



IFPRI - International Food Policy Research Institute

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) develops research-based policy solutions to help developing countries reduce poverty, hunger, and malnutrition. IFPRI, which was founded in 1975, now employs over 600 people in more than 50 countries. Its headquarters is in Washington, USA. It is a CGIAR (Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) research centre, which is a global cooperation dedicated to agricultural development research. CGIAR is a global research alliance dedicated to decreasing poverty, promoting food and nutrition security, and conserving natural resources in order to ensure a safe food future. IFPRI works to solve the challenges across the global, regional and national by fundamental transformation of food systems. IFPRI is working on five strategic research areas:

- Fostering Climate-Resilient and Sustainable Food Supply
- Promoting Healthy Diets and Nutrition for All
- Building Inclusive and Efficient Markets, Trade Systems, and Food Industry
- Transforming Agricultural and Rural Economies
- Strengthening Institutions and Governance

IFPRI in India

The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) has been working actively to implement reforms to promote agricultural productivity, technological adoption, market efficiency, farmers' access to markets, and ensuring transparent governance in public distribution systems. IFPRI works closely with various state government and non-government organisations for evidence-based policy research and capacity-building activities related to food and nutrition security in the region. The research focuses on

- Agricultural diversification,
- climate change,
- markets and trade,
- nutrition and health,
- science and technology, and
- governance.

IFPRI also provides strategic inputs to program and policy decision makers through initiatives such as Partnerships and Opportunities to Strengthen and Harmonize Actions for Nutrition (POSHAN) in India. **Some of IFPRI projects in India are –**

1. IFPRI-Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)

The IFPRI-ICAR collaboration consists of three main components: (i) Research Collaboration on mutually agreed topics; (ii) Training and Capacity Strengthening; and (iii) Policy Communication. Under the research collaboration, four research areas and topics has been identified which are as follows:

- Agricultural research & extension, adoption and impact of improved technologies;
- Food Systems and Agricultural-Nutrition linkages;
- Agricultural marketing and trade; and
- Institutional innovations in food systems (FPOs, PM-KISAN, PDS, POSHAN).

Duration is from 2020 to 2024 and major partners in this collaboration are

- ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)
- ICAR-National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research (NIAP)
- ICAR-National Academy of Agricultural Research Management (NAARM)
- Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
- ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research (IIHR)
- ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research (IIVR)
- ICAR-Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute (IASRI)
- ICAR-Agricultural Technology Application Research Institute (ATARI)

2. POSHAN

The primary goal of POSHAN is to bring together data and evidence that can help support policy and program decisions for accelerating improvements in malnutrition, in all its forms, in India. Currently in the second phase, with secondary and primary data, the team analyzes nutrition outcomes, policies and programs at the state-level and thereby informs optimal state-specific strategies. The team plans generate analytics and evidence at the national, state and district -levels. POSHAN is generously supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and is led by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), in collaboration with the **Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS)**.

3. Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia (CSISA)

The Cereal Systems Initiative for South Asia (CSISA) was established in 2009 to support national and regional efforts to improve cereal production growth in South Asia's most important grain baskets. Operating in rural hubs in Bangladesh, India, and Nepal, CSISA involves more than 300 public, civil society, and private sector partners in the development and dissemination of improved cropping systems, resource-conserving management technologies, new rice, wheat and maize varieties and hybrids, livestock feed supply chains, improved policies and markets, and public-private delivery systems.

4. Women Improving Nutrition through Group-based Strategies (WINGS)

Women Improving Nutrition through Group-based Strategies (WINGS) is a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation-funded umbrella project in India. WINGS aim to build the evidence base on the pathways through which **Self-Help Groups (SHGs)** can improve nutrition in India. It has conducted a comprehensive literature review, consolidate methods and metrics, and evaluate the impact of PRADAN's nutrition-intensification intervention activities from 2015 to 2021

5. Picture-Based Crop Insurance (PBI)

Picture-Based Insurance is a new, innovative way of delivering affordable, comprehensive, and easy-to-understand crop insurance. By relying on visible crop characteristics derived from farmers' own smartphone pictures, the project aims to minimize the costs of loss verification and detect damage at the plot level, making crop insurance more attractive and accessible to

small farmers. IFPRI and its partners are testing this approach in different locations in Ethiopia, Kenya and India.

Duration – 2016- 2022

6. Reaching Smallholder Women with Information Services and Resilience Strategies to Respond to Climate Change

Climate-smart agriculture (CSA) is a set of guiding principles to identify technologies, practices, tools and policies to sustainably increase agricultural productivity and incomes, and resilience to climate change, while reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. To address this constraint and facilitate women's contribution to CSA, the project "Reaching Smallholder Women with Information Services and Resilience Strategies to Respond to Climate Change" aims to reach more than 30,000 women in smallholder farm households with information on CSA approaches using innovative information services in parts of India, Kenya and Uganda. Project had been worked with grassroots women's organizations and university institutions, including the **Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in India**, GROOTS in Kenya, and Uganda's Africa Institute for Strategic Animal Resource Services Development (AFRISA) of Makerere University to pilot innovative information services featuring locally-appropriate CSA practices from 2019 to 2021.

7. Program of Accompanying Research for Agricultural Innovation (PARI)

Program of Accompanying Research for Agricultural Innovation (PARI) brings together partners from Africa, India and Germany to contribute to sustainable agricultural growth and food and nutrition security in Africa and India as part of the One World – No Hunger initiative (SEWOH) supported by the German government. Started in 2014 and still running.

8. Scaling up experiential learning tools for sustainable water governance in India

The project "Scaling up experiential learning tools for sustainable water governance in India" aims to enhance sustainable water management at scale by improving the capacities of 1,500 rural communities covering 105,000 households directly and 2,000 communities covering 140,000 indirectly in six Indian states to manage water more sustainably. IFPRI and International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) will work with **partners at the Indian NGO Foundation for Ecological Security** under its Promise of Commons initiative, India's premier training center for agricultural extension services the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (**MANAGE**), and Martin-Luther-Universität Halle-Wittenberg (MLU Halle) to scale-up experiential learning tools for water resources management across India.

9. Next-generation crop production analytics using smartphone 3D imaging and dynamic area sampling frames

IFPRI launched a new crop production analytics project, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and managed by Tetra Tech's AGDATA Acceleration Facility. The project will use terrestrial remote sensing and 3D imaging technologies at strategically chosen **locations in Odisha, India**, to improve both crop yield measurement accuracy and its representativeness for the surrounding landscape. Overall activities will be largely organized

into two parallel workstreams, (a) Dynamic area sampling frames and (b) Smartphone-based yield measurement.

10. Applying New Evidence for Women's Empowerment (ANEW)

The ANEW portfolio consists of four projects supported by the Walmart Foundation, based in **India**, Mexico and Guatemala. These projects represent a diverse range of agricultural products, farmer-producer collectives, and innovative program designs. Two of these—**PRADAN in India** and TechnoServe in Guatemala—will partner with IFPRI to conduct rigorous impact evaluations. The other two—Root Capital in Mexico and **Grameen Foundation in India**—join the portfolio with an existing research partner.

References

<https://www.ifpri.org/>

<https://www.ifpri.org/country/india>

[https://southasia.ifpri.info/india/#:~:text=IFPRI%20in%20India&text=Through%20its%20Poverty%2C%20Health%2C%20and,education%2C%20and%20gender%20equality\).](https://southasia.ifpri.info/india/#:~:text=IFPRI%20in%20India&text=Through%20its%20Poverty%2C%20Health%2C%20and,education%2C%20and%20gender%20equality).)

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