

IFPRI's research on agrifood systems in Bangladesh

Background

IFPRI's mission is to provide research-based policy solutions that sustainably reduce poverty and end hunger and malnutrition in all its forms. For four decades, IFPRI has had a strong, on-the-ground presence in Bangladesh, working closely with the Government of Bangladesh and development partners in conducting research, providing policy support, and strengthening stakeholders' capacity.



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Our Work

IFPRI has contributed to building an evidence base in Bangladesh on poverty and livelihoods, agricultural production and practices, nutrition, women's empowerment in agriculture, and more.

The USAID-funded **Bangladesh Policy Research and Strategy Support Program (PRSSP)** (2010–2020) met the need for food and agricultural policy research to support Bangladesh's Country Investment Plan (CIP) for agriculture, food security, and nutrition. IFPRI-PRSSP made several research contributions related to agrifood systems:

- ▶ IFPRI researchers designed the Bangladesh Integrated Household Survey (BIHS) – the country's most comprehensive, nationally representative rural household survey – to fill knowledge gaps by collecting unique data that are not collected elsewhere. Three rounds of the panel were conducted in 2011/12, 2015, and 2018/19.
- ▶ IFPRI conducted several assessments of crop and non-crop value chains, including evaluating the impact of an agricultural value chain activity, examining the rapid transformation of the fish value chain, and surveying farm households and value chain actors to measure COVID-19's impacts over time.
- ▶ IFPRI piloted a modified Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEAI) to glean insights into the facilitators and constraints of empowerment among actors in agricultural value chains.
- ▶ IFPRI designed and built the functionality of the Agricultural Policy Support Unit (APSU) in the Ministry of Agriculture, which aims to provide evidence-based policy recommendations.

The **Integrated Food Policy Research Program (IFPRP)** (2017–2023) provided research-based recommendations enabling the government to initiate effective and efficient food policies; and enhanced analytical capacity of Ministry of Food officials through trainings. One study estimated private sector rice stocks using nationally representative surveys of rice millers and traders, and proposed policy options to reduce transaction costs across the value chain. IFPRP was funded through the Ministry of Food and the World Bank.

The **Climate Change x Agriculture Activity** (2022–2025), supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, focuses on enhancing farmers' access to finance for agricultural mechanization. Climate change and gender are recognized as cross-cutting issues under this activity.



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IFPRI and CGIAR in Bangladesh

IFPRI is a research center of CGIAR, the world's largest global agricultural innovation network, and pursues many of its core themes jointly with other centers through a new portfolio of large-scale CGIAR Research Initiatives. Several CGIAR Research Initiatives that are led and co-led by IFPRI in Bangladesh support policy and institutional solutions for food systems transformation:

- ▶ **Harnessing Gender and Social Equality for Resilience in Agrifood Systems (HER+)** aims to achieve climate resilience by strengthening gender equality and social inclusion across food systems.
- ▶ **Rethinking Food Markets** provides evidence for improving income and employment opportunities in growing food markets, focusing on smallholder farmers and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the livestock and fisheries sectors.
- ▶ **Sustainable Healthy Diets through Food Systems Transformation (SHiFT)** supports evidence-based decision-making, policy formulation, and strategies for food security and improved nutrition.
- ▶ **Transforming Agrifood Systems in South Asia (TAFSSA)** aims to deliver a coordinated program of research and engagement across the food production-to-consumption continuum, transform agrifood systems via inclusive learning platforms and data systems, and generate evidence on the determinants of sustainable healthy diets.

IFPRI and the CGIAR are committed to working with the Government of Bangladesh and other stakeholders in providing practical, evidence-based solutions for improving agrifood systems.

CONTACT US

For more information on IFPRI's research and outreach in Bangladesh, please contact IFPRI-Bangladesh Country Representative Dr. Akhter Ahmed (a.ahmed@cgiar.org).

INTERNATIONAL FOOD POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

A world free of hunger and malnutrition

IFPRI is a CGIAR Research Center