**NCAER-IDS Conference**  
**Undernutrition in India and Public Policy**  
**JUNE 9 - 11, 2014**  

**HERITAGE VILLAGE RESORT**  
NH 8, Manesar, Gurgaon - 122050  
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**PROGRAMME**

**VIDEO ON POLICY ROUNDTABLE**

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**JUNE 9, 2014**

6:00 - 7:00 pm  Reception
7:00 - 7:30 pm  **Welcome:** Sonalde Desai (*NCAER*), Deepta Chopra (*IDS*), Anindya Chatterjee (*IDRC*) and Introductions
7:30 - 8:15 pm  **Keynote Address:** Veena Rao, Advisor, Karnataka Nutrition Mission
8:15 - 8:30 pm  **Comments by Shreeranjan,** DDG-UIDAI, formerly Joint Secretary, Women and Child Development
8:30 - 9:00 pm  Discussion
9:00 pm  Dinner

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**JUNE 10, 2014**

9:00-9:20 am  **India’s Nutrition Challenge:** What Do We Need to Know for Successful Policy? - **Sonalde Desai**, NCAER and University of Maryland
9:20-11:15 am  **SESSION-1: Nutrition Agenda**  
**Where are the gaps? Where are the opportunities?**

**Chair**  
**Lawrence Haddad,** IFPRI

9:20-9:40 am  “Assessment of Nutritional Status in a Dual Nutritional Burden Era” - **Prema Ramachandran,** Nutrition Foundation of India

9:40-10:00 am  “The Elephant in the Dark: Finding Ways to End India’s Hunger and Malnutrition” – **Harsh Mander,** Centre for Equity Studies

10:00-10:20 am  “Tackling Child Malnutrition in India: Achieving the Doable or Chasing the Desirable?” - **Satish Agnihotri,** Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat

10:20-11:15 am  Discussion

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“This conference is organized with the aid of a grant from the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa, Canada.”
Break 11:15 -11:45 am

11:45-1:00 pm: SESSION-2: Gender and Malnutrition
What is the Role of Households in Shaping Malnutrition?

Chair G.N.V. Brahman, former Deputy Director, National Institute of Nutrition

11:45-12:05 pm “Maternal Nutrition: Breaking the Intergeneration Cycle of Malnutrition- Significance, Challenges and Opportunities” - Sheila C. Vir, Public Health Nutrition and Development Centre

12:05-12:25 pm “Women’s Agency and Child Underweight Rates in India: A District Level Analysis” - Swarna Sadasivam Vepa, Madras School of Economics

12:25-1:00 pm Discussion

Lunch: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

2:00-4:00 pm SESSION-3: The Environmental Context
What is the Role of Water, Sanitation and the Environment?

Chair Sara Ahmed, IDRC

2:00-2:20 pm “An Appraisal of Anthropometric Data and Factors Influencing Height of Indian Population” - Sayeed Unisa, International Institute for Population Sciences

2:20-02:40 pm “Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and the Nutritional Status of Children in India: Understanding the Linkages and Structuring the Response” - Frank Odhiambo, UNICEF

2:40-03:00 pm “Improving Sanitation Is A Policy Priority for Children’s Human Capital in Rural India: Lessons from Recent Literature and the IHDS” - Dean Spears, Research Institute for Compassionate Economics

3:00-04:00 pm Discussion

Break 4:00 - 4:30 pm

4:30-05:30 pm Voices of Discrimination: Video Screening and Discussion
Nidhi Sabharwal, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies

7:00 pm Reception followed by Dinner

JUNE 11, 2014

9:00-10:30 am SESSION-4: Improving Service Delivery
Who Owns the Problem? Can We Improve Coordination Across Sectors?

Chair Meenakshisundaram S. S, National Institute of Advanced Studies

9:00-9:20 am “What Factors Support or Limit Convergence in Service Delivery to Improve Nutritional Outcomes: A Study of Policies and Programs in India” - Rasmi Avula, International Food Policy Research Institute

9:20–9:40 am “Coordination Failure: Can Multi-Sectoral Interventions to Tackle Hunger and Malnutrition Succeed In India” - Santosh Mehrotra, Institute of Applied Manpower Research

9:40-10:30 am Discussion
Break: 10:30 – 11:00 am

11:00-12:30 pm  SESSION-5: Economy and Diet
*Can Employment and Agricultural Policies Influence Diet?*

Chair  J.V. Meenakshi, Delhi School of Economics

11:00-11:20 am  “Pathways from Agriculture to Nutrition: Implications of the Occupation Structure in Rural India” - S. Chandrasekhar, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research (IGIDR)

11:20-11:40 am  “Changes and State-wise Differences in the Nutritional Impact of the Indian Public Distribution System” - Tara Kaul, University of Maryland, College Park

11:40-12:30 pm  Discussion

Lunch Break 12:30 – 01:30 pm

1:30-3:00 pm  SESSION-6: Governance Challenges
*Will the National Food Security Act Reduce Hunger or Malnutrition?*

Chair  Deepta Chopra, IDS, Sussex

1:30-1:50 pm  “Governance Challenges to Reducing Hunger and Malnutrition in India” - Naresh C. Saxena, Office of the Commissioners of the Supreme Court of India

1:50-2:10 pm  “From the Files to the Fields: The Story of Paddy Procurement in Chhattisgarh” - Biraj Patnaik, Office of the Commissioners of the Supreme Court of India

2:10-3:00 pm  Discussion

Break: 3:00 – 03:30 pm

3:30-5:15 pm  Policy Roundtable
*India’s Malnutrition Challenge: How Should India’s New Government Tackle What No Government Has Been Able to Tackle?*

Chair  Shekhar Shah, NCAER

Panelists  Keshav Desiraju, Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs, formerly Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Satish Agnihotri, Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat
Veena Rao, Advisor, Karnataka Nutrition Initiative
Lawrence Haddad, IFPRI
Shubhashis Gangopadhyay, Research Director, IDF and Director of Humanities and Social Sciences, SNU
R. Sankar, South Asia Director, Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

5:00-5:10 pm  Concluding Comments - Sara Ahmed, IDRC

5:10-5:15 pm  Vote of Thanks – Amit Thorat, NCAER