

Pre Course Program

Social inequalities, nutrition and health

LOCATION: ALFÂNDEGA (D. MARIA ROOM)

Wednesday, September 22

Elizabeth Dowler: University of Warwick, UK

Sofia Guiomar: Instituto Nacional de Saúde, Portugal

Nicole Darmon: Universités Aix-Marseille I & II, France

Workshop aims and objectives

The primary aim of the workshop is to enable participants to share current understanding and experiences of the links between social inequalities and nutrition and health outcomes, in richer countries and the global South.

The objectives are:

1. to outline current thinking on the relationship between social inequalities and nutrition/health outcomes in different socio-geographic settings;
2. to examine current thinking on environmental and social sustainability and justice in relation to nutritional inequalities;
3. to share experiences in problem definition and intervention in different places and settings, particularly drawing on grass-root initiatives;
4. to review initiatives and activities being undertaken by international and national agencies and governments, including civil society, to address inequalities;
5. to explore possibilities for future collaboration and networking.

Timing:

approximately 7 hours in total, including 1 hour for lunch; 2 x 30 mins tea/coffee

Introduction: 20 mins

Elizabeth Dowler and Sofia Guiomar (5-10 mins)

why issues are important; how workshop will be run (participative – could use whiteboards/ flip charts to enable comments/ideas and information exchange)

participant introductions (in small groups if >30 in room) (10 mins max)

Part 1 setting the scene - 1hr 30 mins, including questions

(+ 20 min tea/coffee break)

chair: Nicole Darmon

1. TBA

poverty and inequality in Europe; how measured and defined; how numbers are changing in recent years (since 2000?); factors driving change (presumably increasing inequality).

2. Elizabeth Dowler

how inequalities link to food and health outcomes; using nutrition indicators in materialist poverty definition and measurement; summary recent reports (eg WHO CSDH, 2008, *Closing the gap in a generation*; Food Ethics Council, 2010, *Food justice*) including environmental sustainability and ideas of /desires for justice.

3. TBA

food security – definition and measurement in N American settings; summary current experience

4. Deirdre O'Connor

food poverty in Ireland – definition and measurement; links to other countries experiences

5. TBA

poverty and nutrition in global South – outline of circumstances in emerging economies and emergencies

Discussion – chaired Dowler/Guimar 30 – 40 mins

what is new/ what is familiar; what is challenging; what are links/connections N – S and vice versa in causation/drivers of inequalities and outcomes

LUNCH BREAK – one hour

Part 2 – what is being/can be done? – max 1 hr 30 mins including questions

chair – Deirdre O'Connor (or ED)?

1. Elizabeth Dowler/ Deirdre O'Connor

overview of potential tools to address nutrition inequalities as part of public health ?

2. France Cavaillet

economic tools for pro-poor food policies: income and price; experiences in Europe and elsewhere in targeting vulnerable populations – criteria and effectiveness

3. Nicole Darmon

impact of economic constraints on food choice : is it possible to obtain a healthy diet at a low cost?

[nutritional quality of foods used in distributional interventions; nutritional status food recipients]

4. TBA

experiences of intervention global security – current thinking and practices

20 min tea/coffee break (here or earlier)

Discussion – chaired Darmon/Dowler 40 – 50 mins

continuing what is new/ what is familiar; what is challenging; what are links/connections N – S and vice versa in causation/drivers of inequalities and outcomes

what can nutritionists do – intellectual frameworks; arguments; intervention strategies; professional practices

what next?