

Supplementary Table 1: Characteristics of Priority Setting Exercises Found in Nutritional Research

Reference	Priority methodology	Objective	Who is represented /#of experts	Target audience	Funding source	Follow-up of the results
Masters, Rosettie et al [1] USA	2 regional workshops and followed a prespecified protocol to elicit programme designs	Priority interventions to improve maternal and child diets in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia	Nine research team members and 15 regional experts participated in the meeting held in the South Asia meeting held in Kathmandu, Nepal; and 13 research team members and 26 regional experts in the Sub Saharan Africa meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. At the South Asia meeting, 6 regional experts were from India, 7 from Nepal, 1 from Bangladesh, and 1 had general regional expertise. At the Sub Saharan Africa meeting, 9 regional experts were from Ethiopia, 4 from Nigeria, 3 from Tanzania, 3 from Uganda, and 7 had general regional expertise.	Local experts in Sub Saharan Africa and South Asia	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.	NA
Aggett [2] UK	Debate	Complementary feeding	International Paediatric Association and European Society of Paediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Nutrition/ n= Not clear	Caregivers and policymakers, health professionals	The Infant Food Manufacturers	NA
Kumanyika, Gary [3] USA	2-day workshop	Obesity	African- American researchers / n= Not clear	The National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and the National Institute of health overall	The Centre for Disease Control and Prevention CDC	Follow-up of the workshop: research project ideas, funding proposals, position papers, and presentations, and further development of a focal point to continue the dialogue
Alley, Ferrucci [4] USA	Formal presentations and informal discussions	Causes and consequences of changes in body weight and composition over the aging process.	Working Group / n= Not clear	Researchers that address the questions mentioned in a special section of the Journal	NA	Call for papers that address these questions for a special section of the Journal, to be published in 2009.
Angood, Khara [5] UK	Child Health and Nutrition Research Initiative (CHNRI)	Links between wasting and stunting	An existing Technical Interest Group facilitated by Emergency Nutrition Network as the expert group/n=18 of the 25 members took part in the survey. 16 completed the survey in full.	International agencies, research funding bodies, donors, governments and policy-makers.	(USAID) & the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation	NA
Angood, McGrath [6] UK	CHNRI	The management of acute malnutrition	“Core group” of authors of the paper./ n=64 individuals participated in the survey	Governments, researchers, investors, international organisations, and national agencies	USAID/OFDA and Irish Aid	NA
Brown, Hess [7]	CHNRI	Zinc research in child	A group of 7 leading experts in the field of Zinc research	Not clear	CHNRI	Repeat periodically, possibly with a larger group and reference group of

USA		health	in child health			stakeholders, as new information becomes available.
Buzzard and Sievert [8] USA	A conference. The results were circulated inviting extra comments.	Dietary assessment methodology.	41 speakers participated in the conference. 3 categories of invited presenters: 1) researchers working on research relating to dietary assessment methodology 2) major users of dietary assessment methods 3) policy makers./n=19 of the 41 respondents gave comments for the revisions of the lists of research priorities and recommendations.	Not clear	University of Minnesota, World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)	Follow up conference and on-going forum to continue the process of updating and revising the priorities
Byrne, Wake [9] AUS	Delphi technique (2 stages)	Longitudinal research on childhood and adolescent obesity questions	The Australian Child and Adolescent Obesity Research Network (ACAORN). In Stage 2, delegates to the 2005 conference of the Australian Society for the Study of Obesity (ASSO) (a scientific organisation of more than 600 medical practitioners, and other health care professionals) repeated the prioritisation /n= Stage 1 : 32 members of ACAORN ; Stage 2 : 39 of the 75 attendees contributed	Funding bodies, researchers, medical practitioners, medical staff	ACAORN. An NHMRC Australian Public Health Training Fellowship, and NHMRC Population Health Career Development Award	NA
Curtin, Must [10] USA	Delphi and a survey	Obesity	The Healthy Weight Research Network (HWRN) including family members, self-advocates and policy leaders. /n= 1st Delphi Round n= 18 / 20 participants provided responses. A final vote via an online survey: 75% (15/20) of HWRN members and advisors ranked the 4 most important themes.	HWRN	Resources and Services Administration Maternal and Child Health Bureau NIH	Anticipation that the research agenda will be reviewed, re-evaluated and refined as the Network evolves and matures: reaching out to the broader community of stakeholders to obtain their input.
D'Andreamatteo, Davison [11] CAN	Mixed-method with (i) scoping review; (ii) national online stakeholder survey (iii) key informant consultations in the form of interviews and online survey; (iv) national workshop; and (v) triangulation of textual and quantitative data	The nutrition and mental health	Canadian Institute of Health Research, Dietitians of Canada, Canadian Mental Health Association, the University of British Columbia, the University of British Columbia Behavioural Research Ethics Board. N=811 for national online stakeholder survey; dietitians who responded (n = 299). (N = 105) were invited either for an interview or to complete an online key-informant questionnaire, (n = 79) responded.. (n = 16) participated in a national workshop	Dietitians	A Planning Grant of the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. the Canadian Mental Health Association (Ontario), Dietitians of Canada, and the University of British Columbia, School of Nursing.	Integrate the findings into further development of relevant content for the Practice-based Evidence in Nutrition database and Learning on DemandTM. Long-range plans entail outlining directives that formulate these findings into actions that target training, continued education, knowledge dissemination, as well as research, advocacy, and policy initiatives.
Lachat, Nago [12] Europe	Mixed-methods: (1) review of institutions publishing nutrition research and type of, (2) analysis of the perceptions of nutrition research by researchers, through 3 regional	Malnutrition.	SUNRAY consortium (academics from 4 European institutions, academics from 4 universities in Africa, an international non-governmental organization, and an organization that funds research in Sub Sahara Africa), researchers and policy makers in SSA, external stakeholders (i.e., government officials, UN agencies, NGO's, bilateral donors, and the private sector), Department for International Development (UK), with the European Commission, and during a national workshop in	NA	The European Commission	An annual course on evidence-based nutrition was piloted after SUNRAY and initiated the development of a knowledge network for evidence-based nutrition in Africa.

	workshops. (3) Assessment of the nutrition research priorities of stakeholders, and the identification of research needs for environmental challenges.		Benin for Beninese and Togolese stakeholders. n=, 117 participants from 40 countries in SSA attended the workshops  Participants were principally senior researchers (52%) and policy makers (30%) in nutrition. The remaining participants (18%) were external stakeholders.			
McKinnon, Orleans [13] USA	Mixed-methods: Semi structured telephone interviews. Followed by a meeting. A conference call was held by National Cancer Institute (NCI) after the meeting.	Obesity	The participants represented a range of organizations, including academic research institutions, health organizations, private and federal research funding agencies, and state and federal government agencies. N=27 participants and 11 non-government experts who had been invited to the meeting have a telephone interview	Knowledge generation partners and Knowledge transfer/generation partners	No financial disclosures.	Begin the work of building the evidence base for obesity policy, by evaluating the effects of next existing policies
McPherson, Ball [14] CAN	Mixed-methods: A multi-stakeholder workshop with multiple methods	Disability and Obesity in Canadian Children Network	Researchers; trainees; front-line clinicians; parents; former clients with disabilities; community; partners; and decision makers. Most invitees were Canadian/ N=38 invited attendees: researchers (n = 12); trainees (n = 4); front-line clinicians (n = 12); parents (n = 3); former clients with disabilities (n = 1); community, partners (n = 3); and decision makers (n = 3)	NA	Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Holland Bloorview Kids Rehabilitation Hospital and Bloorview Research Institute.	DOCCNet will be promoted across all Canadian provinces and disseminated through pan-Canadian organizations (e.g., CON, CAPHC, and CN-CYR). International partners will also be encouraged to contribute their expertise to DOCC-Net and disseminate relevant information across their networks.
Menon, Covic [15] USA	Mixed-methods: Working group, e-consultation, conference, published literature (deliberations)	A nutrition implementation-focused framework	The New York Academy of Sciences, delivery science working group, multiple stakeholders including academia, intergovernmental organizations, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, and the public sector. /N= Approximately 54 respondents participated in the survey	NA	NA	NA
Nagata, Ferguson [16] USA	Modified version of the CHNRI priority setting method in three phases.	Adolescent health in low- and middle-income countries.	Experts were identified through 1- journal publications, membership of journal editorial boards, from lists of participants at WHO meetings and consultations, and by nominations from WHO departments. 2- participants at WHO meetings and consultations held in 2010 till 2015 and that were relevant to the 8 adolescent health areas through reports that were available on the WHO website and the WHO Index Medicus . 3- Representatives of the WHO departments relevant to each health area to review the lists and nominate any additional key experts in their respective	Donors, program managers, and researchers to stimulate and develop research in adolescent health.	US Agency for International Development and the Mary Duke Biddle Clinical Scholars Program, Stanford University	NA

			fields. Overall, this resulted in 265 additional experts. / n= Combining the list of experts resulted in a total of (n=450) different individuals, 217 (48%) agreed to participate. In October 2015, (n=15) external experts joined the authors and other WHO staff in a meeting at which the methods and preliminary findings were discussed before they were finalized. (N=142) experts submitted questions. Scored questions by health area (n=130)			
Ohlhorst, Russell [17] USA	Mixed-methods: In 2011 American Society for Nutrition (ASN) reached out to experts. Then, it convened a Working Group to determine the nutrition research needs and share them via ASN's member newsletter	The prevention and treatment of nutrition-related diseases.	ASN's Public Policy Committee, scientists and researchers representing a cross-section of the Society's membership. The characteristics of the conference attendees and newsletter members are not clear. /n= In September 2011 : ASN's 75 leaders developed a draft list of nutrition research needs. In February 2012 : ASN convened a Working Group. Workshop was held with nearly n= 250 attendees. To inform and seek input from (n=5000) members (who didn't attend the annual meeting or workshop) the results were shared via ASN(s) newsletter	Stakeholders with differing areas of expertise to establish the evidence-based nutrition guidance and policies.	NA	NA
Ramirez, Chalela [18] USA	A modified three-round web Delphi survey	To reduce and prevent Latino childhood obesity	Females and predominantly Hispanic/Latino followed by Whites, African Americans, Asians/Pacific Islanders, and other ethnicities. Most participants were academicians or researchers, followed by health educators or administrators or managers and clinicians, and public health workers. Delphi respondents were located in 31 U.S. states. / n=1 <sup>st</sup> Delphi round: 579 invitations were sent, 177 individuals responded . 2nd Delphi round: 103 people completed the survey, of whom 57 had completed Round 1 (55.3%) and 46 were new participants (44.7%). 3rd Delphi round: 194 people completed surveys, of which 93 completed a survey in Round 1 and 2 (47.9%) and 101 were new recruits (52.1%) from the Salud America! network.	Investigators, educators, health care providers, and communities to collaborate on childhood obesity prevention and control	Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF)	Results will guide the development of a call for proposals to support 20 pilot projects aimed at identifying effective prevention and control strategies, encouraging partnerships and collaborations . It also will guide others in developing new and innovative ecological interventions focusing on the identified research areas and priorities to fight Latino childhood obesity.
Ward, Vaughn [19] USA	Mixed-methods: Meeting, conference, online survey, voting	Identify the key issues related to obesity prevention research in Early Care and Education ECE settings.	Faculty from a variety of universities, representatives from multiple foundations interested in child obesity prevention, delegates from multiple branches of the NIH and the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and other key leaders in ECE. / N= Not clear how many was initially invited to the conference, there were 43 attendees. Among the 43, 44% completed the follow-up on-line survey to identify research priorities.	Funders, both federal agencies (such as National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), CDC, and USDA), as well as foundations (RWJF, American Health Association, and others)	The NHLBI and Office of Behavioural and Social Sciences Research. The RWJF 's Healthy Eating Research and Active Living Research programs, the Nemours Funds,, and the Altarum Institute. University of North Carolina's Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, a	NA

					member of the Prevention Research Centers Program of the CDC	
Pratt, Stevens [20] USA	Workshop	Childhood obesity prevention and treatment	Leaders and representatives from public and private academic and medical institutions with expertise in a variety of health specialties, and research methodology, staff from the NIH and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. N= NA	Investigators and funding agencies in setting research agendas for childhood obesity prevention and treatment.	NA	NA
Wu, Lau [21] USA	Mixed-methods: 1- A Comparative Effectiveness Review and Meta-Analysis.2- a 3-Round Delphi process using a Web-based assessment tool.	Childhood obesity	A modified Delphi process with 6 expert stakeholders with potential interest in childhood obesity prevention such as parents, researchers, and representatives from government, public agencies. N= 6	Researchers and funding agencies	The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	NA
Haddad, Hawkes [22] UK	Conclusion from compiling a report commissioned by the Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition	Food systems	.N= NA	Researchers, funders, governments, Delegates to the G20 and G7 2017 meeting.	NA	NA
Black, Victora [23] USA	NA	To reassess the problems of maternal and child under nutrition.	Maternal and Child Nutrition Study Group, Series Advisory Committee. N= NA	NA	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.	NA
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and UK Aid [24] USA	Mixed-methods: 1- A review of existing evidence of agriculture nutrition linkages and explored research. 2- consultations with leading researchers in the field to solicit ideas of where knowledge gaps still exist.	Nutrition-sensitive agriculture.	Not clear, but they state consulting leading researchers. N= NA	Researchers, policy makers, and program implementers	UKaid, Bill & Melinda Gates foundation	This white paper serve as the basis for a soon-to-be-announced Request for Applications from the UK Department for International Development and the Bill & Melinda Gates
Commission of the European Communities	Not clear	Contribute to reducing ill health due to poor nutrition, overweight	Commission of the European Communities. N= NA	Member states, private actors, international	The European Commission	Collaborate with the WHO to develop a nutrition and physical activity surveillance system for the

[25]		and obesity		cooperation		EU-27. a Review of obesity status progress in 2010. A Green Paper on urban transport in 2007, followed by an Action Plan in 2008. Publish guidance on sustainable urban transport plans. A White Paper on Sport. In 2007 the Commission will finance a study looking at the relationship between obesity and socio-economic status with a view to considering the most effective interventions.
Europe						
The Sackler Institute for Nutrition Science [26]	Mixed-methods: Academy of Sciences Group identified 3 critical "Focus Areas" topics..Focus Area Working Groups developed critical gaps in knowledge. A web-based consultation for feedback followed .The conclusion was presented during a conference	Malnutrition	The Sackler Institute for Nutrition Science, academic and non-profit researchers, WHO, Humanities Global Development. Fifty-five researchers organized in Focus Area Working Groups, developed more than 20 critical gaps in knowledge from the broad Focus Areas. A web-based consultation secured feedback from more than 100 stakeholders in the nutrition science community—from both developed and developing countries—on these critical areas.	The research community and stakeholders in the field of nutrition towards focusing on pressing research needs.	The New York Academy of Sciences in partnership with the Mortimer D.Sackler	Specific research proposals focusing on the gaps identified in this Agenda will be developed. The Sackler Institute will hold working sessions and symposiums that will bring together key stakeholders to support these projects in nutritional, agricultural, and environmental sciences; public health; and policy.
USA						
Byrne and Daniel [27]	NA	Sustainable food and nutrition security	Joint Programming Initiative A healthy diet for a healthy life. N= not clear	All age groups	Joint Programming Initiative	Implementation Plan every 2 to 3 years in which the actions and activities will be carry out in the next years are presented.
Europe						
The AFRESH Project [28]	NA	I - Tackling avoidable diet- and lifestyle-related non communicable diseases  II - Implementation of the European "Lisbon strategy" at the regional level	The Afresh Project 16 stakeholders from eight European regions work together. N= NA	Enterprises, research organisations and regional authorities, European population	The European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for Research and Technological Development	NA
Europe						
UNSCN [29]	A review of global commitments and goals, recommendations in the 2014 Global	Framework for UN action in response to global and country nutrition goals for the	The UN agencies with a key mandate in nutrition – FAO, IFAD, UNICEF, WFP and WHO. N= NA	Agencies and interagency teams at global, regional and country levels.	Flemish government	NA
Geneva						

Nutrition Report and stakeholder consultations. years to come.

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