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# Resiliency in Northern Ghana

Feed the Future Implementing Partners Meeting  
March 21, 2017





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## USAID Resiliency in Northern Ghana (RING) Project

- **5 year project:** June 2014 – June 2019
- **Geographic Location:** 17 districts of the Northern Region
- **Government of Ghana Partners:** Northern Region Coordinating Council and 7 Regional Departments, 17 MMDAs
- **Goal:** Improved livelihoods and nutritional status of vulnerable households
- **Expected Results:** Contribute to USAID/Ghana FTF goals:
  - 20% decrease in stunting, wasting, underweight, and anemia among Children Under 5
  - 80% of target Households have increased incomes by 100%
- **Five technical areas:** Agriculture, Livelihood, Nutrition, WASH; and Governance



Figure 1: Map of 17 Implementation Districts in Northern Region, Ghana



## RING Innovations

1. **Technical:** Orange Fleshed Sweet Potatoes, Leafy Green Vegetables with Drip Irrigation Systems
2. **Programmatic:** layering of activities, progressive sequencing and cost sharing (ex:VSLA+OFSP+LGV)
3. **Administrative:** performance based temporary help agreements for rapid scale up of VSLA and CLTS
4. **Strategic Partnership:** effective decentralization and increase proximity of public services (NRCC-MMDAs-sub-district structures)





## Results to date: Village Savings and Loans Associations

- Women groups depositing small weekly savings
- 29,405 members of 1,090 groups
- Savings accumulated to date of GHs 2,587,638
- Total Loans to members GHs 995,353
- Loan utilization (27%-Agriculture, 12%- Education, 50%-Income generating activities, 7%-Health and 4%-Others). % invested in agriculture and Income generating activities depends on the season.





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## Results to date: Orange-Fleshed Sweet Potatoes, “Alaafei Wuljo”

- In 2015, pilot phase with 20 MT harvested by 600 women
- In 2016, scale up phase with 264 MT harvested by 2,118 women
- Emphasis on consumption for complementary feeding and for maternal diet: improved porridge for children, potato chips, leaf stew, boiled potato, *mpotompoto*
- In 2017, continued scale up with 5 million vines expected to produce 1,000 MT with 10,000 women







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## Results to date: Leafy Green Vegetables with Drip Irrigation

- Promotion of ayoyo, alefu, bra (cultural core crops rich in iron and calcium) using small scale drip irrigation systems during the dry season
- In 2016, 57 systems covering 27,000 square meters benefiting 891 women
- Promotion of household consumption as well as income generation
- In 2017, installation of an additional 250 systems currently underway in 13 districts to benefit more than 3,500 women
- Women are harvesting leafy green vegies multiple times during the dry season using drip irrigation.
- All sites to produce OFSP vines during the dry season for year-round sustainable scaling-up





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## Results to date: Sheep (small ruminants)

- Each household receiving 3 Ewes
- Each community receiving 2 Rams
- 7,660 households currently caring for 24,294 animals







## Results to date: Soybeans

- High protein crops to fortify nutrient poor staple foods and local dishes
- In 2015, 4,406 acres farmed with a yield of 600 MT (average yield of 180kg per acre)
- In 2016, 7,428 acres farmed with a yield of 2,207 MT (smaller plots and better practices to improve yield, small is beautiful concept, with an average yield of 289 kg per acre)
- Cooking demonstrations teach soy utilization for improved complementary feeding and maternal diet.







## Results to date: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

- 258 Communities triggered for CLTS
- 87 Communities certified Open Defecation-Free
- 4,460 Household latrines built
- 1,320 Tippy taps installed
- 377 Boreholes repaired benefiting 113,100 people





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# Governance

RING currently has pilot initiatives focusing on:

- Strengthening of sub-district structures for proximity of public services and increase access and utilization
- Tracking Host Country Contributions
- Community Score Cards & Open Budgets





# THANK YOU

