Food Systems for Healthier Diets
Flagship Research Programme under A4NH-CGIAR

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Agriculture can do more than reduce hunger and poverty

A4NH Strategic Goal:
Maximize the health and nutritional benefits to the poor from agricultural development by identifying, developing, and supporting synergies between the agriculture, health, and nutrition.
A4NH PROGRAM STRUCTURE

FOOD SYSTEMS

BIOFORTIFICATION

FOOD SAFETY

NUTRITION PROGRAMS & POLICIES

ONE HEALTH

COUNTRY COORDINATION AND ENGAGEMENT (CCE) UNIT

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING (MEL) UNIT

GENDER, EQUITY, AND EMPOWERMENT (GEE) UNIT

INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

ILRI

INTERNATIONAL LIVESTOCK RESEARCH INSTITUTE

WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH

HarvestPlus

IITA

LONDON SCHOOL OF HYGIENE & TROPICAL MEDICINE
Accomplishments

- Biofortification: varieties, nutrition (Vit A, Fe), country teams
- Food Safety: aflatoxin control technology, informal markets
- Agriculture-nutrition pathways, ToC, evaluation evidence
- Supporting country policies and investments
Evolution: From value chains to food systems

- **Phase I – Value Chains for Enhanced Nutrition**
  - Supported value chain research for nutrient-dense foods with methods, frameworks, and evaluation

- **Key gaps in Phase I were:**
  - Weak consumption/diet quality / demand orientation
  - Lack of engagement with private sector shaping food system transformation

- **New flagship on Food Systems for Healthier Diets**
  - Not a new idea but little empirical research
  - Innovative start with diets
  - Need a broader range of technical and public-private partnership skills than ordinarily found in CGIAR Centers.
To **understand** how changes in food systems can lead to healthier diets and to identify and **test** entry points for improving availability and effective demand for healthier food and to **create at scale** a supportive policy and market environment for reaching heathier and sustainable diets.

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**Food Systems for Healthier Diets**

- **Diagnosis and foresight**
- **Food systems innovations**
- **Anchorining and scaling up**

**Interdisciplinary problem analysis**

**Co-innovation and lab-in-the-field experiments**

**Multi-stakeholder platforms**
Lessons from the Dutch Food System Experience: the missing middle

Start at national level and zoom out and in to regional and sub-national level
## Management
- WUR is one of the 6 managing partners of A4NH (lead by IFPRI)
- WUR is member of the Programme Management Committee (Ruerd Rueben)
- WUR is one of the five Flagship leaders (Inge Brouwer)
- Co-leading Cluster of Activities (CGIAR/WUR)

## Partnerships
- GAIN/AIM
- Integrative role through site integration (other AFS-CRPs)
  - Framing (advocating terminology)
  - Managing (joint projects)
  - Reporting (success stories)
- Collaboration with other partners start at country level
Outlook

- **Evidence base** for local/national dialogue on food systems innovations for healthier diets
  - agri/food/nutri/health constituencies
- **Experiments** in ongoing/scheduled food innovations
  - production, processing, storage, retail, home
- **Understanding** consumer behavior and food choices
- **Learning & exchange**: communication & feedback between stakeholders and across sites
- Operationalizing **integrated country teams**