



POLICIES, INSTITUTIONS & MARKETS TO BENEFIT POOR FARMERS & CONSUMERS

Policies affect prices, and prices dictate how much poor farmers earn and how much poor consumers spend. Policies also affect the incentives driving the private sector and the way public funds are allocated across competing priorities. Institutions establish the rules governing economic interactions and the mechanisms for delivering public goods and services. Markets organize the way private goods and services are exchanged and how interdependent agents interact along the value chain.

When policies, institutions, and markets fail, key public goods and services are undersupplied, incentives are biased against agriculture, consumers pay too much for food, and relationships that create wealth are ruptured. Research can identify ways in which policies, institutions, and markets can be improved to serve the interests of poor producers and consumers. In January 2012, CGIAR launched such a research program—called Policies, Institutions and Markets, or PIM—to generate knowledge on how these three areas can be improved to help smallholder farmers and poor consumers live better lives.

RESEARCH THEMES

Effective policies & strategic investments

- Identify emerging trends in supply and demand and clarify priorities for public spending using foresight and modeling.
- Analyze social protection mechanisms and rural labor markets to identify features of programs that strengthen resilience to shock and help households diversify incomes.

Inclusive governance & institutions

- Explore ways that institutions can contribute to biodiversity and natural resource management through collective action.
- Focus on land tenure and institutional arrangements for delivery of services like extension, with particular attention to gender dimensions.

Linking small producers to markets

- Understand how to strengthen value chains and improve the participation of poor producers through better outreach methods.
- Improve market access for smallholders by integrating insights from this program with those of other related CGIAR research programs.

Strategic research on gender

- Generate evidence and improve information on gender in agriculture, how different programs affect the empowerment of women, and how change in gender relations contributes to growth and food security.



ACHIEVING IMPACT

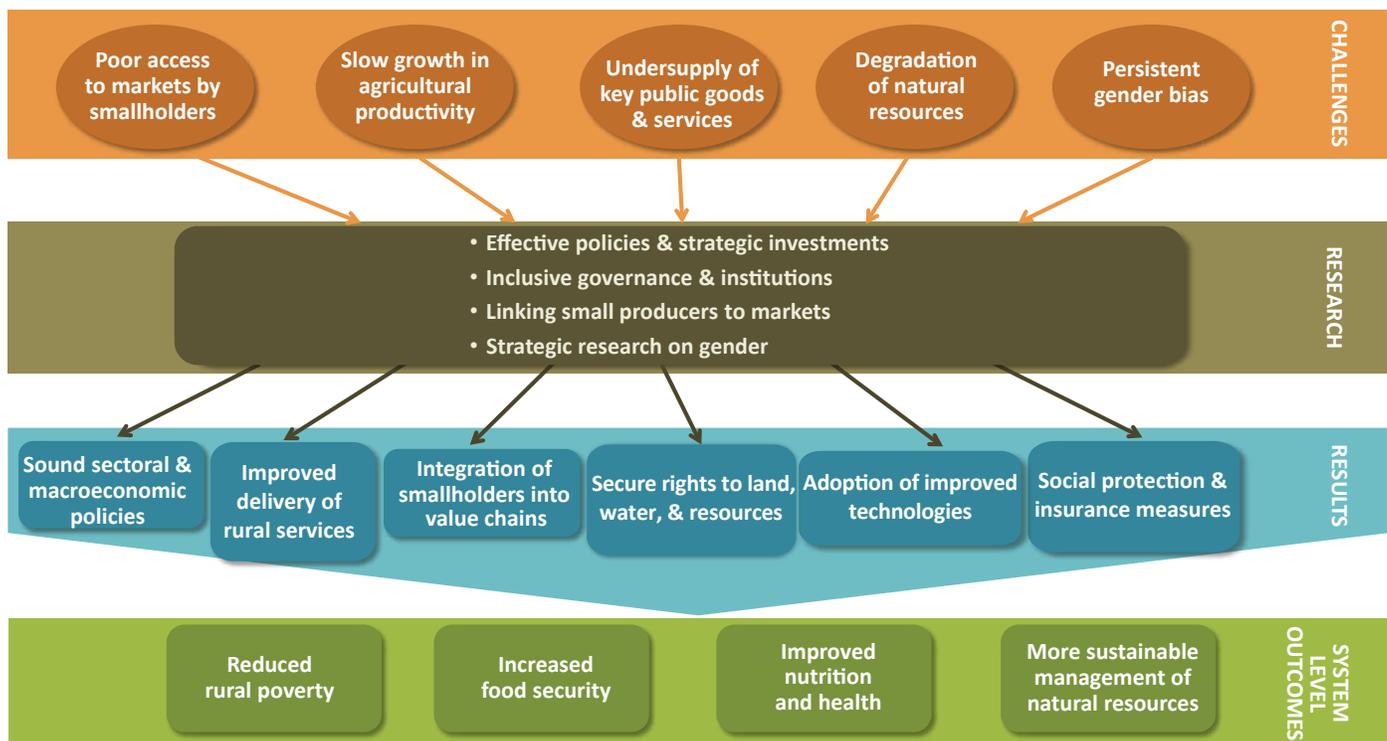
PIM contributes to CGIAR's mission to reduce poverty, improve food security, enhance nutrition and health, and better manage natural resources by:

1. Creating and applying new tools and methods to enrich research and bolster the capacity of research communities, and

2. Providing evidenced-based options for participants in policy processes at the global, national, and local levels.

Impact will be assessed based on frequency of use of new tools and methods, documentation of relevant knowledge used to inform policy processes, and, where possible, scale and cost-effectiveness of the improvements achieved.

From Challenge to Change



PARTNERSHIPS

The Policies, Institutions and Markets program is a partnership among 11 CGIAR Centers; it is led by IFPRI and includes Bioversity International, CIAT, CIMMYT, CIP, ICARDA, ICRISAT, IITA, ILRI, the World Agroforestry Center, and WorldFish. Achieving PIM's ambitious objectives requires a strong collective effort with additional partners in research

and outreach, including universities and national agricultural research systems, donor agencies, development partners, farmers' organizations, governments, the private sector, and civil society organizations. Regional partners also play a key role by providing insight on priorities and guidance on implementation in order to best meet region-specific needs.

INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

2033 K Street, NW • Washington, DC 20006-1002 USA

Phone: +1-202-862-5600 • Fax: +1-202-467-4439

ifpri@cgiar.org • Skype: IFPRIhomeoffice

www.ifpri.org

For more information, please contact:

Pascale Sabbagh, Senior Program Manager

p.sabbagh@cgiar.org • www.pim.cgiar.org