

First experimental evidence that increasing women's empowerment through a nutrition- and gender-sensitive agriculture program improves child nutrition in Burkina Faso

Project Title: P344 - Evidence of impacts, impact pathways, synergies and cost-effectiveness of nutrition-sensitive agricultural programs

Description of the innovation: This is the first published study to demonstrate with longitudinal data how improving women's empowerment through a gender- and nutrition-sensitive agriculture program is a pathway to reducing child wasting, but not anemia in Burkina Faso. The 'agriculture to nutrition pathways' is a well-known and widely used CGIAR innovation. This randomized controlled trial demonstrated that the women's empowerment pathway is a pathway by which a nutrition-sensitive program can improve child wasting.

New Innovation: No

Stage of innovation: Stage 3: available/ ready for uptake (AV)

Innovation type: Social Science

Geographic Scope: National

Number of individual improved lines/varieties: <Not Applicable>

Country(ies):

- Burkina Faso

Description of Stage reached: The study was published open access in Social Science & Medicine in July 2019. One finding suggested that programs to reduce wasting could be more effective if they also target women's empowerment. Findings like these can help program implementers and funders design more effective multisectoral health and nutrition programs.

Name of lead organization/entity to take innovation to this stage: IFPRI - International Food Policy Research Institute

Names of top five contributing organizations/entities to this stage:

- HKI - Helen Keller International
- BMGF - Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- USAID - U.S. Agency for International Development

Milestones:

- In collaboration with decisionmakers, nutrition-sensitive agriculture and gender programs are designed in 2 more target countries (tbd) with a rigorous evaluation component included

Sub-IDs:

- 36 - Gender-equitable control of productive assets and resources
- 16 - Optimized consumption of diverse nutrient-rich foods

Contributing Centers/PPA partners:

- IFPRI - International Food Policy Research Institute

Evidence link:

- <http://ebrary.ifpri.org/cdm/singleitem/collection/p15738coll5/id/6665/rec/12>

Deliverables associated: <Not Defined>

Contributing CRPs/Platforms:

- A4NH - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health