TRADE VS HEALTH IN THE PACIFIC?

Elevating the voice of health in intersectoral policymaking in Fiji and Vanuatu

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Pacific NCD epidemic a development issue - SPC

Pacific Chronic Disease Council takes aim at lowering NCD rates
By Jon Perez | Posted on Jun 13 2018
Tag: Commonwealth Healthcare Corp, Guam, Marshall Islands, NCD

Three amputations a day: Fiji diabetes death rate worst in the world
Arvind Kumar • 14:31, May 30 2018

No improvement in incidence of NCDs
By Leah Lowolu | August 28, 2018

The Economic Costs of Noncommunicable Diseases In the Pacific Islands
January 17, 2013
THE DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

Source: Dahlgren and Whitehead, 1991
WHAT CAUSES NCDs?

**MODIFIABLE BEHAVIORAL RISK FACTORS**

- Tobacco use
- Alcohol consumption
- Consumption of unhealthy foods and beverages
- Lack of physical activity

**METABOLIC RISK FACTORS**

- Raised blood pressure
- Overweight/obesity
- High blood sugar level (hyperglycaemia)
- High blood fat level (hyperlipidaemia)
“Through the sale and promotion of tobacco, alcohol, and ultra-processed food and drinks, transnational corporations are major drivers of global epidemics of NCDs.”

The commercial determinants of NCDs

Trade & Investment Liberalization (incl. IPR)

Unhealthy Commodity Industries

Demand

Supply

Governance & Regulation

Unhealthy Commodities
COMMERCIAL INFLUENCE ON GOVERNANCE & REGULATION

POWER IMBALANCE WITHIN GOVERNMENT

Ministry of Finance
Ministry of Trade
Ministry of Agriculture

Ministry of Environment
Ministry of Education
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Social Affairs
Ministry of Women’s Affairs
### Elevating the Voice of Health in Intersectoral Policy Making

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#### Recommendations of the literature

- Intergovernmental cooperation
- Accountability & Transparency
- Monitoring & awareness raising on industry activities
- Increasing public participation
- Strengthening administrative and legal capacity
- Enhancing evidence
- Increasing bureaucratic autonomy
- Network building
- Exclusion of industries from governance

**Evidence from Fiji and Vanuatu**

**Intersectoral cooperation**
- Accountability & Transparency
- Monitoring & awareness raising on industry activities
- Increasing public participation
- Strengthening administrative and legal capacity
- Enhancing evidence
- Increasing bureaucratic autonomy
- Network building
- Exclusion of industries from governance

**Knowing the access points**
- Speak up in the policy planning, decision making and legislative processes
Want to hear more?

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