

PROFAV stock taking meeting

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Present: Temo Waqanivalu (WHO), Bibi Giyose (ESN), Tomoko Kato (ESN), Ellen Muehlhoff (ESN), Bill Murray (AGP), Alison Hodder (AGP), Tristan Nondah (AGP), Minwook Kim (AGP), Makiko Taguchi (AGP)

Agenda

1. Opening the meeting

2. Morning Session

- a. The status of PROFAV and currently planned work
- b. WHO's work and role in the promotion of fruits and vegetables
- c. PROFAV ESN activities
- d. Some policy considerations
- e. Discussion on data issue
- f. Discussion on trade, economy and development, other issues.

3. Wrap up and next steps

1. Opening the meeting

- Eleven years into implementing activities under the *Global Fruit and Vegetables for Health* Initiative, we agreed it is useful to bring together the WHO and FAO operators, review progress and achievements, capture lessons learned, spot gaps and weaknesses and identify areas for strengthening.
- Today's meeting is the first step in this stocktaking process, an opportunity for the key founding units - WHO-NCDs, FAO Plant Production and Nutrition Divisions - to engage in a frank and open exchange of views and to define the next steps in the process.
- As regards next steps for the immediate future, we would also envisage engaging past and active partners in the PROFAV initiative – within and beyond FAO and WHO - in a wider forum discussion to capture lessons learned and identify opportunities for strengthened collaboration and scaling up of promising experiences.
- The “stocktaking” process at this time will help FAO to situate and strengthen the PROFAV partnership initiative within its own renewed strategic framework. It should help both our organisations to review the PROFAV aims and expectations against the priorities that emerged from ICN2 related to food and nutrition security and nutrition-sensitive agriculture and food systems, and it should help us to identify key roles for our decentralised offices in strengthening the partnership and enhancing its impact in our member countries.

2. Presentations and discussions

a. The status of PROFAV and currently planned work

- Participants pointed out weaknesses and gaps as below;
 - A stronger FAO-WHO compact needed at country level
 - More joint efforts needed for Asia
 - Making our messages simpler for consumers
 - UNICEF missing from the partnership
 - Data quality
 - Food safety – a weak link in the chain
 - Leveraging partnerships with other influential organisations
 - Need more effective communication.

b. WHO's work and role in the promotion of fruits and vegetables

- WHO's perspective - Global monitoring framework / 25 indicators for NCDs - has indicators on Fruit and vegetables. But on the ground, implementation has been lagging. After ICN2 it has been brought to light.

- WHO has suggested its possible role as below;
 - Provide scientific background:
 - Measuring fruit & vegetables consumption
 - What works for which setting / consumer group
 - Barriers to consumption
 - Provide tools and models for promotion of fruits and vegetables, especially in developing countries, including evaluation tools within disease or risk factor pillars.
 - Bridge between health and horticulture sector by collaborating with FAO – stimulate similar collaboration at national levels.

c. PROFAV ESN activities

- ESN has promoted PROFAV activities as below;
 - National dietary guidelines
 - Promotion of home and community gardens
 - Promotion of school gardens and nutrition education
 - Promotion of healthy school meals and dietary standards
 - Building capacity for community-based nutrition education
 - Sharing knowledge and provision of normative guidance
- Especially, under the theme “*Setting up and running a school garden*”, ESN has developed a complete set of materials on school gardening, comprising:
 - an advocacy brochure “*A new deal for school gardens*”;
 - a manual which assists in all steps of setting up and running a school garden; and
 - a Teaching Toolkit with more than 50 lesson plans for teachers , which helps integrating both, school gardening, as well as nutrition education into the school programme.
- Regarding joint work/project, WHO suggested that we could collaborate in country level without any additional resource; For example, School based nutrition and physical education activities. WHO is already implementing childhood obesity programme in some countries. WHO suggested that FAO could join in with own resources and add value to existing programme.

d. Some policy considerations

- Food and agriculture policies can have a greater impact on nutrition if they...
 - Increase incentives (and decrease disincentives) for sustainable production, distribution, and consumption of diverse, nutritious and safe foods.
 - Focus on horticulture, legumes, and small-scale livestock and fish – foods which are relatively unavailable and expensive, but nutrient-rich.
 - Monitor dietary consumption and access to diverse, nutritious, and safe foods.
 - Food prices of diverse foods, dietary consumption indicators
 - Build capacity in human resources and institutions to improve nutrition through the food and agriculture sector, supported with adequate financing.
 - Support multi-sectoral strategies to improve nutrition within national, regional, and local government structures.
- **Rome Declaration on Nutrition** – a commitment for more effective and coordinated action to improve nutrition
 - Eradicate hunger and prevent all forms of malnutrition
 - Increase investments for effective interventions and actions to improve diets and nutrition
 - Enhance sustainable food systems by developing coherent public policies
 - Ensuring healthy diets throughout the life course
 - Empower people and create an enabling environment for making informed choices about food products for healthy dietary practices
- **Framework for Action** – a voluntary technical guide for implementation of Political Declaration
 - Enabling environment for – with multi-sector engagement
 - Sustainable food systems for healthy diets
 - nutrition-enhancing investment and trade
 - Nutrition education and information

e. Discussion on data issue

- Regarding data on F&V production and consumption, we can't tell shortage, local consumption in national level data. We need data from household surveys. Country data varies in quality.

f. Discussion on trade, economy and development, etc.

- Even though trade issue is a bit broad such as subsidies, intellectual properties, sanitary measures, fair trading issues, and so on, it is worth looking into.
- In addition, it is better to study several successful countries, as like Thailand, Kenya or Korea, which have produced and consume enough.

3. Wrap up and next steps

- MoU or similar formal mechanism to solve leadership vacuum.
 - Both sides will ask Legal department for practical steps within departmental collaboration.
- Closer collaboration at country level, support implementation at country level, building on what is already there on both ends
 - Agriculture and health constituency at national level; Ghana, Fiji, Cape Verde, etc.
- Agriculture, health and education linkage to strengthen
- FAO-WHO to work on social marketing jointly
- Engage more with education sector appropriately
- Engage with economy and trade – extend partnership particularly
- Strengthen Pacific SPC relationship
- Revising Kobe framework to make it easier to implement at National level
- More focus on local sourced school meals programme
- Improving communication within FAO. WHO and among. Help exchange
- Better Data and pushing index measure of proxy for availability
- AGS to get back on board, or another partner to improve marketing/processing
- Gathering studies from countries that have advanced