WORLD FOOD CENTER

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UC DAVIS
The World Food Center elevates and enhances the excellence across UC Davis for greater societal impact on food and health.
How we work

• Serve as a focal point for deepening the university’s collaboration with partners

• Convene leaders to shape strategy and policy

• Connect research to society and the marketplace
Focus on Developing Countries

BUILD HEALTHIER OUTCOMES FROM FOOD SYSTEM
“Health transition mirrors economic transformation.”

Webb and Block, PNAS 2012

80% of people with diabetes live in low and middle income countries

International Diabetes Foundation
Areas of interests

• Food systems approach
  • Availability, affordability, demand for diverse diets

• Market-based mechanisms to diverse diets

• Creating demand for diverse diets
Optimal Health & Nutrition
reduce malnutrition, reduce chronic disease

Consumption of Diverse Diets

Demand
affordability, preference

Behavioral Change
Nutrition education, women’s empowerment

Production & Trade
availability, income

Postharvest & Markets
safety, quality

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Assessing Availability of Healthy Diet in Cameroon

Difference between 2011 FBS Supply & DASH Recommendations

- Dairy
- Fats and oils
- Fruits
- Grains and starchy staples
- Meat, poultry, fish and eggs
- Nuts, seeds, and legumes
- Vegetables

DASH Food Groups

kcal/capita/day
Food Safety

- California’s role in US food system
  - 50% of fruits & vegetables in US
  - Top dairy producing state in US

- Microbial & chemical

- Irrigation water to post harvest handling to animal health

- Establishing Center for Food Safety in China
UNCOVER SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS
Water

- Larger-scale integrated research to develop tools from farm to policy level
- Public-private partnerships: technologies for efficiency
  - Precision irrigation & nutrient management
  - Water efficiency & reuse in food processing
- Global conference: water policy for food security
  - Collaboration with IFPRI
  - October 4-5, 2015
Energy

- **Food Sector**
  - use growing 6X rate of other sectors
  - 10% of US annual energy consumption

- **California GHG regulations impact food processors**

- **Public-private partnerships: technologies for efficiency from farm to food processing**

- **Energy Efficiency Center: high cost of energy for moving water around**
Climate

- Mitigation: livestock to carbon credits
- Climate Smart Agriculture: connecting research to policy
- Food Security & Nutrition: modeling climate impacts on fruits & vegetables
GROW THE INNOVATION ECONOMY
Investing in innovation

• “AgTech Is The New Queen Of Green”
• “The next hot tech bet...farming?”
• “VC industry ups agtech investment by 86%”
• $2.36 billion raised across 264 deals in the agtech industry for 2014
Silicon Valley to the Central Valley

- Increase impact of research through the marketplace
- Entrepreneurship development: spin off companies
- Create visibility for investment opportunities for new and established companies
- Connect innovators & investors
- Launch of Innovation Institute for Food & Health with Mars Corporation