The Role of Agriculture in Improving Nutrition in the Global Context: Global Commitments and the Rome-Based Agencies
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Conflict of Interest Disclosure

I have no conflict of interest to report in relation to this presentation.
Objectives of this symposium

1) Present how global commitments for nutrition take food systems and agriculture into account
2) Introduce the “Rome-based agencies” role
3) Describe how agriculture and food systems’ contributions to nutrition can be enhanced
4) Present examples of ongoing work, opportunities and challenges in research, policies, programmes
5) Share resources and tools available from the “Rome-based agencies”
Who are the Rome-Based Agencies, alias RBA’s?
From Sustainable Farms to Better Nutrition: Linking Global Commitments to Research, Policy and Practice
The UN Food and Agriculture Organization

- UN specialized agency
- 194 Member States
- Normative role (specialized committees)
- Policy advice
- Global reports and data support
- Capacity development
- Emergency and resilience building programmes
The UN World Food Programme

• Food assistance programmes:
  • Emergency food aid and cash
  • Rebuilding assets
  • School Feeding
  • Local food procurement
  • Supplementary feeding programmes

• Policy assistance and capacity development

• Food security and nutrition assessments

• Assists 82 countries
The International Fund for Agricultural Development

- International financial institution
- Focus on agricultural and rural development
- Emphasis on small-holders, with special focus on women
- Loans and non-lending activities
Orange-fleshed Fe'i bananas from the Pacific are rich in vitamin A precursors. Credit: Bioversity International/L. Englberger

Bioversity International

- Global research organization (CGIAR)
- Promotes biodiversity for FSN
- Scientific evidence
- Management practices
- Policy options
- Focus in 35 countries in 5 regions
RBA Commitments and actions for nutrition

• Nutrition is now a corporate priority for all Rome-based Agencies
• Mainstreaming nutrition in corporate programmes and assistance to countries
• Operational implications:
  • More investments in Nutrition Education & Behaviour Change Communication
  • Linkages to other sectoral programmes (health, social protection, education...)
  • Strengthen monitoring of impacts on diets and nutrition
SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS FOR HEALTHY DIETS AND GOOD NUTRITION: GLOBAL POLICY CONTEXT AND OPPORTUNITIES
KEY MESSAGE:

An unprecedented political commitment to NUTRITION and to the ROLE OF FOOD SYSTEMS in improving nutrition
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SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
GOAL 2

END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE
SDG 2 Targets

2.1: End hunger and improve access to safe, nutritious foods
2.2: Address all forms of malnutrition
2.3: Agricultural productivity and incomes, with equity
2.4: Sustainable and resilient production systems
2.5: Maintain genetic diversity
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Other relevant SDGs

1. NO POVERTY
2. GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
3. QUALITY EDUCATION
4. GENDER EQUALITY
5. CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
6. AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY
7. DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH
8. INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
9. REDUCED INEQUALITIES
10. SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
11. RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
12. CLIMATE ACTION
13. LIFE BELOW WATER
14. LIFE ON LAND
15. PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS
16. PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS
THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION AND UN DECADE OF ACTION FOR NUTRITION
Rome Declaration on Nutrition: 10 Commitments

1. Eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition
2. Increase investments
3. Enhance sustainable food systems
4. Raise the profile of nutrition
5. Strengthen human and institutional capacities
6. Strengthen and facilitate, contributions and action by all stakeholders
7. Ensure healthy diets throughout the life course
8. Create enabling environment for making informed choices
9. Implement commitments through Framework for Action
10. Integrate vision and commitments into post-2015 agenda
ICN2 Framework for Action

• Total of 60 recommendations
• 24 directly related to food systems
Example of ICN2 Recommendation - 8

Review national policies and investments and integrate nutrition objectives into food and agriculture policy, programme design and implementation, to enhance nutrition sensitive agriculture, ensure food security and enable healthy diets.
Promote the diversification of crops including underutilized traditional crops, more production of fruits and vegetables, and appropriate production of animal-source products as needed, applying sustainable food production and natural resource management practices.
Example of ICN2 Recommendation - 15

Explore regulatory and voluntary instruments – such as marketing, publicity and labelling policies, economic incentives or disincentives in accordance with Codex Alimentarius and World Trade Organization rules – to promote healthy diets.
Example of ICN2 Recommendation - 18

Improve the availability and access of the food supply through appropriate trade agreements and policies and endeavour to ensure that such agreements and policies do not have a negative impact on the right to adequate food in other countries.
The UN Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025)

**Aim:** To accelerate implementation of ICN2 commitments, achieve Global Nutrition and Diet-related NCD targets by 2025, and contribute to the realization of the SDGs by 2030

**Principles:**
- Country-owned and Country-driven
- Promotes alignment among actors and action
- An umbrella for all stakeholders to consolidate nutrition actions across sectors

*Leaving no one behind*
Work Programme of the

UNITED NATIONS DECADE OF
ACTION ON NUTRITION

2016-2025

http://www.fao.org/3/a-bs726e.pdf
Six cross-cutting action areas

Action area 1: Sustainable, resilient food systems for healthy diets
Action area 2: Aligned health systems providing universal coverage of essential nutrition actions
Action area 3: Social protection and nutrition education
Action area 4: Trade and investment for improved nutrition
Action area 5: Safe and supportive environments for nutrition at all ages
Action area 6: Strengthened governance and accountability for nutrition
Means of implementation:
Commitments for action

- **SMART commitments** for action on nutrition.
- Convening of **Action networks**, informal coalitions of countries, aimed at advocating for the establishment of policies/legislation, allowing the exchange of practices, providing mutual support to accelerate implementation.
- Mobilization of **financial resources** to support implementation of national policies and programmes.
Examples of commitments: Brazil

- Stop growth in adult obesity rate (currently 20.8%)
- Reduce by at least 30% consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages among adults
- Increase by at least 17.8% proportion of adults who regularly eat fruit and vegetables
Action Networks

- Norway: sustainable fisheries
- Labelling
- School food procurements
- Fruit and vegetable promotion
THE SCALING UP NUTRITION (SUN) MOVEMENT
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SUN: Present in 59 countries/states
The Committee for World Food Security

“The vision of the CFS is to be the most inclusive international national and intergovernmental platform for all stakeholders to work together in a coordinated way to ensure food security and nutrition for all”
Nutrition in the CFS

• Open-Ended Working Group on Nutrition since 2016
• High Level Panel of Experts Report on Nutrition and Food Systems 2017
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Regional Symposia (2017)

- Latin America, El Salvador: 5-7 Sept
- Africa, Abidjan: 30-31st Oct
- Asia, Bangkok: 10-11 Nov
- Europe & Central Asia, Budapest: 4-5 Dec
AND NOW…
What to Do? **Frameworks and Ways Forward** for Improving Nutrition through Agriculture and Food Systems (James Garrett, CGIAR)

How to Do It Better: **Evidence and Communications** for Healthy Diets and Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems (Gina Kennedy, Bioversity International)

**Project Design, Implementation, and Policy Engagement** for Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture (Juliane Friedrich, IFAD)

Getting It Done: **Country support, Approaches, and Tools** for National Capacities in Agriculture and Nutrition (Nancy Aburto, WFP)
And…
What will YOU do (differently, or more of) to make the Decade of Action for Nutrition a success?