

Tokyo Compact on Global Nutrition for Growth

December 7 - 8, 2021

Everyone, everywhere needs good nutrition to live a healthy and productive life and no one should be left behind. Nutrition is fundamental for the health and well-being of individuals and a foundation to sustainable development and economic growth. Investing in good nutrition is an opportunity to positively impact health, increase individual potential and productivity, and support economic development of nations.

While nutrition is so critical for human development, the world is still not on track to achieve any global nutrition targets by 2030 and child malnutrition still persists at an alarming rate. Globally, more than 149 million children are stunted, and 20 million babies are born with low birthweight. Malnutrition is the underlying cause of nearly half of childhood deaths. At the same time, overweight and obesity among adults, adolescents and children are rising to record levels – affecting 2 billion people globally of which 70% live in low- and middle-income countries – associated with a risk of diet-related diseases including non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Malnutrition is a challenge for all nations regardless of their development stage. Many countries are now experiencing a ‘double burden’ of at least two types of malnutrition where undernutrition and overweight and obesity coexist.

The COVID-19 pandemic has made equity even more challenging to solve. The pandemic has led to a significant increase in child malnutrition in all its forms through declining household incomes, disruption of nutrition and health services, and reduced availability and affordability of healthy diets. These disruptions will likely result in 13.6 million more children suffering from wasting. A projected 3.6 million more children who received poor nutrition due to COVID-19 will face stunted growth that limits their lifelong potential.

In addition, food systems are also increasingly more vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change while causing global warming. Supply chain constraints have led to increases in the prices of healthy foods. The UN Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) highlighted the need for food systems to be sustainable and resilient in order to nourish a growing population while protecting our planet.

The Tokyo Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit comes at a critical time. We, the participants of the Summit, are coming together to step up efforts to end malnutrition and to join forces to achieve equitable access to healthy diets and improved nutrition. An acceleration of action is required across many sectors, and across a wide range of stakeholders such as governments, international organizations, business, civil society, and academia.

We reaffirm our commitment to the World Health Assembly global nutrition targets 2025, the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition (2016-2025) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We commit to taking further actions on nutrition across five thematic areas: health, food, resilience, accountability, and financing, to end malnutrition in all forms by 2030 as part of the SDGs agenda.

1 Health : Integrating nutrition into universal health coverage (UHC)

Health systems strengthening is essential in the fight against malnutrition. Achieving UHC is vital for ending malnutrition and UHC will not be achieved unless essential nutrition actions are effectively integrated as essential health services and prioritized in health systems. UHC is critical to people across the life-course, with a focus on the most deprived and marginalized, and it should be tailored to the health needs of the population.

Mainstreaming nutrition within UHC requires a joint effort by governments and key stakeholders. We commit to taking actions aiming at strengthening health systems with a view to providing quality and affordable nutrition services, which includes amongst others: ensuring optimal and safe feeding of infants and young children including through breast-feeding; seeking to ensure a balanced and healthy diet including through school meals; providing skilled nutrition education and counseling for related behavioral change; placing nutrition in the health sector budget; building health information systems to take timely actions, and promoting access to effective and affordable nutrition-related products while reducing the marketing of unhealthy foods.

2 Food : Promoting healthy diets and building sustainable food systems

Healthy and balanced diets is a prerequisite to achieving many SDGs and the global nutrition targets. We need to develop a robust food system that ensures food security and nutrition for all. We commit to taking actions and develop and implement policies aimed at increasing access to nutritious foods that contribute to healthy diets. Food systems policies should ensure coherence in the formulation and implementation among all aspects involved in agricultural inputs, food production, processing, distribution, storage, wholesale, retail, consumption, and disposal including recovery and redistribution. We need policies and incentives towards more nutrition investment and actions for ensuring available, accessible, and affordable healthy diets throughout agriculture and food systems. Comprehensive policies can result in structural, policy, programming and behavioral changes in both supply and demand, thus shifting dietary patterns to the benefit of human health and the environment.

Food systems should adapt to climate change, requiring a scale up of investment in climate-sensitive agriculture and utilizing relevant science, technology, and innovation. There is no one-size-fits all solution to food system transformation. Conducting policy dialogue around action plans for sustainable food system and improved diets requires a robust and scaled up engagement among all stakeholders at global and country levels.

3 Resilience : Addressing malnutrition effectively in fragile and conflict-affected contexts

In recent years, conflict and climate shocks have emerged as the biggest drivers of the global rise in hunger and malnutrition – 60% of the world’s hunger is located in places affected by fragility and conflict. Almost half of fragile and conflict-affected areas in the world are burdened by concerning high levels of stunting and wasting in children under 5 years of age, and anemia in adolescent girls and adult women. In these settings, interventions are often short-term and reliant on annual cycles of funding, focusing on life-saving treatment of acute malnutrition. However, in these complex contexts, we should be able to support at-risk populations to better withstand the negative consequences of protracted crises while preventing malnutrition.

Good nutrition is central to improving the survival and resilience of people and communities, and therefore it is imperative to achieving long-term development and stability. Investments in nutrition should benefit the most vulnerable groups in fragile and conflict affected contexts. Alongside nutrition, resilient systems - health, social protection, water and sanitation for Hygiene (WASH), education, agriculture - are essential to protect people from deteriorating their nutritional status.

Addressing the higher burden of malnutrition in fragile and conflict-affected contexts, we call on a system-wide approach across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and we support among others to: using a flexible and long-term approach to policy, programming and financing; investing in prevention and multi-sectoral programs that target those most at risk; and strengthening routine nutrition information systems for better decision-making while improving coordination among all stakeholders and building local capacities.

4 Accountability : Promoting data-driven accountability

Quality data collection and evidence-based progress measurements and reporting are key to ensuring nutritional improvement outcomes. A system for collecting data will be established or strengthened while paying attention to cost-effectiveness. We will seek to promote coordination among all stakeholders on data collection and analysis.

In advance of the Tokyo N4G Summit, the Nutrition Accountability Framework (NAF) was launched by the Global Nutrition Report to record and monitor nutrition commitments, and drive stronger nutrition action. Governments, partners and civil society actors commit to working together to strengthen systems for data-driven accountability to drive results for nutrition. A strong focus on improving data and ensuring transparency and accountability for results is critical to maximizing progress towards ending malnutrition.

5 Financing : Mobilizing new investment in nutrition financing

Investing in nutrition today is critical. Having evidence-based country plans is the first step towards strategically positioning nutrition as an investment agenda. Costed plans need to be sustainably

financed through both domestic and external resources across all relevant sectors. While supporting the strengthening of service delivery systems, enhancing financial management capacity and linking it with nutrition results is critical for improved efficiency and greater sustainability. Collectively, these actions will help us realize the idea of more funds for nutrition, more nutrition for the money spent, and maximize social and economic returns of the investments.

In these times of economic stress across the globe, we urgently need new partners to finance nutrition and welcome actions from all sectors, including new and strengthened innovative and catalytic financing models developed collaboratively between public, private, and international organizations. We will also appreciate initiatives to mobilize private investments for nutrition and promote disclosure of corporate actions on nutrition for employees, customers, and society as part of our effort to encourage ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) investing.

Way forward

Transformational nutrition-oriented actions and investments that are supported by collective efforts and strengthened accountability are central to the N4G's vision. In this regard, we welcome new and bold commitments made by various stakeholders and partners at the Tokyo N4G Summit as indicated in the Annex. We welcome the inclusive nature in which the Advisory Group to this Summit operated in a way that includes all stakeholders such as governments, donors, private sector, civil society organizations and academia. We look forward to the next N4G Summit to be hosted by France in 2024 to celebrate the significant progress made by each of us.

Endorsers:

Country Governments (64) :

Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Kingdom of Belgium, Republic of Benin, Burkina Faso, Kingdom of Cambodia, Canada, Republic of Costa Rica, Republic of Cote d'Ivoire, Kingdom of Denmark, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of El Salvador, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, European Union, Republic of Fiji, Republic of Finland, French Republic, Gabonese Republic, Republic of The Gambia, Federal Republic of Germany, Republic of Ghana, Republic of Guatemala, Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Republic of Haiti, Republic of Honduras, Ireland, Japan, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Kingdom of Lesotho, Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Republic of Madagascar, Republic of Malawi, Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Mongolia, Republic of Mozambique, Republic of Namibia, Nepal, Kingdom of the Netherlands, New Zealand, Federal Republic of Nigeria, Kingdom of Norway, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Independent State of Papua New Guinea, Republic of Peru, Republic of the Philippines, Republic of Rwanda, Independent State of Samoa, Republic of Senegal, Republic of Sierra Leone, Federal Republic of Somalia, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, United Republic of Tanzania, The Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Republic of Uganda, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Republic of Uzbekistan, Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, Republic of Yemen, Republic of Zimbabwe

International Organizations (11) :

Alliance of Bioversity International and International Center for Tropical Agriculture: CIAT, AUDA-NEPAD, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) Movement, UN Nutrition, UNICEF, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), World Food Programme (WFP), World Health Organization (WHO)

Donor Organizations (3) :

African Development Bank (AfDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Private Sector Businesses (60) :

ABC Cooking Studio Co., Ltd, Access To Nutrition Initiative (ATNI) Investor Signatory Group, Ajinomoto Co., Inc., All Japan School Lunch Service Association, Aomori Consumers' Co-operative Union, ATM Japan, Ltd., California Prune Board Japan Office, CHIBO HOLDINGS, Consumer Goods Forum (CGF), COTS COTS LTD., DAISHO CO., LTD, ecologie Inc., Euglena Co., Ltd., every, Inc., Fisherman Japan Marketing Co., Ltd., Food Industry Asia (FIA), FUJI OIL HOLDINGS INC., Happy & Life88, LLC., HAYASHIBARA, High-Pressure Support Co., Ltd., IntegriCulture Inc., International Food and Beverage Alliance (IFBA), ITOHAM YONEKYU HOLDINGS, Japan Conservation Engineers, Japan CO-OP Kyosai (Insurance) Consumers' Co-operative Federation, Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU), Kagaku-Dojin Publishing, KAGOME CO., LTD., Kao, KENKO Mayonnaise, Kikkoman Corporation, KOKUBU GROUP CORP., Kuradashi Co., Ltd, Kyokuyo Co., Ltd, LEOC Co., Ltd., Maruha Nichiro Corporation, Mirai-Zou Co., Ltd, Neural Inc., NH Foods Ltd., Nichirei Foods Inc., NIPPON Corporation, Nippon Biodiesel Fuel Co. Ltd, Nisshin Seifun Group Inc., NISSIN FOODS

HOLDINGS, Nutri Co., Ltd., Nutrition Japan Public Private Platform, Omnicom Health Group Asia Pacific K.K. POLARIS, Seven & i Holdings Co., Ltd., SHIDAX CONTRACT FOOD SERVICE CORPORATION, SHIDAX CORPORATION, SHIDAX FOOD SERVICE CORPORATION, Taiyo Yuka, TIGER CORPORATION, TOH-AS Co.,Ltd., TOYO FEATHER INDUSTRY CO.,LTD, ToyoSystemScience CO.,Ltd, World Business Council for Sustainability Development (WBCSD), Wonder chef Co.,Ltd., YUKASHIKADO, Inc., Zespri International (Japan) K.K.

Civil Society Organizations (58) :

Access to Nutrition Initiative (ATNI), Action Against Hunger, Action for Development, Asia Arsenic Network, Care International, CivilSociety Toshima School Health Association, Concern Worldwide, Development Initiatives, FHI Solutions, Fundación Éxito, Colombia, Ginza Honey Bee Project NPO, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), Global Citizen, Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition, HarvestPlus, Health and Global Policy Institute, International Institute of Rural Reconstruction (Philippines), International Medical Volunteers Japan Heart, Japan Anti-Tuberculosis Association, Japan Dietary Habits Association, JOICFP (Japanese Organization for International Cooperation in Family Planning), JYPS(Japan Youth Platform for Sustainability), Kenya AIDS NGOs Consortium (KANCO) , LOOB JAPAN, Malaria No More Japan, Médecins du Monde Japon, Micronutrient Forum, NCD Alliance Japan, Network for Action against Malnutrition (NAM), Non-profit Organization UMAMI INFORMATION CENTER, NPO Lasana, NutrES Alliance, El Salvador, Nutrition For Development (N4D), Nutrition International, Okayama Communication Network of the World Conference on Women, PERUSAN (SUN Civil Society Alliance in Peru), REDNI Ecuador, RESULTS Japan, Results UK, Sasakawa Africa Association, Save the Children, Standing Together for Nutrition (ST4N), Stop TB Partnership Japan, Summit Institute for Development (SID), SUN Civil Society Alliance Kenya, SUN Civil Society Alliance Kyrgyzstan, SUN Civil Society Alliance Nigeria, SUN Civil Society Alliance Pakistan, SUN Civil Society Alliance Vietnam, SUN Civil Society Network, SUN Civil Society Network regional group in Asia, SUN Civil Society Network regional group in West & Central Africa, The Ajinomoto Foundation, The Power of Nutrition, WaterAid, Women Together Edu-Cultural Center, Women's Association for a Better Aging Society, World Vision International

Academic/ Research institutions (13) :

CGIAR, Health Information Consortium, Keio Research Institute at SFC, Hirosaki University Center of Innovation, Indonesian Medical Education and Research Institute (IMERI), Faculty of Medicine Universitas Indonesia, Indonesian Medical Nutrition Association or PDGMI, International Life Sciences Institute Japan, Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences, National Agriculture and Food Research Organization (NARO), National Institute of Health and Nutrition, National Institutes of Biomedical innovation, Health and Nutrition, The Japan Dietetic Association, The Japanese Clinical Nutrition Association, Tokyo Dietetic Association, Tokyo University of Agriculture

Other Stakeholders (3) :

Fika Ladies' Clinic, Obstetrics & Gynecology TATEDEBARI SATO HOSPITAL, Takasaki ART Clinic