



Overview

Grant: \$2 million by PepsiCo Foundation

Timeline: 2018-2022

Program area: Kyenjojo and Kyegegwa districts of western Uganda

Objective:

To increase food security and build resilience and incomes of vulnerable women and girls in two districts of Kyegegwa and Kyenjojo in Western Uganda, by engaging targeted communities in more sustainable ways of farming as a business.

Achievement toward target population:



Direct reach
125,010



Indirect reach
416,620

Discriminatory cultural traditions, gender roles and social norms hinder women’s participation in agriculture and their contribution in decision-making processes. She Feeds the World (SFtW) helps address these by focusing on underlying and persistent drivers of poverty and systemic exclusion of women in market and agriculture systems through five outcome areas:

1. Supporting women’s empowerment
2. Improving nutrition in communities
3. Improving women’s access to markets
4. Increasing women’s access to and control of productive resources
5. Multiplying impact to enable change at scale

In the four years of SFtW operation in Uganda, women’s participation in agricultural and financial decision-making, and leadership improved significantly.



Public communication and negotiation skills of women increased **3 folds**



Women in leadership roles increased **5 folds**



Women financing agriculture from their own savings increased **2 folds**



Men engaging in unpaid domestic work increased **2 folds**



“The most significant change by SFtW to me is getting us women from the back and bring us to the front. We were at the back and whenever we were called to speak in public, we would have no confidence at all and did not know how to address crowds. That was very important and nurturing us into leadership positions. Now, if you call me to stand before 300 people, I can stand and talk. I am respected by others, yet I didn’t know it could ever happen.”
- Ms. Mary Kabasambu

How did SFtW improve women's agriculture and nutritional status in Uganda?

50 producer groups formed

64 women participants won in elections

58% Women have increased access to quality, quantity, and frequency of food for their households.

1,000 kitchen gardens created providing access to nutritious food

123,130 people sensitized through radio messaging on gender and nutrition

94% women have access to and use financial services

54% Producer marketing group (PMG) members adopted at least three new agricultural technologies.

158 Role Model Men trained

3,094 Male Action Groups created

96% Women reported having increased confidence and negotiation skills

- **The program households responded to have a mean Coping Strategies Index of CSI = 1.2 which means that the majority of the households is relatively food secure.**
- SFtW and local government partners carried out 71 Men in the Kitchen campaigns, reaching 10,404 people directly and 20,808 people indirectly.
- CARE Uganda set out to improve nutrition in communities through facilitating households to adopt at least three feeding practices mainly building capacity of the project participants using the Farmer Field and Business Schools (FFBS) and Growing the Future module. It also specifically focused on enabling women (15-49) years to eat five of the defined food groups; children 6-23 months receiving minimum acceptable diet. It was also achieved through male engagement in kitchen gardening and food preparation (men in the kitchen campaigns) and MAGs.
- SFtW's impacts are being scaled and sustained. CARE's local partner, JESE, adopted the gender-transformative approach of SFtW into its programmatic strategy, and the local governments adopted the male engagement approach. The Kyenjojo District Local Government found both FFBS and RMM approaches so effective that it has allocated funds and mobilized civil society organizations (CSOs) to implement them with other farmer groups.

Key to Success

- Maintaining strong relationships with local authorities and community leaders
- Continuous learning and knowledge-sharing approach
- Amplifying women's voices through leadership and decision-making
- Women are more than 6 times more likely to buy and sell collectively

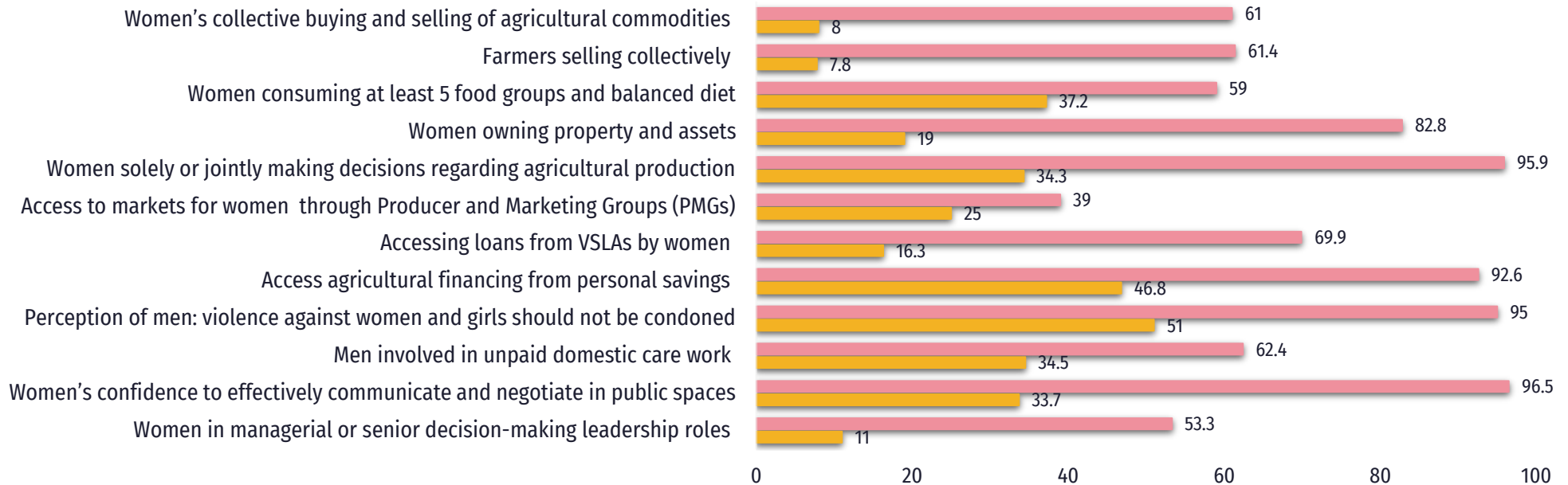
Key Lessons

- Male political leaders just as women leaders should be trained to appreciate women leadership.
- Engage in activities that have outreach beyond the target sub-counties
- Rapport is important when working with government officials at all levels
- Engaging men in gender dialogues and approaches work collectively toward reducing GBV

Comparison of Baseline and Endline study in %

■ Endline % ■ Baseline %

Sample: 362 participants in Endline ; 365 participants in Baseline



Stories from field

Molly Birungi, a 43-year-old farmer, tailor and mother of three in Buraro Village, Kakabara sub-county in western Uganda joined the SftW Uganda program in 2018. Through SftW, Molly is a member of a Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) and a Producer Marketing Group (PMG), joining forces with fellow farmers to learn and adopt improved agricultural practices for augmenting their crop yield and to market their products collectively for increased income. SftW's women's leadership training has helped Molly develop a healthy self-esteem, renewed her confidence and rekindled her aspirations. After going through leadership training, Molly was nominated to become a trainer herself. Encouraged by her community, she successfully ran for public office (District Counselor). Now, she is passionate about empowering women, mobilizing other women leaders and advocating for girls' right to an education.

"I can now see a future where more women are doing what I and other women leaders have done. I see this is already happening in my community – women come to ask me what I have done to get where I am, and I share my experiences and inspire them to become leaders and develop themselves further. I will mobilize other women leaders to advocate for better resolutions in the District Council to have justice for cases of rape, defilement and GBV cases, and domestic violence against women."