

A quantitative content analysis of the nutrition sensitivity of food and agriculture policies in Ghana's food and agriculture sector

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Introduction

- 'Nutrition sensitivity' in agriculture means maximizing the positive impacts of food and agriculture policies on nutrition.
- There is limited evidence on the extent to which policies in the Ghanaian food and agriculture sector are nutrition-sensitive.

Methods

- 2 staff from Ghana's Ministry of Food and Agriculture identified 17 policy documents for analysis.
- 2 raters used 17 equally-weighted criteria of nutrition sensitivity adapted from the FAO guidelines on 'Key Recommendations for Improving Nutrition Through Agriculture and Food Systems'.
- Raters jointly generated criterion keywords for manual and computer document search and text extraction.
- Each rater independently reviewed text extracts and scored the extent of the presence of each criterion.
- Scores were summed independently; averages calculated.
- Each document was categorized for its nutrition sensitivity.

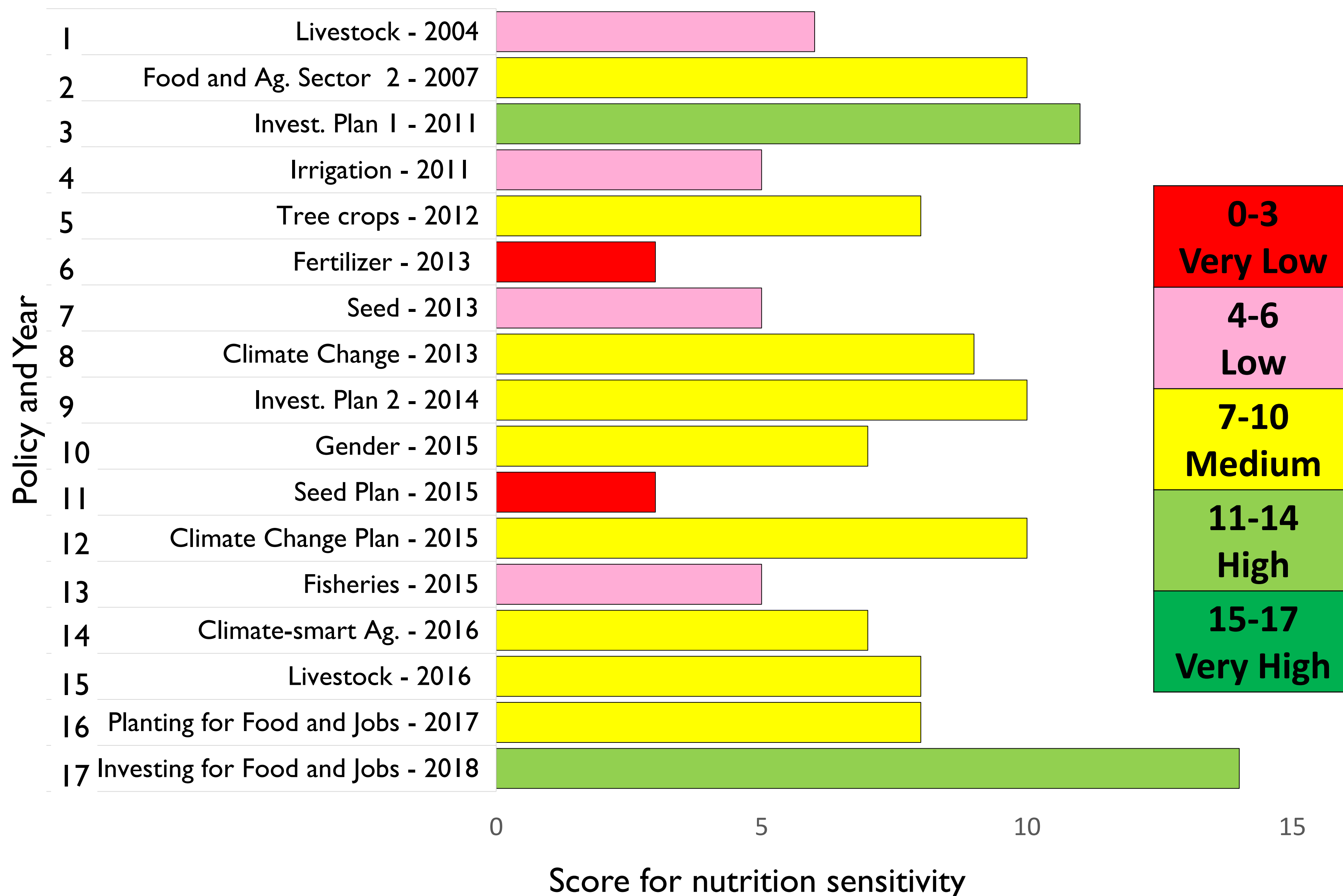
Objective

To assess the nutrition-sensitive characteristics of Ghanaian food and agriculture policies between 2004 and 2021

Results

Criteria for nutrition sensitivity	Policies																
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Increase food production	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Protect the natural resource base	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reduce post harvest losses	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Targeting the vulnerable	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Diversification of agricultural production	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Empower women	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutrition promotion and education	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multisectoral collaboration and coordination	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Context analysis	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nutrition objectives and indicators	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Increase production of nutritious food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Market expansion and market access	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improved processing of foods to enhance convenience in preparation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improved storage and preservation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Explicit nutrition goals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Improved processing to retain nutritional value	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Market access to nutritious foods	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Degree of nutrition sensitivity of 17 policies



Conclusion

The analysis highlights important areas where the agricultural sector can improve nutrition, particularly in promoting the production, processing, and marketing of nutrient-rich foods.

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