



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.”

[Video](#)



Inaugural Session



H.E. John Kufuor
*Former President
Republic of Ghana*

[Video](#)



Hillary Rodham Clinton
*Secretary of State
USA*

[Video](#)



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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interviews, and more

<http://2020conference.ifpri.info>

