Background and Objectives

The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), an advisory committee to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), will convene a public meeting on October 16, 2018 to explore opportunities and challenges for private sector engagement and market system linkages across the food system to advance nutrition outcomes. The meeting will examine public sector and private sector relationships at different points in the food system to improve the demand, availability, accessibility, and affordability of high-quality diets for vulnerable populations. Discussions will address how to build a business case for private sector involvement in improving diet quality for vulnerable populations and how the public sector needs to engage to support and incentivize that business case. Recommendations coming out of the meeting will help to inform USAID’s future focus in this area.

Agenda

8:30 am  Registration

9:00 am  Welcome and Introductions of BIFAD

  Mark Keenum, President, Mississippi State University and Chair of BIFAD

9:05 am  Announcement of the BIFAD Prize for Scientific Excellence in an Innovation Lab

  Gebisa Ejeta, World Food Prize Laureate and BIFAD Member
9:10 am  Update on BIFAD Commissioned Study on US Benefits of USAID Investments in Developing Country Agriculture and Food Security

Joseph Glauber, Senior Research Fellow, International Food Policy Research Institute

9:25 am  Bureau for Food Security Remarks

Rob Bertram, Chief Scientist, Bureau of Food Security, USAID

9:30 am  Keynote Address

Lawrence Haddad, Executive Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Discussion

9:45 am  Diet Transformation in the Context of Evolving Food Environments and Consumer Behaviors

Will Masters, Professor, Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University

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10:10 am  Enabling Environment to Accelerate Private Sector Engagement in Improving Diet Quality: The Role of Market Infrastructure, Research and Development, and Enabling Trade Policy

Moderator: Beth Mitcham, Director, Horticulture Innovation Lab, UC Davis

Speakers: Richard Tracy, Vice President, International Programs, Global Cold Chain Alliance

Betty Bugusu, Managing Director, International Food Technology Center; Director, Food Processing and Post-Harvest Handling Innovation Lab, Purdue University

Gladys Mugambi, Advocacy, Communication, and Social Mobilization Officer, Kenya Ministry of Health (via teleconference)

10:45 am  Break

10:55 am  Drivers for Private Sector Engagement Across the Supply Chain to Improve Diet Quality: The Role of Labeling, Marketing, Processing and Product Standards, and Policies that Encourage Greater Demand for and Accessibility to High-Quality Diets, Including Accountability and Transparency Systems

Moderator: Heather Danton, Director, Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Activity, John Snow, Inc.

Speakers: Godfrey Bahiigwa, Director, Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission
David Dayhoff, Vice President, Programs and Operations, Partners in Food Solutions

Karin Lapping, Director, Alive and Thrive Program, FHI 360

Jean Pankuku, Group Food Technologist, Universal Industries Limited

11:30 am Public Comment Period
   Moderator: Mark Keenum, Mississippi State, BIFAD

11:55 pm Closing Remarks
   Mark Keenum, Mississippi State, BIFAD

12:00 pm Adjourn