Hunger, malnutrition and poor health are widespread and stubborn development challenges. In the past, agriculture has played a key role in providing poor people with a steady supply of staple crops that meet calorie requirements at relatively low prices. Income from agriculture has also been important for improving household nutrition and health, particularly when women earn income or have access to highly nutritious foods.

Agriculture, however, has the potential to do more than contribute to basic food and income needs. Agriculture has made remarkable advances in the past decades, but progress in improving the nutrition and health of poor farmers and consumers in developing countries is lagging behind. Agricultural practices, interventions and policies need to be adapted and redesigned to maximize health and nutrition benefits and reduce health risks.

The CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health, led by the International Food Policy Research Center, seeks to realize the potential of agricultural development to deliver gender-equitable health and nutritional benefits to the poor.

**Research themes**

The A4NH program is designed to maximize the health and nutritional benefits of agricultural development. A4NH’s research outputs are intended to support agricultural researchers, value-chain actors, program implementers and policy makers in reshaping their actions to better contribute to nutrition and health outcomes for poor people. The program also aims to identify, develop and support synergies between agriculture and the nutrition and health sectors to maximize the benefits and minimize the risks of agricultural actions on human nutrition and health.

A4NH will accelerate progress in improving the nutrition and health of poor people by exploiting and enhancing the synergies between agriculture, nutrition and health through four key research themes:

- Value chains for enhanced nutrition.
- Bio-fortification.
- Agriculture-associated diseases.
- Integrated programs and policies among the agriculture, nutrition and health sectors.

**Conceptual framework**

- Improved availability, access and intake of nutritious, safe foods
- Decreased labor productivity
- Decreased risk of AAD
- Increased income and gender equity
- Increased knowledge of nutrition, food safety

1. Enhancing Nutrition Along the Value Chain
2. Bio-Fortification Chain
3. Prevention & Control of Ag Associated Diseases
4. Integrated Programs and Policies
Gender focus

Women play a crucial role in food security throughout the world and also face particular risks of under nutrition, malnutrition and poor health. The A4NH program focuses on the following:

- Conducting gender analysis of needs and exposure to risks.
- Fostering women’s participation in and benefits from agriculture, nutrition and health programs.
- Empowering women and increasing their access to assets.
- Promoting equitable intra-household food allocation and consumption.
- Ensuring gender-friendly technology and delivery systems.

About CGIAR

CGIAR is a global agriculture research partnership for a food-secure future. Its science is carried out by the 15 research centers that are members of the CGIAR Consortium, in collaboration with hundreds of partner organizations.

Partner with us

The A4NH program aims to enhance transformative change through partnerships. The program is committed to supporting key development actors and building the capacity of research-and-development institutions and actors in developing countries. A4NH recognizes that it must forge new partnerships between the agriculture, nutrition and health sectors in a way that has not been done previously. Partners fall into four broad categories: enablers (policy makers and decision makers), development implementers, value-chain actors and research partners.

For more information about partnering with A4NH, go to: http://a4nh.cgiar.org/partners

Participating CGIAR Research Centers

- WorldFish
- Bioversity International
- International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
- International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
- International Potato Center (CIP)
- International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
- World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

Focal Countries

- Afghanistan
- Bangladesh
- Bolivia
- Cambodia
- Colombia
- Ecuador
- Ethiopia
- Guatemala
- Haiti
- Honduras
- India
- Kenya
- Malawi
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