



BIOFORTIFICATION

The First Global Conference: *From Discovery to Delivery*

Nov. 9-11, 2010 Washington, D.C.



The First Global Conference on Biofortification will take stock of progress, share lessons learned, and chart the future of biofortification. This three-day event will bring researchers, policymakers, donors, and business leaders together to advance biofortification.

Micronutrient malnutrition, or hidden hunger, afflicts billions of people. One of the major causes of hidden hunger is a lack of micronutrients in the diet. Fruits, vegetables, and animal products are rich in micronutrients but are often not available to the poor whose daily diet consists mostly of a few inexpensive staple foods, such as rice or cassava, with few micronutrients.

The consequences, in terms of malnutrition and health, are devastating and can result in blindness, stunting, disease, and even death. By adding micronutrients to staple crops through plant breeding, scientists and nutritionists are working to create a sustainable and cost-effective solution to helping the world's poorest.

With over 300 scientists working to biofortify staple crops in over 40 countries, the time is now to capture lessons learned and create synergy among the different researchers and institutions working to improve the nutritional content of staple foods eaten every day by millions of the world's undernourished.

Conference Objectives:

- Determine the current state of biofortification by taking stock of research, global investment, and experience in biofortification
- Raise the visibility of biofortification as a promising agricultural intervention for public health
- Chart the future for biofortification by identifying synergies and gaps in knowledge and forging partnerships and collaborations

Featured Guests:

- Ambassador William J. Garvelink, Feed the Future
- Nicholas Kristof, *New York Times*
- Navyn Salem, Edesia Global Nutrition Solutions
- Roger Thurow, Chicago Council
- Lawrence Haddad, Institute for Development Studies
- Keith West, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Health

Symposia Topics:

- Progress in nutrition for vitamin A: Taking stock, gaps, and solutions
- Progress in nutrition for iron and zinc: Taking stock, gaps, and solutions
- Progress, challenges, and the way forward in breeding and gene development for vitamin A: Taking stock, gaps, and solutions
- Progress, challenges, and the way forward in breeding and gene development for iron and zinc: Taking stock, gaps, and solutions
- Delivering vitamin A crops: A visible nutrient
- Delivering iron and zinc crops: An invisible nutrient
- Biofortification for the developed world: Progress with antioxidants and other nutrients
- Biofortification through agronomic practices
- Breeding for bioavailability
- Building public trust in transgenic biofortified crops: A dialogue
- Climate change and the nutritional quality of foods
- Orange-fleshed sweet potato is making a difference
- Weaving biofortification into the global development agenda
- What about protein?

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