

education, research and innovation

NNEdPro Global Centre for Nutrition and Health

Advancing and implementing nutrition knowledge to improve health, wellbeing and society

Save the dates for NNEdPro's 2019 Events

- Summer School in Applied Human Nutrition July 5th - 9th
- Strategy Workshop July 10th
- 5th International NNEdPro Summit on Medical and Public Health Nutrition and Research July 11th
- International Society for Nutrigenomics & Nutrigenetics Congress (hosted by NNEdPro and in partnership with Mediterranean Diet Round Table) 12th - 13th July

By James Bradfield. Edited by Karen Chamberlain and Prof Sumantra Ray, with key contributions from Dr Glenys Jones, Ruthie Musker and Nida Ziaudeen. Further we would like to make Special Acknowledgements to Juliet Tumeo, Jennifer Dean and Andre Laperriere.

The NNEdPro GODAN Partnership

Bringing the worlds of agricultural and human nutrition together through a common culture in open data

In 2016, Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) held a summit in New York, following which a partnership was formalised with the NNEdPro Global Centre for Nutrition and Health. This alliance brought together a wealth of knowledge in both open data and nutrition, to provide expertise and knowledge of opportunities and challenges across the food supply chain, and their impacts on the environment, health and wellbeing of society. Development of a Nutrition Open Data Strategy became a key collaborative focus and we are delighted to share some insights which we have gained over the past two years.

Background

We live in a data-driven world where information is key in all walks of life, as it is in the case of nutrition and agriculture practitioners. By making data open and available to those who need it most, this partnership has the broad aim of helping progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, many of which are linked to nutrition. The development of the GODAN-NNEdPro Nutrition Open Data Strategy aims to provide a method of making nutrition data openly available and accessible to everyone and adhering to data ethics procedures.

NNEdPro's International Knowledge Application Network in Nutrition

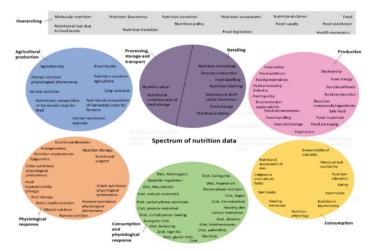
Initiative 2025
(I-KANN-25)
aims to achieve
sustained impact
in global healthcare
systems by
promulgating
high quality and
scalable nutrition
education. This is
based on three pillars:

Modifying dietary exposures Promotion of dietary behaviour change is delivered to medical and healthcare professionals Promotion of dietary practitioner knowledge and skills including education and training

The strategy

The project aims to bring together partners to:

- 1. Determine the type of data being produced and used within the network
- 2. Opportunities and challenges to committing to making data available openly
- 3. Development of standard guidelines for open data
- 4. Development of an Open Data Strategy Charter for partners to sign up to. Stage 1 of the project involved a keyword assessment of meta-terms present in academic journals, reports on nutrition, and available thesauri, to ensure all agricultural terms relevant to the nutrition disciplines currently present at each stage of the food system were collected. The comprehensive search of keywords of the meta-terms present in academic journals, reports on nutrition, and available thesauri was undertaken. Based on the keyword search, a diagram is created to show the spectrum of nutritional disciplines and concepts across the food system. This provides all parties a comprehensive understanding of nutrition topics in the food system.



In July 2017, the 3rd Annual NNEdPro International Summit on Nutrition Education was utilised as a platform to describe the project to an audience made up predominantly of nutrition practitioners and researchers. Presentations were provided on the interface between agriculture and nutrition, as well as an interactive discussion exploring the challenges and opportunities that an open data strategy or consensus statement/charter would experience, and some examples of good practice. The wider determinants of health were also described. At the 4th NNEdPro International Summit in July 2018, a strategy day was dedicated to developing the I-KANN-25 initiative from a number of points of view with doctors, dietitians, the public, private sector and industry all represented amongst stakeholders.

The score so far and road ahead

The project so far has highlighted a number of challenges to developing an open nutrition data strategy. Finding data and repositories which are accessible, interpretable and discoverable to begin with are just a number of issues with such a project; although, this has not stifled the efforts of either GODAN or NNEdPro in the quest to develop resources, such as I-KANN-25. Only by working together with data producers, users and sharers will this initiative reach its full potential to provide a matrix of data, information and knowledge, which is freely available for discussions and to make decisions that impact agricultural nutrition as well as human nutrition and health.