



Transform Nutrition West Africa researchers met with University of Ghana, Sheffield University and the Institute of Development Studies researchers in Ghana in June 2018.

The meeting was linked to The Agriculture, Nutrition, and Health (ANH) Academy's third annual conference in Accra, Ghana. This sub meeting aimed to:

- To start a dialogue between researchers (at national and global level) working in Ghana.
- To get a better understanding of how the research can be synthesized and mobilized in a timely and effective way for uptake by decision makers, and what role Transform Nutrition West Africa can potentially play in this.

In summary the participants discussed:

- How to identify an effective way to share updates and activities on projects, especially for when there is potential overlap, as projects develop.
- Transform Nutrition West Africa's online platform as a good platform to share results of projects. In addition to online sharing, the TNWA's E-newsletter is a good opportunity to share results at regional level.
- Dissemination and events in Ghana: in-country there are a lot of events. Sharing especially stakeholder consultations to avoid overlap between projects was mentioned.
- On a final note: it was suggested that it would be useful for Transform Nutrition West Africa to have an up-to-date repository of ongoing projects in each West Africa country.
- Details of ongoing relevant research projects in Ghana which are detailed in the table below.

1 Ongoing research projects in Ghana: at a glance

Who		What	When	Where	How	Outputs	With Whom	Contact person
Organisation	Project							
IFPRI	mNutrition	Impact evaluation of a mobile farm extension service	2016-2019	Upper West and Central regions, Ghana	Randomized encouragement design	Scientific paper	IDS (qualitative evaluation) and GMOS (business model evaluation)	Lucy Billings
	Transform Nutrition West Africa	A regional platform to enable effective policy and programmatic action on nutrition.	2017-2021	West African region, focal countries: Ghana (national and potentially community work), Senegal, Nigeria, and Burkina Faso	i) Assess and analyse nutrition-relevant data and actions, ii) mobilize knowledge, and iii) stakeholder engagement and leadership training	Scientific papers, Online platform, E-newsletter, Slide-decks, Evidence briefs, Stories of Change, Stakeholder consultations	IDS & ANLP (Stories of Change and short courses). Partnerships with Countdown 2030, African Leaders for Nutrition, DataDent, UNICEF, A&T. SoC Ghana: with University of Ghana	Roos Verstraeten/Stuart Gillespie SoC: Mara Van den Bold/Richmond Ayreety
	School Feeding programme	Impact evaluation of the national school feeding programme	2013-2016	Country (Ghana) wide, (10 regions)	Impact evaluation	Scientific paper	University of Ghana, Government of Ghana	Aulo Gelli

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	Value Chains for Nutrition	Leveraging Food Systems for Improved Nutrition	2017-2018 (current funding ends this year)	Country wide (Ghana), with qualitative case studies in select communities	Diagnostic approach: Analysis of secondary data (household surveys and food balance sheet data); collection and analysis of qualitative and market data	Scientific paper	Potential collaborators, funding dependent: ISSER, CIMMYT, Noguchi Medical Center	Noora-Lisa Aberman
	Strengthening SMEs' Contribution to Nutrition-Sensitive Food Systems in Ghana	FAO working to leverage SME's to make healthy foods available	2017-2019	Ghana (plus Kenya and Vietnam)	i. Needs assessment ii. Stakeholder mapping iii. trainings for SMEs and agricultural training centers	Background reports, Online training course and university course modules	Led by FAO-Rome, IFPRI-Ghana is a collaborator	Noora-Lisa Aberman
IDS	MSP project (for SUN) (funded by Dfid, and managed by NI)	Understanding the design of multi-stakeholder platforms for nutrition at national and sub-national levels in 16 sun countries, in order to create an online toolkit to help countries with key	Started Jan 2018, aim to end April 2019	National policy level only	In Ghana we are only doing a desk review of documents to help us understand the country MSP. In other countries we are including a case study with interviews	Online toolkit	No in-country partners	Jody Harris

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		challenges in MSP design for effectiveness.						
Ghana University	Becoming Breastfeeding Friendly Toolbox	A policy/program assessment of country breastfeeding program in Ghana	2016 – 2019	National level evaluations	To identify gaps in programming across 8 focus areas (gears) and measurable sub-areas (benchmarks)	Policy brief, poster at IUNS, 2017, stakeholder dissemination, high level consultation with decision makers in 2017.	Yale School of Public Health	Richmond Aryeetey
	Invisible Fishers Project	A feasibility study of fish value chains in Ghana focusing on fish smoking livelihoods and linkages with anaemia	2018 – 2019	Two regions in Ghana (Volta and Central)	To test the feasibility of three interventions packages for reducing anaemia in women engaged in fish smoking		University of Michigan, VIAMO, Innovations for Poverty Action, University of Ghana Nutrition and Food Science Department, SNV	Richmond Aryeetey
	Breastfeed for Ghana	Trial of social media promotion of breastfeeding	2017-2018	Ghana-focused on urban areas where beneficiaries	Messages delivered via facebook, twitter, and website	ongoing	Yale School of Public health	Richmond Aryeetey

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				likely to be living	Two methods of delivery: 1. provider delivery 2. influencer/user delivery Allows us to compare provider directed messaging compared to user-involved message delivery			
	Development of a culturally appropriate early childhood responsive parenting/feeding guide for Ghanaian caregivers of children younger than 36 months living in the central region of Ghana	Feasibility study of developing responsive feeding tools to guide child feeding	2018-2022	Central Region, Ghana	Community-based testing using focus groups, indepth interviews, which is linked with tools development and revision, and feasibility testing with potential end-users	ongoing	Yale School of Public Health	Richmond Aryeetey

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	Building Capacity for Sustainable Livelihoods and Health Through Public-Private Linkages in Agriculture and Health Systems (Nutrition Links)	(1) enhance human capacity of government, civil, and private institutions in agriculture, nutrition and health, entrepreneurship, and pedagogy; (2) identify capacity needs and develop a representative and sustainable longitudinal data system to support evidence-based decision-making in programs; (3) increase vulnerable households' access to quality services in agriculture/fisheries, nutrition and health, and finance; (4) implement integrated intervention	2014-2018	Eastern region, Ghana	Integrated Agriculture-Nutrition-Health Trials (involving household chicken enterprise, homestead gardens); institutional and individual capacity strengthening. All these activities monitored regularly in annual surveys	Publications in progress. Dissemination report Final report being finalized	McGill University, World Vision Canada/Ghana, Heifer International,	Richmond Aryeetey

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		activities to improve infant and young child and adolescent nutrition outcomes; and (5) examine differential benefits interventions for diverse vulnerable populations.						
University of Sheffield, UK	MRC-GCRF Foundation Award. TACLED project: Transitions in African Cities Leveraging Evidence for Diet-related non communicable diseases.	To examine factors in urban social and physical food environments in Ghana	January 2017 to end of March 2019	Low income neighborhoods in Accra and Ho	Women and adolescent girls and men ≥13 years Qualitative 24 hour recall (n=192), Photovoice (n=64) and Photography exhibitions Local communities GIS Mapping to assess food environment, Community Readiness Model- local stakeholders (n=24) National and international stakeholders	International webinars and SUN exchange meetings	Prof Michelle Holdsworth (PI & co-ordinator), Dr Robert Akparibo, Dr Rebecca Pradeilles (Co-Is), University of Ghana Dr Amos Laar (Co-PI in University of Ghana), Dr Richmond Ayreety and Dr Kobby Mensah (Co-Is), University of Health and Allied Sciences,	Michelle Holdsworth

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					Conceptual framework of drivers of food choice, food-EPI policy mapping-benchmarking food environments		Ho Ghana , Prof. Francis Zotor (Co-PI in UHAS), Loughborough University, UK , Prof Paula Griffiths (Co-I), University of Liverpool, UK , Dr Mark Green (Co-I) CIRAD, France , Nicolas Bricas (Co-I)	