

# Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture Programming



*Presented by Dr. Omar Atik*

*GZT November 2015*

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# AGRICULTURE STRATEGY

## (GOALS)

- Food Security
- Increasing Agriculture Productivity
- Nutrition
- Market Efficiency
- Environment Protection

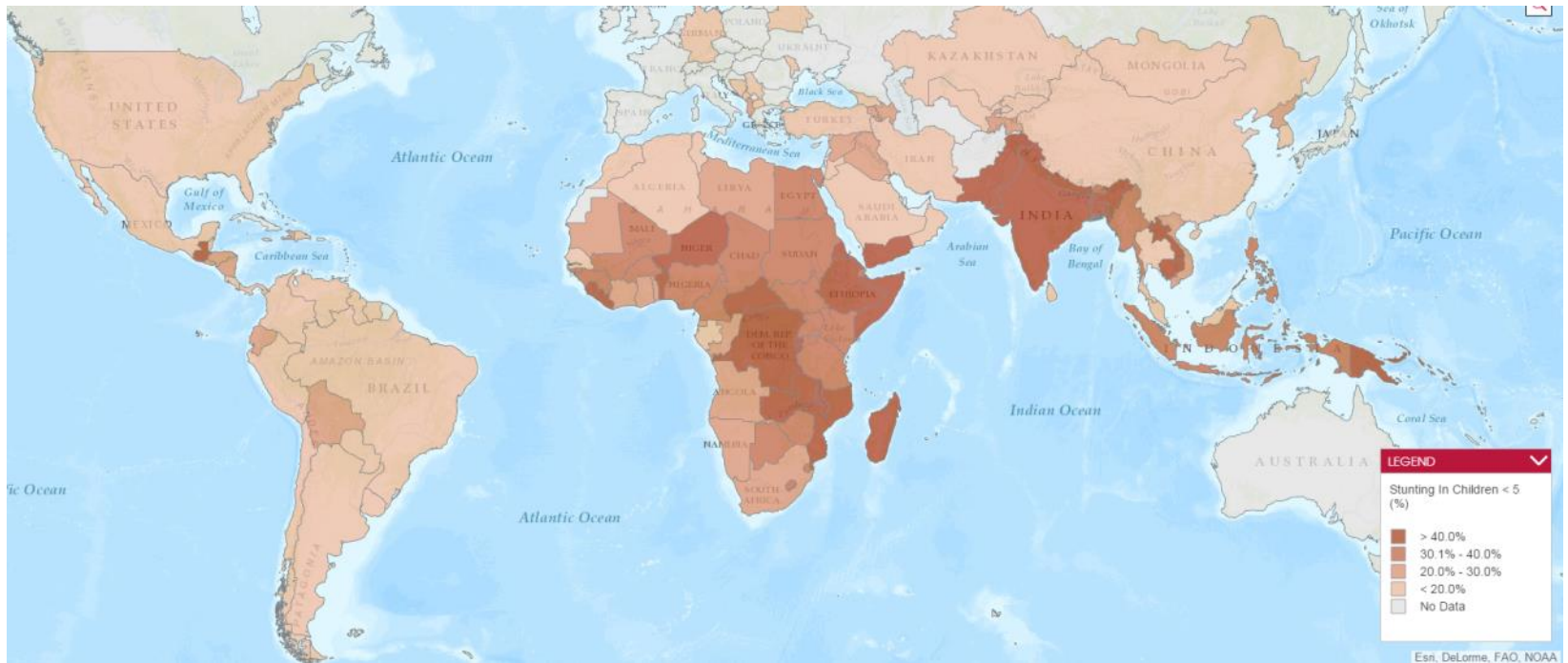


Nutrition-sensitive agriculture programming

# MALNUTRITION

A MAJOR BARRIER TO DEVELOPMENT

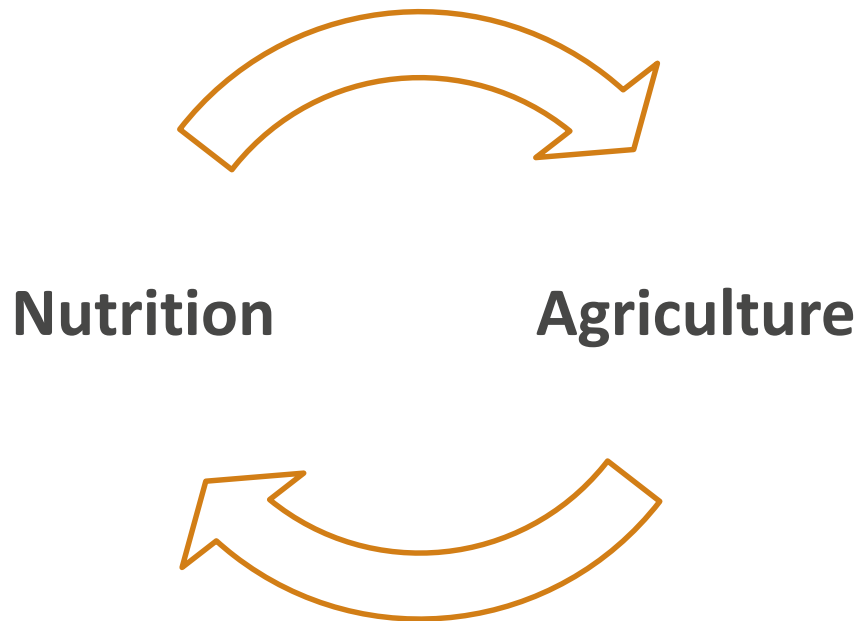
Stunting



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# AGRICULTURE & NUTRITION

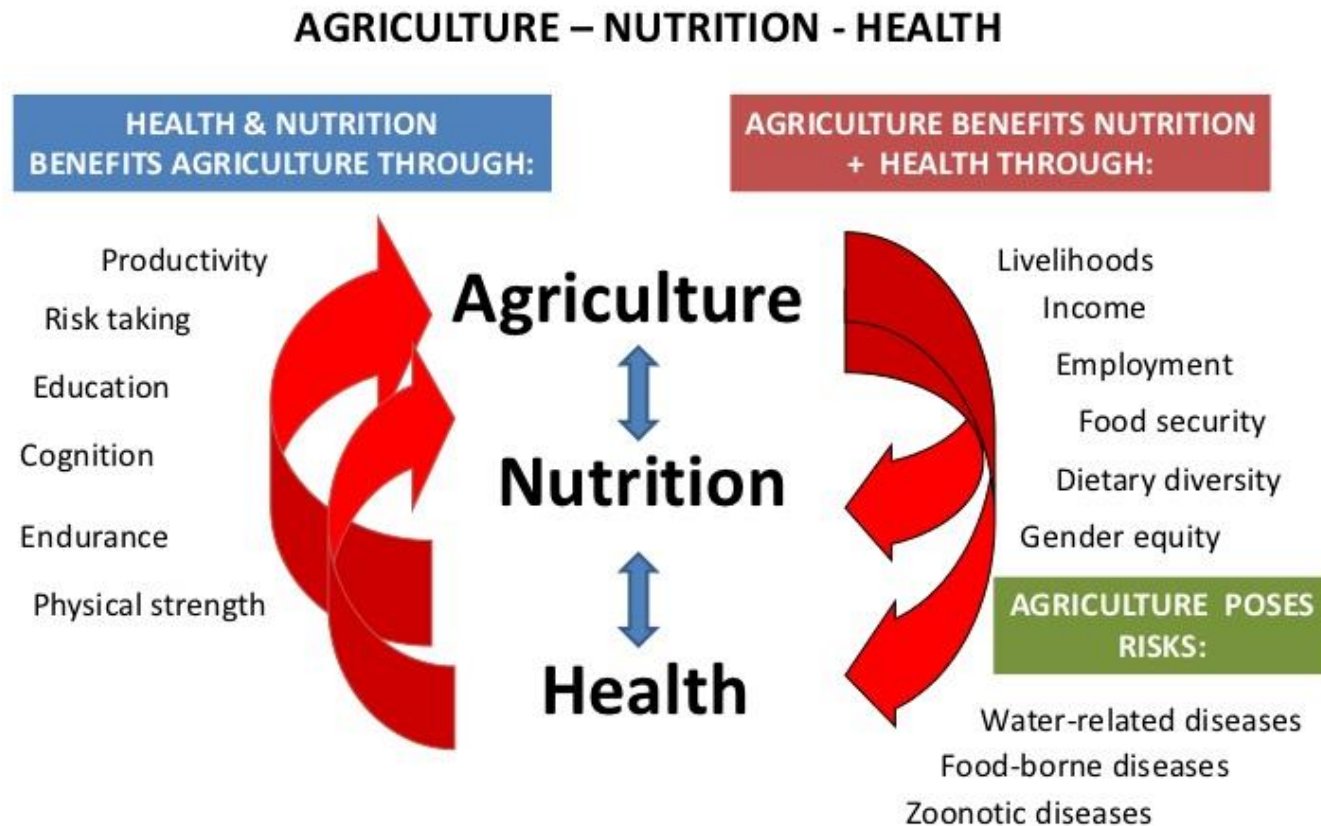
*Why should agriculture programs be nutrition sensitive?*





# Nutrition-sensitive agriculture programming

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- **A productive agriculture sector** is central to human nutrition as it has the potential to supply year-round access to nutritionally diverse, safe and affordable foods.



## **Mercy Corps' adopted strategies for nutrition-sensitive agriculture programs include:**

- » **Empowering women** helps ensure that incomes derived from agriculture are wisely spent on women and children's dietary needs.
- » **Diversifying production** supports multiple pathways to improving nutrition through dietary diversification;
- » **Nutrient-dense foods** are emphasized through the promotion of horticulture, livestock production and legumes



- » **Bio-fortification** is introduced to allow families to continue to consume their traditional foods but with higher nutrient content.
- » **Improving storage and processing maintains** or enhances nutrient content.
- » **Streamlining nutrition education** involving multiple stakeholders — such as agricultural extension agents, health agents and community leaders — will ensure all are aware and continue to promote nutrition considerations







## Kitchen Gardens

Syria, Azaz and Jebel Seman Districts

April-August 2015

## MAIN OBJECTIVES

1. Increase the **availability, access, and utilization** of **safe** nutritious food for the households members especially who suffer from malnutrition.
2. **Build resilient farm families** and communities who are better prepared to face and respond to recurring shocks and stresses.

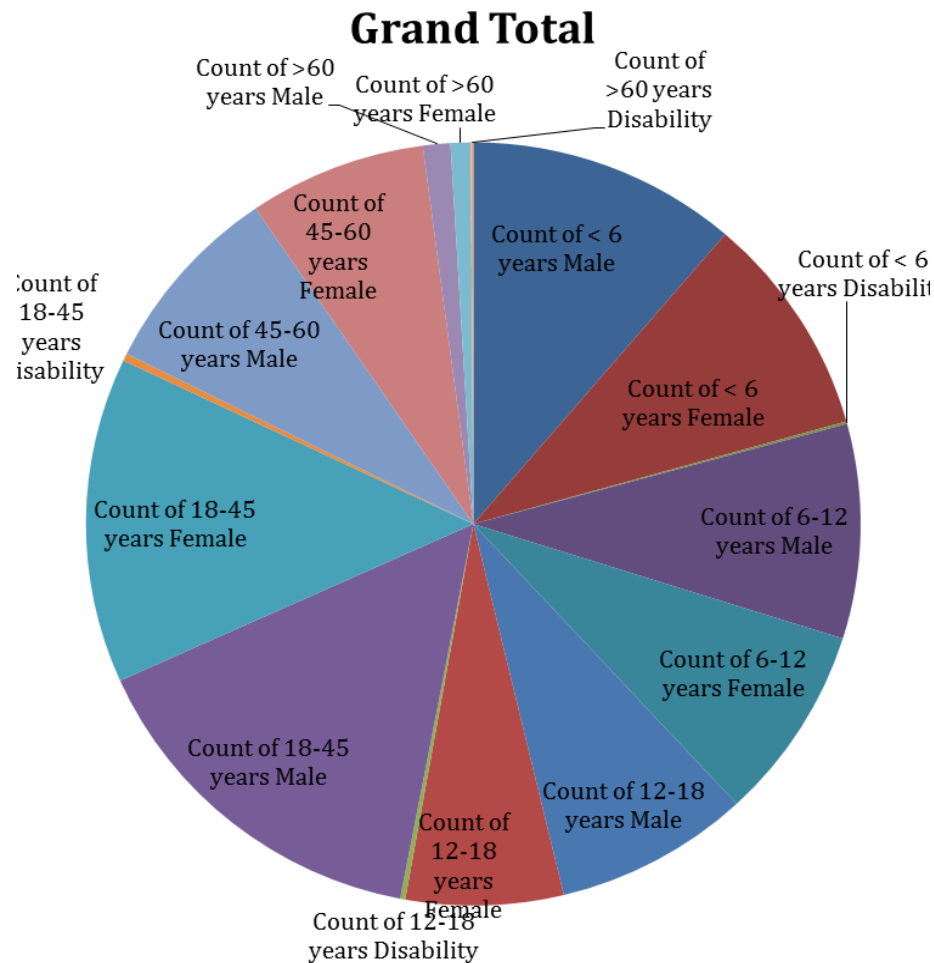


## MAIN OBJECTIVES

1. Support population to be nutritionally secure to ensure they reach their full economic potential.
2. Provision the households with **nutrient-rich products** /inputs **to fill some nutritional gaps**.
3. Decreasing the high cost of their daily life.

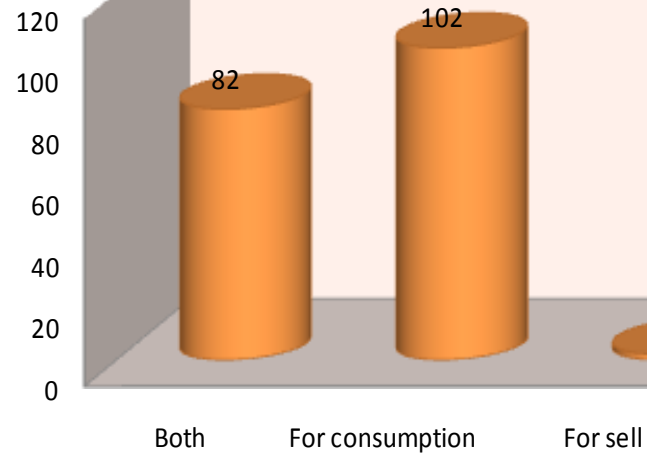
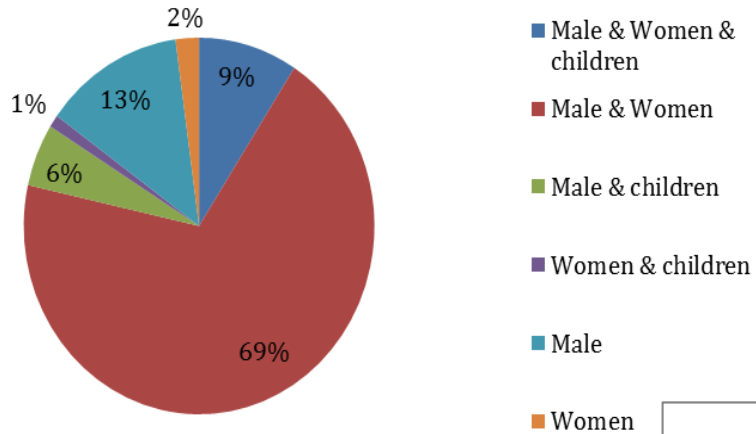


## PRIMARY ASSESSMENT



# Nutrition-sensitive agriculture programming

## Who working in the land?



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## BENEFICIARIES AND TARGETING STRATEGY

- » Targeting the more vulnerable households.
- » Who suffer from a lack in access to the nutrient vegetables, and suffer of malnutrition.
- » The females are preferable in our vulnerability criteria “Widow or woman headed household”.

Targeted households are headed by women= **12%**.



# Nutrition-sensitive agriculture programming

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## » **Women and Youth** contribution in our projects:

- Directly as a beneficiary
- Indirectly as a member of the farmer family

## » **Disables**



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# Kitchen Gardens

## Provision of Kitchen gardening materials and Equipments

S.N	District	sub-district	Locations/ village	N. of beneficiaries
1	Azaz	Azaz	Azaz	31
2		Azaz	Sejaraz	11
3		Azaz	Maareen	8
4		Azaz	Sijo	17
5		Azaz	Meneg	24
6		Azaz	Kefer Kalbeen	10
7		Azaz	Jarez	15
8		Azaz	Al Alkamieh	15
9		Tel Refaat	Tel Refaat	28
10		Tel Refaat	Herbel	24
11		Tel Refaat	Meskan	23
12		Ekda	Ekda	23
13		Ekda	Bregheata	30
14		Ekda	Tlail Al-Sham	11
15		Ekda	Shemmareen	9
16		Kefer Ghan	Kefer Ghan	19
17		Kefer Ghan	Kefer Shosh	10
18		Kefer Ghan	Elbel	20
19		Kefer Ghan	Hamzat	8
20		Kefer Ghan	Tel Hosain	9
21		Kefer Ghan	Yahmoul	12
22		Dair Jamal	Dair Jamal	48
23		Dair Jamal	Kefer Naya	21
24		Dair Jamal	Keffeen	16
25	Jebel Saman	Atareb	Kefer Naha	77
26		Atareb	Kefer Joum	23
27		Atareb	Al Houteh	21
28		Daret Ezza	Al Armen farm	56
Total				619

### Types of supported Areas and N of beneficiaries:

100 m2 = 274

200 m2 = 225

300 m2 = 147



### Irrigation water Amounts:

10 Barrels/ weeks

### Registration and Verification:

100 %

### Monitoring of K. Gardens and Water

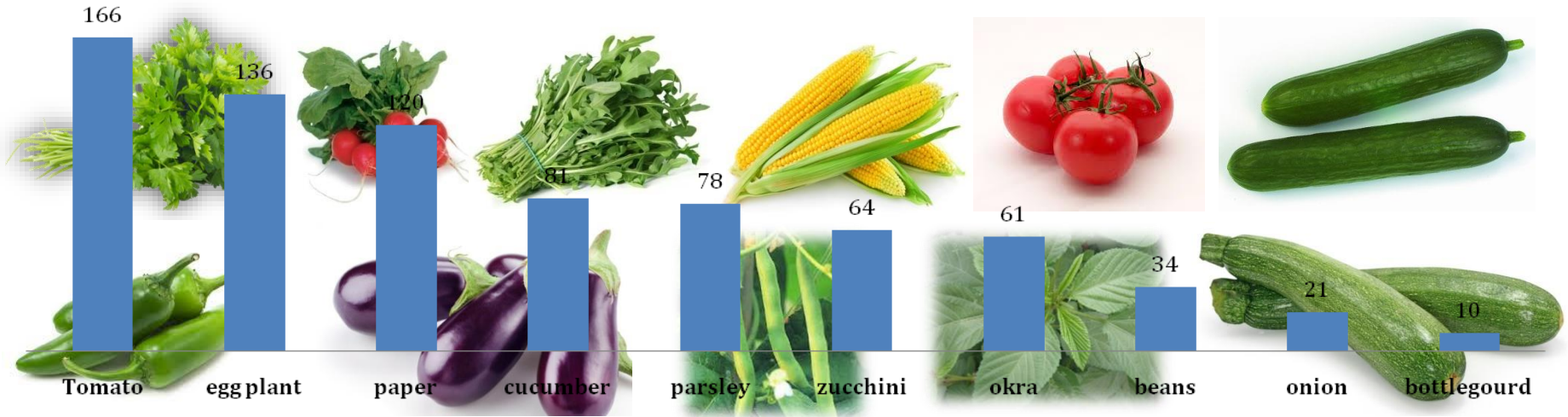
#### Distribution:

100 %



# Rich-Nutrition Distributed Vegetables

## Summer top 10 crops



## MAIN RESULTS



Most of our targeted households are vulnerable and need nutrition.



Most of the households were comfortable to the various nutrient-rich vegetables.



Most of the household were interested with the kitchen gardens activities, and increase family resilient and promote the livelihoods activities.



Provide household member (especially women and youth) with different resources of calories, vitamins and proteins.



## MAIN RESULTS



Self consumption of vegetables.



Good training on farming to the households members particularly IDPs from cities



It is promote the theory that work for food security, not food for free.



Agrarian reforming for small lands around houses.



## SUCCESS FACTORS

### Lessons Learnt:

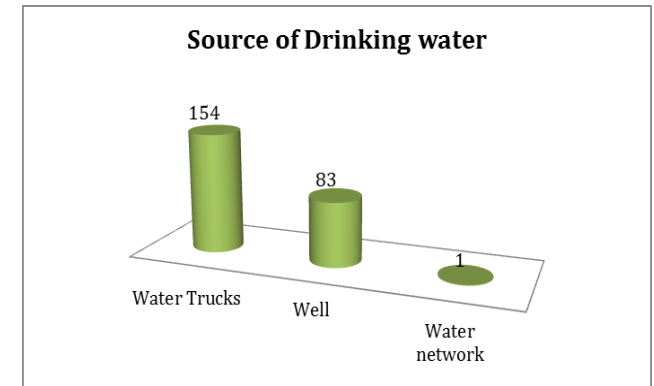
- » Enough **fund**.
- » **Expert** planning and implementation team.
- » Most of our households were **interested**.
- » Kitchen gardens were carried out in the **suitable season and date**.
- » **Following up** all activities by the team, and hiring service farmer contractors.
- » Using **drip irrigation** technique.
- » Supplying With **Water**



## FAIL FACTORS

### Lessons Learnt:

- » There were difficulties in **water distribution**, prices and following up trucks and drivers.
- » Monitoring in few villages was stopped before end of project due to Bad secure situation (**Out of service**).



## DO NO HARM

### A few principles to ensure agriculture programs Do No Harm to nutrition objectives:

- » Ensure women are not overburdened by agricultural production to the detriment of child care.
- » Evaluate the potential negative impact of production choices when focus is solely on cash, or toward male-only benefits.
- » Consider the risks of diseases from incorrect usage of agro-chemicals, livestock raising, poor storage, etc.....
- » Ensure agriculture practices do not pollute or exhaust water system.



## MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- **Mercy Corps encourages** the application of a “**nutrition lens**” when designing its agricultural interventions.



- **Tools** are being developed to ensure Mercy Corps’ agriculture programs increasingly include nutrition considerations throughout:

- **Assessment.**
- **Planning.**
- **Implementation.**
- **Evaluation processes.**



*Including explicit nutrition objectives and indicators.*

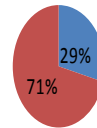
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## FARMER SERVICE CONTRACTOR

❖ Hired 11 contact farmers to assist the team to do a daily monitoring and providing technical support to the target beneficiaries.

kitchen Garden Training



■ no  
■ yes



- ❖ **Contract farmers selected based on:**
  - Their knowledge on farming.
  - willingness to visit target households and provide technical assistance.
  - Acceptance of the group members.
  - Respectful by the community.



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## MAIN CHALLENGES (CONTENT OF PROBLEMS TREES)

- Security situation.
- Lack of nutrition-education and extension.
- Lack of nutrition experts
- High prices and cost of Diverse Products.
- No access for many varieties.
- Absence of IPM.
- Absence of GOVT. Monitoring.
- HARM caused by conflict.
- No analysis laboratories



## WHAT'S NEXT

- » Test with field teams and new program design
- » Build evidence on the impact of agriculture on nutrition





# MercyCorps

**Be the change**

## **CONTACT**

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