

# CONSULTANCY BOOKLET



# Message from the NNEdPro Chair

Over the past fifteen years, we have had an unparallel opportunity to conduct cutting edge research and deliver on much needed educational needs across a complex set of challenges that the world faces in nutrition and health; at a population level, this includes the global malnutrition crises in the form of an ever-growing double burden in both developed and lesser resourced parts of the world. This manifests in the form of a largely preventable disease burden which can save millions of untimely deaths or disabilities as well as mitigate economic losses in a resource constrained climate. Specifically, we have developed key areas of focus in cardiometabolic risk assessment and management using a variety of methodologies from evidence-synthesis and data science to controlled clinical-grade trials/interventions as well as educational interventions targeting both professionals as well as members of the public.

In addition, we have undertaken practical action research studies focusing on micronutrient deficiencies in vulnerable and food insecure populations, also studying whether using foodbased micro-enterprise can improve population resilience through better health and sustainable livelihoods. Our education and training experience has led to deep insights into the strategies that work best to deliver nutrition and related aspects of education, especially to healthcare professionals, including the medical workforce.

Over the years, these activities have led to a tangible legacy in the form of several hundred peer-reviewed outputs, textbooks, and the establishment of our peer-reviewed journal with the highly respected BMJ Group. Over the past decade and a half, we have continuously added value to external organisations through the provision of consulting and advisory services, drawing from our prowess in research education and enterprise. Today, with this vast experience and through the concerted efforts of many leading professionals in the field who form part of our intelligence poll, we are poised and ready to continue adding even more value to local as well as global stakeholders, from design and delivery of programmes to evaluation and reporting on outcomes, and by providing world-class advice and expertise to solve virtually any problem within our field of competence!

# NNEdPro Leadership

### **Executive Directorial Members**



Prof Sumantra Ray RNutr Founding Chair, Chief Scientist and Executive Director



Pauline Douglas RD Vice Chair & Operations Director (Operational Governance, Risk Management & Education)



Dr Lauren Ball Associate Director (Int'l Knowledge Exchange, Scientific & Strategic Development)



Sucheta Mitra Assistant Director (Academic Operations, Development & Relationships)



Kaitlyn Shannon Associate Director (Principal Project Management Advisor)



Dr Dominic Crocombe Associate Director



Dr Rajna Golubić Associate Director



Matheus Abrantes Assistant Director (Operations, Finance, Marketing & Enterprise)

### Non-Executive Directorial Members



Dr Minha Rajput-Ray Non-Executive Director (Medical)



Prof Daniele Del Rio Non-Executive Director (Scientific)



Prof Martin Kohlmeier BMJ Editor in Chief (Equivalent to Non-Executive Director)



Dr Celia Laur Non-Executive Associate Director



Dr Kathy Martyn RNutr Non-Executive Associate Director



Dr Luke Buckner Assistant Director (Nutrition in Medicine, Flagship Projects & Organisational Strategy)



Dr Mohamad Farshard Aslam Non-Executive Assistant Director

# About us

The NNEdPro Global Institute for Food, Nutrition and Health is an international and interdisciplinary thinktank as well as an independent research enterprise registered in the UK. Originally created in partnership with the University of Cambridge and Ulster University, our team includes researchers from several of the world's leading academic institutions in the domains of nutrition and health. Our collaborations and partnerships to date include over 50 organisations, including the World Health Organization, the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization, and the British Medical Journal, with whom we co-own the flagship periodical BMJ Nutrition, Prevention and Health.

NNEdPro is an organisation that believes everyone has the right to good nutrition. We provide direct support to vulnerable families and communities on the ground, and our educational programme trains frontline healthcare professionals and dietitians around the globe. We generate the resources to provide such support through our consultancy and advisory services.

NNEdPro advocates that equity, collaboration, and technology will be key to achieving the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goal of Zero Hunger. Unlike other organisations, we research and influence whole food systems: from production through to consumption, and beyond into healthcare. Each pillar of our work is reliant upon the others, and our leading research underpins it all. We aim to achieve significant behavioural change from food producers and professionals, governments and policymakers, healthcare professionals, and the public. Despite our modest resources, we have the potential to become the world's leading provider of nutrition education and have already helped many thousands of families and communities around the world enjoy improved diets every day.

# Who our customers are

Since 2008, we have worked with top worldwide universities as well as the not-for-profit, private and public sectors. Some stakeholders from recent years include:

### Universities

- Cambridge University
- Imperial College London
- Ulster University
- University of Oxford
- University of Parma
- University of Wollongong

### Not-for-profit sector

- Power of Nutrition
- AIM Foundation
- Calcutta Rescue
- Lord Rana Foundation

### Public sector

- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- National Health Service (UK)
- National Institutes of Health (US)
- UK Research and Innovation

### Private sector

- Ocean Spray
- Swiss Re
- Juice Plus
- Yakult

We have 12 <u>Regional Networks</u> providing access to over 40 countries across six continents. With more than a decade and half of footprint and 700+ members across the globe, we have the experience and expertise to create and adapt any of our offerings to the needs of organisations and communities worldwide.

# How we can help

Stakeholders looking to improve nutrition-related health outcomes may benefit from our services. We aim to make a difference by training professionals, strengthening research, implementing solutions, and addressing inequalities, in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals and the Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016-2025. In our areas of work, we:

- Develop, deliver, and evaluate evidence-based education and nutrition and health training.
- Undertake primary nutrition research through basic science, human interventions, population studies and evidence syntheses to inform health policy and practice.
- Seek implementation strategies to embed good nutrition practices into health systems across sectors through action-orientated research and solution-focused consulting.
- Aim to close the nutrition and health-related inequalities gap through lean innovation and empowerment of marginalised populations, focusing on lower-income settings.

Our Consultancy and Advisory Services draws from the following three pillars of activity in nutrition and health:

- Independent Research Organisation
- Education and Training Centre
- Social Enterprise

We also draw from our extensive generic skills and experience which go beyond the domain of nutrition and health.

We recycle the profit generated through our work into social enterprise activities, such as the Mobile Teaching Kitchen Initiative and Independent Research for population benefit.

# Research & Innovation

### Aim

To undertake primary nutrition research through basic science, human interventions, population studies and evidence syntheses to inform health policy and practice.

Our Independent Research organisation is built from a consortium of specialist skillsets bringing together studies on food, nutrition and health from clinical, biomedical and public health sciences to interdisciplinary, educational and social sciences straddling cross-cutting exposure and outcome-based themes.

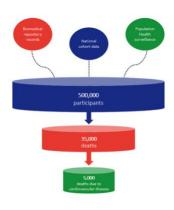
Key research themes include cardiovascular, metabolic and non-communicable disease prevention and management, innovation in nutrition education interventions at clinical and community levels, as well as nutrition equity and resilience to global challenges such as pandemic preparedness and food insecurity.

Since 2020, the NNEdPro Global Institute for Food, Nutrition and Health has expanded its Nutrition Research and Innovation Consortium (NRIC) to form methodological hubs such as a centre of excellence for Data Science and Evidence Synthesis. Going forward the combined strengths from dedicated research hubs will seek to address further unanswered questions around Nutrition and Disease Prevention as well as Healthcare Interventions, connecting the cutting edge of science to evidence-informed professional education and practice.

To learn more, please visit the Independent Research Organisation page.

# Case Studies

### Swiss Re Institute in collaboration with UC Berkley and Modality Partnership



Our <u>Data Science & Evidence Synthesis Hub</u> aims to harness the power of data sharing and research partnerships to support more timely and effective CVD risk identification and prevention. Aligned with NNEdPro mission to deliver education and empower professionals and policy makers, we also aim to further develop data literacy and capacity for action among relevant stakeholders in the public and private health systems. This core workstream comprises data science and synthesis through the interrogation of published as well as unpublished open access data sets to answer

key questions related to Nutrition and Vascular/ Cardiometabolic Risk in both at-risk and diseased populations.

# Frames of Vascular Function Measurements

### Examples of Vascular Function Measurements

Nutrition and Vascular Studies (NVS) is concerned with advancing research and knowledge into how nutrition may prevent or modulate vascular diseases. NVS is located in the NICHE Human Intervention Studies Unit (HISU). This team is led by Prof Shumone Ray, Prof Mary Ward and other NICHE researchers, including Dr Chris Gill and Prof Daniele Del Rio, working closely with NNEdPro/NRIC members and researchers.

Through the nutrition and vascular studies platform, established and curated by NNEdPro at the human intervention studies unit within Ulster University, we are able to undertake interventional studies as well as associated evidence, synthesis and data science pertaining to dietary bioactive compounds and their impact on vascular and endothelial function, as well as other health and disease-related outcomes through the state of the art measurements and know-how around mechanistic pathways, these can be done in the form of interventional trials using both dietary as well as nutraceutical formats. In addition, we provide scientific advice to researchers, practitioners, policymakers and those involved in industry, research and development in this area and of particular interest or phytochemicals and polyphenolic compounds.

### **Ulster University**

# Education & Training

### Aim

To develop, deliver and evaluate evidence-based education and training in nutrition and health as well as promote the capacity building and mentoring of tomorrow's trainers, particularly in nutrition and medical/healthcare education.

Education and Training Centre refers to the mechanisms in place to pass on knowledge, skills and training to professionals seeking to undertake CPD and career development. This section of work draws from over a decade of experience in developing and delivering high quality nutrition education and evaluating its impact, particularly on healthcare practices.

We utilise a unique approach of combining knowledge in technical aspects of Nutrition and Health including Change Management and Leadership as well as Research and Evaluation. This underpinning work has been consistently recognised through numerous awards over the years, including a joint prize from the Nutrition Society and British Association for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (2010), the Complete Nutrition Outstanding Achievement Award (2015) and the Medical Nutrition International Industry Award in conjunction with the European Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (2017-2019), the AIM Foundation (2018-2022) and the International Union of Nutrition Sciences (2020-2022).

We have been a preferred training provider to the University of Cambridge and UK Research and Innovation amongst a vast number of academic and corporate organisations. We also provide training to the charity sector such as to The Power of Nutrition.

The key inter-disciplinary audiences addressed are currently in the following domains:

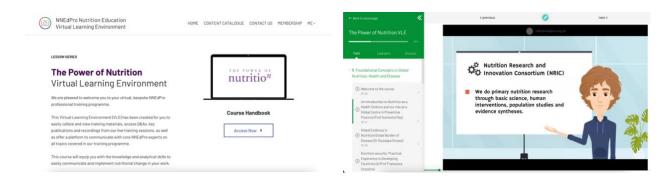
- Medical, healthcare, and public health services
- Biomedical, biological, and natural sciences
- Humanities, social, and behavioural sciences
- Food and agricultural sciences
- International development and sustainability
- Organisational and corporate wellbeing

To learn more, please visit the Education and Training Centre page.

## Case Studies

### The Power of Nutrition

The PoN is an innovative financing and partnership charity that works to fight malnutrition in Africa and Asia. The nutrition team of the organisation identified the need to all members of the group, including the leadership, to understand nutrition related matters. The topics were suggested and NNEdPro prepared a three-month training in five modules of live and pre-recorded sessions. A Virtual Learning Environment was developed to host pre- and post-reading materials as well as recordings of the live sessions. Participants could also engage in online discussions where NNEdPro faculty were available to answer questions.



### Nestlé Nutrition Institute



The Nestlé Nutrition Institute is a not-forprofit association established in 1981 with the goal to advance the science of nutrition. In October 2022, NNEdPro and IANE collaborated with NNI on the 98th NNI Workshop on Global Trends in Nutrition and Health Through the Life Course. NNEdPro was responsible for developing the programme;

selecting and liaising with faculty; developing a Virtual Learning Environment and colleting; applying and analysing the workshop evaluation and reviewing and editing the book published post-event.

# Expert Advice

### Aim

To seek implementation strategies for the embedding of good nutrition practices into education as well as food and health systems across sectors through action-orientated research and solution-focused consulting.

Advisory Services are offered to external organisations, ranging from local, national and government bodies to academic and corporate organisations, facilitating them to undertake research, implementation and training and offering consultation related to nutrition.

We design and conduct education and implementation programmes for individuals or organisations. For example, if a medical or healthcare education provider wishes to incorporate nutrition in their curriculum, we provide direction on the course content as well as strategies for delivery and evaluation of impact. On the other hand, if an organisation wishes to strengthen nutrition-related knowledge and skills within their operations, we can drive implementation and change management in this area. We also work across the interdisciplinary domains underpinning food, nutrition and health. Impact evaluation comprises another area of strength within our advisory toolkit.

To learn more, <u>please visit the Advisory Services page</u>.

### World Health Organization



Over 2018- 2019, the NNEdPro virtual core worked closely with the department of nutrition and food safety at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland to provide a blueprint for the global architecture of nutrition, education and capacity building within the healthcare workforce, particularly in the wake of universal health coverage. This led to the publication

of the peer reviewed paper entitled <u>'Global architecture for the nutrition training of health</u> <u>professionals: a scoping review and blueprint for next steps'</u>, which has informed several central and devolved strategies towards nutrition capacity building within health systems.

### Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations



### Nutrition Related Portfolio

Within the context of the collaboration between <u>IKANN</u> and the <u>FAO</u> <u>elearning Academy</u>, over 350 multilingual elearning courses, are offered free of charge, as a global public good. The thematic areas covered are Nutrition sensitive food systems, Nutrition situation analysis, gender empowerment, sustainable food value chains, food waste and food losses management, responsible management of natural resources among others.

### egister for free!

NNEdPro entered a strategic partnership with the FAO e-learning academy to increase bilateral access to both learning and pedagogical resources across a wider section of international and interdisciplinary recipients worldwide. NNEdPro has contributed to various communication materials for the FAO e learning platform which have been disseminated to audiences such as – academics, NGOs, chefs, food innovators, scientists and environmental researchers, climate shapers, entrepreneurs and many more. NNEdPro has

been a key contributor to the Global Marathon on Diet and Climate Change organised by the FAO and Future Food Institute in 2021. NNEdPro team delivered key messages on food security and its linkages between diet, health and sustainability using models which are widespread and that leaves no one behind (especially children, women and elderly). These verbal and written communication messages were well prepared and adapted for a varied audience – researchers, scientists, young people, policymakers, etc. This event had a tremendous global impact, which was the largest worldwide lesson on the regenerative power of food systems ever broadcasted, bringing together more than **160 expert voices**, in **30 main work sessions**, in English, French, Italian and Spanish, garnering more than **150,000 views worldwide**, and coverage from over 100 online journals, TV channels, and networks. This marathon was piblished and distributed on the World Food Day, documenting each session.

The NNEdPro Chair was appointed over 2021 and 2022 to provide mentoring along with other colleagues to the transformative research challenge competition of the World Food Forum of the FAO leading to the NNEdPro mentee in 2022, winning first prize and contributing to transformative research, thinking within the FAO.

### United Nations Environment Program

Over 2023, a dedicated team from NNEdPro was commissioned by the United Nations environment program to undertake evidence synthesis and data interpretation relating to the links between malnutrition and freshwater ecosystems, resulting in the coproduction of a key chapter within the United Nations environment program report on freshwater ecosystems which is the first of its kind, bringing together, the impacts of climate change, food, security and freshwater ecosystems.

# Work with us

We are always looking for interested organisations who share our research interests. If you are interested in our services or collaboration in implementation research/evaluation, please contact us for a preliminary assessment of your needs. You can write to us at info@nnedpro.org.uk or call us at +44 7743 988276. We look forward to working with you!



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