



The **CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM)** leads action-oriented research for a food-secure present and future. Our research provides support for policies that help poor farmers, both men and women, improve their lives; produce nutritious and affordable foods; and protect the soil, water, and biodiversity in rural landscapes.

Sound policies, robust institutions, and well-functioning markets complement new discoveries of agricultural science to create dynamic and resilient food systems. The combination of strong agricultural science and good policy is especially important in poor rural areas, where many people depend on farming for their livelihoods. Agricultural growth creates new jobs both on and off farms as rural economies diversify. Consumers benefit from more affordable food. Landscapes recover as farmers, fishers, herders, and forest dwellers adopt better management regimes and develop new institutions for collaborative governance.

Our research results and capacity development efforts contribute to **poverty reduction, better nutrition and health, and good stewardship of natural resources**. These are the three system-level outcomes sought by CGIAR, a global research partnership for a food secure future (www.cgiar.org).

PIM is led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and brings together the 15 CGIAR Centers and many international, regional, and national partners (www.ifpri.org).

PIM is a global program, with special emphasis on Africa south of the Sahara, Bangladesh, India, and selected countries in East Asia, Southeast Asia, and Latin America.

SIX AREAS OF EMPHASIS

Technological Innovation and Sustainable Intensification

Foresight modeling and the policy underpinnings of innovation in agriculture, including investment in agricultural research, seed systems, and regulation of new technologies.

Inclusive and Efficient Value Chains

Policies and institutions affecting decisions of actors in value chains, interventions to strengthen value chains and make them inclusive, and measures to facilitate adoption of interventions at scale.

Governance of Natural Resources

Tenure security options for land and water, and institutional arrangements for governance of shared landscapes.

Economywide Factors Affecting Agricultural Growth and Rural Transformation

Policies to increase rural income improving effectiveness of public investment and the political economy of agricultural and rural policy.

Social Protection Strategies and Programs

Mechanisms for social protection and risk management for the poor.

Cross-cutting Gender Research and Coordination

Innovations to improve gender equity and agricultural performance and the CGIAR Collaborative Platform for Gender Research.

THE OUTCOMES WE SEEK AND THE QUESTIONS WE ASK

Improved prioritization of agricultural research for development:

Which lines of research are likely to have high payoffs over the decades ahead, taking into account climate change? Which would have the greatest benefits for women, smallholders, and members of marginalized groups?

Example: The book *Food Security in a World of Natural Resource Scarcity: The Role of Agricultural Technologies* (Rosegrant et al. 2014) and the AgriTech Toolbox are results of a multi-year research project led by IFPRI with support from CropLife International, the US State Department, and PIM. The book compares the effects of different technologies on crop yields and resource use, particularly harvested area, water, and nutrients. The Toolbox helps policy makers and agricultural experts make use of data and see how specific technologies will affect productivity, food security, and natural resource use. <http://agritech.harvestchoice.org/>

Increased and more effective investment in agricultural research:

How much are developing countries investing in agricultural research and technology, and how does this compare to benchmark levels of investment needed to attain global and national goals? Are the institutional arrangements for work with regional partners and private firms conducive to good results?

Example: Accurate, reliable, and internationally comparable quantitative information on investment in science and technology is fundamental for understanding the contribution of research to agricultural growth and defining investment needs for agricultural research and development in developing countries. Providing such data is the mission of the Agricultural Science and Technology Indicators (ASTI) program led by IFPRI with support from various donors including PIM. ASTI has produced a large number of country factsheets and regional reports on agricultural research spending and capacity trends around the globe and has informed important decisions in this area. www.asti.cgiar.org

Increased and more rapid adoption of improved technologies and management practices, including in response to climate change:

What policies and regulations encourage or inhibit rapid release and adoption of improved technologies? What delivery mechanisms work in different contexts to promote use of these technologies by different types of smallholders?

Better functioning value chains, with increased opportunities for participation:

At which points along value chains can inefficiencies be found, and how can they best be addressed? Where do waste and loss occur in the value chain, and what is their magnitude?

Example: Infrastructure development and technology improvements in postharvest processes can improve food security in developing countries by reducing food losses, according to the authors of *Returns to Investment in Reducing Postharvest Food Losses and Increasing Agricultural Productivity Growth*, a paper released in early 2015 by the Post-2015 Consensus project with support from PIM. These investments, however, are costly. Although improving food security through reduction of postharvest losses can complement growth in output through productivity gains, it is not a cost-effective substitute for investment in new productive technologies.

As part of this work, in 2015, PIM supported IFPRI and the Food and Agriculture Organization in the joint launch of the Technical Platform on the Measurement and Reduction of Food Loss and Waste, an information-sharing and coordination network involving international organizations, development banks, nongovernmental organizations, the private sector, and CGIAR Centers. The partners will work together to enhance the measurement of food loss and waste, exchange knowledge and information, and share best practices to tackle the challenge. www.fao.org/platform-food-loss-waste

A conducive environment for inclusive and sustainable growth:

What policies and regulations promote investment in agriculture and create opportunities for growth? How can they encourage efficient and inclusive value chains and promote secure tenure over natural resources?

Reduction in price- and trade-related distortions that penalize producers and raise prices for consumers:

Where along the value chains are unnecessary costs created, and through what mechanisms? How can excess costs be reduced? Are particular distortions more damaging than others to the economic prospects of women and smallholders?

Improved design and coverage of social protection programs:

How can social protection programs best spur agricultural growth and reduction of rural poverty? How can insurance coverage for smallholders be increased?

Increased security of rights to natural resources, particularly for women and members of marginalized groups:

Where and how does insecure tenure constrain productive and sustainable management of natural resources? How can shared governance be implemented when community groups and individuals have overlapping claims for use of resources?

Better tools and methods for research on policy, institutions, and markets, and coordinated work on these topics across the CGIAR portfolio and among partners:

Which tools and methods are of highest priority to develop for CGIAR and other research partners? How can tools and methods be designed to address relevant gender dimensions of policy questions?

Gender equity in rural development, and strategic coherence of CGIAR's work on gender:

How and why does agricultural productivity differ by gender? What policy interventions increase inclusion in processes of rural transformation and create opportunities for women of all ages and young men? How can the gender research undertaken by CGIAR in separate programs best be coordinated to achieve strategic coherence at the system level?

Example: The Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)—part of the PIM portfolio and a joint effort of IFPRI, the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI), and USAID's Feed the Future initiative—is the first comprehensive and standardized measure to capture women's empowerment and inclusion in the agricultural sector. The index aims to increase understanding of the linkages between women's empowerment, agricultural productivity, and food security. By doing so, it can help to diagnose empowerment gaps, identify and prioritize interventions to close these gaps, and test the effectiveness of interventions. www.ifpri.org/topic/weai-resource-center

HOW DO WE ACHIEVE IMPACT?

Researchers supported by PIM position their work to achieve the following:

- ▶ Influence global agendas and policies via major outputs and reports, participation in global events, and long-term partnerships with development organizations
- ▶ Support regional and national policy making in response to specific requests or through development of analytical tools and datasets for national researchers
- ▶ Pilot innovations in partnership with national departments, development agencies, private firms, farmer organizations, and nongovernmental organizations
- ▶ Enhance the quality of research via communities of practice and capacity building

WHAT USERS SAY ABOUT OUR WORK

Stanley Wood, Senior Program Officer, Agricultural Development Program, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, about PIM's work on foresight modeling:

"This work gives us quantitative tools to explore a number of alternative futures. We can use them to identify investments in agricultural research and innovations in policy to secure food for the generations to come."

Mrs. Agatha Buuri, farmer from Mweiga, Kieni West District, Kenya, about the Volunteer Farmer Trainers project (part of PIM's portfolio of work on agricultural extension implemented jointly with other partners):

"Seeing other farmers in the community improve their productivity as a result of my training gives me satisfaction. It makes me feel good. Also, the knowledge I have gained has increased productivity and my income. Before I became a Volunteer Farmer Trainer, I used to get less than 5 liters of milk in a day, but I now get about 40 liters!"

Rob Bertram, Chief Scientist, Bureau for Food Security, USAID, about the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index supported by PIM:

"At USAID, we use the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index to support implementation of the US Government's global hunger and food security initiative, Feed the Future. We especially appreciate the emphasis that PIM gives to gender work and applaud the design team's openness to learn and adjust to field conditions. The Index and the emphasis on analyzing sex-disaggregated data more broadly create new evidence on how best to break through gender-based barriers to growth."

H.E. Hailemariam Dessalegn, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, about IFPRI's engagement (supported by PIM) in management and evaluation of the Productive Safety Net Program of the Ethiopian government:

"...the Productive Safety Net Program contributes to resilience by creating and protecting personal and community assets. At this juncture, I would like to recognize the contributions of IFPRI researchers in continuously improving this social protection scheme."

PIM PARTNERS

Key partners include: CGIAR Centers and other CGIAR Research Programs; advanced research institutes and universities (for example, Cornell University, Michigan State University, the University of Florida, Wageningen University and Research Centre); national agricultural and policy research institutes in low- and middle-income countries (for example, Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Indian Council of Agricultural Research); regional research associations (for example, Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Africa (ASARECA), Conseil Ouest et Centre Africain pour la Recherche et le Développement Agricoles (CORAF), Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA)); national governments in low- and middle-income countries; global organizations and international financial institutions (for example, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), World Bank, World Food Programme); development partners (including a range of bilateral aid agencies); nongovernmental and community organizations (for example, Catholic Relief Services, TechnoServe, World Vision International); civil society (including farmer organizations); foundations; and the private sector (for example, Unilever and CropLife International).

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