

# Compact2025

# **Technical Advisory Committee Meeting**

November 19, 2015 IFPRI, 2033 K Street, NW, Washington, DC

## **MEETING NOTES**

#### What should C2025 aim to do?

We heard the Leadership Council say that C2025 will aim to help countries—globally and in focus countries—accelerate their progress towards ending hunger and undernutrition<sup>1</sup> by 2025. We endorse this aim.

#### What does success of C2025 look like?

At the national and subnational level: actions that have a good chance of having a large impact on hunger and undernutrition are identified through a collaborative C2025 process and are converted to commitments and implemented effectively. The actions are things that would not necessarily have been done in the absence of C2025.

At the global level: it will contribute to sustaining interest in the reduction of hunger and undernutrition and will serve to inspire a wide range of stakeholders that significant reductions are possible by 2025.

#### How will C2025 aim to do this?

The default is to work through national and global processes to use data, tools, evidence and relationships to catalyze, guide, and scale high impact actions, both policy and interventions.

At the national and subnational level it will do this in 4 "first mover" countries by

- (1) bringing together stakeholders and existing data and evidence in a consensus building process to understand the nature of the problem and the array of actions already in place to address them
- (2) facilitating diagnosis of the priorities for action, what is needed to enable them and what might hold them back
- (3) supporting the conversion of this diagnosis into concrete commitments to action, including targets (the Compact)
- (4) guiding implementation of actions
- (5) helping monitor the commitments and
- (6) contributing to their evaluation.

Of course in practice this process will be far from linear.

At the global level it will seek to broaden its contribution by acting as the SUN knowledge network, helping build networks of national researchers.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note that while the primary focus is on undernutrition, C2025 will seek ways to facilitate efforts to prevent and address the multiple burdens of malnutrition.

#### Ways of working

- Demand driven: if countries are not committed, C2025 will not be sustainable.
- Aligned with country agendas: if not, then C2025 will not become embedded in government thinking, policy and processes.
- Looking to expand country capacity to undertake the assessment, diagnosis of priorities, conversion into commitment to action, implementation of action, monitoring and evaluation of actions.
- Strategic but flexible: looking for and creating the opportunities to make small changes that can have big effects—all within complex and fluid contexts.
- Low key in its communication about itself. This is not about making IFPRI look good. The difference that C2025 will make is reward enough.
- Firmly rooted in credible evidence: IFPRI carries weight because of the quality of its research.
- Going well beyond research into action: data collection, evidence generation, knowledge generation are driven by the imperative of catalyzing, guiding and scaling high impact action.
- Speaking truth to power: the feedback of data and evidence to those with the power to act on it must be unfiltered and honest.
- Will not promise funding directly, but will help government's make the case for additional funding from financial stakeholders.
- Really thinking of different ways of working and acting—be innovative about innovation (e.g. working with church pastors to communicate key messages about hunger and malnutrition, setting up innovation prizes).
- Work as much as possible with youngsters and young adults.
- At a global level, ways of working will have to be fleshed out further.

#### **Risks to Manage**

- Redundancy: not the same as overlaps, which can be positive. If there overlaps, be aware of them. Key relationships with National Evaluation Plans, National Information Platforms, REACH coordinators.
- Credibility: where does C2025's mandate come from? From IFPRI's role as an evidence generator and knowledge broker and from the countries that join. As C2025 grows this is likely to become a bigger problem.
- Advocacy not backed by evidence: here clarity is necessary. We want opinion of informed analysts, but not if it masquerades as fact.
- IFPRI overstepping its comparative advantage of evidence generation and knowledge brokering: IFPRI will be a catalyst, actively working through government and global processes. Always looking to stimulate action but not being responsible for carrying it out. C2025 needs to position itself as a neutral and independent broker.
- Failure to staff a C2025 secretariat & a centralization of the secretariat in DC: need to accelerate development work with greater clarity from these meetings and then staff a C2025 secretariat networked in DC and the other 4 (to begin with) countries.
- Expanding to too many countries without establishing some proof of concept in the first 4 countries: focus on the 4 first movers in first 2 years.
- C2025's own accountability: is it to Leadership Group, to member countries? To donors? Need to be clear on this.

#### Examples of Actions

Consensus building process to understand the nature of the problem and the actions already in place to address them

- Week long shared learning exercises in country, understanding incentives, politics, motivations of different stakeholders
- Evidence reviews on what works, focused on evidence from each country; policy intervention library
- DC based expert consultations on each country—what does the research done by IFPRI and partners tell us?

Facilitating diagnosis of the priorities for action, what they need to be enabled and what might hold them back

- Establishing national level IPCC models for consensus building around what the hunger and nutrition evidence and data are telling us
- Developing and implementing Hunger and Nutrition Diagnostic Tools to help develop a shared understanding of the priority and sequence of actions
- Developing hunger and undernutrition maps at very disaggregated levels

Supporting the conversion of this diagnosis into concrete commitments (the Compact)

• Support to the crafting of SMART commitments that are technically, politically and institutionally feasible (although C2025 has no ability to enforce these commitments)

#### **Guiding Implementation of Action**

- Clarifying and establishing consensus around roles and responsibilities in implementation
- Supporting the process of identifying financing & capacity, location
- Initiate pilot projects on implementation

Helping monitor and communicate the commitments

- Developing progress markers and tracking them at key milestones
- Identify roles for communities in monitoring
- Supporting an annual Food and Nutrition for Development Report in each country
- Helping countries make the case for investment to fill key data gaps
- Report back to all parts of the government, including MP committees
- Helping countries respond to the reporting requirements of the SDGs, ICN2 and WHA targets

#### Evaluation

- Translate relevant extant evaluations for use by policymakers
- Short courses to help policymakers and other action stakeholders use evaluation results
- Shape evaluation calls from governments and donors
- Link with on-going evaluation research and beyond

#### Next Steps

- 1. Communicate more clearly via the website what it is that C2025 aims to do and how it aims to do it—use the text from this report summary
- 2. Develop a proposal with more specifics for potential investors
- 3. As soon as sufficient funding is secured begin a recruitment for a full time Director/CEO
- 4. Work with governments to identify C2025 focal points in each country
- 5. Get agreement from SUN to serve as secretariat of a knowledge network; develop strong links with NEPAD
- 6. Clarify links with GNR and other accountability mechanisms such as the ICN2, WHA and Countdown to 2015
- 7. Complete evidence reviews on what works, focused on evidence from each country & complete expert consultations (roundtables) for each country
- 8. Convert Nourishing Millions and Stories of Change case studies of change into shareable content for SUN countries and beyond, by type of action
- 9. Prioritize and sequence action and convert into commitments to action
- 10. Commitments are initiated

## PARTICIPANTS

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