



**THE POWER  
OF INNOVATION**  
2017 ANNUAL  
REPORT





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**Nutrition is both a maker and a marker of development. Improved nutrition is the platform for progress in health, education, employment, empowerment of women and the reduction of poverty and inequality, and can lay the foundation for peaceful, secure and stable societies.**

*Former UN Secretary-General  
Ban Ki-moon*

# EDITORIAL

## DEAR READER,

Today, we have an ever-increasing understanding of nutrition. Nutrition has the power to develop healthy, prosperous, and thriving populations and create a more promising future for the world we live in. It is a critical element needed to nourish the more than 2 billion people affected by hidden hunger or micronutrient deficiencies and the 800 million people across the globe suffering from overt hunger. And the situation is compounding, the lack of adequate nutrition has recently defined new issues and many countries are now facing the triple burden of undernutrition, overweight and obesity, and micronutrient deficiencies simultaneously. We are now in the position to push nutrition forward on the agenda, more than ever. Although goals and targets are clearly elucidated, the world is not on track to achieve the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 2.2 of ending malnutrition in all its forms.

“Nutrition is both a maker and a marker of development. Improved nutrition is the platform for progress in health, education, employment, empowerment of women and the reduction of poverty and inequality, and can lay the foundation for peaceful, secure and stable societies,” stated Former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Using this as our ambition, we focus our approach on cultivating innovative solutions to eliminate all forms of malnutrition through three strategic areas: advancing research, sharing best practices, and mobilizing support. The ultimate goal for *Sight and Life* is an improved world where everyone enjoys the right to good nutrition, regardless of location, gender, race or income.

### Building Relationships

This year marks new beginnings and exciting milestones for our projects and partnerships. In Ghana, the Obaasima seal was launched to the public and met with great excitement. This is a front-of-package seal that guarantees nutrition quality, while easily identifying fortified food products that provide a good source of vitamins and minerals designed for women and adolescents of childbearing age. Our partnership with DSM and UNICEF continues to deliver better nutrition to children in Nigeria. Together, the partners are developing scalable models to provide access to micronutrient powders (MNP) for point-of-use fortification of complementary food in Nigeria, with the goal of spurring similar action in other countries where malnutrition is of critical concern.

### Recognizing Leaders

It was an exciting moment to recognize two winners with the 2017 Sight and Life Nutrition Leadership Award during the Scaling Up Nutrition Movement Global Gathering in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Dr Shilpa Bhatte of Vitamin Angels and Dr Ellen Piwoz of The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation were acknowledged as great leaders in the nutrition field who have a vision of an improved world and are inspiring others to do the same.

### Sharing Knowledge

We traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina, for IUNS 21st International Congress of Nutrition where we launched the book *The Biology of the First 1,000 Days*. The first 1,000 days - from conception to two years of age - is a critical period of growth and development. The book addresses this crucial

interval of early life, linking concepts related to all biological fields to outcomes during the first 1,000 days (e.g. fetal growth and pregnancy outcomes) and beyond (e.g. gut microbiome and cardiovascular disease later in life). Exposures to dietary, environmental, hormonal, and other stressors during this window have been associated with an increased risk of poor health outcomes, some of which are irreversible. The strength of this book lies in its cross-disciplinary nature.

Keeping pace with the digital world, we launched a new website full of inspiring blog posts and easily accessible resources including each issue of the *Sight and Life* magazine. In fact, two editions were released in 2017. The first focused on food culture by exploring the social and cultural domains of food choices and food experiences more broadly. For some of our readers trained in biology or chemistry, culture may seem a fuzzy, perhaps non-scientific, topic. Be assured, however, that culture is as much part of nutrition as are biology, biochemistry and genes, and there is a rich body of research on nutrition and culture. The second part of the year introduced an issue diving into technology and entrepreneurship by navigating various approaches in which technology and entrepreneurship can improve the nutrition landscape around the world. In tandem with the World Food Programme, we wrote an informative supplement on rice fortification in Latin America and the Caribbean which is available in both Spanish and English.

### The Way Forward

At *Sight and Life*, we believe by pooling innovative thinking and resources geared to finding solutions that we can ensure the universal right to nutritious food.

“We need to put a much bigger emphasis on the quality of our diets, rather than just focusing on quantity. Research has shown that the economic returns from investing in nutrition are huge as better nourished populations are more productive,” Former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

We have yet to discover the key to unlock the problems surrounding nutrition, but the search is worth continuing as the prize is enormous for the entire global community. By conquering all forms of malnutrition, through innovative scientifically-proven concepts, we can improve economies and change the lives of the global population.

“If we can conquer space, we can conquer childhood hunger,” expressed Buzz Aldrin.

We agree and believe it is only possible by working together to achieve our dream of a world free from all forms of malnutrition, so that children can grow to their full potential, can live a prosperous life, and providing the dignity that all human beings deserve.

Yours sincerely,



Klaus Kraemer, Managing Director  
*Sight and Life* foundation



**If we can conquer space,  
we can conquer childhood hunger.**

*Buzz Aldrin*

# TEAM MEMBERS



## KLAUS KRAEMER

Managing Director

"Nutrition is life-changing – what you feed a child in the first 1,000 days of its life has an unbelievable impact on its development and future potential. But we can still do so much better and so much more, respecting culture and addressing the challenges of implementation, in order to connect culture with biology in the best possible way. A new type of systems thinking is urgently required."

## KALPANA BEESABATHUNI

Technology and Entrepreneurship

"Sight and Life offers the ideal platform of knowledge and tools with a large credible network to harness the power of cross-sectoral implementation in nutrition. We accelerate exchange of ideas and collaborations to advance social innovations that fight 'hidden hunger'."



## EVA MONTERROSA

Scientific Manager

"It's a very exciting time to be involved in nutrition, because the discourse in our field is about innovation. Now truly is the time to re-invent our approach and solve the issue of hidden hunger and malnutrition. *Sight and Life* is a catalyst. We help drive the agenda for how we do nutrition programs and advocating for the right mix of science and policy that will allow children to get the very best start in life."



## KESSO GABRIELLE VAN ZUTPHEN

Knowledge and Research Specialist

"Nutrition is much more than access to a healthy food platter. The lack of nutrition connects with inequity, injustice, and stunting remains one of the leading indicators on measuring poverty. A malnourished child starts with a disadvantage in life that must change; a change I wish to contribute to in my professional career."

## BREDA GAVIN-SMITH

Nutritional Program Manager

"Poor nutrition has devastating impacts on a child's ability to grow, learn, and thrive while also having a lasting impact on a country's growth and development. We know the first 1,000 days are critical to reversing this trend. We now need to focus our approaches more on the 'how' than 'what'."





**JENNIFER BLADT**  
Interim Global Coordinator

“Nutrition is life-changing – what you feed a child in the first 1,000 days of its life has an unbelievable impact on its development and future potential. But we can still do so much better and so much more, respecting culture and addressing the challenges of implementation, in order to connect culture with biology in the best possible way. A new type of systems thinking is urgently required.”

**LAURA PRESTEL**  
Global Coordinator

“In today’s interconnected world, we all have the power to make a difference, to make the world a better place. I’m personally committed to fighting malnutrition among the most vulnerable populations. I look forward to contributing to the good fight as the Global Coordinator for *Sight and Life*.”



**MADHAVIKA BAJORIA**  
Manager, Nutrition Integration

“Working at *Sight and Life* means being part of an organization that puts innovation at the center of all its work. I love being part of a global team that’s constantly pushing the envelope on and shaping thinking around the most important issues in the nutrition.”



**SRUJITH LINGALA**  
Manager Technology and Entrepreneurship

“Ever since I joined *Sight and Life*, I am constantly struck by the passion of the mission and my colleagues’ drive. Working in such a positive environment and knowing that my work will contribute to making a significant improvement to the world makes every day an absolute joy! *Sight and Life* is a force that I am proud to be a part of.”



**NOLA MARTIN**  
Communications

“It is inspiring to work alongside dynamic individuals who are creating opportunities that make a difference in nutrition and are effectively moving the needle to bring about positive change in the lives of the most vulnerable.”



**PEIMAN MILANI**  
Global Lead, Public-Private Partnerships

“A healthy body is the foundation for all human achievement. Shakespeare’s Hamlet, Einstein’s general relativity, Mandela’s liberation of South Africa, as well as the daily contribution of billions through their work – all rest on that foundation. And it all starts with consumption of nutritious foods in the first 1,000 days. Affording this opportunity to every child and mother, no matter where they are born, is what fuels my passion for nutrition.”



# BOARD MEMBERS



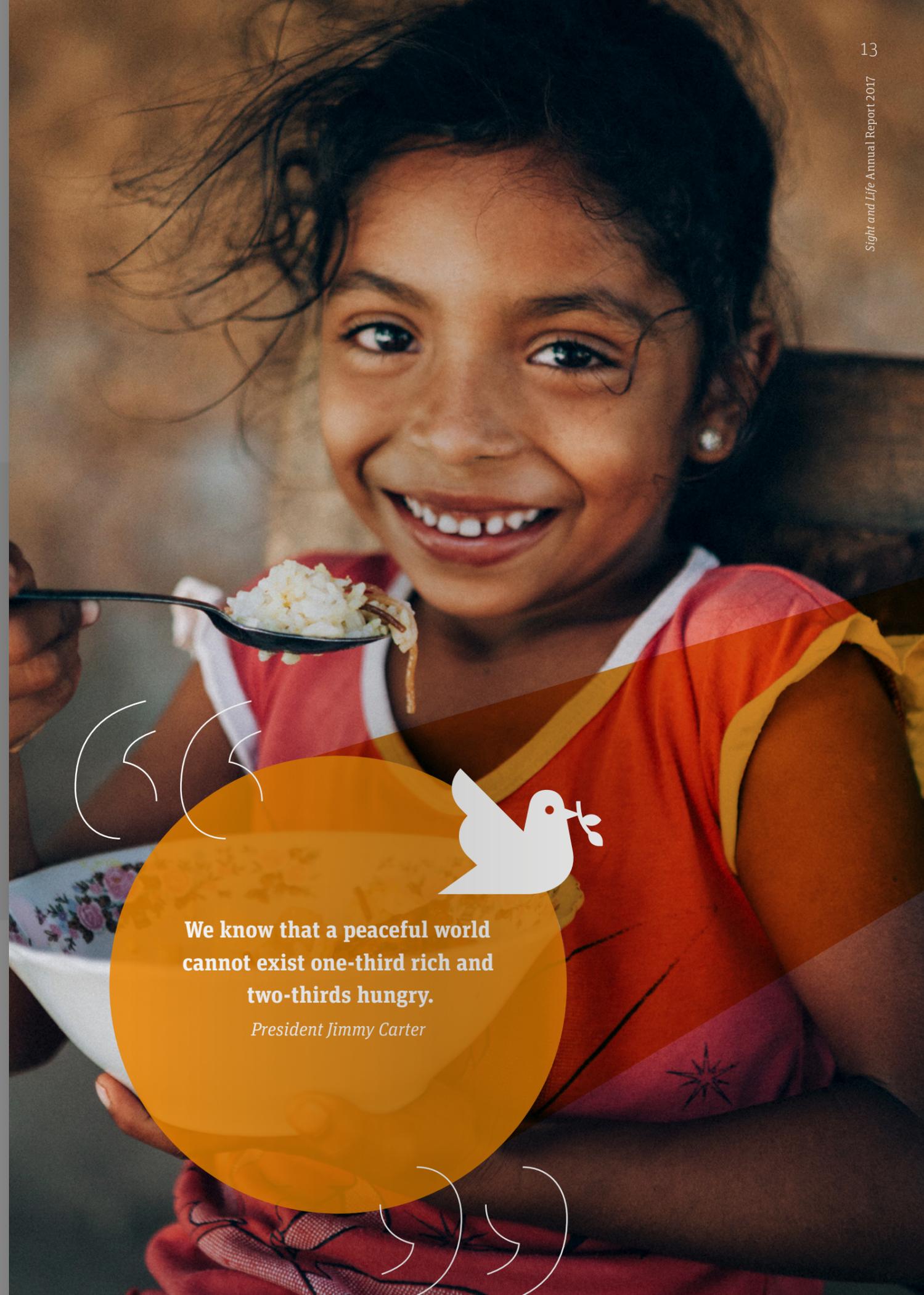
**BENEDIKT SUTER**  
General Counsel at DSM  
*Board Member since 2015*



**EMORN UDOMKESMALLE**  
Senior Advisor, Associate Professor at the Institute  
of Nutrition, Mahidol University.  
*Board Member since 2015*



**FOKKO WIENTJES**  
Vice President of Nutrition  
and Emerging Markets at DSM, Member of WEF New Vision  
on Agriculture and of the Global Agenda Council  
Food & Nutrition Security  
*Board Member since 2016*



**We know that a peaceful world  
cannot exist one-third rich and  
two-thirds hungry.**  
*President Jimmy Carter*





# 2.6

## THE CHALLENGE

The human body requires good nutrition to survive, function, and thrive. Every year, 2.6 million children die as a consequence of malnutrition, while millions more suffer from lifelong physical and mental impairments. Malnutrition is continuous cycle. A malnourished mother has a higher risk of delivering a malnourished baby, who may likely grow up in an impoverished environment, lacking the nutrition needed to support growth, development of the brain and of other vital organs. In the school years, children who do not get adequate nutrition are less able to concentrate and learn. The impact of malnutrition is felt into adulthood – malnourished children may earn lower wages than children who received proper nutrition. We must break the cycle of malnutrition if we are to improve the well-being of these young lives.



# SIGHT AND LIFE

The quest to a world free from malnutrition.

Founded in 1986  
Headquarters in Switzerland

Our 4 strategic goals focus on the challenges we see as critical over the next 5 years



Sight and Life delivers value in nutrition by accelerating the translation of research to innovative solutions at scale. Our work begins with a deep understanding of the biological factors that influence nutritional status and ends with evidence-based results creating healthy choices for consumers. We translate our scientific knowledge to build sustainable business models and public-sector programs that deliver the best possible strategies to communities.

## OUR AMBITION & STRATEGY

Sight and Life is a humanitarian nutrition think tank delivering innovative solutions to eliminate all forms of malnutrition in children and women of childbearing age and improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable populations.

## WHO WE ARE

Deep knowledge & experience in public health programs along with their implementation

Ability to convene using our broad network in academia, UN agencies, WASH sector, NGOs, entrepreneurs, businesses, & the wider nutrition community



Business solution development & proven track record of private sector engagement

## HOW WE DO IT

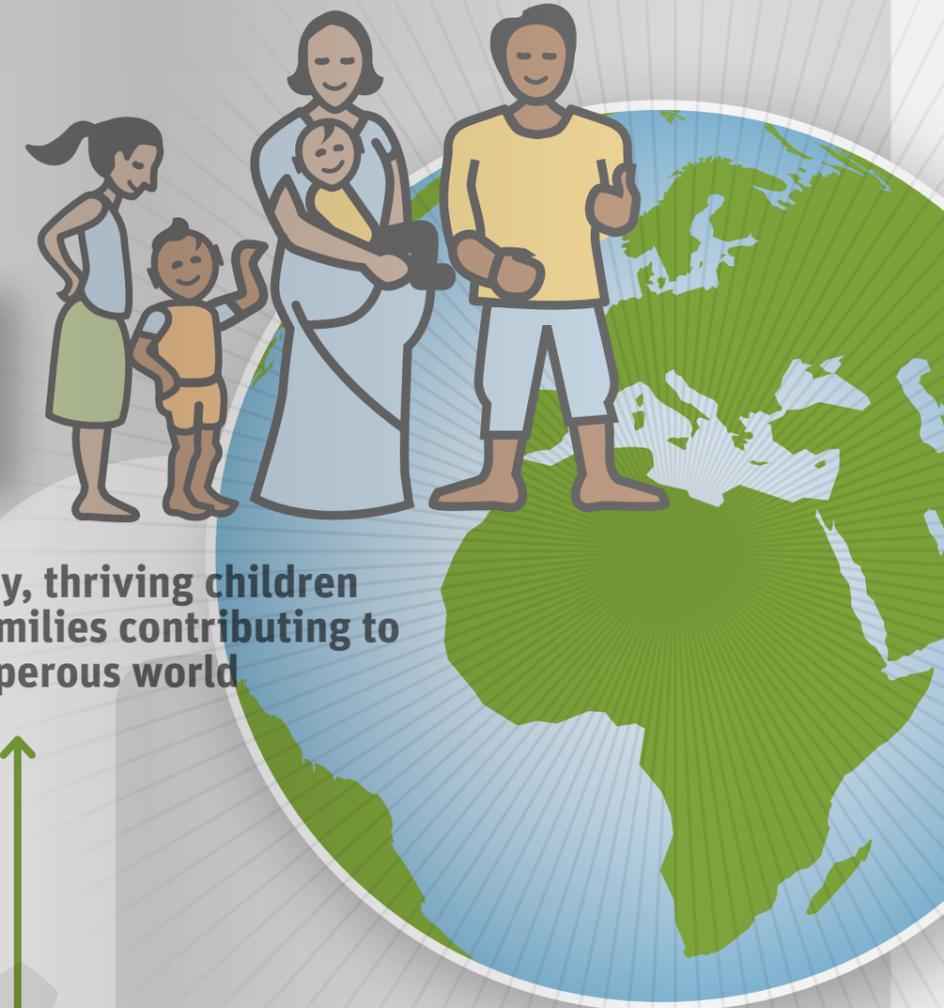
We offer a comprehensive approach, because science alone will not solve malnutrition. We advance research and disseminate its findings, share best practices, and facilitate important dialogs to bring about transformative change in nutrition.



Healthy, thriving children and families contributing to a prosperous world

- Founded: 1986
- A powerful team of 10 with 100 years of combined experience in nutrition
- Co-edited books: 8
- Peer-reviewed publications: 77
- Number of vitamin A capsules distributed from 1986 to 2011: 78,996
- *Sight and Life* magazine, a leading publication in nutrition, is printed 2x per year
- An annual supplement providing focused and in-depth information
- Headquarters in Switzerland
- A nutrition think tank supported by DSM

## OUR IMPACT



References: R E Black, L H Allen, Z A Bhutta, et al (2008) 'Maternal and child under-nutrition: global and regional exposures and health consequences', *The Lancet*, 2008, Jan 19, 371 (9608), 243-60. | UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (2011) *Levels & Trends in Child Mortality: Report 2011*, New York: UNICEF.

### WHO ARE WE?

*Sight and Life* (SAL) is a humanitarian nutrition think tank delivering innovative solutions to eliminate all forms of malnutrition in children and women of childbearing age and improve the lives of the world's most vulnerable populations.

### OUR STRENGTHS

- > Nutritional science expertise, from human biology to understanding food systems
- > Ability to convene using our broad network in academia, UN agencies, WASH sector, NGOs, and the wider nutrition community
- > Deep knowledge and experience in public health programs along with their implementation
- > Applications of behavior change communication and social marketing to improve eating choices and habits
- > Business solution development and capacity to collaborate with the private sector

### WHY ARE WE CALLED SIGHT AND LIFE?

*Sight and Life* was established in 1986 as a humanitarian program by F Hoffman-LaRoche Ltd, in response to the famine and severe vitamin A deficiency that struck Ethiopia and what is now Eritrea. As the pioneer of vitamin A synthesis, the company understood the link between vitamin A, eye health, and preventable blindness. It therefore made available, free of charge, the vitamin A necessary to address the dire deficiency. Dispensed widely in the famine-stricken region, this saved thousands of children from the immediate threat of nutrition-related blindness and death. Thus, *Sight* literally meant blindness prevention, and *Life* referred to vitamin A's role in preventing and reducing mortality. Over the years, we have expanded our work to address micronutrient, lipid, and protein malnutrition in the broader sense, but we are proud of our heritage and have therefore kept our name as *Sight and Life*.

# SIGHT AND LIFE FRAMEWORK

### OUR GOALS

We offer a comprehensive approach, because science alone will not solve malnutrition. We advance research and disseminate its findings, share best practices, and facilitate important dialogs to bring about transformative change in nutrition.

Our current partnerships expand into agriculture, academia, social protection, WASH, and social business. We are deeply committed to facilitating knowledge transfer, functional capacity and leadership on nutrition.

### OUR AMBITION AND STRATEGY

*Sight and Life* delivers value in the nutrition sphere by accelerating the translation of research to innovative solutions at scale. Our work begins with a profound understanding of the biological factors that influence the nutritional status, how to add nutrition value to food value chains, and ends with research on healthy choices for consumers. We translate our scientific knowledge to build sustainable business models and public-sector programs that deliver best possible strategies to communities.

### OUR IMPACT

- > Develop innovative products and services (market-based and public sector models)
- > Create guidelines, recommendations, or frameworks based on scientific evidence for products and services
- > Replicate and scale up evidence-based initiatives
- > Build capacity and leadership by supporting technical capacity and knowledge transfer
- > Build sustainable, recognized partnerships and coalitions
- > Convene and participate in multi-stakeholder discussion on topics relevant to our core expertise

**These ambitions are realized through our four strategic goals that focus on the challenges we see as critical over the next 5 years.**





**Nutrition is one of the best drivers of development: it sparks a virtuous cycle of socioeconomic improvements, such as increasing access to education and employment ... Eradicating malnutrition is crucial to delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals' promise of 'leaving no one behind'.**

*The late UN Secretary-General  
Kofi Annan*

# PROJECTS & PARTNERSHIPS

GOAL

# 01



**HF-TAG**

**Home Fortification Technical Advisory Group**

**Location:** Global

**Year:** since 2009

## DISCOVERY SCIENCE

Recognized as a catalytic leader in micronutrient, protein, and lipid science. Our core focus of micronutrient science now expands to protein (essential amino acids) and lipids (essential LC-PUFA) due to the scientific evidence that protein and lipids are critical nutrients for growth. We are working to improve knowledge and awareness for sustainable protein and lipid sources.

### Home Fortification Technical Advisory Group (HF-TAG)

In 2009, SAL helped establish the global HF-TAG, which provides guidance based on the best available evidence and current best practices, by developing manuals and guidelines, and is now one of its Executive Committee members. HF-TAG comprises organizations implementing or supporting the scale-up of home fortification programs, from UN agencies and academia to non-governmental organizations and the producers of home fortification products. HF-TAG provides guidance based on the best available evidence and current best practices, by developing manuals and guidelines. During 2017, SAL helped revise HF-TAG's strategy and a guidance document on malaria and home fortification.



**Location:** Bangladesh

**Year:** since 2017

### JiVitA-5 Adolescent Supplementation Trial

Maternal micronutrient deficiency is a public health problem in rural Bangladesh, with young married women experiencing their first pregnancy at high risk of multiple micronutrient deficiencies. A new study in SAL's partnership with Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, JiVitA-5 will evaluate the effects of a daily pre-conception multiple micronutrient supplement (MMS) vs. placebo, on pregnancy outcomes, including mortality, low birth weight, or small for gestational age. SAL and DSM support the local production of multiple micronutrient and placebo tablets through local company Beximco. Approximately 15,000 newlyweds with brides under 20 years of age will be recruited over a four-year period, and randomized to receive a MMS or placebo daily. Approximately 7,500 pregnancies expected to be enrolled. From the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> trimester, all placebo control women will also receive the MMS. By end 2017, SAL, with support from DSM, developed and produced a premix for tableting, now awaiting approval by local authorities before production and launch of the trial in Bangladesh.



**Micronutrient FORUM**

**Location:** Global

**Year:** since 2011

### Micronutrient Forum (MNF)

MNF is a global catalyst for improving understanding of the role of micronutrients in human health and interventions to achieve micronutrient adequacy in all aspects of health promotion and disease prevention. The MNF's biannual global conference unites approximately 1,000 leading nutrition, food security, global health, and sustainable agriculture experts and practitioners to share and analyze nutrition research to bridge the gap from best evidence to best action on the ground. A Steering Committee member since the MNF's late 2011 revitalization,

and now a member of its board of trustees, SAL's Klaus Kraemer is helping develop its new governance structure, comprising the creation of a not-for-profit legal entity in form of an association, according to Swiss law. SAL helped identify the MNF's new host organization. The MNF organized a session, 'Integration to Implementation (I to I) on Vitamin A Interventions,' at the International Congress on Nutrition, Buenos Aires, including a presentation by Klaus Kraemer on the implementation challenges of vitamin A programs. The proceedings will be published in a peer-reviewed journal.



**Location:** New York

**Year:** since 2017

#### Multiple Micronutrient Supplement (MMS) Task Force

The Sackler Institute for Nutrition Science and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation formed a Task Force comprising organizations such as GAIN, Harvard University, Johns Hopkins University, Nutrition International, Sick Kids, and SAL, charged with examining and interpreting the 2016 WHO Antenatal Care Guidelines for the use of multiple micronutrient supplementation (MMS) in pregnancy. In November 2017, the Sackler Institute convened the first of two meetings of the Task Force. It reviewed the research on MMS vs. iron/folic acid supplementation in pregnancy, and considered the results of new meta-analyses of individual subject data from multiple micronutrient trials around the globe. Benefits and potential risks of MMS highlighted in the analyses formed the basis for a discussion identifying research gaps, populations that may benefit most from supplementation, and considerations for developing a roadmap to guide countries considering MMS implementation. In support of the work of the Task Force, SAL sponsors a cost effectiveness study with the University of California, Davis, comparing the use of iron folic acid tablets with MMS in pregnancy.



**Location:** New York

**Year:** since 2017

#### Nutrition ARISE – Repositioning Stunting

Nutrition ARISE (Adding Responsive Indicators to Stunting to Expand Early Life Nutrition and Development Achievement) promotes adequate linear growth, and other facets of health and development comprising the full public health response to early life nutrition interventions (ELNI). It aims to update evidence on the efficacy and effectiveness of early life nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions in accelerating linear and ponderal growth, and in reducing the prevalence of stunting and wasting. Alongside linear growth as plausible responses to ELNI in infancy, childhood, and adulthood, Nutrition ARISE also aims to affirm health, development, growth, behavioral, and functional outcomes, and indicators that take their place. It proposes a research agenda to integrate a wider array of exposure to intervention and outcome indicators of growth, development, and biological and other factors to monitor, parallel to linear growth and change in prevalence of stunting, that can respond to nutrition-specific and -sensitive interventions, and to improve data for evaluating Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) target achievement. Together with Nutrition ARISE and Johns Hopkins University, at end 2017 SAL began developing a concept and agenda for an expert consultation in June 2018.



**Location:** Rwanda

**Year:** since 2017

#### Rwanda Complementary Foods

This project effected a comprehensive evaluation of porridge samples from Rwandan markets. Its goal is to raise the quality bar for the Rwandan complementary food sector, and to improve child nutrition by assessing micronutrient and macronutrient content, contamination levels, and appropriate labeling of cereal-based complementary foods available in local markets, while raising the broader issue of complementary food quality and safety in lower- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

The approach involved a comprehensive evaluation of the vitamin, mineral, protein, carbohydrate, lipid, and contaminant levels of the most popular complementary food brands marketed in Rwanda, in absolute terms, and vis-à-vis label claims and age-based requirements. Complementary food labeling practices were scrutinized in light of national and international guidelines and standards. Actionable information will be obtained for the Rwanda Standards Board, Ministry of Health, and other regulatory authorities on nutritional content and label claims in the local market, including identification of products representing a health risk for consumers. The project should generate a relevant case study on food safety and food label claims to be submitted for peer-reviewed publication. The project is also in partnership with the University of Rwanda, Department of Nutrition, School of Public Health; University of Vienna, Department of Physiological Chemistry, Faculty of Chemistry.

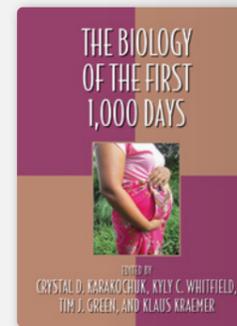


**Location:** Global

**Year:** since 1998

#### The Sight and Life Global Research Institute of Johns Hopkins University

The Sight and Life Global Nutrition Research Institute is dedicated to enhancing research in assessing and preventing micronutrient deficiencies through strengthening faculty, doctoral scholarship, and academic activities, and providing professional opportunities for students. Dedicated to examining the critical role of micronutrients on mortality, morbidity, and growth during the first 1,000 days, it offers training opportunities to the school's MSc and PhD students at our office in Switzerland, and in our field projects, providing broader exposure to public health nutrition in action. In 2017, SAL projects included a study in Zambia, which analyzed the adequacy of fortification of sugar with vitamin A. In January 2017, SAL's Managing Director Klaus Kraemer spent a week with a study team as an adjunct professor in Bangladesh designing the JiVitA-5 trials.



**Location:** Global

**Year:** since 2015

#### The Biology of the First 1,000 Days (Book)

A new resource, uniting in a 30-chapter volume contemporary knowledge about nutrition in the first 1,000 days for scientists, program implementers, and students, 'The Biology of the First 1,000 Days' was co-edited by SAL's Klaus Kraemer, working in a four-strong international academic team. It examines the critical period of growth and development in the first 1,000 days, from conception to two years of age, and the exposures to dietary, environmental, hormonal, and other stressors during this window associated with an increased risk of poor health outcomes, some of which are irreversible. The cross-disciplinary book addresses this crucial interval of early life across biological disciplines, linking concepts related to all biological fields to outcomes during the first 1,000 days (such as fetal growth and pregnancy outcomes) and beyond (gut microbiome and cardiovascular disease later in life). On October 16, 2017, the book was launched during a scientific session at the International Congress for Nutrition (ICN) in Argentina. SAL sponsored open access for the publication making it widely available to scientists and practitioners in low-resource settings.

The book was also supported by University of British Columbia, Mount Saint Vincent University, South Australian Health, and Medical Research Institute

## GOAL

## 02



**Location:** Ghana  
**Year:** since 2013



**Location:** Jaipur, Rajasthan, India  
**Year:** since 2016



**Location:** Karnataka, India  
**Year:** since 2017

## IMPLEMENTATION RESEARCH

Implementation research is indispensable to design and deliver nutrition services and programs. There have been significant advances in products and technologies for nutrition; however, there are few strategies to take these innovations to scale. At SAL, we work with partners to apply research and tools to improve the design and implementation of nutrition programs and services at scale. In addition, we specialize in delivery model validation for products and services in nutrition.

## Affordable Nutritious Foods 4 Women (ANF4W)

Improve the availability of fortified foods on the market for women of reproductive age and promote these nutritious foods with a quality seal. A local Public-private partnership between Association of Ghana Industries and Ghana Standards Authority was developed to run the quality seal. SAL provides advisory services, domain expertise for marketing, business case development and is a member of steering committee while additional partners include DSM, Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF), Ajinomoto and GIZ. We work with products including biscuits, shito sauce, and instant porridge. In October 2017, SAL was a co-applicant in a proposal that received 800,000 USD to follow up with ANF4W in Ghana, now known as OBAASIMA.

## Eat More, Eat Better

This project aims to deliver a social marketing strategy, along with precise phraseology to engage and motivate pregnant and lactating women (PLW) to act to improve their nutrition. Through in-depth qualitative research this project identified the benefits and outcomes of good maternal nutrition during pregnancy and lactation (PLW). Additionally, discovered the key barriers to eating healthy during pregnancy, including the role of social influencers granting or restricting food access. SAL worked alongside Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF) on this initiative.

## Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health | WASH

In 2016, SAL developed a school-based nutrition education component for 'Feeding the Future through Fortified Rice' Project led by PATH. We designed three strategies to influence children's attitudes and motivations on hand washing, safe water use and sanitation practices, and promoting vegetables and milk consumption (part of lunch and breakfast meals at schools) and fruit for snacks. SAL wanted to know which strategies had been successfully adopted and to what extent they were being implemented. Shannon King, former SAL intern, undertook an implementation assessment of the nutrition education component. This was a mixed-method study examining activities being implemented as planned and the factors that affected implementation. We found that despite there being high acceptability for the intervention, it was not implemented as planned due to lack of time, poor support from headmaster or other teachers, and inconsistent or non-existent supply of water and soap. In addition, activities that were well integrated in the daily school procedures (rhymes sang during morning assembly) were implemented with more fidelity than those that required extra time for implementation (such as games). This project is in partnership with PATH, Karuna Trust, and Akshaya Patra.



**Location:** India  
**Year:** since 2017



**Location:** South Africa  
**Year:** since 2014



**Location:** Global  
**Year:** since 2015



**Location:** Global  
**Year:** since 2003

## GOAL

## 03



**Location:** Africa  
**Year:** since 2001

## Making a Difference in India (MANDI)

This project aims to examine the role of nutrition counseling in raising awareness for nutritional anemia and shifting dietary choices towards foods that are good sources of iron, Vitamin A, Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>, folate, Vitamin B<sub>2</sub>, Vitamin B<sub>6</sub>, Vitamin E, and Vitamin C. These eight nutrients are critical in hemoglobin metabolism. The main achievements were: (1) develop a counseling protocol adapted for MANDI social business settings (community events/health fairs); (2) develop food-based educational material for addressing nutritional anemia.

## Sizanani Mzansi

Sizanani Mzansi is a social enterprise launched by SAL in 2014 to address the challenge of nutritional programs that are limited in reach and intervention period due to limited grant funding. Sizanani improves access to quality, affordable nutritious foods while creating income-generating opportunities in communities that need them the most. The project recruits women and equips them with knowledge and skills to sell a nutritious basket of goods within their communities. Sizanani Mzansi is currently examining the possibility of selling the products through youth and NGOs to satisfy additional demand. Employing youth also addresses the persistent problem of critically high unemployment rates of South African townships.

## The Society for Implementation Science in Nutrition (SISN)

SISN exists to bring together multiple stakeholders with interest in implementation of nutrition interventions to identify and address critical knowledge gaps. SISN is a professional organization – advancing the science and practice of implementation globally. SAL began funding of SISN operations in 2016 and published The Lazio Declaration in the *Sight and Life* magazine. Dr. Monterrosa and Dr. Kraemer sit on the Inaugural Board of SISN.

World Food Programme (WFP), DSM and *Sight and Life*

SAL supports the WFP-DSM partnership by providing strategic advice in the steering committee and technical assistance in the work streams. In 2017 SAL supported the demand-generation work stream that has been active in Latin America, and sub-Saharan Africa.

## LEADERSHIP CAPACITY BUILDING

As more sectors seek to integrate nutrition into their programs, there is a need and demand for nutrition information and expertise. Currently, knowledge in nutrition is fragmented, incomplete, and erroneous resulting in myths, taboos and beliefs that are unscientific, which negatively hamper our ability to eradicate malnutrition. Our goal is to disseminate nutrition knowledge based on scientific facts and to develop and strengthen capacity of professionals to deliver nutrition.

## African Nutrition Leadership Program (ANLP)

As a proud partner and supporter of the African Nutrition Leadership Programme (ANLP), who is committed to the development of leadership capabilities in the broader area of nutrition on the African continent, SAL strives to build the human resource capacity. ANLP has trained over 300 participants in organizations such as the Kenyan National Food Fortification Alliance, and the multi-sectorial Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) teams.



**Location:** Mongolia

**Year:** since 2017

### Central Eurasian Nutrition Forum (CENF) | Mongolian Health Initiative Partnership

The CENF is a forum to discuss nutritional priorities for the Central Eurasian region and how nutritional threats may be more effectively assessed, addressed, and prevented, with particular emphasis on strengthening regional collaborations in research, policy, and program implementation. The first CENF conference was held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia in June 2017, with funding and support provided by SAL, together with other partners including the Mongolian Health Initiative Partnership. Klaus Kraemer presented during the conference and provided support for the draft fortification law in Mongolia, which was passed into law.



**Location:** Nigeria

**Year:** since 2013

### DSM | United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) | Sight and Life

The project aims to create an enabling policy environment and strengthen the capacity of the Government to implement and scale up micronutrient supplementation to reduce micronutrient deficiencies in children and women in Nigeria. SAL supports the implementation of a global advocacy program for making food systems sensitive for optimum micronutrient nutrition for children. In 2017, SAL supported the publication of the article titled "Participatory Formative Research in Action." The article documents the process of developing the local MNP brand for Nigeria and builds on the global knowledge base for micronutrient powder supplementation as an approach to improve micronutrient intake in children. In 2017, the total number of children reached with MNP increased to 561,078, a 306% increase from 2016.



**Location:** Global

**Year:** since 2011

### Micronutrient Forum (MNF)

The Micronutrient Forum Global Conferences bring together an estimated 1,000 leading nutrition, food security, global health, and sustainable agriculture experts, and practitioners from all over the world, to share and analyze nutrition research. Together, they look to bridge the gap from best evidence to best action on the ground. Sight and Life has served as a member of the Micro nutrient Forum's Steering Committee since its revitalization in late 2011. In 2017 Dr. Klaus Kraemer supported the process to identify and agree an appropriate new host for the Micro Nutrient Forum Secretariat and the incorporation of the Micronutrient forum as an association in Switzerland. Dr. Kraemer currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Micronutrient forum

GOAL  
**04**



**Location:** Africa

**Year:** since 2017

**N+**

Recognized as a key partner in nutrition integration. The SDGs and climate change agenda will result in nutrition being increasingly positioned as an outcome of food security and agriculture policy. Greater attention is now placed on food systems and the participation of the private sector, entrepreneurs, and innovation throughout the value chain. SAL has expertise to integrate nutrition into existing agriculture platforms and the food value chain.

### Africa Improved Foods (AIF)

SAL has assisted AIF to fulfill their mission in Rwanda and East Africa and develop a replicable model for other countries and regions. Support AIF in addressing challenges and opportunities in supply, portfolio strategy, demand generation, and the enabling environment. Articulate and pursue key research questions and develop a framework for regional suppliers of fortified foods. Design incremental fundable scopes as well as qualify and pursue opportunities. In 2017, SAL offered recommendations on product positioning, portfolio evolution, and market research for deeper consumer insight and product attribute optimization. Additionally, suggested improvements to the Nootri product range packaging, including recommendations for alignment with the WHO code. We initiated a study on the quality of the complementary foods available in the Rwandan market, in partnership with the University of Rwanda, University of Vienna, and Burkon Institute. The year also brought a newly developed framework for public-private partnerships for nutrition to engage the public and private sectors in Rwanda to promote fortification, standards, and consumer education.



**Location:** Global

**Year:** since 2016

### Eggciting Innovations

Eggs are a perfect source of protein and an extraordinarily nutritious food. They are rich in essential fatty acids, choline, vitamins A and B<sub>12</sub>, and bioavailable iron, zinc, and iodine. Recent breakthrough research studies show that all nine essential amino acids and LC-PUFA are significantly lower in stunted children compared with non-stunted children and that an egg a day in infants significantly improved their growth and reduced stunting. Access to affordable animal source foods (ASF) is likely to fill the need for all nine essential amino acids. Among all ASF, chicken eggs are ubiquitous and the cheapest source of high quality protein, choline, and LC-PUFA. Further, chickens are considered a viable solution at the bottom of the "livestock ladder," and raising them is one of the few ways that women can generate their own income.

Despite the obvious benefits of eggs, their consumption and availability in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Malawi are critically low. The availability of eggs in Africa is one fourth of the global average. Egg consumption is also relatively low among those groups, which are most in need of nutrition: infants, and pregnant and lactating women.

Given that there are vast opportunities to improve the availability and consumption of eggs, SAL conducted a landscape assessment of the egg eco-system in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Malawi to design 'eggciting innovations' – market-based solutions that can be scaled to bridge gaps in the egg value chain to increase consumption in low-income markets. Five types of innovative business models involving smallholder farmers were identified. SAL's expertise provides insights on innovations, viable and sustainable models for smallholder poultry farmers managed by women in order to improve productivity, access, and consumption of eggs by women and children. This project is supported by Stichting Dioraphte.



**Location:** Global  
**Year:** since 2016

**Nutrition Entrepreneurs**

Very high rates of malnutrition persist in Kenya, Ethiopia and Malawi – more than 18 million children under 5 years old and women of reproductive age suffer from micronutrient malnutrition and protein deficit. Disruptive solutions are therefore required to facilitate change. In our experience, there are six barriers for nutrition solutions to scale: sustainability, product offering, access, awareness, erratic cash flows, underdeveloped or missing eco-systems. Several social enterprises in other domains, such as microfinancing, that were able to scale have been able to overcome these barriers. However, none of them currently have nutrition in their portfolio.

SAL committed to empower such viable social enterprises operating at scale to eliminate malnutrition. Key elements included nutrition landscape assessment of each country, designing sustainable interventions to incorporate nutrition solutions in select social enterprises. In phase 2, we envision implementing the interventions and sharing best practices with several networks, stakeholders and governments; including a knowledge hub to disseminate and facilitate findings. A summary of our phase 1 insights is published here: <http://bit.ly/2HLtXBn>

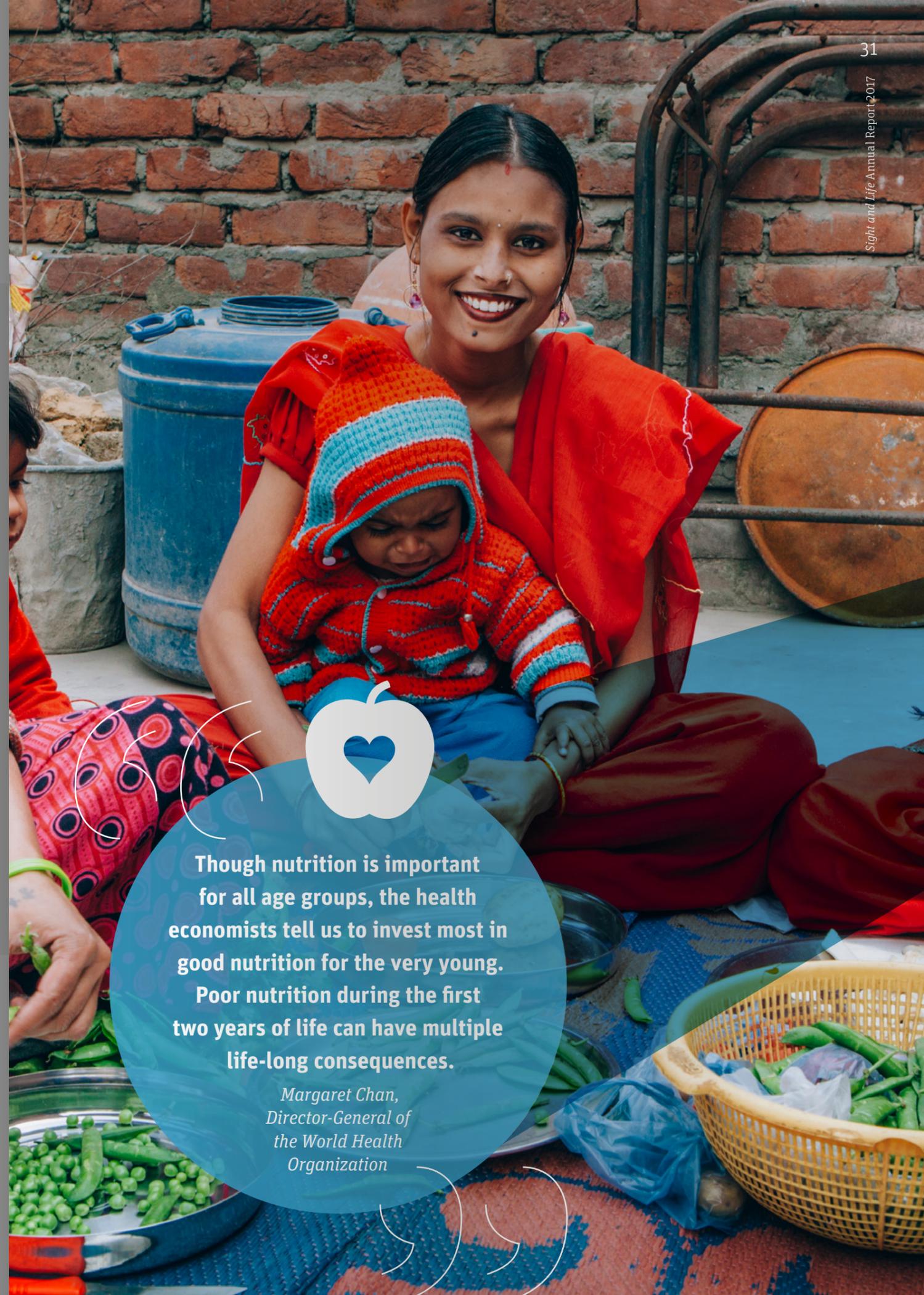


**Location:** Global  
**Year:** since 2017

**World Vision (Partnership)**

This partnership contributes to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) #2 – food security and nutrition, SDG #9 – Innovation, SDG #17 – Multi-stakeholder Partnerships by leveraging comparative advantages towards creating shared value for the last mile and the partnering organizations. In 2017, scope of the project was developed along with the objectives and approach for a supply-side pilot testing a new maize sourcing model (cob model) that has the potential to improve the quality of locally sourced maize and increase access to market and income for farmers availability in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Malawi which are critically low. The availability of eggs in Africa is one fourth of the global average. Egg consumption is also relatively low among those groups, which are most in need of nutrition: infants, and pregnant and lactating women.

Given that there are vast opportunities to improve the availability and consumption of eggs, SAL conducted a landscape assessment of the egg eco-system in Kenya, Ethiopia, and Malawi to design ‘egg-citing innovations’ – market-based solutions that can be scaled to bridge gaps in the egg value chain to increase consumption in low-income markets. Five types of innovative business models involving smallholder farmers were identified. See our egg-citing blog for more insights: [sightandlife.org/blog/egg-citing-innovation-eggs-improved-maternal-infant-young-child-nutrition/](http://sightandlife.org/blog/egg-citing-innovation-eggs-improved-maternal-infant-young-child-nutrition/)



**Though nutrition is important for all age groups, the health economists tell us to invest most in good nutrition for the very young. Poor nutrition during the first two years of life can have multiple life-long consequences.**

*Margaret Chan,  
Director-General of  
the World Health  
Organization*

**FOSTERING NETWORKS AND SCIENTIFIC GUIDANCE**



**Launch of Obaasima Quality Seal** OBAASIMA is a quality seal certifying products meet strict fortification standards and other nutrition criteria, and encourage women to choose fortified products was launched in Ghana. *Sight and Life* aided the development of the OBAASIMA seal with a focused ethnographic study assessing women’s eating habits and beliefs around food and served as the foundation for the project.

**FEB**  
01



**Launch of the new *Sight and Life* website** The redesigned website is equipped with enhanced navigation and functionality for an improved user experience and a robust blog full of engaging posts. The original content is valuable for the audiences within the nutrition sector and the site boasts many new features to inform users about SAL’s history and current project portfolio.

**JUL**  
06

**MAR**  
02



**Hidden Hunger Congress** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Hidden Hunger Congress in Stuttgart, Germany, addressed strategies to improve nutrition quality and combat hidden hunger. Klaus Kraemer met S.E. Mme Dominique Ouattara, First Lady of the République de Côte d’Ivoire and chaired the session “Rationale for a public health Address to Emerging Micronutrients in Hidden Hunger: Vitamin D, Vitamin E, Essential fatty Acids, Amino Acids” with Noel W. Solomons.

**OCT**  
07



**The International Union of Nutritional Sciences International Conference of Nutrition (IUNS-ICN)** During the IUNS-ICN 2017 in Buenos Aires, Argentina, *SAL* presented on topics from scaling up rice fortification in Latin America and Vitamin A interventions to food systems and the *SAL* eggciting project while also welcoming attendees at their impressive booth. In addition, Klaus Kraemer announced the release of the book “The Biology of the First 1,000 Days” in which he was an editor.



***Sight and Life* Retreat** In the peaceful countryside outside of Zurich, Switzerland, the *SAL* team members came together for an intensive, three-day workshop. The time together allowed the team to closely take stock of the project portfolio, align productivity with strategy execution, and engage in the planning process for the future. As a globally located team, the retreat built relationships and encouraged collaborations to further our mission for a world free from malnutrition.

**APR**  
03



**Release of the book “The Biology of the First 1,000 Days”** The first 1,000 days, from conception to two years of age, is a critical period of growth and development. The book, *The Biology of the First 1,000 Days*, addresses this crucial interval of early life across biological disciplines, linking concepts related to all biological fields to outcomes during the first 1,000 days and beyond.

**OCT**  
08

**JUN**  
04



**Research Internship in India** Shannon King spent two months in India fulfilling an internship with *SAL* for her Masters of Science in Public Health at Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. She worked with Karuna Trust, to conduct research on the implementation of the PATH “Feeding the Future through Fortified Rice Program”. Within this intervention *SAL* designed three school-based nutrition and WASH strategies to develop healthy eating habits while improving hygiene and sanitation behaviors. The study required visiting 50 schools in four different areas of Karnataka in order to understand how the program is being implemented.

**OCT**  
09



***Sight and Life* Partners with DSM & UNICEF** A new partnership working to deliver better nutrition to at-risk children and mothers in Nigeria as well as advocate on a global scale for micronutrient supplementation. Together, the partners will develop scalable models and drive innovation to improve the quality of food and nutrition in Nigeria, with the goal of spurring similar action in other countries where malnutrition is a critical concern.



**Central Eurasian Nutrition Forum (CENF)** *Sight and Life* was a major sponsor of the first Central Eurasian Nutrition Forum (CENF) held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Klaus Kraemer presented during a session entitled “Central Eurasia’s Position in the Global Nutrition Ecosystem” and was also a panelist, moderator, and provided the closing remarks concluding the intensive three-day forum.

**JUN**  
05



**GAIN 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Panel** To celebrate GAIN’s fifteenth anniversary they organized a panel discussion on the various models that have proved to be effective in reaching vulnerable populations with nutritious foods and explore options for partnership in the fight against malnutrition. Eva Monterrosa, *SAL*’s Sr. Scientific Manager, was an active participant in the discussion and addressed the critical need to create demand for nutritious and healthier foods.

**NOV**  
10



**Rice Fortification Congress** Rice Fortification – An Opportunity to Improve Nutrition in West Africa was a two-day workshop that took place in Dakar, Senegal. This event brought together over 50 stakeholders, including country delegates and global and regional technical partners, to raise awareness and discuss opportunities and challenges around rice fortification and its potential role in improving dietary quality and reducing micro-nutrient deficiencies in the region.

NOV  
11

NOV  
12



**Sponsored the American Society of Nutrition's (ASN) Inaugural Nevin Schrimshaw Mid-Career Award**

*Sight and Life* committed to match up to \$50,000 USD from members and friends of ASN to create an endowment for the Inaugural Nevin Scrimshaw Mid-Career Award. This new award aims to annually pay tribute to Dr. Scrimshaw's invaluable contributions by recognizing those who are following his example. Each year, a mid-career professional who is doing innovative work to advance the global nutrition field will be awarded this prestigious honor.



**Sight and Life Leadership Award** SAL proudly announced two winners of the *Sight and Life* Nutrition Leadership award during the SUN Global Gathering in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. Dr Shilpa Bhatte and Dr Ellen Piwoz were recognized as great leaders in the nutrition field who have a vision of an improved world. These two women are diligently working to change the face of nutrition for the better and inspiring others to do the same.

NOV  
13

DEC  
14



**2<sup>nd</sup> Elevator Pitch Contest hosted by Sight and Life**

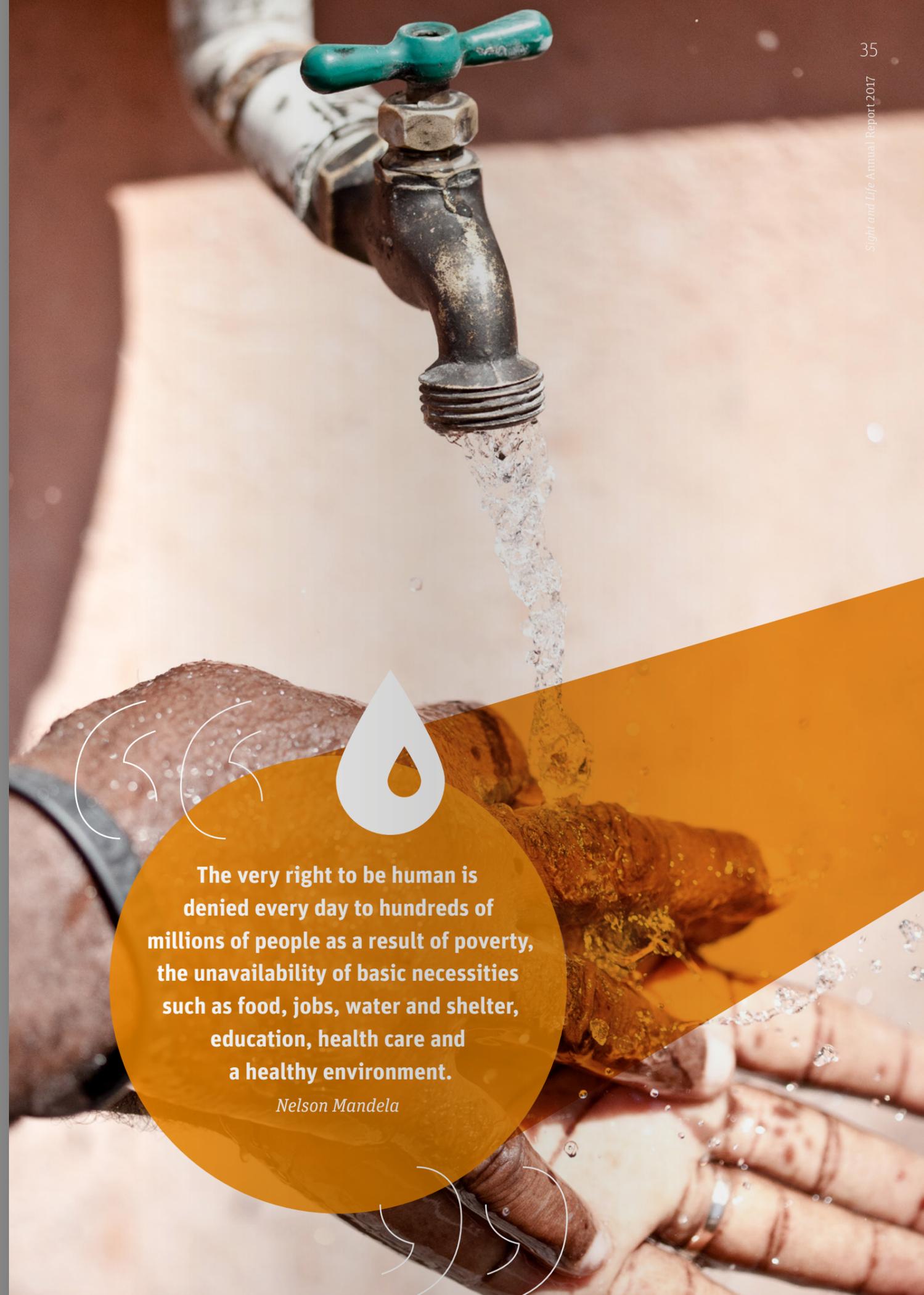
A competition amongst innovators to identify and support projects that have a high potential to be implemented and improve existing approaches to nutrition assessment. A distinguished jury will review and evaluate each disruptive idea carefully and then select seven finalists to present during Nutrition 2018 in Boston, USA.



**Sight and Life Retreat**

To wrap up the year and ideate on the future ahead, the SAL team met in Lucerne, Switzerland for the second retreat of 2017. The comprehensive, three-day session reviewed the scope of the current project portfolio and the team worked together to develop future organizational initiatives.

DEC  
15



The very right to be human is denied every day to hundreds of millions of people as a result of poverty, the unavailability of basic necessities such as food, jobs, water and shelter, education, health care and a healthy environment.

*Nelson Mandela*

# OUR PUBLICATIONS

Visit our website [sightandlife.org](http://sightandlife.org) to find the **Sight and Life magazine** and further material to increase awareness and mobilize support for nutrition interventions and actions. From our **blog, books, and special supplements to peer-reviewed publications, videos, and infographics** our materials are all online for your reference. You can also contact our team for further details.

### Sight and Life magazine: Our flagship publication

Sight and Life magazine, published twice yearly, is available electronically and as a hard copy. It's our cornerstone publication and increases knowledge and shares best practices pertaining to micronutrient nutrition and health. It also provides readers with other relevant and interesting information and scientific news, and often includes important supplements, such as the latest best practice guidance or conference proceedings.

The magazine contains news, features, infographics, letters, and editorials written by leading authorities and policy-makers in nutrition and public health, as well as by practitioners in the field. It helps provide access to new and user-friendly knowledge and insights to people at all levels of nutrition practice in the fight against malnutrition. Current and many past editions can be downloaded from [www.sightandlife.org](http://www.sightandlife.org).

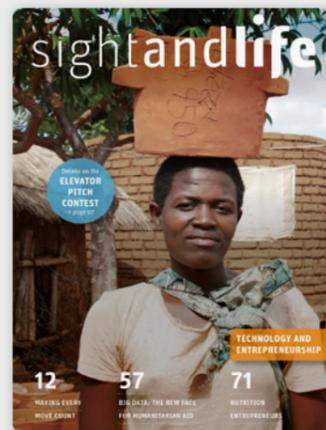
### Sight and Life Supplements

In addition, the Sight and Life supplement focuses on important topics in nutrition in order to provide in-depth research and analysis on that subject. The 2017 edition discusses food fortification and was published together with knowledgeable partners.

## SIGHT AND LIFE MAGAZINE AND SUPPLEMENT



**Sight and Life Magazine**  
Vol. 31(1) 2017:  
Food and Culture

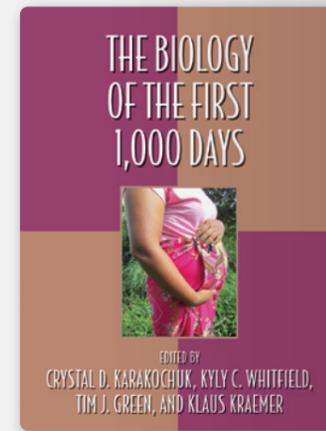


**Sight and Life Magazine**  
Vol. 31(2) 2017:  
Technology and Entrepreneurship



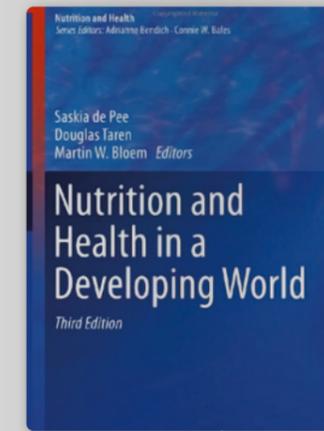
**Sight and Life Supplement**  
Scaling up Rice Fortification in Latin America and the Caribbean

## BOOKS



### The Biology of the First 1,000 Days

'Good Nutrition' explores the economics of nutrition and malnutrition by discussing evidence-based approaches and interventions that can improve the nutritional status of the public and at-risk groups.



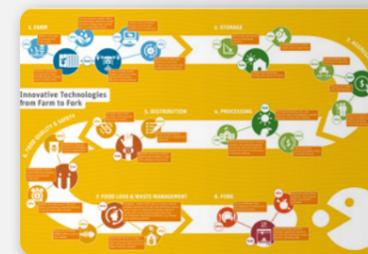
### Nutrition and Health in a Developing World 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition:

Chapter 35, Role of Foundations & Initiatives by Private Sector for Improving Health and Nutrition Rome, Italy



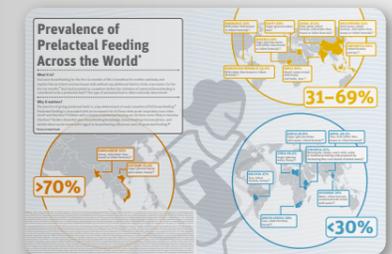
**Klaus Kraemer** participated in the expert panel for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation on developing nutritious food supplementation of PLW in September 2016 (Seattle, Washington, USA)

## INFOGRAPHICS



### < Innovative Technologies from Farm to Fork

Prevalence of Pre-lacteal Feeding across the World >



## BLOG POSTS



### An Eye-Opening Research Experience through India

### Cracking the Egg Potential

### The Double Burden of Malnutrition

# As a Swiss humanitarian nutrition think tank dedicated to enabling the most vulnerable to live better lives in a world free from malnutrition, *Sight and Life* helps shape the way the world thinks about food and nutrition security.

The numbers of hungry people around the world are falling, but the battle to eradicate malnutrition is far from over. The good news is that the 1996 World Food Summit's commitment to halve the percentage of hungry people has been almost met at a global level. However, at *Sight and Life* foundation, it is our role to look beyond survival. We look to the future that lies ahead for the children who survive. Will these children go on to have better lives, move out of poverty and, in turn, improve the lives of their family, community, and even country? Or will they become the one in six young people in developing countries who are underweight; the one in four who are stunted; or one of 66 million primary-school-age children who attend classes hungry?

The Sustainable Development Goals focus the world's attention on critical issues and saved millions of lives. However, while we have undoubtedly made great strides we believe that more can and must be done. How best to deliver nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions within existing health systems or large-scale programs is a challenge, which requires a shift in thinking and working, and a broadening of horizons. In addition to testing efficacy and effectiveness, and conducting pilot programs, we need to embrace investment in leadership and capacity development. We believe that it is these key missing links, which will translate research into action, and ensure that we can deliver proven nutrition interventions at scale.



**We need to put a much bigger emphasis on the quality of our diets, rather than just focusing on quantity. Research has shown that the economic returns from investing in nutrition are huge as better nourished populations are more productive.**

*Former UN Secretary General  
Kofi Annan*

# IMPRINT

*Sight and Life* Annual Report 2017

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# A WORLD FREE FROM MALNUTRITION.

*Sight and Life* is a humanitarian nutrition think tank which envisions a world free from malnutrition.

We focus on implementation research and leadership development, in order to empower organizations and individuals to deliver smart solutions.

We believe that, through understanding context, we can co-create tailored innovations and solutions.

**[sightandlife.org](http://sightandlife.org)**

