INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON Understanding the Double Burden of Malnutrition for Effective Interventions

10 — 13 December 2018
Vienna, Austria

#dbmal

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SYMPOSIUM WEB PAGE
Detailed information on administrative procedures including participation and registration, abstract submission and grants is provided on the symposium web site:
https://www.iaea.org/events/understanding-the-double-burden-of-malnutrition-symposium-2018

LANGUAGE
The symposium will be held in English.
BACKGROUND
The double burden of malnutrition (DBM) connotes a complex situation where food insecurity, micronutrient deficiencies, undernutrition and infectious diseases, as well as overweight, obesity and related non-communicable diseases (NCDs) coexist in countries, communities and households, and even in the same individual. The DBM affects at least a quarter of all countries worldwide, with low and middle income countries bearing the greatest burden.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES
The purpose of the symposium is to strengthen understanding of how to tackle the DBM by sharing recent research findings as well as experiences with the implementation of relevant interventions, programmes and policies. The symposium will highlight the role of stable isotopes in addressing gaps both in the measurement of malnutrition and in assessing the impact of interventions. The symposium aims to identify double-duty actions, new assessment tools, considerations for policies and action plans with an overall aim to support Member States in achieving their defined nutrition commitments within the United Nations Decade of Action on Nutrition 2016–2025.

The symposium will provide a forum to:
• Estimate and explore the global magnitude of the DBM
• Share evidence on biological pathways through which early nutrition influences NCDs
• Identify the role of stable isotope techniques and new tools in assessing the DBM
• Review the effectiveness of existing double-duty actions
• Review efforts that have been undertaken so far to create nutrition-enabling environments

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE
• Plenary sessions
• Oral abstract and poster presentations
• ‘Learning labs’ to enhance professional skills related to measurement methods
• Working group discussions

AUDIENCE
United Nations agencies such as the World Health Organization (WHO), United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP) and the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition (UNSCN); World Bank; The Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement, including national representatives; Academics; Policymakers, programme planners and implementers (health, agriculture, economics, urban planning); Health professionals (paediatricians, public health nutritionists, health economists); National, regional and international organizations; Non-governmental organizations and the civil society.

MAIN TOPICS
Epidemiology
• Prevalence, causes and consequences of the DBM

Biology
• Long-term health effects of nutrition in early life
• Micronutrient absorption and metabolism
• Endocrine disruptive properties of environmental hazards

Assessment
• Application of stable isotope techniques to improve accuracy in measuring the DBM and to assess effectiveness of interventions
• Design new indices for better assessment of the DBM
• Application of new technologies to assess DBM

Interventions
• Innovative contextually relevant actions
• Double-duty actions
• Agriculture and nutrition sensitive food systems

Policy implications
• Packaging evidence for policy makers
• Policy dialogue
• Urban planning
• Governance and public-private partnerships