



## Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia M S Swaminathan Research Foundation

# LANSA India Newsletter

Welcome to LANSAs India e-newsletter for stakeholders!

This issue highlights the recent 'research-to-policy' multi-sectoral stakeholder consultation at MSSRF, Chennai, several paper publications on India research work, and action-research work in the FSN villages.

**Other news:** LANSAs commemorated International Women's Day on March 8 bringing the spotlight on gender inequality in agriculture, and its impact on nutrition.

For more news, visit [www.lansasouthasia.org](http://www.lansasouthasia.org) and follow us on [social media](#)!



### LANSA aims at research to impact policy

'Research-to-Policy' consultation at [MSSRF](#), Chennai on February 24 brought together officials from Agriculture Department, Fisheries Department, Department of Integrated Child Development Scheme, representations from NABARD, researchers and academics, etc to discuss research evidence from [India](#) under LANSAs [Pillar 1](#). The following studies were presented:

- [Dietary Diversity and Women's BMI among Farm Households in Rural India](#)

- [Explaining Cross-State Disparities in Child Nutrition in Rural India](#)
- [Agriculture and Child Under-Nutrition in India: A State Level Analysis](#)
- [Child Under-weight and Agricultural Productivity in India: Implications for Public Provisioning and Women's Agency](#)

Participation was highly spirited and contributions came from all quarters on how LANSA's evidence could contribute to influencing policy and practice in agriculture thus promoting the nutrition agenda in the country. [Read our blog for details](#)



### Paper on value chain interventions

aimed at enhancing nutritious food by the poor

[LANSA](#) published conceptual framework paper on '[Assessing the Effectiveness of Agri-Food Value Chain Interventions Aimed At Enhancing Consumption of Nutritious Food by the Poor](#)'.

This paper lays out a conceptual framework to guide the analysis of value chain-based interventions aimed at enhancing the intake of micronutrient-dense foods in South Asia.

It describes in detail how this framework is employed to undertake a series of case studies of value chain-based interventions aimed at increasing consumption of nutrient-dense foods in [Bangladesh](#), [India](#) and [Pakistan](#). [LANSA](#) will be soon publishing [country](#) reviews for Bangladesh, India and Pakistan.



### Setting up genetic garden at Heti village Wardha

As part of the [Farming System for Nutrition](#) study [LANSA](#) has set up a [genetic garden](#) at the primary school in Heti village, Wardha Maharashtra.

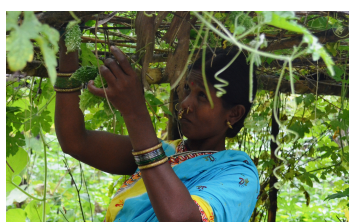


### Paper presentation: Impact of nutrient intake

at a national seminar in Hyderabad

The [FSN baseline report](#) states that there is high prevalence of anaemia in Wardha and Koraput. Anaemia is one of the main reasons for high women and child mortality rate in India. Children in the age group of 1 to 5 years are highly affected, followed by non-pregnant and non-lactating women and adolescents girls.

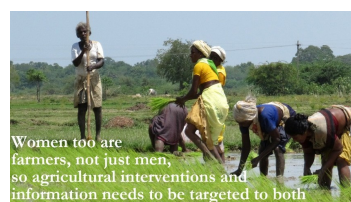
[D J Nithya](#), Nutritionist presented a paper on '[Impact of nutrient intake on prevalence of Anaemia-evidence from two districts of India](#)' under the theme 'Nutrition and anaemia among women and children'. The National seminar on 'Strategies for Women and Child Survival' was organised by National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Hyderabad during March 8-10, 2016. [Read report to know more](#)



### LANSA working paper published!

Framing of undernutrition in India and its link to agriculture

LANSA working paper from



Women too are farmers, not just men, so agricultural interventions and information needs to be targeted to both

### LANSA celebrated International Women's Day

Social media campaign on 2016 theme on 'Gender Equality'

[LANSA](#) organised a social media campaign on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) on March 8 using [#IWD2016](#) to recognise women's work in agriculture and the impact on nutrition. The messages were from [LANSA's](#) research evidence on [gender](#)-related studies in the context of agriculture-nutrition in South Asia.

The aim of the campaign was to create awareness to resonate with the overall theme of 'gender equality'.



### Mapping evidence to pathways: paper published

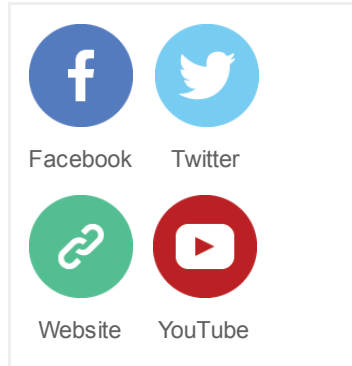
presents a conceptual framework delineating six key pathways

[LANSA](#) published a journal article on '[Agriculture and Nutrition in India: Mapping Evidence to Pathways](#)'.

This paper comprehensively maps existing evidence along agriculture- nutrition pathways in [India](#) and assesses both the quality and coverage of the existing literature. presenting a

Plants that are naturally fortified, nutritionally rich and relevant to the ecosystem; acceptable from the culinary point of view was identified and fit into the crop system. [Read more](#)

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LANSA working paper from [IDS](#) on 'Learning from the Past: Framing of Undernutrition since Independence and its link to agriculture' is now online. In order to understand the roots for the weak links between [agriculture and nutrition](#) in contemporary India, this paper follows the evolution of the policy debates on nutrition and agriculture from India's Independence to the present.

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### Look forward to our next issue!

Updates on LANSAs's research work, research uptake activity and stakeholder engagement events in India

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increasing, presenting a conceptual framework delineating six key pathways between agriculture and nutrition.

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### Upcoming events

IJTA 3rd International Conference on Agriculture, Horticulture & Plant Sciences June 25-26. New Delhi, India <http://bit.ly/1Y1sqpp>

The Agriculture, Nutrition & Health (ANH) Academy Week June 20-24. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia <http://bit.ly/1px0T4q>

IAFP European Symposium on Food Safety May 11-13. Athens, Greece <http://bit.ly/1POIUjQ>

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