



PIM Newsletter

Issue No 9, June-August 2014



Dear PIM Friends,

Welcome back after summer breaks, and an extra warm welcome to new members of the PIM team. Hikuepi (Epi) Katjuongua and Esther Mwangi joined us as new [Focal Points](#) at ILRI and CIFOR, respectively. Frank Place (formerly from World Agroforestry Center) relocated to Washington DC from Nairobi and started on July 1 as Senior Research Fellow at the [PIM Program Management Unit](#). Marwa Bakabas joined us in July as the PMU's Program Assistant. And although we are already missing her very much, I am delighted to announce that Pascale Sabbagh, our Senior Program Manager, successfully gave birth to baby Nils on August 18 and is now on maternity leave.

We in the PIM Program Management Unit have had an enjoyable summer, and also a fairly busy one. This edition of the newsletter brings you up to date on recent developments.

I am pleased to report that our 2015-2016 extension proposal submitted to the Consortium Office in April was well received. We are providing requested additional information for the next round of review. The entire PIM team has been actively working on the detailed technical proposals for each research activity. Most of them have been posted on our online collaborative platform for consultation and comment within the wider PIM research community. We will close the comment period in early September and launch review and revision with the aim to finalize the full package by the end of September.

We have been providing comment and input into the update of the [CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework](#) through membership on the reference group representing CRPs, Centers, Board Chairs, and the Consortium Board, through contributing background materials, and by commenting on successive drafts. This document will create the basis for renewed pledges to the CGIAR Fund after 2016, and also frame the architecture of the CRPs for the second phase starting in January 2017.

PIM's external evaluation is well underway. We have received and commented on the inception report from the evaluation team. The Program Management Unit and many team leaders and individual researchers have been active in supporting the evaluation.

We finalized and released the [PIM Branding and Acknowledgment Guidelines](#) to help us better track PIM outputs and celebrate achievements of our researchers and partners. If you have any questions about the Guidelines and how to use them, please contact our Communications Specialist, Evgeniya Anisimova.

We participated in and supported interesting events (yes, some of them still take place in the summer!) - you are welcome to read more about them on the following pages, and have been busy planning and organizing for a [number of those](#) that will happen in the next few months.

And last but not least, we've been working on the PIM's January 2013 - June 2014 program overview (also known as our "glossy report") to be released and shared with all of you in September, in time for distribution at the [CGIAR Development Dialogues](#) event in New York on September 25.

We have much more to share - please see what follows. Many thanks for your interest in PIM and support for our efforts.

Sincerely,

Karen Brooks
PIM Director

News and Events

The CGIAR Development Dialogues 2014: Delivering solutions to realize the Sustainable Development Goals and Global Climate Agenda

The year 2014 marks an historic opportunity to communicate the importance of research on sustainable agriculture to stakeholders involved in the climate change and development policy processes.

The first CGIAR Development Dialogues event, organized with participation and support from all CGIAR [research centers](#) and [programs](#), will focus global attention on the vital role of research on agriculture, livestock, forestry, fisheries, landscapes, and food systems in achieving sustainable development. The event will take place on **25 September 2014** in **New York City** [Read more...](#)



New online resource highlights tools for value chain analysis

Ensuring that small-scale farmers and producers enjoy a bigger piece of the financial pie is the aim of a new web resource on agricultural development.

The [Value Chains Knowledge Clearinghouse](#), led by the [CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets](#), is based on the concept of Value Chains Development (VCD). The approach seeks to build new or strengthen existing commercial ties between two or more actors, such as businesses and consumers. Several NGOs, donors, and governments have adopted VCD as a key element of their rural poverty reduction strategies. [Read more...](#)



Advisory and Knowledge Services: Evidence for What Works

A **seminar** under this title will take place on **September 17, 2014 from 12 to 2 pm EDT**, at IFPRI headquarters in Washington, DC. The research team working on rural advisory and knowledge services under the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets ([PIM](#)) will present recent developments in their work and talk about [pluralistic extension services](#) with a focus on how to make new frameworks and methods operational. [Read more...](#)



Bridging the divide between women and men farmers in Ethiopia

by Sarah McMullan and Caitlin Kieran

Women make up about half of the [labor](#) force in Ethiopia. While their contributions are plentiful, women and girls face discrimination when accessing—and making decisions regarding—education, agricultural information and inputs, land, and other assets to aid food production. “If women and girls are left behind, we will never develop,” said Adugna Waggra, Deputy Director General at the [Ethiopian Institute of Agricultural Research](#) (EIAR). Waggra delivered these remarks at a [workshop](#) in July that brought together people from diverse organizations to streamline joint efforts to close the gender gap in Ethiopia. The event, organized in partnership with the [Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture’s Women’s Affairs Directorate](#), the EIAR, the [Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency \(ATA\)](#), IFPRI’s [Research for Ethiopia’s Agriculture Policy \(REAP\)](#) project, and the [CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets](#) (PIM), drew a crowd of 70 professionals all working towards gender equality in various capacities. [Read more...](#)



Global Trade Analysis Project (GTAP) Conference focuses on growth, trade in Africa

by Sara Gustafson

The last ten years have witnessed incredible economic and agricultural growth in Africa. Between 2000 and 2010, the continent was home to six of the ten fastest-growing economies in the world. However, can this growth continue in a sustainable, inclusive way?

Yes, if managed carefully through strategic investments in infrastructure and stable financial institutions, according to Njuguna Ndung’u, Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya, who spoke at the [17th Annual Conference on Global Economic Analysis](#). [Read more...](#)



Gender and Agriculture: A Focus on Bangladesh

Cross-posted from [A4NH](#)

On June 18th, IFPRI hosted a one-day workshop in Dhaka, Bangladesh, entitled “Gender and Agriculture: A Focus on Bangladesh,” attended by more than 90 participants. The workshop included presentations on multi-country agriculture and gender projects, with an emphasis on research results from Bangladesh. [Read more...](#)



Yemen Spatial: A tool to help the country reach its food security goals

Yemen ranks among the ten most food-insecure countries globally and has child malnutrition rates of nearly sixty percent, the highest in the Arab World. These two figures underscore the country's future social and economic development challenges.

Yemen Spatial, an online food security mapping and charting tool, was launched last week in Sana'a at the joint Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC) and FAO Food Security Information System (FSIS) Inception Workshop. [Read more...](#)



Workshop on Institutions for Ecosystem Services



CGIAR Systemwide Program on
Collective Action and Property Rights



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Policies,
Institutions,
and Markets
Led by IFPRI



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Water, Land and
Ecosystems



Research
Program on
Forests,
Trees, and
Agroforestry

The program on Collective Action and Property Rights (CAPRI), part of the CGIAR Research Programs on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM), Water, Land, and Ecosystems (WLE), and Forests, Trees, and Agroforestry (FTA), was **accepting abstracts on the topic of “Institutions for Ecosystem Services”** (submission closed on Aug 6) that will be presented at an international **research workshop** on **October 27-29, 2014** at the International Food Policy Research Institute's headquarters in Washington, D.C. The call was open for researchers and partners participating in PIM, WLE, and FTA projects. **Read more about the workshop and the abstract submission [here](#).**

Enhancing Resilience in African Drylands

Watch the video of this interesting discussion during the IFPRI 2020 Conference (15-17 May, 2014).

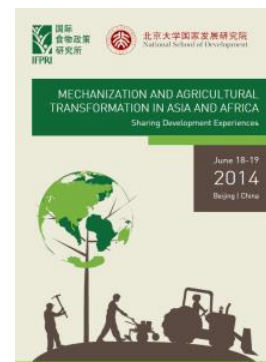
On May 15 this year, more than 800 experts and practitioners from food, nutrition, health, agriculture, humanitarian, and related development sectors met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for a three-day conference, “Building Resilience for Food and Nutrition Security,” organized by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) with support from many partners, including PIM. [Read more...](#)



Farming on Big Wheels: What can Africa and Asia learn from each other?

A two-day international gathering focused on agricultural mechanization in Asia and Africa amid urbanization and economic growth and presented an important opportunity for south-south learning by providing a platform for scholars and practitioners to exchange ideas and best practice.

The workshop was organized by the National School of Development at Peking University and the International Food Policy Research Institute with support from [PIM](#) and [USAID](#) on June 18-19 in Beijing, China. [Read more...](#)



Select Publications

Standards for collecting sex-disaggregated data for gender analysis

Given the increased attention to gender research, both within CGIAR and among external partners and donors, researchers are often expected to conduct gender analyses, which necessitates collecting relevant data. In order to assist CGIAR researchers in this process, [PIM gender](#) researchers, with contributions from and endorsement of the [CGIAR Gender and Agriculture Research Network](#) and the IFPRI Gender Task Force, have developed a **set of standards for collecting sex-disaggregated data**.

[Read more...](#)



Identifying agricultural expenditures within the public financial accounts and coding system in Ghana

Is the ten percent government agriculture expenditure overestimated?

This new [discussion paper](#) just released by IFPRI is part of four country case studies supported by PIM that take a detailed look at public expenditures in agriculture, and at how the data on expenditures are captured in government financial and budget accounts. The objective of these studies is to unpack the black box of public expenditure statistics reported in various cross-country datasets, and ultimately to enable the use of existing government accounts to identify levels and compositions of government agriculture expenditures, with better understanding of what these data are in fact accounting for. [Read more...](#)



Local warming and violent conflict in Sudan

by Margherita Calderone

The study presented here sheds new light on the link between the occurrence of weather shocks and violence by looking at the case of Sudan and South Sudan. Using geographically-disaggregated data from 1997 to 2009, it finds that higher temperatures greatly affect the risk of conflict. The analysis also highlights possible channels of the climate-conflict nexus suggesting that competition over natural resources is one of the main drivers in a region where pastoralism constitutes the dominant livelihood. [Read more...](#)



CIAT policy brief: Strengthening Regional Supply Chains for Agricultural Transformation in Colombia

By Yadira Peña, Vail Miller, Rafael Isidro Parra-Peña S., and Mark Lundy

Over the last 2 decades, Colombia has gained valuable experience in supporting agricultural supply chains. The government views this approach primarily as a means of achieving agricultural transformation, and to this end the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR, its Spanish acronym) has designed a set of innovative policies. Under these policies, regional committees plan and implement development initiatives in collaboration with the local public and private sectors. While achieving several notable successes, the committees have also come up against various challenges: boosting operational funds; developing stronger relationships with regional governments, private actors, and support systems; strengthening small-scale producer organizations; and, above all, creating a long-term regional vision for supply-chain development. Colombia must meet these challenges effectively if its public policies are to achieve the desired effect of enhancing agricultural productivity.

[Read the full brief here](#)



Building resilience for food and nutrition security: Highlights from the 2020 conference

This synopsis and related video present highlights from the international conference "[Building Resilience for Food and Nutrition Security](#)," organized by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and its 2020 Vision Initiative, with support from [PIM](#) and [other partners](#), on May 15-17, 2014 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. [Read more...](#)



Blog Stories

Rural advisory services: On the frontline of the fight against food insecurity

Interview with [Kristin Davis](#), PIM lead for Advisory Services within Research [Flagship 3: Adoption of Technology and Sustainable Intensification](#), Research Fellow at International Food Policy Research Institute ([IFPRI](#)), and Executive Secretary of the Global Forum for the Rural Advisory Services ([GFRAS](#))

- What are rural advisory services in agriculture today and what is their role in food security?

Our research team sees rural advisory services (RAS), also known as agricultural extension, as a broad function supported by many actors including government workers, the private sector, civil society, and farmers themselves. Advisory services help farmers to access information on technologies, markets, inputs, and finance, and upgrade their farming and managerial skills. These services are indeed complementary to development of new technologies because they support their uptake. [Read more...](#)



Mapping crops to improve food security

by Weston Anderson, Evgeniya Anisimova, and Liangzhi You

In the era of big data, unmanned drones, and satellite remote sensing, our knowledge of crop growing locations remains surprisingly limited. We have even less information on crop yields that vary from plot to plot. While some developed countries have started to map their crops, most developing countries have no such capacity. Information on the distribution and performance of specific crops is therefore mostly available through national or sub-national statistics, which are often too general for a focused analysis. [Read more...](#)



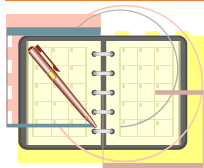
Two more things you need to know about sex-disaggregated data

Cross-posted from [A4NH Gender-Nutrition Blog](#)

This month we're continuing a conversation we started in May with 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, tell us a bit more about the contribution of sex-disaggregated data in agriculture, nutrition and health research. [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](#).

17 Sept 2014,
Washington DC, USA

Seminar on Advisory and
Knowledge Services: Evidence
for What Works

PIM rural advisory services team will present recent developments in their work and talk about pluralistic extension services with a focus on how to make new frameworks and methods operational. [Read more...](#)

25 Sept 2014,
New York City, USA

[CGIAR Development Dialogues](#)



Organized by CGIAR with participation and support from all centers and research programs, this high-level one-day event (by invitation only) intends to focus global attention on the vital role of agriculture, livestock, forestry, fisheries, landscapes, and food systems in achieving sustainable development. The event will feature lively high-level panel debates among leading scientists, Heads of State, prominent private sector players, philanthropic organizations, and prestigious academic organizations. [Read more...](#)

27-29 Oct 2014,
Washington, USA

Workshop on Institutions for
Ecosystem Services

Event organized by the program on [Collective Action and Property Rights \(CAPRI\)](#), part of the CGIAR Research Programs on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM), Water, Land, and Ecosystems (WLE), and Forests, Trees, and Agroforestry (FTA). **See more** [here](#)

4-5 Nov 2014,
Washington, USA

PIM extended team meeting

Semi-annual meeting of the extended PIM team (Participating Centers Focal Points, Management Committee, Program Management Unit). By invitation only.

5-7 Nov 2014,
Washington, USA

Global Futures & Strategic
Foresight conference

Co-organized by PIM. By invitation only. More details will be available shortly. See more about PIM foresight work [here](#)

11-12 Nov 2014,
Washington, USA

[Workshop on Best Practice
Methods for Assessing the
Impact of Policy Oriented
Research](#)

Event organized by the International Food Policy Research Institute ([IFPRI](#)), the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets ([PIM](#)), and the Standing Panel for Impact Assessment ([SPIA](#)) of the CGIAR's Independent Science and Partnership Council. By invitation only.
Visit [event site](#)

4-5 Dec 2014,
Washington, USA

PIM Science and Policy Advisory
Panel (SPAP) meeting

By invitation only.

[We are now on Twitter](#) – please follow us!

@PIM_CGIAR

