



INTERNATIONAL FOOD  
POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE  
*sustainable solutions for ending hunger and poverty*



# Homestead Food Production Programs for Better Health & Nutrition

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# Presentation Outline

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## 1) Background

- \* Maternal and young child nutrition
- \* Homestead food production program model

## 2) Description of study

- \* Research objectives
- \* Program theory
- \* Methods

## 3) Relevance to AHRP



# Maternal and child undernutrition

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- More than 10% of total global burden of disease is attributable to maternal and child undernutrition (Lancet Series 2008)
  - 3.6 million (35%) of deaths to children <5 yr
- Hidden hunger – micronutrient deficiencies
  - 100-140 million children vitamin A deficient
  - 1/3 of world's population deficient in dietary zinc
  - 42% pregnant women; 47% preschool children anemic (50-60% of anemia IDA)



# Interventions to Improve Nutrition

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- Evidence-base is greatest for targeted interventions that directly effect nutrition (e.g. micronutrient supplementation, deworming, iodization of salt)
- Improving nutrition requires multisectoral, integrated packages of interventions that address underlying causes such as poverty, food insecurity, and women's status.
- Agriculture interventions and dietary diversification strategies increase food production and intakes of higher quality foods, but nutrition outcomes contingent on nutrition education and behavior change



# Homestead Food Production Program Model

- Helen Keller International (HKI) operating home gardening programs in Asia since 1990's; small livestock added in 2002
- Goals: Increase year round production and varieties of fruits and vegetables; improve consumption of high quality foods; and improve micronutrient nutrition and growth



## Basic HFP model

- 1) HKI partners with local NGOs
- 2) Establish VMFs
- 3) Production inputs & training
- 4) Village Model Farms serve ~ 40 hh
- 5) Nutrition education provided



# HFP/Cambodia

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## Preliminary analysis of M&E data

- ↑ developed garden types
- ↑ food production
- ↑ income from gardens
- ↑ dark green leafy  
vegetables & eggs
- ↓ fever

No evidence for nutrition  
impacts



# Research Goal & Objectives

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- Goal: to assess the design and implementation of the HFP program in order to develop an enhanced model
  
- Objectives:
  - Define and measure components of the program and impact pathways using program theory framework
  - Identify constraints in program implementation
  - Assess key aspects of delivery and use of services
  - Study the perceptions and attitudes of stakeholders, beneficiaries, and staff
  - Assess role of mother's groups
  - Identify opportunities for strengthening nutrition inputs and linking to preventative health services



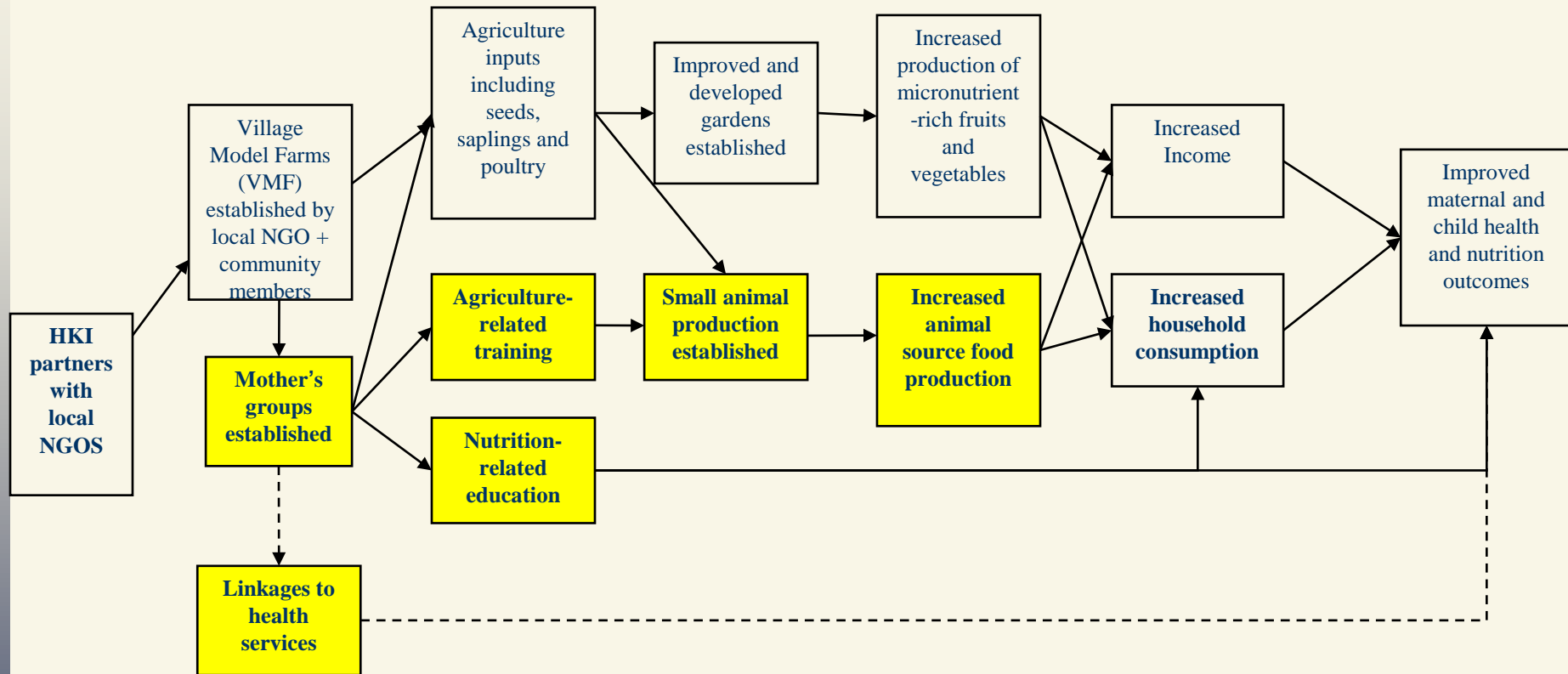
# Study Design & Methods

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- Launch workshop
  - HKI, local partners, stakeholders
  - Program theory pathways refined
- Data collection
  - Operations research
  - Direct observations, key informant interviews, focus group discussions, and other surveys
- Analysis and final report
- Final workshop
- Enhanced HFP program model development



# Program Theory



# Expected Outcomes and Impact

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- Program-theory based, enhanced model of HFP
- Strengthened capacity of HKI and NGO partners to use program theory and operations research
- More effective HFP programming



# Relevance to AHRP

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- Central to the AHRP theme, “Nutrition, diet, and health”
- Builds on IFPRI’s history of work on linkages between agriculture and nutrition
- Works through NGOs to strengthen capacity and better ensure scaling of programs
- Establish partnerships and share information with those conducting related research



# Thank you

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