WN *The issue*

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Development, Farming, Source
Three new series in this issue



Above, left to right: Thomas Piketty on equity. Olivier de Schutter on regulation. Fabio Gomes on the UN and nutrition. Bruce Cogill, Carlos Monteiro at EAT Forum. Jean-Claude Moubarac on Canada's power. Michelle Obama on Big Junk biting back. Below from left to right: Bill Clinton, Mark Hyman, on impact of diets loaded with sugar. Enrique Jacoby, others, on family farming and nutrition security. Kiera Butler on unhappy meals for dietitians. Claus Leitzmann on top texts, authors, leaders. Colin Butler on climate change. Barry Popkin on history of snacks

Editor's note

People above are in bold type. First the upper row. In *Editorial,* **Thomas Piketty** and Bill Clinton change our game. In *Update*, our *Development* series begins with **Olivier de Schutter** on food system regulation. Then, **Fabio Gomes** on the second UN ICN. **Bruce Cogill** and **Carlos Monteiro** at EAT. **Jean-Claude Moubarac** on Canada's global food power. Enrique Jacoby on UN plan to be tough on the causes of obesity. **Michelle Obama** on blocks to healthy eating. Then the lower row. Our cover commentary on *Fed Up* has Katie Couric, **Bill Clinton**, **Mark Hyman,** David Kessler, David Ludwig, Robert Lustig, Mark Bittman, Gary Taubes, on why the sugar point has tipped. Our *Farming* series begins with **Enrique Jacoby,** others, on UN action on family farming. *Big Food Watch* is **Kiera Butler** on McDonald's penetration of science conferences. Geoffrey Cannon and **Claus Leitzmann** begin our new *Source* series on texts to read, people to trust, and leaders to watch. *Feedback* this month includes **Colin Butler** on climate change; Thiago Hérick de Sá on Nestlé teaching the world to snack; **Barry Popkin** on snacking down the ages; Claudio Schuftan on difference between equality and equity; and Diana Parra on Coca-Cola's penetration of a conference in Brazil.

Equity

The Pope speaks for the impoverished



Pope Francis I greets UN secretary-general Ban Ki-moon in Rome in May, identifies structural causes of poverty and hunger, and denounces injustice and the cultures of waste and of death

The Editorial team reports: Here we continue the theme of this month's Editorial. Times have changed. Pope Francis I has been denounced in the US as a Marxist. But he continues to speak on behalf of the impoverished and dispossessed people of the world. To UN secretary-general Ban Ki-moon at the Vatican in May, he said

> In the case of the political and economic crisis… an important part of humanity continues to be excluded from the benefits of progress and, is relegated to second-class human beings. Future objectives of sustainable development should…affect the structural causes of poverty and hunger… favour the preservation of the environment, and ensure decent work for all and adequate protection to the family, an essential element of any sustainable economic and social development.

We can begin to discern some of the people with the vision and power to guide the world we battle in now, to an equitable future. Pope Francis is one. He has also stated: 'Today we also have to say "thou shalt not" to an economy of exclusion and inequality. Such an economy kills.' This is the language of Liberation Theology, the pro-poor movement within the Catholic Church in Latin America, close to being outlawed not long ago by 'the Polish Pope'. One of Pope Francis's first acts after being appointed was to invite to Rome Peru's Gustavo Gutiérrez, the priest who wrote the 'magna carta' for Liberation Theology in 1968. They celebrated mass together, then had breakfast. Then the Pope progressed the beatification of Oscar Romero, the archbishop of San Salvador who was murdered by a terrorist death squad in 1980 while celebrating Mass. For who else who may inspire and guide us...

Access the Editorial on pages 508-510 here.

Development. UN Conference on Nutrition

First priority is sustainable food systems



Everybody now agrees that economies, progress, development, resources, life on earth, need to be sustainable, so we need to respect and learn from ways of being that have always been sustained

Fabio Gomes reports. I write here in my capacity as World Public Health Nutrition Association external affairs secretary. One of my jobs is to work on behalf of the Association with United Nations agencies. This coming November the second UN International Conference on Nutrition is being convened. One of its products will be the *Rome Declaration* on the future of food and nutrition. This will be finally discussed and amended by member states and then adopted at the ICN.

In preparation, drafts of the Declaration are circulated for comment. The editor of *WN* agreed to publish the Association's submission. It ends by encouraging UN agencies, member states, and all those committed to the improvement, protection and strengthening of public health and nutrition to think big, stand tall, and act fast:

> We admire the work done by colleagues within the UN System, and now also within associated agencies notably the World Bank, to drive towards equitable, sustainable food systems and supplies, and thus adequate and nourishing food and nutrition for a growing world population. These responsibilities are very serious and must be seen as one crucial part of the drive to recover, protect and enhance sustainable systems of world, national, municipal and local governance, within increasingly participatory democracies. This is the best chance for humanity at this critical time in history. Our policies and actions now will be judged in future

Access Update on the International Conference on Nutrition on pages 516-518 here.



Sugar. The Fed Up movie

The point has tipped



Bill Clinton giving the keynote address at the EAT Forum held in Stockholm in late May. He also appears in the smash hit Fed Up movie made by the creators of An Inconvenient Truth

The Update team reports: One of the most persuasive people on the planet is on the rampage against sugar. This is Bill Clinton, seen above in late May giving the keynote address at the high-powered EAT Forum meeting on food, nutrition and the environment in Stockholm. The many presenters included Walter Willett, Tim Lang, and Carlos Monteiro. Bill Clinton is also currently appearing in the *Fed Up* movie on the world obesity catastrophe, which attacks sugar and the purveyors of sugar – the Big Food transnational corporations. *Fed Up* is by the makers of *An Inconvenient Truth*, and stars Katie Couric, the television journalist who exposed Sarah Palin as unfit for elected office. Big Sugar is now in deep trouble.

Bill Clinton is hot on the issue of sugar for the most personally persuasive reason possible. Having recovered from major heart surgery and dropped 30 pounds (13 kilograms) in weight, he has been weaned off sugar by his diet guru. This is Mark Hyman, who in his best-selling writing, and high-profile teaching and practice, hates sugar with a virulence that matches that of Robert Lustig, the chief science consultant to *Fed Up*. The tide has turned against sugar.

Access Update on the EAT Forum on pages 519-521 here.
Access WN commentary on sugar and the movie Fed Up on pages 533-536 here



Farming. UN plan for the Americas

Family farming for sustainable futures



Truly sustainable agriculture and food systems are good employers and 'tread lightly on the earth'. We need to learn from long-established ways of being and doing. A rice farmer in Yunnan, China

Enrique Jacoby reports: Many colleagues, mostly from the UN System, and I have prepared a special report on family farming, food security and public health in the Americas, published in this issue of *WN*. The findings of the report were finally discussed at a *meeting in Lima held on 19-20 May* whose speakers included many representatives of UN agencies in the Americas, and also Jean-Claude Moubarac, recently at the University of Sao Paulo; Fabio Gomes of the Brazilian National Cancer Institute; and Patricia Jaime of Brazil's Ministry of Health. Its final recommendations are also published in *WN* this month. The report finds that:

> In the last half century, diets have been increasingly made up from industrialised ingredients such as sugar, refined flour, oils, and red meats, which are also used in the mass production of ready-to-eat packaged foods…. These…ultra-processed products are made ready to consume. Their ingredients are refined substances extracted from foods, oils, starches, sugar, salt, sugar and various chemical additives in carefully concocted combinations that give these products high palatability and a longer shelf-life than foods that are perishable. Ultra-processed products are often cheap, are ubiquitous, and are heavily marketed. Their growing presence is eroding the habit of cooking and the socialisation that accompanies meals, and causing culinary traditions to be abandoned.

Access WN Farming commentary on its future in the Americas on 537-551 here.



Source. Top texts, authors, leaders

What and who are our trusted guides?



Our influences Here are Hélène Delisle, Barrie Margetts, Tony McMichael, Barry Popkin, Mark Wahlqvist, Ricardo Uauy. Then some of their choices of top texts and authors: Alan Berg, Francis Moore Lappé, Denis Burkitt, Jared Diamond, Ivan Illich, Susan George, Amartya Sen

Geoffrey Cannon and Claus Leitzmann write: In the context of co-creating the multi-dimensional *New Nutrition Science*, we asked our collaborators to choose which texts and authors most inspired them. Two of the resulting 'top 5' lists, those of Helene Delisle and Ricardo Uauy (top left and top right, above) are shown here. Between them they chose four of the most often cited authors (shown in the row beneath them). *Source*, an occasional series beginning in this issue of *WN*, revives this intriguing and revealing idea.

Helene Delisle
WHO collaborating centre, University of Montréal

David Barker. *Mothers, Babies and Disease in Later Life*
Alan Berg. *The Nutrition Factor. Its Role in National Development*
Josué de Castro. *The Geography of Hunger*
Susan George. *Jusqu'au Cou. Enquête sur la Dette du Tiers-Monde*
Amartya Sen. *Development as Freedom*

Ricardo Uauy
President, International Union of Nutritional Sciences, 2005-2009

Michael Crawford, David Marsh. *The Driving Force*
IHGSC. *Initial Sequencing and Analysis of the Human Genome*
Francis Moore Lappé, Joseph Collins *et al*. *World Hunger: Twelve Myths*
Leonardo Mata. *The Children of Santa María Cauqué*
Geoffrey Rose. *The Strategy of Preventive Medicine*

Access Source on choices of 15 and 5 texts and top authors on pages 558-571here.

Feedback

Keep 'em coming!



Feedback editor Isabela Sattamini (left) and (then from the left) our letter writers in this issue are Colin Butler, Thiago Hérick de Sá, Barry Popkin, Claudio Schuftan, and Diana Parra

Isabela Sattamini writes: We at *WN* are proud of our *Feedback* section. We are the journal in our field that is dedicated to publishing opinion, news, ideas, trends and predictions and always placing nutrition within the challenging multi-dimensional frame of public health. So most of what we publish is work in progress. The more lively our *Feedback* section, the more we are succeeding.

This month is a good example. Colin Butler from Australia follows up his commentary written with Tony McMichael on climate change and its impact on food systems and health, with a vivid analogy – the sinking of the Titanic. Thiago Hérick de Sá from Brazil believes the story about Nestlé's imitation banana ice-cream is worse than we thought. Barry Popkin from the US writes a riff on snacks down the ages, done on a flight from Shanghai back home. Claudio Schuftan from Vietnam teaches our columnist Geoffrey Cannon what is the difference between equity and equality. Diana Parra from Colombia, currently working in Brazil, exposes the reality behind the myths in Coca-Cola's image-making and its promotion of physical activity. Feasts!

Letters in our *Feedback* section can be the beginnings of big ideas and lead commentaries, so keep them coming please to wn.letters@gmail.com.

Status

The issue is reviewed by members of the editorial team. Readers may use material here if *WN* is cited. Please cite as: The Issue team. Development, Farming, Source. Three new series in this issue. [*The issue*] *World Nutrition* June 2014, **5**, 6, 501-507. Obtainable at www.wphna.org/worldnutrition. Contributions to *World Nutrition* are the copyright and responsibility of their authors. They should not be taken to be the view or policy of the World Public Health Nutrition Association (the Association) or of any affiliated or associated bodies, unless this is explicitly stated.