Editorial on Nutrition & Dietetics
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Editorial

The capacity of a system to be sustained over the long term is sustainability. Resilience is a system’s capacity to resist disruptions and to work sustainable. Sustainability and resilience issues relate to all facets of nutritional and nutritional practises, can be practised both at programme and system level, and are wider than any given procedure or individual action. In view of the growing need to apply sustainability and resilience concepts to nutrition and dietetics as well as rising public awareness and registry interest. Dietitian nutritionists on health issues related to water and food systems have established standards of professional performance as an instrument for registered dietitian nutritionists working on sustainable, resilient, and safe food and water systems, driven by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics’ Quality Management Committee.

Quality in operation, competence and responsibility, service provision, research implementation, communication and application of information, resource use and management. Relevant metrics include measurable statements of action under and standard to demonstrate the application of sustainable, sustainable and balanced standards in food and water systems. The metrics identify three levels of expertise for registered nuts who work in sustainable, durable and balanced food and water systems (competent, competent and expert) Nutritionists. Given the small scale of capital, this must be met with minimal possibilities of agricultural land expansion and no further degradation of critical inputs including soils, water or fossil fuels. Together with this challenge and the growing need to provide a safe, nutritious, equal diet of all, a ‘sustainable food system’ has placed several professional organisations involved in public health and food systems at the forefront of institutional and government policies.

In addition, some of the RDNs are now primarily focused on ensuring that SRH food and water services are available in their communities to improve the situation. However, only recently instruction in sustainable development and resilience was implemented in dietetic education programmes. Thus, under the direction of the Academy's Quality Management Committee the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics' Dietetic Hungry and Environmental Practices Group has developed Sustainable, Resilient, and Healthy (SRH) Food and Water Systems Professional Performance Standards (SOPP) for Registered Dietitian Nutritionists (RDNs) to help RDNs evaluate its currencies. Food and water supply sustainability and resilience issues relate to all aspects of dietetic and nutrition practise, can be applied at the programme and system levels, and are wider than any particular practise environment or intervention.

Therefore, RDNs have the ability, and indeed obligation, of integrating into their respective areas of practise the concepts of SRH food and water systems as a means for remaining important and for safeguarding, preserving and consolidating, both now and for the future.

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