|  |
| --- |
| **Examining a framework for describing, assessing and strengthening systems for chronic disease prevention that integrates complex systems thinking** |
| **Objectives**1. Examine a framework by The Australian Prevention Partnership Centre for describing, assessing and strengthening systems for chronic disease prevention (CDP).
2. Increase understanding of complex systems thinking concepts, methods and tools.
3. Exchange knowledge and experience among participants.
4. Critique the value of the framework in terms of its application in practice.

**Format**Introductions:* Icebreaker exercise specifically designed to build relationships among participants and to begin to share understanding of key complex systems thinking concepts.

Presentation:* Purpose and development of the framework (literature review).
* Overview of a definition of a system for CDP and seven interrelated attributes of effective systems for CDP.

Small groups:* Describe the systems for CDP that participants are studying, working in (or are interested in) through a rapid system mapping exercise.
* Discuss and assess attributes of effective systems for CDP in terms of participants contexts and practice.
* Reflect upon the interactions and interdependencies among attributes and how these influence the unique and ever changing behaviour of the system.

Facilitated discussion with large group:* From your experience, what complex systems methods and tools could be applied with respect to this framework (e.g., causal loop diagrams).
* How can the unique and ever changing context of each system for CDP be described and assessed overtime?
* In terms of the *health equity paradigm* as an attribute of effective systems for CDP, what methods and tools would be helpful to use to describe and assess the extent to which health equity is integrated in system goals (e.g., health equity impact assessment)?
* *Collaborative capacity* is a well established attribute of effective CDP. Are there innovations in the way multi- or intersectoral collaboration is undertaken (e.g. collaborative value creation framework)?
* What are the strengths and weaknesses of the framework? Recommendations for improvement?

**Learning goals** Understand the framework and seven attributes of effective systems for CDP; Explain complex systems thinking concepts such as interaction and interdependence in terms of how the seven attributes influence systems for CDP; Describe and assess systems for CDP that participants are studying, working in, or interested; Discuss various complex systems thinking methods and tools to assess systems for CDP; Evaluate the framework in terms of its useful in practice. |