Building Capacity for Nutrition and Food Security Advocacy: Lessons from Uganda

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The Malnourished DONOT Vote
Capacity for nutrition and food security advocacy in Sub Saharan Africa

• Political will gradually increasing to address malnutrition in Sub Saharan African

• **BUT** low operational capacity of strategic plans
Political commitment

NOT MERE

Political will
Building coalitions for advocacy

1. Technical working group

2. Expanding the set of players with common goal
Effective use of data

2. Creating the evidence base to inform decision making

3. Training for standardization
Walk the talk: seizing opportunities

4. Media engagement

5. Identifying nutrition advocacy champions
Benchmark for monitoring the advocacy activities

**SHORT TERM**
- More operational research addressing how to overcome barriers to nutrition programming
- Formation of multi-sectoral working groups to draft strategic plan
- Advocacy tools developed specific to nutrition
- Increased professional dialogue forums

**MEDIUM TERM**
- Critical mass of high level nutrition advocacy champions
- Nutrition included in central & district annual development plans
- Institutional restructuring to integrate nutrition in other sectors
- Community empowerment to foster demand for nutrition programs

**LONG TERM**
- Increased budget allocation specific to nutrition & strong coordination, monitoring and evaluation
- High level participation in nutrition accountability forum
- Strong decentralised capacity to address nutrition and food security issues
Progress and Achievements to date

• Regular inform dissemination & advocacy forums

• Commitments both at international and local forums

• Nutrition in the National Development Plan

• Multisectoral Uganda Nutrition Action Plan
Progress and Achievements to date

• Increase in media reporting on evidence based nutrition

• High level nutrition champion/s

• Increased funding for research and dialogues
Lessons learnt

• Achievements differ with level of advocacy i.e. high vs. medium/technical

• Resources mobilisation not always formally initiated

• Greater success with concerted effort

• Influence agendas-respond to inform requests

• Expect support and resistance in all activities
Thank you