

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

November 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

Monday November 18	
9-9:15	Welcome and introduction Karen Brooks and Stuart Gillespie
9:15-10:15	Keynote Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> David Pelletier, Cornell University: “Nutrition Policy Processes”
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:30	Keynote Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> John Thompson, Future Agricultures Consortium and Institute of Development Studies, UK: “Analyzing and Understanding Agricultural Policy Processes in Africa”
11:30-12:00	Workshop background and process (Nancy Johnson)
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:00	CRP Studies: Methods Chair: Danielle Resnick <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Purnima Menon, IFPRI-New Delhi: “Enabling Policy Environments for Infant and Young child feeding and nutrition: the roles of actors, networks, narratives, and data,” Christian Henning, University of Kiel and Jonathan Mockshell, University of Hohenheim: “Understanding the policy process and landscape through discourse and network analysis: qualitative and quantitative approaches”
2:00-3:00	CRP Studies: Scalar elements of policy process (International-local) and bottom up approaches Chair: Katrina Kosec <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gea Galluzzi, Bioversity and Aseffa Wedajoo, University of Illinois-Chicago: “Policy Network Analysis to support national implementation of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture” Blake Ratner, WorldFish and Elias Madzudo, WorldFish : “Participatory action research to influence land tenure policy and access to the commons in the Barotse floodplain, Zambia”
3:00-3:30	Break
3:30-5:30	Working groups focusing on methods and frameworks for analysis
5:30 – 7:00	Reception

Tuesday November 19	
9:00-9:15	Highlights from Day 1 and speaker introductions: John McDermott and Ruth Meinzen-Dick
9:15-10:15	Keynote Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanjeev Sridharan, University of Toronto: “Research and evaluation in global health policy processes”
11:30-12:30	CRP studies: Engaging actors in the policy process Chair: Nuzhat Ahmed

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “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 Parra-Pena, CIAT
12:30-1:30	Lunch
1:30-2:30	<p>CRP studies: Focus on engaging different/non-traditional stakeholders and cross-sectoral collaboration</p> <p>Chair: Phil Dobie</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tewodaj Mogues and Lucy Billings, IFPRI: “Drivers of Public Investment in Nutrition—Mozambique” • Hung Nguyen, Hanoi School of Public Health and Lucy Lapar, ILRI: “Supporting agriculture and public health ministries to implement a national food safety policy based on risk-based approaches”
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 engaging in policy processes and evaluating impacts of policy influence

Wednesday November 20	
9-9:15	Report back from Day 2 working groups and planning to finalize workshop outputs
9:15-10:30	<p>Policy Process Research Under Construction: How to Evaluate the Influence of Research on Policy</p> <p>Chair: Mywish Maredia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devesh Roy, “Research influences in India’s Food Security Bill” • Danielle Resnick, Discussant
10:30-11:00	Break
11:00-12:00	<p>Future Directions of Policy Process Research</p> <p>Chair: James Garrett</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcido Wander: “EMBRAPA Policy process work: Reflections on the workshop” • Francesca Nelson: “IITA Policy Process work on aflatoxins: Reflections on the workshop” • Suresh Babu, IFPRI: “Measurement of Policy Process—What Role for Indicators and Indices?” <p>Discussion</p>
12:00-1:00	Reflections, Knowledge gaps, Priorities, Next steps and Close