



## Biofortification—Nutrition for the World

with

2016 World Food Prize Laureate

Dr Howarth Bouis,

and Australian collaborators

A PANEL DISCUSSION CO-HOSTED BY THE CRAWFORD FUND,  
THE AUSTRALIAN CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

AND

THE NATIONAL RURAL PRESS CLUB

with a celebration reception to follow

at the

National Press Club,

National Circuit, Barton, Canberra

15 August, 3.30-6pm

Today, more than 2 billion people—one in three of us—don't get enough essential vitamins and minerals. Micronutrient deficiencies, or "hidden hunger," are leading causes of easily-preventable deaths. Undernutrition contributes to almost half of deaths in children under 5. More than one in three children under 5 is stunted in most parts of Africa and South Asia.

Biofortification is plant breeding to increase the density of critical vitamins and minerals in food crops, sufficient to impact human health, nutrition and livelihoods. [HarvestPlus](#) is developing and promoting biofortified staple crops and providing global leadership on biofortification evidence and technology.

Known as the "Nobel Prize for Agriculture and Nutrition," the [2016 World Food Prize](#) recognizes individuals who have improved the quality, quantity or availability of food in the world.

Dr Howarth (Howdy) Bouis, the Director and Founder of HarvestPlus, is a 2016 Laureate of the World Food Prize. Over a 25-year period he pioneered the implementation of biofortification

as a global plant breeding strategy. As a result of his leadership, crops such as iron and zinc fortified beans, rice, wheat and pearl millet, along with Vitamin A-enriched cassava, maize and orange sweet potato are being tested or released in over 40 countries. Work with sweet potato alone has already improved the health of over 15 million people by reducing “hidden hunger”. Several hundred million will potentially benefit in coming decades.

Dr Bouis will be joined by collaborators for a panel discussion around biofortification—the science behind it and its nutrition and development benefits globally and in our region.

### **Panel Program**

#### *Welcome*

National Rural Press Club nominee

#### *MC/Facilitator*

Melissa Wood, General Manager, Global Program - Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research

#### *History and Achievements of the HarvestPlus Biofortification Program*

Dr Howarth Bouis, Director, HarvestPlus

#### *Linking agriculture to Human Nutrition*

Dr Ross M. Welch, a USDA Scientist Hall of Fame inductee 2014, Soil and Crop Sciences Section, School of Integrative Plant Science, Cornell University

#### *Biofortification in our Region*

Dr Graham Lyons, School of Agriculture, Food and Wine, University of Adelaide

#### *Impact in Africa & Afghanistan*

Shannon Ryan, Manager, Food Security and Natural Resources, World Vision Australia

#### *Conventional Breeding for Biofortification*

Associate Professor James Stangoulis, Biochemistry and Plant Technology, Flinders University

#### *Biotechnology and Biofortification*

Dr Alexander Johnson, School of BioSciences, University of Melbourne

#### *Q&A*

#### *Summing up and Vote of Thanks:*

Dr Denis Blight, Chief Executive, Crawford Fund

#### *Reception:*

Celebration of the World Food Prize

[Click here to RSVP,](#)  
[by COB 10 August](#)