The inclusiveness of nutrition in food and agricultural policies

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• Understanding the role of agriculture and food policies in
  – food production, storage, transformation, consumption and
  – dietary and nutritional outcomes remains fragmented.
• Benchmarking is important
• Concepts -> to experiences on the ground
Objectives

• (i) Identify and describe food and agriculture strategies & policies that incorporate “nutrition sensitive” actions

• (ii) Describe policy processes and the political environment of nutrition sensitive food and agriculture policymaking
Methods

• UNSCN Meeting of the Minds
• Approach consistent (*Gillespie et al, 2012, TANDI project*)
  1. Perform a situation analysis
  2. Analyse nutrition sensitivity of the specific agricultural and food policies and frameworks
  3. Describe policy processes and alignments

• Methods were tailored to the country
• May - August 2013
Data collection

• Secondary data analysis, review of policies, in-country consultations:
  – Food and agriculture policies (n=73)
    • -> 5 recommendations for improving nutrition through agriculture (Herforth & Dufour, 2013).
  – In-depth interviews national stakeholders (n=165)
  – Questionnaires (n=31)
  – Stakeholder focus groups
  – Programme visits
Prevalence of undernutrition and overweight/obesity

![Chart showing prevalence of undernutrition and overweight/obesity in various countries. The chart indicates the percentage of the population suffering from stunting, undernourishment, and overweight/obesity across different regions such as Brazil, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, and Thailand.](image-url)
Recommendations used for scoring

1. Increase incentives for availability, access, and consumption of nutritious foods
2. Monitor dietary consumption and access to nutritious foods (i.e. food prices, vulnerable groups)
3. Include measures to protect and empower women and the poor
4. Develop capacity in human resources and institutions to improve nutrition + financing
5. Support multi-sectoral strategies to improve nutrition
## Policy environment

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<th>Monitoring</th>
<th>Empowering</th>
<th>Developing capacity</th>
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- **On track**: Green circle
- **Somewhat on track**: Yellow circle
- **Not on track**: Red circle
Commonalities and similarities

• Well established:
  – Nutrition objectives
  – Indicators to measure progress
  – Target the vulnerable and women
  – Focus on diversified food production

• Lack of programming:
  – Improve processing, storage, marketing and utilization of foods
  – Nutrition sensitive value chains are poorly described/used

• Very few impact on nutrition outcomes
• Multi-sectoral nature of nutrition is acknowledged + political will to address the problems

• The main challenge related to a supportive environment for nutrition outcomes.

• Nutrition as an institutional orphan:
  – > Sector priorities at the expense of nutrition.

• Clear implementation and accountability remains an elusive challenge
• Lack of expertise among decision makers and practitioners on integrating nutrition outcomes in various sectors.
  – *Countries are not ready to deal with obesity and diet related NCD’s within agricultural policy*

• A trained workforce is needed
  – Handling complex linkages between sectors
  – Facilitating intersectoral dialogue
More understanding

- Operationalizing nutrition-sensitive agriculture policies
- Metrics for agriculture on diet and nutrition
- Long-term implications of “nutrition-sensitive” agriculture with population growth, urbanization, climate change and volatility.
Nutrition status (over and under nutrition)

- Genotype
- Food intake
- Health status

Quantity
- Food availability at individual level
- Food availability at national level

Food accessibility
- Infrastructure and equipment
- Purchasing power
- Food price
- Household income

Food habits
- Offer
- Quality of the seeds
- Fertilizer and feeds
- Pesticides

Market orientation of products
- Distribution
- Technological procedures
- Conservation
- Transformation

National production
- Export
- Competitiveness of local produce
- Public financing
- Land accessibility and quality

Information
- Seasonality
- Productivity
- Marketing
Country case studies

- Brazil & Mozambique: Sabrina Ionata de Oliveira Granheim
- Malawi: Anne-Marie Mayer
- Nepal: Jessica Fanzo & Danielle Andrews
- Senegal: Carl Lachat & Eunice Nago
- Sierra Leone: Margaret Wagah Mohammed Sheriff, Aminata Koroma
- South Africa: Hettie Schönfeldt, JF Kirsten, Milla McLachlan
- Thailand: Kraisid Tontisirin, et al.

Coordination: UNSCN

- Marzella Wüstefeld & Lina Mahy

Funding

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