



PIM Newsletter

Issue No 8, April - May 2014



Dear PIM Partners, Supporters, and Colleagues:

This issue of the PIM's Newsletter covers some of our key news from the two months that have just passed.

Those were, again, two very busy months for us. We submitted the draft PIM proposal for the 2015-2016 extension period to the CGIAR Consortium on April 25. I am very grateful to all who contributed their time and effort to this very important document. I think that we have a solid plan, and we now need to move forward on developing a more detailed 2015-2016 work program with flagship/cluster/activity leaders. The extension proposal is a living document, and we will have various opportunities to revise and update it before the end of 2014 when it has to get a final approval from the Consortium.

In the past two months we have had multiple interactions with the PIM evaluation team. The evaluation team has now met with all of PIM's Flagship Leaders, several Cluster and Activity Leaders, and the Program Management Unit, and is planning meetings with some of PIM's Focal Points. We are looking forward to the team's inception report, due by early June.

In addition to that, PMU is currently preparing the 2014 Program Participant Agreement amendments, to be signed between IFPRI and each Participating Center.

Finally, I am happy to report that the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) has expressed interest in joining PIM, which brings the number of Participating Centers to 14.

I invite you to read more about our news and events in the following pages.

Karen Brooks
PIM Director

News

PIM People



Froukje KRUIJSSEN replaces Blake RATNER as PIM Focal Point for WorldFish

Dr. Kruijssen leads the value chains research area at WorldFish and the value chains theme for the Consortium Research Program on Aquatic Agricultural Systems; she also makes significant related inputs to the Consortium Research Program on Livestock & Fish.

Froukje Kruijssen joined WorldFish, Penang, as a Post-doctoral Fellow (Markets and Trade) in June 2010. Her PhD at the Centre for International Development Issues of the Radboud University Nijmegen in the Netherlands was dedicated to sustainable market chains for tropical fruit diversity in Thailand. She has worked in South and Southeast Asia, especially India, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. Her key publications include “Export contracts for non-traditional products: quality and loyalty in chayote chains from Costa Rica” (2004), “Varietal differences in the supply chain of two mango varieties in south India” (2008) and “Collective action for small-scale producers of agricultural biodiversity products” (2009).

We are happy to welcome Froukje in our team, and wish Blake success in his new assignment as Research Director for Worldfish.



PIM.CGIAR.ORG updates: putting faces to names

Recent updates on the PIM website will allow our visitors to virtually meet many members of the PIM team.

Meet our [Center Focal Points](#), [Management Committee](#), and [Program Management Unit](#).

We have also recently added a page about [PIM donors](#).

Events

Global Futures and Strategic Foresight Program: third 2014 IMPACT training at WorldFish

The third and final IMPACT training this year (see our report about the previous one [here](#)), provided as part of the Global Futures and Strategic Foresight Program (GFSF), supported jointly by the [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#), [CCAFS](#), and [PIM](#) and organized by the [IFPRI](#)'s GFSF team took place at [WorldFish](#) in Penang, Malaysia, on April 28 – May 9.

Learn more about the workshop, watch an audio-presentation and read participants' impressions [here](#).



“An opportunity to dream big”

On May 8, 2014, the [Gender, Agriculture, and Assets Project \(GAAP\)](#) hosted an Outreach Workshop on Addressing Gender, Agriculture, and Assets in Agricultural Development Projects at IFPRI to present lessons learned during the four years of its work (2010-2014). GAAP, jointly led by the [International Food Policy Research Institute \(IFPRI\)](#) and the [International Livestock Research Institute \(ILRI\)](#) with funding from the [Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation](#) and [PIM](#) aims to reduce the gap between men’s and



women’s use, control, and ownership of assets by evaluating how and how well agricultural development programs build women’s assets. Assets are broadly defined to include natural, physical, financial, human, social, and political capital. The project works with its eight [partner organizations](#) from Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia to better understand gender and asset dynamics in agricultural development programs.

[Read more...](#)

IFPRI 2020 Conference: Side Event on Enhancing Resilience in African Drylands: Toward a Shared Development Agenda



IFPRI 2020 Conference
15-17 MAY 2014
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PIM's Director Karen Brooks facilitated a side event of the IFPRI 2020 Conference, "Enhancing Resilience in African Drylands: Toward a Shared Development Agenda", organized by the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). Read more about the event [here](#).

The 2020 Conference is the centerpiece of a consultative process led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and its 2020 Vision Initiative and their partners.

The CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM) was one of the partners for the conference.

To learn more about the IFPRI 2020 Policy Consultation and Conference, visit

<http://www.2020resilience.ifpri.info/>

Agricultural Transformation and Food Security in Central Asia

The University of Central Asia's Institute of Public Policy and Administration (IPPA) and the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) co-hosted a conference on Agricultural Transformation and Food Security in Central Asia, 8-9 April, 2014 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, engaging government officials, development partners and researchers from the region and abroad in dialogue on food security research.



The conference unveiled IFPRI's Central Asia Research and Capacity Strengthening Program implemented in partnership with the Eurasian Centre for Food Security at Moscow State University, UCA and other research institutions in the region, as well as with the CGIAR Research Programs on Policies, Institutions, and Markets and on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health, both led by IFPRI. [Read more...](#)

Blog Stories

PIM Impact Story: Volunteer farmer trainers change the way we think about extension

by Evgeniya Anisimova, Steven Franzel, and Evelyne Kiptot

How most efficiently to help farming men and women access information and advice they need to be more effective managers of their enterprises is a puzzle not yet solved. Progress in this area will increase returns to agricultural research, as farmers are more readily able to adopt, and will enhance incomes and well-being. Work led by the World Agroforestry Centre and the International Livestock Research Institute showed that volunteer farmer trainers (VFTs) can be effective agents of change. The results of the studies indicate that VFTs are highly effective, training on average 20 farmers per month. VFTs have an in-depth knowledge of local conditions, culture, and practices; they live in the community, speak the same language, and instill confidence in their fellow farmers, which explains this good performance. VFTs require effective back-up from more fully trained extension agents or subject-matter specialists.



[Read more...](#)

Three things you need to know about sex-disaggregated data

by Cheryl Doss and Caitlin Kieran

Collecting sex-disaggregated data is one of the most common approaches that researchers use to integrate gender in their agriculture-nutrition-health research. However, researchers new to this method may be unsure about why it's important and what it entails. We asked two gender researchers from the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets ([PIM](#)), [Cheryl Doss](#), an economist at Yale University, and [Caitlin Kieran](#), Senior Research Assistant on gender for PIM at the International Food Policy Research Institute, to answer some common questions researchers have about sex-disaggregated data collection and interpretation.



[Read more...](#)

Which agricultural technologies will safeguard our food supply?

by Howard Minigh, President/CEO of CropLife International

This commentary was originally published on the *Global Food for Thought*, the official blog of the Global Agricultural Development Initiative. (<http://shar.es/VqcyC>)

It relates to the [book by Rosegrant et al. \(2014\)](#) and the online [Agritech Toolbox](#) recently released by IFPRI as part of the PIM program (Flagship 3, Adoption of Technology and Sustainable Intensification). We are happy to share this with our readers and to congratulate our colleagues for this great work.



Read more and watch the video [here](#).

Building Foundations: LINK Methodology Implementation in Haiti

by Elizabeth Minchew, CIAT

From March 11 to 13, 2014, Alexandra Amrein, visiting researcher with DAPA's (Decision and Policy Analysis Program) Linking Farmers to Markets team (CIAT), traveled to Les Cayes, Haiti to conduct a training workshop on [LINK Methodology](#). The tool, which was developed by CIAT to design, implement and evaluate inclusive business relationships, has so far been applied in different regions, including Nicaragua, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador and Ethiopia. This particular workshop aimed to familiarize and train Catholic Relief Services staff located in Haiti. [Read more...](#)



Publications

Women's Individual and Joint Property Ownership: Effects on Household Decisionmaking

Researchers and policymakers increasingly recognize the important links between women's property rights, household decisionmaking, and women's empowerment. If you increase a woman's property rights, you increase her bargaining power within the household, which can boost the productivity of that household and will also increase the woman's overall empowerment.

In their new IFPRI/PIM discussion paper [*Women's Individual and Joint Property Ownership: Effects on Household Decisionmaking*](#), Cheryl Doss, Emily Hillenbrand, Sung Mi Kim, Maureen Miruka, and Jemimah Njuki, aim to shed light on the question of whether women's role in decisionmaking is dependent upon their individual or joint property rights.

[Read more...](#)



Measuring progress toward empowerment

Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index: Baseline Report

The report provides a comprehensive analysis of the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) baseline survey results, summarizing both findings from the WEAI survey and the relationships between the WEAI and various outcomes of interest to the US Government's Feed the Future initiative. These poverty, health, and nutrition outcomes include both factors that might affect empowerment and outcomes that might result from empowerment.

The analysis includes thirteen countries from five regions and compares their baseline survey scores. WEAI scores range from a high of 0.98 in Cambodia to a low of 0.66 in Bangladesh. Within Africa, West African countries have the lowest WEAI scores, followed by southern Africa with higher scores, and then East Africa, with the highest scores. These numbers provide an important measure of future progress, as baseline surveys for the remainder of Feed the Future countries are completed and additional rounds of data are collected during the midline and endline surveys.

This work was undertaken as part of the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM).

[See more and download a pdf of the report](#)



Food Security Futures conference 2013: two Discussion Papers released

The IFPRI/FAO/PIM Discussion Papers “Public-sector agricultural research priorities for sustainable food security” by Nelson and van der Mensbrugge and “How does climate change alter agricultural strategies to support food security?” by Thornton and Lipper, released in April, are



the first two of a series of four papers originally prepared for the Food Security Futures conference organized by PIM and FAO in April 2013. The Discussion Papers incorporate comments and recommendations received by the authors at and after the conference.

[Read more...](#)

Cash, food, or vouchers? Evidence from a randomized experiment in northern Ecuador

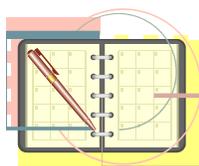
“Cash, food, or vouchers? Evidence from a randomized experiment in northern Ecuador”, a paper by Melissa Hidrobo (IFPRI), John Hoddinott (IFPRI), Amber Peterman (University of North Carolina), Amy Margolies (IFPRI), and Vanessa Moreira (The World Bank), recently published in the Journal of Development Economics, compares the impacts and cost-effectiveness of the three different approaches.

“The debate over whether to provide food assistance, and the form that this assistance should take, have a long history in economics. Despite the ongoing debate, little rigorous evidence exists that compares food assistance in the form of cash versus in-kind. This paper uses a randomized evaluation to assess the impacts and cost-effectiveness of cash, food vouchers, and food transfers”...

[Read more...](#)



Upcoming events



See below and save the dates for some major upcoming events (confirmed to date) that PIM is organizing, co-hosting, or taking part in.

You can also always see PIM’s current events calendar [on our website](#).

27-29 June 2014,
Accra, Ghana

[Annual Conference](#) of the
International Association for Feminist
Economics

Caitlin Kieran (PIM) and Kathryn
Sproule (IFPRI) will present the
paper on *Gender, Headship, and
Land across the Life-Cycle in
Asia: Evidence from four
countries*.

18-20 June 2014,
Dakar, Senegal

[17th Annual Conference on Global
Economic Analysis](#) “[New Challenges in
Food Policy, Trade and Economic
Vulnerability](#)”

Event organized by the Global
Trade Analysis Project (GTAP)
and co-sponsored by PIM.

12-13 June 2014,
Paris, France

Technical meeting of IOs on
Measuring the Agricultural Policy
Environment.

See more about the
initiative [here](#).

10 June 2014,
Brussels, Belgium

[IFPRI Global Food Policy Report 2013 launch at Centre for European Policy Studies \(CEPS\): Towards a post-2015 agenda to end hunger and undernutrition.](#)

Jo Swinnen, Associate Senior Research Fellow, CEPS, Director, LICOS, and member of the PIM's Science and Policy Advisory Panel will chair the meeting. PIM's director Karen Brooks will be one of the speaker along with Shenggen Fan, Director General of IFPRI and Roberto Ridolfi, Director in charge of Sustainable Growth and Development, DG Development and Cooperation, European Commission.

4-6 June 2014,
Montpellier, France

Annual Meeting of the Consortium Research Programs' Leaders.

Karen Brooks and Melanie Bacou will represent PIM.

1-3 June 2014,
Montpellier, France

[International Encounters "FAMILY FARMING AND RESEARCH"](#)

The event is co-organized by the [CGIAR Consortium](#), the [Global Forum on Agriculture Research](#) (GFAR) and the [World Rural Forum](#) (WRF). Karen Brooks participates along with a number of PIM partners.

Copyright © 2014 IFPRI, All rights reserved. You have been subscribed to receive the PIM monthly newsletter.
Our mailing address is: IFPRI, 2033 K street NW, Washington, DC, 20006