

**Asia-Pacific Workshop on Raising the Profile of Nutrition**  
World Health Organization  
2005, 33pp  
[www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

This meeting report summarizes a 5 day workshop on advocacy and communication for improved nutrition in the Asia-Pacific region. The workshop was organized by the WHO Regional Office for Western Pacific, in collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for South-East Asia, UNICEF Regional Office for East Asia and the Pacific, the University Putra Malaysia, the Ministry of Health of Malaysia, the International Nutrition Foundation, and the UN University. Participants from Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Mongolia and Vietnam gathered in Malaysia to learn about the use of Profiles, a process for nutrition policy analysis and advocacy. The workshop had 3 objectives: to identify the needs and challenges in improving nutrition; to discuss ways to strengthen advocacy and institutional capacity in nutrition, particularly by introducing the Profiles tool; and to outline next steps in increasing commitment to nutrition interventions in countries. The report introduces the background, objectives, organization, and participants and resource persons involved in the workshop. It summarizes the proceedings of the workshop and the participant evaluations. Then the report draws conclusions about obesity and overweight, national level follow-up, regional support for iron interventions, and greater technical coverage of Profiles modules.



**Corporate Africa's Nepad Business and Investment Guide 2006**  
Times Media Group Ltd.  
Issue 2006 Vol 2, 277pp  
[www.corporate-africa.com](http://www.corporate-africa.com)

This publication highlights the recent work and progress of the New Economic Partnership for African Development (NEPAD). NEPAD is a sustainable development initiative striving to achieve economic and social revitalization in Africa through constructive partnerships between Africa and the developed world. NEPAD is a pledge by African leaders that affirmatively demonstrates their shared commitment to eradicating poverty and facilitating sustainable development in their countries. NEPAD focuses on the adoption and implementation of approved policies, strategies and programmes and on strengthening political leadership to guarantee such implementation. The NEPAD Business and Investment Guide, published bi-annually, highlights relevant issues relating to regional political, social and business agendas, cross-border cooperation, anti-corruption measures, provisions for infrastructure, good health-care and education; clean water; and hope that persists despite the conflicts, diseases and poverty that continue to challenge Africa today. It considers these and other issues in a series of articles organized according to the following thematic areas: leaders, health, partners in development, economics, sports and leisure, industry, people and places, new economic vision, development organs and markets.



**Fighting an Old Battle in a New World: How IBFAN Monitors the Baby Food Market**  
Annelies Allain  
Development Dialogue  
2005, 123pp  
[ibfanpg@tm.net.mt](mailto:ibfanpg@tm.net.mt)

In her latest contribution to Development Dialogue, Annelies Allain continues to monitor and report on the progress of the International Baby Food Action Network (IBFAN). IBFAN is an NGO founded just over 25 years ago to monitor the ability and willingness of governments and companies to implement the International Code of Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes ("The Code"). Every two or three years since the Code's adoption in 1981, IBFAN has published summary reports on how the Code has been implemented. With the latest edition (2004) showing that there is much work still to be done, the struggle continues. In this publication, Allain reflects on 25 years of IBFAN's work—on campaigning, on the successes and defeats, on the challenges that remain, and on the lessons to be learned.

**eHealth Tools & Services: Needs of the Member States**  
World Health Organization  
2006, 36pp  
[www.who.org](http://www.who.org)

WHO established the Global Observatory for eHealth (GOe) in early 2005. The Observatory seeks to improve global health by providing Member States with valuable information and guidance on effective practices, policies and standards in eHealth. And while eHealth is one of the fastest growing areas in health today, little systematic research has been done to guide eHealth policy and practice. In response to this information gap, the WHO and the GOe undertook the first global survey on eHealth. The survey dealt with seven key themes in the eHealth domain, one of which is the subject of this report. The survey tried to identify the current and most important needs of Member States relating to eHealth. The report summarized those identified needs, analyzed the results of the survey, and recommended that WHO take action in the following areas: provision of generic tools, access to existing tools, facilitating knowledge exchange, providing eHealth information, and education.



### Frontline Issues in Nutrition Assistance: Hunger Report 2006

Bread for the World Institute  
2006, 196pp  
[www.bread.org](http://www.bread.org)

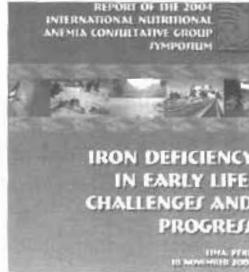
The Hunger Report highlights several major issues in nutrition assistance, such as food stamps, child nutrition programmes, understanding malnutrition, ending chronic hunger in the developing world, and acute hunger in emergencies. While some areas of the world have made real progress towards reducing and eliminating hunger, in many other areas hunger continues to rise. The report advocates for strengthening direct nutritional assistance to vulnerable groups as a way to make immediate progress towards fighting hunger, increasing knowledge and understanding about issues of hunger globally (including the United States), and utilizing that knowledge and understanding to be a voice for change and a source of action. The report concludes by empowering readers to get involved and make a difference in reducing poverty and hunger in the United States and internationally. It also briefly illustrates the US Government's responses to both

### Household Food Insecurity Access Scale for Measurement of Food Access: Indicator Guide FANTA

January 2006, 31pp  
[www.fantaproject.org](http://www.fantaproject.org)

FANTA published the Household Food Insecurity Access Scale (HFIAS) for Measurement of Food Access: Indicator Guide in February 2006. FANTA, in collaboration with Cornell and Tufts Universities, developed the HFIAS measure and guide with a standardized questionnaire and data collection and analysis instructions. There is strong demand among Title II food aid programme managers for a relatively simple, methodologically rigorous measure of household food insecurity—particularly the access component—that can be used to guide, monitor, and

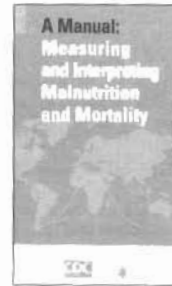
evaluate programmes. In response to this demand, FANTA has attempted to identify a scientifically validated, simple, and user-friendly approach for measuring the impacts of Title II programmes on the access component of household food insecurity.



### Iron Deficiency in Early Life: Challenges and Progress

Report of the 2004 International Nutritional Anemia Consultative Group Symposium INACG & USAID  
2005, 74pp  
<http://inacg.ilsa.org>

The International Nutritional Anemia Consultative Group works to reduce the prevalence of iron deficiency anemia and other nutritionally preventable anemias worldwide. To do this, INACG sponsors international meetings and scientific reviews and organizes task forces to analyze issues related to etiology, treatment, and prevention of nutritional anemias. This INACG symposium focused on advances in assessment, supplementation trials, child development, and programme implementation. The symposium addressed topics such as maternal nutritional status, fetal growth and iron status during infancy; the effects of iron-folate supplementation on mortality; the effects of iron supplementation on growth and development, and the implementation of various programming. The report summarizes the presentations given at the symposium and the open discussions that followed.



### Measuring and Interpreting Malnutrition and Mortality

World Food Program  
2005, 231pp  
[www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org)

This manual is intended to provide guidance on issues pertaining to nutrition and mortality surveys, to standardize survey methodology used by WFP staff and other data collectors, and to standardize survey data interpretation and reporting. It aims to ensure that nutrition data collected by implementing partners and secondary sources conforms to WFP reporting needs, is reported more methodically, and is analyzed in a statistically suitable way. The manual addresses the following topics: defining and measuring malnutrition, defining and measuring mortality, designing a survey, using and interpreting survey results for decision-making, and considering ethical issues when conducting a survey and/or assessment. The final chapter in the manual provides an example of a good survey report. The report should serve as a reference guide and as a complement to current WFP Advanced Nutrition Training. It can also help prepare readers for framing questions and discussions with nutrition professionals.



### Mother and Child Health: Common Sense, Creativity and Care

Naomi Baumslag, MD, ed  
World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action  
2006, 178pp  
[www.waba.org.my](http://www.waba.org.my)

In celebration of WABA's 15 year anniversary, this book features the life, work, and philosophy of Dr Cicely D Williams, a primary health care pioneer particularly known for her dedication to maternal and child health. Dr Williams



was an internationally renowned 20<sup>th</sup> century paediatrician and a leading advocate of the breastfeeding movement. She is remembered for her valuable contributions to current knowledge about the practice of international child health. The foreword to the book suggests three characteristics that set Dr. Williams apart: (1) simplification and attention to detail—Williams believed that often simple solutions could yield the greatest results; (2) discover the obvious, or at least make it obvious to others—Williams knew that the key to health improvements came from within the community itself, especially the mothers; and (3) have reverence for life, and irreverence for institutional wisdom and established thinking—Williams felt that health improvements were too important to be left entirely up to the health establishment, and that practical answers could be found in many different political and social sectors if one could only take the time to look and listen. Dr Williams believed that the mother was the key to improving child and family health, and that communication, education, and information would empower women to better promote and protect their family's health. The experience and wisdom in her work and her writings continue to have relevance for today's healthcare practitioners and policy-makers.



## Nestlé Foundation Report 2005

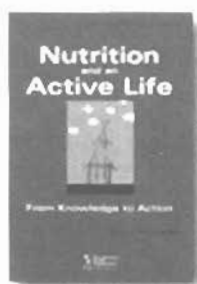
Nestlé Foundation

2006, 60pp

[www.nestlefoundation.org](http://www.nestlefoundation.org)

Report 2005 of the Nestlé Foundation for the study of problems of nutrition in the world reports on the Foundation's recent projects and activities in the fight against malnutrition. The Foundation supports and initiates research in human nutrition with public health relevance in developing countries, with a particular emphasis on macro- and micronutrient deficiencies and child nutrition. The 2005 report highlights the Foundation's enLINK Initiative, a project focusing on information transfer in the area of nutrition. The enLINK Initiative seeks to

"enlink," or connect, cultures, institutions, and local people to study and reduce the effects of malnutrition globally. To accomplish this, the Initiative advocates "enlinking" different strategies and approaches that address malnutrition at many levels, from medical and hygiene issues, to agricultural strategies, to improved education and information. The Report also covers new research projects in macronutrients, micronutrients, and child development, and features Vision 2005, which considers other timely issues related to malnutrition such as the double burden of malnutrition and obesity, malnutrition and malaria, and changing scientific literature.



## Nutrition and an Active Life:

### From Knowledge to Action

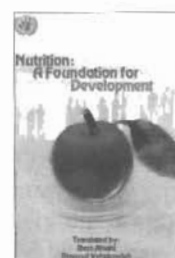
Pan American Health Organization

2005, 247pp

[www.paho.org](http://www.paho.org)

This publication, written by leading international public health professionals, highlights 13 case studies on a variety of topics including control of vitamin A deficiency, folic acid fortification of bread, control of iodine deficiency disorders, and the contribution of research to infant breast-feeding policies, as well as successful community projects to promote increased physical activity and the role of urban planning and public transportation in reducing the prevalence of sedentary lifestyles, among other important topics. Nutrition and an Active Life: From Knowledge to Action will become an important resource on best practices at the national and community levels for professionals working in health promotion, maternal and child health, nutrition, fitness, social marketing, and public health education. The editor, Dr Wilma B. Freire, PhD, collected these articles with the intention of offering information of successful experiences that can be applied elsewhere. The publication is in Eng-

lish. A version in Spanish will be released in April 2006.



## Nutrition:

### A Foundation for Development

Farsi translation of the SCN's

Development Briefs

Translated by Reza Amani

and Davoud Vahabzadeh

2006, 127pp

[www.unsystem.org/scn/](http://www.unsystem.org/scn/)

The international nutrition community has made great advances in understanding the root causes, effects and magnitude of global malnutrition and human suffering. However much work remains. Members of the international nutrition community recognize the need to better integrate their work with the work of its partners in development. Nutrition: A Foundation for Development is a compilation of briefs on of the latest research findings in nutrition as they relate to other development sectors. The briefs are designed to facilitate dialogue between nutrition and other development professionals. They are organized both as a complete set or as stand-alone briefs that make the case for integrating nutrition into the work of the development community. This informal Farsi translation by Reza Amani and Davoud Vahabzadeh has kindly been made available to the SCN for its Farsi readership. Dr Amani is Head, Department of Nutrition, Ahvaz Jundi-Shapour University of Medical Sciences, Davoud Vahabzadeh is an MSc student at the Ahvaz Jundi-Shapour University of Medical Sciences. They can be contacted through the SCN Secretariat ([scn@who.int](mailto:scn@who.int)). The Farsi translation can also be downloaded from the SCN website at [www.unsystem.org/scn/](http://www.unsystem.org/scn/)



**Progress For Children:  
A Report Card on Nutrition**  
UNICEF  
Number 4, May 2006, 33pp  
[www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

Progress For Children: A Report Card on Nutrition is the 4<sup>th</sup> report in a UNICEF series that monitors progress for children towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The Report Card measures the world's performance on nutrition, using the prevalence of underweight among children under five as its primary indicator. The international community has pledged to halve the proportion of underweight children by 2015, but is still not on track to reach that target. The Report Card first presents an overview of nutrition as the foundation of survival and development: it introduces and defines the key issues and provides information on child nutrition, including information on other nutrition indicators and nutrition in emergencies. The Report Card then presents and analyzes regional and country data for South Asia, Eastern/Southern Africa, West/Central Africa, Middle East/North Africa, East Asia/Pacific, Latin America/Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and Industrialized Countries. The Report Card concludes with brief recommendations and a global call to action, urging efforts at the micro, meso, macro and global levels, as well as partnerships across all sectors of society.



**Protecting and Promoting Good  
Nutrition in Crisis and Recovery:  
Resource guide**  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
2005, 162pp  
[www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org)

The Food and Nutrition Division of FAO has prepared this book to complement the *Technical Handbook Series on FAO's Emergency Activities*. This book offers guidance to programme planners and technicians in the fields of nutrition, food security, agriculture and community and social development for adopting and implementing both short- and long-term strategies to combat household food insecurity and malnutrition during periods of crisis and recovery. During such periods, lack of access to adequate food can lead to widespread malnutrition. While temporary food distribution and supplementary feeding in the acute stages of crisis are common and necessary humanitarian interventions, this book also emphasizes the crucial role of longer-term assistance strategies which help communities transition from aid dependency to self-sustaining nutritional well-being. The book represents a compilation of publications, reports and documents related to experiences of crisis around the world. The book serves as a valuable resource guide for use in different working environments, countries and regions.



**Strengthening Country Commitment  
to Human Development:  
Lessons from Nutrition**  
The World Bank  
2005, 91pp  
[www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

The success of all human development programmes, including nutrition programmes, fundamentally depends upon the level of commitment of politicians, bureaucrats, and communities to implement such programmes in the short- and long-term. More precisely, the success of human development programmes depends on two key variables: adequate financial backing from countries and sustained commitment to programme implementation. This book proposes that the identifiable need to evaluate and strengthen country commitment should prompt the creation of a new field of systematic professional practice. It argues that the new field should require expertise in political and policy analysis, organizational behavior, and strategic communication. The book considers the following thematic concepts: commitment as a special problem in nutrition, defining commitment, assessing commitment to policies and programmes, commitment and strategic choices, strengthening commitment to investment, sustaining commitment through implementation, capacity building and commitment building, and finally, conclusions and recommendations. The book utilizes stories of successful and failed country programmes in nutrition to illustrate its concepts and to offer practical advice on evaluating and strengthening commitment across sectors, over the long-term.



**The State of the World's Refugees: Human Displacement in the New Millennium**  
Oxford/UNHCR  
[www.oup.com](http://www.oup.com)  
[www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)  
2006, 237pp

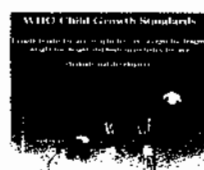
This publication focuses on issues of internal and cross-border displacement around the world occurring since 2000, the year the last edition of this series was published. While the total number of refugees in the world has declined in recent years, in many places protracted refugee crises persist, with no end in sight. In still other places, the number of internally displaced persons continues to rise. Policy-makers also struggle to respond to the complex issues of asylum and migration. This publication analyzes recent developments in displacement, refugee and asylum policy and practice, discusses practical and durable solutions to protracted refugee crises and examines responses to internal displacement. It also integrates country examples, maps, graphs and tables into the text.



### Vitamin A and the Common Agenda for Micronutrients

Report of the XXII International Vitamin A Consultative Group Meeting  
IVACG & USAID  
2005, 102pp  
<http://www.vitalliance.org>

The International Vitamin A Consultative Group (IVACG) works to reduce vitamin A deficiency in the world. IVACG attempts to stimulate and disseminate new knowledge in a way that enables others to understand it and apply it practically. It also provides policy statements and recommendations for use by others in programme development. This meeting aimed to advance the prevention of vitamin A and other micronutrient deficiencies, to improve understanding of the diversity of nutrient-nutrient and nutrient-disease interactions, and to consider how increased knowledge of these effects can be used to enhance the effectiveness and safety of micronutrient interventions. This report summarizes the first three days of proceedings and the official "IVACG Meeting." Some of the topics covered at the meeting are as follows: food-based approaches for controlling vitamin A deficiency; assessment; infection; maternal and newborn outcomes; multiple micronutrients; determinants of vitamin A deficiency; recent surveys; and topics relating to supplementation.



### WHO Child Growth Standards Methods and Development

World Health Organization  
2006, 312pp

A 1993 WHO review of the uses and interpretation of anthropometric references concluded that the NCHS/WHO growth reference, which had been recommended for international use since the late 1970s, did not sufficiently repre-

sent early childhood growth and that new growth references were needed. In response to this recommendation, the WHO Multicentre Growth Reference Study (MGRS) was undertaken and implemented between 1997 and 2003 to generate new growth and development curves for children around the world. The MGRS collected primary growth data and other information from several thousand healthy breastfed infants and young children from such diverse places as Brazil, Ghana, India, Norway, Oman and USA. This report presents the growth standards developed from the MGRS data. The report is designed to serve as a tool which captures the best description of physiological growth for children under five years of age. The MGRS was uniquely designed to produce a standard based on healthy children living under favourable conditions likely to foster their full genetic growth potential, such as breastfeeding. This report presents the first set of WHO Child Growth Standards and explains the methodology used to generate these standards. These standards include length-for-age standards, weight-for-age standards, weight-for-length and weight-for-height standards, and body mass index-for-age standards.



### WHO Child Growth Standards Acta Paediatrica, International Journal of Paediatrics

Mercedes de Onis, Cutberto Garza, Adelheid W. Onyango & Reynaldo Martorell, eds.  
Taylor & Francis Group  
Vol 95, April 2006, Supplement 450,  
104pp  
[www.tandf.no/paed](http://www.tandf.no/paed)

This supplement combines several papers which analyze the new WHO Child Growth Standards and related data (see above). The publication is divided into five sections: the first provides an overview of the MGRS sample statistics and baseline characteristics; the second describes the methods used to standardize the assessment of anthropometric measure-

ments; the third gives pertinent facts; the third examines differences in linear growth and motor milestone achievement and considers the appropriateness of pooling data to create one international standard; the fourth reviews the methods used to construct the growth standards based on length, height, weight and age; and finally, the fifth examines the relationship between physical growth indicators and ages of achievement of major motor milestones used to develop the standards.



### The World Health Report 2006: Working Together for Health

World Health Organization  
2006, 302pp  
<http://www.who.int>

The World Health Report 2006: Working Together for Health focuses on assessing the current crisis facing the global health workforce and suggests ambitious strategies to start addressing this crisis over the next ten years. The report estimates that almost 60 countries globally faced shortages of nearly 4.3 million doctors, midwives, nurses, and support workers. The problem is most pronounced in some of the world's poorest countries, where medical staff is often urgently needed. Presently, the vast majority of the world's 59 million global health workers are concentrated in the Americas, where more than half the world's financial resources for health are also concentrated. Yet only four in every one hundred health workers are located in sub-Saharan Africa, which has a high proportion of the world's global burden of disease and less than one percent of the world's financial resources to fight these diseases. This report presents ways to better balance the world's health workforce, arguing that all countries can enhance workforce productivity through short- and long-term strategies. It proposes a 10 year action plan to help countries build their health workforces and strengthen their health systems through global partnerships—working together for health.