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Topic: The political economy of public health nutrition

Title: Interface between trade/investment policy and nutrition policy making

Presentation Type: Workshop

Workshop proposal – World Public Health Nutrition Congress 2016

Interface between trade/investment policy and nutrition policy making

Stream: Political economy of public health nutrition

Type of session: Interactive skills-building workshop

Contributor details:

Chair: Dr Anne Marie Thow, University of Sydney, Australia

Contributors:

Prof Corinna Hawkes, City University London, UK

Dr Stephen Greenberg, University of Western Cape, South Africa

Prof Sharon Friel, Australian National University, Australia

Possible: Civil society involvement – group on trade advocacy

Purpose:

To increase participants' understanding of how to approach the interface between trade and nutrition policy, including:

1) the ways in which trade and investment agreements can facilitate or constrain nutrition policy making, and

2) strategic approaches to: developing concrete policy options to mitigate negative impacts and enhance positives; improving policy coherence between trade and health; and protecting/expanding policy space for public health nutrition policy.

The target audience is public health researchers and practitioners who would benefit from a better understanding of trade and investment policy as an upstream influence on nutrition.

Motivation:

Technical content:

The workshop will provide an introduction to the globalization of trade and investment in food and different kinds of trade agreements. The technical content will focus on:

The impact of trade/investment policy on policy space for nutrition intervention (Dr Thow)

The role of industry actors and competing agendas in the interface between trade/investment policy and nutrition policy making (Prof Friel)

The interface between trade/investment policy and policies to enhance food security and livelihoods (Dr Greenberg), and

Opportunities to improve policy coherence between trade/investment policy and public health nutrition policy (Prof Hawkes)

Process

The workshop will commence with short presentations and stories from experts in the field, followed by structured small group discussions (one led by each expert contributor) on each of the key issues raised to develop the required recommendations.

Disclosure of conflict of interest:

The contributors have received research funding from various government bodies for research on trade and nutrition

