

A Strong Voice Together:

The Role of Advocacy Coalitions and Intersectoral Collaboration in Nutrition Policy Change

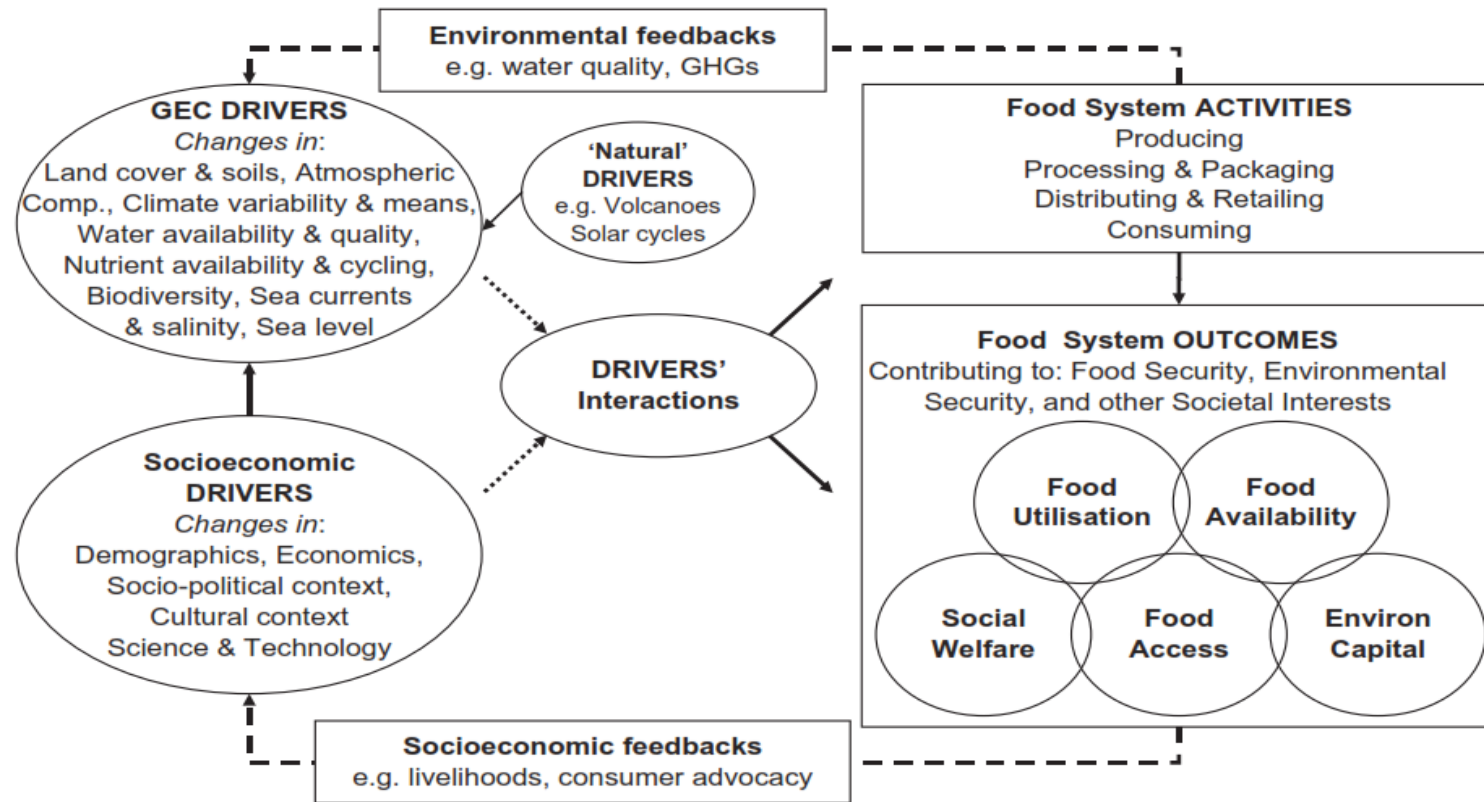
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Overview

- ▶ Intersectoral collaboration in nutrition policy: why?
- ▶ Methods of studying collaboration & policy change
- ▶ Examples
 - ▶ Canada's Sodium Reduction Strategy
 - ▶ Singapore's Healthier Hawker Programme
 - ▶ Denmark's Trans Fat Ban
- ▶ Key lessons

Intersectoral collaboration: why?

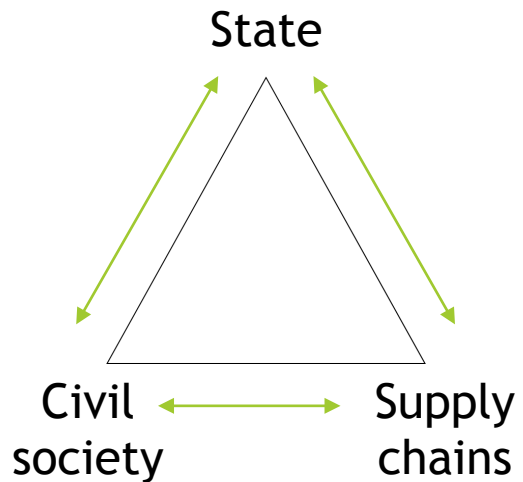
Food systems are complex



Source: Ericksen, P. (2008) 'Conceptualizing food systems for global environmental change research', *Global Environmental Change*, Vol 18, pp. 235-45.

Methods

Framework



Literature review

- ▶ 14 policies reviewed from NOURISHING Framework



- ▶ Policies improving the nutritional quality of the food supply

Policy Analysis

- ▶ Policy Triangle Analysis
- ▶ Advocacy Coalition Framework
- ▶ Multiple Streams Analysis

Policies improving the nutritional quality of the food supply

- ▶ Policies include salt reduction strategies, standards for meat products, and Danish trans fat ban
- ▶ All policies studied had involvement from civil society, private, and public sector: intersectoral by nature
- ▶ Advocacy plays important role in driving collaboration
- ▶ Policy processes had various levels of government involvement

Canada's Sodium Reduction Strategy

- ▶ Launched in 2010 by Health Canada
- ▶ Blood Pressure Canada (coalition of 27 national organizations) collaborated with food industry to advocate for policy change
- ▶ Sodium Working Group (2007-2011)
 - ▶ Health Canada
 - ▶ PHAC
 - ▶ CIHR
 - ▶ Provincial & territorial governments
 - ▶ Industry stakeholders
 - ▶ Civil society



Source: sodium101.ca

Singapore's Healthier Hawker Programme

- ▶ Launched by Health Promotion Board in 2011 to improve quality of street food
- ▶ Partnership consists of:
 - ▶ Health Promotion Board
 - ▶ Ministry of Trade
 - ▶ National Environment Agency
 - ▶ Singapore Food Manufacturers Association
 - ▶ Hawker Centers
 - ▶ Local grassroots organizations
 - ▶ Centralized kitchens



Source: HFB

Denmark's Trans Fat Ban

- ▶ Law introduced in 2003
- ▶ Danish Nutrition Council used evidence and media coverage to advocate for ban
- ▶ Support from Minister of Food and Agriculture
- ▶ Danish Nutrition Council
 - ▶ Danish Medical Association
 - ▶ Danish Dairy Board
 - ▶ Danish Pork Industry
 - ▶ Danish Meat Industry
 - ▶ Danish Poultry and Egg Council
 - ▶ Danish Margarine Industry Association



Source: Time Magazine

Key lessons

- ▶ Complexity requires collaboration
- ▶ Advocacy is context-specific & depends on
 - ▶ Existing structures, networks, and champions
- ▶ Effective advocacy often
 - ▶ **Joins up interests** across sectors & builds coalitions
 - ▶ Strategically frames the evidence base to drive **evidence-informed policy**
 - ▶ Engages with the **media & the public**
 - ▶ **Harnesses windows of opportunity**

Thank you

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