

Nutrition and Food Safety Newsletter

March 2025

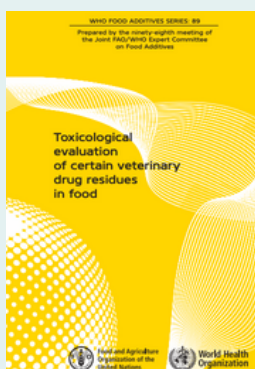
Dear Subscribers

Welcome to our monthly Nutrition and Food Safety Newsletter. In this issue, we present new publications, key campaigns and notable events in the field of nutrition and food safety that took place in February and early March, and upcoming dates to watch for. For further details, please click on the related hyperlinks.

New publications

Toxicological evaluation of certain veterinary drug residues in food

The monograph prepared by the ninety-eighth meeting of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) summarizes the data on the safety of residues in food of selected veterinary drugs: Clopidol, Fumagillin dicyclohexylamine and Imidacloprid.



World Food Safety Day 2025 Communication toolkit

WHO and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) developed the communication toolkit to present information about the seventh World Food Safety Day, observed on 7 June 2025, and share ideas on how to participate, with suggestions on what governments, food businesses, consumers, academics and schools can do.



Campaigns

World Obesity Day

World Obesity Day was observed on 4 March as a day of action calling for a cohesive, cross-sectoral response to the obesity crisis. WHO led both technical and advocacy activities in observance of the Day.

WHO LIVE Q&A on obesity Social media event

WHO hosted a social media live event to raise awareness, provide practical tips on obesity prevention and management, debunk common myths and share the latest research and WHO tools with the public. The event gathered the audience of 35,000 viewers on four channels: X, YouTube, Facebook and LinkedIn, as of 11 March 2025. Watch the recording [here](#).



Feature story

WHO website published a [feature story](#) about the experience of South Africa in applying the lessons learned from tackling HIV to accelerate action on obesity. As a frontrunner country of the WHO Acceleration Plan to Stop Obesity, South Africa has shown strong political commitment and leadership to create healthier environments.

WHO and FAO announce the theme of the World Food Safety Day 2025

The theme of this year's World Food Safety Day, observed on 7 June 2025 is "[Food safety: science in action](#)". It draws attention to the use of scientific knowledge as key to reducing illness, cutting costs and saving lives.

In the campaign launch [video](#), Dr Luz María de Regil, Director of NFS at WHO and Dr Corinna Hawkes, Director of the Food Systems and Food Safety Division of FAO, explain the theme and encourage participation.

All campaign materials are available in 6 UN languages for use and distribution.

- WHO [campaign webpage](#);
- joint FAO/WHO [website](#) hosted by Codex;
- [communication toolkit](#);
- [posters and social media cards](#).

Contact the WHO World Food Safety Day team to share your plans:

world-food-safety-day@who.int

Hashtag: #WorldFoodSafetyDay



Events

Announcement of the Joint UN Initiative for the Prevention of Wasting (JUNIPr)

JUNIPr was announced on 11 March 2025, a joint initiative by WHO, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The joint UN initiative adopts a context-adapted national-led approach to prevent child wasting in food insecure settings in Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Mali. The effort for research and action aims to reach millions of children and women through evidence-based initiatives for the prevention of wasting. Watch the recording [here](#).



Sneak peek at the WHO Technical Package to Stop Obesity

WHO provided a sneak peek at the Technical Package to Stop Obesity during a webinar on 4 March 2025. The package offers a menu of proven policies that are feasible, acceptable, affordable and scalable. It can help government officials, national policy makers and programme managers to deliver concrete action to tackle obesity and navigate the complexity of implementation.

The package is at the centre of the [WHO Acceleration Plan to Stop Obesity](#). It provides a “how to” approach and focuses on a selection of proven interventions to be used by countries according to their own priorities and tailored to the local context with a focus on:

- adapting environments to enable a healthy lifestyle;
- creating knowledge, motivation, and skills for healthy behaviors;
- transforming the health system to respond to the obesity epidemic.

Watch the recording [here](#) (passcode: uS8v^K#t).



To follow / watch

NFS at the Nutrition for Growth 2025 Summit

WHO's NFS Department is actively engaging with other partners in the preparation of the 2025 Paris Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit, organized by France on 27 - 28 March 2025. The summit is an important opportunity advocate for ambitious financial and political commitments from governments, international organizations, research institutions, civil society organizations, philanthropies and private sector entities, and build momentum for reaching the Global Nutrition Targets and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. Learn more about NFS at N4G [here](#).

Get ready to organize your World Food Safety Day event

Join FAO, WHO and Codex Alimentarius teams behind the World Food Safety Day 2025 campaign, in a planning webinar on 7 April 2025.

In this webinar, you can learn more about this year's theme, Food safety: science in action, and the resources available to help you take part in World Food Safety Day celebrations on and around 7 June. The webinar includes a Q&A session with the audience. Register [here](#).

From our collaborators in official relations

Session: Available, accessible, affordable: unlocking dietary shift

Consumers International Sustainable Lifestyles Summit 2025

How can sustainable food systems drive healthy diets, making good food more available, accessible and affordable for all?

Dr Luz María De Regil joined a group of international experts for a session on the dietary shift on 12 March 2025 at 15:00-16:00 CET, organized as part of Consumers International's Sustainable Lifestyles Summit 2025. Watch the recording of the session [here](#).

Consumers International, a non-State actor in official relations with WHO, hosted the Sustainable Lifestyles Summit on 10 - 15 March 2025.



From our archives

WHO guideline

WHO guideline on the prevention and management of wasting and nutritional oedema (acute malnutrition) in infants and children under 5 years provides global, normative, evidence-informed recommendations and good practice statements. Wasting affects an estimated 6.8% of all children under five (45 million), and undernutrition costs the global economy \$2.1 trillion every year in lost economic productivity.



Open call

2025 UN NCD Task Force Awards focusing on obesity prevention and control

The call for nominations is open for the 2025 UN NCD Task Force Awards focusing on obesity prevention and control. WHO is looking for government agencies, NGOs, schools and philanthropic organizations that are making a real impact in preventing and controlling obesity. Winners will be announced during the UN General Assembly. Application deadline: 30 April 2025.

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