PROJECT OVERVIEW

Donor: GIZ – Gesellschaft für International Zusammenarbeit

Budget: US$ 1,865,780

Duration: January 2020 to December 2022

Targets: 20,500 Pregnant and Lactating women, 10,500 Under 2 children and 16000 male partners

Partners: Ministries of Health, Agriculture, Gender and nutrition structures and civil protection structures at district and community levels

Malnutrition still remains a challenge in Malawi especially in children and women. According to Malawi Demographic Health Survey (MDHS) in 2016, 37% of children were stunted (short for their age) and 33% of women of childbearing (15 – 49 years) were anaemic. Early days from conception to a child’s second birthday (first 1000 days of life) are very crucial for physical and cognitive developments with long term effects in later life.

With support from the Germany government, CARE is implementing “IFNS III” a GIZ-Food and Nutrition Security Project (FNSP) which builds on CARE’s successful implementation of the two past phases of the “Improving Food and Nutrition Security (IFNS)” project that was implemented from November 2015 to December 2017, and January 2018 to December 2019 under the “One World – No Hunger” Special Initiative on “Food and Nutrition Security, Enhanced Resilience” Malawi country package called “Food and Nutrition Security Programme”. The project focuses on empowering beneficiary household to translate the knowledge of good nutrition practices, nutrition sensitive agriculture, water sanitation and hygiene into sustainable practices while strengthening the coordination of nutrition related programming at community and district level. The project works through SUN Care Group as entry point to deepen nutrition knowledge and tackle underlying social, cultural and gender related causes of malnutrition and also building their resilience to shocks and stresses that affects their food and nutrition security.

Overall, the project seeks to improve nutritional status of women and children while enhancing their household resilience to food crises. This is achieved through implementing the following major activities;

- Building capacity of care groups and frontline to deliver Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) key modules to household clusters.
- Facilitating Community-Lead Complimentary Feeding and Learning Lessons
- Through VNCC, organising community initiated cooking and feeding demonstrations
- Promotion of homesteads to enhance access to fresh nutritious vegetables.
- Integrating economic empowerment initiatives such as forming Village Savings and Loans groups
- Building capacity of VSL members on EASPM and financial literacy
- Promoting highly productive home gardens and through Intergrated homestead farming, support households with chickens, fruits and vegetables.
- Capacity building and interface with nutrition coordination structures and also establishing their linkage with civil protection committees.
- Integrating gender equality in nutrition and health interventions through gender dialogues and male champions’ engagement.