

Approaches to understanding lived experiences of food environments: A Community of Practice

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Three-fold purpose of the Community of Practice

1. Identify applicable methods and theories for more policy-oriented research

- Provide a space to identify methods that (1) capture lived experiences of food environments relevant to policy, (2) sufficiently complement quantitative data, (3) generate ideas for effective policy solutions and/or evaluate existing actions, and (4) adequately inform relevant community members.
- Explore the use of different theoretical approaches and how these affect the application of methods and results.

2. Enhance policy impact through evidence translation and communication

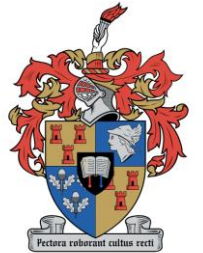
- Compare and contrast findings and discuss effective approaches to inform policy and enhance the value and legitimacy of these approaches.
- Provide a hub for practitioners and policymakers engaging with this type of research.

3. Enable collaboration within and across countries

- Provide the opportunity to identify partners across a variety of sectors to collaborate within and across country settings.
- Share and collaborate on relevant calls for funding and collectively advocate for this type of research to be better funded moving forward.

The Nourished Child Study

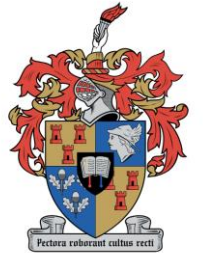
AIM: To define and communicate what a systems approach to improving the quality of diets among children under the age of five and women of childbearing age would look like in urban settings to address the double burden of malnutrition.



The Nourished Child Study

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) Understand how existing systems that influence nutrition (food system, urban conditions, system of existing interventions) combine to influence diet quality in children under 5 and their mothers in the Western Cape, South Africa;
- 2) Develop a systems approach to optimise interactions and create coherence between these systems to improve diets; and
- 3) Maximise the benefits of the findings in the study setting, and reap the benefits for other jurisdictions regionally and globally.



Food Environment Research Priorities for Africa

- Approaches to understanding lived experiences of food environments

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