LANSA
Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia

Welcome to LANSA's first **e-newsletter**. You are receiving this as you subscribed via our website, have been interviewed for LANSA or have attended an event. If you would prefer not to receive our news every 2-3 months please unsubscribe below.

LANSA news

Research consultation events

Last month, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), BRAC and the Collective for Social Science Research (CSSR) hosted LANSA consultation events in Delhi, Dhaka and Karachi. The events aimed to involve stakeholders in LANSA's research plans and facilitate knowledge sharing between organisations.

From left: Mahabub Hossain, M Syeduzzaman, Joachim von Braun, Stuart Gillespie

LANSA stakeholders discuss and share research plans in Dhaka
BRAC hosted a LANSA stakeholder event at their offices in central Dhaka on 7 April 2014. An impressive panel, thoughtful presentations and good participation from stakeholders in Bangladesh made the stakeholder consultation event a success.

Candid discussions on agriculture and nutrition in Delhi

Gender inequalities, inter-sectoral engagement and improved dialogue between decision making departments came out as priorities for improving nutrition through agriculture in a meeting organised by MSSRF in New Delhi. Candid and thought-provoking participation from agriculture and nutrition stakeholders characterized the LANSA event on April 9. Read more.

Diverse stakeholders embark on dialogue to improve nutrition through agriculture in Karachi

Hosted by CSSR, the event in Karachi brought together agriculture and nutrition stakeholders including senior officials from provincial governments, researchers, representatives from international development partners,civil society organizations and activists. The meeting took place on 15 April. Read more.

Call for Research Proposals

The events in Bangladesh, India and Pakistan generated ideas for policy related research. These ideas have been used to inform a Call for

Proposals. The research falls under our Enabling Environments Research theme. The deadline for the call for proposals is 28 June 2014. Find out more here.

New paper explores impact of women's agency on nutrition

Suneetha Kadiyala contributed to an IFPRI Discussion Paper (part-funded by LANSA) that suggests gender equity can bridge the gap between agricultural growth and nutrition outcomes. See the paper "Women's Empowerment in Agriculture, Production Diversity and Nutrition: Evidence from Nepal" or read the blog.

Farming Systems for Nutrition

A new model of farming is being trialled in villages in Koraput district in the state of Odisha and Wardha district in the state of Maharashtra. The study seeks to understand whether, why and how agricultural interventions can generate nutritional improvements for children under five, pregnant mothers and adolescent girls. Read the blog here.

Reasons for reductions in stunting

Derek Headey presents his study that explores

reductions of stunting in Bangladesh, at the LCIRAH conference in June 2014. The study analyses sources of nutritional change from 1997 to 2011, using DHS data. The paper finds a rapid reduction in stunting over this period. Around half of the reduction is down to 5 factors: 1) increased education; 2) wealth accumulation; 3) improved use of health services; 4) demographic changes; and 5) improved sanitation.

Other news

Gender-Nutrition Idea Exchange from A4NH
A new blog called the Gender-Nutrition Idea Exchange is on the A4NH web site. This is a virtual space for researchers working in the gender-nutrition-agriculture sphere for sharing new ideas, best practices, and general guidance on gender and nutrition.

In the first edition, Hazel Malapit provides a brief history of how the blog came to be. Marie Ruel explains why we should use dietary diversity indicators for measuring nutritional outcomes of agriculture projects. Cheryl Doss and Caitlin Kieran from the CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM) dispel three misconceptions about sex-disaggregated data collection.

UNSCN Agriculture-Nutrition community of practice

The Agriculture-Nutrition Community of Practice administered by SCN, has developed Key Recommendations for Improving Nutrition through Agriculture. Find out more about the group and the Recommendations here.

Recommendations for working multi-sectorally in India

POSHAN has published a new policy note about the lessons learned globally and from India of working multisectorally to improve nutrition. The paper includes recommendations to ensure better implementation and sustainability of multisectoral

approaches in India.

Upcoming events

LCIRAH Agri-food Policy and Governance for Nutrition Conference
The LCIRAH conference is taking place on 3 and 4 June 2014. You can now register.

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