



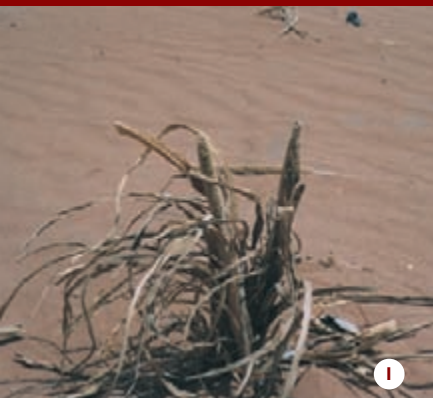
IFPRI

AT A GLANCE



INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE





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Impressive progress in agricultural science and food production has helped significantly in feeding the world's growing population over the past 30 years. However, major challenges remain. Of the 5.1 billion people who live in the developing world, 1.2 billion still confront the ravages of poverty on a daily basis. About 800 million are food insecure while 170 million children under five are malnourished. Natural resources that support food production are being degraded. Agricultural productivity growth in developing countries, once rapid, is now decelerating. By 2025, there will be 1.6 billion more people on the planet, putting even more stress on limited resources.

Achieving food security for all will require access to resources by the poor, better technologies for producing and distributing food supplies, more efficient and accountable governments, and timely and appropriate strategies, policies and institutions in the areas of food production, nutrition, science and technology, natural resources, markets, and trade.

To meet these challenges, IFPRI restructured in 2003 and developed a new strategy in consultation with stakeholders. In 2004, a new division focusing on innovation and capacity strengthening in national agricultural research and knowledge systems became part of the Institute. IFPRI directly supports developing-country policymakers, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and civil society in their efforts to help the poor by presenting policy solutions for meeting food needs in a sustainable manner. In addition, the Institute's published research indirectly affects policy change through opinion leaders, donors, advisers, and media who influence national and international decisionmaking. IFPRI conducts food policy research and disseminates it through five research and outreach divisions, a communications division, and the 2020 Vision Initiative. These divisions and initiative focus on the areas described below:

- 1 Poverty, low crop and animal productivity, and environmental degradation contribute to a downward spiral in the developing world. IFPRI conducts research in such areas as water management, fragile lands, property rights and collective action, and **sustainable intensification of agricultural production** to develop policies that will reverse the downward spiral. IFPRI also conducts research on the problems and opportunities that biotechnology in agriculture offers to developing countries.
- 2 The cornerstone of food security is improved economic access to food and the ability to harness **food for economic growth and improved nutrition**. To remove constraints that affect poor people's ability to secure food, IFPRI conducts research on anti-poverty programs for the poor, micronutrient malnutrition, microfinance programs, urban food security, gender and development, and resource allocation within households.
- 3 Inadequate policies, institutions, and rural infrastructure lead to agricultural markets that do not function efficiently. As a consequence, the poor pay more for their food and receive less for their produce. To make **markets, trade, and supporting institutions more pro-poor**, IFPRI analyzes agricultural market reforms, trade policy, World Trade Organization negotiations in the context of agriculture, institutional effectiveness, crop and income diversification, postharvest activity, and agroindustry.





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4 As governments and donors strive to realize the Millennium Development Goals, they increasingly turn to IFPRI to play a supporting role in developing investment strategies and policy and institutional reforms. IFPRI examines **food and agriculture strategy** in an economywide context and at the same time looks at the feasibility of implementing food policy reforms given **governance** and institutional constraints. IFPRI is creating practical tools for strategic planning and investing in poverty reduction, food security, and agriculture, and is strengthening its in-country presence and capacity to provide more direct support to developing countries undertaking such work.

5 The **performance of agricultural research and knowledge systems**—consisting of public research organizations, private firms and entrepreneurs, industry and farmer organizations, and NGOs—helps determine the extent to which science and technology can contribute to economic growth and development. To improve the effectiveness of national agricultural research, IFPRI, through a new division based in Addis Ababa, is pursuing research on and capacity strengthening for enhancing institutional change in agricultural innovation systems, improving the organization and management of research, and understanding the underlying social, political, and economic factors that inhibit or enhance progress in agricultural science and technology.

6 Cutting-edge policy research needs to be communicated in a manner that promotes action and ensures that the poor benefit. IFPRI provides **information** that guides policymaking, strengthens the capacity of developing-country individuals to carry out food policy research and engage in policy communication, and promotes awareness of issues concerning food policy so that it can improve the livelihoods of the poor.

In 1993 IFPRI introduced the 2020 Vision Initiative to develop and promote **a shared vision and consensus for action** in order to meet food needs while reducing poverty and protecting the environment. The initiative also generates information and encourages debate to influence action by national governments, NGOs, the private sector, international development institutions, and other elements of civil society. Developing timely and relevant state-of-the-art information on pressing issues related to food, agriculture, and the environment is one of its several key goals.

IFPRI sets its research priorities through a consultative process that involves key stakeholders from developing and developed countries. Priority is given to urgent food policy issues that will have the greatest positive impact on the poor. The Institute has more than 25 years of cumulative research experience and collaborates with other national and international agricultural research centers in order to create synergies and achieve sustainable results.

IFPRI's research is multidisciplinary and relies on primary data collected in collaboration with developing-country institutions at the household, regional, and national levels. The Institute's goal is to generate results that will have international benefits for policymaking in diverse socioeconomic, political, and geographical contexts. The Institute conducts its research through multicountry global and regional programs, participatory and action research, and syntheses of thematic issues. IFPRI undertakes increasingly decentralized collaborative research in some 50 developing countries. It has offices in several developing countries, including China, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, and India, and has additional research staff residing in the countries where they conduct research.

IFPRI receives funding from a wide variety of sources and is part of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, which is supported by more than 50 developed and developing countries, private foundations, and bilateral and multilateral aid agencies.

To learn more about IFPRI or to download from a selection of several hundred publications, please visit our website at www.ifpri.org or send an email to:

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**INTERNATIONAL FOOD
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sustainable solutions for ending hunger and poverty

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