**Workshop on Approaches and Methods for Policy Process Research**

**Sponsored by the CGIAR Research Programs on Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM) and Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH)**

**IFPRI-Washington DC**

**Nov 18-20, 2013**

**Background and objectives**

CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs) are required to show how their work contributes to development outcomes such as changes in policies. While better evidence has the potential to improve decision-making, it is insufficient for achieving policy impacts. That evidence needs to be communicated effectively so that it is useful to targeted decision-makers, and decision-makers need to have the incentives and the capacity to use it. This requires that researchers and their partners understand how policy processes work and how they can be influenced. Deliberate strategies to influence policy can also be the basis for assessing the extent to which research has contributed to a change in a policy or in the policy process—for example by influencing the discourse, attitudes, behaviors or actions of decision-makers.

To increase the capacity of CRPs to generate policy-relevant evidence and to increase the likelihood that the evidence is effectively used by decision-makers, we will host a small number of experts with experience in analyzing and engaging in policy processes within and across sectors including agriculture, natural resource management, nutrition and health. They will share methods and approaches for the study of interactions among people and public policy, including:

* Analyzing policy processes;
* Using research evidence to influence/engage with policy processes; and
* Evaluating the contribution of research to policy formulation and implementation.

We will also invite researchers associated with PIM and A4NH to present ongoing work on policy analysis and influence that they feel can be strengthened by engagement with external experts and the other workshop participants. The workshop will consist of a combination of presentations and working group sessions focused on developing key lessons from the case studies. Presented studies do not require advanced research results, but the presenters must have a good understanding of the policy context they hope to influence.

**Workshop outputs**

* + Development of a toolkit/guide or other flagship product providing guidance on how to understand policy processes to connect research to policy
  + Working papers and possibly a special issue of a journal
  + Learning network/community of practice for sharing ideas and approaches

**Agenda**

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| **Nov 18** | |
| 9-9:15 | Welcome and introduction Karen Brooks and Stuart Gillespie |
| 9:15-10:15 | Keynote Presentation   * David Pelletier, Cornell University: Nutrition policy processes |
| 10:15-10:30 | Break |
| 10:30-11:30 | Keynote Presentation   * John Thompson, Future Agricultures Consortium and Institute of Development Studies, UK: ‘Analysing and Understanding Agricultural Policy Processes in Africa’ |
| 11:30-12:00 | Workshop background and process |
| 12:00-1:00 | Lunch |
| 1:00-2:00 | CRP Studies: Methods   * “Enabling Policy Environments for Infant and Young child feeding and nutrition: the roles of actors, networks, narratives, and data,” Purnima Menon, IFPRI-New Delhi. * “Understanding the policy process and landscape through discourse and network analysis: qualitative and quantitative approaches” Christian Henning, University of Kiel and Jonathan Mockshell , University of Hohenheim |
| 2:00-3:00 | CRP Studies: Scalar elements of policy process (International-local) and bottom up approaches   * “Policy Network Analysis to support national implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture” Gea Galluzzi, Bioversity and Aseffa Wedajoo, University of Illinois-Chicago * “Participatory action research to influence land tenure policy and access to the commons in the Barotse floodplain, Zambia” Blake Ratner, WorldFish and Elias Madzudzo, WorldFish |
| 3:00-3:30 | Break |
| 3:30-5:30 | Working groups focusing on methods and frameworks for analysis |
| 5:30 – 7:00 | Reception |

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| **Nov 19** | |
| 9:00-9:15 | Highlights from Day 1 and speaker introductions: John McDermott and Ruth Meinzen-Dick (open to all IFPRI) |
| 9:15-10:15 | Keynote Presentation   * Ed Heinemann, IFAD “IFAD’s experience and emerging approach for engaging in national policy processes” |
| 10:15-10:30 | Break |
| 10:30-11:30 | Keynote Presentation   * Sanjeev Sridharan, University of Toronto: Evaluation of health policy processes |
| 11:30-12:30 | CRP studies: Engaging actors in the policy process   * “Agricultural policy processes and the youth in Southern Africa – the case of Malawi,” Mariam Mapila, IFPRI-Malawi * “Colombian Agricultural Supply Chain Organizations: How Public Policy Shapes Agriculture and how value chain actors shape policy,” Rafael Perra-Pena, CIAT |
| 12:30-1:30 | Lunch |
| 1:30-2:30 | CRP studies: Focus on engaging different/non-traditional stakeholders and cross-sectoral collaboration   * “Drivers of Public Investment in Nutrition—Mozambique,” Tewodaj Mogues, IFPRI * Supporting agriculture and public health ministries to implement a national food safety policy based on risk-based approaches (Hung Nguyen, Hanoi School of Public Health and Lucy Lapar, ILRI) |
| 2:30-3.00 | Report back from Day 1 working groups |
| 3:00-3:30 | Break |
| 3:30-5:30 | Working groups on methods for evaluating impacts of policy influence and other issues to be identified |

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| **Nov 20** | |
| 9-9:15 | Report back from Day 2 working groups and planning to finalize workshop outputs |
| 9:15-10:30 | Policy Process Research Under Construction: India’s Food Security Act   * Presentation of proposed research by P K. Joshi, IFPRI NDO * Discussant: Danielle Resnick   Plenary discussion |
| 10:30-11:00 | Break |
| 11:00-12:30 | Future Directions of Policy Process Research:   * EMBRAPA Policy process work: Reflections on the workshop * IITA Policy Process work on aflatoxins: Reflections on the workshop * Suresh Babu: Measurement of Policy Process—What Role for Indicators and Indices?   Discussion |
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| 12:30-1:00 | Next steps and close |