IUNS 20th International Congress of Nutrition Satellite Symposium

Current Headlines in Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition

Participant Guide
Granada, Spain
September 15, 2013
Improving women’s nutrition and infant and young child feeding practices, in addition to the control and prevention of micronutrient deficiencies, during the first 1,000 days are recognized as high impact interventions to reduce stunting, morbidity and mortality. Over the last few years, the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement has enhanced global advocacy for nutrition. USAID’s Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING) Project will use this momentum to facilitate a Satellite Symposium. During this Symposium, the latest developments on women’s nutrition and infant and young child feeding and nutrition will be presented. Following these presentations, scientists and program experts will facilitate an interactive series of small group discussions.

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Facilitator</th>
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<td>14:00–14:10</td>
<td>Welcome and Opening Remarks</td>
<td>Christian Winger, SPRING</td>
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<td>14:10–15:10</td>
<td>Panel of Experts</td>
<td>Facilitated by Dr. Karin Lapping, Save the Children</td>
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<td>14:10–14:40</td>
<td>Women’s Nutrition</td>
<td>Reynaldo Martorell, Emory University</td>
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<td><strong>Session Objective:</strong> The session will discuss the importance of women’s nutrition for maternal, newborn and child nutrition and health outcomes and identify evidence-based interventions that should be implemented at scale.</td>
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<td>14:40–15:10</td>
<td>Infant and Young Child Feeding</td>
<td>Kenneth H. Brown, University of California, Davis</td>
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<td><strong>Session Objective:</strong> The session will provide an update on current recommendations concerning infant and young child feeding and recent programmatic experience in encouraging and assisting child caregivers to implement these recommendations.</td>
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<td>Time</td>
<td>Concurrent Small Group Discussions (Round #1)</td>
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<td>15:10 – 16:25</td>
<td><strong>The Right Foods at the Right Times: An Evidence-Based Approach to a Healthy Start at Life</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Country Adaptation of the Essential Nutrition Actions: An Overview</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Jane Badham</strong>, JB Consultancy</td>
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<td><strong>Kathryn Dewey</strong>, University of California, Davis</td>
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<td>Innovating with Communication Technologies: Pushing New Buttons for Behavior Change</td>
<td>This session will provide an opportunity to examine the emerging landscape around the promotion of high-impact nutrition-related behaviors and social change, fostered by innovations in information communication technologies. The discussion will focus primarily on lessons learned and insights gathered during the implementation of the SPRING/Digital Green Collaboration and Feasibility Study on the use of participatory community video in India. Participants will discuss pros and cons of this approach and other “m-nutrition” concepts, and the prospects for scaling-up the most promising strategies.</td>
<td>Peggy Koniz-Booher, SPRING</td>
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<td>Feed the Future’s Progress Toward Linking Agriculture and Nutrition</td>
<td>The session will discuss opportunities and challenges in integrating agriculture and nutrition based on findings from a landscape analysis of USAID Missions’ current interventions and the pathways that link agriculture and nutrition in 19 Feed the Future nutrition focus countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia.</td>
<td>Lidan Du, SPRING</td>
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<td>The Latest News on Infant Feeding and HIV</td>
<td>The session will briefly review the evidence that informed global recommendations for breastfeeding by HIV-infected mothers and discuss some of the dilemmas now being faced by program managers and health workers.</td>
<td>Nigel Rollins, World Health Organization</td>
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16:25 – 17:40 Concurrent Small Group Discussions (Round #2)

17:40 – 18:00 Wrap-up and Conclusion

Dr. Victoria Quinn, Helen Keller International
Marcia Griffiths, The Manoff Group
IUNS 20th International Congress of Nutrition

Satellite Symposium

Current Headlines in Maternal, Infant and Young Child Nutrition

Speaker Biographies
(Listed alphabetically by last name)

Jane Badham, RD (SA), RNT (SA), Managing Director
JB Consultancy

Jane Badham is a registered dietitian and nutritionist in South Africa with an MSc. in Nutrition. She runs a health communication and strategy company that specializes in food regulatory issues, micronutrient malnutrition and maternal, infant and young child nutrition. Jane consults for a wide range of NGOs, SCOs, selected industry and the media.

Kenneth H. Brown, Distinguished Professor
University of California, Davis

Dr. Brown is a pediatrician and nutritionist who conducts research on the causes, complications, treatment, and prevention of childhood malnutrition in lower-income countries, focusing primarily on issues of infant and young child feeding, relationships between infection and nutrition, and control of specific micronutrient deficiencies, including zinc, iron and vitamin A. Dr. Brown is the Chair of the International Zinc Nutrition Consultative Group; and he has served on expert committees of the World Health Organization, the Pan American Health Organization, UNICEF and the US Institute of Medicine, and on the editorial boards of several major nutrition journals. He is a past-President of the Society for International Nutrition Research and a Fellow of the American Society of Nutrition.

Kathryn Dewey, Professor and Director, Program in International and Community Nutrition
University of California, Davis

Dr. Dewey received her PhD in Biological Sciences from the University of Michigan and has been at UC Davis since 1980. Her research on maternal and infant nutrition has included studies in the U.S. and in several countries in Latin America, Africa and Asia. She is currently the Project Director for the International Lipid-based Nutrient Supplement (iLiNS) Project (Ghana, Malawi and Burkina Faso) and for the Rang-Din Nutrition Study (Bangladesh).
**Lidan Du, Research Advisor**  
*Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING)*

Lidan Du led a landscape analysis of USAID’s Feed the Future investments in agriculture to achieve improved nutrition outcomes in 19 focus countries. She brings over ten years of experience in public health nutrition research and programs in academia, multi-lateral agencies, NGOs, and government institutions. Lidan holds a PhD in International Nutrition from Cornell University and an M.S. in Food Policy and Applied Nutrition from Tufts University.

**Marcia Griffiths, MSc, President**  
*The Manoff Group*

Marcia Griffiths, MSc, is known for her field work, technical expertise, and innovative programming in applied nutrition and social marketing. Her career includes over 35 years of program management and technical assistance work in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Ms. Griffiths has served as a senior advisor in communications, social marketing, and behavior change for numerous USAID, World Bank, and developing country government projects.

**Agnes Guyon, MD, MPH, Senior Technical Advisor**  
*Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING)*

Dr. Agnes Guyon is a public health medical doctor with more than 25 years of field experience in Asia and Africa. Dr. Guyon has worked in Madagascar and Ethiopia and contributed to the development and implementation of the Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA) framework to operationalize high impact interventions at scale. She provides technical assistance by bringing nutrition expertise into health, food security and agriculture.

**Peggy Koniz-Booher, Senior Technical Advisor, Nutrition SBCC**  
*Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING)*

Peggy Koniz-Booher is a public health nutritionist and MCH-N behavior change communication specialist, with more than 25 years of field experience in the Latin America, Africa and Asia. She is currently leading the Social and Behavior Change Communication team for the USAID-supported SPRING Project, providing strategic direction, with specific emphasis on building partnerships and identifying innovative communication technologies for nutrition.
Dr. Karin Lapping, Senior Nutrition Director  
Save the Children

Karin Lapping, public health nutritionist, has spent the past fifteen years working in international health and nutrition primarily with the non-governmental organization, Save the Children. Karin is currently the Senior Director of Nutrition at Save the Children and directs the nutrition portfolio from Washington DC. Karin has lived in Nepal, Zimbabwe, Pakistan and Viet Nam and has worked in over 20 countries. She holds an MPH from Emory University and a PhD from Tufts University in Food Policy and Applied Nutrition.

Reynaldo Martorell, PhD, Robert W. Woodruff Professor of International Nutrition & Senior Advisor, Global Health Institute  
Emory University

Dr. Martorell’s main interests are in maternal and child nutrition, both in terms of research and policies and programs. He was an investigator in the Institute of Nutrition of Central America and Panama (INCAP) nutrition intervention study in Guatemala and had led several follow-up studies of this population. He is a co-investigator in the COHORTS collaboration.

Joy Miller Del Rosso, Senior Nutrition Advisor  
Save the Children

Joy Miller Del Rosso has over 25 years of experience in international and U.S. nutrition and cross-sector program management, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. She provides leadership to institutional and operational and strategic program planning, performance measurement and operational and evaluation research, micronutrient communications, infant and young child nutrition, school health and nutrition, and child obesity prevention. Currently the Senior Nutrition Advisor at Save the Children US, she is responsible for a large portfolio of nutrition projects in Africa and other parts of the world. Previous positions with Save the Children have included National Director of US Programs, Associate Vice President for Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation and School Health and Nutrition Advisor. Del Rosso has also held nutrition technical positions at the Manoff Group and the World Bank and has consulted and collaborated with USAID Headquarters and Missions; a wide range of international donors and agencies including the World Food Programme, UNICEF and with host country governments and stakeholders.

Jennifer Nielsen, PhD, Senior Program Manager for Nutrition and Health  
Helen Keller International

Jennifer Nielsen has served as Helen Keller International’s Senior Program Manager for Nutrition and Health since 2006, providing technical guidance on maternal and child public health strategies to all 22 country programs. She has over 20 years of experience in international development, much of that time working in sub-Saharan Africa or on projects being implemented in that region.
**Dr. Victoria Quinn, Senior Vice President, Programs**  
*Helen Keller International*

Dr. Victoria Quinn is the Senior Vice President of Programs for Helen Keller International and oversees all of HKI’s programs in nutrition, eye health and neglected tropical diseases. She has more than 30 years of experience in Africa, Asia, and Latin America designing and managing complex and large-scale nutrition and maternal child health country and regional programs, including those involving agriculture and nutrition. Dr. Quinn’s areas of expertise include nutrition policy and surveillance, infant and young child feeding, micronutrients and women’s nutrition. Dr. Quinn is an Adjunct Associate Professor at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University in Boston and is currently on the Technical Advisory Groups for Bread for the World.

**Dr. Nigel Rollins, Scientist**  
*Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health, World Health Organization*

Dr. Nigel Rollins joined the Department of Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health of WHO in July 2008. His work focuses primarily on prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and infant feeding. He is also involved with broader paediatric issues including severe malnutrition and health systems research. Dr. Rollins trained as a paediatrician in Belfast, Northern Ireland and prior to joining WHO, he was Professor and Head of the Centre for Maternal and Child Health at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), Durban, South Africa, where he lived and worked for 14 years.

**Christian Winger, MALD, Project Director**  
*Strengthening Partnerships, Results and Innovations in Nutrition Globally (SPRING)*

Mr. Winger has over 20 years of experience in managing private and public organizations and implementing projects in nutrition, maternal/child health, HIV and AIDS prevention, and reproductive health. He has served as both project director and chief of party for a variety of programs implementing social behavior change communications. He has significant experience working in infant young child nutrition, HIV and AIDS and nutrition, zinc treatment for diarrhea, iodized salt, and point-of-use water disinfection. Mr. Winger offers solid experience in creating innovative partnerships between private sector, public sector, and civil society, building upon existing resources for low-cost and sustainable interventions.
Session Objective and Overview:
*The session will discuss the importance of women’s nutrition for maternal, newborn and child nutrition and health outcomes and identify evidence-based interventions that should be implemented at scale.*

The presentation will touch upon three broad areas: 1) the growing but still inadequate attention that women’s nutrition receives in the policy arena, 2) the review of the scientific evidence for women’s nutrition interventions and 3) progress in program implementation and key operational research priorities. The presentation will be based on work recently completed by the author and colleagues for the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the 2013 Lancet Series on Maternal and Child Nutrition. Key conclusions are that the problem of stunting at two years of age cannot be addressed effectively without improving women’s nutrition and that we have strong scientific evidence to support a range of interventions to improve women’s nutrition.
**Panel Presenter:**
Kenneth H. Brown

**Session Objective and Overview:**
The session will provide an update on current recommendations concerning infant and young child feeding and recent programmatic experience in encouraging and assisting child caregivers to implement these recommendations.

In particular, the presentation will review: 1) selected definitions concerning infant and young child feeding practices, including breast feeding and complementary feeding; 2) the conceptual framework used for estimating the amounts of nutrients required from complementary foods; 3) key aspects of appropriate complementary feeding, including adequate feeding frequency, energy density, and micronutrient content of complementary foods; 4) options for ensuring adequate micronutrient intakes by infants and young children; and 5) programmatic options for promoting the recommended child feeding practices.
The Right Foods at the Right Times:  
An Evidence-based Approach to a Healthy Start at Life

Small Group Facilitator:  
Jane Badham

Session Objective and Overview:  
The session will examine preliminary evidence on sales and promotion of commercial products fed to young children in Africa and Asia and current policies in place. Participants will discuss the challenges posed by the promotion of commercially produced foods consumed by infants and young children and consider options to ensure mothers have the necessary information for optimal infant and young child feeding.

Project ARCH will provide preliminary data on existing policies, available food products and in-store promotion of foods consumed by infants and young children in four countries (Cambodia, Nepal, Senegal, Tanzania). The discussion will consider: 1) The need to scale-up the promotion and protection of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months and continued breastfeeding to two years and beyond; 2) How to create the space for the variety of appropriate complementary feeding approaches by providing mothers/caregivers with information while avoiding over-promotion of one option at the expense of the other options, and always without compromising breastfeeding; and 3) The challenges posed by commercially produced foods for general consumption that are commonly fed to children under the age of two years. The focus will be on five key issues – policies, products, prices, promotional practices, and principles. The participants will consider implications of preliminary findings and options for ensuring that the right foods are promoted at the right times and mothers/caregivers have the necessary information to practice optimal infant and young child feeding.
Fortified Foods for Women’s Nutrition

Small Group Facilitator:
Kathryn Dewey

Session Objective and Overview:
The session will examine current evidence regarding the potential impact of fortified foods for women on nutrition and other outcomes, including maternal health and pregnancy outcomes. Participants will discuss pros and cons of this approach and prospects for scaling-up of the most promising strategies.

Participants will be presented with a brief summary of what has been learned about fortified foods and beverages designed for pregnant and lactating women. They will discuss whether fortified food products have potential for greater impact than multiple-micronutrient tablets, by a) providing some of the key macronutrients (energy, protein, essential fats, and macrominerals such as calcium), b) potentially increasing palatability and thus adherence, and c) reaching women pre-conception and between pregnancies, not just during pregnancy. Participants will discuss potential strategies for scaling-up and anticipated constraints such as affordability.
Session Objective and Overview:
The session will review the adaptation of the ENA framework over the past 15 years that guided its broad scale implementation across numerous countries in Africa and Asia. Participants will discuss how existing programs and initiatives could be used as platforms to scale-up nutrition specific interventions in a similar manner.

Participants will be presented with a brief overview of how the Essential Nutrition Actions (ENA) framework provides universal, science-based guidance for delivering nutrition services and behavior change communications at key contact points across the life cycle, from national to community levels, and how the process has rolled out in various countries. Participants will identify existing platforms where nutrition specific and nutrition sensitive interventions could be enhanced by incorporating strategies from ENA, and how to decrease current missed opportunities to deliver quality nutrition services.
Addressing Malnutrition in the Urban Context

Small Group Facilitator:
Joy Miller Del Rosso

Session Objective and Overview:
This session will be an opportunity to discuss the critical factors that influence nutrition status among the urban poor and slum dwellers and issues related to developing and implementing programming to address malnutrition in an urban context.

Rapid urbanization is taking place in many parts of the world. Slum dwellers are predicted to grow from one to two billion by 2050. The locus of poverty and malnutrition is gradually shifting from rural to urban areas as the number of poor and undernourished increases more quickly in urban settings. A recent small-scale nutrition research project carried out among adolescent girls living in slum areas of Bandung, Indonesia will serve as the starting point for a discussion organized around the following three questions and topics: 1) what are the major nutrition problems among poor urban populations—across the life cycle, due to the particular living conditions in urban areas, other urban-specific determinants of malnutrition? 2) What are the challenges to and opportunities for addressing nutrition in the urban context—data/information, targeting, access to vulnerable groups, human resources, delivery mechanisms, and tested program models? 3) What recommendations can be made to increase attention to and accelerate progress in addressing urban nutrition taking into account the donor environment; research, data and information availability; and private sector, government and civil society considerations?
Adolescent Nutrition

Small Group Facilitator:  
Reynaldo Martorell

Session Objective and Overview:  
The session will focus on the importance of improving the nutrition of adolescents and their future children.

Adolescents in low and middle income countries suffer from many nutritional problems including anemia and micronutrient deficiencies. Similarly, underweight is prevalent in poor countries and overweight in many middle income countries. Teenage pregnancies and early marriage are common and lead to social consequences, such as school desertion and low empowerment, as well as biological ones, including increased maternal mortality and higher prevalence of intrauterine growth retardation. Participants will discuss strategies and platforms for improving the nutrition of adolescents, increasing their formal education, expanding their health and nutrition knowledge and preventing teenage pregnancies.
Linking Prevention and Community-based Management of Acute Malnutrition (CMAM)

Small Group Facilitator:
   Kenneth H. Brown

Session Objective and Overview:
The session will review the importance of systematic screening for acute malnutrition and to encourage participants to share their experiences on methods used to enhance community participation in CMAM screening sessions, as well as any attempts to link other service delivery to these screening sessions.

Community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) is a systematic, integrated approach for the screening, triage, and treatment of children with different degrees of acute malnutrition in the community setting. Many countries have deployed detailed treatment protocols, which are designed according to the severity of acute malnutrition and presence of clinical complications. However, frequent screening of high risk children is required to identify those in need of treatment; and the success of screening depends, in turn, on active participation by front-line health personnel and mobilization of child caregivers. To encourage greater participation in CMAM screening, while simultaneously providing other services to prevent acute malnutrition, screening sessions should be conducted in the community (rather than just at fixed health facilities); and service providers should use these opportunities to offer child feeding counseling and, possibly, to distribute preventive supplements.
Small Group Facilitator:
Peggy Koniz-Booher

Session Objective and Overview:
This session will provide an opportunity to examine the emerging landscape around the promotion of high-impact nutrition-related behaviors and social change, fostered by innovations in information communication technologies (ICT). The discussion will focus primarily on lessons learned and insights gathered during implementation of the SPRING/Digital Green Collaboration and Feasibility Study on the use of participatory community video in India. Participants will discuss pros and cons of this approach and other “m-nutrition” concepts, and the prospects for scaling-up of the most promising strategies.

Participants will be presented with a brief overview of the USAID-supported strategic alliance between SPRING and Digital Green, a U.S. and Indian-based NGO, to adapt and test their agriculture-centric, “human-mediated” information communication technology approach for the promotion high-impact nutrition and hygiene practices in Keonjhar District in Odisha, India. Building on this innovative agricultural extension platform, SPRING has supported the development and dissemination of 10 participatory, community-led nutrition videos, created by a local videography team. With the support of IFPRI, SPRING is currently testing the feasibility of this approach, as a precursor to designing a larger impact evaluation. The videos produced over the last six months showcase key nutrition and hygiene practices, as well as linkages between nutrition, livelihoods and agriculture, often highlighting early adopters of high-impact behaviors. Participants will also have the opportunity to share experiences with other m-health or “m-nutrition” platforms, strategies, and tools. These presentations will serve as the starting point for a discussion organized around the following three questions and topics: 1) Is the “buzz” around ICT/m-health/>“m-nutrition” a passing fad or a critical new tool for nutrition SBCC planners and practitioners?; 2) What are the major gaps in our understanding of how best to harness the power of ICT, and what is needed to fill them?; and 3) What are the constraints to designing and using innovative ICT/m-health/>“m-nutrition” at scale, and will the rewards be worth the investment in infrastructure (the retooling of nutrition SBCC)?
Small Group Facilitator:
Lidan Du

Session Objective and Overview:
The session will discuss opportunities and challenges in integrating agriculture and nutrition based on findings from a landscape analysis of USAID Missions’ current interventions and the pathways that link agriculture and nutrition in 19 Feed the Future nutrition focus countries in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Asia.

SPRING conducted a Landscape Analysis of USAID Missions’ investments that have explicit implications to achieving Feed the Future nutrition objectives. The review included both agriculture and direct health/nutrition projects to map current interventions and the pathways linking agriculture and nutrition. The analysis also adopted a set of guiding principles to identify whether and the extent to which they are being applied to enable agriculture programs in the Feed the Future focus countries to improve nutrition among their target populations. Session participants will have opportunities to share and discuss their research and programming experiences to make agriculture/economic development interventions deliver nutrition outcomes.
The Latest News on Infant Feeding and HIV

Small Group Facilitator:
Dr. Nigel Rollins

Session Objective and Overview:
This session will briefly review the evidence that informed global recommendations for breastfeeding by HIV-infected mothers and discuss some of the dilemmas now being faced by program managers and health workers.

In 2010, WHO recommended national health authorities to decide whether public health facilities should recommend and support all HIV-positive mothers to breastfeed while receiving antiretroviral drugs (ARVs) for the prevention of HIV transmission or to support replacement feeding by all HIV positive mothers. This public health approach is significantly different from earlier approaches when mothers were individually counseled on which feeding option would be most appropriate for their personal circumstances. The rationale for this change was the high quality evidence that showed HIV transmission through breastfeeding could be dramatically reduced by ARVs. This evidence transformed the landscape in which policy and guidelines could be made. WHO recommendations on ARVs have further evolved in 2013 and raise additional important programmatic questions.

For additional information, please see the resources below.

WHO HIV IF Guidelines (2010):


WHO ARV Guidelines (2013):