Conference Support

About the conference
In India, despite supportive policy and program environment, the data and evidence points to lingering gaps in the coverage, scale, and quality of nutrition interventions targeted to the period between adolescence and the first 1000 days. This conference will offer opportunities to learn about recent research and evidence on factors that affect the coverage and quality of services and examine solutions to close gaps both on the supply-side, demand-side and governance of interventions for maternal and child nutrition in India. Research areas that will be featured include those related to supporting and motivating frontline worker performance, strengthening intervention components like supplements and behaviour change communication, testing new solutions to old problems (e.g., ICT for nutrition, cash transfers, etc.), using new platforms for behaviour change (e.g. self-help group programs), financing for nutrition, data for decision-making and more.

Conference working group
Alok Ranjan, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Biraj Patnaik, Office of the Commissioners of the Supreme Court
Deepika Chaudhery, World Bank
Dipa Sinha, Ambedkar University
Gayatri Singh, UNICEF
Kapil Yadav, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)
Manjula Singh, Children’s Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF)
Mohini Kak, World Bank
Monica Jain, International Initiative for Impact Evaluation (3iE)
Purnima Menon, IFPRI
Rasmi Avula, IFPRI
Sandhya Venkateswaran, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
Sangeeta Pinto, World Bank

Conference secretariat (IFPRI)
Abhilasha Vaid
Amrutha Jose
Jyotsana Dua
Karina Yang
Nikita Verma
Nitya George

About the banner
The banner is a stylized representation of the variability in the coverage of the maternal and child nutrition interventions along the continuum of care during the first 1000 days. The three sets of bar graphs represent variability in the coverage of interventions during pregnancy, 0-6 months, and 6-24 months. The icons at the bottom of the bar graphs are examples of some interventions such as the mother and child protection card, IFA tablets, immunization, and complementary feeding.

Banner icon credit
India Health Report: Nutrition 2015, Public Health Foundation of India

Funding
Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation through POSHAN, managed by IFPRI
## Day 1
### Wednesday, November 9, 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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| 9:00–10:20  | **Introductory session:** The relevance of implementation research in the context of nutrition in India  
**Co-chairs:** Dr. CS Pandav (AIIMS) and Dr. Pramod K. Joshi (IFPRI)  
Opening  
Dr. PK Joshi, IFPRI  
Welcome and conference overview  
Dr. Purnima Menon, IFPRI  
Evidence base for nutrition action in India: Where are the gaps?  
Dr. Rasmi Avula, IFPRI  
Priorities for implementation research on nutrition in India: Findings from a research priority-setting process  
Dr. NK Arora, INCLEN  
Evidence needs in the context of India’s vision for nutrition  
Dr. Alok Kumar, NITI Aayog  
Closing  
Dr. CS Pandav  
**Q&A** |
| 10:20–10:45 | **Tea**                                                                                                                                            |
| 10:45–12:00 | **Session I:** Assessing coverage and performance of nutrition interventions: Research experiences from across India  
**Co-chairs:** Dr. Deepika Chaudhery (World Bank) and Dr. Rasmi Avula (IFPRI)  
Insights from the India Health Report on coverage of nutrition interventions: What’s available, what’s missing?  
Dr. Neha Raykar, Public Health Foundation of India  
Coverage of nutrition interventions: Results from a multi-state study  
Dr. Avula Laxmaiah, National Institute of Nutrition  
A tool to assess gaps in district-level coverage of nutrition interventions in multiple domains  
Dr. Sumathi Swaminathan and Dr. Jithin Sam Varghese, St. John’s Research Institute  
Integrated Child Health and Immunization Survey (INCHIS): Objectives, methodology and challenges  
Dr. Santanu Pramanik, Public Health Foundation of India  
**Q&A** |
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<td>12:00–13:00</td>
<td><strong>Session II: Implementation research on delivery of interventions during pregnancy through lactation</strong></td>
<td><strong>Co-chairs: Dr. Prema Ramachandran (NFI) and Dr. Kapil Yadav (AIIMS)</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Adolescent Girls’ Anaemia Control Programme: A decade of programming experience to break the inter-generational cycle of malnutrition in India</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Preetu Mishra, UNICEF&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Insights from formative research from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh on maternal diet diversity during pregnancy</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Sebanti Ghosh, Alive &amp; Thrive&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Improving women’s diet quality preconceptionally and during gestation: Effects on birth weight and prevalence of low birth weight—A randomized controlled efficacy trial in India (Mumbai Maternal Nutrition Project)</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Sirazul Ameen Sahariah, Centre for the Study of Social Change&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Weekly home visit and supervision of iron folic acid tablets intake in pregnant women in rural population in Haryana</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Farhad Ahamed, AIIMS</td>
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<td>13:00–14:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>14:00–15:30</td>
<td><strong>Session IV: Implementation research on delivery of preventive and curative interventions during early childhood</strong></td>
<td><strong>Co-chairs: Dr. Manjula Singh (CIFF) and Dr. Naveen Jain (MD, NHM)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Insights from formative research on closing gaps in delivery of complementary feeding interventions from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dr. Archna Ghosh, Alive &amp; Thrive</td>
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<td>16:00–18:30</td>
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**Notes:**
- **Q&A** sessions are indicated.
- Lunch and Tea times are specified.
- Session topics and presenters are detailed.
Improvements in growth monitoring in the context of the Bihar Child Support Program, a conditional cash transfer program
Dr. Shruti Viswanathan, Oxford Policy Management

Impact of point of care multiple micronutrient fortification on anemia, iron status and cognitive development of pre-schoolers
Dr. Madhavan Nair, National Institute of Nutrition

SPRING-Kilkaari community early development intervention for India: Baseline findings and intervention implementation insights
Dr. Gauri Divan, Sangath

A crèche-based model to deliver comprehensive care for nutrition in tribal areas: experiences and evaluation results
Dr. Ganapathy Murugan, Public Health Resource Network

Community-based management of severe acute malnutrition in India: New evidence from Bihar
Dr. Alan Pereira, Medicins Sans Frontiers

Addressing severe-acute malnutrition in Rajasthan using community-based strategies
Dr. Deepti Gulati, GAIN

Growth prospects of children after discharge from malnutrition treatment centers: A study from Jharkhand
Dr. Jyoti Sharma, Indian Institute of Public Health, Delhi

Q&A
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<th>Session V: Big numbers about small children: Research on nutrition financing</th>
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<td>9:00–10:30</td>
<td><strong>Co-chairs:</strong> Dr. Alok Ranjan (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) and Dr. Ramanan Laxminarayan (PHFI)</td>
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<td><em>Estimating the economic benefits of addressing undernutrition</em> Dr. Harold Alderman, IFPRI</td>
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<td><em>Cost implications of scaling up essential nutrition interventions in India and all states</em> Dr. Suman Chakrabarti, IFPRI</td>
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<td><em>Budget and expenditure analyses for centrally sponsored schemes addressing nutrition in India</em> Dr. Avani Kapur, Accountability Initiative</td>
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<td><em>Nutrition financing at the state-level: The case of Rajasthan</em> Dr. Yashodhara Rana, Results for Development [video]</td>
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<th>Session VI: Food supplementation programs for nutrition in the Indian context: Current status and future directions</th>
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<td>10:30–11:00</td>
<td><strong>Co-chairs:</strong> Dr. Monica Jain (3iE) and Dr. Biraj Patnaik (Office of the Commissioners of the Supreme Court)</td>
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<td><em>Production of fortified food for a public supplementary nutrition program: Performance and viability of a decentralized production model for the Integrated Child Development Services Program</em> Dr. Salil Kumar, The Nutrition Initiative of the Tata Trusts</td>
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<td>11:00–12:30</td>
<td><em>Nutrition services in Bihar – A performance assessment of service delivery</em> Dr. Ronald Abraham, IDInsight</td>
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<td><em>Changes in the supply of supplementary nutrition during early childhood between 2004 and 2014: Findings of the FOCUS study</em> Dr. Biraj Patnaik, Office of the Commissioners of the Supreme Court</td>
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<td><em>Improving mid-day meal delivery and encouraging micronutrient fortification to reduce anemia and malnutrition among children (Odisha)</em> Dr. Urmi Bhattacharya, JPAL</td>
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| 13:30–15:00  | Session VII: Taking it to the frontline: Improving frontline worker motivation, performance and convergence in health and nutrition | Co-chairs: Dr. Rajani Ved (National Health Systems Resource Center) and Dr. Gayatri Singh (UNICEF) | Frontline worker and household determinants of exposure to essential nutrition interventions: An observational study in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha  
Dr. Sunny Kim, IFPRI  
Evaluation of the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Continuum of Care Services (CCS) Intervention in Bihar  
Dr. Anu Rangarajan, Mathematica Policy Research [video]  
Effectiveness of an innovative mHealth intervention to improve coverage of proven maternal and new born health (MNH) interventions in rural India: A quasi-experimental study  
Dr. Dhiren Modi, SEWA-Rural  
Evaluation of the Team-Based Goals and Performance-Based Incentives (TBGI) Innovation in Bihar  
Dr. Sunil Babu, CARE  
Impact of caregiver incentives on child health: Evidence from an experiment with Anganwadi workers in India  
Dr. Prakarsh Singh, Amherst College [video]  
Q&A                                                                 |
| 15:00–15:30 | Tea                                                                                              |                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 15:30–16:30  | Session VIII: A new platform for delivering nutrition impacts: Emerging research on self-help groups and rural livelihood programs | Co-chairs: Dr. Yamini Atmavilas (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) and Dr. Isha Bhagwat (National Rural Livelihoods Mission) | Design and baseline findings from a community-based health initiative using participatory learning and action cycles approach to improve nutrition  
Dr. Malavika Subramanyam, IIT Gandhinagar  
Baseline findings from two impact evaluations using self-help group platforms to deliver nutrition impact (Bihar and multiple states)  
Dr. Kalyani Raghunathan, IFPRI  
Layering health and nutrition interventions into self-help group platforms in UP and Bihar: Insights from large-scale evaluation surveys  
Dr. Niranjan Saggurti, Population Council  
Q&A                                                                 |
| 16:30–17:00  | Closing session: Generating and using evidence in policy and implementation – where next?       |                                                                          | Conference highlights: Dr. Suneetha Kadiyala, LSTHM  
Remarks on evidence generation and evidence use by discussants                                                                                                                                      |
| 17:00–17:15  | Thanks and close                                                                                |                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |