



ILSI Workshop: Are South African Consumers Moving Towards Healthy Eating?

07 September 2017

Marriott Crystal Towers, Cape Town, South Africa

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Title of presentation:

Rethinking the challenges and opportunities of the global food and nutrition nexus

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John O'Brien, Ph.D.

Abstract:

Since 2016, it is widely recognized that we live in the Anthropocene. Last year was also marked as the first time in history that more people live in towns and cities than in the rural environment. These are just two developments that necessitate a change in how we think about food and agriculture. The past fifty years have been notable as much for remarkable scientific and medical advances as well as unprecedented environmental degradation and failure to resolve the consequences or unhealthy diets. There has been an increasing realisation that the environmental consequences of food production and the health impact of unhealthy diets are closely related. Thus, the search for sustainable responses to malnutrition, environmental sustainability, and food and water safety require an integrated and incremental approach. The global ILSI organization has the potential to make an important contribution to this process by bringing together key stakeholders and different scientific disciplines.