

Results for Y2, Y3, and Y4

Introduction

IGNITE conducts an annual survey in July – August, to track changes that its clients have achieved that can be attributed to the technical assistance and capacity building support it provides to them. The survey also collects feedback and insights the clients’ satisfaction with the project’s services. In Year 4 (Y4) (August 2021 – July 2022) IGNITE worked with 15 clients (institutions), providing support in designing, implementing, and evaluating nutrition-sensitive and gender-integrated agricultural interventions. The clients are in multiple countries across Sub-Saharan Africa, with offices or operations in at least one of IGNITE’s focus countries – Burkina Faso, Nigeria,

Ethiopia, and Tanzania. Six of the clients are in the private sector, (6/15), public (1/15), NGO (6/15), and non-profit sectors (2/15). Twenty-three respondents were interviewed for Year 4 (Y4) report, representing 10 of the clients IGNITE worked with in that period, including three new clients - MFI Association, TADB (TI3P), and ABAC¹

Lean Data researchers conducted a study to understand the uptake, effectiveness, and impact of advisory messages on dairy farming, sent through 8028 IVR calls. This summary highlights insights and findings on farmer profiles, the IVR calls’ effectiveness, the listeners’ experience, and the impact of the calls on primary and secondary listeners.

Results

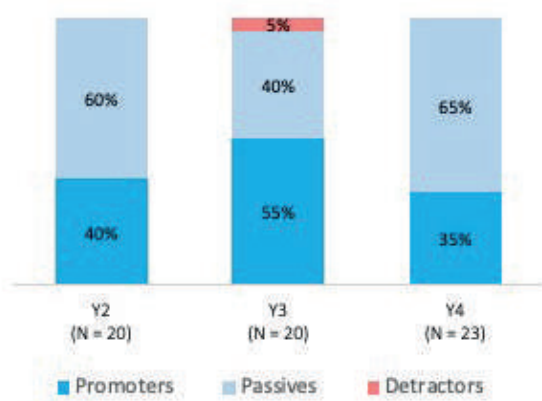
1. Leadership buy-in in gender and nutrition mainstreaming has increased across the ten clients with all but one of the respondents reporting an increase. They reported that leaders are more involved in and committed to gender mainstreaming, resource allocation to support gender and nutrition, and have greater depth in understanding of both gender and nutrition issues.
 - 52% of respondents in Y4 thought that institutional changes occurred to a large extent due to IGNITE across clients
 - AATF, AGRA, Digital Green, and SAA reported increases in the proportion of their budgets dedicated to gender and nutrition-related initiatives in Y4
2. The top areas of change are clustered around gender policies and nutrition approaches, staff awareness and capacity, strategy, plans, accountability measures, and tools and guidance.
 - **6 out of the 10 clients** report improvements in the type of data being collected or reported for gender and nutrition in Y4– similar to what was observed in Y3.
3. IGNITE has contributed to a great extent to the implementation of various processes and activities across institutions. About half attribute most of the changes to IGNITE. The rest attribute some of the changes to IGNITE.
 - AATF, PACA, and SAA reported partnerships as ‘very much improved.’ TADB and Digital Green partnerships are ‘slightly improved
 - IGNITE’s involvement facilitated collaborations with existing and new partners
4. This year, all clients saw increased staff awareness and capacity across all cadres, compared to Y3, including more respondents reporting increased understanding of **gender mainstreaming** – a factor attributed to comprehensive training on gender and nutrition as well as collaboration with IGNITE experts.
 - **8 out of 10 clients** report an improvement in the inclusion of gender and nutrition factors at the programmatic level.

¹ APSFD: MFI associations; TADB (TI3P): Tanzania Development Bank (Tanzania Inclusive Processor-Producer Partnerships in Dairy Project)

5. **Envisioned Farmer Level Impact:** All respondents across institutions believe that institutional changes will positively affect farmers and other beneficiaries of IGNITE's technical assistance. Similar to Y3, expected gender changes included both economic and social empowerment for women through increased participation in economic activities by women and access to diversified sources of income, leading to **better nutrition, dietary diversity, and improved food safety among beneficiaries.**

What do clients think about IGNITE's Services?

Overall satisfaction and client experience of IGNITE in Y4 is **average and lower than in Y3**. Both Net Promoter Score (NPS²) and Value for Effort dropped from Y3 (see chart). However, in Y4 6 of 10 institutions have respondents who are Promoters and would



recommend IGNITE's services to another institution. Promoters' most valued attributes include IGNITE's professionalism, expertise, support, collaborative spirit, and commitment of IGNITE technical assistants.

Response to the effects of COVID-19:

- Travel restrictions and other COVID-19 mitigation measures left clients unable to reach their target groups and delayed program execution
- Clients adopted use of digital tools - phone calls, online training modules, and video - to reach the farmers.
- Clients also re-prioritized program objectives and allocated funds to further help farmers during the pandemic.

"We are an organization that works with extension workers to share with farmers in the field, which requires movement and transport to train the farmers. We primarily rely on face-to-face interaction, but because COVID-19 lockdowns and movement restrictions forced us to adopt other measures, we've invested in different e-learning platforms to share the knowledge." SAA

Y2 to Y4 client changes observed as a result of IGNITE Technical Assistance

Client	Gender	Nutrition
AATF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater integration of gender into policies; implementation of feedback systems and strategies to promote accountability • Increased budget to gender-related programs and initiatives • Greater understanding of sex-disaggregated data as a result of extensive reports and analysis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greater integration of nutrition approaches into primary AATF plan • Improved transparency from design to trials, results, and presentation
AGRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gender champions deployed, to drive gender work in different countries • Developed gender strategy • Allocated a larger budget to gender-related activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved nutrition integration in programmatic activities
Digital Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenced implementation of gender policies and strategies developed in Year 3 • Revised existing M&E tools and templates • Improvements in collecting, analyzing, and reporting sex-disaggregated data • However, was only able to reach 28% of women, against a 40% target, due to COVID-19 related challenges 	
Sahel (ALDDN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased focus on gender-based programs, improved staff capacity, and understanding of gender mainstreaming • Introduced new training initiative on gender-based violence (GBV) to strengthen staff capacity and understanding of gender issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of gender in nutrition programs and implementation tools • Expansion of programmatic activities such as the Home Garden Intervention • Adoption of new training technologies in response to COVID 19 challenges
SAA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strategic plan on gender not yet integrated into SAA operations • Fewer women farmers reached with shift to digital services due to COVID-19 pandemic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Considerable strides made in implementing nutrition-sensitive messaging
Solidaridad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased leadership buy-in in Y4, with the development and implementation of a gender strategy plan • No concrete changes reported on tools and budgets, data and partnerships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in focus on nutrition sensitive agriculture compared to Y3 & Y2
PACA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant changes achieved in integration of gender into organization's policies, with development of gender-inclusive tools and guiding papers, coordination of gender studies with partner countries. • Incorporation of gender into programmatic activities through gender-based reports and deliverables • In Y4, collected gender disaggregated data from studies in 12 pilot countries. 	

² NPS* is a gauge of satisfaction and loyalty. IGNITE's NPS of 35 is good but lower than Y3 (50) and the initial Y2 score (40). Nevertheless, 6 of 10 institutions have Promoters in Y4 while 9 of 10 have Passives.