Linking Agriculture, Food and Nutrition
FAO Examples from other countries

Seminar on Food Based Approaches to Nutrition
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Conceptual Model of Causes of Malnutrition

Malnutrition

Immediate Causes
Inadequate Food Intake
Disease

Underlying Causes
Household Food Insecurity
Poor Social and Care Environment
Poor Access to Health Care & Unhealthy Environment

Basic Causes
FAO’s Role

FAO’s Role
- Protect, promote and improve food based systems
- Improve diet
- Combat micro-nutrients deficiency
- Raise level of nutrition

Through
- Designing and implementing
- Capacity building
- Providing appropriate information
- Linking with related sectors
Role of Agriculture for Nutrition - Examples -

- Support to develop resilient food systems (diversification)
- Target households and communities at risk of malnutrition
- Promote crops/products to meet the population’s nutritional needs (quantity & quality)
- Ensure agricultural programmes are designed to also improve access and utilisation (nutrition promotion, awareness raising, women empowerment)
In Afghanistan, FAO through a German trust fund, supports the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock building capacities in food and nutrition security, working with different sectors, supporting policy and strategy development and designing and implementing community based food and nutrition projects aiming to address malnutrition through food based approaches.

Ministries’ Women Extension Officers work with various community platforms in promotion of locally available and affordable foods for adequate complementary feeding.
Mainstreaming Nutrition

Project Planning, Coordination, Implementation (MAIL and FAO)

Education  Agriculture  Health  Rural Development

School Teachers  Literacy Teachers  Agriculture and Women Extension  Health Workers Community Volunteers  Community Mobilisers

Schools Students  Literacy Classes  Women Producer Groups  Health Action Groups  Community Development Committees (female)

Community Platform

Families, Women and Children

Household, Individual Level
1. Integrating nutrition into national policies and programmes

2. Capacity-building and nutrition education at provincial level

3. Community projects (diversified production, processing, storage and marketing of agricultural products, etc.)
Technical Areas of Support

- Promotion of complementary feeding (TIPS, extension approach, manuals)
- Nutrition promotion (Family Nutrition Guide participatory cooking demonstrations)
- Promotion of food processing (trainings, manuals)
- Home stead food production
- School based learning (schools gardens)
- Communication materials
Elements Inter-Sectoral Work

- Common objective, clear responsibilities
- Sensitization policy makers/planners to integrate nutrition (good examples)
- Joint trainings at provincial and district levels
- Joint planning at local level
- Start simple (demystify nutrition): e.g. joint nutrition education, school gardens, participatory cooking sessions...
1. Establish good working relations, be inclusive and transparent, share information, lessons learnt
2. Know the stakeholders/actors, mandates and synergies, know who is doing what and where
3. Reinforce inter-sectoral and inter-institutional collaboration, i.e. joint planning, joint monitoring
4. Highest management level leadership (support/guidance)
5. Coordinate between emergency and development