

# LANSA RESEARCH UPTAKE REFLECTIVE PRACTICE STORY

Uptake is everyone's business

Strengthening research uptake amongst Northern partners

## The Context

LANSA aims to generate high quality research and use the evidence to inform policy and programme decisions to enhance nutrition through agriculture. To maximise the impact that LANSAs research has, there is a great focus on the uptake of the findings. Since the start of the programme the research uptake team has worked hard to engage with stakeholders, include them in planning, understand their needs and to translate academic outputs into other formats in order to reach a wider audience.

With a strong country focus, the 3 country teams worked well with stakeholders and engaged through various channels, including workshops, policy dialogues and social media. However, the route for engagement for the Northern based research staff was less clear and in the first few years of the programme their involvement in uptake activities was less prominent.

## The Challenge

Increasing the capacity and desire of researchers based in northern institutions to engage in uptake activities.

## The Approach

The uptake team worked closely with researchers to help identify opportunities for engagement and to outline how uptake can maximise the impact of research.



Young boy in Afghanistan

The 'research uptake self-assessment tool' was run with IDS and IFPRI staff to identify areas of strength and areas for improvement within the 4 areas of uptake (Stakeholders, Policy, Communications and Strategy).

The tool also generated dialogue around what research uptake is, and who is responsible for uptake within the programme.

## The Results

Over the last 18 months, the northern partners have greatly increased their engagement in uptake activities.

An [online consultation with stakeholders](#) hosted by the UN FAO Global Forum on Food Security and Nutrition to generate ideas for a call for research proposals was hosted by Alan Dangour, LCIRAH with LANSAs RU support.

Nigel Poole, Pillar 2.2 lead posted LANSAs first [blog on Afghanistan](#).

### HIGHLIGHTS:

*Since LANSAs was mostly seen as a South Asia centric research programme, engaging Northern partner researchers for Uptake posed an initial challenge.*

In June 2016, an online dialogue on [transforming gender relations in agriculture through women's empowerment](#) was hosted by Nitya Rao (Gender cross-cut lead), with Nigel Poole participating as one of the co-facilitators.

Dominic Glover (Innovations cross-cut lead, IDS), contributed to a discussion hosted by FAO on the [Tropical Agriculture Platform](#) commenting on behalf of LANSAs and subsequently wrote a [blog](#) on the topic.

Researchers from LCIRAH, East Anglia and IFPRI have presented LANSAs work at a number of different global events and conferences, including [centre for research in the arts, social sciences and humanities](#), the [British association for South Asian studies](#) and the [Royal botanical gardens in Edinburgh](#).

### Key Contacts: For further information

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