Public/Private Partnerships: A Framework for Moving Ahead

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SR Strategy
Disclosures

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◆ SR Strategy (President) - Serves on several non-profit and industry boards/advisory committees. Consults with a number of food, beverage, and agriculture companies

◆ International Food Information Council (IFIC) and the IFIC Foundation (former President & CEO) – organizations primarily supported by the broad-based food, beverage, and agriculture industries
TRUST and Transparency
2 Escalating Realities Today

Conflict of Interest (COI)  Public/Private Partnerships (PPPs)
Food Forum Meeting on

Building Multisectoral Partnerships in Food and Nutrition: A Workshop

November 1-2, 2011
Enhancing Translation of Nutrition Science from Bench to Food Supply

NIH/USDA Public-Private Partnerships Workshop
Washington, DC
2011
5 Working Groups

- Behavior
- Microbiome
- Biomarkers
- Branded Data Base

Public Private Partnerships

Interagency Committee on Human Nutrition Research
Sub-committee on the Collaborative Process
The Complementary Roles of the Public and Private Sectors in U.S. Agricultural Research and Development

John King, Andrew Toole, and Keith Fuglie

ECONOMIC BRIEF NUMBER 19 • September 2012
PUBLIC RESEARCH, PRIVATE GAIN

CORPORATE INFLUENCE OVER UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

food & water watch
“The Goal of establishing PPPs is to create a collaborative environment to maximize cross-disciplinary expertise among government, academia and industry researchers.”

Benefits of Public-Private Partnerships

- To leverage, broaden and enhance diverse knowledge and expertise to address public health needs and questions concerned with nutrition, health, food science and food and ingredient safety

- To maximize financial resources
Focus is on Research

Rowe, et al.
Philanthropic

Transactional

Transformative

“Balancing the benefits and risks of public private partnerships to address the global double burden of malnutrition.”

The Path Forward
Stakeholder Working Group Meeting

(Cooperative agreement between USDA and the American Society for Nutrition)

December 2014

Government agencies
Professional societies
Research organizations
Industry
Academia
“Achieving a transparent, actionable framework for public-private partnerships for food and nutrition research”

Nick Alexander, Sylvia Rowe, Robert Brackett, Britt Burton-Freeman, Eric Hentges, Alison Kretser, David Klurfeld, Linda Meyers, Ratna Mukherjea and Sarah Ohlhorst

Am J Clin Nutr 2015;101:1359-63. Printed in USA @ 2015 American Society for Nutrition
Prerequisite principle

1. Have a clearly defined and achievable goal to benefit the public.

Justification

Feasibility
Governance principles

2. Articulate a governance structure including a clear statement of work, rules, and partner roles, responsibilities, and accountability, to build in trust, transparency, and mutual respect as core operating principles – acknowledge there may be “deal breakers” precluding the formation of an effective partnership in the first place.

3. Ensure that objectives will meet stakeholder partners’ public and private needs, with a clearly defined baseline to monitor progress and measure success.

Transparency
Communications
Trust
Internal and External Goals
Operational principles

4. Considering the importance of balance, ensure that all members possess appropriate levels of bargaining power.

5. Minimize conflict of interest by recruiting a sufficient number of partners to mitigate influence by any single member and to broaden private-sector perspectives and expertise.

6. Engage partners who agree on specific and fundable (or supportable through obtainable resources) research questions to be addressed by the partnership.

Collaboration

Conflict of interest –
Many forms of bias
Full disclosure

Collective and individual partner goals for research
Operational principles

7. Enlist partners who are committed to the long term as well as to the sharing of funding and research data.

8. Along with government and the private sector, include academics and other members of civil society (e.g., foundations, NGOs, consumers) as partners.

9. Select objective measurements capable of providing common ground for both public and private-sector research goals.

Sustained commitments – long term
Diverse players

Identification of quantitative measures for evaluation

Consideration of subjective measures
Operational principles

10. Adopt research questions and methodologies established by partners with transparency on all competitive interests, ideally in the precompetitive space.

11. Be flexible in implementing the PPP process.

12. Ensure ongoing transparent communications both among partners and between the PPP and the public.

Disclosure minimizes conflict
Mid-course correctives
Internal and external communications - critical
“Principles can only make a difference if they don’t sit on a shelf. I urge you to read them, share them, research them and use them.”

Guidelines
Journal of the American Cancer Institute 1998
Importance of Principles to Supporting Organizations

Patrick Stover, President
American Society for Nutrition

Mary Ellen Camire, President
Institute of Food Technologists

Sonja Connor, Past President
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics

Don Zink, President
International Association for Food Protection

Eric Hentges, Executive Director
International Life Sciences Institute North America