ACDI/VOCA Food Systems Approach

Food Systems transformation is a critical opportunity to bolster market systems development and long-term economic growth. ACDI/VOCA conceptualizes the food system as the entire range of actors and systems involved in the food supply chain. The function of the food system is shaped by an array of drivers and leads to important development outcomes.

ACDI/VOCA applies its inclusive market systems (IMS) approach to transform food systems to provide better livelihood opportunities, promote dietary diversity, and empower individuals while also increasing resilience to shocks and stressors from climate-change and other economic, social, and political threats.

How ACDI/VOCA Transforms Food Systems

**Analyze**

Our IMS approach begins with **analysis**, looking beyond the symptoms to uncover the root causes of poor food system performance. We use our Signature Food Environment Analysis Tool and USAID’s 5R Framework to identify critical barriers to healthy diets.

**Strategize**

We co-create solutions to **develop a strategy** for food system change, working with local stakeholders and institutions to ensure contextual robustness. We apply our Nutrition-Sensitive Intervention Selection tool and Nutrition Strategy toolkit to guide this process.

**Facilitate**

With a goal of local ownership, we **facilitate and collaborate** to implement the strategy, building local capacity for sustainability and inclusion. We leverage our time-tested Private Sector Engagement Toolkit to generate sustainable change in food system function.

**Learn & Adapt**

To stay responsive to changing contexts, we continuously **learn and adapt**, employing standard Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting (CLA) processes as well as new innovative methods to measure system change.

ACDI/VOCA is a global development design and delivery partner that has implemented effective economic and social development projects in nearly 150 countries since 1963. Learn more at [www.acdivoca.org](http://www.acdivoca.org)
ACDI/VOCA has been catalyzing positive changes in food systems globally for 60 years by supporting agricultural productivity of food crops, developing stronger output markets, increasing consumer demand for nutritious food, and promoting enabling environments that improve the performance of the food supply chain.

ACDI/VOCA uses an array of innovative, evidence-backed tools and frameworks to develop, guide, and monitor food systems activities, many of which are publicly available. These resources serve to guide market systems implementers in creating activities that drive both resilient and inclusive economic growth alongside food systems outcomes that support human and planetary health.

ACDI/VOCA Food Systems Resources

- **Analyze**
  - ACDI/VOCA Food Environment Analysis Learning Report
  - USAID 5Rs Framework in the Program Cycle

- **Strategize**
  - Tool: Nutrition-Sensitive Intervention Selection Tool
  - IGNITE Nutrition Strategy Development Guidance

- **Facilitate**
  - Tool: ACDI/VOCA Private Sector Engagement Toolkit
  - Blog Series: Engaging the Private Sector Learning Series

- **Learn & Adapt**
  - Tool: USAID Collaborating, Learning, and Adapting Toolkit
  - Outcome Harvesting for Measuring Systems Change

Read more about ACDI/VOCA’s approach to Food Systems Transformation here.

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