Proposed work plan of INFOODS for 2014 to 2015

Prepared in June 2013

Objective

• Increase INFOODS activities and visibility

Assumptions

- INFOODS can only be as active as members are willing and able to contribute
- FAO has very limited funds available and can finance only very few activities in the regions, mostly through TCP (FAO Technical Cooperation Programme) for which the countries need to prepare a proposal. FAO's funding situation is uncertain for 2014/2015.
- Funding needs to be sought from other than FAO sources
- Collaboration as IUNS task force will increase

Data Centres and INFOODS secretariat

- Define INFOODS members with tasks and privileges
- FAO to support at least one regional data centre meeting per year or attendance of selected regional coordinators to the International Food Data Conference (IFDC, preferable in conjunction with existing conferences or meetings to make them cost-effective
- Each regional and sub-regional data centre develops an annual or biannual plan of action, also using e-mail, skype or telephone
- Annual or biannual reports should be published at INFOODS website, and at the regional data centre websites if existing
- Give regular input into the development and update of INFOODS standards, databases and websites, e.g. on tables and databases or changes in data centre coordinators, etc.
- Each data centre to present a document with the defined roles of national and regional data centre coordinators, election process and duration of terms (if this is desired by data centres). This documents should be put on the INFOODS and regional data centre website
- Common reflection on how to assure funding for food composition, biodiversity and sustainable diets at national, regional and international level
- Biennial Regional Data Centre meetings of coordinators at IFDCs
- Short biennial report to IUNS on global activities and progress of INFOODS and present a more comprehensive report at ICNs

Standards

- In collaboration with all INFOODS members and EuroFIR, update INFOODS tagnames (ongoing)
- In collaboration with all INFOODS members, develop
 - guidelines on establishing nutrient retention factors
 - guidelines on recipe calculations
 - guidelines for selection of most appropriate food composition sources (in progress)
 - Sampling guidelines (in progress)
- Periodically, INFOODS to provide comments on relevant CODEX and other standards to ensure harmony between international standards
- enlarge keyfood approach to biodiversity, if possible

Capacity development

• FAO to update the Food Composition Study Guide

- FAO/INFOODS to translate the FAO/INFOODS E-learning Course on Food Composition Data into French, Spanish and other languages. Sponsors needed
- INFOODS members to collaborate with universities to introduce food composition and biodiversity into the curricula of nutritionists, food scientists etc, e.g. by using the Food Composition Study Guide or in future the FAO/INFOODS E-learning Course on Food Composition Data
- FAO will offer two to three six-months-on-the-job-training opportunities on the compilation of a national/regional food composition table/database in Rome through e.g. the internship programme (700 USD/month) or the volunteer programme (no compensation) this would however need co-funding from national institutes
- Initiate a peer-review programme for those developing or updating food composition tables or databases

Food Composition tables/databases

- Publish at least one new national or regional food composition table/database per year with FAO/INFOODS technical support
- In collaboration with all INFOODS members, update annually the FAO/INFOODS Food Composition Database for Biodiversity
- In collaboration with all INFOODS members, develop, publish and update regularly a FAO/INFOODS Food Composition Database containing solely analytical data
- Update the FAO/INFOODS fish user database
- Update the FAO/INFOODS density database
- Publish a Manual on Nutrient Analysis (published by ASEANFOODS in 2011) another one needed?
- In collaboration with all INFOODS members, develop, publish and update regularly a FAO/INFOODS Database on Amino Acid Composition and Protein Quality
- Develop a database on bioavailability. Prapasri Puwastien volunteered to make first draft of a possible format.
- Develop a database on laboratories carrying out nutrient analysis with QA measures

Advocacy at international conferences and meetings

- INFOODS members to present posters and oral presentations or to organize symposiums on food composition, food biodiversity and sustainable diets (done at several congresses)
- Publish success stories on the INFOODS and regional data centre websites, if existing
- Identify an 'Ambassador' for INFOODS
- Produce a brochure and or video on INFOODS and importance of food composition

Nutrition Indicators for Biodiversity

- In collaboration with all INFOODS members, FAO will revise the templates for reporting on the nutrition indicator for biodiversity on food composition
- In collaboration with all INFOODS members, FAO will report annually on the nutrition indicator for biodiversity on food composition

Analytical capacities for food composition

• Assist in developing project proposals for FAO's Technical Cooperation Programme (TCP), sometimes in conjunction with food safety or food control, to strengthen analytical capacities on food composition

Funding

• Together with INFOODS coordinators write a grant proposal for INFOODS