

## iYouLead

Sunday, 4 August 2019

07:30 – 09:30

### Re-thinking the Nutrition Challenges

The burden of malnutrition across the world remains unacceptably high, and progress unacceptably slow. Malnutrition is responsible for more ill health than any other cause. Children under five years of age face multiple burdens: 150.8 million are stunted, 50.5 million are wasted and 38.3 million are overweight. Meanwhile 20 million babies are born of low birth weight each year. Women have a higher burden than men when it comes to certain forms of malnutrition: one third of all women of reproductive age have anemia. Yet globally significant steps are being made to address malnutrition, but we are distant from the SDG target goals of ending malnutrition in all its forms by 2030. Leadership is a common factor in successfully promoting action on nutrition globally, regionally, and within countries. The calls for strong leadership in the fight against global and national malnutrition have multiplied during the past decade. There is a need to catalyze leaders in nutrition who have a thorough understanding of the latest evidence on nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive determinants and interventions, and who can translate this knowledge into messages that can be understood by the greater public and that can potentially influence decision or policy makers. The goal of this workshop is to brainstorm perspectives, sentiments, strategies and awaken an unprecedented drive towards micronutrient malnutrition through the young nutrition and food leaders. It is vital that we urgently seize this window of opportunity to get on track towards the SDG target of ending malnutrition in all its forms by 2030.

Speakers:



**Aakanksha Nayyar**

Manager-Social Projects- South Asia- DSM Nutritional Products

Aakanksha is presently working with the Nutrition Improvement vertical for DSM Nutritional Products. Pursuing her present role, she is into strategizing and implementation of sustainable initiatives focused on micronutrient malnutrition to serve the hard-to-reach communities. Appropriating her expertise in nutrition science, she has been technically shaping various programs around micronutrient deficiencies, workplace and community nutrition. Beyond nurturing these programs, she handles advocacy and partnerships with the Government bodies, UN organizations, development partners, non-profits and private sector stakeholders. She is also working towards establishing a social business model on Rice Fortification for India. Aakanksha thrives on discovering innovative and sustainable market-based solutions in order to make strides towards higher quality nutrition for all.

Prior to this, Aakanksha has been associated with multiple on-ground food fortification, public health interventions and innovation grant programs through organizations such as GAIN, Tata Trusts and the Gates Foundation, targeting rural and peri-urban Indian population. Aakanksha has professional training in public health nutrition and social impact strategy from University of Pennsylvania.



**Yannick Foing**  
**Global Lead, Partner Engagement – Nutrition Improvement, DSM**  
**Nutritional Products**

Yannick Foing was Asia Pacific Director of DSM’s Nutrition Improvement unit since 2012 and until January 2018. In this role, he supported financially and socially sustainable initiatives to deliver effective fortified nutritious foods to two billion low to middle income consumers in Asia Pacific. Since early 2018, Yannick has been appointed Global Lead, Partner Engagement for DSM Nutrition Improvement unit and will be looking after fostering collaborations with public sector partners, donors and foundations.

Yannick was previously the Director of Partnerships and Fundraising for BIOVISION, the World Life Sciences Forum, a non-profit think tank organized to bring media, civil society, UN agencies, government, and industry representatives together to debate the access to essential medicines and to foster South South collaborations.

At DSM, Yannick was instrumental in bringing to scale rice fortification in multiple countries in Asia Pacific, working jointly with NGOs, UN agencies, Government and private sector. Rice being the main staple in Asia, rice fortification could be a game changer for nutrition in Asia and Africa. Yannick also supported the development of cross sector collaborations with large food companies to engage them in developing affordable nutritious products targeting low income consumers.

Born in Paris, France in 1977. Yannick holds a Masters in Molecular Biology from the Louis Pasteur University in France. He is also a graduate of the executive program in social impact strategy at the University of Pennsylvania in the United States.

