The Stakeholder Group (SG) of the Global Nutrition Report (GNR) is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr Shibani Ghosh and Dr Giacomo Zanello as the Independent Expert Group (IEG) Co-Chairs. Both Dr Ghosh and Dr Zanello joined as IEG members in 2021 and have been instrumental in developing the GNR’s high-quality content. Over the past few years, they have been recognised for bringing their unique expertise and experience and making significant contributions to the GNR’s analytical resources, including the thematic report. More recently, they had an instrumental role as Interim Co-Chairs in supporting the GNR’s host transition. We are excited to see their contributions to the GNR’s progress under their long-term leadership.

Dr Ghosh has a background in nutrition science and public health, and is the Director for the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Systems for Nutrition, and a Research Associate Professor at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, Tufts University (US). Her research focuses on examining malnutrition in all its forms, and implementing community based randomised interventions targeting women, infants, and young children with a focus on integrated maternal infant health programs, fortification, supplementation, complementary food supplements, protein quality, and amino acids. She led the reporting on civil society commitments towards advocacy and supporting greater nutrition action in the 2022 GNR report and the progress in Nutrition for Growth (N4G) commitments in the 2021 GNR report.

Dr Zanello is a Professor in Food Economics and Health, and Head of the Agri-Food Economics and Marketing Department at the University of Reading (UK). While at the University of Reading, he has conducted research on the interactions between smallholder agriculture, food, nutrition, and health in Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. Specific interests have included assessing the energy requirements of farmers, studying the adoption and diffusion of innovations in food systems to improve access to nutritious food, and most recently analysing the role of the food environment in shaping nutritional outcomes. He has been involved in developing and rolling out the Nutrition Accountability Framework (NAF) and the NAF tracker and co-authored the 2022 report’s chapters on the private sector and donors.

Dr Ghosh and Dr Zanello said: “We are honoured to serve as the IEG Co-Chairs. We look forward to leading the IEG’s work to strengthen the GRN’s role by producing impactful resources, sharing the evidence to support global action against all forms of malnutrition”.

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