ACDI/VOCA and Tanager strive to integrate nutrition into our market system and value chain approaches to agricultural development, ensuring food security, creating sustainable livelihoods, and empowering people to seize opportunities for better lives. Our strategy focuses on four main pathways to improve nutritional outcomes for participants: empowering women, improving food production, increasing incomes, and strengthening market systems.

Empowering Women
In many developing countries, mothers are often last to eat, if they eat at all. Nutrition programs often target women as beneficiaries because of their traditional roles as caretakers. Challenges occur when these gender roles impose the double burden of time needed for domestic and remunerative labor and limit women’s ability to change behavior in their communities. Using gender analysis, ACDI/VOCA and Tanager build programs with a strong foundation for food security and household-level health and nutrition. We train both women and men on the importance of nutrition, maternal and child health, hygiene, and family planning, resulting in joint household decision making and resource allocation.

Improving Food Production
Farmers who effectively manage, process, and store their crops and livestock increase food availability at the household level and beyond. What often inhibits efficiency is not a lack of land, but a lack of resources—from plowing services to small loans to invest in better seed and fertilizer. ACDI/VOCA and Tanager help improve on-farm productivity by linking farmers to better inputs and agricultural services. We build the capacities of farmer associations and cooperatives to achieve greater food production and allow households to smooth their consumption of nutrient-rich foods throughout the year.

ACDI/VOCA and Tanager’s technical assistance and tools enable projects to integrate nutrition-sensitive interventions into agriculture, value chain, and market system activities at any point in the project cycle. We use our Nutrition-Sensitive Intervention Design Signature Tool to help project staff identify, design, and integrate nutrition-sensitive interventions through a five-step process:

1. Identify nutritional opportunities and challenges through a desk review
2. Select key nutrition-sensitive interventions
3. Collaborate on an implementation action plan
4. Monitor and evaluate interventions
5. Review and repeat

We also provide a Household Budgeting for Diet Diversity training. The training teaches basic money management skills and improves nutrition knowledge, while promoting equitable household decision making.

ACDI/VOCA is an international development nonprofit that envisions a world in which all people are empowered to build healthy families and resilient communities. Learn more about ACDI/VOCA at www.acdivoca.org.
**Increasing Incomes**
Competitive value chains generate better incomes through the marketing of crops and livestock, allowing households to buy more nutritious and diverse foods. ACDI/VOCA and Tanager combine this value chain approach with a social and behavior change strategy that includes nutrition education to help households make spending choices conducive to health and nutrition. We also empower women to strengthen their participation in joint income decision making so that all members of the household benefit from increased incomes.

**Strengthening Market Systems**
What happens to food once it leaves the farm significantly impacts nutrition. By improving post-harvest handling and storage of crops, we can better retain nutrients, reduce aflatoxin exposure, and even fortify them with added nutrients. ACDI/VOCA and Tanager work within complex market systems to identify opportunities for maintaining or boosting nutrition from farm to fork. We also strive to reduce end market food prices through more efficient market systems, which can increase the purchasing power of vulnerable populations—many of whom are net food buyers.

“I'M GRATEFUL FOR THE RWANU PROGRAM. BEFORE, I DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT HEALTH AND WHAT CAUSES MALNUTRITION. NOW, I SEE THE CHANGES—THE CHILDREN ARE GROWING, AND I'M VERY HAPPY ABOUT THAT.”
—Santina A., 32-year-old mother of five, Uganda RWANU participant

## ADDRESSING NUTRITIONAL NEEDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Kyrgyzstan     | **Agro Horizon Project**  
Through the USAID Agro Horizon Project, ACDI/VOCA implements water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) trainings to promote the importance of safe handling of pesticides, fertilizers, and manure to household nutrition. The training of 12,000 households on gender-equitable household budgeting prioritizes the purchase and consumption of a diverse diet. By collaborating with Feed the Future and the Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING) project, Agro Horizon spreads its nutrition message even further. Agricultural trainings include household gardening and storage methods for nutrient-rich commodities. |
|                | **The Livestock Production for Improved Nutrition**  
The Livestock Production for Improved Nutrition project works to improve rural household nutrition through two agriculture-to-nutrition pathways: livestock production for household consumption and income generation. The project works through private-sector entrepreneurs and village health workers to sustainably deliver inputs, services, and embedded extension and nutrition information to increase livestock production and promote animal source foods. |
| Bangladesh     | **SELEVER**  
Our affiliate Tanager manages the SELEVER project to improve the nutritional status of women and children through an integrated approach of economic strengthening, women's empowerment, and behavior change around diet diversity. SELEVER works to improve poultry production and marketing opportunities for 30,000 smallholder farmers, particularly women, through access to finance and extension services. The project's behavior change messaging also helps ensure that joint household decision making and increased incomes lead to the purchasing of diverse foods. |
| Burkina Faso   | **The Livestock Production for Improved Nutrition**  
The Livestock Production for Improved Nutrition project works to improve rural household nutrition through two agriculture-to-nutrition pathways: livestock production for household consumption and income generation. The project works through private-sector entrepreneurs and village health workers to sustainably deliver inputs, services, and embedded extension and nutrition information to increase livestock production and promote animal source foods. |

---

**ACDI/VOCA**
Expanding Opportunities Worldwide