



Issue No. 2, July – August 2013



Dear PIM Partners, Supporters, and Colleagues,

Thank you to all of you who attended the PIM Management Committee and Focal Point Meeting on 9-10 July for your collegial and substantive contributions. I enjoyed interacting with you, and heard from many that they, too, appreciated the constructive and productive interaction. Collaboration across Centers is a defining feature of PIM, and it was very good to have both the management committee and focal points in the same place. I know that scheduling is always difficult, and really thank you for setting aside the time.

We outlined steps for follow-up, and have already started several. Thank you for your support to and for PIM, and I hope all of you are able to enjoy the summer holidays.

Karen Brooks

News

Gender Methods Seminar

On 8 July 2013, [Cheryl Doss](#), Gender Lead for PIM, presented as part of the IFPRI Gender Task Force seminar at IFPRI Headquarters in Washington, DC. Her presentation on “Data Needs for Gender Analysis” can be downloaded from the PIM website [here](#).

PIM Management Committee and Focal Point Meeting

The PIM Management Committee and Focal Point Meeting took place from 9-10 July 2013 at IFPRI Headquarters in Washington, DC. Nine CGIAR Centers were represented. [Anita Regmi](#) also participated in the meeting. Anita recently joined the CGIAR Consortium Office as a Senior Science Officer and will work with PIM (and several other CRPs). The meeting came at the midpoint in the implementation of the first phase of PIM and provided an opportunity to take stock of progress, note process issues to be adjusted, and look ahead to outputs and impacts to show at the end of this phase. Items discussed during the meeting included the development of synthesis products to communicate the results of PIM, gender narratives, and increased incorporation of non-CGIAR PIM partners. Documents from the PIM Management Meeting including presentations and discussion highlights are accessible on the TeamSpace.

Value Chains Meeting

Maximo Torero led an internal workshop on value chains which took place on 11 July 2013 at IFPRI Headquarters. The workshop brought together key Focal Points from Bioversity, CIAT, CIP, ICRAF, ICRISAT, IFPRI, IITA, and ILRI. The workshop focused on

the uptake of synthesis products, sharing of lessons learned and best practice across centers, and knowledge sharing across platforms. Presentation during the meeting featured progress of activities. Center Focal Points had the opportunity to identify synergies and discuss strategies to increase the impact of all activities through regional hubs. During the meeting, discussions also focused on impact pathways towards Intermediate Development Outcomes. Meeting outcomes included plans to communicate impacts and opportunities for scaling out to facilitate increased interaction with donors and the private sector.

Past Events

- [Africa Agriculture Science Week](#) took place 15-20 July in Accra, Ghana and was attended by [Siwa Msangi](#), IFPRI Senior Research Fellow. Msangi is also a PIM Activity Leader for the research project on “Integration of Agricultural and Energy Systems in Developing Countries: A Case Study of India.”

Partnership for Impact: ICRAF evaluates innovative extension approaches

ICRAF is leading a Window 1-1 activity on “Evaluation of Innovative Agricultural Extension Approaches”. During the PIM Management Committee and Focal Points Meeting, [Steve Franzel](#) presented the progress made on one of the activity’s focus area: a randomized control trial for assessing the impact of a volunteer farmer trainers program in East Africa. The activity is an example of a successful partnership between BMGF, the East Africa Dairy Development Project led by Heifer International, the USAID Modernizing Extension and Advisory Services Project, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland, Paris School of Economics, and Makerere University. Three journal articles are under preparation for publication and will be announced on the [PIM website](#).

Tools for Impact: Value Chains Knowledge Clearinghouse

The Value Chains Knowledge Clearinghouse provides an on-line portal to a comprehensive repository of research methods and best practices focusing on value chain performance, for use by all the CGIAR Research Programs and partners. Five core elements of the clearinghouse include tools, data, network, best practices, and resources. Events will also be featured on the clearinghouse. The Value Chain Knowledge Clearinghouse will be launched in September 2013 (watch for the announcement on the PIM website). The development of the clearinghouse is part of the work of Theme 3 of PIM and is led by [Maximo Torero](#), [Soonho Kim](#), and [Lucia Madrigal](#) with contributions from the PIM value chains team.

Research for Impact: EU Biofuels

On 11 July 2013, members of environment committee of the European Parliament voted to limit the amount of conventional biofuel that can be used to meet European Union targets for renewable transport fuel, a move which was based on evidence supported by on-going research on the indirect land use change impacts of biofuels (ILUC). The plenary vote on the decision to cap EU biofuel production will take place in September.

Ongoing research on the topic entered the PIM research portfolio upon the launch of the program in January 2011 and has been supported since then under various funding sources. The work focuses on the link between carbon emissions, land use, and the production of the biodiesel, bioethanol, and renewable-energy alternatives.

The research findings are presented in a position paper by [David Laborde](#) on “[Assessing the Land Use Change Consequences of European Biofuel Policies](#)”, 2011. A

follow up on the discussion can be found at the IFPRI Insights article [“Into the Fray: Is Europe’s Biofuel Production Good or Bad for the Environment?”](#) 25 April 2013. Nature covered the EU decision in the article [“EU Debates U-turn on Biofuels Policy”](#), 01 July 2013. The EU Biofuels decision is part of a larger dialogue on the environmental impact of biofuels that was featured in a 2011 Global Food Policy Report on [“Biofuels, Environment, and Food: The Story Gets More Complicated”](#), by David Laborde and Siwa Msangi.

Upcoming Publications

Annual Report

A version of the PIM Annual Report is currently in process and will be available for download on the PIM website in September 2013. The Annual Report will feature success stories of ongoing research. If you have any submissions that you would like to be included, please feel free to send them to our Communications Specialist, Michelle DeFreese (m.defreese@cgiar.org)

Upcoming Discussion Papers

We are now in the process of finalizing the joint PIM/CCAFS/FAO Discussion

Upcoming Events

- **5-10 August 2013:** [Agricultural Extension Week](#), Gaborone, Botswana
- **22-23 August 2013:** Michigan State University Global Center for Food Systems Innovations Symposium, East Lansing, Michigan
- **25-27 September 2013:** [3rd International Conference on Neglected and Underutilized Species \(NUS\)](#), Accra, Ghana
- **15-16 October 2013:** PIM organized Workshop on Prioritizing Research in Agricultural Extension,

Papers from the Food Security Futures Conference. The papers will be announced on the PIM website.

- IFPRI, Washington, DC, USA (contact Pascale Sabbagh).
- **25 October 2013:** PIM Science and Policy Advisory Panel (SPAP), IFPRI, Washington, DC, USA
- **29-31 October 2013:** First Workshop of the International Advocacy Evaluation Community of Practice, Rome, Italy
- **5-6 November 2013:** Mainstreaming Livestock Value Chains Conference, Accra, Ghana
- **18-20 November 2013:** PIM organized Policy Processes Workshop, IFPRI, Washington, DC, USA (contact Ruth Meinzen-Dick)
- **16-17 December 2013:** OECD Global Forum on Agriculture and Technical Workshop, Paris, France

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