

Asia Nutrition Highlight

Background

Asia is the largest continent in the world, both in terms of areas and population. It houses two of world's most populated countries, namely, China and India. In addition, it covers a wide range of socio-economic status, cultures and levels of development. In terms of nutrition situation and efforts to alleviate malnutrition, a few countries in Asia have made great strides in reducing the prevalence of malnutrition among children and women. Some examples which have gained global recognition include China, India, Indonesia and Thailand. Currently, several countries in the region, especially, those with rapidly growing economy and/or changing phases of social and political environment have faced a new challenge of Double Burden of Malnutrition (DBMN). It would be timely to review some of the lessons learned, sustainability of the efforts and the dynamicity of malnutrition problems in light of the recently alerted global food crisis and rapidly growing obesity/NCD epidemics and how to address them in the context of global direction of the economic and social development.

Session Objectives:

To review lessons learned, sustainability of the efforts, the dynamicity of malnutrition problems/ challenges and opportunities for devising appropriate policy and programs.

Session Chair & Co-Chair:

Prof. Kraisd Tontisirin, Thailand and Prof. Florentino Solon, Philippines

Session Topics & Speakers:

Introduction and overview

Prof. Kraisd Tontisirin, Thailand

Topic 1: *Regional overview and highlight on strategy and implementation of nutrition program in Philippines*

Speaker: Florentino Solon, Philippines

Topic 2: *Nutrition in transition in China: policy, national strategy and current programs*

Speaker: Chen Chunming, China

Topic 3: *Nutrition evolvement and current program in India. (Addressing how to devise policy, resources and infrastructure for implementing the program in a very large country and diversity population)*

Speaker: Prema Ramachandran, India

Topic 4: *Community nutrition support and capacity development in Indonesia*

Speaker: Soekirman, Indonesia

Topic 5: *Success, sustainability and current challenges of double burden of malnutrition in Thailand*

Speaker: Kraisd Tontisirin, Thailand

Topic 6: *From past to present: Nutrition program development and implementation, progress and sustainability*

Speaker: Le Thi Hop, Vietnam

Topic 7: *Utilization of national food and nutrition survey data for program implementation in Japan*
Speaker: Nobuo Yoshiike, Japan

Comments and discussions
John Mason, USA (TBC)

Closing remarks by Chair and Co-chair