

Support to Food Security and Nutrition in Tanzania

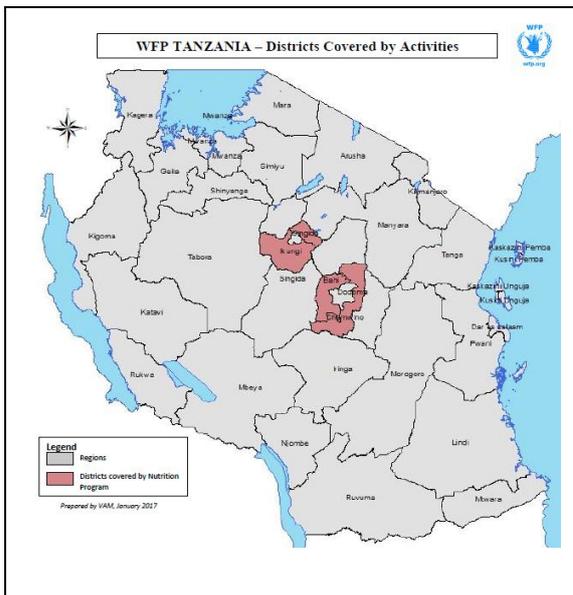


January 2020

In partnership with the European Union



The Boresha Lishe project, led by United Nations World Food Programme and co-funded by the European Union and other donors, aims to improve access to and use of nutritious food by women and children through social behaviour change communication, diversification of food production and distribution of specialized nutritious foods in Bahi and Chamwino Districts in Dodoma Region and Ikungi and Singida Rural Districts in Singida Region.



Key Information

Sector: Agriculture/Nutrition

Implementing Partner: SEMA, RECODA and TAHEA

Budget: EUR 13.4million (EU contribution EUR 9.5million)

Duration: 2017 – 2021

Background

Tanzania has a high prevalence of chronic malnutrition with 31.8 percent of children under the age of five years stunted. Pockets of higher wasting prevalence have been recorded in Singida despite a stable national average of 3.5 percent in 2018. Poor nutrition is also a serious problem among women of reproductive age where 44.8 percent are anaemic, of which one percent is severely anaemic (TNNS 2018). The high rates of chronic under-nutrition among children in Tanzania are driven by poverty and largely by poor infant and young child caring and feeding practices at the household level.

	Stunting	Wasting
National	31.8%	3.5%
Dodoma	37.2%	3.8 %
Singida	28.8%	5.1 %

Source: TNNS 2018



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Key Activities

1. Distribute specialized nutritious foods to pregnant and lactating women and children under two.
2. Improve knowledge and technical capacity of health facility staff, community health workers and district-level staff.
3. Improve knowledge, attitudes and practices of caretakers regarding nutrition and water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) practices and services at the household and community levels.
4. Support the production of diverse crops, small-scale livestock and post-harvest food preservation.
5. Establish community managed savings and loan groups.
6. Improve and strengthen data management capacity of the local government agencies (LGAs).
7. Strengthen multi-sector coordination and collaboration.

Beneficiaries

- Pregnant and lactating women
- Children under the age of two
- Households with minimal assets (livestock, land or access to other income sources)
- Female-headed households
- Household with dependants who are non-productive
- To reach a target of 29,760 beneficiaries under nutrition sensitive and 30,000 under nutrition specific.

Co-funded by:



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Project Expected Results

Result 1: Behaviour change towards the production of nutritious foods and consumption of an adequate, diversified diet is promoted and increased at community level.

Result 2: Production of nutritious crops, small-scale livestock, and access to nutritious diversified diets is enhanced.

Result 3: Coordination, knowledge and information management is improved to guarantee efficient monitoring and planning of actions by local and central government authorities.

Achievements

- 4088.04 MT cumulative tonnage of nutritious foods distributed between 2017 to 2019, with 37,475 beneficiaries reached.
- Health workers and community health workers from all participating health facilities trained on maternal, infant, young child and adolescent nutrition (MIYCAN) and monitoring and evaluation which has enhanced their capacities in delivering nutrition services in the target districts.
- Saving groups have been established and enabling mothers to save money used for establishment of income generating activities which have increased households' income, enabling the women to have means to access nutritious foods.
- Care groups consisting of 15 members each formed and provided a platform for delivery of nutrition focused SBCC sessions and agricultural knowledge and inputs which include chicken, fruits trees, vegetable seeds and solar driers to dry vegetables for future use. The participants in these groups have been able to establish kitchen gardens and increase their access to vegetables for better nutrition, have access to animal protein through eggs laid by the chicken while their nutrition knowledge has improved leading to improved practices.
- Community gardens supported by the project, including provision of seeds and technical support to these gardens has provided a space for learning climate smart technics that conserve water as well as a source of vegetables during the dry season when the kitchen gardens are harder to maintain.
- District nutrition steering committees have been established and are meeting quarterly which ensure that the districts are discussing nutrition using data as a reference for decision making. This has seen improved resource utilisation for nutrition in the districts and better planning and coordination between sectors and players.
- Support to the development of the TORS/supervision checklist and closer engagement with districts for mentoring, including collaborating and coordinating trainings and follow ups in all districts.