

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LEVERS 10:30 AM-12:00 PM

Summary of key points

Panelists

- **Lindsay H. Allen**

Director, USDA, ARS Western Human Nutrition Research Center, University of California, Davis

- **Howarth Bouis**

Director, HarvestPlus

- **Dyno Keating**

Director General, The World Vegetable Center (AVRDC)

- **Lloyd Le Page**

CEO, CGIAR Consortium Board

- **Siwa Msangi**

Senior Research Fellow, Environment & Production Technology Division, IFPRI

Lindsay H. Allen

Director, USDA, ARS Western Human
Nutrition Research Center

University of California, Davis

- We need to supply all 40 essential nutrients to every member of the household. Current interventions fill some gaps, but many remain.
- A platform is needed based on food intake to prioritize and evaluate how agriculture and nutrition strategies can be coordinated.
- Need field-friendly and affordable methods to measure nutritional status, especially for several micronutrients simultaneously.

Howarth Bouis

Director, HarvestPlus

- MN malnutrition is rising with rising food prices because the poor will preserve staple food consumption and sacrifice non-staple foods that are rich in micronutrients.
- A 50% increase in food prices across the board are estimated to raise iron deficiency in Filipino women from 70% to 95% as a result of the price increase.
- HarvestPlus biofortified crops will provide iron, zinc and vitamin A and are poised to be released in seven countries by 2013. Biofortification is a targeted, cost effective, rural-based intervention that complements others.

Dyno Keating

Director General, The World Vegetable Center (AVRDC)

- Greater investment in nutrient-dense vegetables will have a rapid and effective payoff.
- Nutrition of young women *prior to pregnancy* is essential.
- Small-plot agriculture (6X6 example) should be given greater prominence if nutrition related MDG's are to be achieved. For example, home gardens in India can provide in excess of 100% beta carotene, and vitamin C, 75% of protein and 20-25% of iron requirements.

Lloyd Le Page

CEO, CGIAR Consortium

Board

- ⦿ A “Partnership Revolution” is needed to provide solutions to today’s and future complex problems in order to access the best research, knowledge and technologies.
- ⦿ We must break down the silos and reach across:
 - agriculture, health and nutrition;
 - public and private sectors, and even
 - *between* institutions.
- ⦿ Long-term commitment from donors and accountability from R&D are required.

Siwa Msangi

Senior Research Fellow, Environment & Production Technology Division, IFPRI

- Good policy can lead to the ultimate success and impact of S&T innovation and create a favorable environment for technology to make a difference
- Policy can help in targeting innovations more successfully
- Much focus is on S&T that relates to the production side – but the ‘reproductive’ domain of the household (e.g., ability of women to care for children) is also in need of S&T and good policy interventions

Challenging Questions and Answers

- ① When we move toward nutrition intervention strategies that focus on food, is there enough evidence that there is adequate bioavailability through processing and consumption?
- ① Observation... Agricultural research is underfunded. Since it has started to contribute to nutrition and health, *both* sectors need to invest in agricultural research.
- ① Please suggest the parameters that should be used to measure and monitor impact.