

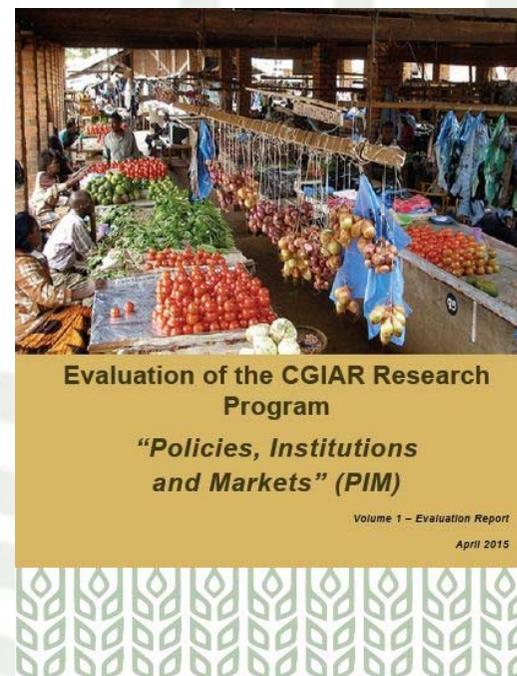
Independent Evaluation Arrangement (IEA)

Evaluation Workshop

FC13: Bogor, Indonesia

Evaluation of CGIAR Research Program on Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM)

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Independent
Evaluation
Arrangement

Introduction

PIM is led by IFPRI and implemented with the involvement of the second largest number of participating Centers (12) after CCAFS.

Aim: To identify and promote the implementation of policies, institutions, and markets to improve food security and incomes of the rural poor on a sustainable basis. The core work of PIM is to develop tools, datasets, methods, and models to provide analytical foundations for policy analysis, and to apply these tools to inform policy choices.

Start: January 2012

Total Expenditures, 2012–2014: US\$ 261.1 million

W1-2 Expenditures, 2012–2014: US\$ 67.9 million (26%)

Main Findings

- Engaging social scientists across the CGIAR System has created a critical mass to pursue cutting-edge science.
- Inter-Center collaboration is:
 - Engaging Centers that are closer to the users of research
 - Combining discovery and delivery-type research
 - Deepening country-level partnerships
 - Enabling commodity Center researchers to expand their research focus
 - Helping to raise the scientific quality of research
- Quality of science is highly variable.
- IFPRI's experience is facilitating gender mainstreaming.
- Research outputs are influencing public policies and institutional arrangements from the global to the local level.



Main Findings (cont.)

- However, all is not well with respect to the governance and management of PIM.
- The program lacks a consolidated, programmatic perspective of its activities to facilitate effective program management, monitoring, reporting, and oversight.
- Putting in place an operational monitoring and reporting system is still a work in progress – including for gender.
- W1-2 funds are flexible but short-term; bilateral funds are longer-term and more reliable.
- Support for research on the science-policy interface has been weak.
- Inter-CRP collaboration has been haphazard.



Main Conclusions – at the System Level

- A CRP like PIM should continue in the second round; IFPRI should continue to host the PIM management unit.
- Consortium and Fund Council should clarify guidance on CRP governance structures for phase 2.
- Consortium should draft a model conflict of interest policy to transparently manage the inherent conflicts of interest arising from the multiple roles that Lead Centers play in CRPs.
- The Fund Council should address the short-term and uncertain nature of W1-2 funds.
- The Fund Council and the Consortium should jointly commission a study on the problems that the Centers are facing in sustaining their research infrastructures and other research support under the CGIAR Reform.



Main Conclusions – at the Strategic Level

- PIM Management should put in place a consolidated, programmatic perspective of PIM activities.
- PIM should continue to accommodate both discovery and discovery-type research in a complementary fashion.
- PIM should support more research on the science-policy interface.
- PIM should support more opportunities for intellectual exchange and a greater diversity of scholarly disciplines.
- PIM should adopt a more strategic approach to CRP collaboration.
- PIM should formulate an explicit capacity strengthening strategy to be implemented in conjunction with its Lead Center, IFPRI.



Main Conclusions – at the Operational Level

- The three major modelling teams in IFPRI – IMPACT, MIRAGE, and country-level CGE modelling – should explore synergies in their work and broaden their communities of practice.
- PIM should strongly support the new regional hubs on value chains that are being pilot-tested during the extension phase.
- PIM should explore greater collaboration with other Centers and CRPs with respect to international trade research.
- PIM’s global and national level policy research activities should increase their attention to gender issues.
- PIM should complete its plans to put in place a monitoring system to track and validate the level of attention to gender issues.

