



A4NH adoption and ex-post impact assessment related strategy and plans for 2017-2022

From Annex 3.5 of A4NHs proposal for Phase II

Prepared by Nancy Johnson, A4NH IAFP

Presented by Agnes Quisumbing, IFPRI

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1. A4NH adoption and ex-post impact assessment related **strategy and plans for 2017-2022**
2. The Agriculture, Nutrition, and Gender Linkages (ANGeL) evaluation in Bangladesh
 - Assesses alternative approaches for helping agricultural programs empower women and improve nutrition
 - Motivated by the results of Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI)

Elements of a strategy

- **Focus at flagship or cluster of activity (CoA) level**, consistent how we developed our theories of change
- Prioritize adoption and impact **studies that will strengthen the ToCs**, e.g. by providing evidence for key outcomes or assumptions.
Examples:
 - Studies that measure impact of A4NH food safety innovations on nutrition and health outcomes among consumers. Past studies focused on technical effectiveness and economic benefits to adopters (farmers, value chain actors).
 - Studies that document and improve understanding of how program implementers (governments, NGOs) access and use evidence from A4NH research, especially results of impact evaluations of nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions
- **Funding is largely bilateral**, especially for impact evaluations, so funding opportunities may also influence which studies get done (topic, methodology, region, etc.)

Types of studies

- ***Impact evaluations*** allow for the rigorous estimation of the impact of an intervention based on CGIAR research on IDO- or even SLO-level outcomes. Usually done on a pilot scale, using experimental methods.
- ***Adoption studies*** focus on uptake of research outputs by intended users
- ***Impact assessments*** estimate the IDO- and SLO-level benefits of use of uptake at scale of research outputs.

Plan for impact studies, by A4NH flagship program

| Flagship program (FP) | Impact evaluations | Adoption Studies (linked to outcomes in M&E system) | Impact Assessments (ex ante and ex post) |
|--|---|---|--|
| FP1: Food Systems for healthier diets | | Use of tools, methods and results by: policymakers, other food system stakeholders, other CRPs | |
| FP2: Biofortification | Iron beans in Guatemala; zinc wheat in Pakistan; multi-crop (iron beans and OSP); others to follow | Iron beans in Rwanda, iron pearl millet in India; vitamin A cassava in Nigeria; mainstreaming nutrition in breeding and of biofortification in policy | Ex ante ongoing (e.g., Birol et al. 2014; Lividini and Fiedler 2015), updating past work with new information and approaches |
| FP3: Food Safety | Impact of T&C on health and nutrition in Kenya; Funding being sought for rigorous evaluations of health impacts of aflatoxin mitigation technologies (e.g., aflasafe) | Adoption of aflasafe by farmers | Funding being sought for an ex post impact of T&C in Kenya |
| FP4: Supporting policy & enabling environments through research (SPEAR) | Agriculture, Nutrition, and Gender Linkages (ANGeL) project in Bangladesh, testing approaches to empowering women through nutrition-sensitive agriculture | Uptake and use of evidence, methods and tools, new knowledge and skills by program implementers, policymakers and other key stakeholders | Evaluation of IFPRI's "Diet quality, agriculture and health program" (GRP24), precursor to CoA1 in FP4 (joint with IFPRI) |
| FP5: Improving Human Health | | Use of tools, methods and results by other researchers, program implementers, governments | |

Flagship 2: Biofortification



Photo credit: Flickr (Neil Palmer/ HarvestPlus)

Flagship 2: Biofortification



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Impact Evaluations (effectiveness studies in HarvestPlus terminology)

- Iron beans in Guatemala;
- Zinc wheat in Pakistan;
- Multi-crop (iron beans and OSP);
- Others to follow...

Adoption Studies (linked to outcomes in M&E system)

- Iron beans in Rwanda,
- Iron pearl millet in India
- Vitamin A cassava in Nigeria
- mainstreaming nutrition in breeding and of biofortification in policy

Impact Assessments

- Ex ante ongoing (e.g. Birol et al. 2014; Lividini and Fiedler 2015)
- Updating past work with new information and approaches (e.g. food basket rather than single crop)



Photo credit: Joseph Atehnkeng

Flagship 3: Food Safety

Photo credit: Joseph Atehnkeng



Impact Evaluations

- Impact of Training and Certification (T&C) on health and nutrition in Kenya
- Funding being sought for rigorous evaluations of health impacts of aflatoxin mitigation technologies (e.g., aflasafe)

Adoption Studies (linked to outcomes in M&E system)

- Adoption of aflasafe by farmers

Impact Assessments

- Funding being sought for an ex post impact assessment of T&C in Kenya

Flagship 4: Supporting policy and enabling environments through research (SPEAR)



Photo credit: Flickr IFPRI (Akram Ali/CARE Bangladesh)

Flagship 4: SPEAR

Photo credit: Flickr/IFPRI (Akram Ali/CARE Bangladesh)



Impact Evaluations

- Agriculture, Nutrition, and Gender Linkages (ANGeL) project in Bangladesh, testing approaches to empowering women through nutrition-sensitive agriculture

Adoption Studies (linked to outcomes in M&E system)

- Uptake and use of evidence, methods and tools, new knowledge and skills by program implementers, policymakers and other key stakeholders

Impact Assessments

- Evaluation of IFPRI's "Diet quality, agriculture and health program" (GRP24), precursor to CoA1 in FP4 (joint with IFPRI)

Plan for impact studies, by A4NH flagship program

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Agriculture, Nutrition, and Gender Linkages (ANGeL)

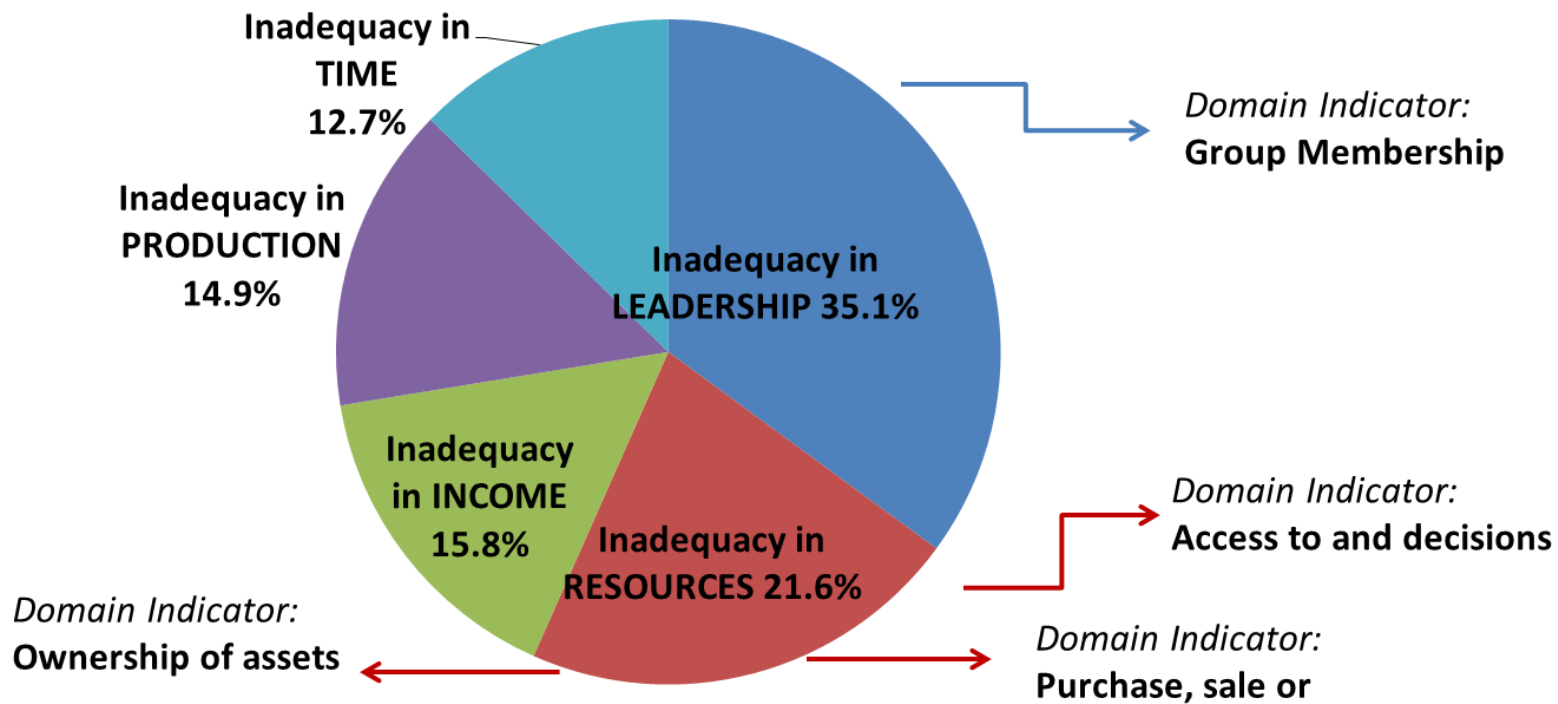


Photo credit: Flickr: (Farha Khan/IFPRI)

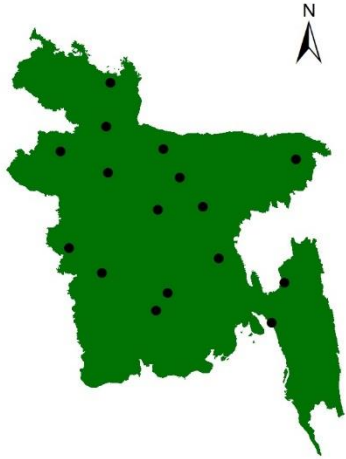


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FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Bangladesh: diagnosis of empowerment gaps from the WEAI used to inform programming



Project design



- The project is implemented in **16 rural upazilas** purposively selected from all **484 rural upazilas** in the country that are agro-ecologically suitable for crop diversification and have good market connectivity.
- RCT will evaluate the impact of three alternative modalities for nutrition and gender sensitive agriculture:
 - **Agriculture Production:** Facilitating the production of the high-value food commodities that are rich in essential nutrients. The focus would be on diversifying agricultural production (fruits and vegetables; pulses; oilseeds; and poultry, dairy, fish, livestock)
 - **Nutrition Knowledge:** Conducting high-quality behavior change communication (BCC) training to improve nutrition knowledge of women and men
 - **Gender Sensitization:** Undertaking gender sensitization activities to empower women and improve gender parity

Treatment arms and control

The project has 5 treatment arms and a control arm:

| | |
|----|--|
| T1 | Nutrition BCC (training delivered to women and men by agricultural extension agents from the DAE, mostly men) |
| T2 | Nutrition BCC-2 (training delivered by local community women to be hired by the pilot project) |
| T3 | Agricultural Production (training delivered to men and women) |
| T4 | Agricultural Production (training delivered to men and women women) + nutrition BCC |
| T5 | Agricultural Production to (training delivered to men and women) + nutrition BCC + gender sensitization to women and men |
| C | Control |



RESEARCH
PROGRAM ON
Agriculture for
Nutrition
and Health

LED BY **IFPRI** 

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