvest Field, Leila Bags, Nutri-K Foods
- **Research Organizations:** International Crop Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

RELATED PUBLICATIONS AND TOOLS

- Maternal Infant and Young Children Training Manual
- Bauchi State Food and Nutrition Policy
- Ebonyi State Food and Nutrition Policy
- Ebonyi State Multi-Sectoral Plan of Action
- FCT Multi-Sectoral Plan of Action



Photo credit: Amara Ogwuma, Helen Keller Intl

USAID ADVANCING NUTRITION NIGERIA

Strengthening National Efforts to Improve Nutrition



OVERVIEW

USAID Advancing Nutrition began work in Nigeria in September 2021. To improve nutrition for a healthy, productive, and resilient Nigeria, we provided technical support, implemented innovative nutrition interventions, and generated evidence to enhance nutrition programming. The work focused on five states: Kebbi, Sokoto, Ebonyi, Bauchi, and Federal Capital Territory (FCT). Our objectives were to—

- Strengthen multi-sectoral linkages and coordination among government institutions, donors, and other nutrition partners
- Support the government in wasting prevention and treatment services
- Generate evidence for innovative nutrition programming.

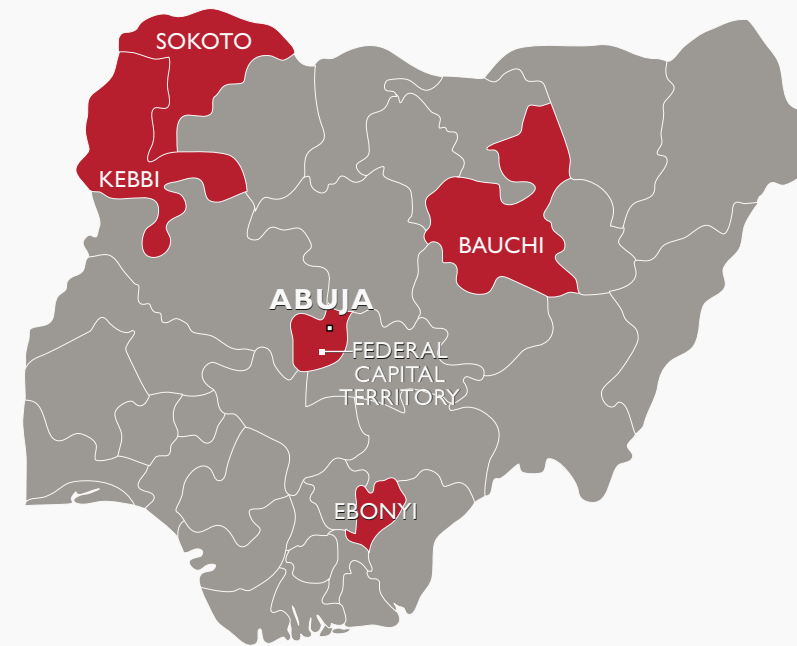


Photo credit: Israel Odiba, Helen Keller Intl

ACHIEVEMENTS

1



IMPROVING FOOD SAFETY AND NUTRITION IN COMMUNITIES

We collaborated with the State Ministries of Agriculture and State Departments of Agriculture to train 255 extension agents and farmers as master trainers in aflatoxin mitigation, who then reached over 24,663 small-holder farmers in Sokoto, Kebbi, and Bauchi. Through workshops, training sessions, and field demonstrations, master trainers equipped farmers with knowledge about aflatoxin risks and preventive measures, as well as the tools to combat aflatoxin contamination.

2



ENHANCING INFORMATION ACCESS AND SHARING AMONG NUTRITION STAKEHOLDERS

We successfully developed Nigeria's National Food System Dashboard, which will track and monitor key aspects of the country's food system, including food production, consumption, nutrition, trade, food safety, and environmental impacts. Policymakers, researchers, and other stakeholders will be able to use the dashboard to identify trends, opportunities, and challenges. The launch of the dashboard is scheduled for the end of the 2023 fiscal year. Once live, stakeholders will have seamless access to crucial data to make informed decisions and drive significant advancements in Nigeria's food system.

3



FACILITATING THE USE OF MONITORING AND EVALUATION GUIDANCE

We worked in close collaboration with the Office of the Vice President, the National Committee on Food and Nutrition, and the State Committee for Food and Nutrition to support states in adopting national nutrition policies and monitoring and evaluation frameworks, including the National Policy on Nutrition and the Multi-Sectoral Plan of Action. As a result, Bauchi State successfully launched a policy on nutrition, accompanied by a comprehensive five-year strategic action plan to combat malnutrition within the state. Similarly, in Ebonyi State, our endeavors resulted in the establishment of nutrition departments across all Ministries, Departments, and Agencies in the state, further advancing the cause of nutrition and its integration across various sectors.

4



STRENGTHENING NUTRITION SERVICES WITHIN THE HEALTH SYSTEM

We actively contributed to enhancing micro-nutrient uptake in children by providing support for bi-annual maternal, newborn, and child health weeks. More than 1,500 health workers received training in critical areas such as providing vitamin A supplementation, detecting malnutrition cases, and ensuring accurate documentation. The project collaborated with the Federal Ministry of Health and other partners to review and finalize the national maternal, infant, and young child nutrition training manual, which will equip health workers and other duty bearers with the necessary skills to promote optimal nutrition for pregnant and lactating women as well as infants and young children during the first 1,000 days.