



ISSAM FARES INSTITUTE  
FOR PUBLIC POLICY  
AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

**Research, Advocacy and Public Policy-making (RAPP)**  
at the  
**Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs**

*cordially invites you to a panel discussion on*

# **“The Use of Research in Informing Tobacco Control Policy-making: A Lebanese Case Study”**

**Tuesday 15 November 2011 | 5– 6:30 pm | Faculty Lounge (above the cafeteria), Ada Dodge Hall, AUB**

## **Panelists:**

**Rima Nakkash** is Assistant Professor at the Health Promotion and Community Health Department, Faculty of Health Sciences, AUB, and the coordinator of the AUB Tobacco Control Research group: a multidisciplinary group of researchers from different faculties. She has been working in tobacco control research since 1998 including projects in tobacco control prevention and policy. Currently she is involved in a number of research projects to evaluate policies in relation to bans of smoking in public places and other policies such as health warnings on tobacco products.

**Wael Hmaidan** is the founder of IndyACT, the League of Independent Activists. He serves as the organization's executive director and interim program director. Within IndyACT, he established several regional advocacy campaigns on climate change, marine protection, material management, toxics, among others.

**Rania Baroud** is the Vice President of the Tobacco Free Initiative, which is the recipient of the 1<sup>st</sup> Middle East Award by the World Health Organization. She is active in lobbying and advocating for legal reforms for smoke-free public spaces in Lebanon and the region. She is also the chairperson of the media department at the Faculty of Journalism and Advertising at Antonine University.

## **Abstract:**

*The seminar will reflect the role of evidenced-based research in influencing tobacco control policy. It will 1) focus on how research was used to inform policy-makers through the various strategies, 2) discuss barriers and opportunities encountered and 3) reflect on the role of academia and civil society in the policy-making process.*