



AIARD

ASSOCIATION FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURE
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

Final Draft - May 14, 2018

Business “Un”usual: Aligning Critical Intersections of Agriculture, Health and Food

54th Annual Conference of the Association for International Agriculture and Rural Development

June 3-5, 2018

Hilton Garden Inn

1225 First Street, NE

Washington, DC

Objective: Today, the relationship between agricultural development and improved nutrition is increasingly understood to be more complex than simply growing more food; many other actors in the food system also have important roles to play. The AIARD 2018 Annual Conference will explore the ways in which the broader food system functions, or fails, to solve issues of food security, nutrition, and health. Challenges facing all societies in this agro-economic space require solutions that are interdisciplinary in nature and that bring about positive socio-economic transformation. But, improving the alignment of policies and programs to strengthen the linkages between agriculture, nutrition and health is a tall order. We will combine our exploration of technical interventions with cultural factors, behavior change communication, and the key role of policy development both in the U.S. and abroad. This multifaceted discussion will enable the conference attendees to develop a sound understanding of how more coordinated actions across the system can result in improved nutrition and health.

Sunday, June 3

5:00-6:30 PM **Career Workshop**
Dr. Chuck Chopak, DAI

Panelists:
Kate Warren, DEVEX
Natalia Douma, DAI
Sarah Marshall, USAID/BFS
Kelly Vrana, CRS

6:30-8:00 **Registration and Welcoming Reception**

Monday, June 4

8:00-8:30 AM **Breakfast/Registration**

8:30-8:45 **President’s Address and Conference Charge – Bob Rabatsky, Fintrac, AIARD**
President, 2017-2018

8:45-9:00 **Introduction of Future Leaders – Dr. Robert Haggerty, University of Idaho, FLF**
Committee Chair

Morning Theme: Agricultural Development in the Context of Food Systems: What Actions are Needed to Improve Nutrition and Health?

9:00-9:25 **Opening Session Keynote: Agriculture and Nutrition: From New Research to New Policies**

Dr. Derek Headey, Senior Research Fellow; Poverty, Health and Nutrition Division; International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

9:25-9:50 **Engaging Higher Education Disciplinary Expertise and Businesses in Systems Approaches to Tackle Agri-food and Health Challenges**

Dr. Chris Barrett, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University

9:50-10:15 Q&A for both speakers

10:15-10:30 **Networking Break**

10:30-11:30 **Panel and Q&A: Emerging Issues and Opportunities for Improving the Nutrition and Health Outcomes of Food Systems**

Moderator: Emmy Simmons, Consultant

Panelists:

- **The Need for Innovative Research Partnerships** - **Dr. Sally Rockey**, Executive Director, FFAR
- **Managing Complex NGO Interventions for Impact** - **Dr. Rolf Klemm**, Vice President, Nutrition, Helen Keller International
- **Private Sector Innovation to Improve Health and Nutrition Outcomes** - **Joe Shields**, Co-owner, EthioChicken

11:30-12:00 **Future Leaders Forum Participant Research Presentations**

12:00-1:30 PM **Lunch and Keynote: How Can We Increase Transparency in the Food System Supply Chain?**

Leonardo Bonanni, founder and CEO, *Sourcemap*, the supply chain mapping software company

Afternoon Theme: How Can We Improve the Potential of Food Systems to Make Healthier Diets Available, Affordable, and Attractive?

1:30-2:00 **Afternoon Session Keynote: The Challenge for Agriculture: Improving the Consumption of Nutritious and Safe Food for Healthier Diets in Developing Countries**

Dr. Ekin Birol, Director of Impact and Strategy, HarvestPlus

2:00-2:15

Q & A

2:15-3:00

Lightning Talks

Dr. Samantha Alvis, USAID

- **Livestock Health as a Contributing Factor to Human Health and Nutrition Outcomes** - Tracy Mitchell, DAI
- **Old Problem, New Possibilities: Improving Reliability of Crop Yield Estimates in African Smallholder Farming Systems** - Julius Adewopo, International Institute for Tropical Agriculture
- **Food Safety for Nutrition** - Ahmed Kablan, USAID/BFS/Agriculture Research and Policy Office
- **WEinSPIRE: Disrupting Barriers to Gender Equality in Pakistan** - Jamal Haider, Chemonics International
- **Silos are Sexist** - John Coonrod, The Hunger Project
- **Innovators and Laggards: Using Barrier Analysis to Understand the Difference** - Sarah Sahlaney, ACDI/VOCA

3:00-3:15

Networking break

3:15-4:30

Lightening talk roundtables

4:30-5:00

Policy Update

Dr. Susan Schram, Consultant; Chair, AIARD Education and Advocacy Committee

5:00-6:00

Reception

6:00-8:30

Conference Dinner: Keynote and AIARD 2018 Awards Presentations

Keynote: Feeding the World in the Era of America First

Alan Bjerga, Author, *Endless Appetites: How the Commodities Casino Creates Hunger and Unrest*

In a volatile federal budget and donor environment, the U.S. remains the world's largest contributor to food security and rural development. A veteran Washington agriculture policy journalist offers perspectives on tuning out the noise and making progress in time of seeming chaos.

AIARD 2018 Awards Presentations: Master of Ceremonies: Dr. Chuck Chopak

Tuesday, June 5

Morning Theme: Improving Nutrition Outcomes of the Agri-Food System: How do we Move the Needle in a More Sustainable, Healthy Direction?

8:00-8:45 AM Breakfast and Future Leader Forum Participant Research Presentations

8:45-9:30 Keynote and Q&A: A Sustainable Agri-food System for Nutrition and Health: Technology, Policy, and Institutional Implications

Dr. Shenggen Fan, Director General, International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)

9:30-10:30 Panel and Q&A:

Moderator: Kimberly Flowers, Director, Humanitarian Agenda and Global Food Security Project, Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS)

Panelists:

- **Sustainable Food Systems, Healthy diets, and the Private Sector - Bonnie McClafferty**, Director, Food Value Chain, GAIN
- **Incorporating Cultural Factors - Dr. Florence Dunkel**, Associate Professor, Montana State University
- **U.S. International Nutrition Research Agenda – Dr. Ahmed Kablan**, Nutrition and Public Health Adviser, USAID
- **Capacity Building Needs - Sara Farley**, Co-Founder and COO, Global Knowledge Initiative (GKI)

10:30-10:45 Networking Break

10:45-11:30 Table discussions and report out

11:30-12:00 Future Leader Presentation/Conference Wrap Up

12:00-1:30PM Lunch and Conference Summary - Dr. Tom Gill, University of Tennessee, AIARD President elect

1:30-3:00 Annual AIARD Business Meeting and Conference Close – Dr. Gretchen Neisler, Michigan State University, AIARD President 2018-2019

Note: Following the close of the AIARD business meeting, the International Agriculture Section of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) will hold their business meeting. Those interested in international agriculture activities at universities, regardless of APLU membership, are welcome to attend.

