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Federal Office for the Environment FOEN

Creating a climate for nutrition, health and gender equality
Round table around the WHO Climate Change and Health Conference
August 28th 12:40-1:50 pm (Room B)
Low carbon lunch will be provided

This event will be webcasted <https://who-meeting.webex.com/who-meeting/onstage/g.php?t=a&d=840337858>

Co-organizers

International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS) and Swiss Federal Office for the Environment

Background

The IPCC Fifth Assessment Report indicates that climate change has a negative impact on health, and food and nutrition security of millions of most vulnerable people – particularly women and their children. Climate change further exacerbates the enormous existing burden of undernutrition, undermining current efforts to reduce hunger and promote nutrition. Undernutrition in turn reduces the capacity of vulnerable populations to promote climate-resilient development. Adaptation approaches that include food security and nutrition objectives could have the most direct benefits to health, in particular in developing countries. There are many co-benefits to health and the environment of nutrition-sensitive climate change adaptation and mitigation measures that need to be further explored within the context of the climate agenda and the post-2015 sustainable development framework. Gender dimensions of vulnerability derive from differential access to the social and environmental resources required for adaptation. Therefore, women empowerment, engagement and transformational leadership are critical to address climate change challenges to health, and food and nutrition security in an integrated way.

Scope and purpose

This round table aims to provide to participants an opportunity to discuss:

- Integrated approaches to achieving food security, nutrition, health, gender equality, resilience and sustainability in a changing climate.
- Co-benefits of nutrition-sensitive climate adaptation and mitigation measures.
- Approaches that governments, stakeholders and UN agencies can consider to address nutrition in the run-up to Paris and within the post-2015 agenda framework.

Round table outline

Introduction: Cristina Tirado, chair of the task force on Climate and Nutrition of the International Union of Nutritional Sciences (IUNS); José Romero, Chief Scientist Environment International, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment

Panelists: Francesco Branca, WHO, Director of Nutrition.
José Romero, Chief Scientist Environment International, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment
Julien Kyomuhangi, Assistant Commissioner at the MoH in Uganda (TBC)
Serge Breyse, MD, Director of Advocacy, Action Against Hunger
Xiangjun Yao, FAO, Director of the FAO Liaison Office

Conclusions: Cristina Tirado, IUNS task force on Climate and Nutrition; José Romero, Swiss Federal Office for the Environment

Questions from the audience