

## AT A GLANCE

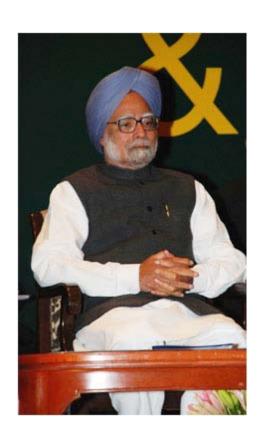
IFPRI 2020 Vision International Conference 10–12 February 2011 | New Delhi, India

## Why Now?

- Agriculture is high on the global agenda because of volatile food prices and other factors.
- Billions of people remain hungry and malnourished.
- Agriculture, nutrition, and health are linked in important ways, but the three sectors rarely work together toward their common goals.
- We need to learn much more about how to make new and existing agricultural investments more nutrition- and health-friendly.



## Address by Prime Minister Manmohan Singh of India



"Leveraging agriculture for improving nutrition and health . . . is particularly important in developing countries where agriculture is also the mainstay of a very large number of people."

<u>Video</u>



### **Inaugural Session**



H.E. John Kufuor Former President Republic of Ghana



Hillary Rodham Clinton
Secretary of State
USA

<u>Video</u>

<u>Video</u>



## A Wealth of Perspectives

## 1,000 participants

- from agriculture, health, nutrition, and related sectors
- representing a wide range of actors including governments, NGOs, private sector, and academia
- 150 chairs, speakers, and rapporteurs
  - 65 countries represented
  - 30 sessions
  - 29 papers and briefs



## **Conference Program**

- Agriculture, Nutrition, and Health: Where Are We Now? Where Do We Want to Be?
- Enhancing Nutrition and Cutting Health Risks along the Agricultural Value Chain
- Learning from Country Case Studies, Program Interventions, and Evaluations
- Key Levers and Incentives: Economic, Social, Governance, and Science and Technology
- Regional Perspectives and Priorities
- Addressing Priorities in Research and Action Gaps
- Reimagining How Agriculture, Nutrition, and Health Can Link Better



## **Knowledge Fair**



### This lively gathering place featured

- interactive exhibits
- rapid-fire presentations
- videos and electronic poster stations
- discussion groups on various topics



## **Side Events**

#### More than a dozen side events were held on

#### Tools

- Communication
- Capacity strengthening

#### Research initiatives

- Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research
- Food legumes
- Pre- and postharvest technologies
- Agriculture and nutrition linkages in India

#### **Program initiatives**

- Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN)
- South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI)



## **Way Forward**: The Building Blocks

#### 1. Fill the knowledge gaps by

- learning more about how different patterns of agricultural growth affect nutrition and health
- investing in research, evaluation, and education systems that integrate information from all three sectors
- increasing knowledge on governance

### 2. Minimize harm by

- mitigating health risks posed by agriculture along the value chain
- designing health and nutrition interventions that contribute to the productivity of agricultural labor
- looking at downstream effects of subsidies for production or consumption on consumers' nutrition and health



## **Way Forward:** The Building Blocks

#### 3. Seek out and scale up innovative solutions by

- designing agriculture, nutrition, and health programs with cross-sectoral benefits
- incorporating nutrition into value chains for food products
- using all available levers for change, including economic, social, science and technology, and governance and inclusion levers
- increasing consumers' nutrition literacy and highlighting the consequences of dietary choices
- upscaling successful interventions

#### 4. Create an environment in which cooperation can thrive by

- building partnerships among agriculture, nutrition, and health
- developing mutual accountability mechanisms among the three sectors
- correcting market failures
- using communication and advocacy to promote change



## What Engaged Participants: Recurring Themes

#### 1. Communicate better to

- build awareness
- raise interest
- provide options
- attract policy "champions" who can spread the word

#### 2. Improve investments by

- making existing ones more nutrition- and health-friendly
- generating new ones that exploit the links among agriculture, health,
   and nutrition
- setting priorities based on greatest impact

#### 3. Build the evidence base

Collect relevant data in timely fashion, improve tools and methods, and invest in monitoring and evaluation.



# What Engaged Participants: Recurring Themes

#### 4. Don't wait to act

Move ahead based on available information and common sense.

#### 5. Collaborate across sectors

Look for ways to work together, while not losing the advantages of deep sectoral expertise.

#### 6. Focus on education

Develop multidisciplinary university-level education programs to inculcate a habit of broader thinking among future leaders in agriculture, nutrition, and health.



# What Engaged Participants: Recurring Themes

- 7. Look at food systems, not just agricultural systems

  Consider all the stages from farm to fork, and be sensitive to the sustainability of natural resources.
- 8. Proactively engage the health sector

  Find ways to reach out and include the health sector in agricultural activities.
- 9. Recognize that women are at the nexus of the three sectors

  Direct policies and programs to women to simultaneously

  strengthen agriculture and enhance nutrition and health.



## "DO IT, TRY IT, FIX IT": NEXT STEPS

- Accelerate research to help shape better programs and policies
- Raise awareness and interest through communication strategies
- Reach out to potential partners, and build links and networks



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