

Understanding Agriculture to Nutrition Linkages: A Rapidly Moving Agenda

Speaker Bios

Dr. Patrick Webb, Tufts University

Patrick Webb is an expert in food and nutrition policy with an extensive history of working with food systems, government institutions, humanitarian groups, and integrated programming. He has leadership experience at senior levels – in the United Nations, as an interim Division Director at IFPRI, administering a world-class nutrition and policy graduate school in Boston, and as Program Direction for the Nutrition CRSP-Asia (later the Innovation Lab for Nutrition – Asia). He lived 6 years in Africa (Ethiopia, Niger, The Gambia) while conducting applied research on agricultural interventions and nutrition outcomes. Dr. Webb has high-level interactions with governments and donor organizations globally, including: work at ministerial levels in countries like Indonesia, Vietnam, North Korea, Kenya, Haiti, Nepal, Bangladesh and Ethiopia; negotiating UN positions for the World Food Summit in 1996; membership in UN Hunger Task Force (2003 – 2006); and overseeing the 23-country Delhi Declaration (2003) on mother and child nutrition. His work has directly influenced policy design in many contexts, including Ethiopia's Disaster Relief and Reconstruction Strategy of 1990, the Office of Food for Peace's strategic plan of 2002 – 2008, Haiti's National Nutrition Policy of 2010, Nepal's Multi-Sector Nutrition Plan of 2012, and contributing wording to the Farm Bill of 2014 sustaining USAID's role in ensuring quality of food aid products, programming, and policies. At the Friedman School, his responsibilities include representation on university-wide senior management committees and oversight of institutional collaboration with academic institutions across the US (e.g. Harvard, Purdue, Tuskegee, Johns Hopkins), and around the world (e.g. Hohenheim and Bonn in Germany, University of London, the Institute of Medicine in Nepal, etc.) Webb's co-authored book on *Famine in Africa* (Johns Hopkins Press, 1999) sold out its first edition and went into a second run. Other publications include around 80 journal articles and 30 significant professional reports.

Dr. Eileen Kennedy, Tufts University

Eileen Kennedy is a current Professor and former Dean at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University. She served as the first Director of the USDA's Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion under the Clinton administration. The Center was responsible for the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, the Food Guide Pyramid, and the USDA's food plans. Dr. Kennedy's current research focuses on the effects of government policies and programs on health, nutrition, food security and diets. She has served as a member of the United Nations' Advisory Group on Nutrition.

Dr. Jeffrey Griffiths, Tufts University

Dr. Jeffrey Griffiths is an infectious diseases physician by training and is considered a leader on neglected biological pathways linking agriculture and nutrition. He has studied the animal and human pathogen *Cryptosporidium* along with other diarrheal pathogens since 1988, and has recently identified linkages between cattle, nutrition, and malaria in Uganda. He served as Chair of the US EPA Drinking Water Committee for 4 years as was a member of the USEPA's Science Advisory Board; the National Drinking Water Advisory Committee; and stakeholder rulemaking committees for the Clean Water Act starting in 1995 forward. Dr. Griffiths was also the Director of the Public Health programs at Tufts for five years when it was ranked the #1 public health program in the US. He brings over 30 years of international experience in nutrition, public health, water, agriculture, and infectious diseases to his research projects and classrooms. Dr. Griffiths is a Professor of Public Health and Medicine, with appointments in the Schools of Nutrition, Veterinary Medicine, and Engineering. He also serves as a Primary Investigator for the Ethiopia ENGINE project and Program Director of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Nutrition-Africa.

Dr. Shibani Ghosh, Tufts University

Shibani Ghosh is a public health nutritionist with over 15 years of experience working in the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. She is the Associate Director for the Nutrition Innovation Labs for Asia and Africa at Tufts University, an Adjunct Assistant Professor at Friedman School, and a Senior Scientist at the Nevin Scrimshaw International Nutrition Foundation. Her research interests include examining malnutrition in all its forms, formulating and implementing evidence-based interventions targeting nutritionally disadvantaged populations, and translation of innovative basic and clinical sciences research into applied community based research. Specifically, she works on understanding the agriculture-nutrition linkages, examining biological determinants of stunting (e.g. aflatoxins and their relationship to growth), diet and other non-diet determinants of stunting in infants and young children, and testing interventions to improve the protein and micronutrient quality of complementary foods with the aim to improve linear growth. She has worked and published in the realm of understanding the role of protein and specifically amino acids in improving growth and reducing morbidity.

Dr. Nassul Kabunga, IFPRI

Nassul Kabunga is a Research Fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), based in the Kampala office. His current research mainly focuses on building empirical linkages between agriculture, nutrition and health outcomes especially for young children and women of child bearing age as well as evaluating possible interventions that can leverage nutrition outcomes. He is also involved in evaluating the effectiveness of governance programs (Barazas) in improving public accountability and service delivery. Before joining IFPRI in

December 2011, he was a Research Associate at the Chair of Food and Agricultural Economics at the University of Goettingen, Germany where he also doubled as a PhD student. While at Goettingen, his research focused on the adoption and impact of crop biotechnologies on productivity, income and food security outcomes in developing countries. Nassul Kabunga has a PhD in Agricultural Economics and Rural Development (University of Goettingen, Germany), an MSc in Agricultural and Development Economics (University of Hannover, Germany) and a BSc in Agricultural Economics (Makerere University, Uganda).

Dr. Gerald Shively, Purdue University

Dr. Gerald Shively is the current Chair of Purdue's graduate program in Agricultural Economics. He also serves on the Executive Committee of the Purdue Climate Change Research Center, a multidisciplinary group of researchers at Purdue guided by the mission of better understanding the human and physical processes leading to global climate change and the implications of a changing climate on life on earth. Dr. Shively works in collaboration with students and colleagues to conduct research on a range of topics related to poverty, economic development, and the environment in developing regions of the world. His current focus is the use of panel data to study dynamic processes of household land and labor allocation in marginally productive agricultural areas. He studies the interactions between poverty and environmental degradation, so as to help eliminate both.

Dr. Keith West, John Hopkins University

Dr. West's research focuses on improving through nutritional means the health and survival of infants, children, adolescents and women of reproductive age in underserved populations, with special interests in the assessment and prevention of micronutrient deficiencies (especially vitamin A) and protein-energy malnutrition. Most of his research has involved conducting population-based epidemiologic studies and intervention trials. In recent years, Dr. West's work has broadened to explore effects of developmental nutrition exposures later in life and nutriproteomics as a platform for micronutrient deficiency assessment.

Dr. Rolf Klemm, John Hopkins University

Rolf Klemm is the Vice President for Nutrition at Helen Keller International and a Senior Associate in the Program for Human Nutrition at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Dr. Klemm has 30+ years of professional experience in international public health nutrition including roles as a Peace Corps Volunteer, Country Director for Helen Keller International (Philippines), Technical Director of USAID's flagship A2Z micronutrient program, and Hopkins faculty member and principle/co-investigator for micronutrient intervention trials in Asia and Africa. Rolf holds an MPH and Dr. PH from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Dr. Kedar Prasad Baral, Patan Academy of Health Science

Dr. Kedar Prasad Baral is a public health physician with over 20 years of experiences in public health work in and out of Nepal. He has been involved in planning and teaching public health in different institutions as regular staff as well as visiting faculty. Dr. Baral has experience in Primary Health Care, Child Survival, Safe Motherhood, Reproductive Health, HIV/AIDS, Family Planning and Public Health Nutrition programs in Nepal. He has served as Chair, Department of Community Health Sciences and for the last years providing academic leadership to all the programs of PAHS. Dr. Baral has been involved in research activities for several years in different capacity from Research Assistant to Co-Principal and Principal Investigator of nationally important study. He is currently a Principal Investigator of three ongoing research namely influenza (epidemiology and virology of Influenza Like Illness and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection), POSHAN (Nepal PI: implementation research of Nutrition Policy and Plan) and Aflatoxin exposure and stunting (Nepal PI: a cohort study on maternal aflatoxin exposure and birth outcome and impact on growth of children).

Dr. Bernard Bashaasha

Dr. Bashaasha is the principal of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at Makerere University, where he also teaches. He specializes in Seed distribution and Input Supply Systems and served as a Senior Advisor on Economic issues to the World Food Programme Country Director in Uganda, and Dean in the School of Agricultural Sciences. Dr. Bashaasha is involved with a variety of research activities ranging in topics from Climate change and land ownership rights to Nutrition and food security.