Impact of behavior change communication and vegetable production on child growth and nutrition

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Integrated programs

- Integration of agriculture, nutrition and WASH programs has the potential of improving the consumption of diversified and nutrient-rich diets, reduce incidence of infectious diseases, thereby leading to improved nutrition and health status of households in target communities.

Approach

- The sack garden approach was implemented in partnership with local communities.
- The aim was:
  - Facilitate dietary diversification of complementary foods by bringing to household level a range of nutrient rich vegetables.
  - Solve the problem of land accessibility to women and poor availability and accessibility of nutrient rich vegetable at household level.
  - Provided to target beneficiaries nutrition BCC and cooking demonstration to facilitate adoption of optimal complementary feeding practices.

Methodology

- 120 intervention households and 120 control households in Sikasso région (M'pessoba, Sirakélé, Finkolo, and Chobougou) with a pair of mother and a child aged (4-8 months)
- In each intervention household:
  - 10 vegetable sack gardens established in each target household
  - BCC, cooking demonstration, household visits and support on vegetable production provided to intervention household
- In control households:
  - Only BCC on nutrition and WASH

Implementation activities

Implementation and data collected activities






Results

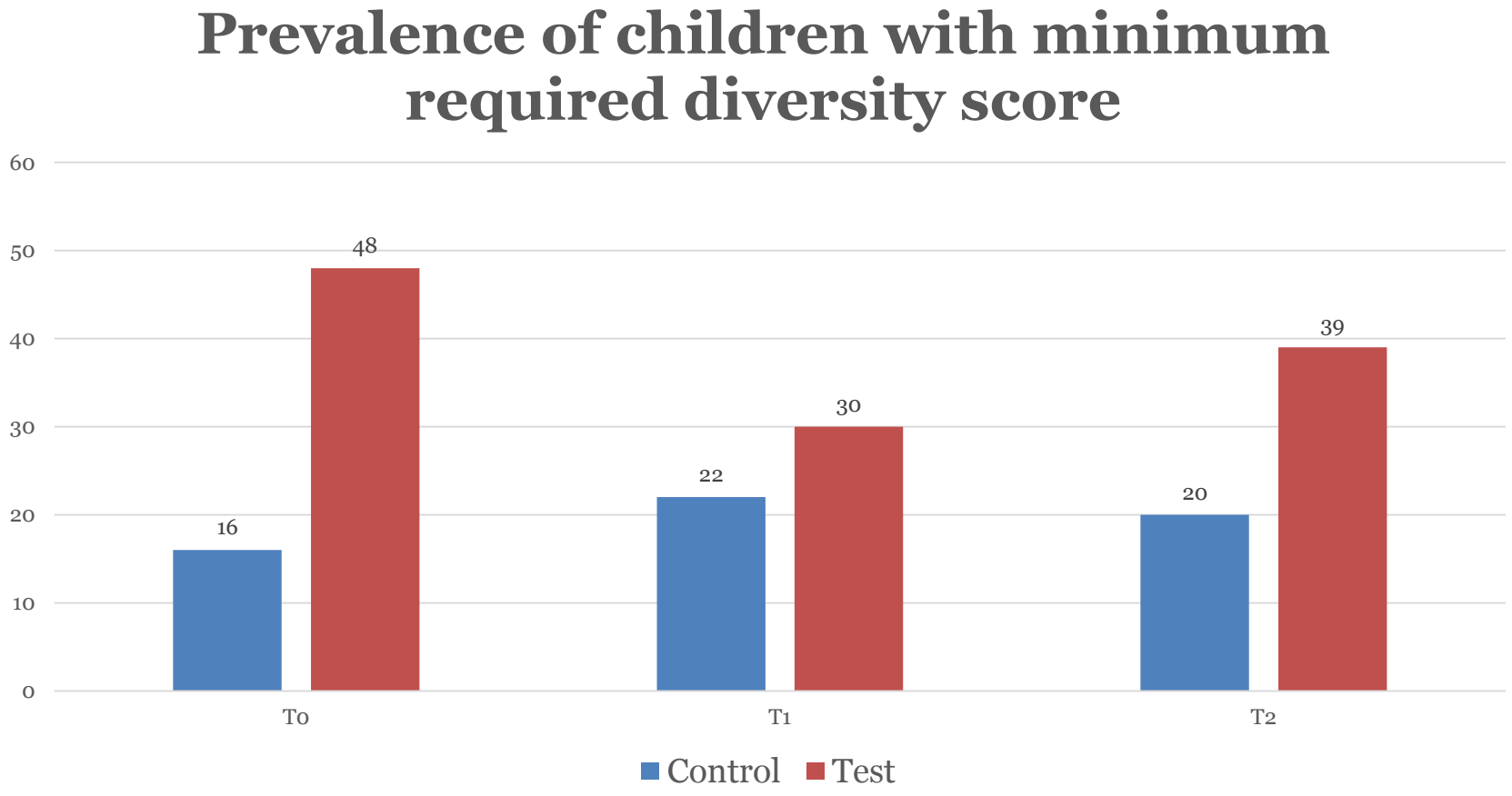
- **Mobile gardens**

- 1200 vegetable mobiles gardens established

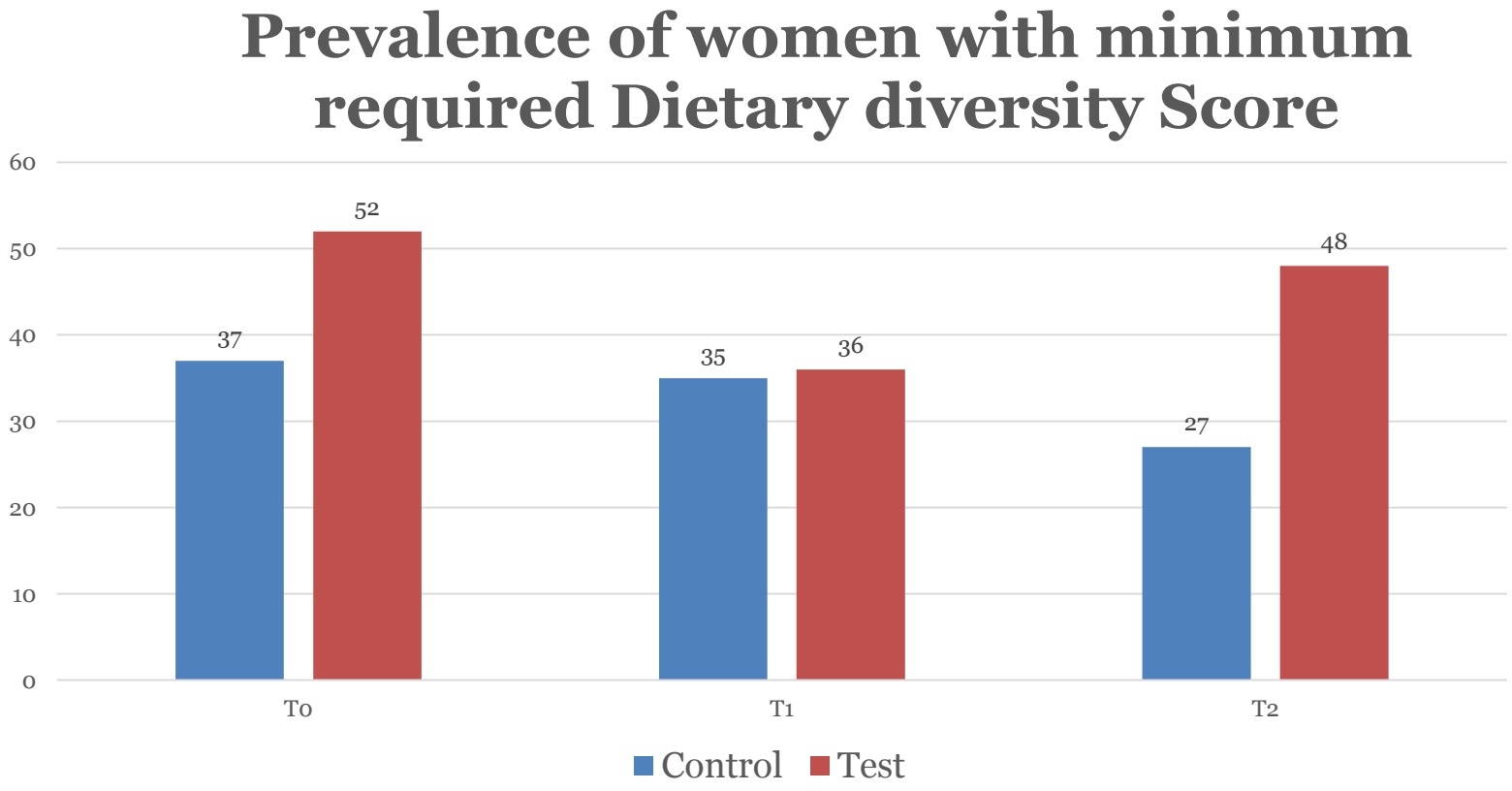
- **Participants demographic data**

	Intervention	Control
Mean age of mothers	28.18	27.36
Mean age of children	6.83	6.05
Sex of children *Girl* *Boy*	 48 52	 55 45

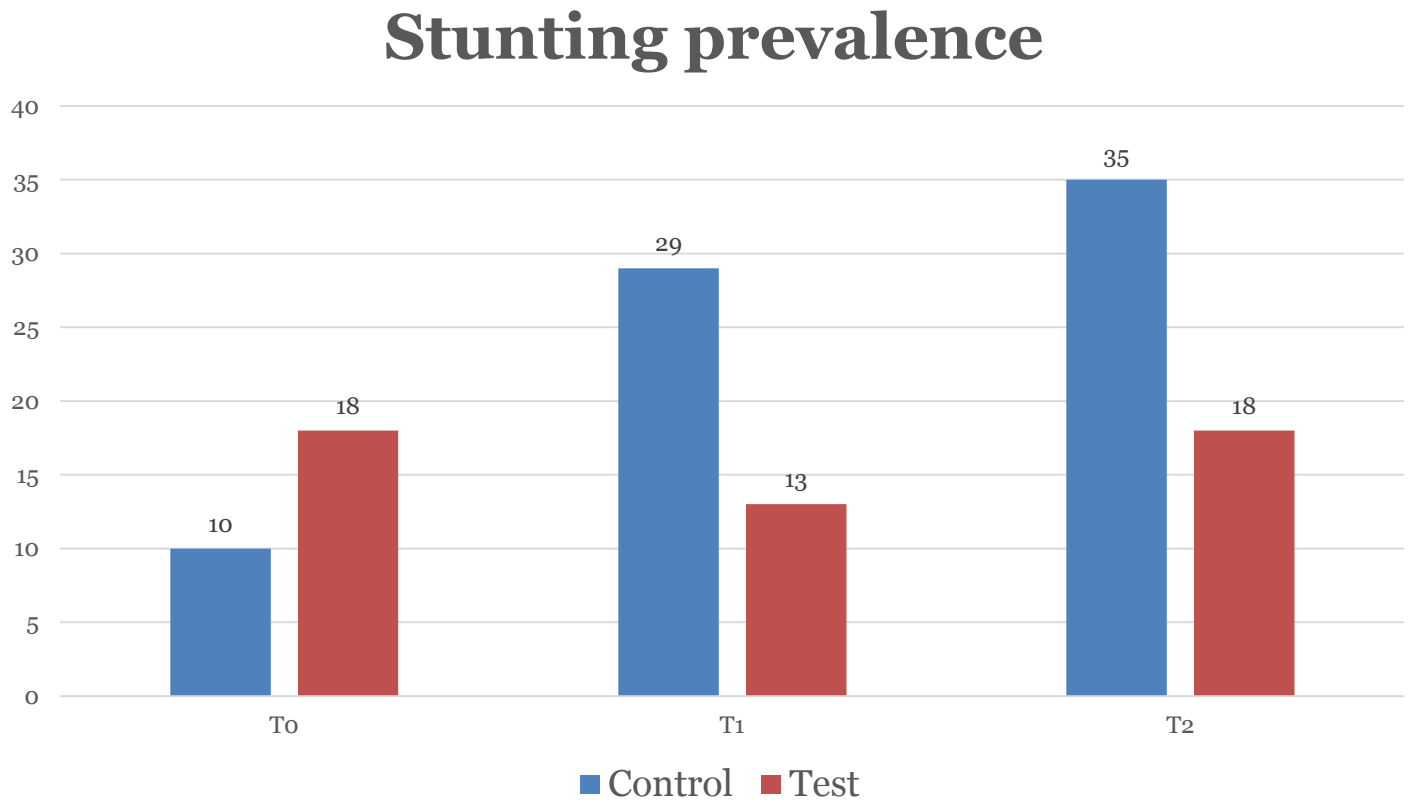
Results


Prevalence of children with minimum required diversity score
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
48
16
30
22
39
20
To
T1
T2
Control
Test

Results


Prevalence of women with minimum required Dietary diversity Score
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
37
52
35
36
27
48
To
T1
T2
Control
Test

Results


Stunting prevalence
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
10
18
29
13
35
18
T0
T1
T2
Control
Test

Results: Double difference analysis

	Baseline		Endline			
	BCC+Mobile garden (N=103)	***Standard BCC (N=102)***	***BCC+Mobile garden(N=111)***	***Standard BCC (N=101)***	***DID (95%CI)***	***P***
WAZ score	-1.06±1.36	-093±1.31	-1,09±1.29	-1.32±1.46	0.56(0.06-1.06)	**0.25**
HAZ score	-0.46±2.61	-0.58±2.01	-0.66±1.69	-1.23±1.98	0.22(-0.14-0.60)	**0.026**
WHZ score	-0.68±2.00	-0.57±2.18	-0.91±1.23	-0.83±1.1.19	-0.07(-0.40-0.25)	**0.66**
DDS Mother	4.81±2.06	3.38±2.73	5.04±1.92	4.13±2.11	0.22(-0.19-0.64)	**0.001**
DDS Children	1.14±0.45	0.63±0.63	3.24±1.74	3.01±1.36	0.90(0.35-1.45)	**0.29**

Conclusion

- Preliminary analysis have shown that integrating agriculture and nutrition activities have the potential to impact mother dietary diversity and children growth
- More effort on Behavior change communication are need to strongly impact children dietary diversity
- The impact of project activities on child growth can be mediated trough improve child care, improved nutrition, hygiene and WASH practices




Thank You

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