



Speaker Summary Note

Session: **Innovative Approaches and Initiatives for Better Linking Agriculture, Nutrition, and Health**

Ursula Schaefer-Preuss

Speaker: Vice President, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development
Asian Development Bank (ADB), Philippines

A. Introduction: Background about ADB, Strategy 2020, and Operational Plans for Food Security and Health

- Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, ADB is an international development finance institution whose mission is to help its developing member countries reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of their people.
- ADB's planning and financing operations are guided by its Strategy 2020. Its vision is a region free of poverty. The strategy has three complementary strategic agendas: (1) inclusive growth, (2) environmental sustainable growth, and (3) regional integration. It has five core areas of operations: (1) infrastructure, (2) environment, (3) regional cooperation and integration, (4) finance sector development, and (5) education. It has three other areas of operation: (1) health, (2) agriculture, and (3) disaster and emergency assistance.
- ADB's operations in agriculture and health are guided by the strategic three-year operational plans for sustainable food security and health, respectively. Common features of these plans are their multisector support approach and emphasis on partnerships and collaborations.

B. What does ADB do innovatively that will leverage agriculture in improving health and nutrition outcomes?

- Provides investments (lending and technical assistance) for infrastructure and services that will improve the availability of, and access to adequate, safe, and nutritious food for Asia and the Pacific's poor and vulnerable in a sustainable manner.
- Serves as game changer by investing on the pilot testing, trial setting, and up-scaling and out-scaling of agri-based technologies and management practices that ensure availability of nutritious and quality food.
- Serves as an honest broker by funding long-term and programmatic agriculture research for development work that in turn serve as basis for policy dialogues with high-level government officials, the private sector, and civil society organizations on food and nutrition security. Some examples that illustrate this catalytic role:
- Maximizes resources and outcomes by fostering partnerships and developing good governance practices to enhance synergy and harmonization in food and nutrition security work.

On initiatives of ADB, please visit the ADB booth at the Knowledge Fair.