

SESSION 5: Moving forwards: Priority research topics

DATE/ TIME: Wednesday 20 November 2019 at 13.00 – 14.15 hrs (75 minutes)

PANELISTS:

1. Ms. Dang Thi Bich Thao, Senior researcher, Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research, Viet Nam
2. Dr Phyllida Travis

MODERATOR: Dr Liviu Vedrasco, WHO Thailand

CONCEPT NOTE

This session aims at establishing a technical platform or collaboration on international trade and health to foster policy coherence within the ASEAN Region. Panelist will discuss the following issues:

- Potential research to be conducted by ASEAN countries individually and collaboratively
- Possible collaboration to advance trade and health policy coherence with academic institution and funders
- Policy recommendation on addressing trade and health issues across all three pillars of the ASEAN Community (political-security; economic and socio-cultural pillars)
- Policy recommendation on capacity building of public health community to enhance their understanding of the trade agreements impacts on public health and how to best safeguard public interests
- Explore experiences from other regions and similar economic communities that can be relevant and applicable to ASEAN context

Panelist

Ms. Dang Thi Bich Thao

Senior researcher, Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research,
Viet Nam



Thao Dang is a senior researcher at the Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research (VEPR), a think tank widely recognized in Viet Nam as a strong advocate of the market economy reform, civil society empowerment and the implementation of the rule of law. Thao's main research interests are Macroeconomics, Spatial economics, Education and Health Policy, Computable General Equilibrium Modeling (CGE). Her recent researches focus on applying CGE model in assessing the impacts of health and social policies. Thao graduated from the Vietnam- Japan University, majoring in Public Policy.

Dr. Phyllida Travis

Former Director, Department of Health Systems Development,
World Health Organization Regional Office for South-East Asia Region



Dr Phyllida Travis was Director, Department of Health Systems Development, World Health Organization Regional Office for South-East Asia Region from 2015-2019. She worked for over twenty years in WHO. Before moving to the South-East Asia Region, she was a health systems adviser in WHO headquarters and then Coordinator, International Health Partnership, from 2009-2015. Her professional interests include health service delivery organization and management in low and middle-income settings; the stewardship of health systems; the monitoring of health system performance, and health development effectiveness. Publications include being a principal author of 'Working Together for Health', the World Health Report on the health workforce, and lead author of Overcoming health system constraints to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, a top ten Lancet paper. Since 2016, she has, among other things, overseen an annual review of progress on Universal Health Coverage and the health-related Sustainable Development Goals in the South-East Asia Region. Before joining WHO, she worked as a GP in the UK, and for several international NGOs. She is a fellow of the Faculty of Public Health of the Royal College of Physicians of the United Kingdom.

Moderator:

Liviu Vedrasco

WHO Thailand Country Office



Dr. Liviu Vedrasco has an extensive career in global health, humanitarian affairs and disaster risk management with UN agencies, philanthropies and NGOs in Africa, Americas, Europe, and Asia. Since June of 2014 Liviu serves with WHO Thailand managing a portfolio that includes Health Systems, Global Health, International Trade and Health, Road Safety and Environmental Health. Prior to Thailand, Liviu worked with WHO Myanmar and at HQ in Geneva. In 2014 Liviu was deployed to Sierra Leone to support the WHO Ebola emergency response operation. Prior to WHO Liviu held leadership roles with UN, philanthropies and NGOs.