

Type: Event / conversation

What: Financialization, Food Pricing, and Speculation – A presentation by Steve Suppan

Keywords: Food system > Economic feasibility, Food system > Models / planning, Policy

When/Where: November 17, 2011
Institute for Advanced Study, UMN

Who: Steve Suppan is a policy analyst at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy in Minneapolis.

This talk is a great chance to learn more about crucially important aspects of the political economy of the food system such as factors in commodity price volatility, the deregulation of derivatives markets, and the battle by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to implement the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

Why:

Much of Dr. Suppan's work is to explain U.S. agriculture, trade and food safety policy to foreign governments and nongovernmental organizations, especially farmer organizations. This work has taken him to about 35 countries, most recently Costa Rica, South Africa and Mexico. Dr. Suppan has also represented IATP at meetings of the Codex Alimentarius Commission, the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development, and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. He was the NGO liaison to the U.S. government for the World Food Summit +5 in 2002. He was a lead author in the global report of the International Assessment of Agricultural Science and Technology for Development, a multi-stakeholder project whose executive summary was approved by 58 governments on April 12, 2008 in Johannesburg, South Africa. He has a Ph.D. in comparative literature and taught in the Department of Romance Languages at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

How:

Dr. Suppan continues to work on this and other projects at IATP in Minneapolis.