

New approaches to assessing the impact of agricultural research on poverty and undernutrition:

A brainstorming workshop on ex-post impact assessment

at IFPRI, Washington D.C.

3rd & 4th December 2010

Background

The work of the CGIAR Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA) over the next few years will concentrate on deepening the assessments of impact of CGIAR research to go beyond economic impact measurements to examine issues arguably closest to the heart of CGIAR goals – especially impact indicators relating to poverty and undernutrition. Rarely have these been measured in explicit or rigorous ways that clearly establish a causal connection with CGIAR research outputs. Some studies have been undertaken (e.g. the collection by Adato and Meinzen-Dick, 2007) but few of these were conducted at a **macro-level** sufficient to provide comprehensive estimates of poverty and under-nutrition related impacts from CGIAR research investments. SPIA with the support of USAID will allocate some limited resources to this activity in 2011-12.

Workshop Objectives

To jumpstart this initiative, SPIA and IFPRI are jointly organizing a one and half day brainstorming workshop with the following objectives.

- 1. Evaluate promising new methods and data sources for more comprehensively and more credibly documenting ex-post impacts of CG research on poverty and hunger
 - Methods for causal identification: experimental and non-experimental approaches
 - Integration across scales: combining micro-level and macro-level methods
 - Measurement under real-world constraints: identifying useful (feasible) indicators of poverty and hunger (income poverty, nutrition, gender equality, risk/vulnerability, empowerment, etc.)
- 2. Suggest feasible ways forward for SPIA in 2011-2012 aiming to broaden or deepen evidence of ex post impact of the CGIAR on specific poverty-related indicators, with indicative workplan and budget.

Participants

Alain de Janvry, Elizabeth Sadoulet (UC Berkeley); Peter Hazell (SOAS / IFPRI); Bob Herdt, Per Pinstrup-Andersen (Cornell); Peter Lanjouw, Will Martin (World Bank); Ben Davis (UNICEF); Joaquim Bento de Souza Ferreira Filho (University of Sao Paolo); Michael Carter (UC Davis); Greg Traxler (Gates Foundation); Meredith Soule (USAID); Shenggen Fan, John Hoddinott, Clemens Breisinger, Maximo Torero, Marie Ruel (IFPRI); Ekin Birol (Harvest Plus); Aden Aw-Hassan (ICARDA); Aliou Diagne (Africa Rice Centre); Steve Franzel (World Agroforestry Centre); Bekele Shiferaw (CIMMYT); David Raitzer (IRRI); Elisabetta Gotor (Bioversity International) Derek Byerlee, Tim Kelley, Mywish Maredia, James Stevenson (CGIAR SPIA)

Program Overview

| Fric | day 3 rd December | Hrs | Presenters |
|---------------------------------|---|------------------|---|
| Arrival in meeting room 08:00 | | | |
| 1. | Welcome, introductions, | 08:30 - | Fan (Welcome) |
| | objectives, background | 08:45 | Byerlee (Introductions, review meeting objectives) |
| 2. | Overview of approaches and methods to assessing impacts on poverty, and | 08:45 – 10:30 | Herdt (Assessing the impact on poverty of improved agricultural technology: A framework) de Janvry (Overview and critique of methods used in ex-post impact assessment |
| | under-nutrition | | to date) |
| | Chair: Shenggen Fan | | Discussants: Pinstrup-Andersen; Davis; Soule; then open discussion |
| Coffee 10:30 – 10:50 | | | |
| 3. | Micro methods and data | 10:50 – 12:30 | Sadoulet (Experiments: How they could work for ex-post impact assessment of agricultural research, with examples) |
| | Chair: Bekele Shiferaw | | Hoddinott (Panel econometrics methods) |
| | | | Diagne (Selection on observables methods with examples from NERICA studies) |
| | | | Discussants: Carter; Lanjouw, then open discussion |
| Lunch 12:30 – 13:30 | | | |
| 4. | Macro methods | 13:30 – | Martin (Multi-country models with GTAP linked to household data) |
| | | 15:15 | Breisinger (Country CGE models) |
| | Chair: | | Filho (Brazil case-study ex-post impact assessment) |
| | Per Pinstrup-Andersen | | Discussants: Fan; Traxler; Raitzer; then open discussion |
| 5. | Linking micro and macro approaches | 15:15 – 15:45 | Discussion session led by Hazell, Gotor, then open |
| | Chair: Mywish Maredia | | |
| Coffee 15:45 – 16:15 | | | |
| 6. | Open brainstorming on potential case studies | 16:15 – 17:45 | 5-minute presentations based on 1-page template for case-studies from Raitzer, Diagne, Franzel, Shiferaw, Hazell, Birol, Gotor, Aw-Hassan, Kelley |
| | Co-chairs: Derek Byerlee, | | |
| | Alain de Janvry | | |
| Dinner at WestEnd Bistro, 19:30 | | | |
| Sat | urday 4 th December | Hrs | |
| 7. | | 08:30 – | a) Micro-level study of impact of Crop Germplasm Improvement adoption |
| | small groups | 10:30 | b) Micro-level study of impact of Natural Resource Management technologies |
| | | | c) Macro + Micro combined studies of agricultural research impacts |
| Coffee 10:30 – 10:45 | | | |
| 8. | Reporting back from small groups, and discussion | 10:45 – 11:45 | |
| 9. | Discussion of next steps for SPIA and possible case- studies | 11:45 – 12:30 | |
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