



2<sup>nd</sup> Annual LCIRAH Agri-Health Workshop:

***The Role of Agricultural and Food Systems Research in  
Combating Chronic Disease for Development***

London, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> July, 2012

Brunei Gallery, School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS),  
University of London, Thornhaugh Street, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XD

Workshop Mission Statement

This workshop is an effort to develop a research agenda for a new area: understanding the impact of agriculture on the growth of chronic diseases, like diabetes and cardiovascular disease, in low and middle income countries (LMICs). This is a problem of poor urban and rural communities in LMICs and is associated with changing, increasingly energy dense diets. Participants in this workshop come with relevant, but quite different experience in agriculture and health research.

Whether our background is in food chains and NCDs in high income countries, or under-nutrition in poor rural communities, we all have something special to contribute to this challenge.

As with any inter-disciplinary venture, this workshop will require that we step out of our disciplinary silos to share our particular knowledge and methods while being attentive to and respectful of, the knowledge and methods of other disciplines. We should keep disciplinary jargon to a minimum, and be careful not to pull discussion back into the comfort zone of our own research areas.

The workshop is built around panels and presentations that will allow experts in agriculture, food value chains, health and development to give us perspectives and ideas to work with, and breakout groups and plenary discussions in which we can generate new thinking.

Our aim is to identify an interdisciplinary research agenda which will increase our understanding of how changing agricultural and food systems might reduce chronic disease risk in poor communities in LMICS.

We look forward to your contributions in this exciting inter-disciplinary venture.



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Two-Day Programme

**Day 1** (Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> July)

09:30 - 10:15 Registration and tea & coffee (*Brunei Suite*)

10:15 - 10:30 Welcome by Prof Sir Andy Haines (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

10:30 - 12:00 **Session 1: Chronic Disease as a Development Problem:** Expert perspectives from the health, agri-food and development sectors, followed by panel discussion (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

This session will explore how the relationship between chronic disease and development is perceived, the importance accorded to chronic disease as a development problem, and the research gaps that exist in gaining a full understanding of the relationship. Importantly, it will do so from the perspectives of researchers from three different sectors: health, agriculture/food and development. Following presentations, the chair will moderate a panel discussion in which the speakers are challenged to consider the relationship between chronic disease and development in an interdisciplinary fashion, with a view to describing a research agenda for the future.

Chair: Jeff Waage (LIDC/ LCIRAH)

Confirmed speakers: Srinath Reddy (Public Health Foundation of India), Per Pinstrup Andersen (Cornell University) and John Barrett (DfID).

12:00 – 13:00 Lunch (*Brunei Suite*)

13:00 – 15:00 **Session 2: Value Chain Interventions and Chronic Disease** (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

Intervening at multiple points within food value chains to modify the health profiles of food products and diets is a potential means to improving chronic disease outcomes via the food sector. This session will provide an overview, followed by three case studies, and will conclude with comments from discussants and audience.

Chair: Marie Ruel (IFPRI)

Confirmed speakers: Robert Mazur (Iowa State University), Spencer Henson (IDS, Sussex) and Andrew Westby (University of Greenwich).

15:00 - 15:15 Tea & Coffee (*Brunei Gallery Rotunda Foyer*)

15:15 – 16:15 Discussion in breakout groups (*three groups in Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, two in Brunei Suite*)

16.15-17.00 – Breakout group plenary feedback session, **5 min. presentation per group** (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

17.00 – 17.30 Break & registration (*for new attendees arriving for Distinguished Lecture, Brunei Suite entrance desk*)

17:30 – 18:30 **Distinguished Lecture: “The Politics of Food: the View from 2012”** by Marion Nestle; Paulette Goddard Professor in the Department of Nutrition, Food Studies, and Public Health and Professor of Sociology at New York University (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

18:30 Drinks reception (*Brunei Suite*)

19.30 Close

**Day 2** (Tue 3<sup>rd</sup> July)

09.00 – 09.30 – Registration and tea & coffee (*Brunei Suite*)

09:30 – 11:00 **Session 3: Agricultural/ Food Policy and Chronic Disease** (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

What are the links between upstream policy initiated in the agri-food sector on downstream impacts on chronic disease in a development context? What are the priority research areas? This session will provide an overview, followed by two case studies, and will conclude with comments from discussants and audience.

Chair: Corinna Hawkes (City University)

Confirmed speakers: Corinna Hawkes, Wendy Snowdon (Fiji National University/ Deakin University), Dr. Ballayram (Caribbean Food & Nutrition Institute), Ismael Thiam (Micronutrient Initiative).

11:00 – 11.30 Tea & coffee break (*Brunei Suite*)

11:30 – 13:00 **Expert panel discussion: Global perspectives on the future direction of Agriculture and NCD research for development** (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

Chair: John McDermott (IFPRI)

Panel members: Srinath Reddy (Public Health Foundation of India), Per Pinstrup Andersen (Cornell University), Ismael Thiam (Micronutrient Initiative), Marion Nestle (New York University), Marie Ruel (IFPRI), Bruce Cogill (Bioversity International), Francesco Branca (WHO) and Gert Meijer (Unilever) will discuss insights arising from the workshop, with a special focus on the research agenda.

13:00-13.15 Closing remarks by Jeff Waage (*Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre*)

13.15 Close

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