

Global Dietitian Initiatives- IAAND Colleagues Advance Professional Practice

1. Participants will ascertain the process to conduct and use regional dietetics and nutrition needs assessment similar to the MEDNA project
2. Participants will be able to apply strategies for promoting the use of NCP/T tailored according to their country's needs
3. Identify opportunities for international collaboration with IAAND

Advancement of dietetics and international collaboration are important to dietetics professionals. This workshop will highlight accomplishments regarding the implementation of the Nutrition Care Process and the concept of conducting a needs assessment to identify highest priority projects for a geographical region.

Dr Winnie Chee is an inspirational leader in Malaysia that led the efforts to implement NCP/T, especially in the curriculum development and testing within the dietetics education program at International Medical University.

Dr Elin Lovestaam participated in the Sweden implementation and her research developed to explore how the implementation process worked in Sweden. Her research identified challenges and benefits reported by dietitians and highlighted the need to tailor the implementation strategies.

Dr Rubina Hakeem will summarize a regional needs assessment that evaluated professional issues, including the implementation of NCP. Other areas explored in the final MEDNA included issues related to credentialing, accreditation, evidence-based practice, in addition to implementation of NCP. The project also led to the identifying two specific types of projects that might be useful for the region.

One of those was further developed by Dr Tatyana ElKour that focuses on interviewing key informants in the region to determine current professional training and standards that exist in preparation for development of an advocacy network to promote the further advancement of the dietetics profession. IAAND supported the MEDNA project with in-kind resources. IAAND webinars have highlighted Nutrition Care Process implementation strategies. Other types of projects are being supported through a variety of mechanisms.