

SCN 2003 Report from Netherlands

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1. Proposed Research Project

There is a need for more efficient projects to combat IDA. One of the possible options is to use a cheap and simple dietary intervention using Natal plum fruit (*Carissa grandiflora*). The project will last 3 years, but results will begin within 6 months of inception.

Experiences or lessons learned:

It is clear a well coordinated and designed project/intervention backed by concrete scientific fundamentals could efficiently avert a health condition, IDA is no exception.

What partners or organizations have helped make your projects successful?

So far the project is in its proposal stage and looking for funds (less than 80,000 USD). There is an ongoing dialogue with several Universities but firm decision will announced later.

Future plans and goals:

The main objective of the project is to contribute campaigns against IDA problems in the developing countries. After testing the project hypothesis, a concrete scientific paper and a solid recommendation will be produced for both immediate utilization of the findings while future discussion and/or research area will be clearly indicated. Since this plant can grow in the most harsh climates and conditions, except cool freeze areas, a clear and concise recommendation as to how this intervention can be applied for mass intervention projects in IDA, VAD and VCD in the developing countries will be presented.