Value Chains for Nutrition

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Activities
- Inputs into production
- Food production
- Primary food storage & processing
- Secondary food processing
- Food distribution, transport & trade
- Food retailing & catering
- Food promotion & labeling

Actors
- Crop breeders, extension services, seed, agrochemical & farm machinery companies
- Farmers, agricultural labourers, commodity producers
- Packers, millers, crushers, refiners
- Processed foods manufacturers, artisan to global
- Importers, exporters, brokers, wholesalers
- Informal retailers, supermarket chains, restaurants, fast food companies
- Advertising & communications agencies

Source: Adapted from Hawkes (2009).
Key Points

Why should we incorporate nutrition into VCs?

1. *to improve the supply* – the availability and affordability and quality of foods
2. *to improve the demand* – food acceptability of these foods among consumers
3. *to provide a framework for coordinated multi-sectoral solutions* of many actors that interact along the VCs (producers, packers, millers, processed food manufacturers, importers, exporters, retailers) and
4. *to provide a framework to create economic value AND nutritional value* while addressing the trade-offs.
Key Points

• Define the nutrition problem from the beginning, and ensure that the VC goals are clearly addressing those problems

• VCs require a broad range of actors in different sectors and partners to work together to solve complicated nutrition and related problems

• VCs present an opportunity to leverage the private sector, across the entire supply chain

• Women are central to the VC approach – as producers and consumers
Value to Value Chains

• Multi-sectoral research is critically important to understand the gaps within the VC, and determine new methodologies to improve post harvest processing and safety testing

• There will need to be capacity building and training (ranging from farmers groups to universities in the developing world) on interdisciplinary approaches – VC provide an opportunity to learn across different disciplines

• Nutrition outcomes must be monitored along the VC
Examples

• Hawkes and Ruel have outlined some in the paper but these are nascent and more examples are needed to understand what works and what doesn’t!

• WFP’s Purchase for Progress, GAIN’s work on fortification and young child feeding, and World Fish’s work with small-scale fisheries are examples of working on specific aspects along the value chain.
We choose..

Picture design by Jhoram Moya