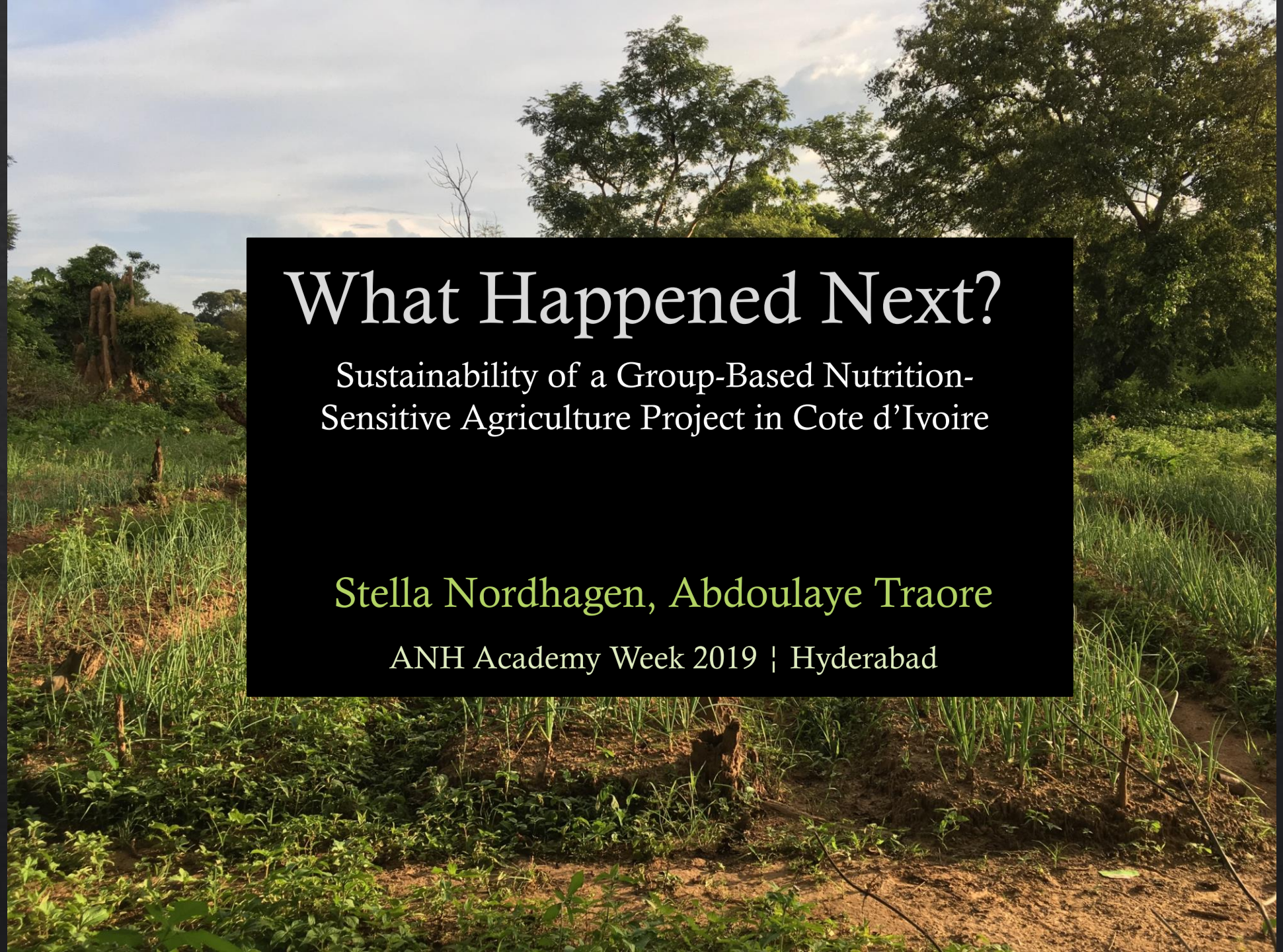
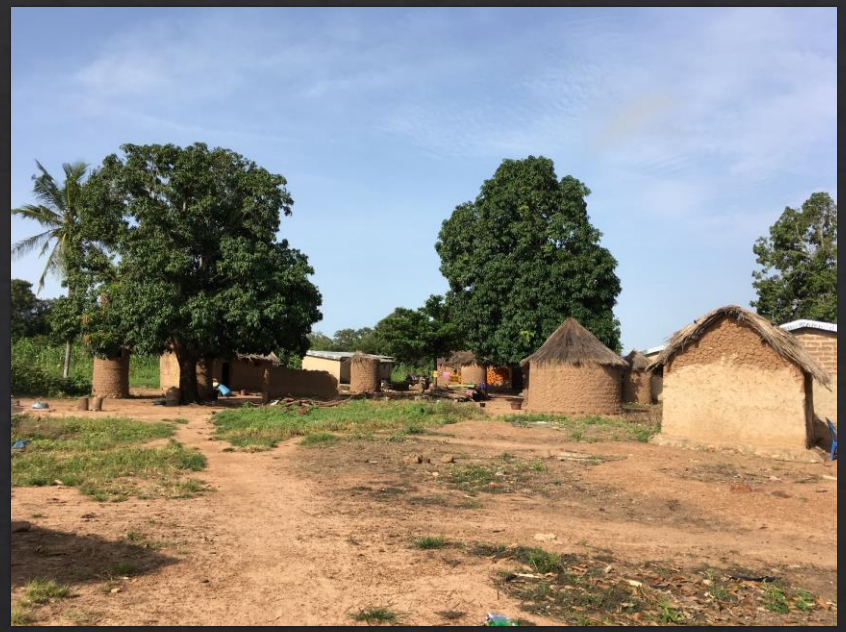


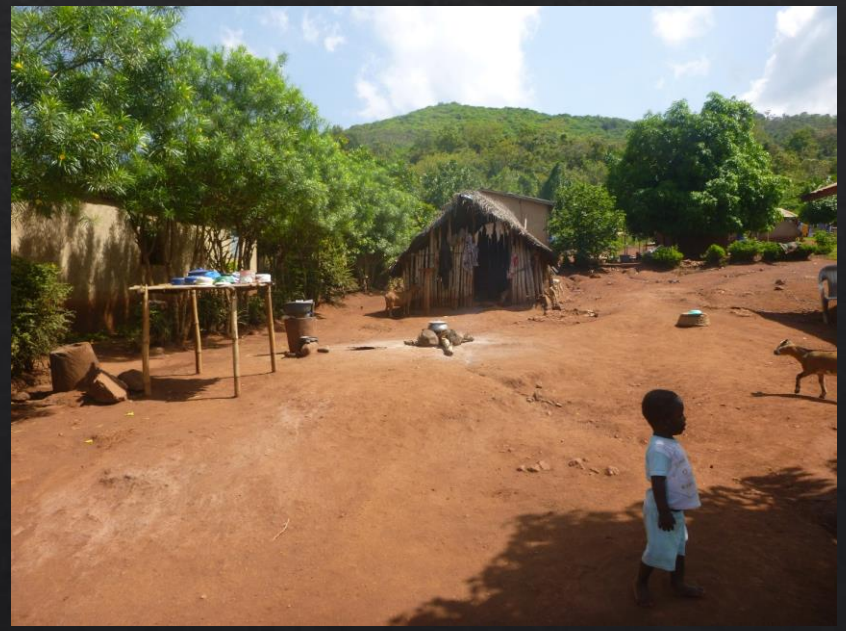
What Happened Next?

Sustainability of a Group-Based Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Project in Cote d'Ivoire

Stella Nordhagen, Abdoulaye Traore

ANH Academy Week 2019 ¦ Hyderabad





Background & Motivation

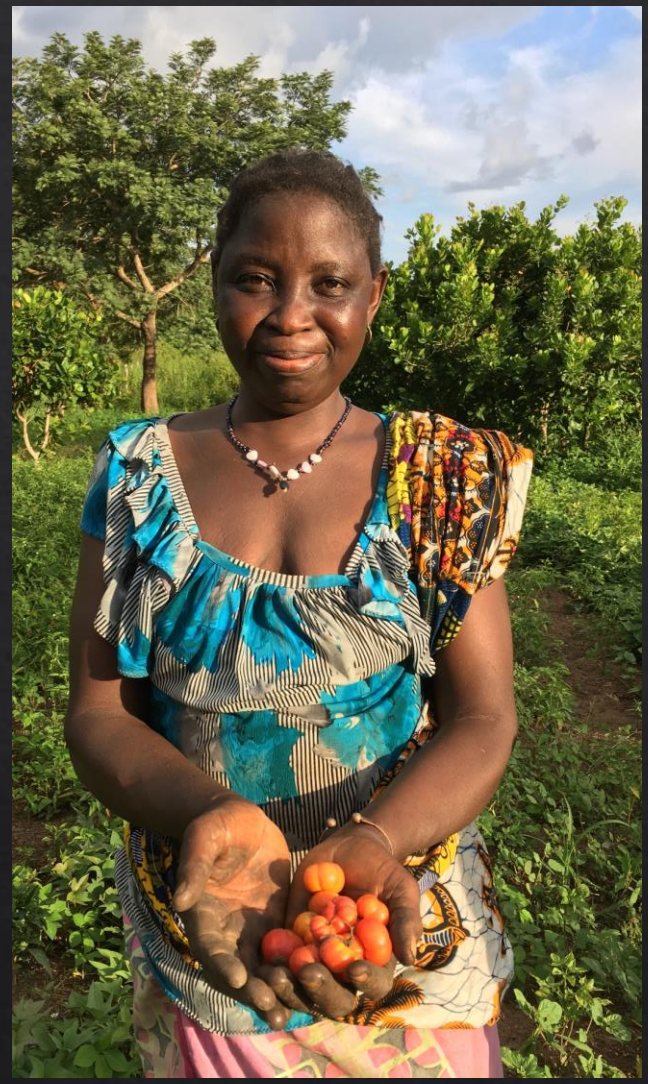
- Nutrition-sensitive agriculture – shown to have positive impacts on production, diets, nutritional status
- Very limited evidence on sustainability

→ Evaluate sustainability of a group-based nutrition-sensitive agriculture project

Intervention

- Use existing women's groups as a platform for nutrition-sensitive agriculture
  - increase production and consumption of nutrient-rich vegetables, chickens, and eggs
- End goal: Improved nutrition for women and young children

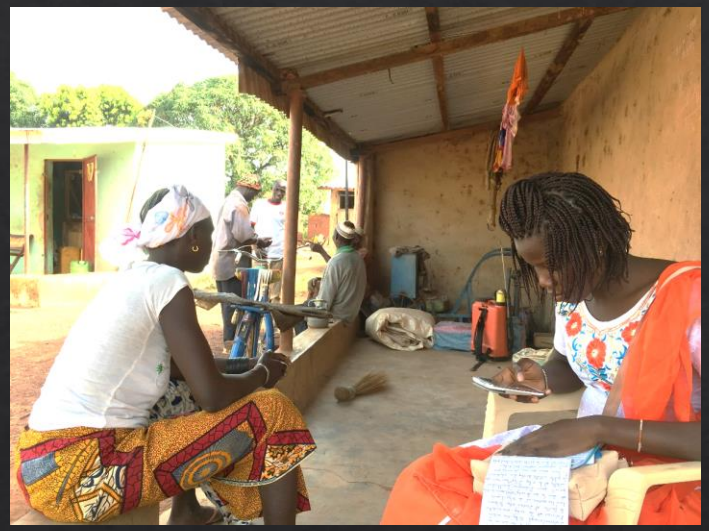
- Components:
  - Gardening
  - Intensive poultry rearing
  - SBCC, women's empowerment



Research Questions

- Do groups continue to use the gardens and henhouses?
- Do they remain productive, with work and benefits shared?
- Do they remain nutrition-sensitive?

Research Methods



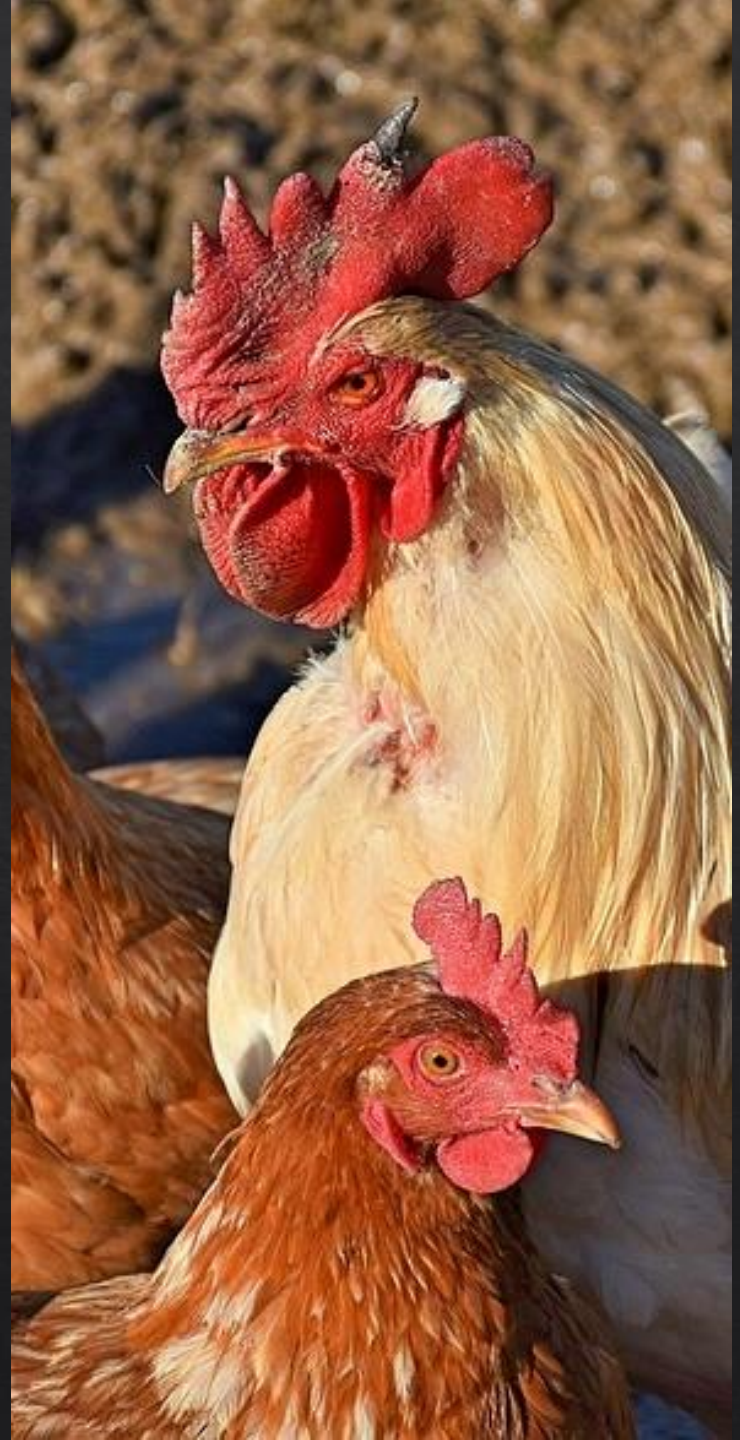
- 18 mo. after project end
- 12 of 42 villages
- Quantitative survey (n=277)
- In-depth qualitative interviews (n=50)
- Observations at all gardens, henhouses
- Review of production records
- Compare data to monitoring surveys conducted during project

Results - Gardening

- Strong continued membership in groups
  - 91% of respondents remain active members
- Decreased use, productivity
  - Only 25% of communal gardens fully planted
- Sales continue (170-340 USD / quarter), but less than in project
- Shift from collective production to individual management
  - 10% of gardens grown collectively, down from 95% at mid-project

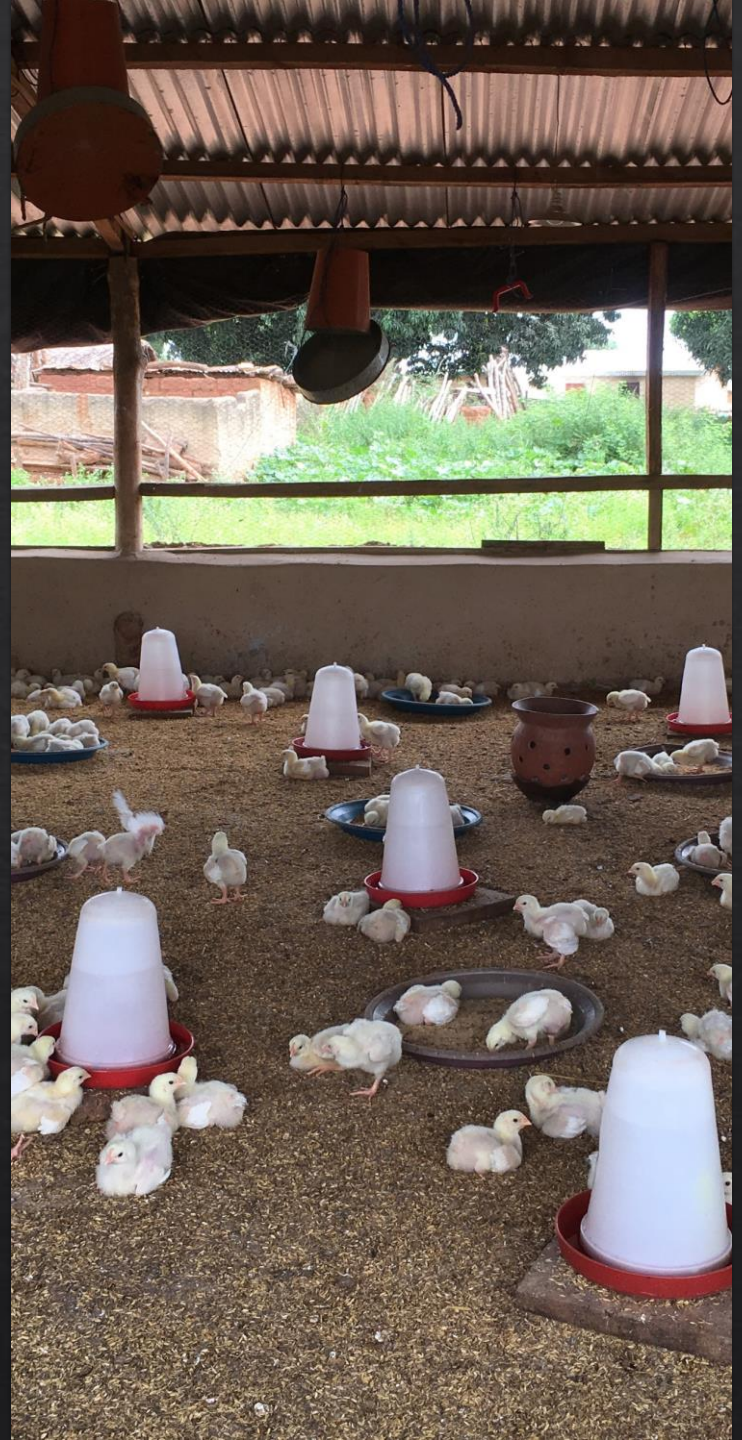
Results - Gardening

- Fall in crop diversity
  - only 60% have 5 or more crops planted, down from 81%
- Declines in production of main promoted nutrient-rich crops
  - OFSP, squash, carrot, moringa
- Increase in production of market crops (e.g., hot pepper)
- Decline in portion of harvest used for consumption (as opposed to sold)
  - From 30% mid-project to nearly 0% post-project



Results - Poultry

- All henhouses still in existence, nearly all in good shape
- Only 3 of 12 being used to keep chickens
  - 2 of the 3 have small flocks – about 40% fewer birds than at project end
- Shift towards non-intensive, lower productivity techniques
- Fall in egg production
- Only ~25% of respondents participating in poultry activities
  - Usually just 1-2 people responsible for henhouse

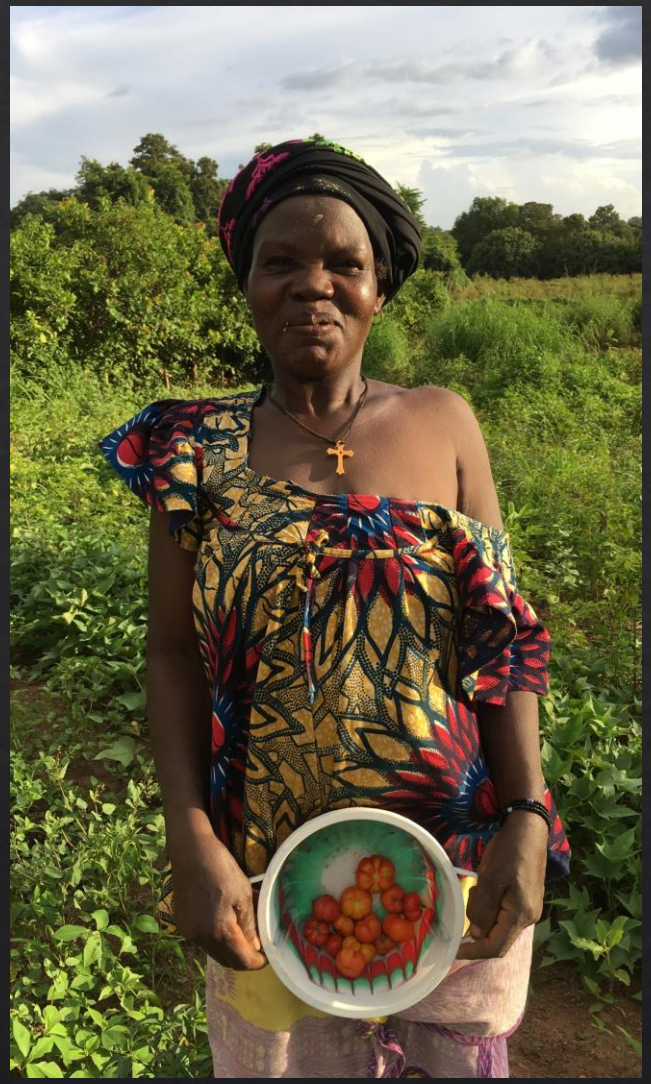


Poultry case study

- Highly productive
  - Raises cycles of 400-800 broilers
  - Earning USD 1,700 per cycle
  - Expanded twice, built new building, added ducks

But…

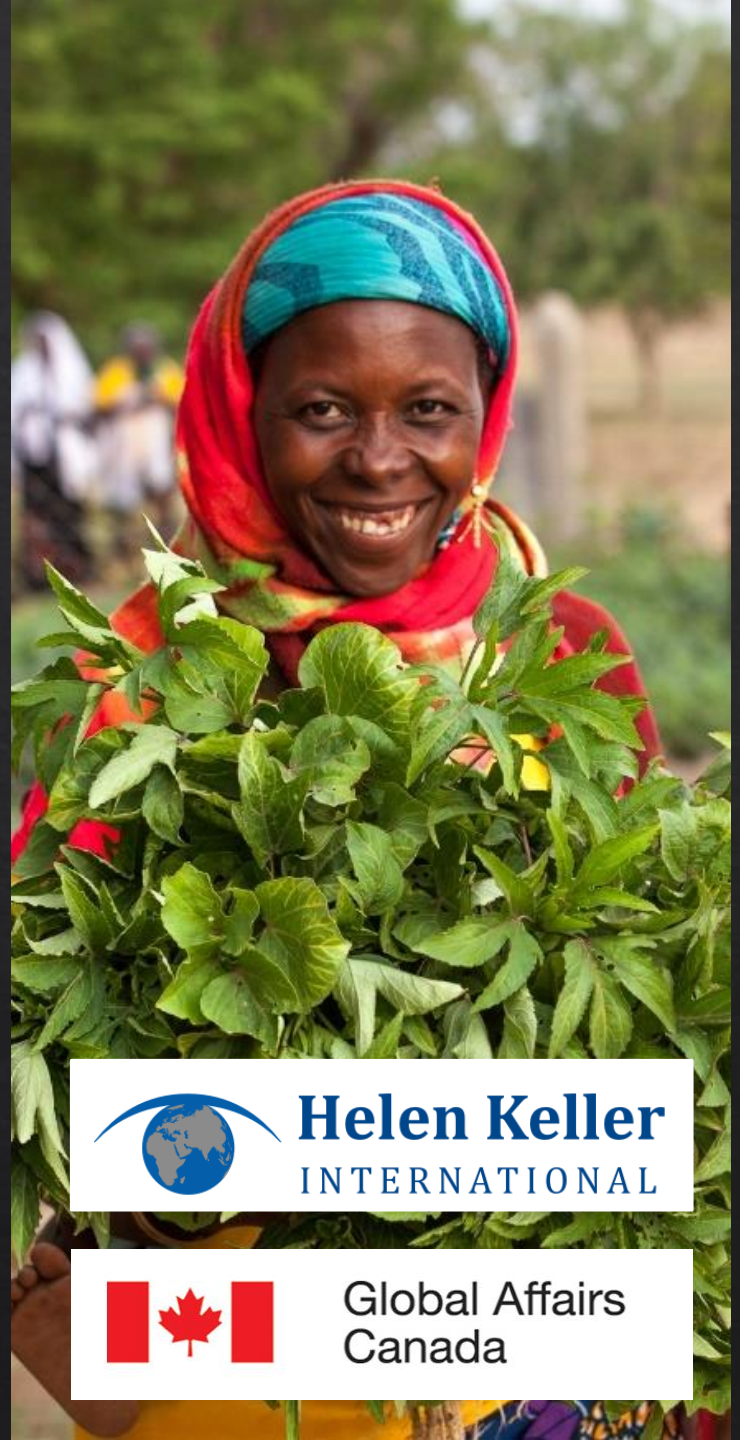
- taken over by a male manager
  - No use by women in village or benefit for them
- Raising broilers for sale to urban markets: limited nutrition impact



Reasons for Outcomes

- Motivations:
  - Solidarity and mutual support
  - Income earning, autonomy
- Challenges:
  - Free riders under collective models
  - Intensive chicken-rearing has limited margin for error
  - Lack of confidence

Conclusions



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