

REACH

Ending Child Hunger and Undernutrition

Acting at Scale: Implementation Case Studies

Local Homestead Food Production

August 2008

Context

The following document is part of the REACH *Acting at Scale* set of materials

- The documents' aim is to provide highly condensed information and lessons learned for scaling up REACH-promoted interventions to support field practitioners and other interested parties
- They are intended to become a living set of materials, updated periodically by the REACH Global Interagency Team
- These materials are a first step towards a larger REACH Knowledge Sharing service, which will be developed over time

The full set of *Acting at Scale* materials includes

- *An Intervention Summary*
 - An overview document containing key facts for all of the 11 promoted interventions
- *Intervention Guides* for each of the interventions¹
 - Containing rationale, lessons learned, costs and further resource lists
- *Implementation Case Studies* for each of the interventions¹
 - Initial set of details and lessons learned from programs implemented at scale
- *Resource Lists*
 - Lists of key documents, organizations and programs at scale
 - Included at the back of each *Intervention Guide* and in Excel spreadsheets available from the REACH Global Interagency Team

These materials represent a preliminary version, to be validated and refined via additional consultations

- Prepared in Summer 2008 by the REACH Global Interagency Team, based on inputs from 56 practitioners and experts, as well as extensive desk research
- A revised Version 2 of these documents will be released in late 2008 or early 2009, incorporating feedback from initial recipients

If you have questions or feedback on these materials, please

- Contact your local REACH facilitator in Lao or Mauritania, or
- Contact the REACH Interagency Team Coordinator, Denise Costa-Coitinho, at Denise.CostaCoitinho@wfp.org

1. Breastfeeding and complementary feeding have been combined into a single document due to strong linkage in delivery

Case study: Local homestead food production (I)

HKI Homestead Food Production Program (HFPP), Bangladesh

Intervention:	Local homestead food production		
Program name:	HKI Homestead Food Production Program (HFPP)	Type:	Education & physical component
Location:	Bangladesh	Setting:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural <input type="checkbox"/> Urban
Start year:	1988 (pilot level) 1993 (at scale)	Duration:	20 years (ongoing)
Ongoing?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
Target group:	Selection criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least one child <5 or pregnant woman living in the household • Household is led by women, i.e. women take part in program activities • Households possess homestead land for gardening activities 		
Total costs:	\$9 per garden (average from 3 countries)	Other resources used:	N/A
Metrics:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome metrics for improved gardening such as # of varieties produced and # of varieties sold, type of garden, # of eggs produced • Outcome metrics for improved nutrition such as # of eggs consumed during the last week, percentage of garden income spent on food items 		
Lead & partner organizations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKI International initiated and continues to implement • Government of Bangladesh provides extension services and financial support • Local NGOs deliver intervention 		
Description of specific country situation & social context:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deep micronutrient deficiencies across all population segments; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – As many as 50% of women and <5 children suffer from vitamin A and iron deficiencies¹ • Existing home gardening tradition, as many families already produced food in their gardens • Strong background of NGO and community mobilization that enabled community-based model to succeed • Strong proliferation and tradition of microcredit enabled integration into the program 		

1. Bloem, De Pee, et al. "Homestead Food Production – A Strategy to Combat Malnutrition and Poverty." Helen Keller International Asia Pacific; 2001.

Note: N/A denotes 'not available' as of yet via research

Source: HKI; expert interviews; REACH analysis

Case study: Local homestead food production (II)

HKI Homestead Food Production Program (HFPP), Bangladesh

Policy and coordination processes and organization¹:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
Communication, advocacy and change management:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
Measuring, tracking and reporting progress:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HKI monitors program activities every four months and trains government extension officers or NGO employees to continue
Funding and resource mobilization:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A
Capacity building:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity building is a key project activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Trains extension officers and NGO employees in HFP technical approach, training approach and M&E – Provides technical and small enterprise training to village nurseries – Leverage first-tier participants to train others participants, i.e. train-the-trainer
Private sector engagement:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No private sector engagement

1. Including NGO/civil society engagement
 Note: N/A denotes 'not available' as of yet via research
 Source: HKI; expert interviews; REACH analysis

Case study: Local homestead food production (III)

HKI Homestead Food Production Program (HFPP), Bangladesh

Details on delivered intervention incl. delivery channel/method:

- Village model nursery serves as demonstration and training center, guaranteeing supply of quality inputs
- Leveraging existing channels and connections to the communities is cost-effective and increases program acceptance
- Nutrition education is important for improved nutrition outcomes as well as creating demand for promoted garden crops
- Cost-sharing creates ownership and makes HFP activities more affordable for smaller NGOs
- Partnering with micro-credit enhances HFP allowing investments in irrigation or participation even of the poorest
- Income generation further improves beneficiaries' nutrition
 - Average income per annum is \$24
 - Compared to annual program cost of \$3 (or \$9 total/beneficiary in 3 year program)

Description of monitoring & evaluation:

- Baseline and endline survey
- Regular monitoring every 4 months at household and village nursery level
- Using simple indicators (such as “how many varieties of crops do you have in your garden”)
- Direct analysis and feedback of mentioned problems

Lessons learned (intervention & overarching processes):

- Design HFP programs with sustainability and coverage in mind from the outset
 - Leverage existing delivery channels to reach communities, especially NGOs and government extension officers
 - Introduce nutrition education along with technical training to ensure demand for the produce
 - Use cost-sharing model to build ownership and cost-effective scale-up
 - Use village nurseries to engage community in long-term source of training and inputs
- Partner with micro-credit organizations
 - Enables poorest of poor to participate in cost-sharing programs that enhance uptake
 - To enable household investment in irrigation
- Consider income generation as part of the program to further improve beneficiaries' ability to invest in nutrition

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Key documents:

- See the HKI website

HKI homestead food production program (HFPP) in Bangladesh is the largest program of its kind in the world

Program overview

Launched in 1988, HKI Bangladesh is now the largest HFP program in the world

- Covers 900,000 households
- Scaled up in 1993
- Continues to expand into new communities

Delivers home gardening and livestock production expertise to help women-led households to increase nutrition

- Includes income generation component
- Focuses on most vulnerable households and those with <5 children

Delivers intervention via NGOs

- Identifies NGOs with access to communities
- HKI provides technical and financial assistance
- Employs clear exit strategy after 3 years to ensure sustainability of program

M&E uses simple indicators and is conducted regularly

- Direct analysis of problems at household level facilitates quick improvements

Lessons learned

Design HFP programs with sustainability and coverage in mind from the outset

- Leverage existing delivery channels to reach communities, especially NGOs and government extension officers
- Introduce nutrition education along with technical training to ensure demand for the produce
- Use cost-sharing model to build ownership and cost-effective scale-up
- Use village nurseries to engage community in long-term source of training and inputs

Partner with micro-credit organizations

- Enables poorest of poor to participate in cost-sharing programs that enhance uptake
- To enable household investment in irrigation

Consider income generation as part of the program to further improve beneficiaries' ability to invest in nutrition

HKI HFP programs focus on sustainability

4 pillars built into program design upon launch

Sustainable home gardening practices with impact on nutrition

Leverage existing delivery channels

- Involve government extension officers
- Leverage existing local NGO programs that have access to target populations

Nutrition education

- Creates demand for promoted plants
- Includes cooking lessons

Village model nursery

- Enables ongoing supply of quality inputs
- Creates demonstration nursery for training
- Provides technical training and education for community

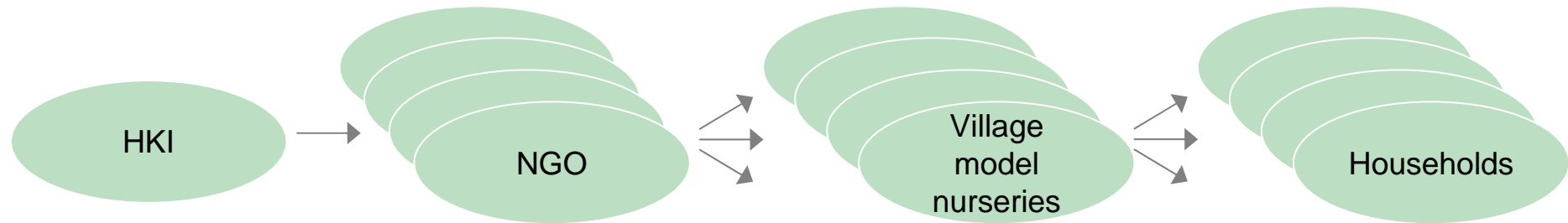
Cost-sharing

- Creates sense of ownership
- Makes program feasible even for small NGOs and poorest communities
- Possible for poorest populations via partnership with microcredit institutions

HKI employs a 3-year program model, so that the exit strategy is embedded into the entry approach

HKI delivers its programs via local NGOs

Participatory approach enhances sustainability of programs and impact



- Targets beneficiary populations
 - Identifies and assesses NGOs with access to target communities
 - NGOs typically focus on other, sometimes complementary disciplines, e.g. nutrition, health, agriculture, economic development
 - Provides technical training in homestead agriculture
 - Builds NGO capacity in strategic planning, program management, financial management and M&E
- Employs HKI approach
 - Provides training and inputs to ~40 village model nurseries
 - Performs M&E
 - Of village nursery performance
 - Of household uptake
- Develop technical expertise
 - Provide technical training and inputs to ~40 beneficiary women and/or group leaders
 - Deliver nutrition education
 - Create source of ongoing input supply
- Plant and maintain gardens
 - Raise animals
 - Share or sell outputs to help others in community to launch home gardens/livestock
 - Form credit groups to access inputs or irrigation

HKI scales up HFPP in a new country in three steps to achieve best adoption of improved gardening practices

Mapping review



Pilot program



Scale-up



- Research context and setting
- Design pilot program according to findings

- Cover 300-400 households
- Test program design

- Incorporate lessons learned from pilot into program design
- Scale up and increase coverage

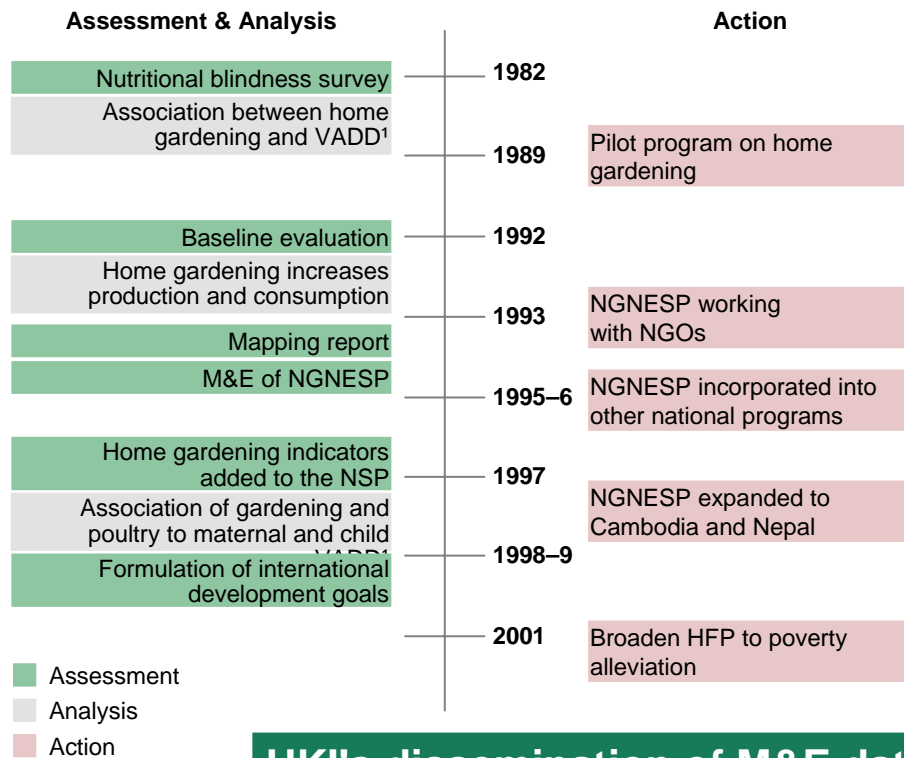
Based on lessons from Bangladesh, HKI has scaled up in Cambodia, Nepal and the Philippines

Testing out the model in Burkina Faso and Niger

HKI's M&E includes an iterative approach that support ongoing program improvement

HKI employed an "assessment, analysis, action" model of M&E as it scaled up in Bangladesh

Timeline of the "Triple-A" cycle



HKI's iterative M&E enables continuous program improvement

Performs baseline and endline survey at each program site

Relies on community evaluation of program performance every 4 months at household and village level

- Nursery performance
- Gardening practices, size and production
- Household and individual consumption

Uses simple metrics, e.g., # of varieties of crops in a household garden

HKI evaluates results to fine-tune the program

After each round of monitoring, results are

- Shared across program sites to encourage learning
- Used for advocacy

HKI's dissemination of M&E data led the Government of Bangladesh to replicate the approach for agriculture and health programs

1. VADD = vitamin A deficiency disorders

Source: Bloem, De Pee, et al. "Homestead Food Production — A Strategy to Combat Malnutrition and Poverty." Helen Keller International Asia Pacific; 2001

Experts consulted

- **Peter Glasauer**, FAO
- **Lora Iannotti**, IFPRI Food Consumption and Nutrition Division
- **Ellen Mühlhoff**, FAO, Senior Nutrition Officer
- **Aminuzzaman Talukder**, HKI, Country Director, Cambodia; Regional Agriculture Advisor