



## **SIDE EVENT # 3: Reaching Global Nutrition Targets: Improving Commitments and Accountability in the African Context**

**Venue:** ODEHE

**Organizer:** The Global Nutrition Report Secretariat

**Contact Person:** Elyse Franko-Filipasic, Communications Specialist, Poverty Health and Nutrition Division, IFPRI

Email: [e.franko-filipasic@cgiar.org](mailto:e.franko-filipasic@cgiar.org) ; Tel: +1 (631) 455-8126

### **Facilitators:**

- **Lawrence Haddad**, Executive Director, Global Alliance for Nutrition (GAIN)
- **Rajul Pandya-Lorch**, Head 2020 Vision Initiative and Chief of Staff, Director General's Office, IFPRI

### **Panelists:**

- **Jeff Hill**, Director for Food and Agriculture Policy, USAID (TBC)
- **Abdoulaye Ka**, National Coordinator for the National Committee for the Fight against Malnutrition, Senegal (TBC)
- **Maureen Bakunzi Tumusiime**, Assistant Commissioner, Policy Implementation and Coordination (PIC), Directorate of Coordination, Monitoring and Evaluation for the Office of the Prime Minister, Uganda (TBC)
- **Isatou Jallow**, Senior Nutrition and Partnership Advisor, NEPAD (TBC)

### **Abstract & Objectives**

In spite of a recent increase in government and donor commitments to improving nutrition around the globe, African countries remain saddled with a disproportionately heavy burden of malnutrition. According to the 2016 *Global Nutrition Report (GNR)*, of the 50 countries with the highest rates of stunting, 32 are in the African region. African countries also account for half of the 50 countries with the highest rates of wasting.

Even as undernutrition continues to present significant hurdles for the continent's health systems and economies, many African governments must now also reckon with increased rates of overweight, obesity, and nutrition-related non-communicable diseases. With 1 in 3 people globally now considered to be malnourished, this so-called double burden of malnutrition now affects 44 percent of countries.

These trends can only be reversed if global commitments to fight malnutrition are translated into action. While initiatives like the Sustainable Development Goals and Nutrition for Growth have raised the profile of nutrition challenges in recent years, the global community must work to prevent progress from flatlining—and to ensure that nutrition commitments remain a priority for policymakers.





The 2016 GNR identifies a number of actions that can help governments and other stakeholders to better achieve and be held accountable to their goals. These include:

- Setting SMART targets as a key factor of success
- Improving methods for data collection and M&E to better measure for key nutrition targets, like stunting, anaemia, and exclusive breastfeeding
- Collaborating with non-nutrition sectors to encourage the use of nutrition-sensitive, “double-duty” actions

This session will serve to introduce the findings of the GNR, and to highlight the key steps needed for Africa to make – and sustain – significant progress on reducing and averting malnutrition. The panel discussion will draw on participants’ multisectoral experience to discuss how governments and donors can be held accountable to their commitments.

