

Summary

This series of high-level events was developed and hosted jointly by The Global Panel and the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development in Nigeria. The events included: a high-level roundtable meeting to support and inform Nigeria's strategic approach to securing healthy diets for all; the launch of the new Nigerian Government Agricultural Sector Food and Nutrition Strategy 2016-20, a workshop to test the Global Panel's Policy Decision Tool, and the African launch of the Global Panel's brief *Improving nutrition through enhanced food environments*.

"I never dreamed the day would come when food and nutrition security would be so well recognised." *H.E. Professor Hafiz Abubakar, Deputy Governor Kano State*

Speakers

Senator Heineken Lokpobiri, Minister of State for Agriculture and Rural Development; **Professor Baffour Agyeman Duah**, CEO, JAK Foundation; **Professor Sandy Thomas**, Director, Global Panel; **HE Professor Hafiz Abubakar**, Deputy Governor Kano State; **Professor Olugbenga Ben Ogunmoyela**, Chairman, Body of Fellows, Nigerian Institute of Food Science and Technology

Consensus statements

- **There is widespread commitment** to raising the profile of nutrition policy and strengthening collaboration between the private sector, civil society and government.
- **A "business as usual" approach will not work.** Despite the multiple initiatives of recent years, the prevalence of malnutrition continues to rise in Nigeria.
- **A single co-ordinating body is needed** to oversee and enable collaboration across sectors at all levels. Government alone cannot solve the challenges of malnutrition in Nigeria.
- **Private sector and government need to collaborate much more effectively** on food, agriculture and nutrition policy development. Private sector attendees welcomed the Global Panel's convening power bringing government, NGOs and the private sector together at these high-level events.
- **Better nutrition expertise is needed** when developing federal and state policies and interventions. Modifying educational curricula to build capacity for nutrition professionals should be prioritised.
- **Decision makers lack the high-quality data** needed to develop a deeper understanding of the science which underpins healthy diets, e.g. factors that drive consumer behaviour and household surveys.
- **Shared ownership for delivering the FMARD Food and Nutrition Strategy** will be essential, as will defining roles and responsibilities
- **Social attitudes to women and food safety** remain high priority areas for action.
- **The Global Panel's Food Systems Policy Tool** "has a huge potential to work very well in the case of Nigeria" – Dr George Mavrotas, Senior Research Fellow, Development Strategy & Governance Division & Program Leader, Nigeria Strategy Support Program, International Food Policy Research Institute.

Key actions to take forward

- Director to brief the National Economic and National Governors Forums, utilising the influence and authority of the Global Panel, by invitation.
- Strengthen support for the inter-ministerial working group through provision of briefs at scale.
- Refine the Food Systems Policy Tool to reflect feedback from workshop participants.