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Addressing ACP nutrition security: the key role of Agriculture

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Biodata of speakers

Howarth Bouis - HarvestPlus

As director of HarvestPlus, Dr. Howarth Bouis coordinates an interdisciplinary, global effort to breed and disseminate micronutrient-rich staple food crops to reduce hidden hunger among malnourished populations. Since 1993, he has sought to promote biofortification both within the CGIAR, among national agricultural research centers, and in the international agriculture and nutrition communities. Bouis holds a joint appointment at the International Food Policy Research Institute (Washington, D.C.) where he is based and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) (Cali, Colombia). He received his B.A. in Economics from Stanford University and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Stanford University's Food Research Institute. He joined IFPRI in 1982 as a post-doctoral fellow in the Food Consumption and Nutrition Division (FCND) and later as Research Fellow and Senior Research Fellow in FCND. His research concentrated on understanding how economic factors affect food demand and nutrition outcomes, particularly in Asia.

Mohamed Ibn Chambas - ACP Group of States

Dr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas is the Secretary-General of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group since 1 March 2010. He was the former President of the Commission and Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), from February 2002 to February 2010. As head of the fifteen-member West African regional organisation, Dr. Chambas successfully positioned ECOWAS as a model regional organisation in Africa. Under his guidance, the Organisation adopted a new strategic vision and embarked on a profound restructuring of its institutions to make them more relevant to the needs of member states in the regional development and integration process. Prior to heading the ECOWAS Secretariat, Dr. Chambas was a Member of Parliament in Ghana, where he served at various periods as First Deputy Speaker of Parliament and chaired various committees. He also held deputy ministerial posts in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Higher Education of his country. Besides Ghana, Dr. Chambas had worked in the United States including teaching at Oberlin College Ohio, and practicing law with The Greater Cleveland Legal Aid Society and the Cleveland, Ohio, Law Office of Forbes, Forbes and Teamor. He also served from 1997 to 2001 on the Cornell University Council, the first African to serve on the Council of the prestigious Ivy-league American University.

Boitshupo "Bibi" Giyose - NEPAD Secretariat

Boitshupo Giyose holds an MS in International Nutrition from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, USA and a BS in Nutrition and Dietetics from Appalachian State University – Boone, NC, USA. Ms Giyose is a professional who is committed to a holistic approach to Nutrition, Health and Life. She was appointed in July 2005 as Senior Advisor – Food and Nutrition Security - to the African Union's New Partnership for Africa's Development (AU/NEPAD) who's Secretariat is based in Johannesburg, South Africa. Before joining NEPAD she worked for the UNDP/UNAIDS Botswana, as the regional project coordinator for a UN

initiative aimed at strengthening the UN HIV response in small population countries of Africa. In December 2003, she completed a five and half year assignment as the Regional Coordinator, Food and Nutrition Programme at the Commonwealth Regional Health Community Secretariat for East, Central and Southern Africa (CRHCS-ECSA). Prior to CRHCS-ECSA she worked in the private sector and also served the Government of Botswana in different capacities as a nutritionist for about 7 years, and worked as a private nutrition consultant internationally. Ms. Giyose was awarded a “Distinguished Alumna Award” in recognition of exceptional professional achievement by Appalachian State University in North Carolina, USA in April 2007.

Jethro Greene - Caribbean Farmer’s Network (CaFAN)

Jethro T. Greene comes from a rural, farming background and has accrued 30 years of experience in the development of the sector - particularly among farmers and rural communities in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and the Caribbean region. Inspired by his motto: '*Hopelessness* and *failure* are not words in my vocabulary', Greene has committed himself to working with people to develop innovative, practical, sustainable and grassroots approaches to leadership, group formation, management and group sustainability. A graduate of the COADY International Institute at Saint Francis Xavier University in Canada, Greene places a high premium on innovative leadership strategies that will build capacity in the agriculture sector, rural communities and with those on whom the future of development rests - our youth and empowerment of people. Currently the Chief Coordinator of the Eastern Caribbean Trading Agriculture Development Organization (ECTAD) and the Caribbean Farmers' Network (CaFAN), Greene is also a director of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Chamber of Industry and Commerce, the St. Vincent and the Grenadines National Development Foundation, and a member of the CARICOM Food and Nutrition Technical Working Group and CARICOM Common Agriculture Policy Working Group. He also provides training and consultation to several national and regional organizations and international organisations and institutions.

Michael Hailu - CTA

Michael Hailu, an Ethiopian national, is the Director of the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA). Mr. Hailu has over 25 years of professional experience working in Africa and Asia in communications and knowledge management in agriculture and related areas. Prior to joining CTA at the end of May 2010, Mr. Hailu was Director of Communications and a member of the Senior Leadership Team of the World Agroforestry Centre based in Nairobi, Kenya. From 1999-2007, Mr. Hailu lived and worked in Indonesia as Director of Information at the Centre for International Forestry Research (CIFOR). Mr. Hailu has degrees in Information Sciences and Economics from the University of Pittsburgh in the United States and Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia. He has also been trained in strategic leadership at the Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

Corinna Hawkes - Expert on Food policies

Dr Corinna Hawkes is an independent consultant specializing in identifying and analyzing food policies to address poor nutrition, particularly concerning unhealthy eating and related diseases. She examines policies throughout the food supply chain, with one of her areas of focus being approaches to improve the nutrition and health outcomes of agriculture. Her clients around the world include the World Health Organizations and other international organizations, national governments, foundations and NGOs. Between 2004 and 2008, Corinna coordinated the agriculture and health initiative at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Washington, and led their program and food policy and dietary change. In 2009-2010, Corinna was fellow in the Department of Nutrition in the School of Public Health at the University Of Sao Paulo, Brazil. She is also a visiting fellow at the Centre for Food Policy, City University, London. Corinna is a citizen of the UK and gained her PhD from King’s College, University of London.

Jose Graziano da Silva - FAO

Dr. Graziano da Silva, a native of Brazil who is currently based in Santiago, Chile, has devoted his 34-year professional and academic career to issues related to food security, agriculture and rural development. Since 2006, he has served as the FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Latin America and the Caribbean. Before joining the FAO, José Graziano da Silva helped design and implement the Brazilian "Zero Hunger" initiative, which has been recognized worldwide as a successful model for fighting hunger and poverty in Brazil over the past eight years. The program has been seen as innovative in its holistic approach to public policy-making, openness to civil society participation, and effective resource allocation, all of which have contributed to lifting 24 million Brazilian citizens out of extreme poverty, from 2003 to 2010, and reducing undernourishment in Brazil by 25 percent within five years, according to researches covering the period 2003-2008. Dr. Graziano da Silva has had a long and distinguished academic career from 1978 through the present day, serving as a full professor at the State University of Campinas (UNICAMP) and Chair of the Master's and Doctoral Program in Economic Development, Space, and Environment at UNICAMP's Institute for Economics. He is the author of important publications on rural development, food security, and agrarian economics. He has 25 published books. Dr. Graziano da Silva has been nominated as Brazil's candidate to the office of the Director-General of FAO by President Inácio Lula da Silva and President-Elect Dilma Rousseff.

Robert Mwadime - FANTA-2, Uganda

Robert Mwadime, Senior Regional Nutrition Advisor (Uganda) . Dr. Mwadime has more than 18 years of experience in the design, implementation, and evaluation of child health and HIV/AIDS projects, with particular emphasis on nutrition. His recent work with Uganda's Regional Centre for Quality of Health Care (RCQHC) supported development of nutrition guidelines, training, and IEC materials, and the design and implementation of short courses related to quality of care of health services, integrated management of childhood illness, and nutrition. Dr. Mwadime received his PhD in economic development and health from Wageningen University, the Netherlands, and his MPH from Johns Hopkins University. He speaks Swahili and Luganda.

Rajul Pandya-Lorch - IFPRI, USA

Rajul Pandya-Lorch is head of IFPRI's 2020 Vision for Food, Agriculture, and the Environment Initiative, a global initiative that seeks to identify solutions for meeting world food needs while reducing poverty and protecting the environment. She concurrently serves as Chief of Staff in the Director General's Office. Before taking her current position, Pandya-Lorch was special assistant to IFPRI's former director general, Per Pinstrup-Andersen. An IFPRI staff member since 1987, she has focused her research on trends in and prospects for global food security and on policies to alleviate and prevent food insecurity, poverty, and environmental degradation, with particular emphasis on sustainable development in Sub-Saharan Africa. Rajul has facilitated several major international conferences including one on "Leveraging Agriculture for Improving Nutrition and Health" held in New Delhi, India in February 2011, which examined the latest research on the links between health, agriculture and nutrition. Rajul has also recently led a major project, "Millions Fed: Proven Successes in Agricultural Development" that documents evidence on policies, programs, and investments in agricultural development that have significantly reduced hunger. In recognition of her achievements, the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA) presented Rajul and David Spielman with its 2010 Quality of Communication Award for their work on "Millions Fed: Proven Successes in Agricultural Development". She has also received the American Agricultural Economics Association's 2002 award for Distinguished Policy Contribution, along with Per Pinstrup-Andersen and Mark Rosegrant. Rajul earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Wellesley College and a master's degree in public and international affairs from Princeton University.

Per Pinstrup-Andersen - Cornell University, USA

Per Pinstrup-Andersen is the H. E. Babcock Professor of Food, Nutrition and Public Policy, the J. Thomas Clark Professor of Entrepreneurship, and Professor of Applied Economics at Cornell University and Professor of Agricultural Economics at Copenhagen University. He is past Chairman of the Science Council of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and Past President of the American Agricultural Economics Association (AAEA). He has a B.S. from the Danish Agricultural University, a M.S. and Ph.D from Oklahoma State University and honorary doctoral degrees from universities in the United Kingdom, Netherlands, Switzerland, and India. He is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and the American Agricultural Economics Association. He served 10 years as the International Food Policy Research Institute's Director General and seven years as department head; seven years as an economist at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture, Colombia; and six years as a distinguished professor at Wageningen University. He is the 2001 World Food Prize Laureate and the recipient of several awards for his research and communication of research results. Dr. Pinstrup-Andersen's publications include "Seeds of Contention," co-authored with Ebbe Schiøler and published in five languages, and more than 400 other books, refereed journal articles, papers and book chapters.