



Wilton Park  
USA

Provisional programme

## **No more missed opportunities: advancing public-private partnerships to achieve the global nutrition goals**

Monday 2 – Tuesday 3 October 2017 | WP1565

**To be held in the Harvard Club, New York City**

Poor diet is the number one risk factor for early death, contributing to 20% of global deaths with the burden falling disproportionately on children under five and women of reproductive age. Each year, malnutrition is a factor in almost half of the six million deaths of children under five and 159 million children are stunted, with impacts on their physical and cognitive abilities that last a lifetime. More than 500 million women are anemic with an increased risk of maternal death and delivering premature and low-birth-weight babies. At the same time, 600 million adults are obese and 420 million have diabetes, with rates rising steeply. Every country is now struggling with some aspect of malnutrition, and a growing number are experiencing both undernutrition and obesity.

Despite the seriousness of the global nutrition crisis and its implications for economic growth and human development, governments and businesses are not actively and effectively working together to tackle the problem, a situation nutrition experts have described as a “missed opportunity” (Lancet, 2013). If this modus operandi continues, the new Sustainable Development Goals that relate to health and nutrition will not be achieved including, ending all forms of malnutrition (Goal 2.2), ending preventable maternal, newborn and child deaths (Goals 3.1 and 3.2), and reducing by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases (Goal 3.4).

To achieve these ambitious goals, 193 governments have agreed to work in multi-stakeholder partnerships, including with the private sector (Goal 17). As food is produced, marketed and distributed by the private sector in all but the most extreme of humanitarian settings, new efforts are urgently needed to enable greater government-business collaboration in the service of nutrition goals.

This dialogue seeks to support the accelerated achievement of the global nutrition goals, and broader commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals, by convening a high-level

**In partnership with:**



**The USCIB Foundation, Inc.**

group of leaders from government, business and other key stakeholders to:

- discuss a set of draft Principles of Engagement for Government-Business Collaboration to frame and guide progress towards achievement of the food and nutrition Sustainable Development Goals and the implementation of the UK Government's commitment to Overseas Development Assistance (ODA);
- identify and address ways to improve business engagement in global nutrition goals and engage multisector platforms to specifically address food and nutrition supply chains, distribution channels, and technical and scientific research, to accelerate achievement of the global nutrition goals and directly benefit ODA recipient countries; and
- forge new relationships between government and business food and nutrition leaders to kick-off a new era of constructive partnership.

**The dialogue is co-sponsored by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN), the USCIB Foundation, the educational arm of the United States Council for International Business (USCIB), and Wilton Park USA in support of the Sustainable Development Goals, the UN Decade of Action on Nutrition and the UN Secretary-General's Every Woman, Every Child movement. It is consistent with several Sustainable Development Goal business engagement initiatives, including the Health Action Platform of the UN Global Compact and USCIB's Business for 2030**

(Speakers invited and themes proposed \* denotes confirmed)

## Monday 2 October

1800	Participants arrive for drinks reception
1900	Dinner <b>Keynote Speaker: Government/Business Collaboration and the Achievement of Global Food and Nutrition Goals</b>
2200	Participants depart to their own arranged accommodation

## Tuesday 3 October

0815	Participants arrive at Harvard Club for registration
0830-0900	Breakfast
0900-0930	<b>Welcome and opening remarks</b>
0930-1030	<b>1. The knowledge revolution: what does it mean for nutrition?</b> How much do we really know about malnutrition - where and who it strikes, what causes it, and how it can be cost-effectively reduced? What new developments in the science of nutrition are challenging established ideas of the causes of malnutrition? What are the respective roles of governments and business in knowledge-generation and distribution? How do we generate an independent and rigorous evidence base that measures the impact of public and private sector efforts and collaboration on nutrition goals? How do we share knowledge across sectors - especially knowledge that advances our understanding of the causes of malnutrition and leads to new discoveries that can reduce the burdens?

1030-1100	Photograph followed by tea/coffee
1100-1200	<p><b>2. The pace of innovation: is it fast enough?</b></p> <p>What technological changes are driving the future supply of, and demand for, food and the functioning of food markets, and what are the implications for nutrition? What are the respective roles of governments and business in investing in ways to produce, distribute and market nutritious foods and beverages? How to leverage new technologies to reformulate more nutritious foods and beverages and market them in ways that advance achievement of nutrition goals and comply with international standards and regulations, especially regarding women of reproductive age and children under five? How can governments ensure that private sector food investments are in “pro-nutrition” technologies?</p>
1200-1300	<p>Lunch</p> <p><b>Keynote Speaker: The Future of Food - Implications for Governments &amp; Business</b></p>
1300-1400	<p><b>3. Positive partnership: where are the incentives for government/business collaboration?</b></p> <p>How to design and implement public policies, legislation, regulations, and financial and other incentives that reinforce private sector engagement in nutrition and collaboration with governments? How to leverage the influence of investors, shareholders and consumers to improve industry practices that affect nutrition as well as harness national and international bureaucracies, voters, and civil society to improve government practices that affect nutrition? How to measure the costs of the current lack of government-industry collaboration?</p>
1400-1500	<p><b>4. Working together: what are the multisectoral platforms that can deliver results?</b></p> <p>How many platforms currently exist to engage business in the achievement of the global food and nutrition goals? What is their respective impact? What are the features of the most successful platforms? How to better align the higher impact government, business, UN and NGO platforms so that food and beverage companies can collaborate efficiently and effectively with the public sector on product development and marketing, supply chains, distribution channels, and technical and scientific research?</p>
1500-1515	Tea/coffee plus completion of Evaluation survey
1515-1700	<p><b>5. A new MO: can we agree principles of engagement for government-business collaboration on nutrition?</b></p> <p>Would a set of core principles of engagement to frame and guide government-business collaboration and partnership in the reduction of malnutrition increase the quantity and quality of public-private partnerships? Would they accelerate achievement of global food and nutrition goals? Similar principles in the area of Women’s Empowerment have been successful (UN Global Compact), but what would a set of engagement principles look like for nutrition? How might they become standard practice across governments and the food and beverage industry for the Sustainable Development Goal era?</p>
1700-1730	<b>6. Conclusions: what’s next?</b>
1730	Participants depart

**This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.**

**This is an invitation only event.**

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