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International Agencies

Effects of Food and Nutrition Policies

Policy Building Steps toward Prevention?

- Consensus conferences: nationally, regionally, globally
- Task forces
- Surveillance systems to monitor trends over time; evidence-based
- Road map, “business plan”, with action items, stakeholders, milestones and timelines
- Monitoring of national progress and translating, promoting, advocating communicating results
- Maintaining/updating resource inventory (govt, pvt sector, aid, ngos)

Major UN Agencies Focused on Food and Nutrition

- Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN (FAO)
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- UNICEF
- WHO
- PAHO
- UN Standing Committee on Nutrition (SCN)
- World Bank
- UNHCR

Other International Agencies in Food and Nutrition

- Bilaterals: eg, USAID, DFID, AusAID, GTZ
- Bilateral-funded projects: FANTA, IFPRI, BASICS
- INGOs: CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere)

CRS (Catholic Relief Services);

International Red Cross

Red Crescent Society

Save the Children

Helen Keller International

Concern

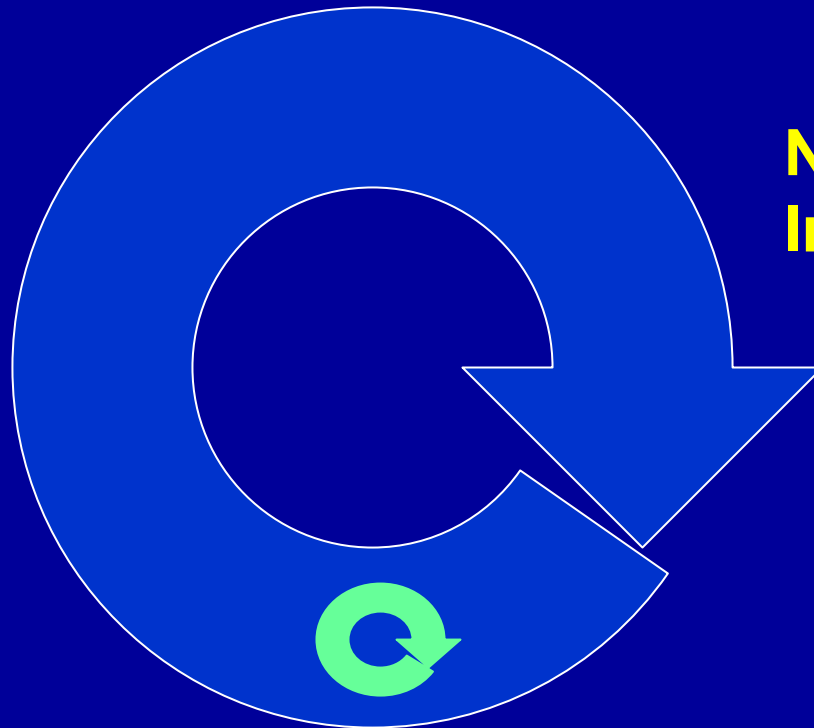
(see Global Health Council Directory for US-based agencies)

International Agencies (continued)

- Consultative Groups/ Societies/Lobbyists:
 - Intl Vitamin A Consultative Group (IVACG)
Intl Nutritional Anemia Consultative Group (INACG)
 - Intl Council for the Control of Iodine Deficiency Disorders (ICCID)
 - Global Health Council
 - Intl Life Sciences Institute (ILSI)

Political, Financial, Cultural Realities

**Food &
Nutrition
Policies**



**Nutrition
Interventions**

Nutrition & Health Research

Major UN Food and Nutrition Summits

- World Food Conference: Rome, 1974
- World Summit for Children: NYC 1990
- Montreal Policy Conference on Ending Hidden Hunger in 1991
- International Conference on Nutrition: Rome 1992
- World Food Summit: Rome, 1996
- World Food Summit: *Five Years Later*: Rome, June 2002
- Millenium Development Assembly and Goals

World Food Conference: 1974

- Dimension of world food & nutrition problem:
 - 450 m to 1 b hungry persons in world, mostly in developing countries
 - Population growth: Increased 60% from 1950-1975, 80% of growth in low income countries (LIC)
 - Inadequate resources in LIC to cope
 - Weak policies, institutions and programs to foster use of food supplies to improve nutrition

World Food Conference: 1974

- Recommendations
 - Increase food supply
 - Reduce poverty
 - Stabilize food supplies
 - Curb population growth
 - Strong R & D to achieve these goals

World Food Conference: 1974

- “every man, woman and child has the inalienable right to be free from hunger and malnutrition in order to develop their physical and mental faculties”
- **Goal:** Eradication of hunger food insecurity and malnutrition within a decade
- Followed by years of policy and funding failures

World Food and Nutrition Study: **Issues**

National Research Council, 1977

- Nutrition-performance
- Roles of dietary components
- Policies affecting nutrition
- Nutrition intervention programs
- Plant breeding & genetic manipulation
- Biological nitrogen fixation
- Resistance to environmental stresses
- Pest management
- Weather & Climate
- Irrigation & water mgt
- Fertilizer sources

World Food and Nutrition Study: **Issues**

National Research Council, 1977

- Ruminant livestock
- Aquatic food sources
- Farm prodn systems
- Post harvest food losses
- Market expansion
- Intl research centers
- Natl food policies and organizations
- Trade policies
- Food reserves
- Information systems
- **MISSING:**
 - **Food fortification**
 - **Supplementation**

World Food and Nutrition Study

National Research Council, 1977

“In developing countries, effective nutrition interventions are likely to have more of an effect on human health than comparable investments in medical care”

UNICEF World Summit for Children

- New York City, Sept 30th, 1990
- 71 presidents & prime ministers
- Largest ever gathering of heads of state
- Commitment:
 - 1) End child death and malnutrition on such massive scale by 2000
 - 2) Protect normal physical and mental development of world's children

World Summit for Children, 1990

- World declaration on survival, protection and development of children
- Plan of action for implementing the world declaration in the 1990s
- Convention of the Rights of the Child:
Preamble with 54 Articles

World Declaration: **Specific Opportunities**

(World Summit for Children, 1990)

- **Convention on the Rights of the Child:** legal norms to protect children
- **Child health:** preventable diseases causing 14 m child deaths each yr; clean water & sanitation
- **Food and nutrition:** reduce malnutrition, micronutrient deficiencies & diseases that contribute to malnutrition; adequate food during pregnancy; complementary feeding
- **Roles of women, maternal health, FP**

World Declaration: Specific Opportunities

(World Summit for Children, 1990)

- **Role of family:** a nurturing environment; cultural values
- **Basic education and literacy**
- **Protecting children in armed conflict:** allow relief to reach mothers & children
- **Preserving environment for children**
- **Alleviation of poverty and revitalization of economic growth:** through improved health & nutrition; fostering favorable economic opportunities for poor countries

World Summit for Children: Nutrition Goals for Year 2000 (1)

- Reduce < 5 yr old moderate and severe malnutrition by half of 1990 level
- Reduce LBW (≤ 2.5 kg) to < 10%
- Reduce iron deficiency anemia in women by 1/3
- Virtually eliminate iodine deficiency
- Virtually eliminate VA deficiency and its consequences, including blindness

World Summit for Children: Nutrition Goals for Year 2000 (2)

- Empower women to breast-feed exclusively for 4-6 mo*, and continue well into 2nd year
- Promote & monitor growth regularly
- Disseminate knowledge & supportive services to increase food production to assure household food security

*Now recommended for 6 months

“The largest global Summit meeting in history pledged to do better by the world’s children. Their promises were eloquent, their goals ambitious. But children cannot survive or thrive on promises. The world’s leaders now have an obligation to find the resources and the political will necessary to translate hope into reality”

- Editorial NY Times, Sept 1990

“Keeping the Promise”



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NUTRITION

Rome, 1992



1) World Declaration

2) Plan of Action for
Nutrition

Attended and signed
by 159 ministers of
state

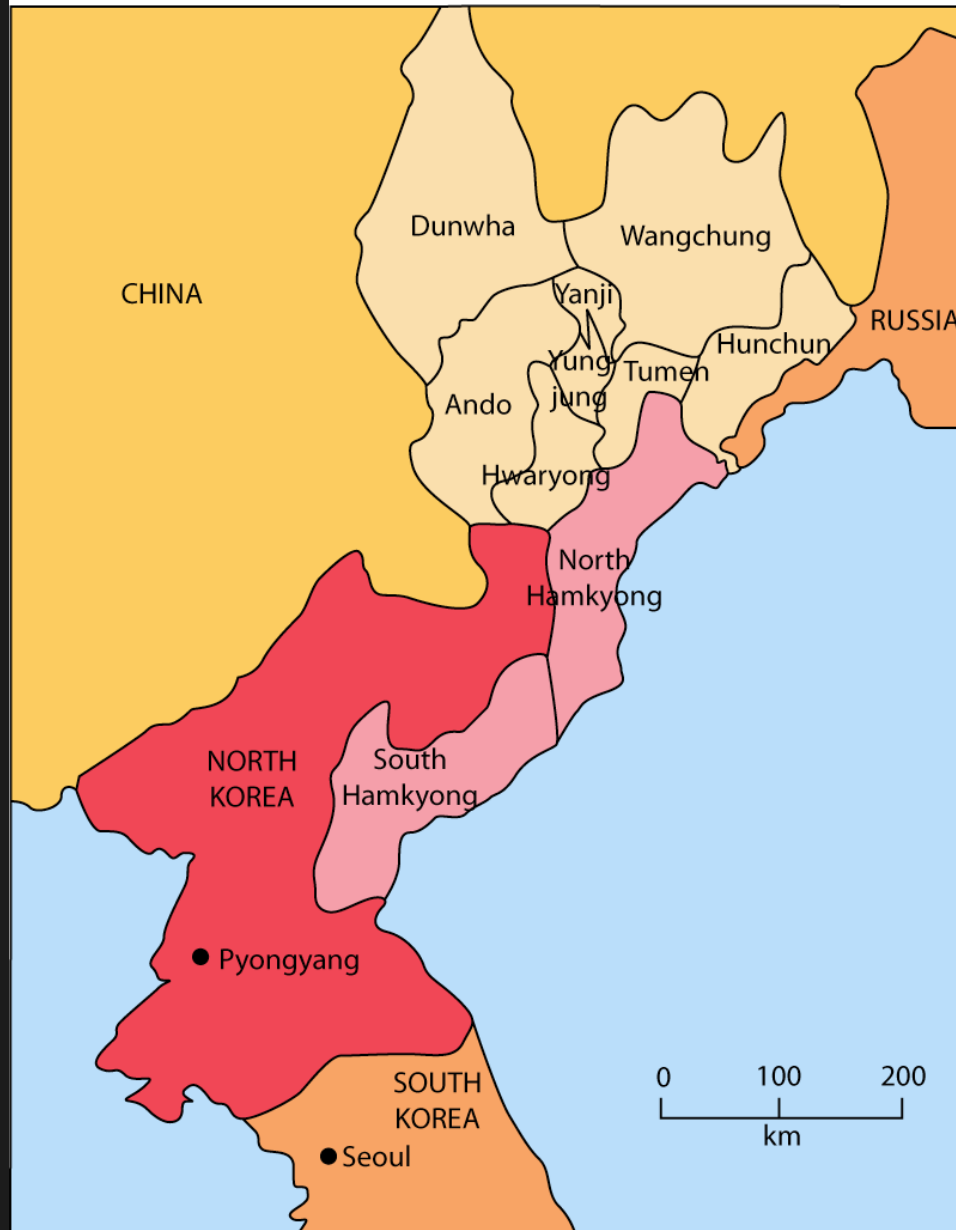
ICN: Rome, 1992

- **Dimension of food & nutrition problem**
 - 780 m people without sufficient food
 - 2 b people on subsistence and lack vitamins & minerals, especially I, VA, Fe
 - Hundred of millions suffer from diseases caused or exacerbated by nutritional deficiencies, dietary excess or unsafe food

Nutrition Goals of the 4th UN Development Decade (ICN, Rome 1992)

- Eliminate starvation and death caused by famine
- Reduce malnutrition and mortality among children substantially
- Reduce chronic hunger tangibly
- Eliminate major nutritional diseases

North Korea, 1995-98



ICN Rome: Major Policy Guidelines

- Commitment to promote nutritional well-being
- Strengthen agricultural policies
- Environmentally sound and sustainable development
- Growth with equity: Economic growth and equitable sharing by all population segments
- Priority to most nutritionally vulnerable

ICN Rome: Major Policy Guidelines

- Focus on Africa
- People's participation to raise product & income
- Focus on women and gender equality
- Development of human resources
- Population policies
- Health policies
- Economic and technical cooperation among countries
- Allocate adequate resources

ICN: Incorporating Objectives into Policies

- Incorporate nutritional objectives, considerations and components into development policies and programs
- Improve household food security
- Protect consumers through improved food quality and safety
- Prevent and manage infectious disease

ICN: Incorporating Objectives into Policies

- Promote breast-feeding
- Caring for socio-economically deprived and nutritionally vulnerable
- Prevent and control specific micronutrient deficiencies
- Promote healthy diets & lifestyles
- Assess, analyse and monitor nutritional situation

World Food Summit: Rome Nov 1996

- 185 countries represented
- 10,000 participants
- 112 heads/deputy heads of state
- Problem: **800 million hungry people**
- One major goal:
 - Eradicate world hunger**
- Reduce number of undernourished people by half by 2015

- Rome Declaration on World Food Security: 7 commitments to lay basis at *country level* for achieving food security
- World Summit Plan of Action: objectives & actions for implementing 7 commitments
- Intended effects:
 - Renew global commitment to eradicate hunger and achieve food security at highest political levels
 - Influence public opinion
 - Set political, conceptual & technical blueprint for ongoing effort to reduce number undernourished by ½ by 2015

World Food Summit Seven Commitments

We will...

- Ensure enabling political, social & economic environment
- Implement policies to eradicate poverty, inequality & improve access for all to sufficient, nutritionally adequate, safe food
- Pursue participatory, sustainable food, agriculture, fisheries, forestry and rural development
- Strive to ensure food/agricultural trade and trade policies are conducive to food security

Commitments continued: We will...

- Endeavor to prevent natural and man-made disasters & meet transitory & emergency food requirements to recover, rehabilitate, develop and meet future needs
- Promote optimal allocation of public and private investments to foster human resources, sustainable food, agriculture, etc
- Implement, monitor and follow-up this Plan of Action at all levels in cooperation with the international community

Which Classes of States Do Global Policies Aim At?

- **Abiding:** Established, recognized and governed by conventional civil laws; both developed and developing countries
- **Emerging:** Aspiring, re-invented nations; amenable to international influence
- **Rogue:** Dysfunctional political will, racked by unconventional, totalitarian forces & governance; little motivation to cooperate with regional or international will
- **Failed:** Anarchy; no policy solutions possible

Millenium Assembly of the UN

- Resolution 53/202 adopted in Dec 1998 to redesignate the 55th Session of the UN General Assembly at opening on 5 Sept 2000, inaugurating the “Millenium Summit” on 6 Sept 2000
- Aim: to renew global commitments to meet challenges of the new century regarding:
 - Globalization & Governance
 - Freedom from Want & Fear
 - Sustaining our future
 - Renewing the United Nations

Millenium Development Goals (MDGs)

World commitment to cut extreme poverty, hunger & disease by 2015

- Adopted by 189 countries at Millenium Assembly in 2000
- Distinguished by regular reconfirmation, evaluation & promotion in different forums
 - Eg, UN Millenium Project
Hunger Task Force

Nutrition and the Millennium Development Goals

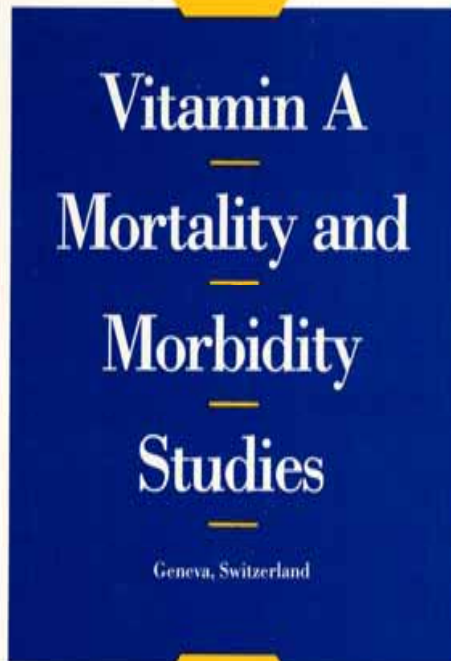


- Eradicate extreme poverty
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality/empower women
- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop global partnership for development

MDG/UN MP/Hunger Task Force

Strategic Areas for Donors

- Raise food productivity of small farmers
- Improve diet through improved crop mixes
- Micronutrient supplementation & fortification
- Target strategies toward vulnerable groups
- Adequate delivery of emergency relief



UN-Bilateral Collaborative Conferences, Meetings, Declarations, Projects

Example: Vitamin A

- 1) Getting the word out on vitamin A deficiency
- 2) Accelerating programs and policies
- 3) Keeping up the pressure on governments to act



World Health Organization



US Agency for
International Development



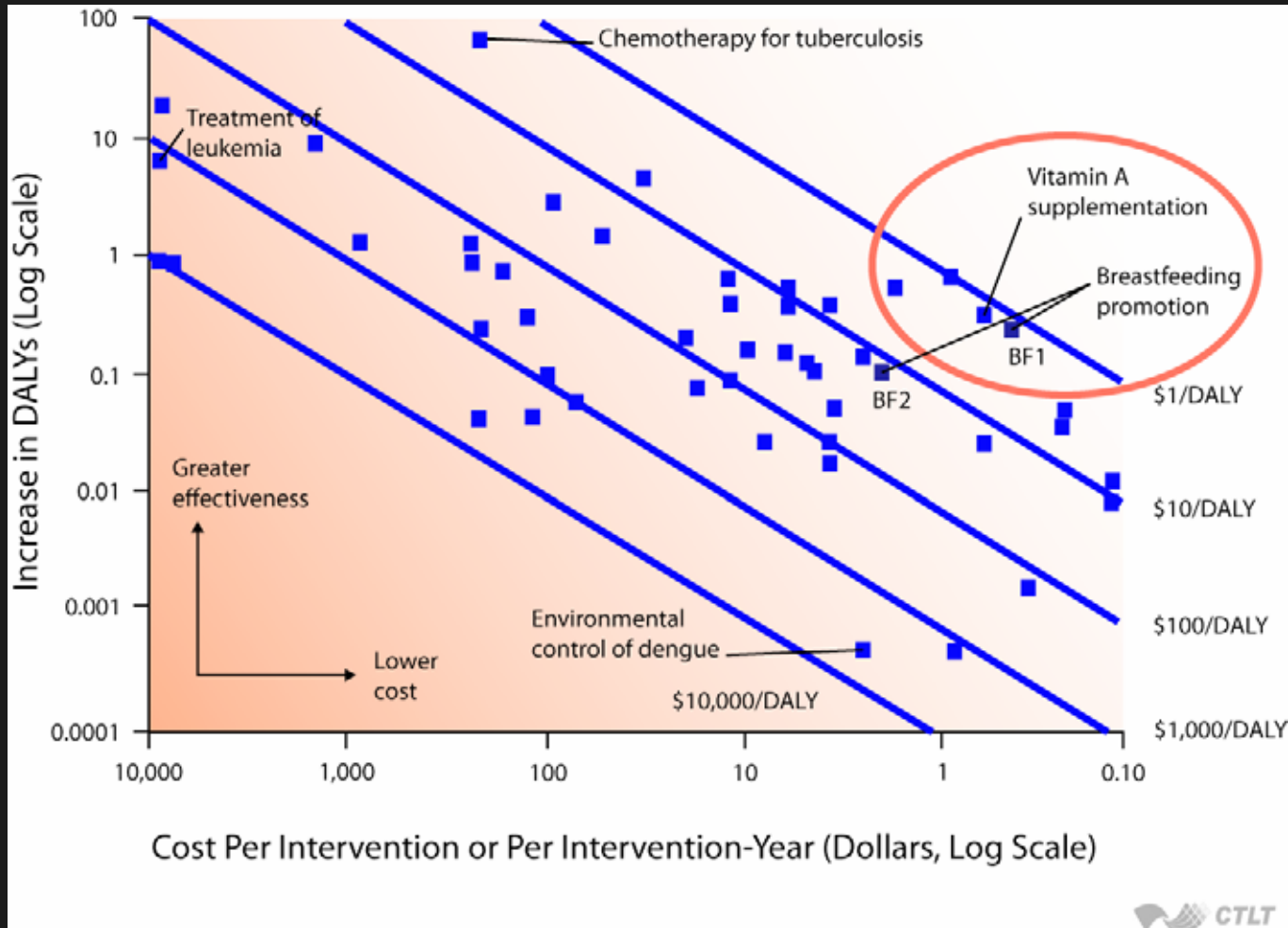
National Eye Institute
National Institutes of Health

Vitamin A and Child Mortality Prevention

Evidence-based Global Advocacy

- UN-ACC/SCN Statement (1986)
- WHO/UNICEF Statement (1987)
- IVACG Statement (1989)
- Lusaka Convention (1990)
- Ending Hidden Hunger (1991)
- International Conference on Nutrition (1992)
- Bellagio Brief (1992)
- 25th Session of UN-ACC/SCN (1993)
- UNICEF/WHO Mid-Decade Goals (1994)
- UN Special Session (2002)

World Bank Analyses and Advocacy



DALYs = Disability adjusted life years

Major Policy-related Functions of International Agencies (besides funding)

- Promote collection, assembly, analysis, interpretation & dissemination of food & nutrition data
- Convene global, regional, national meetings
- Develop consensus statements
- Develop & disseminate policy instruments
 - Declarations
 - Plans of Action
 - Policy briefs and statements
- Follow-up and monitor progress in countries

Have International Policies Improved Nutrition and Food Security in the Past Twenty Years?

- Eliminate starvation and death caused by famine?
- Reduce malnutrition and mortality among children substantially?
- Reduce chronic hunger tangibly?
- Eliminate major nutritional diseases?