







3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of Mekong Extension Learning Alliance (MELA) Siem Reap, Cambodia, October 30-November 1, 2017

# Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture: Linking Agriculture, Food Systems and Nutrition

**Dr. Khin Mar Cho**International Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Specialist
Cornell University, New York, USA

#### **Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services Represents a Paradigm Shift in the 21**<sup>st</sup> Century

Decentralized Extension
Systems

 Extension systems should become more decentralized, since agro-ecological conditions & access to markets differs significantly across each country

Creating "Farmer-led " Extension Systems

- Producer & women's groups
- Then, using these group leaders to create "farmer-led" Extension Steering and/or Advisory Committees

Creating a more "Marketdriven" Extension System  Given economic growth in most countries, Extension should focus more attention on new market opportunities for High Value (HV) crops, livestock, fish and other products

Tailoring Extension
Programs to Target Groups

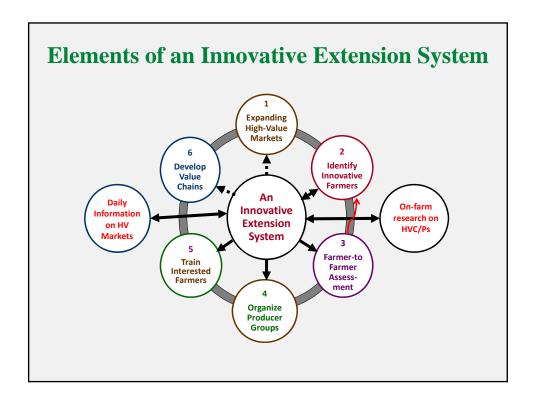
 Given key resource differences, small scale men and women farmers should refocus their farming systems so they can increase farm incomes and improve their rural livelihoods, which will result in healthy families, etc.

Collaborating with the Private Sector

 Public extension should coordinate with and begin building public-private partnerships (PPP); as well as helping farmers get organized and linked to new markets and opportunities

Innovative Extension
Systems

- In a more innovative extension system, the field extension workers become facilitators and/or knowledge brokers
- Disseminating both process and product innovations



#### **Key Messages**

#### Rethinking

- Food Systems, Integrating Nutrition into Extension and Advisory Services
- Extension policies, strategies, programs, methods, training, research,
- Needs Assessment, SWOT Analysis, Find your niche!
- Look for your own outcomes, think about low-cost and efficient extension outreach activities

#### Inclusiveness

 Diverse community members, multi-stakeholders from GO, NGO, FBO, CBO, Schools, Colleges, Universities, Training Institutes/Centers/ Schools

#### Motivation

- Farmers -Technology (Low Cost) + Value Added + Market + Nutrition
- Field extension workers knowledge, transport, performance

#### **Encouragement**

- Extension programs: Innovative, Creative, Experience-based, Research-based
- Extension methods: Participatory, farmers field school, farmers visits, field demonstration
- Institutional Linkages: Education-Research-Extension (Collaboration, cooperation and coordination)

#### Research

- Translational research focusing on community needs and farmers needs
- Low-cost, effective and efficient research activities, micro-level research with existing resources

#### **Respect and Recognize**

- Glocalization, Local Knowledge, Global Expertise, Community Development
- NOT Teaching Farmers, Reaching Out Farmers!!!

## What's Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture?

**Nutrition-sensitive agriculture** is a food-based approach to agricultural development that puts nutritionally rich foods, **dietary diversity**, and **food fortification** at the heart of overcoming **malnutrition** and **micronutrient deficiencies**.

This approach stresses the multiple benefits derived from enjoying a variety of foods, recognizing the nutritional value of food for good nutrition, and the importance and social significance of the food and agricultural sector for supporting rural livelihoods. The overall objective of nutrition-sensitive agriculture is to make the local food system better equipped to produce good nutritional outcomes.

#### **Nutrition Indicators**

**Dietary Diversity** Exclusive Breastfeeding

**Anemia** 

Stunting Wasting Underweight

Complementary Feeding

Micronutrients

Hypertension Body Mass Index

High Blood Pressure Food Fortification

**IRON** Protein Iodine ZINC

Cardiovascular Cancer Diabetes Stroke

Vitamins Minerals Macronutrients

Obesity Undernutrition Overweight

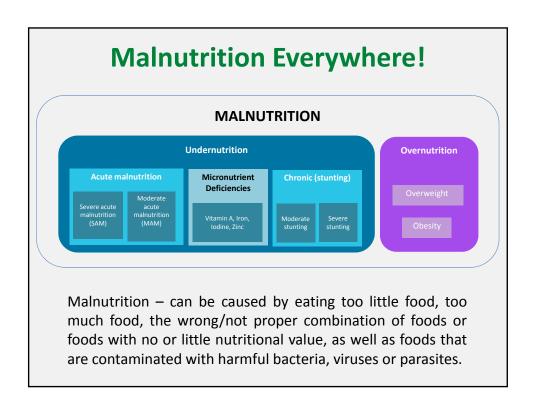
## Dietary Diversity & Dietary Diversity Score (DDS)

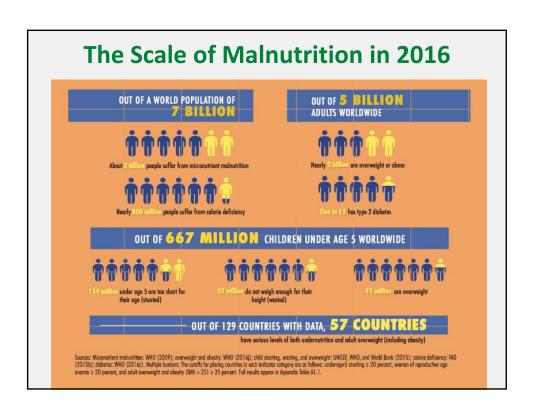
- Dietary diversity is a measure of the number of individual foods or food groups consumed in a given time period.
- Dietary diversity score (DDS). The DDS can be scored on a household or individual basis. Household dietary diversity is defined as the number of unique food groups consumed by household members over a given period. The HDDS has been validated to be a useful approach for measuring household food access, particularly when resources for undertaking such measurement are scare.

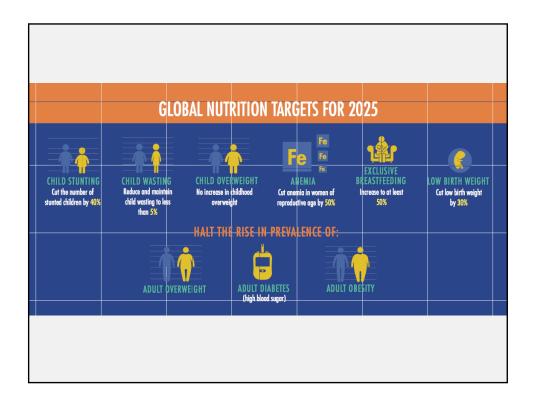
#### What's Food Fortification?

The addition of one or more essential nutrients to a food, whether or not it is normally contained in the food, for the purpose of preventing or correcting a demonstrated deficiency of one or more nutrients in the population or specific population groups.

**Biofortification:** Biofortification is the process of breeding food crops that are rich in micronutrients, such as vitamin A, Zinc, and Iron. These crops "biofortify" themselves by loading higher levels of minerals and vitamins in their seeds and roots while they are growing. When eaten, they can provide essential micronutrients to improve nutrition and public health.



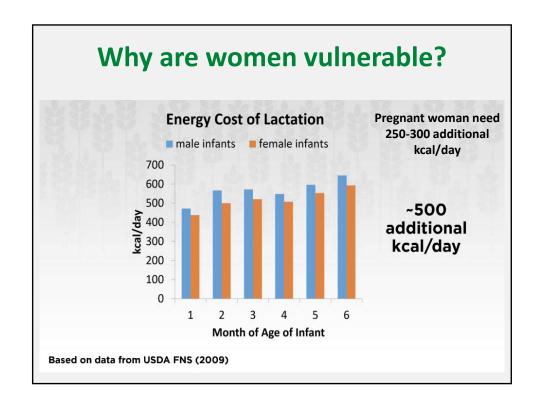




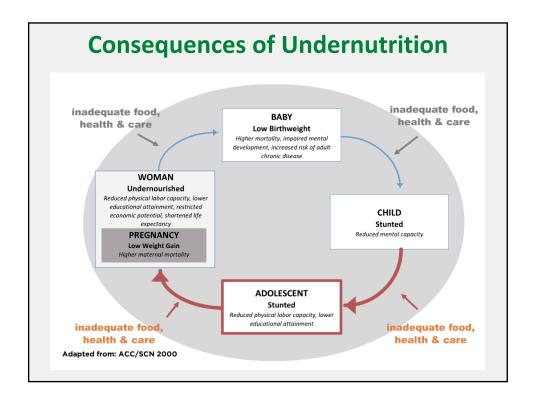
## **Exclusive Breastfeeding (EBF)**

Breast milk contains all the nutrients an infant needs in the first six months of life. It protects against common childhood diseases such as diarrhea and pneumonia, and may also have longer-term benefits such as lowering mean blood pressure and cholesterol, and reducing the prevalence of obesity and type-2 diabetes.

Infants receive only breast milk, no other liquids or solids - not even water- for the first six months of life, to achieve optimal growth, development and health ( WHO recommendation on EBF)







## **Infant and Young Child Feeding**

Infant and Young Child Feeding (IYCF): Term used to describe the feeding of infants (less then 12 months old) and young children (12-23 months old). IYCF programs focus on the protection, promotion and support of exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months; timely introduction of complementary feeding and continuous breastfeeding for two years and beyond.

## What's Complementary Feeding?

The transition from EBF to complementary feeding – typically covers the period from 6-24 months of age. This is a critical period of growth during which nutrient deficiencies and illnesses contribute globally to higher rates of undernutrition among children under five years of age.

 Infants should be exclusively breastfeed for the first six months of life. Thereafter, infants should receive nutritionally adequate and safe complementary foods, while continuing to breastfeed for up to two years or more (WHO recommendation).

## **Food Security**

"when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life."

- World Food Summit of 1996

## **Challenges to Food Security**

- Decreasing public investment in agricultural research over the last 15 years
- Unmet needs of rural poor in low-income countries (food security, roads to take food to market, storage and food processing capability, food waste management, access to good land and good water)
- Activists who campaign against agricultural biotechnologies
- Chronic malnutrition still an issue (870M undernourished, 2B suffer nutritional deficiencies- impact mental and physical development in children- FAO)
- Skyrocketing food prices (increase in global food insecurity due to unstable food prices that contributing to social unrest and poverty)
- · Climate change
- Global population increase (over 7.5 Billion)

## **Population of Greater Mekong**

Country	Million
Cambodia	15.76
Lao PDR	6.758
Myanmar	52.89
Thailand	68.86
Vietnam	92.7
Source: World Bank 2016.	

## **Understanding Food Systems**

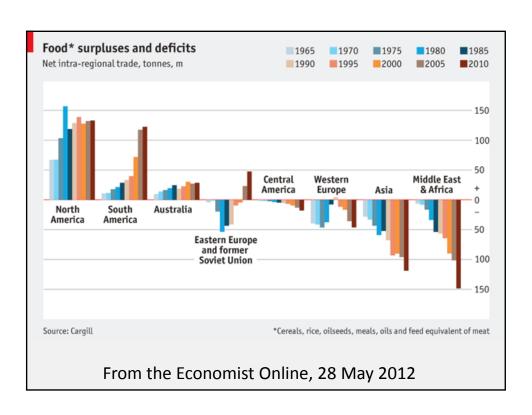
A **food system** includes all processes and infrastructure involved in feeding a population: growing, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, marketing, consumption, and disposal of **food** and **food**-related items. It also includes the inputs needed and outputs generated at each of these steps.

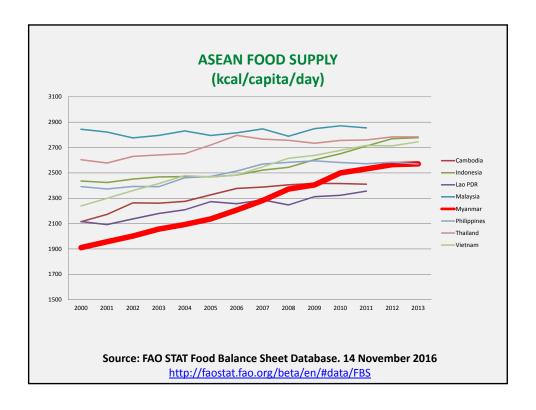
\* Community-local-regional-national-global food systems



## Linking Agriculture and Nutrition for Food & Nutrition Security

- Food Availability
  - Food production
  - Food processing
  - Food marketing & distribution
  - · Local and seasonal food
- Food Accessibility
  - Household income & Family size
  - Food purchasing, food prices volatility
  - Financing food with debt urban and rural poor
- Food Utilization
  - Food preparation
  - Food consumption & Eating Behaviors
  - Food diversification/food balancing -Dietary diversity
  - Food safety, sanitation & good hygiene practices





## **Nutritional Outcomes**

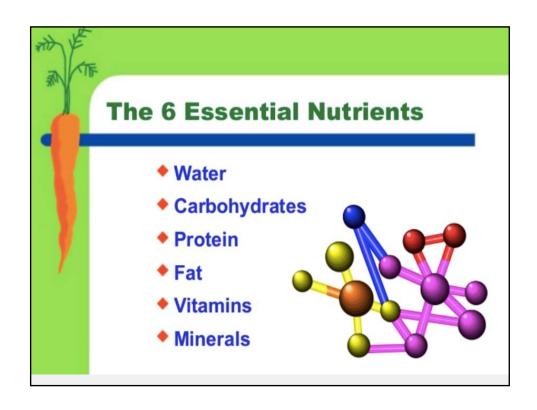
Global Initiatives: Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 2.2) targets for 2025 Children Under 5 Year-old

- Reduce stunting by 40%
- Reduce wasting to less than5% of the population

Myanmar Demographic Health Survey (MDHS), 2015-16- Children Under 5 Year-old

- Stunting 29%
- Wasting 7%
- Underweight 19%

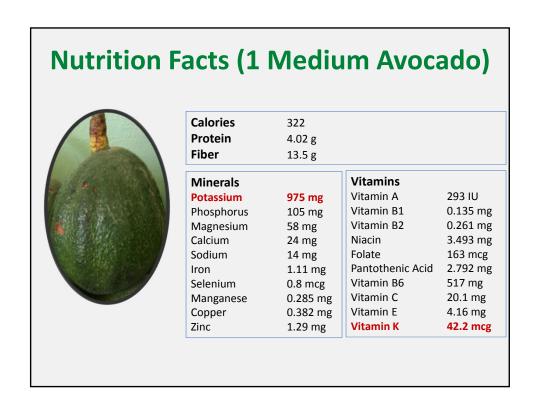
Micronutrient deficiencies - Invisible problem but limits physical and mental development

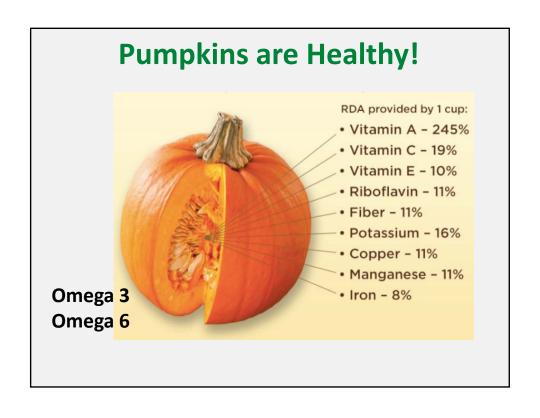




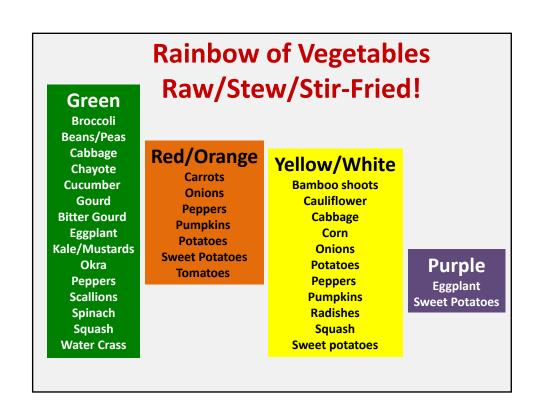












#### **Soy Sauce**

Soy sauce is a condiment made from a fermented paste of boiled soybeans, roasted grain, brine, and Aspergillus oryzae or Aspergillus sojae molds.







Nutrition Facts Soy sauce, shoyu			
Amount Per 1 tbsp (16 g) -			
Calories 9			
			% Daily Value*
Total Fat 0.1 g			0%
Saturated fat 0 g			0%
Polyunsaturated fat 0 g			
Monounsaturated fat 0 g			
Cholesterol 0 mg			0%
Sodium 879 mg			36%
Potassium 70 mg			2%
Total Carbohydrate 0.8 g			0%
Dietary fiber 0.1 g			0%
Sugar 0.1 g			
Protein 1.3 g			2%
Vitamin A	0%	Vitamin C	0%
Calcium	0%	Iron	1%
Vitamin D	0%	Vitamin B-6	0%
Vitamin B-12	0%	Magnesium	3%

may be higher or lower depending on your calorie needs.

FNEC 2015: Dr. Khin Mar Cho, International Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition Specialist, Cornell University, New York, USA

#### **Fish Sauce**

Fish sauce is an ambercolored liquid extracted from the fermentation of fish with sea salt. It is used as a condiment in various cuisines.



Nutrition Facts Fish sauce			
Amount Per 1 tbsp (18 g) 🔻			
Calories 6			
			% Daily Value*
Total Fat 0 g			0%
Saturated fat 0 g			0%
Polyunsaturated fat 0 g			
Monounsaturated fat 0 g			
Cholesterol 0 mg			0%
Sodium 1,413 mg			58%
Potassium 52 mg			1%
Total Carbohydrate 0.7 g			0%
Dietary fiber 0 g			0%
Sugar 0.7 g			
Protein 0.9 g			1%
Vitamin A	0%	Vitamin C	0%
Calcium	0%	Iron	0%
Vitamin D	0%	Vitamin B-6	5%
Vitamin B-12	1%	Magnesium	8%

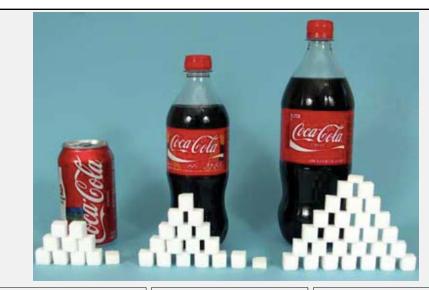
FNEC 2015: Dr. Khin Mar Cho, International Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition Specialist, Cornell University, New York, USA

#### **Oyster Sauce**

Oyster sauce describes a number of sauces made by cooking oysters. The most common in modern use is a viscous dark brown condiment made from sugar, salt, and water thickened with cornstarch, flavored with a little oyster essence or extract.



Oyster sauce  Amount Per 1 tbsp (18 g)			
Calories 9			
			% Daily Value*
Total Fat 0 g			0%
Saturated fat 0 g			0%
Polyunsaturated fat 0 g			
Monounsaturated fat 0 g			
Cholesterol 0 mg			0%
Sodium 492 mg			20%
Potassium 10 mg			0%
Total Carbohydrate 2 g			0%
Dietary fiber 0.1 g			0%
Sugar 0 g			
Protein 0.2 g			0%
Vitamin A	0%	Vitamin C	0%
Calcium	0%	Iron	0%
Vitamin D	0%	Vitamin B-6	0%
Vitamin B-12	1%	Magnesium	0%



12 oz (355 ml) Can Sugars, total:

**Sugars, total:** 39g Calories, total: 140 Calories from sugar:140\* 20 oz (590 ml) Bottle
Sugars, total: 65g
Calories, total: 240
Calories from sugar:240

1 Liter (34 oz) BottleSugars, total:108gCalories, total:400Calories from sugar:400

FNEC 2015: Dr. Khin Mar Cho, International Agriculture, Food, and Nutrition Specialist, Cornell University, New York, USA

## **Eating Local, Seasonal, Fresh!**



Phytochemicals found in most grains, legumes, vegetables and fruits are associated with the prevention and/or treatment of at least four of the leading causes of death, such as cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular diseases,

hypertension and high cholesterol levels. (FNRI 2015)





## **Food Safety**

- Hand Washing and Personal Hygiene
- Washing Fruits and Vegetables
- Cooking Meat at Proper Temperature

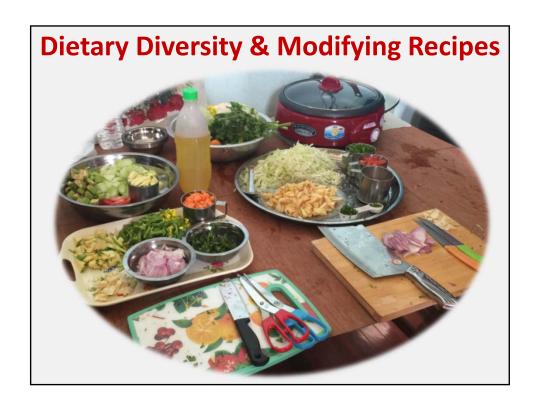


#### **Fight Bac Principles!**

- Clean
- Cook
- Separate
- Chill

How do we provide education and information about Nutrition Sensitive Agriculture and Food Systems to farmers and community members?









## **Rainbow Vegetables Stew**

- Pumpkin
- Sweet potato
- Taro
- Chayote
- Carrot
- Cauliflower
- Green beans
- Onion, Garlic, Ginger, Green Chili, Coriander
- Peanut oil, salt







## **Quick Sauteed Mixed Veggies**



#### **Add Rainbow Vegetables**

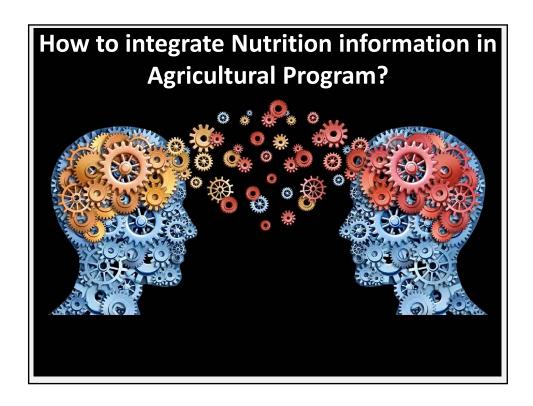
- Broccoli
- Cauliflower
- Carrot
- Chayote
- Green beans
- Green mustard
- Kale
- Onion, Garlic
- Peanut oil
- Salt

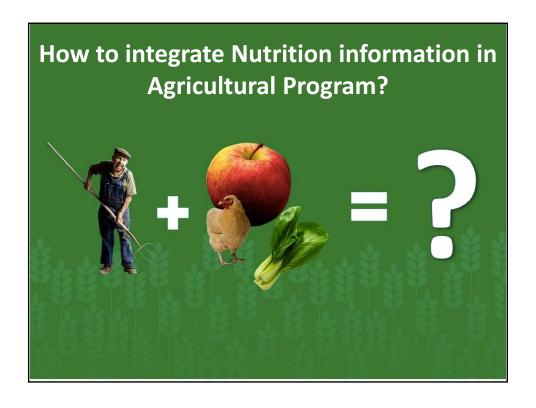
## **Cabbage Salad with Apple**



- Apple
- Cabbage
- Tomato
- Green mustard
- Coriander
- Green Chili
- Onion
- Garlic
- Peanut, grounded
- Peanut oil
- Salt







#### **Key Messages:**

- Nutritional Sensitive Agricultural programing: Multi-sectoral strategies (Improve Nutrition, Improve Economic Productivity)
- Focus on intervention of your work as an Agriculture officer
- How do we combine strategies? Agriculture and Nutrition (for example, teaching communities about crop diversification, home gardening, ------dietary diversity, breastfeeding, complementary feeding)
- Cooperate nutrition objectives into your work when it is feasible and it makes sense to your work
- Collaboration is the key, integrate your work in Agriculture with other sectors
- Win-Win for Nutrition & Health for Women and Children
- Opportunity & Long Term: Strong Economy, Improve Livelihoods and Wellbeing

## **THANK YOU!**

Dr. Khin Mar Cho
Country Director for Myanmar
International Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Specialist
Cornell University , New York, USA

International Phone: +1-917-767-5517 Myanmar Phone: +95-9-420078524 kc458@cornell.edu









