

Food, climate, trade and politics 'In The Mix' Mini Seminar

ActionAid is happy that three great international experts are in the Netherlands soon and are willing to present their work to Dutch based stakeholders working on food, climate and trade in the context of international development. They will go into the challenges and the opportunities in achieving more fair climate, food and trade policies and the role of different actors.

Key Information

When: Tuesday 5 December 14:30 -17:00 hours

Venue: Attic in the ActionAid office (Stadhouderskade 60, Amsterdam)

Register to: Emma.van.der.Sloot@actionaid.org

Program Information

- **14:30– 15:10 Climate justice: where do we stand and where do we go–
Harjeet Singh**

Harjeet Singh, global lead on climate change for ActionAid International, will present key outcomes of the climate summit (COP23) concluded last month. He will particularly highlight the progress made (or lack of it) in the areas of climate change adaptation, agriculture, gender, finance as well as loss and damage against ActionAid's positions. He will also draw attention to major negotiating political blocks and their priorities at the ongoing climate talks and share ideas on how to move forward.

- **15:15 – 15:55 Commodity Politics in the African context – Adam Sneyd**

Adam Sneyd discusses the politics associated with the use of the term 'responsibility' in context of Africa's commodities. To better understand the politics of what it means to be 'responsible' in Cameroon's oil palm, cocoa, palm oil, sugar, gold and pipeline, he will compare earlier frameworks for understanding commodity politics in Central Africa and new findings from Cameroon. He is interested to learn about the prospects for translating this knowledge into actions for development.

- **16:00 – 16:40 Top ten challenges for Africa's Food Systems – Lauren Sneyd**

Lauren Sneyd poses the top ten challenges that she believes must be addressed in order for food rights to be increasingly realized in African contexts. Aid interventions can and must contribute innovations and capacity related to these pressing issues. But where can outsiders start to contribute to change processes, and where can the entry points that maximize depth and breadth of change be found?

- **16:40 – 17:00 Final discussion and round-up**

Biographies of presenters

Harjeet Singh is the global lead on climate change for ActionAid. Based in New Delhi, India he supports countries across the world on climate change policy and advocacy. Prior to this, he managed disaster resilience programme globally and coordinated emergency response and preparedness work in Asia and the Americas. Until 2007, he led the tsunami response programme in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands for ActionAid India. Harjeet is closely associated with the Global Network of CSOs on Disaster Reduction (GNDR) and Climate Action Network (CAN) International as well as its South Asian node.

Adam Sneyd is an Associate Professor with the Department of Political Science and the International Development Studies Program at the University of Guelph, Canada. He has authored two books on the politics of cotton: *Governing Cotton: Globalization and Poverty in Africa* (Palgrave MacMillan) and *Cotton* (Polity Press). More broadly, Adam's research focuses on the global politics of commodities, and emphasizes food, resource and development challenges in African contexts. He is currently studying the politics associated with the use of trendy buzzwords in development debates, and is writing a book about development politics.

Lauren Sneyd is a SSHRC postdoctoral fellow at the Balsillie School for International Affairs, Waterloo, Canada. Lauren conducts research on food riots and food rights, and also on wild foods and dietary adequacy. Her work on food in Cameroon and in Central Africa more generally has been published in journals including *Food Security*, *Geoforum* and *Sustainability*, and most recently in the new collection edited by Naomi Hossain and Patta Scott-Villiers: *Food Riots, Food Rights and the Politics of Provisions* (Routledge).