



Biofortified Zinc Flour to Eliminate Deficiency

Thursday 29th March 2018

National Agricultural Research Centre, Islamabad

You are invited to a showcase event for this UK/PK research collaboration funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, Global Challenges Research Fund.

The project is led by the University of Central Lancashire in partnership with the University of Nottingham, the Abaseen Foundation, Khyber Medical University and Fauji Fertilizer Company.

Our aim is to evaluate the potential of biofortified wheat (Zincol/NR-421) produced by HarvestPlus to increase dietary zinc intake in Pakistan.

The timetable for the event is shown on the following page.

We look forward to welcoming you to NARC.



- 10:00 Welcome and coffee
- 10:20 Tribute to the late Dr Qadir Baloch, HarvestPlus Pakistan
- 10:30 Introduction from Professor Mukhtiar Zaman and Dr Munir Zia
- 11:00 BiZiFED project information and updates:
- Objective 1 – Examine the impact of biofortified zinc flour on the zinc status of women living in a rural community in North West Pakistan. Professor Nicola Lowe, BiZiFED Principal Investigator.
- Objective 2 – Determine the health economic impact of the addition of zinc fertilizers to the zinc concentration of biofortified zinc wheat grown at sites of contrasting available soil zinc status. Professor Martin Broadley, BiZiFED Co-Investigator. Dr Munir Zia, R&D Coordinator, Fauji Fertilizer Company.
- Objective 3 – Explore the cultural context, traditions, knowledge and attitudes of local stakeholders to biofortified zinc wheat and zinc fertilizers. Dr Heather Ohly, BiZiFED Postdoctoral Research Assistant.
- Objective 4 – Establish a long-term partnership to develop local capacity infrastructure and expertise for further research into sustainable and culturally sensitive solutions to micronutrient deficiencies. Professor Harry McArdle, BiZiFED Co-Investigator.
- 12:00 Lunch and networking
- 13:00 Invited delegates will speak for 20 minutes about their work in relation to nutrition and agriculture in Pakistan:
- Dr Nasir Sarfraz, Health Adviser, DFID Pakistan: DFID Pakistan’s work on nutrition.
- Dr Tausif Janjua, Technical Director, Nutrition International: Food Fortification Programme.
- Dr Muhammad Yaqub Mujahid, Crop Development Specialist, HarvestPlus: Biofortification of staple food crops program to alleviate malnutrition in Pakistan.
- Dr Erick Boy and Dr Mourad Moursi, HarvestPlus: Zinc-enhanced staple crops.
- Dr Zia Ul Haq, Associate Professor and Director, Institute of Public Health and Social Sciences, Khyber Medical University: Ready to Use Supplementary Foods (RUSF) to prevent stunting among children under five years in Kurram Agency.
- 15:00 Meeting close
- 15:30 Visit to our wheat growing site at NARC (optional)