





Disclosures

- **Dr. Diane Stadler: None**
 - Oregon Health & Science University
- **Erin Bergquist: None**
 - Iowa State University
- **Dr. Laurene Boateng: None**
 - University of Ghana
- **Dr. Chandavone Phoxay: None**
 - Lao Ministry of Health & National Nutrition Center
- **Joanna Cummings: None**
 - Oregon Health & Science University

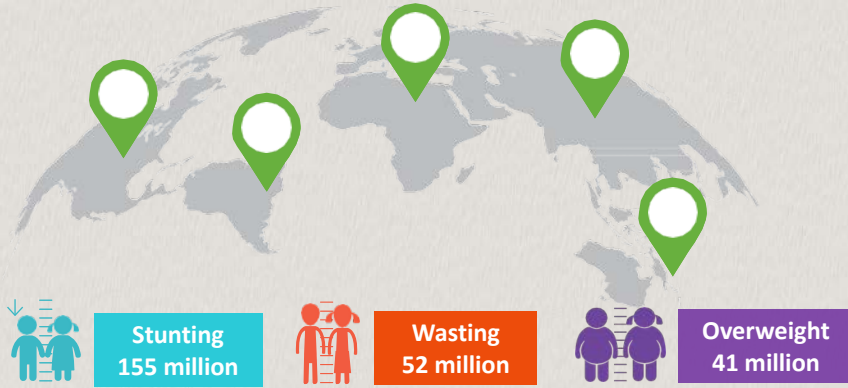


Learning Outcomes

- Describe the challenges and complexities of educating and working in a low resource, low income setting.
- Identify how each educational approach is tailored to the region and culture while remaining respectful of resources available.
- Summarize how collaboration between organizations and countries is improving lives around the world through access to dietitians/nutritionists.



Malnutrition: Global Overview



Source: UNICEF, WHO, World Bank Group joint malnutrition estimates, 2017 edition

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What is the value for RD/RDN's to gain global perspective?



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Complexity of malnutrition and food insecurity

- World hunger is on the rise - ~821 million are undernourished
- Food insecurity contributes to overweight and obesity, as well as undernutrition
- Gender differences in food security – women are more likely than men to be food insecure in Africa, Asia, and Latin America
- War and conflict
- Soil degradation & reduced biodiversity
- Safe water
- Climate change
- Psychosocial

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RD/RDN's at the Global Table



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Building Confidence



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International Opportunities

IOWA STATE
UNIVERSITY



University of Ghana



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Iowa State University & University of Ghana

- 4 week community nutrition rotation in rural Ghana
- Research project focus - complementary feeding practices
- Expertise shared from University of Ghana dietitians
- Customs and culture sessions from local experts
- Interns experience a variety of cultural activities

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Preparing Interns: Challenges

- Language barriers
- Cultural differences
- Income – low-resource region
- Low-literacy
- Public health issues

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Findings and Interventions

	June 2015 (n=116)	Jan 2016 (n=93)	June 2016 (n=92)	Jan 2017 (n=61)	June 2017 (n=87)	Jan 2018 (n=87)
Untreated water	95%	45%	80%	62%	85%	77%
Inadequate protein	52%			23%	79%	52%
Inadequate Vitamin A	98%		86%			
Inadequate nutritional variety (> 4 food groups)	75%	68%	71%	64%	67%	54%



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Nutrition Research & Training Center

- Funded through grants from Global Livestock Collaborative Research Support Program, USAID and University of Ghana funds
- Demo garden – teach mothers and caregivers how to improve diet
- Field site for higher ed research, projects from World Vision, McGill University, Iowa State University, SUNY Oneonta
- Training site for district assembly, government hospital, and district health directorate



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Building Capacity of Ghanaian Dietitians through international collaborations

- Brief overview of Dietetics Education in Ghana
- Building capacity - offshoot of collaboration between UG and ISU
- New partnerships – UNF on board
- Activities - Research and training workshops for Ghanaian Dietitians
 - 2013 – NCP workshop
 - 2015 – NCP implementation study
 - 2017 – NCP update workshop
 - 2017 – Nutrition care documentation study
 - 2018 – Nutrition focused physical findings study
 - 2018 - Nutrition focused physical findings workshop

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Outcomes

- Implementation of NCP in Ghanaian hospitals
 - 97% of Ghanaian dietitians working in the hospital setting implement NCP
- Improved documentation of nutrition care
 - Enhanced profile of the dietitian in work settings
- Interest in Academy Membership
 - 2 members in 2013
 - 12 members in 2018

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Challenges

- Government reluctance to employ more dietitians
- Limited opportunities for specialisation
- Inadequate access to in-service training and job aids

Future perspectives

- Further research and training for Ghanaian dietitians through international collaborations
- Centre of Excellence for Dietetics Practice at UG



Lao-American Nutrition Institute (LANI)

Collaboration between Lao Ministry of Health, U.S. Government and Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) to train Clinical Dietitians for Lao PDR

Mission

To provide high quality, evidence based nutrition education at the university level with a global reach through our research, publications and training of local leaders

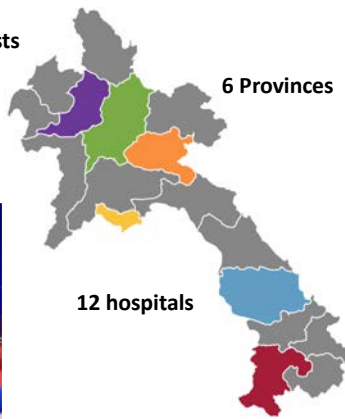
Vision

The Lao-American Nutrition Institute will be the center of excellence for nutrition education and research in Lao PDR



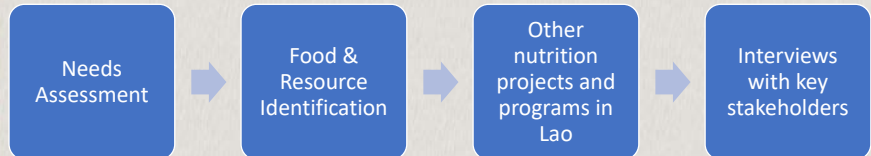
Clinical Nutrition & Dietetics in Lao

22 Clinical Nutrition Specialists



~2600 patients per month

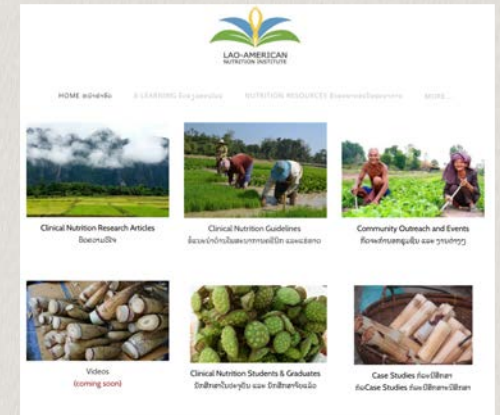
Developing Clinical Nutrition Program



Challenges

- Language
- Staff
- Funding
- Collective agreement on priorities, objectives and outcomes
- Time
- University & Governmental process, policies and procedures to work through
- Creating course content that is culturally appropriate, cognizant of resources and abilities, and translated correctly

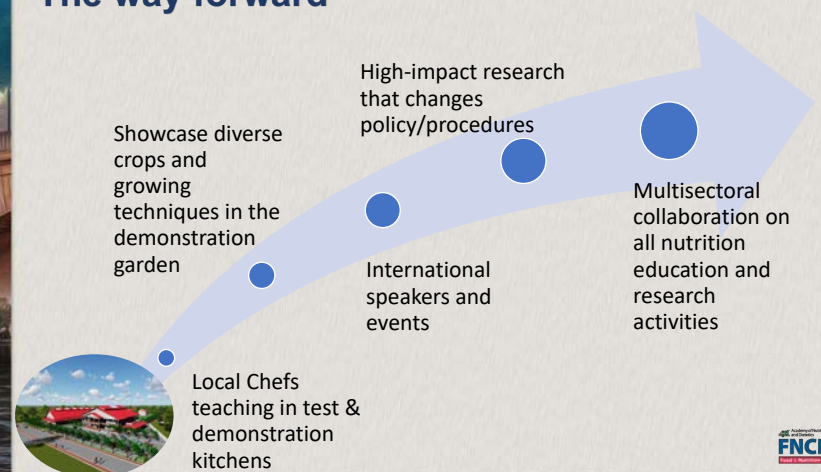
Achievements



Research & High Local Impact Opportunities

- LANI provides a unique opportunity for U.S. and other international students to come work and learn in a new environment
- Encourage “out-of-the-box” thinking and solutions
- Learn about cultural foods, practices, cooking techniques and the impact on nutrition
- Conduct high-impact research that can be applied to improve health and well-being of Lao nationals

The way forward



Future in Global Nutrition



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Practice Applications

- Join the Global Member Interest Group (coming 2019) or International Affiliate of the Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics (IAAND)
- Reach out and engage with others working internationally!
- Look outside of the “standard” career path for RD’s!

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