What is needed for Global Monitoring of Access to Adequate Food?

Follow-up discussion, Ag2Nut and FSIN communities of practice

March 27, 2014

Moderated by Anna Herforth
Recap of last call...
Key Recommendations for Improving Nutrition through Agriculture

• Food and agriculture policies can have a better impact on nutrition if they:
  • Monitor dietary consumption and access to safe, diverse, and nutritious foods. The data could include food prices of diverse foods, and dietary consumption indicators for vulnerable groups.

Summary

- Current global measurement of food access was made for a different world, 50 years ago.
  - Then “food shortage”
  - Now “nutritious food shortage”

- Accountability to “adequate nutritious food”: No clear targets for the agriculture and food sector

- Lesson from history: Core data collected and published can change.

- Post-MDGs: time to align current understanding of “access to adequate food” with globally-collected indicators

- Global institutions involved
  - FAO
  - DHS, UNICEF MICS, World Bank LSMS
  - Role of governments in data collection and information systems
Presenters on the last call (Feb 27)

- Rebecca Heidkamp (Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health “National Evaluation Platform” project)
  - noted the absence of “nutrition-sensitive” data or information systems, and lack of clarity on what indicators would even be measured.
- Carlo Cafiero and Terri Ballard (FAO statistics)
  - discussed the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (Voices of the Hungry)
- Catherine Leclercq (FAO nutrition)
  - discussed efforts to improve data and indicators of diet quality
- Erica Khetran (HKI)
  - introduced the Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Project (FSNSP) in Bangladesh, which tracks relevant indicators at national scale, including HFIAS, cost of a standard food basket, and WDDS
- Karen Siegel (Emory University)
  - discussed her research on the supply of fruits and vegetables compared to recommended intake
Other conversations where our communities’ input will be helpful

- Food Security Information Network (FSIN)
  - launching a food and nutrition security measurement technical working group – to identify best ways of collecting, analyzing, and reporting information to decision-makers.
- FAO SOFI suite of indicators to capture food security
- UN technical working group on improving the reliability and relevance of household consumption and expenditure surveys (HCES)
- ICN2 accountability framework
- “Nutrition-sensitive” data systems efforts in SUN countries (as Rebecca Heidkamp described on the last call)
- Post-2015 agenda
# Examples of food indicators

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Availability</th>
<th>Access</th>
<th>Utilization</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>National</strong></td>
<td>Per capita availability of diverse food groups, e.g.</td>
<td>Per capita availability of diverse food groups, adjusted for economic inequalities</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Fruit and veg</td>
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<td>- ASF</td>
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<td>- Ultra-processed foods</td>
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<td>Etc..</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Local/Community</strong></td>
<td>Above indicator at sub-national level</td>
<td>Cost of nutritious diet/food basket</td>
<td>Affordability of diverse food groups</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Household</strong></td>
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<td>FIES</td>
<td>Household consumption patterns?</td>
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<td><strong>Individual</strong></td>
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<td>WDDS IDDS Etc...</td>
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