## **MULTI-SECTORAL NUTRITION** Global Learning and Evidence Exchange Washington, DC

## Climate Smart Agriculture and Nutrition Mark Visocky, USAID BFS/CSI Climate Smart Agriculture Team











## END HUNGER, ACHIEVE FOOD SECURITY AND IMPROVED NUTRITION AND PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

#### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

More at sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgsproposal

# Nepal Glaciers: 1899, 1921, 2009



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# **Fundamental Concepts & Definitions**

Weather: state of the atmosphere around us at a given time:

Temperature | precipitation | humidity | wind |

Climate: average over a certain timespan and space e.g. Time – pre-industrial, 1980s-present Space – global climate, Sahelian climate, local climate

## Climate is what you expect, Weather is what you get!

## **Climate Change:**

•Shift in statistical properties of the climate system considered over long periods of time

•Changes in the mean state and/or variability of the climate

## Integration of Climate Change, NRM & Agriculture

Components

Challenges



# Intersection of Climate Change and Agriculture

- Climate change poses major risks
  - Erratic temperatures, precipitation changes, rising sea levels and the increase in frequency and severity of extreme weather events.
- Small-holder farmers, pastoralists and fishers especially vulnerable as their production systems often lack the resources to manage an effective response to climate threats.





Image from http://bit.ly/1BhCdBb

#### FIGURE 6.1 Conceptual links between climate change and nutrition



http://globalnutritionreport.org/files/2015/11/SNAG\_Program-0027.png

Climate and Weather (rainfall, temperature) affect Nutrition by:

# Agricultural Production Health, Disease



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Climate Change will exacerbate undernutrition through three main causal pathways:

- impacts on household access to sufficient, safe and adequate food;
- impacts on care and feeding practices; and
- impacts on environmental health and access to health services



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



# Temperature, Precipitation and Birth Weight in Africa

- Temperature and precipitation may impact birth weight outcomes.
- Maternal nutrition experiences may link birth weight and climate variability.
- Birth weight outcomes are impacted by changes in the number of hot days and precipitation amounts.
- The linkages between birth weight and climate exist apart from socio-economic variability.

Grace et al. Global Environmental Change Volume 35, November 2015, Pages 125–137

# **High CO2 cuts crop nutrients**



Rising levels of CO2 are affecting human nutrition by reducing levels of very important nutrients in key food crops Crops grown in the high-CO2 atmosphere of the future could be significantly less nutritious,

#### SOURCE: NATURE

## Extended Data Table 4 | Percentage change in nutrient content at elevated [CO<sub>2</sub>] compared with ambient [CO<sub>2</sub>] for all nutrients

	C3 grasses						C3 legumes						C4 grasses					
	Wheat			Rice			Field Peas			Soybean			Maize			Sorghum		
	%	95% CI	P-value	%	95% CI	P-value	%	95% CI	P-value	%	95% CI	P-value	%	95% CI	P-value	%	95% CI	P-value
Zinc (ppm)	-9.3	(-12.7,-5.9)	<.0001	-3.3	(-5.0,-1.7)	<.0001	-6.8	(-9.8,-3.8)	<.0001	-5.1	(-6.4,-3.9)	<.0001	-5.2	(-10.7,0.6)	0.077	-1.3	(-6.2,3.8)	0.603
Iron (ppm)	-5.1	(-6.5,-3.7)	<.0001	-5.2	(-7.6,-2.9)	<.0001	-4.1	(-6.7,-1.4)	<.0001	-4.1	(-5.8,-2.5)	<.0001	-5.8	(-10.9,-0.3)	0.038	1.6	(-5.8,9.7)	0.674
Phytate (mg/g)	-4.2	(-7.5,-0.8)	0.009	1.2	(-4.6,7.4)	0.7	-5.8	(-11.5,0.1)	0.055	-1.3	(-3.7,1.2)	0.303	-6.1	(-15.0,3.7)	0.215	12.8	(-15.8,51.1)	0.418
Protein	-6.3	(-7.5,-5.2)	<.0001	-7.8	(-8.9,-6.8)	<.0001	-2.1	(-4.0,-0.1)	0.039	0.5	(-0.4,1.3)	0.267	-4.6	(-13.0,4.5)	0.312	0.0	(-4.9,5.2)	0.993
Mn (ppm)				-7.5	(-12.0,-2.8)	<.0001	-2.5	(-4.2,-0.8)	0.005	-1.4	(-3.5,0.8)	0.204	-4.2	(-10.5,2.5)	0.215	1.7	(-4.5,8.3)	0.596
Mg (%)				-0.9	(-2.3,0.6)	0.24	0.0	(-1.3,1.4)	0.960	-3.5	(-4.3,-2.8)	<.0001	-5.7	(-9.9,-1.3)	0.011	-0.2	(-5.1,4.9)	0.944
Cu (ppm)				-10.6	(-13.8,-7.1)	<.0001	-2.7	(-5.1,-0.3)	0.025	-5.7	(-8.0,-3.4)	<.0001	-9.9	(-19.3,0.7)	0.066	-2.9	(-7.1,1.5)	0.190
Ca (%)				2	(-0.8,4.9)	0.16	-0.5	(-4.2,3.3)	0.787	-5.8	(-7.3,-4.2)	<.0001	-2.7	(-16.9,13.9)	0.734	11.2	(-5.2,30.3)	0.190
S (ppm)				-7.8	(-8.8,-6.8)	<.0001	-2.2	(-3.6,-0.7)	0.003	-2.9	(-3.5,-2.2)	<.0001	2.1	(-2.2,6.7)	0.342	-0.2	(-5.4,5.2)	0.936
K (%)				1.1	(-0.3,2.5)	0.13	2.2	(0.6,3.8)	0.008	0.1	(-0.8,1.0)	0.857	-2.7	(-3.1,-2.2)	<.0001	3.0	(-2.7,9.1)	0.308
B (ppm)				5.1	(1.9,8.4)	0.002	-1.9	(-3.9,0.1)	0.057	-6.4	(-9.1,-3.6)	<.0001	4.9	(-1.0,11.1)	0.107	-0.3	(-9.3,9.6)	0.952
P (%)				-1.0	(-2.4,0.4)	0.160	-3.7	(-6.8,-0.5)	0.023	-0.7	(-2.2,0.9)	0.379	-7.1	(-9.0,-5.1)	<.0001	0.3	(-4.0,4.9)	0.881

Sample sizes for each crop type are identical to those listed in Table 1.

2015 Global Nutrition Report calls for greater collaboration between nutrition and climate change communities.

- Changes in climate patterns expected to negatively impact nutrition by
  - reducing production,
  - influencing disease prevalence,
  - increasing post-harvest losses.



- Diet choice and associated production systems imply varying resource footprints, affecting climate outcomes.
- Continue to promote Dietary Diversity!

# Climate change can undermine development

#### Agriculture

Temperature increases and changes in precipitation can affect crop yields, with subsequent impacts on food security and livelihoods.

#### Health

Changes in temperature and precipitation can shift the range and incidence of vector-borne diseases

#### Infrastructure and ecosystems

Sea level rise and storm surge can harm vital coastal ecosystems, infrastructure, and settlements

#### • Democracy and Governance

The impacts of climate change can compound pre-existing and overlapping social, political, and economic stresses

# ALSO...CLIMATE CHANGE CAN PROVIDE NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT

#### Agriculture

Changes in temperature and precipitation may provide opportunities to cultivate different crops that are more suitable for changing climate conditions

#### Health

Increased concern about climate-related diseases may provide new entrypoints for expanded public health education and awareness-raising

#### Infrastructure and ecosystems

The need to relocate infrastructure from high risk areas may provide opportunities for ecosystem restoration

#### Democracy and Governance

Increased water scarcity may be an impetus for new coalitions to address common concerns

# A working definition of CSA

- Sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and incomes;
- Adapting and building resilience to climate change; and
- Reducing and/or removing greenhouse gas emissions, where <u>appropriate</u> (the FAO definition uses possible).

Image courtesy of FAO

# **Development Policy Context for CSA**



- September 23, 2014 President Obama issued Executive Order #13677 on Climate-Resilient International Development at the UN Secretary-General's "Climate Summit"
- USG joined many other nations and organizations in launching the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture

# **USAID Implementation Plan**

- October 1, 2015: Climate risk screening required for new R/CDCS
- FY 2016:
  - Missions incorporate climate risk management in R/CDCS
  - Climate change facilitators provide support as requested
  - Climate risk management for sample (~20) projects and activities
  - PAD/Activity-level guidance developed

October 1, 2016: Climate risk screening and management required for new projects and activities



# **CLIMATE CHANGE** IS A **THREAT** TO GLOBAL NUTRITON

## **Diminishes** key crops' nutrients

THE CHICAGO COUNCIL

ON GLOBAL AFFAIRS



Slows growth of food production



### Spreads pests, diseases, & pathogens

#GlobalAg thechicagocouncil.org/globalag

Sources: Bebber et al. 2013; Myers et al. 2014; Nelson 2014.

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## East Africa is also a major hotspot for climate change

#### Maximum temperatures



#### Rainfall uncertainties



#### Climate change - season length impact



#### yield losses under climate change

