



SIAC Program Overview

Impact Assessment Focal Points
Minneapolis, 25 July 2014



Independent
Science and
Partnership
Council

Standing Panel on Impact Assessment



Doug Gollin
Chair



Bob Herdt
Member



JV Meenakshi
Member



Erwin Bulte
Activity leader



Karen Macours
Activity leader



Secretariat staff (L to R): James Stevenson,
Lakshmi Krishnan, Ira Vater, Tim Kelley

SIAC Program - Origins

Strengthening Impact Assessment in the CGIAR (SIAC)

4-year program of work funded (and prompted) by BMGF, but also supported by CGIAR core resources

Aims to do what the acronym states

Coordinated by SPIA, implemented largely through sub-grants to collaborations between CGIAR centers and universities

SIAC Program - Rationale

A relatively new program (Jan 2013 – Dec 2016) but builds on

- Some important earlier initiatives (particularly DIIVA, poverty studies)
- donor demand for more (quantity) and more credible (quality) evidence of impact from CG research – with CGIAR reform, CRPs
- weak capacity in the Centers for impact assessment (CGIAR Science Council, 2009 - Social sciences stripe review)



SIAC Program - Rationale

SPIA wanting to:

- Fill gaps in CGIAR research ePIA portfolio (beyond CGI and beyond economic rates of return)
- More attention to rigor, improved methods (selection bias, endogeneity problems, causal identity), raising the rigor bar – credibility issue
- Bring in more external assessments, more independence from Centers/CRPs

SIAC Program

Objective 1: \$1.5 million (approx 4-year budget)

Experiment with new methods for estimating adoption

Objective 2: \$4.3 million

Institutionalize the collection of adoption data

Objective 3: \$4.0 million

Impact assessment of under-evaluated areas of CGIAR research

Objective 4: \$0.7 million

Build community of practice on impact assessment

Objective 1

Over to Mywish...

Objective 2

Institutionalize collection of adoption data

Expert panels for 100+ crop-country combinations in South-East and East Asia for estimating varietal adoption (Mywish leading)

Similar exercises (smaller scope) for **natural resource management** practices and **policy influence**

Collaboration with World Bank LSMS-ISA project to improve panel data on technology adoption in 8 Sub-Saharan African countries

Working towards improving next round of ag censuses (before 2020)

Objective 2

NRM and policy research outcome claims

NRM

- Consultant (Nuri Niyazi) reviewed 10 years of annual reports and old Performance Management System entries related to NRM
- Turned up approx 150 outcome claims related to NRM

Next step:

- Aug – Oct 2014: e-consultation with IAFPs regarding prioritisation for national data collection. Then outsourcing for data collection (2015-16)

Policy

Will replicate same process, starting later this year with workshop at

IFPRI



Objectives 1 & 2: LSMS-ISA collaboration

- Panel datasets in 8 Sub-Saharan African countries
- Working with Government Statistical Agencies and Ministries of Agriculture
- Two-year project within SIAC (Aug 2014 – July 2016) on working to improve data on agricultural technologies within LSMS-ISA



John Ilukor
Malawi with IITA

Contact him for ideas
on Malawi, Uganda,
Tanzania, Nigeria

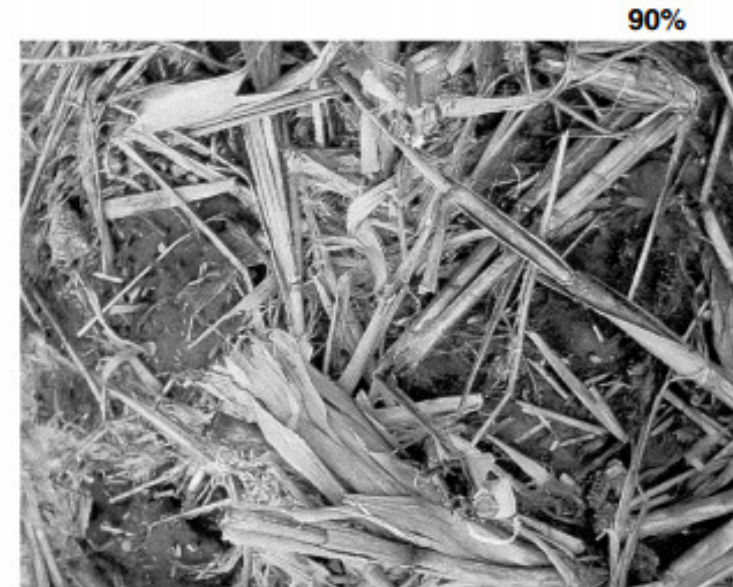
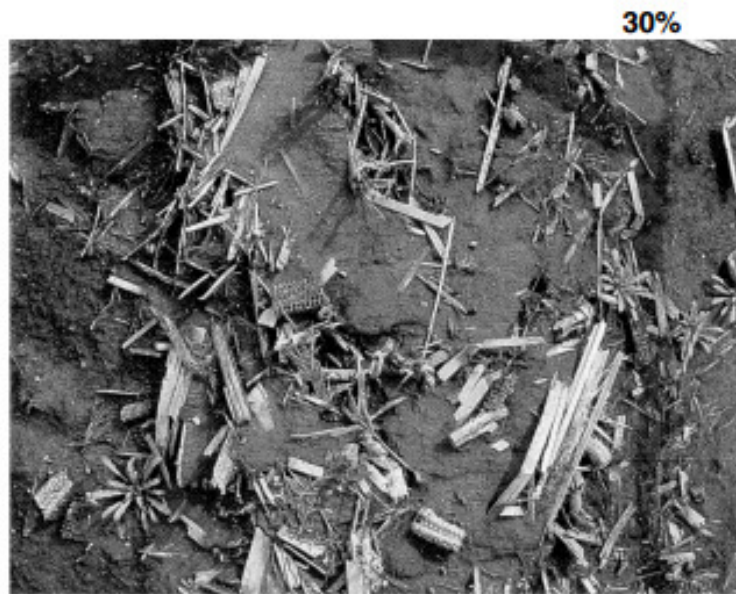


Frederic Kosmowski
Addis with ILRI / IFPRI

Contact him for ideas
on Ethiopia, Niger,
Burkina, Mali

LSMS-ISA collaboration

- Unique identification of technologies – i.e. individual varieties
- Test farmer ability to provide accurate survey responses
- Experimentation with alternative protocols on crop management etc



LSMS-ISA collaboration

Malawi – Build DNA fingerprinting into cassava experiment (Nov 2014)

Ethiopia – DNA fingerprinting already (BMGF with government agencies). Frederic to consult with range of CGIAR centers about priorities.

Nigeria – Follow-up on cowpea protocol that was implemented in 2012 survey round (data now available)

Burkina – Surveys being set up in 2015, taking over from external SIDA-funded surveys. Opportunity to build from the start.

Uganda – Census year

Mali – Survey status uncertain

Tanzania – Priorities?

Niger – Priorities?

Objective 3

Impact assessment of under-evaluated areas

2013 **nutrition and health call**: 56 concept notes →
5 projects (Erwin leading)

April 2014 **call for concept notes on using RCTs** for understanding important parts of specific impact pathways (Karen leading)

Forthcoming call for concept notes on **large-scale** (general equilibrium effects) **or long-term** (10+ years) studies (Bob leading)

Scoping out possible themes for future calls (irrigation, NRM)

Objective 3: Nutrition and health call

1- Irrigation and horticulture

Senegal, RCT, GWU, MDG center Dakar

2 - NERICA adoption

Shorter hungry season, Sierra Leone, RCT, J-PAL, IPA

3 - Maize-legume intercropping

Panel with IVs, Ethiopia and Malawi, CIMMYT, Goettingen

4 - High-iron bean varieties

Iron intake, Rwanda, PSM / IVs, Virginia Tech, CIAT,

HarvestPlus

5 - Dairy hubs

Milk consumption, Tanzania, qualitative / descriptive, ILRI

