

SAFANSI II Annual Report

April 1, 2015- March 31, 2016

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

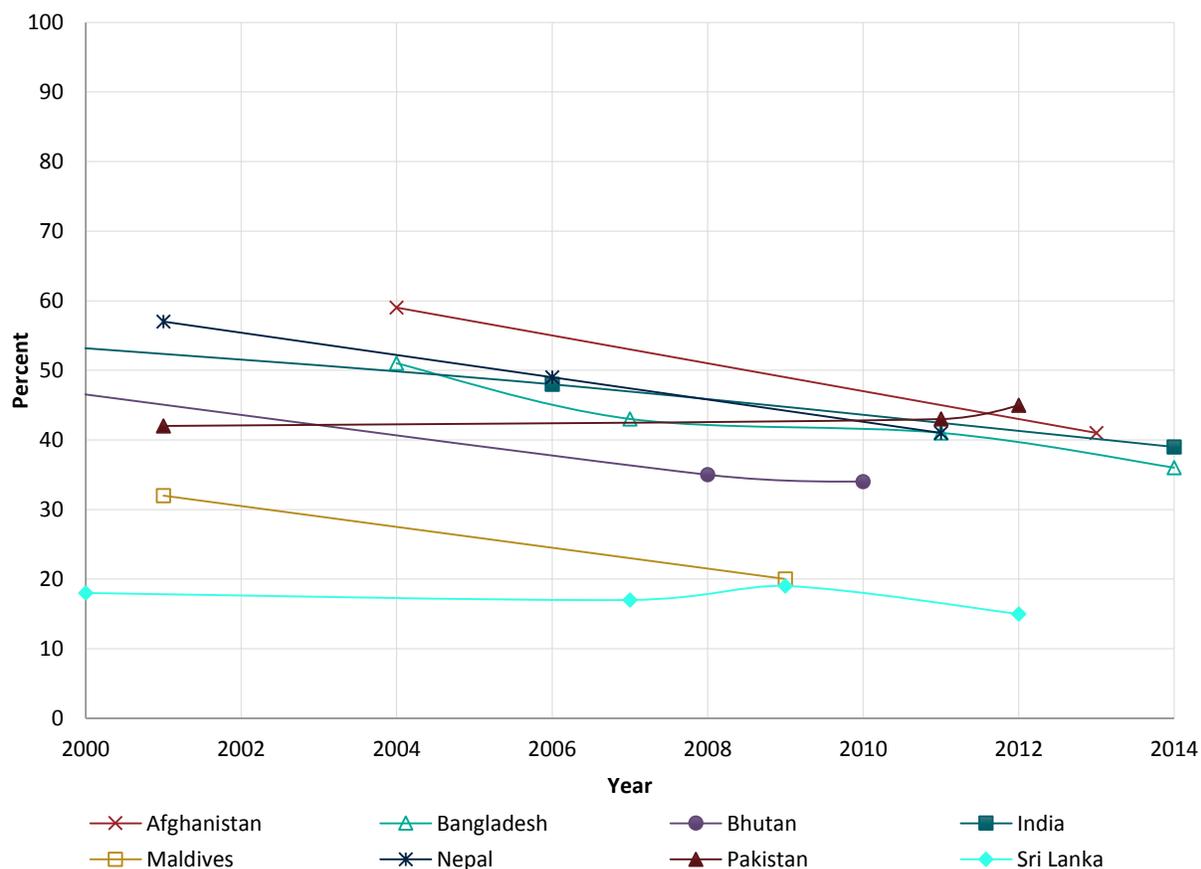
| | |
|---------|--|
| AFSP | Agricultural and Food Security Project |
| AHS | Annual Health Survey |
| BEES | Business, Enterprise and Employment Support for Women in South Asia (BEES Network) |
| BPHS | Basic Package of Health Services |
| BCC | Behavior Change Communication |
| BE | Bank executed (grant) |
| CCT | Conditional Cash Transfers |
| CDD | Community Driven Development |
| CEA | Cost-effectiveness analysis |
| CMHN | Community Managed Health and Nutrition |
| COPD | Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease |
| CSOs | Civil Society Organizations |
| DC | Donor Committee |
| DfID | Department for International Development, United Kingdom |
| DFAT | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia |
| DHLS-4 | District Level Household and Facility Survey |
| ECD | Early Childhood Development |
| EC | European Commission |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FBPWN | Federation of Business and Professional Women in Nepal |
| FNS | Food and Nutrition Security |
| GAFSP | Global Agriculture and Food Security Program |
| GBD | Global Burden of Disease Project |
| ICMR | Indian Council of Medical Research |
| IE | Impact Evaluation |
| IHME | Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation |
| INPARD | Integrating Nutrition Promotion and Rural Development Project |
| ISBNPA | International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity |
| IUHPE | International Union for Health Promotion and Education |
| IYCF | Infant and Young Child Feeding |
| JEEVIKA | Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project (JEEVIKA) |
| JIT | Just in Time (grant) |
| LANSA | Leveraging Agriculture for Nutrition in South Asia |
| PER | Public Expenditure Review |
| RaP | ReAwaking Project |
| RE | Recipient executed (grant) |
| RRA | Rapid Results Approach |
| SAFANSI | South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative |
| SAR | South Asia Region |
| SHD | Sunaula Hazar Din |
| SO | Social Observatory |
| SUNITA | Scaling Up Nutrition Initiative Technical Assistance |
| TOC | Theory of Change |
| TRP | Technical Review Panel |
| TTL | Task Team Leader |
| UNICEF | United Nation's Children Fund |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| VDO | Village Development Organization |
| WASH | Water, Sanitation and Hygiene |
| WHO | World Health Organization |
| YLLS | Years of life lost |

Current State of Food and Nutrition Security in South Asia

South Asia has widely been viewed as a negative outlier in global progress in reducing undernutrition. The relatively high, persistent level of undernutrition in the past led to the phenomenon being coined the “Asian enigma” in the 1990s. The story is however a varied one across countries in the region. In addition, the story over the 2000s appears to break from this history.

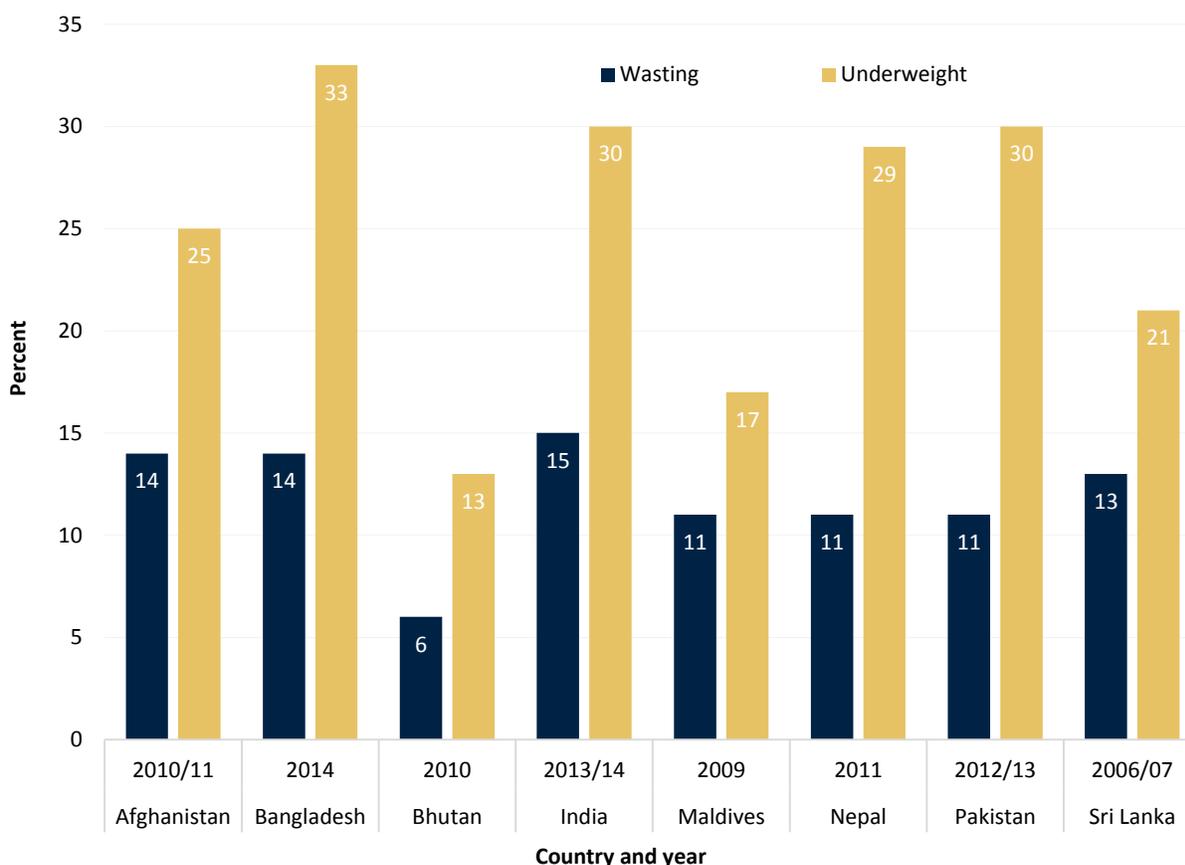
Within-region and country variation: Moderate-to-severe stunting rates for under-five children—an indicator of long-term undernutrition—vary markedly across countries, with Afghanistan and Pakistan on the high end, and the Maldives and Sri Lanka on the low end for the region (figure 1). Similarly, rates of moderate-to-severe wasting—an indicator of acute undernutrition—and rates of moderate-to-severe underweight for under-five children vary across countries (figure 2). In particular, the much lower rates of wasting and underweight in Bhutan relative to most other South Asian countries stands out.

Figure 1 Trends in under-five child stunting rates, South Asian countries, 2000s¹



¹ Source: 2015 Nutrition Country Profiles accompanying the document: International Food Policy Research Institute. 2015. *Global Nutrition Report 2015: Actions and accountability to advance nutrition and sustainable development*. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute.

Figure 2 Under-five child wasting and underweight rates, South Asian countries²



These between-country differences are just one level of variation. There is also marked variation in child and adult nutritional status within countries, such as across administrative units, between urban and rural areas, and other subpopulations. This between and within country variation in South Asia raises the question of the underlying factors behind it – a subject of active research. The variation also provides optimism that understanding the low rates of undernutrition observed in certain subpopulations in South Asia can provide insights into reducing the high rates of undernutrition observed in other subpopulations.

Evolution over time. Breaking from the past, several countries appear to have experienced an appreciable decline in stunting rates over the 2000s, from Bangladesh to the Maldives to Nepal for example (figure 1). Indeed, over the 2000s, these South Asian countries are among those that have experienced the fastest declines in stunting rates in the world.³ At the same time, stunting rates appear to have stagnated over recent years in Pakistan and Sri Lanka, albeit at very different levels, with Pakistan stunting rates in the 40-50 percent range and Sri Lanka’s in the 10-20 percent range. These trends have prompted efforts to understand

² Statistics obtained from Demographic and Health Survey and Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey reports. All statistics are for children ages 0-59 months, and are based on the 2006 WHO child growth standards.

³ Headey, Derek D., and John Hoddinott. 2014. “Understanding the Rapid Reduction of Undernutrition in Nepal, 2001-2011.” Discussion Paper 01384. Washington, DC: International Food Policy Research Institute.

the drivers of the improvement in nutrition status in some parts of South Asia and barriers to improvement in other parts, as well as to figure out ways to accelerate progress across the region.

Overview of SAFANSI Program

The South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI) was conceived at a joint World Bank-DFID South Asia Heads of Agency meeting in 2008 and established in 2010 to address the South Asian Enigma—how chronic malnutrition remains intractable despite high economic growth—by fostering the crosscutting actions that will lead to measurable improvements in food and nutrition security (FNS).⁴ The program was created as a targeted step to advance the FNS agenda and foster intersectoral action in the countries of the South Asia region (SAR).

Phase I of SAFANSI was implemented from 2010 to 2015. Over the course of implementation promotion of the FNS agenda in SAR evolved to the forefront of policy and decision makers. This was made possible through consistent engagement on FNS through SAFANSI and its development partners by supporting awareness raising, facilitating cross-cutting collaboration between sectors and diverse stakeholders, providing funding to support applied research and FNS programs, and by maintaining good technical efficiency. Since 2010 the FNS agenda gained in importance with many countries in the region adopting nutrition frameworks or national action plans in the last several years. At the close of SAFANSI Phase I in September 2015, the Program had played a catalyst role in driving the FNS agenda among countries in the region and in enhancing FNS sensitivity within the World Bank work program in SAR.

However, much remains to be done to raise awareness and advocacy, build capacity and stimulate behavior change to increase food and nutrition security in the region. The second phase of the SAFANSI Program, which became effective in December 2014, builds on the success and lessons from the first phase to further the FNS agenda.

Program Objective

The objective of the South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative Phase II (SAFANSI II) Trust Fund is to improve FNS for individuals and communities in South Asia through a strengthened commitment and increased capacity for more effective and integrated FNS actions across South Asia.

SAFANSI funding can be used to finance Bank executed or recipient executed activities in any of the countries of the South Asia Region (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka) or regional activities, covering two or more SAR countries. The sectors and themes supported by SAFANSI are (i) agriculture (including livestock, fishing, and forestry); (ii) water supply and sanitation; (iii) health; (iv) social safety nets; (v) health, nutrition, and population; (vi) rural policies and institutions; (vii) public administration; (viii) information and communications; and (ix) regional integration.

⁴ SAFANSI is a multi-donor trust fund administered by the World Bank. As Trustee and Administrator, the World Bank is responsible for program development, implementation, and monitoring & evaluation. Phase II of SAFANSI is financed by DFID and the European Commission.

All activities funded through SAFANSI should be demand-driven and aligned with at least one of its four strategic pillars:



The key principles identified for program success include:

- promoting political leadership and stewardship for FNS outcomes;
- ensuring nutrition outcomes are central to regional and country food security policy and programming;
- promoting an inter-disciplinary, inter-ministerial and cross-sectoral approach;
- building strong partnership among various players working on nutrition, safety nets, and food security;
- adding value to existing country and regional efforts;
- encouraging coherence and coordination among countries and among development agencies on necessary actions;
- focusing on actionable research (what works and what does not); and
- prioritizing action to tackle gender inequality and social exclusion.

SAFANSI aims to complement and supplement other initiatives in the region by adding value to on-going efforts and seeking to exploit gaps or overlooked opportunities to strengthen the FNS agenda and its operationalization. In consultation with the donors the following strategic gaps were identified as priorities for financing from SAFANSI.

1. **Research on critical delivery and behavioral failures.** While evidence is growing, more high-quality research is needed to credibly identify the precise nature of “delivery failures” and household “behavioral failures”. Such research should shed light on heterogeneity and dynamics, recognizing that the extent to which failures and their underlying drivers matters varies over space

and time, even in small geographic areas and within communities and over short periods in rapidly-changing societies. Strong formative research would then inform intervention design.

2. **Innovations.** In line with the focus of Pillar 4 “Fostering Innovation”, a strategic priority is the testing of innovations to address public service delivery or market delivery bottlenecks and barriers to household take-up of nutrition-enhancing services.
3. **Data and Capacity Building.** The quality of the descriptive and evaluation research on FNS depends on the extent to which appropriate, rigorous empirical methods are applied to credible, rich, and relevant data. One of the critical gaps identified is the lack of adequate information on government expenditures on nutrition through multi-sectoral interventions. There is limited capacity and there are no tracking systems in place to collect such data. A key priority is to start undertaking Public Expenditure Reviews to track nutrition spending, develop guidance notes, and strengthen government capacity for data collection.

Governance Structure

The SAFANSI governance structure consists of a Donor Committee (DC), Steering Committee (SC), Technical Review Panel (TRP), and a Secretariat.

- The DC includes a representative from each donor and the World Bank represented by the SAFANSI Program Manager. The DC meets twice a year to provide strategic guidance to the SAFANSI program, and review the overall progress of activities and implementation of the Trust Fund.
- The SC comprises representatives from the World Bank South Asia Region and relevant Global Practices. The role of the SC is to provide integral oversight over the SAFANSI program and decide on the allocation of funding from the trust fund. The composition of the SC, which includes representatives from each country management unit in the region, helps ensure that country units are brought into the discussion of nutrition as a priority development issue, and that SAFANSI grants align and support the broader country partnership framework.
- The SAFANSI Secretariat comprises a Program Manager, a Program Coordinator, an operations support team and a communications team. The Secretariat is responsible for the day-to-day management and administration of the trust fund.
- A TRP comprising experts from the sector specializations and a representative from the South Asia Region Chief Economist’s office is convened when needed to provide technical advice on funding proposals and screen proposals based on alignment with the SAFANSI objectives and principles.

In its first full year of operation SAFANSI issued two calls for proposals—in March 2015 and in January 2016—and held two Steering Committee meetings—in June 2015 and in April 2016. Since inception the Donor Committee has met twice in person; in January 2015 in Brussels and in November 2015 in London. In the interim several check-in meetings were held – in June 2015, in January 2016 and in May 2016. The first year of SAFANSI II has focused on processes to operationalize the trust fund, including reaching agreement on the operations manual, results framework, risk matrix, communications strategy and the strategic directions for the trust fund.

Trust Fund Financial Status

SAFANSI benefits from the contributions from two donors—the UK Department for International Development (DFID) and the European Commission (EC). Total pledged contributions per countersigned Administrative Agreements total almost \$27 million at current exchange rates.⁵ Of this, the donors have contributed just over \$8.7 million (table 1).

Table 1 Donor Contributions to SAFANSI, as of March 31, 2016

| Donor | SIGNED CONTRIBUTION | | | RECEIPTS | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|------------------------|
| | Contribution Currency | Agreed Contribution Amount ^a | USD Equivalent ^b | Received Amount in Contribution Currency | Received Amount in USD |
| United Kingdom - DFID | GBP | 12,600,000 | 18,434,590 | 2,900,000 | 4,458,830 |
| European Commission | EUR | 7,500,000 | 8,458,725 | 3,750,000 | 4,281,413 |
| Total | | | 26,893,315 | | 8,740,243 |

a/ Per countersigned Administrative Agreement
b/ Subject to exchange rate fluctuations

Between 4 December 2014 and 31 March 2016, total funding allocated under SAFANSI-II was \$5.65 million. Eighty-three percent of funds have been allocated to finance grants. Eight projects totaling \$4,538,000 were approved under the first call for proposals, and the Just-in-Time window has financed three grants of \$50,000 each.

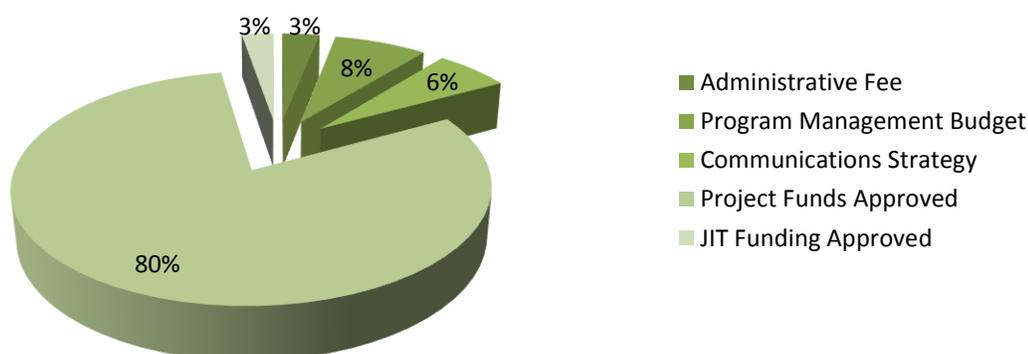
The SAFANSI Steering Committee approved an allocation of \$350,000 to implement the SAFANSI Communications Strategy, and five percent of total contributions received is allocated to the Secretariat for administration and program management of the Trust Fund. A flat administrative fee of 2 percent covers central unit functions. Finally, \$32,714 in investment income was earned on the TF resources. As of March 31, 2016 about \$3.3 million was available for allocation. Table 2 and chart 1 provide additional details on the funding allocation status.

Table 2 SAFANSI II Funding Status as of March 31, 2016

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Trust Fund Balance (a) | \$8,772,957 |
| Contributions Paid-in | \$8,740,243 |
| Investment Income | \$32,714 |
| Total Funding Allocations (b) | \$5,649,817 |
| Program Management Budget (5%) | \$437,012 |
| Administrative Fee (2%) | \$174,805 |
| Communications Strategy | \$350,000 |
| Project Funds Approved | \$4,538,000 |
| JIT Funding Approved | \$150,000 |
| Funds Available for Allocation = (a) - (b) | \$3,297,944 |

⁵ In April 2016, DFID informed the World Bank that, due to changing priorities within the UK's aid budget, they intend to withdraw from the SAFANSI Trust Fund as of December 31, 2017 and will not be able to honor their outstanding contribution.

Figure 3 Funding Allocated by Category



A second Call for Proposals was launched in early 2016. Funding totaling \$500,000 was approved for two projects (\$470,000) and a Just-in-Time grant (\$30,000). The Steering Committee has reserved an additional \$1.13 million for proposals that are being revised to better align to the needs of SAFANSI and resubmitted for final approval. The Secretariat also decided to balance the demand-driven approach through the call for proposals with strategic commissioned studies. In particular, the Steering Committee has allocated \$1 million to fund work on Public Expenditure Reviews (PER) and key knowledge pieces for the South Asia Regional flagship report on Nutrition and funding for Malnutrition and Stunting in Pakistan.

Taking into account the funding allocated and set aside under the second Call for Proposals, a total of \$8.28 million has been allocated. Just under \$0.5 million remains available for future funding decisions. Table 3 provides an overview of funding decisions and available funding under the Trust Fund.

In the first full year of operations of the Trust Fund, disbursements have gradually picked up. As of March 31st, 2016 total disbursements as a percentage of funds allocated stood at 16 percent. By early June 2016, disbursements had accelerated to 23 percent of total funding allocations.

Table 3 SAFANSI II Funding Allocations as of May 1, 2016

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Trust Fund Balance (a) | \$8,772,957 |
| Total Funding Allocations (b) | \$6,149,817 |
| Program Management Budget (5%) | \$437,012 |
| Administrative Fee (2%) | \$174,805 |
| Communications Strategy | \$350,000 |
| Project Funds Approved under First Call for Proposals | \$4,538,000 |
| Project Funds Approved under Second Call for Proposals | \$470,000 |
| JIT Funding Approved | \$180,000 |
| Funding set aside pending Final Steering Committee Decision (c) | \$2,130,000 |
| 2nd Call Proposals under revision | \$1,130,000 |
| Funding for Strategic Priorities | \$1,000,000 |
| Funds Available for Allocation = (a) - (b) - (c) | \$493,140 |

Achieved Outputs and Expected Results

The first Call for Proposals under SAFANSI II was issued in February 2015. Demand for funding far exceeded available resources with 17 proposals submitted requesting over \$14 million in funding. Following a technical review, the Steering Committee approved nine proposals for a total of \$4,788,000. One proposal was later cancelled, bringing the total funding approved for eight proposals to \$4,538,000.⁶ In addition, three Just in Time (JIT) proposals were approved for a total of \$150,000.

Grants range from \$50,000 for JIT proposals to \$1 million, with average grant size for regular proposals of just over \$560,000. Funding allocated has been distributed geographically across the region with proposals approved for Afghanistan (1 proposal), Bangladesh (1 proposal), India (3 proposals), Nepal (2 proposals), Sri Lanka (1 proposal) and 1 regional proposal. No funding has yet been provided for Bhutan, the Maldives or Pakistan.⁷ Table 4 provides a summary of the active portfolio. Additional details are provided in Annexes I and II.

Table 4 List of Active SAFANSI Projects as of March 31, 2016

| | Project Title | Grant amount |
|-------------|--|---------------------|
| Afghanistan | Assessing the effectiveness of nutrition awareness and early cognitive stimulation interventions in Early Childhood Development Programs | \$650,000 |
| Bangladesh | Dynamics of Rural Growth: Outreach and dissemination | \$50,000 |
| | Technical support to cross-sectoral work on nutrition the North East of India | \$500,000 |
| India | Burden of Malnutrition for the States of Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, and Meghalaya (Phase I) | \$502,000 |
| | Social Observatory: Catalyzing Improved Implementation In Projects To Improve Food and Nutrition Security | \$1,000,000 |
| | Impact Evaluations of the Agricultural and Food Security Project (AFSP) and Sunaula Hazar Din (SHD) Community Action for Nutrition Project | \$988,000 |
| Nepal | Qualitative Assessment and Knowledge Enhancement of Community-Driven Nutrition Project in Nepal | \$300,000 |

⁶ The proposal was for the Indian state of Himachal Pradesh, but significant delays in approval procedures within the Government's system ultimately led to the team returning the grant.

⁷ Since March 31st, 2016, a JIT proposal was approved for Bhutan. In addition, under the second Call for Proposals, one proposal was submitted for Bhutan which is being revised and resubmitted for virtual approval and funding was set aside for a proposal to address malnutrition and stunting in Pakistan.

| | Project Title | Grant amount |
|--------------|---|---------------------|
| | Women’s Enterprising Initiatives to Ensure Community Food and Nutrition Security in upland Nuwakot | \$50,000 |
| Sri Lanka | Integrating Nutrition Promotion And Rural Development (INPARD) Sri Lanka | \$198,000 |
| | Building Effective Nutrition Communication through Partnerships: Addressing Estate Sector Nutrition Issues in Sri Lanka | \$50,000 |
| Regional | Costing and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Scaling up Nutrition-related Interventions in the South Asia Region | \$400,000 |
| Total | | \$4,688,000 |

SAFANSI projects support building better evidence and analysis in food and nutrition security by aggregating multi-sectoral data, undertaking impact evaluations, and/or strengthening client’s M&E capacity. The projects are mostly Bank-executed, except for one recipient-executed project. All SAFANSI-II projects were approved less than 10 months ago. For most projects key activities, such as data collection or pilot implementation are thus in the early stages. There have been delays in activities in Nepal, because of the earthquake in April 2015 and the resulting blockade and fuel crisis. The below summaries provide updates per project, by country.

SAFANSI Approved Proposals- 1st Call

AFGHANISTAN: Assessing the effectiveness of nutrition awareness and early cognitive stimulation interventions in Early Childhood Development Programs (P158598)

This recipient-executed project aims to improve nutrition and early cognitive stimulation awareness outcomes among parents/caregivers whose children attend Early Childhood Development (ECD) programs in the most deprived areas in Afghanistan. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GOIRA) finances food and nutrition interventions as part of its Basic Package of Health Services (BPHS) and a range of other strategies in agriculture, education, rural development, and finance sectors. There have been some significant nutrition-related accomplishments—over 90% of children aged 6-59 months received vitamin A supplements biannually through immunization campaigns and clinics in 2012. However, the coverage of nutrition interventions (both nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive) remains inadequate. The SAFANSI-II project supports these multi-sectoral efforts by building capacity and awareness of sound nutritional and early cognitive stimulation practices among teachers, parents, and caregivers of children aged 0-6 and by providing micronutrient supplements to most deprived areas through existing ECD facilities. As a multi-sectoral intervention, the grant will strengthen the capacity of the government to design and monitor nutrition and education outreach programs and will be overseen by a cross sectoral committee chaired by the Ministry of Education and comprising the Ministries of Public Health, Nutrition, Agriculture including its provincial representatives, as well as NGOs and civil society organizations.

Once the design process is completed, the team will launch the project with an introductory convening meeting for all stakeholders. The results framework has been agreed with the client. Additional time for working in fragile and conflict-affected environments should be factored in, as the turbulent security environment can frequently interrupt planned timelines. Government officials met so far have been enthusiastic about the project and are optimistic about its impact. They have also simultaneously launched their own supplementary school feeding programs for older children, signaling that good nutrition for young children and youth is important to the government.

INDIA: Burden of Malnutrition for the States of Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, and Meghalaya (Phase I) (TF0A1098)

The objective of this grant is to produce estimates of the burden of malnutrition and disease for four states in India – Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, and Meghalaya – consistent with the estimates and methods used for the overall Global Burden of Disease (GBD) Project. GBD provides tools to quantify levels and trends of health loss due to diseases (including malnutrition), injuries, and risk factors for 187 countries from 1990 to 2010. It is a collaborative project of nearly 500 researchers in 50 countries led by the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation (IHME) at the University of Washington. Co-financed with the Gates Foundation, the SAFANSI-II project in India is to produce an essential tool for evidence-based nutrition and health policymaking and comparative metrics for different causes of premature death and disability. In this phase, the project is to identify data and networks of collaborators and make preliminary estimates for the four states.

Thus far, the network of collaborators has been extended from 32 to 115 with representatives from 15 states and 3 union territories, including Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). GBD India Expert Groups, has also been formed as an advisory body. The network has gathered numerous data in malnutrition and disease burden models, including the District Level Household and Facility Survey (DHLS-4) and the Annual Health Survey (AHS). The preliminary findings of 2015 survey indicates the following:

Life expectancy. At national level, life expectancy increased by 7.4 years among men and 10.9 years among women from 1990 to 2015. The gap between female and male life expectancy is in increase. Among the four targeted states, Nagaland has the largest gap from 2.0 years in 1990 to 4.9 years in 2015. Moreover, the largest gain was experienced among female in Uttar Pradesh with an increase of 12.5 years between 1990 and 2015. This is a marked reversal from 1990 when life expectancy among male was longer than that of female (55.0 and 53.4 respectively).

Leading causes of death. At national level, ischemic heart disease was the leading cause of death in 1990, followed by communicable, maternal, neonatal, and nutritional diseases. It remained the top in 2015, but followed by chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) (6th in 1990). In the last 25 years, there were reductions in several neonatal conditions, such as neonatal preterm birth (5th to 9th) and neonatal encephalopathy (7th to 10th). Among injuries, self-harm or suicide moved up to 11th from 20th. Meanwhile, the trend varied among four targeted states. While ischemic heart diseases and COPD were also top or 2nd leading cause of death in three states, COPD ranked 6th in Meghalaya, which had diarrheal diseases as top cause of death in 2015. In Nagaland and Uttarkhand, diabetes ranked in the top five causes of death, while it was 8th at national level.

Early death. Ranking causes of death in a country is of limited utility for decision-making because it tends to be biased toward deaths that occur in old age. Measuring premature deaths, or years of life lost (YLLs), can provide more policy-relevant insights. In India, percentage of premature death from non-

communicable diseases increased from 23.5% in 1990 to 43.5% in 2015. That from communicable, maternal, nutritional, and newborn diseases was 44.7%, but among children under 5, it was as high as 86.3%. The data for the four targeted states are being analyzed.

It is envisaged that the planned phase II would produce full state-level estimates and integrate assessment of socio-economic factors (education, employment, income, etc.), including estimating their impact on nutritional status and health of individuals. This is an innovation in GBD, and if successful, this methodology would be mainstreamed across all the Indian states and worldwide. The results of the SAFANSI-II project will be widely disseminated.

INDIA: Technical Support to Cross-sectoral Work on Nutrition in North East

The Bank-executed project focuses on the States of Nagaland and Meghalaya in the North East region of India. The objectives are to: (a) improve knowledge about malnutrition and its determinants; (b) support technical development of nutrition and early childhood education service delivery system improvements; and (c) support design and implementation of cross-sectoral interventions at the community level. In Nagaland and Meghalaya, the majority of populations are from tribal communities and with poor nutrition indicators. A household survey in 2012-13 (DLHS4) estimated prevalence of chronic malnutrition (stunting) among under-five children at 39.8% in Nagaland and 41.7% in Meghalaya. 61.3% of children aged 6-59 months in Nagaland and 70.7% of those in Meghalaya had anemia. Among women aged 15-49 years, prevalence of anemia was 50.2% in Nagaland and 53.9% in Meghalaya. Key outputs/outcomes of the SAFANSI-II project include studies of nutrition determinants in each state, technical work on service delivery systems, and community-level strategies. These will be disseminated to a wider audience through workshops in Delhi and publication. The implementation will commence once the Government of India completes its review.

INDIA: Social Observatory - Catalyzing Improved Implementation in Projects to Improve Food and Nutrition Security (TF0A1325)

With SAFANSI-I, Social Observatory (SO) was set up to (a) diagnose how market, government, and behavioral failures affect food and nutrition security (FNS) outcomes, (b) use these diagnoses to improve designs of ongoing rural livelihoods development projects in India, such as Bihar Rural Livelihoods Project (JEEVIKA) and Tamil Nadu Empowerment and Poverty Reduction project, and (c) improve the implementation of these interventions by building adaptive capacity. The objective of SAFANSI-II project is to consolidate the work under SAFANSI-I, to further improve adaptive capacity, while improving the diagnosis of how market and government failures affect food security; supporting an experimentation-based approach to improve program design and implementation for FNS outcomes; taking the SO approach to new program interventions that aim to improve the functioning of the top-down public programs for food and nutrition security in India; and seeding a system of adaptive capacity to catalyze implementation for FNS outcomes in one new, nutrition focused programs in South Asia.

Thus far, SO has developed innovative tools and techniques, such as FNS participatory-tracking to improve the adaptive capacity of large-scale projects. The tools have helped substantially improve implementation of four targeted rural livelihoods projects in effectively addressing food and nutrition insecurity. SO has also collected primary data, including food prices paid by poor and rich. The team published 11 notes and reports related to Bihar and Tamil Nadu data collection thus far. SO has measured the extent of differences in prices paid by the poor and rich, within the same village, for the same foods, demonstrated how an intervention can change gender norms in a highly patriarchal society, and developed an important new

method to allow large numbers of citizens to measure and track their own progress on food and nutrition security related issues. There also are 12 articles and briefs about SO on the Bank external websites, and 8 YouTube videos on methodologies and stakeholder interviews.

Box 1 Social Observatory Output: Recasting Culture to Undo Gender – A Sociological Analysis of Jeevika in Rural Bihar, India

By comparing two pairs of treatment and control villages, the study found that *Jeevika* cultivated new cultural competencies and capabilities that defied the traditional conventions of gender, by giving women privileged access to (a) *symbolic resources* (that facilitate the formation of a new identity anchored in the SHG, rather than caste or kinship), (b) *physical resources* (such as group money, access to credit and passbooks), and (c) an associated *institutional environment* (self-help groups, village organizations, etc.). The combination of three resources gives economically and socially disadvantaged women access to a well-defined network of people, cutting across caste and religious boundaries, and both within and outside the village. It also provides access to new systems of ‘knowledge’ with which women can challenge old generationally transmitted cultural systems that are more concerned with preserving boundaries rather than disrupting them. These changes manifest themselves most dramatically in the process of collective arbitration – as more women enter spheres of activity outside the household and participate in civic, political and financial institutions, women *further* break down long-standing normative restrictions that were constitutive of the symbolic boundary of gender. These significantly changed both women’s *and* men’s ideas of what it means to be a woman. The study relied on qualitative data (semi-structured interviews, focus group discussions with members, non-members and key stakeholders, as well as participant observation of group).

More information is available at <http://econ.worldbank.org/socialobservatory>. A number of dissemination events have been organized in India and lectures are also planned in Ottawa and London in 2016.

NEPAL: Impact Evaluations of the Agricultural and Food Security Project (AFSP) and Sunaula Hazar Din (SHD) Community Action for Nutrition Project (TF0A0635)

The project is to undertake impact evaluations (IEs) for the Agricultural and Food Security Project (AFSP) and the SAFANSI I-funded Sunaula Hazar Din (SHD) Community Action for Nutrition Project. The AFSP IE focuses on the impact of the technology adoption and nutrition enhancement components at mid-term. The IE is to measure the impact of (a) AFSP’s agricultural initiatives on yield, income, and nutritional practices, including nutrition-specific interventions, such as kitchen gardens and backyard poultry and (b) Behavior Change Communication (BCC), particularly its adoption of gender and social context. AFSP is financed by the Global Agriculture and Food Security Program (GAFSP), which also finances baseline and endline surveys. In filling the critical gap to inform the design and implementation, SAFANSI-II is to finance mid-term IE and dissemination. The firm selection is on-going, and the data collection is expected to commence in September 2016.

SHD IE is to assess, through a household survey, effectiveness of an innovative Rapid Results Approach (RRA), by which communities are motivated to achieve a self-selected goal in 100 day cycles on nutrition outcomes and community development. The quantitative survey will measure, in particular, impact on goal setting and nutrition outcomes in having a woman-led community rapid results team and/or being encouraged by an external expert base on their nutrition profile. Building on the baseline supported by the DFAT-funded SUNITA work under SAFANSI-I, SAFANSI-II finances mid-term IE, a small endline survey, and dissemination. Despite delays due to earthquake and fuel crisis, the mid-term IE completed data collection. The preliminary data analysis indicates moderate impact of the SHD intervention on some of the main indicators (e.g., % of pregnant women taking IFA supplements for 180 days, % of households

reporting using improved toilet facilities, etc.). However, it is not clear how it relates to goal choice at village level, which will be further analyzed together with the SAFANSI-II financed qualitative survey (see below). The mid-term IE, together with the qualitative survey, is expected to influence policies and support SHD scale up. The dissemination workshop is planned in July 2016.

NEPAL: Qualitative Assessment and Knowledge Enhancement of Community-Driven Nutrition Project (TF0A1374)

Complementing the above SHD quantitative survey, this project is to improve the evidence base and understanding of the design and process of SHD at community level, by supporting a qualitative assessment focusing on gender and social inclusion (caste and ethnic minorities). Key research questions include how goals are selected at the community level; what roles coaches play in achieving goals; how having a female leader influences the RRA outcomes; how the communities perceive success and failure of the initiatives; and why certain groups succeed and others fail. This survey, too, faced a delay in implementation, because of the earthquake and fuel crisis. However, most of the survey tools have been developed, and the firm selection is being finalized.

SRI LANKA: Integrating Nutrition Promotion and Rural Development (INPARD) (TF0A1146)

The grant development objective of the INPARD program is to investigate whether a multi-sectoral rural development program can be utilized to deliver nutrition promotion intervention within rural Sri Lanka and whether this is effective in improving nutrition outcomes. Building on social capital developed by a Bank-financed community driven development project, ReAwaking Project (RaP), in conflict-affected North East Province, SAFANSI-I financed Integrating Nutrition Promotion and Rural Development (INPARD) Project. INPARD supported nutrition promotion activities implemented through multi-sectoral government stakeholders, including health, agriculture, rural development, administration, education, fisheries and Samurdhi (poverty eradication national program). INPARD's multi-sectoral approach in nutrition generated substantial interests in academia and among international agencies. In 2015, INPARD was presented at a symposium on multi-sectoral approaches to nutrition promotion hosted by Sri Lanka Medical Association Scientific Sessions, Global Food Security Conference in Ithaca, and International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (ISBNPA) in Edinburgh, and WHO's dialogues on non-communicable disease prevention. It will also be presented at the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) conference in Brazil in May 2016.

The SAFANSI II program finances a follow-up impact evaluation and dissemination activities. It is envisaged that the evaluation, composed of household survey and multi-stakeholder focus group discussions, is to build evidence to demonstrate linkages between health and nutrition outcomes and their upstream determinants, such as socioeconomic context, education, occupation, and income. The team completed data collection, and data are being analyzed. The results will be shared at two regional workshops with multi-sectoral teams (consisting of consists of stakeholders from health, agriculture, rural development, administration, education, fisheries and Samurdhi (poverty eradication national program), amongst others), and presented at a South Asian Symposium later in 2016.

Additionally, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda has highlighted the promotion of health by preventing non-communicable diseases (NCDs) through SDG three. The INPARD project shows how the food and nutrition security agenda could be linked with the poverty eradication agenda and the NCD prevention agenda. The World Health Organization has already recognized INPARD as a case study to

show how UN system can work together to link these SDG (1, 2 and 3) and develop programs with multi-sectoral approaches.

REGIONAL: Costing and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Scaling up Nutrition-related Interventions in the South Asia Region (TF0A2323)

The overall development goal of this project is to strengthen the allocative and technical efficiencies for country-led planning, budgeting, and prioritization of nutrition interventions through health, nutrition, population, social protection, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education, and agriculture and rural development programs in up to 5 high-burden countries in South Asia (i.e. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka), and thereby enhance the impact of national and international investments. The SAFANSI-II project finances costing analyses, including (a) costing for the scale-up of nutrition interventions, (b) performing cost-effectiveness analysis (CEA) comparing different scale up scenarios (e.g. scale up by intervention package, scale-up by sub-region/state), (c) building capacity by training national staff in the methodology and the use of the costing and CEA tools to identify the most effective interventions for scale-up, and (d) disseminating the findings at the appropriate national, regional and global fora, with a focus on facilitating south to south exchanges. The project is co-financed by UNICEF and Gates Foundation.

Just in Time Grants

BANGLADESH: Dynamics of Rural Growth: Outreach and Dissemination

The grant is to inform policies and actions to strengthen and sustain the enabling environment for more rapid growth, and for food and nutrition security in Bangladesh. The study on the Dynamics of Rural Growth, which was financed by SAFANSI I, undertook a comprehensive analysis of the patterns and drivers of rural growth, food security and nutritionally-sensitive growth. It analyzed the past patterns of growth, drivers of on- and off-farm productivity, evolution of farm level diversification. It formally established a causal link between agriculture, through production diversity, to dietary diversity and ultimately to nutritional outcomes. It also examined the alternative growth strategies and their impacts on food and nutritional outcomes – through dietary diversity – on households through an economy-wide model. These findings have important policy and strategy implications for Bangladesh. This grant, financed follow-on dissemination and outreach activities, including publication of the final report and key background papers, a broad dissemination workshop, and targeted outreach activities to selected policy makers, government staff and in-country practitioners and donor partners.

The study found that:

- 87% of rural households still rely on farm income
- Lack of credit remains a constraint to rural non-farm enterprises
- The largest share of public expenditure on agriculture goes to fertilizer subsidies
- Crop diversification is an important priority
- Private sector should be allowed in the seed sector

NEPAL: Women’s Enterprising Initiatives to Ensure Community Food and Nutrition Security in upland Nuwakot (TF0A2708)

The grant aims to increase opportunities for improved food and nutrition security of targeted communities in Nuwakot district through winter food production, and training seed banks, food preservation, and food enterprise development/management. Prior to the earthquake, Nuwakot was categorized as minimally food insecure with a pre-existing global acute malnutrition prevalence of 9.9%. However, after the earthquake,

the district was classified as one of the most food insecure districts in Nepal, because agricultural production has been interfered by displacement of families, damage to land, and disruption of livelihood supply chains. The project is implemented by the Federation of Business and Professional Women in Nepal (FBPWN), with support from the Tarayana Foundation in Bhutan, which includes a (a) donation of 1,000 packs of germinated winter vegetable seeds, (b) training farmers, mostly women, in organic vegetable production, (c) training the farmers in community food bank management, food preservation techniques, and nutrition/meal design and preparation education, and (d) providing business development services to producers to create sustainable food enterprises that can continue to serve local markets.

SRI LANKA: Building Effective Nutrition Communication through Partnerships: Addressing Estate Sector Nutrition Issues

The grant (a) creates an evidence based public policy dialogue via offline and online communication platforms on estate nutrition issues to lead to the development of an estate nutrition plan of action; and (b) develops a collaborative network of public, private and NGO partners engaged in advocacy, community mobilization and ICT to take forward the development and implementation of an estate nutrition plan of action. Over the last decades, studies have shown that the estate nutrition status is lagging behind the rest of the country, despite many nutrition and health interventions. In previous round, the SAFANSI-financed study has identified gaps in multi-sectoral approaches to nutrition interventions, suggesting improved knowledge and understanding of the multi-sectoral determinants of nutrition. This grant supports mapping of key stakeholders and pilot innovative communication outreach in Estate, using ICT and social media.

SAFANSI Communications Activities

Under SAFANSI II, a communications strategy, including branding and visibility guidelines were developed in accordance with donor guidance. Communications activities have included synthesizing key messages from SAFANSI-sponsored activities in the form of results stories and project briefs. Some derivative products from individual grants—e.g., summary notes, briefs, articles, editorials, speeches, etc. were prepared to continue to build on the linkages from SAFANSI I.

The SAFANSI communications team has focused on the development and dissemination of the findings and messages emerging from SAFANSI-sponsored activities by using media platforms most accessible to worldwide audiences. Relying heavily on social media and web promotion has allowed SAFANSI to reach government counterparts, collaborators and partners easily and at relatively little cost by leveraging its web presence and ensure that when research is finalized, it is disseminated quickly and through the relevant online channels. Additionally, the SAFANSI website (www.worldbank.org/safansi) makes publicly available all relevant documents, blog posts and research, and pushes findings to critical audiences in the regional stakeholders' community. Per the results framework in Annex 3, SAFANSI II has also been tracking the number of unique, external downloads of SAFANSI publications and unique external visits to the SAFANSI website.

In addition to digital media, SAFANSI also takes advantage of local media platforms to advertise its work. Television and local media outlets such as newspapers and periodicals have been utilized to promote publication releases for SAFANSI. In the below example, press events in Bangladesh leveraged the advertisements from 3 local television stations as well as several local newspapers, the World Bank country office website, and the Facebook page to promote the *Dynamics of Rural Growth* paper (see Annex 4 for details) which focused on agriculture's contribution in reducing poverty.

World Bank Bangladesh
Published by Mehrin Ahmed Mahbub (?) - Yesterday at 3:00pm · 🌐

Agriculture is a Key Driver in Reducing Poverty in #Bangladesh, says a new #WorldBank report. How and Why? Check the infographic:

Bangladesh
AGRICULTURE IS A KEY DRIVER IN REDUCING POVERTY

STRONG AGRICULTURE PROMOTES URBAN GROWTH

- Economic growth and agricultural sector to grow
- Higher employment
- Higher savings
- Higher savings high quality services
- Higher investment

VIBRANT RURAL ECONOMY

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|
| 43% | 67% | 68% | 3x |
| Agricultural growth from 2010-2014 | Rural non-farm economy growth from 2010-2014 | Household income growth from 2010-2014 | Real GDP growth from 2010-2014 |

MAKING THE PROMISE A REALITY

- A balanced development strategy for pro-poor growth, food security and nutrition
- More rapid transformation in agriculture – with balanced attention to rice
- Further improving the policy framework and strengthening quality regulatory practices
- An enabling environment for vibrant rural non-farm growth and more efficient value chains
- Enhanced investment in connectivity for necessary secondary cities and rural areas

Download Policy Center in Bangladesh
RESTORING POVERTY REDUCTION

THE WORLD BANK
www.worldbank.org

World Bank Bangladesh
Published by Mehrin Ahmed Mahbub (?) - Just now · 🌐

Agricultural growth has helped spur rural non-farm economy in Bangladesh. A new World Bank Report says that a 10 percent rise in farm income generates a 6 percent rise in non-farm income. Read the report's key messages:
https://blogs.worldbank.org/.../dynamics_of_rural_growth_in_b...
Photo: Ismail Ferdous

blogs.worldbank.org
BLOGS.WORLDBANK.ORG

Other communication efforts include hosting or participating in events and forums that promote information sharing and dialogue about the most relevant food and nutrition topics across South Asia. For example, in July 2015, the Sri Lanka Medical Association Scientific Sessions hosted a symposium on multi-sectoral approaches to nutrition promotion where studies of interventions developed through the SAFANSI-funded INPARD study were presented, demonstrating developments the project had made in this area, and an evaluation plan of using individual level and area level data was also discussed.

In September 2015, SAFANSI held a large knowledge event in New Delhi, bringing together over 50 technical experts and practitioners from the Nutrition, Health and Agriculture sectors to share experiences and lessons learned when incorporating nutrition into agriculture projects, with specific focus on SAFANSI case studies. Development partners included local counterparts from DFID, DFAT, LANSA, EC, USAID, and others; and counterparts and approximately 20 relevant government stakeholders in the region, ultimately promoting cross-sectoral collaboration and lessons learned.

The World Health Organization (WHO) organized its second dialogue on strengthening international cooperation on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) within the framework of North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation in December 2015 at the WHO headquarters in Geneva. There was a strong focus on addressing the main lifestyle risk factors including nutrition and healthy diets. The SAFANSI-funded INPARD program was selected as a case study in this high-level meeting to show how the UN agencies can contribute to this agenda to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 3) by linking to other SDGs such as 1 and 2. The INPARD case study was the only case study presented by the World Bank in this meeting and participants expressed appreciation for INPARD for providing a real world example on how to link rural development, poverty reduction and agriculture with NCD prevention. It was clear that in this area of SDGs, international stakeholders have a keen interest in understanding how policies and programs within low and middle income countries could bring these sectors together.

SAFANSI sponsored the Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition in February 2016 in which 50 senior policy makers and representatives from FNS-focused organizations across the South Asia region discussed countries' successes in under-nutrition reduction in the context of food and agriculture systems, while assessing the specific national and regional challenges. The forum also identified opportunities and the potential action for governments and multi-sectoral partnerships to guide the development of sustainable nutrition-sensitive policy. Fundamental to the event was participatory engagement with stakeholders representing the agriculture, economic, health and nutrition sectors in India and the broader South Asia region. Discussions were dialogue driven allowing for active engagement and shared learning from other Food and Nutrition Security Initiatives in the Agriculture and Food Systems Domain. A SAFANSI TTL also presented on the importance of evidence building, the translation of research findings into simple messages for policy makers, and how they can engage systematically to ensure that policies are continually reviewed and updated if required, based on the latest evidence available.

SAFANSI
Knowledge Exchange

A Focus on Nutrition, Food, and Agriculture in South Asia
17 September 2015

Objective: The event aims to bring together technical experts and practitioners from the Nutrition, Health and Agriculture sectors to share experiences and lessons learned when incorporating nutrition into agriculture projects, with specific focus on SAFANSI case studies.

Outcome: Gather knowledge and lessons; prepare and disseminate a knowledge product (guidance note/brief). Event will be the first in a series of such annual SAFANSI knowledge events.

Participants: Development partners (Local counterparts from DFID, DFAT, LANSA, EC, and others); and counterparts and relevant government stakeholders in the region.

Session 1: Welcome and setting the agenda (8:45 – 9:15)
Chair: Akihiko Nishio, Director - SARVP

Session 2: How Agriculture fits into the Nutrition Puzzle (9:15 – 11:15)
Moderator: Shubha Shetty, Practice Manager - GFADR (10 min each)

- Establishing the links between poverty, agriculture, and nutrition
Meera Shekar, Lead Health Specialist - GNHDR, World Bank
- Food security and nutrition security: are they at odds?
Animesh Shrivastava, Program Leader - SACIN, World Bank
- Linking agriculture and nutrition – the Nepal context
Joint Secretary [Bajendra Adhikari](#), Nepal Ministry of Agricultural Development
- LANSA: Generating Evidence for Policy and Practice
Prakash Shetty, CEO, LANSA
Farming System for Nutrition and the Role of Biofortification: the LANSA experience
[Bhavani RV](#), Program Manager, LANSA
- Discussion/Q&A (1 hr.)

Morning tea (11:15 – 11:30)



Additional knowledge sharing events and forums are planned for the second year, which will involve engaging policymakers, government and stakeholder organizations, and focusing on providing leadership to empower and support innovative programming to address food and nutrition security through a food and agriculture system context at country and regional levels.

Additional activities over the last reporting period focused on setting up the structure for Knowledge Management and Communications to coincide with the launch of phase 2 operations and to follow up with grant recipients to track deliverables coming in from phase 2. This included:

- Identifying and appointing a consultant responsible for daily operations of knowledge management and communications which involves making grant recipients aware of requirements for deliverables, providing guidance on dissemination activities, and curating incoming deliverables for further dissemination;
- Finalizing the design and operation of the SAFANSI external website to disseminate curated and cleared grant products and an internal SharePoint site to disseminate operational and administrative information to current and potential grant recipients;
- Sponsoring and/or planning and delivering dissemination events on SAFANSI issues and activities;
- Creating and disseminating an internal Factiva Newsfeed to provide regular media updates to the SAFANSI Core Team, Steering Committee, and grant recipients;
- Documenting international, regional, and national landscape of Food and Nutrition Security programs and agreements to increase understanding of SAFANSI's relative position and identify potential partnerships;
- Establishing linkages with SecureNutrition platform and Food Security, Nutrition, Agriculture and Poverty (FSNAP) working group for cross-fertilization of ideas and cross-marketing of messages within and outside of the World Bank;
- Creating or contributing to briefs and talking points for World Bank management on SAFANSI progress and FNS issues;
- Preparing materials and logistics for SAFANSI operational meetings; and
- Preparing communication materials on SAFANSI findings.

A full list of publications and various knowledge products from the SAFANSI grants can be found in Annex 6.

Moving forward, SAFANSI KM & Communications is planning an outreach series of roundtables and workshops in the region that will seek to bring together client governments and donors to ensure better strategic alignment of programs that support nutrition, and to ultimately identify pathways for sustainable government support of nutrition outcomes through government programs.

Looking Forward

SAFANSI's first full year of activities successfully operationalized the Fund's governance and monitoring system with approval of the Operations Manual, Strategic Priorities paper, Results and Risk Frameworks and Communications Strategy. In addition, the first set of projects was approved. These eleven projects with total commitments of \$4.7 million⁸ are in the early stages of implementation with initial outputs and results becoming evident.

As we have entered the second year of activities with an additional allocation of funding under the second Call for Proposals, the focus will be on implementation of the approved grants, building on the results and outputs from the program and expanding communications activities to broaden the visibility of the program and its results among relevant stakeholders. Subject to funding availability it is anticipated that a third Call for Proposals will be launched in the fall of 2016. Focus will be again on responding to the strategic priorities identified to ensure that the SAFANSI grants fill knowledge gaps and stimulate innovation.

⁸ As of March 31, 2016

Annex 1: SAFANSI-funded activities as of March 31, 2016

| Country | Grant Title | Grant Amount | SC Approval Date | Grant Closing Date | Disbursed | Team Leader | Primary Sector |
|----------------------------------|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|--|----------------------------------|
| Recipient Executed Grants | | | | | | | |
| Afghanistan | Afghanistan: Assessing the effectiveness of nutrition awareness and early cognitive stimulation interventions in Early Childhood Development Programs | \$650,000 | 6/8/2015 | 6/30/2017 | | Nathalie Lahirie | Education |
| Bank Executed Grants | | | | | | | |
| India | Technical support to cross-sectoral work on nutrition the North East of India | \$500,000 | 6/8/2015 | 12/31/2017 | | Patrick Mullen | Health, Nutrition and Population |
| | Burden of Malnutrition for the States of Uttar Pradesh, Nagaland, Uttarakhand, and Meghalaya (Phase I) | \$502,000 | 4/30/2015 | 7/31/2016 | \$73,599 | Ramesh Govindaraj | Health, Nutrition and Population |
| | Social Observatory: Catalyzing Improved Implementation In Projects To Improve Food and Nutrition Security | \$1,000,000 | 9/16/2015 | 12/31/2018 | \$231,116 | Vijayendra Rao | Development Economics |
| Nepal | Impact Evaluations of the Agricultural and Food Security Project (AFSP) and Sunaula Hazar Din (SHD) Community Action for Nutrition Project | \$988,000 | 6/8/2015 | 6/30/2018 | \$277,740 | Susumu Yoshida | Development Economics |
| | Qualitative Assessment and Knowledge Enhancement of Community-Driven Nutrition Project in Nepal | \$300,000 | 3/18/2015 | 9/30/2017 | \$14,174 | Kaori Oshima | Health, Nutrition & Population |
| Regional | Costing and Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of Scaling up Nutrition-related Interventions in the South Asia Region | \$400,000 | 10/6/2015 | 12/31/2017 | \$20,368 | Meera Shekar | Health, Nutrition & Population |
| Sri Lanka | Integrating Nutrition Promotion And Rural Development (INPAD) Sri Lanka | \$198,000 | 6/8/2015 | 12/30/2016 | \$84,285 | Ulrich K. H. M. Schmitt, Seenithamby Manoharan | Agriculture |
| Just-in-Time Grants | | | | | | | |

| Country | Grant Title | Grant Amount | SC Approval Date | Grant Closing Date | Disbursed | Team Leader | Primary Sector |
|-------------------|---|--------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------|---|--------------------------------|
| Bangladesh | Dynamics of Rural Growth: Outreach and dissemination | \$50,000 | 1/5/2016 | 6/30/2016 | \$17,102 | Madhur Gautam | Agriculture |
| Sri Lanka | Building Effective Nutrition Communication through Partnerships: Addressing Estate Sector Nutrition Issues in Sri Lanka | \$50,000 | 3/1/2016 | 10/1/2016 | | Kumari Vinodhani Navaratne, Dilinika Peiris | Health, Nutrition & Population |
| Nepal | Women's Enterprising Initiatives to Ensure Community Food and Nutrition Security in upland Nuwakot | \$50,000 | 3/1/2016 | 12/25/2016 | | Pushina Kunda Ng'andwe | Agriculture |

Annex 2: SAFANSI Dashboard as of March 31, 2016

Figure 4 Percentage of funding allocated by Country (%)

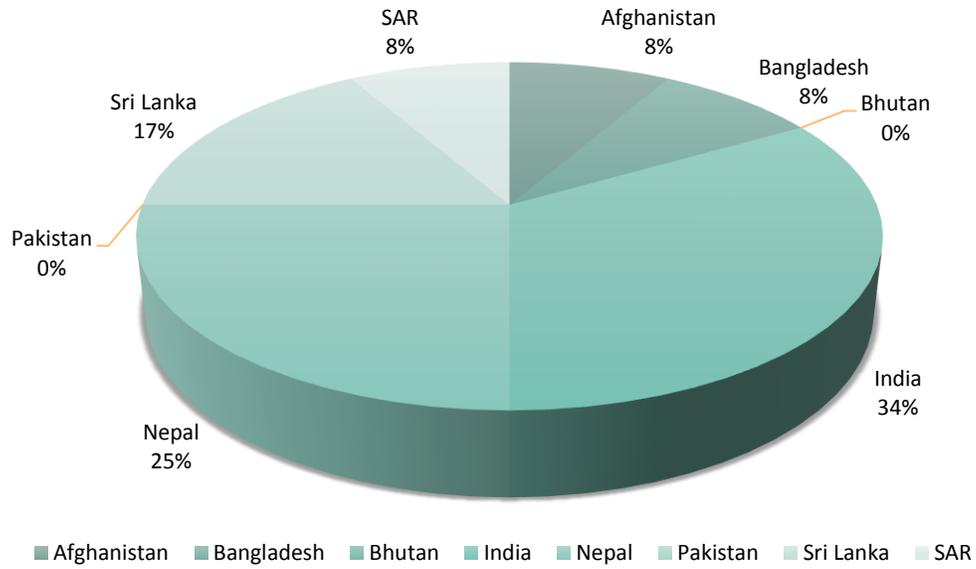


Figure 5 Fund allocation by country (US\$)

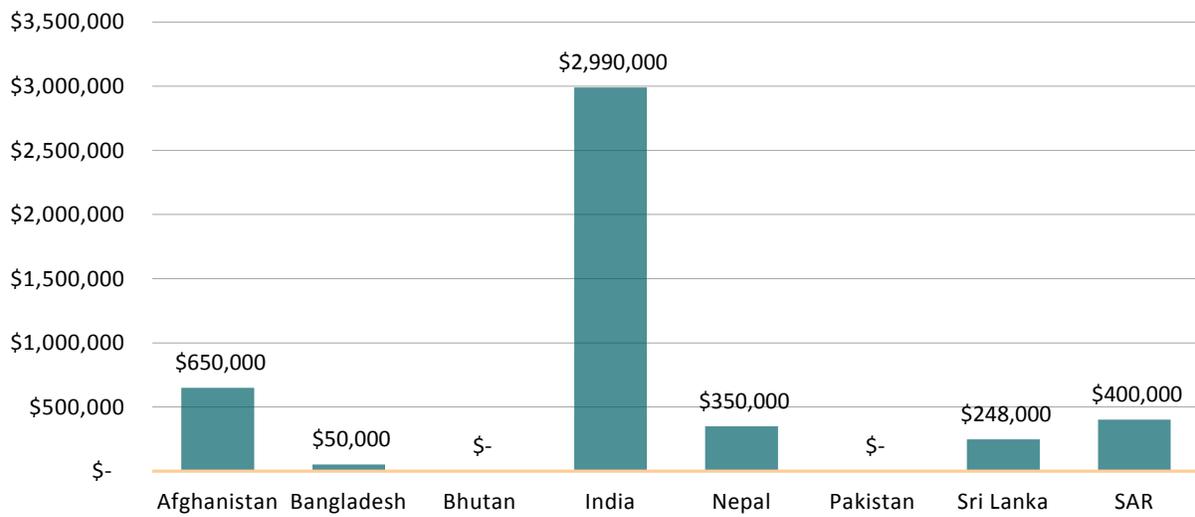
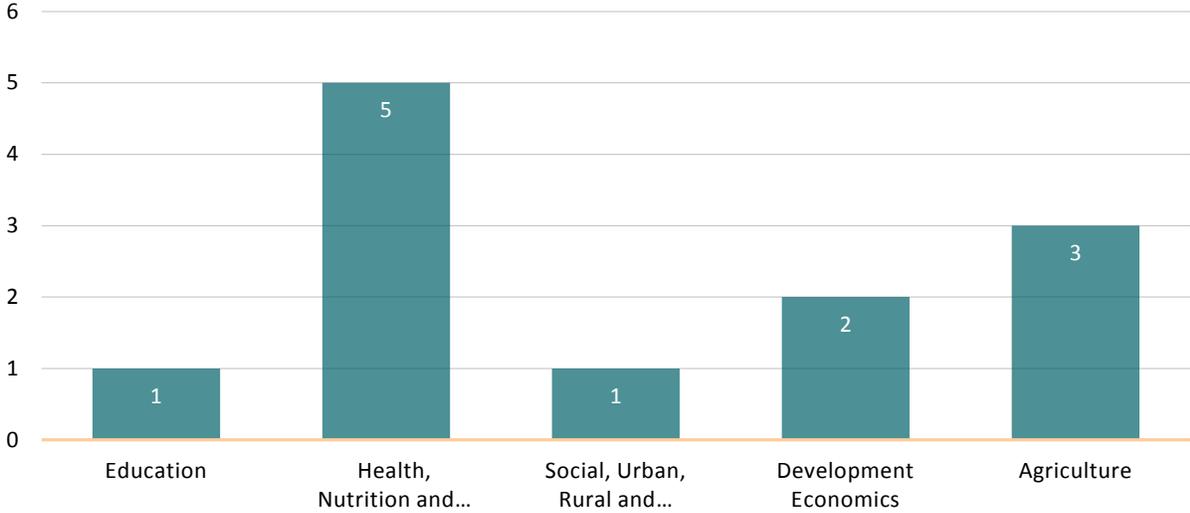


Figure 6 Grants by Sectoral Distribution



Annex 3: Results Framework

The table below provides agreed SAFANSI II results indicators with cumulative targets (by FY).

Outcome Indicators⁹

| Outcome | Outcome indicators | Baseline | Year 1 (FY 16) | Year 2 (FY 17) | Year 3 (FY 18) | Year 4 (FY 19) | Sources / means of verification |
|--|--|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Governments and development partners have increased commitment, funding and capability to improve food and nutrition security in South Asia. | 1. Number of food and nutrition policies, programmes or action plans developed and adopted by Governments with financial or technical support from SAFANSI: a) which are multi-sectoral and evidence-based; and b) which support women and girls of reproductive age and/or children <2 years of age | a) 0 b) 0 | a) 4 b) 2 | a) 9 b) 5 | a) 12 b) 8 | a) 17 b) 11 | Government policy documents Media reports Project documents Supported by qualitative evidence of the extent of SAFANSI input and influence, where available. |
| | 2. Contribution ¹⁰ of SAFANSI to the design, implementation or evaluation of World Bank nutrition-sensitive projects. (a) number of projects (b) volume of lending | a) 0 b) 0 c) 0 | a) 1 b) c) 1,000 | a) 6 b) c) 2,000 | a) 10 b) c) 3,000 | a) 15 b) c) 4,000 | World Bank project documents and reports |

⁹ Demonstrating SAFANSI *contribution*, and attribution where possible; All data is cumulative.

¹⁰ For the purposes of measurement, a contribution would take the form of direct financial support for studies or dialogues that lead to policy reform/creation, technical advice provided through SAFANSI-funded programs or as a result of SAFANSI-funded programs, or policies/programs that cite SAFANSI materials as reference in their development.

| Outcome | Outcome indicators | Baseline | Year 1 (FY 16) | Year 2 (FY 17) | Year 3 (FY 18) | Year 4 (FY 19) | Sources / means of verification |
|---------|--|---------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| | (c) beneficiaries reached ¹¹ | | | | | | |
| | 3. Proportion (a) and Number (b) of SAFANSI-supported grants scoring at least ‘moderately satisfactory’ | a) 0 b) 0% | a) 80% b) 9 | a) 80% b) 15 | a) 80% b) 20 | a) 80% b) 25 | WB reporting (ISRs/GRMs) |
| | 4. Number of national or sub-national comprehensive multi-sectoral nutrition budgets developed ¹² | | | | | | |

Output Indicators¹³

Pillar 1 - Improved Evidence and Analysis

| Output 1 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources / means of verification |
|--|--|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| Improved evidence and analysis available on the effects of interventions on Food | 1.1 Number of peer reviewed studies published that help to improve evidence and analysis on Food and Nutrition Security. | 0 | 3 | 20 | 27 | 31 | Project reports Bibliographic data/ references |

¹¹ Estimated/projected or actual beneficiaries, if and when this data is available.

¹² Multi-sector budgets can indicate spending in line ministries/departments directed to activities that will contribute to achieving nutrition outcomes as defined in national/subnational policies/strategies

¹³ All output indicators are directly attributable to SAFANSI and will include gender disaggregated information wherever possible. All data is cumulative.

| Output 1 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources / means of verification |
|---|---|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|
| and Nutrition Security outcomes in South Asia | 1.2 Number of communications products ¹⁴ published. | 0 | 11 | 22 | 34 | 35 | Project reports SAFANSI website |
| | 1.3 Number of (a) unique, external downloads of SAFANSI publications and (b) unique external visits to the SAFANSI website. | a) 0 b) 0 | a) 30,000 b) | a) 35,000 b) | a) 40,000 b) | a) 45,000 b) | WB Website analytics |
| | 1.4 Number of WB or partner led knowledge sharing events at which SAFANSI evidence or analysis is presented. | 0 | 4 | 8 | 10 | 11 | |

Pillar 2 – Enhanced Advocacy and Awareness

| Output 2 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources/Mean of verification |
|--|--|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| Improved awareness of Food and Nutrition Security-related challenges and demonstrated action | 2.1 Number of Ministers, parliamentarians, public officials and/or development partners participating in SAFANSI supported FNS awareness raising events. | 0 | 75 | 194 | 289 | 314 | Meeting attendance logs Other evaluation methods relevant to each event, e.g. post meeting learning evaluations. |

¹⁴ Communication products are materials that derive from technical studies/outputs financed by SAFANSI. They are intended to extend the audience of SAFANSI messages, and thus the impact of SAFANSI activities, from technical experts to policymakers, opinion leaders, interested lay-persons, and (where appropriate) the general public. They can take the form of newsletters, articles, briefs, talking point memos, videos, photo essays, and social media communications

| Output 2 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources/Mean of verification |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|
| among decision makers in South Asia. | 2.2 Number of FNS media stories resulting from SAFANSI or SAFANSI-supported activities, products or knowledge ¹⁵ . | 0 (0) | 15 | 23 | 28 | 30 | Project communication strategy monitoring reports WB media monitoring |
| | 2.3 Number of priority platforms, networks and/or groups actively strengthened or supported through SAFANSI that explicitly advocate for improved food and nutrition security. | 0 | 28 | 81 | 109 | 115 | Project reports, conference reports, BPL proceedings. |
| | 2.4 Number of SAFANSI grants with a successfully implemented ¹⁶ communication or engagement strategy. ¹⁷ | 0 | 5 | 10 | 17 | 25 | Project reports Communication plans and evaluations |

Pillar 3 – Wider and Stronger Systems and Capacity

| Output 3 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources/Mean of verification |
|--------------------------------------|--|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------------------------------|
| Governments and development partners | 3.1 Number of policy makers, government officials or | 0 | 100 | 425 | 628 | 1078 | Training logs |

¹⁵ Including any qualitative evidence of reach where available.

¹⁶ Strategy objectives met.

¹⁷ This is intended to capture work that goes beyond individual ‘products’ (such as a publication or media story) and delivers a targeted / coordinated package of relevant dissemination or advocacy activities to key audiences in order to achieve a stated objective (e.g. share key emerging evidence / ensure specific government officials take ‘X’ action/s etc.).

| Output 3 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources/Mean of verification |
|---|---|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|
| have strengthened policy and programming capacity to achieve FNS outcomes for the poor and disadvantaged. | practitioners trained for effective FNS program development, delivery and/or monitoring. | | | | | | Trainee course evaluation forms |
| | 3.2 Number of FNS systems supported through SAFANSI that help to improve food and nutrition data, monitoring and use. ¹⁸ | 0 | 3 | 7 | 13 | 19 | Project reports Data sources available |

Pillar 4 – Fostering Innovation

| Output 4 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources/Mean of verification |
|--|--|----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| New and innovative FNS interventions tested and/or implemented at the community level. | 4.1 Number of promising new concepts / technologies / approaches that are evaluated or tested with target groups (and number thereof that specifically address gender issues). ¹⁹ | 0 (0) | 3 (2) | 9 (4) | 20 (13) | 21 (18) | Project reports and evaluations |
| | 4.2 Number and percentage of tested FNS interventions that have been adopted for replication and/or scaling-up. | 0 (0%) | 2 | 7 | 15 | 18 | Project reports Policy documents |

¹⁸ With a focus, where possible, on reaching the poorest and most disadvantaged, and with a capacity to disaggregate data.

¹⁹ The poor and disadvantaged, particularly girls, women of reproductive age and children under two

| Output 4 | Output indicators | Baseline | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Sources/Mean of verification |
|----------|--|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | 4.3 Number of beneficiaries reached through food and nutrition security innovation pilots, a) total # reached, b) # women, c) # children under 5 years of age reached. ²⁰ | a) 0 b) c) | a) 1,000 b) 100 c) 100 | a) 2,000 b) 500 c) 350 | a) 4,000 b) 900 c) 700 | a) 7,000 b) 1000 c) 1000 | Project reports and evaluations |
| | 4.4 Number and percentage of innovation pilots where communities and clients report satisfaction. | 0 (0%) | 1 (80%) | 11 (80%) | 15 (80%) | 21 (80%) | WB client satisfaction surveys Beneficiary surveys, and qualitative evidence, where possible. |

²⁰ With a focus on under two year olds to address stunting

Annex 4: FY16 Results Achieved

The below table summarizes results achieved as of FY16. Note that most of the SAFANSI-II financed projects have been under implementation for about 10 months, expect for two phased projects that are building on the SAFANSI-I financed projects (which are Social Observatory in India and INPARD in Sri Lanka). The results below are mostly the outputs of the two projects.

| | Baseline | Results as of FY16 | End-of Program Target | Comment |
|--|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 1. Number of food and nutrition policies, programmes or action plans developed and adopted by Governments with financial or technical support from SAFANSI: a) which are multi-sectoral and evidence-based; and b) which support women and girls of reproductive age and/or children <2 years of age | a) 0 b) 0 | a) 0 b) 0 | a) 17 b) 11 | As SAFANSI-2 is one year into implementation, it is too early to see such advanced results. |
| 2. Contribution of SAFANSI to the design, implementation or evaluation of World Bank nutrition-sensitive projects. (a) number of projects (b) volume of lending (c) beneficiaries reached | a) 0 b) 0 c) 0 | a) 1 b) \$125m c) 0 | a) 15 b) c) 4,000 | Sri Lanka Agriculture Modernization Project (approved in June 2016). |
| 3. Proportion (a) and Number (b) of SAFANSI-supported grants scoring at least ‘moderately satisfactory’ | a) 0% b) 0 | a) 36% b) 4 | a) 80% b) 25 | Out of 11 projects. However, all projects under implementation for about 10 months have more than MS rating for PDO. |
| 4. Number of national or sub-national comprehensive multi-sectoral nutrition budgets developed | 0 | 0 | | It is too early in the program for such results to be showing yet. |
| Output Indicators | | | | |

| | Baseline | Results as of FY16 | End-of Program Target | Comment |
|--|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Pillar 1 - Improved Evidence and Analysis | | | | |
| 1.1 Number of peer reviewed studies published that help to improve evidence and analysis on Food and Nutrition Security. | 0 | 1 | 31 | Bank INPARD team peer reviewed an article on Oxford Health Promotion International. |
| 1.2 Number of communications products published. | 0 | 3 | 35 | 3 SAFANSI briefs published. |
| 1.3 Number of (a) unique, external downloads of SAFANSI publications and (b) unique external visits to the SAFANSI website. | a) 0 b) 0 | a) 11,225 b) 3,119 | a) 1050 b) | Year 1 was level-setting to establish our web and social media presence. Specific interventions are planned for FY17 to meet the targets for these goals. |
| 1.4 Number of WB or partner led knowledge sharing events at which SAFANSI evidence or analysis is presented. | 0 | 5 | 11 | INPARD participated in one national and 4 international events. |
| Pillar 2 – Enhanced Advocacy and Awareness | | | | |
| 2.1 Number of Ministers, parliamentarians, public officials and/or development partners participating in SAFANSI supported FNS awareness raising events. | 0 | 502 | 314 | 172 national, and 330 international development partners |
| 2.2 Number of FNS media stories resulting from SAFANSI or SAFANSI-supported activities, products or knowledge. | 0 (0) | 35 | 30 | Including blogs, articles, newspaper editorials, YouTube videos, and TV program |
| 2.3 Number of priority platforms, networks and/or groups actively strengthened or supported through SAFANSI that explicitly advocate for improved food and nutrition security. | 0 | 4,102 | 115 | SecureNutrition, 101 networks of health, nutrition, and rural development practitioners at sub-district level in Sri Lanka; Social Observatory supported over 4,000 SHGs |
| 2.4 Number of SAFANSI grants with a successfully implemented communication or engagement strategy. | 0 | 1 | 25 | Nutrition communication project in Estate sector in Sri Lanka |
| Pillar 3 – Wider and Stronger Systems and Capacity | | | | |

| | Baseline | Results as of FY16 | End-of Program Target | Comment |
|--|------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| 3.1 Number of policy makers, government officials or practitioners trained for effective FNS program development, delivery and/or monitoring. | 0 | 600 | 1078 | INPARD financed 30 training workshops, participated by 500 officers; Social Observatory led 4 workshops that trained 100 government officials and policy makers. |
| 3.2 Number of FNS systems supported through SAFANSI that help to improve food and nutrition data, monitoring and use. | 0 | 4 | 19 | Social Observatory has supported FNS data collections in Bihar, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, and Maharashtra. |
| Pillar 4 – Fostering Innovation | | | | |
| 4.1 Number of promising new concepts / technologies / approaches that are evaluated or tested with target groups (and number thereof that specifically address gender issues). | 0 (0) | 7 (7) | 21 (18) | SO published 7 evaluation reports |
| 4.2 Number and percentage of tested FNS interventions that have been adopted for replication and/or scaling-up. | 0 (0%) | 0 | 18 | |
| 4.3 Number of beneficiaries reached through food and nutrition security innovation pilots, a) total # reached, b) # women, c) # children under 5 years of age reached. | a) 0 b) c) | a) 100,750 HHs b) 1,750 c) 350 | a) 7,000 b) 1000 c) 1000 | 100,000 beneficiary HHs reached through Social Observatory |
| 4.4 Number and percentage of innovation pilots where communities and clients report satisfaction. | 0 (0%) | 0 (0)% | 21 (80%) | Feedback on INPARD was all positive from focus groups. |

Annex 5: Review of Second Call for Proposals

The second call for proposals was issued in February 2016. Eleven proposals were submitted, requesting over \$5.1 million in funding. Following review by the Technical Review Panel, six proposals were recommended for funding, for a total of \$2,130,000, out of the \$3,639,000 available for allocation.

The Steering Committee Chair noted that funding decisions should focus on the proposals that merit funding at this time based on the quality of the proposals (value impact and value addition; scaling up new ideas; extracting lessons learned for different types of projects) and strategic priorities. The proposals that did not receive funding during the initial call were either rejected or were given recommendations for revision so they could be resubmitted for consideration.

In addition, the SC has set aside funds for commissioned studies on public expenditures and nutrition and key drivers of nutrition, which will be managed from the Office of the Chief Economist of the South Asia Region.

Following discussion of each of the proposals submitted, the SC made the following funding decisions (next page).

Table 5 Second Call for SAFANSI Proposals- February 2016

| No | Proposal Title | Country | Amount Requested | Funding Decision | Comments |
|----|---|------------|------------------|------------------|---|
| 1 | Design and Piloting of Conditional Cash Transfers for Maternal and Child Health and Nutrition in Madhya Pradesh (India) | India | 500,000 | \$250,000 | MP State has the worst nutrition indicators in India. This proposal will provide technical assistance to support GOMP's decision-making process for its overall strategy and design of the planned CCT program in light of its nutrition, health and financial protection objectives. This will align to Pillar 1 by supporting evidence based policy design, and Pillar 2 by building the capacity of the government to design and implement the CCT program. Successful completion of this grant will contribute to outcome indicator 1. |
| 2 | Leveraging information technology to achieve better nutritional outcomes in the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT), Bangladesh | Bangladesh | 250,000 | \$220,000 | The grant will work with some of the most marginalized communities in Bangladesh and will use innovative approaches to increase awareness of pro-nutrition activities and build the capacity of communities to improve their nutrition. As such, it contributes to Pillars 2, 3, and 4. It will ultimately contribute to output indicator 4.1 |
| 3 | Strengthening capacities for integrated school meal programming in Bhutan | Bhutan | 250,000 | Under revision | This proposal seeks to improve the food preparation practices and diets for pregnant and lactating mothers including dietary diversity and quantity. This will include the promotion of breastfeeding and improved child complementary feeding practices which will be supported by appropriate by behavior change communication and awareness building platform. Options for strengthening the capacities and awareness of key government ministry staff to ensure sustained positive nutrition outcomes will be explored. It aligns with the first 3 SAFANSI Pillars. |

| | | | | | |
|---|---|------------|---------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 4 | Bangladesh Capacity Development in Nutrition Surveillance and Research | Bangladesh | 335,000 | Under revision | The proposal promotes evidence-based decision-making on cross-sectoral approaches that will lead to measurable improvements in FNS in Bangladesh. The task is also well aligned with SAFANSI strategic priorities I and II and will contribute to Pillars 1 (output indicator 1); Pillar 2 (output indicator 2.2); and Pillar 3 (output indicator 3.2). |
| 5 | Improved Nutrition through Milk Micronutrient Fortification -- testing the Business Case under the National Dairy Support Project, India | India | 490,000 | Under revision and extra DFID review | This proposal would support a pilot that would conduct a “proof of concept” for milk fortification in the dairy value chain across selected milk unions in India. The lessons gained from the pilot would subsequently aid in building both the business case and the requisite institutional capacity to scale up milk fortification across those milk unions participating in the NDSP. This contributes to Pillars 1, 2 and 3, and should contribute to output indicator 2. The project will be co-funded by the TATA trust. |
| 6 | Rural Inclusive Growth and Nutrition in Andhra Pradesh | India | 50,000 | Awarded JIT Grant | This proposal will provide technical assistance for monitoring and evaluation of a multi-sector program that seeks to improve nutrition outcomes. The TA will provide guidance on indicators, their measurement, and use, as well as potential impact evaluations that could be carried out in the project area. The program receiving TA is part of the National Rural Livelihoods Program in India, and as such can have significant impact on scaling up good practice in designing for and monitoring nutrition outcomes in poverty focused programs. It contributes to Pillars 2 and 3, and should contribute to Outcome indicator 2. |

Annex 6: Publications and Knowledge Products

The publications and knowledge products presented in this Annex were produced and disseminated during the reporting period, although they also cover projects that were funded under both SAFANSI I and II.

Bangladesh

Dynamics of Rural Growth in Bangladesh: Sustaining Poverty Reduction

A JIT grant under SAFANSI II helped to disseminate this paper through various promotional events from December 2015 to May 2016.

The rural economy in Bangladesh has been a powerful source of economic growth and has substantially reduced poverty, especially since 2000, but the remarkable transformation and unprecedented dynamism in rural Bangladesh are an underexplored, underappreciated, and largely untold story. The analysis identifies the key changes occurring in the rural economy, the principal drivers of rural incomes, the implications for policy, and related actions to foster future growth, further reduce poverty, and improve food security and nutrition. A substantial strength of this study is its empirical foundation, consisting of three sets of detailed data on rural households. Two of the datasets are unique in tracking the same set of households for more than two decades. This data makes it possible to examine how change is occurring within and among rural households; they shed considerable light on trends that tend to be obscured at more aggregate levels of analysis. Nationally representative surveys and aggregate secondary data provide complementary and contextually rich insights into the household data.

Gautam, Madhur; Faruque, Rashidur R.; Ahmed, Md Mansur; Shilpi, Forhad J.; Khandker, Shahidur R.; Ahmed, S. Amer; Verissimo, Patrick; Kar, Anuja; Chellaraj, Gnanaraj. 2016. *Dynamics of rural growth in Bangladesh : sustaining poverty reduction*. Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group.

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/951091468198235153/Dynamics-of-rural-growth-in-Bangladesh-sustaining-poverty-reduction>

Mother and Child Nutrition, Food Security, and Development: Chittagong Hill Tracts

Funded under SAFANSI I.

As an outcome from SAFANSI I funding, the Manusher Jonno Foundation presented a workshop in August 2015 to 130 participants including university teachers, government officials, journalists, NGO workers, indigenous people and other representatives of various organizations to discuss the results from their work. This primarily focused on leveraging regional knowledge from NGO partners in Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Bhutan on critical factors that promote good eating practices for mothers and children. The event also focused on sharing experiences of Governments and development partners to more effectively integrate food and nutrition related policies and investments.

Manusher Jonno Foundation. “Mother and Child Nutrition, Food Security, and Development: Chittagong Hill Tracts.” Seminar from SAFANSI, Dhaka, Bangladesh. 10 August 2015.

Nutrition Shop Analysis Report

Funded under SAFANSI I.

As an outcome from SAFANSI I funding, the Manusher Jonno Foundation produced a paper on enhancing the ability of 10 rice banks to provide additional and supplementary nutritious and dry food items and seeds via a “nutrition shop”, which also made nutritious food items at their village/locality available throughout the year, especially during food crisis seasons. Fresh and dry food items were introduced in the banks, such as lentils, iodized salt, fortified oil, rice, fresh vegetables, egg, dry fish, and seeds.

Manusher Jonno Foundation and Partner NGOs in Bandarban and Rangamati.” Nutrition Shop Analysis.” Research findings. Dhaka, Bangladesh. August 2015.

Using Cash Cards to Make Better Nutritional Choices in Bangladesh

Funded under SAFANSI I, produced under SAFANSI II.

The prevalence of under-nutrition in Bangladesh remains among the highest in the world. Though there has been significant progress in reducing the incidence of underweight children below 5 years, progress in reducing wasting and stunting has been less successful. Improving nutrition and cognitive development of poor children is particularly critical in arresting intergenerational transmission of poverty. Conditional Cash Transfers (CCTs) have been successful in incentivizing participants to do things such as enroll their children in school, or attending counseling and knowledge sharing sessions to educate parents and caregivers about the benefits of balanced diet. CCTs also have a potential to evolve from their role in poverty reduction strategies to become part of a broader system of social protection, by setting up common outreach and service platforms. As families graduate out of the program, they can be linked to skills and income generating activities to ensure the sustainability of the poverty alleviation impact, by linking children to education stipend programs and adults to literacy programs; entrepreneurship programs; and financial services. This demands a focus on a range of policies and programs encompassing the country’s poverty reduction strategy in the context of a life cycle framework to provide a more effective support system for the vulnerable and poor population.

World Bank. 2015. *Using cash cards to make better nutrition choices in Bangladesh*. The South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI). Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group. http://www-wds.worldbank.org/external/default/WDSContentServer/WDSP/IB/2015/10/27/090224b0831741f1/1_0/Rendered/PDF/Using0cash0car0hoices0in0Bangladesh.pdf

India

Community Designed Visualizations

Funded under SAFANSI I.

The SAFANSI-funded Social Observatory program has produced a web platform that visualizes data in a village scene. Each item shown in the visualizations is depicted with an icon that can be clicked on in the village scene and will depict strong or weak correlations by using color gradation depending on the health of the area regarding that particular section. Sections have better health and are brighter in color as they have more respondents that have reported more 'good' answers. The drop down menus can be used to select which areas to visualize and compare with others.

World Bank Group. “Community Designed Visualizations” worldbank.org. April 2015.
<http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/social-observatory/brief/community-designed-visualizations>

Recasting culture to undo gender: a sociological analysis of Jeevika in rural Bihar, India

Funded under SAFANSI I.

This paper brings together sociological theories of culture and gender to answer the question – how do large-scale development interventions induce cultural change? Through three years of ethnographic work in rural Bihar, the authors examine this question in the context of Jeevika, a World Bank-assisted poverty alleviation project targeted at women, and find support for an integrative view of culture. The paper argues that Jeevika created new “cultural configurations” by giving economically and socially disadvantaged women access to a well-defined network of people and new systems of knowledge, which changed women’s habitus and broke down normative restrictions constitutive of the symbolic boundary of gender.

Sanyal, Paromita; Rao, Vijayendra; Majumdar, Shruti. 2015. *Recasting culture to undo gender: a sociological analysis of Jeevika in rural Bihar, India*. Policy Research working paper; no. WPS 7411. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.
<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/09/25049204/recasting-culture-undo-gender-sociological-analysis-jeevika-rural-bihar-india>

The Distributional Consequences of Group Procurement: Evidence from a Randomized Trial of a Food Security Program in Rural India.

Funded under SAFANSI I.

Public transfer programs that allow beneficiaries to choose the transferred good may be more efficient, but the poorest beneficiaries may not participate if the good chosen is too costly. A model shows that program targeting and consumption impacts are tied to selected quality of the provided good. Evidence from a randomized trial in rural India in which groups of beneficiaries choose the variety of rice to be offered as a subsidized loan confirms that choosing lower cost goods self-targets the program towards the poorest beneficiaries. Consumption impacts are biggest for wealthiest households and may be negative for moderately poor households.

Christian, Paul. 2015. *The Distributional Consequences of Group Procurement: Evidence from a Randomized Trial of a Food Security Program in Rural India*. Washington, D.C. World Bank Group.
<http://pubdocs.worldbank.org/en/534831459872409124/The-Distributional-Consequences-of-Group-Procurement-Evidence-from-a-RCT-in-Rural-India.pdf>

Participatory Tracking Data Collection

Funded under SAFANSI I and II.

Data collection is almost always an extractive activity. Outsiders (including the Social Observatory) come in, harass much poorer respondents for several hours with questions, and their responses are entered into a digital database and analyzed statistically to discern patterns, conduct evaluations etc. This serves mainly

to inform policy and produce research. The respondents who gave their time do not see direct benefits from this process (though they might benefit indirectly if the data analysis results in policy decisions that have a positive impact on their lives). P-tracking or Peer-tracking is an effort to reverse this process and empower respondents to analyze and act on their own data.

The Social Observatory: Participatory Tracking Data Collection. 11 minutes 55 seconds. 29 December 2013. Updated January 20, 2015. Posted by the Social Observatory. Watched January 20, 2015. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/video/2013/12/29/the-social-observatory-participatory-tracking>

Participatory tracking: Data feedback experiment

Funded under SAFANSI I and II.

The Social Observatory implemented the data feedback experiment. The surveyed villages in Theni were divided into two groups, a treatment group and a control group, observing whether access to data led to improved outcomes and empowerment, by looking at the difference between the 1st (before intervention) and 2nd (after intervention) rounds of tracking data. Treatment villages received their visualized data in multiple formats and control groups did not.

The World Bank. "Participatory tracking: Data feedback experiment." Worldbank.org. November 2015. <http://www.worldbank.org/en/programs/social-observatory/brief/participatory-tracking-data-feedback-experiment>

Promoting agriculture nutrition convergence through participatory extension videos

Funded under SAFANSI I.

The nutrition challenge in South Asia is complex due to its varying scale from hunger to hidden hunger. The region has the highest rates of hunger and under nutrition in the world, and overweight and obesity is increasing in prevalence, especially in India. These complex and multi-causal nutritional challenges need to be met with equally varying cross-sectoral interventions. A pilot program was conducted in partnership with the Bihar Rural Livelihoods Promotion Society (also known as JEEViKA) to investigate how locally produced videos could increase community knowledge and the adoption of improved nutrition practices, as well as evaluate the feasibility of integrating nutrition information into the existing agricultural program. The pilot targeted 42 villages in three districts. This note presents the key findings of piloting the participatory nutrition messaging videos. The objective of the pilot was to develop community-based instructional videos on nutrition topics (including food preparation, dietary diversity, crops rich in vitamin A, kitchen gardens) to enable access to and adoption of best practices by community members.

Gandhi, Rikin; Pandey, Ritika; Havimo, Terhi Elisa; Pehu, Eija. 2015. *Promoting agriculture nutrition convergence through participatory extension videos*. Agriculture Global Practice note; no. 1. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/04/24433777/promoting-agriculture-nutrition-convergence-through-participatory-extension-videos>

Fostering agriculture-nutrition links: recommendations for agriculture extension curriculum reforms in India

Funded under SAFANSI I.

Malnutrition continues to be a major development challenge in the South Asia region. Given its size, India hosts the majority of the malnourished. Around 300 million people in India do not have access to a food supply that sufficiently meets their basic energy needs. Despite recent economic growth, poverty remains high, and malnutrition is now manifest in all its forms with overweight and obesity increasing alongside persistent under nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies. The progress made between 1970 and 2010 in reducing malnutrition was largely due to improving access to safe water, female education, and female empowerment, the latter especially key in South Asia. The factor that made the least progress between 1995 and 2010 is increasing quantity and quality of food, clearly a responsibility of agriculture. Finally, extension efforts must recognize women farmers, and deliver programs directly to them for two reasons. First, women in most households are intimately involved in the production and preparation of meals and feeding their family, and so they have the most direct control over nutrition. Second, female-headed households in India typically have a higher incidence of malnutrition and food insecurity.

Babu, Suresh Chandra; Havimo, Terhi Elisa; Pehu, Eija. 2015. *Fostering agriculture-nutrition links: recommendations for agriculture extension curriculum reforms in India*. Agriculture global practice note; no. 2. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/05/24481743/fostering-agriculture-nutrition-links-recommendations-agriculture-extension-curriculum-reforms-india>

Digital green agriculture: nutrition convergence - final Report: the World Bank's South Asia food and nutrition security initiative

Funded under SAFANSI I.

The South Asia region has the highest rates of hunger in the world. According to one estimate, 336 million people (nearly 23 percent of its population) are routinely hungry and new threats are emerging to intensify the situation. The challenge of hunger and under nutrition in South Asia is complex and has many causes; it must therefore be met by a variety of cross-sectoral interventions. Digital green's pilot focused on investigating how locally produced videos can increase community knowledge and adoption of improved agricultural and nutrition practices.

Gandhi, Rikin; Pandey, Ritika; Havimo, Terhi Elisa; Pehu, Eija. 2015. *Digital green agriculture: nutrition convergence - final Report: the World Bank's South Asia food and nutrition security initiative*. Agriculture global practice note; no. 3. Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group.

<http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2015/07/24740152/digital-green-agriculture-nutrition-convergence-final-report-world-bank%E2%80%99s-south-asia-food-nutrition-security-initiative>

Improved nutrition through agricultural extension and advisory services: case studies of curriculum review and operational lessons from India

Funded under SAFANSI I and II.

Even after several decades of green revolution, malnutrition continues to be a major development challenge in much of South Asia, and India has a major share of the malnourished people in the region. For nutrition goals to be integrated into extension the curricula provided to current and future agricultural extension agents must be revisited. As part of the South Asia Food and Nutrition Security Initiative (SAFANSI), this

paper focuses on approaches to incorporating such nutrition content into the agricultural extension curriculum. Three state agricultural universities in Tamil Nadu, united Andhra Pradesh, and Bihar were used as case studies for the curriculum review. Through these case studies, face-to-face consultations at the national level down to program implementation at the village level have been developed. These include consultative workshops, and a conceptual framework and strategy for incorporating nutrition into extension curriculum development to improve nutrition outcomes. This strategy, detailed in this report, includes opportunities for collaboration from the national level to the community level. Specific lessons and follow-up actions are outlined that may be useful for other South Asian countries. The paper is organized as follows: chapter one gives introduction. Chapter two reviews current literature on agriculture-nutrition linkages to develop a conceptual framework for integrating nutrition into agricultural extension programs. Research methods and approaches are given in chapter three. Results and discussions are given in chapter four. Lessons from the case studies are presented in chapter five, and chapter six consists of concluding remarks.

Babu, Suresh Chandra; Singh, Meera; Hymavathi, T. V.; Rani, Uma; Kavitha, G. G.; Karthik, Shree. 2016. *Improved nutrition through agricultural extension and advisory services: case studies of curriculum review and operational lessons from India*. Agriculture global practice technical assistance paper. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group. <https://hubs.worldbank.org/docs/imagebank/pages/docprofile.aspx?nodeid=25929966>

Managing food price volatility in a large open country: the case of wheat in India

Funded under SAFANSI II.

India has pursued an active food security policy for many years, using a combination of trade policy interventions, public distribution of food staples, and assistance to farmers through minimum support prices defended by public stocks. This policy has been quite successful in stabilizing staple food prices, but at a high cost, and with potential risks of unmanageable stock accumulation. Based on a rational expectations storage model representing the Indian wheat market and its relation to the rest of the world, this paper analyzes the cost and welfare implications of this policy and unpacks the contribution of its different elements. To analyze alternative policies, social welfare is assumed to include an objective of price stabilization and optimal policies corresponding to this objective are assessed. Considering fully optimal policies under commitment as well as optimal simple rules, it is shown that adopting simple rules can achieve most of the gains from fully optimal policies, with both potentially allowing for lower stockholding levels and costs.

Gouel, Christophe; Gautam, Madhur; Martin, William J.. 2016. *Managing food price volatility in a large open country: the case of wheat in India*. Policy Research working paper; no. WPS 7551; Paper is funded by the Knowledge for Change Program (KCP). Washington, D.C. : World Bank Group. <http://documents.worldbank.org/curated/en/2016/02/25860944/managing-food-price-volatility-large-open-country-case-wheat-india>

Sri Lanka

Integrating Nutrition Promotion and Rural Development (INPARD) Symposium Report

Funded under SAFANSI I and II.

On July 7th 2015, the Sri Lanka Medical Association Scientific Sessions hosted a symposium on multi-sectoral approaches to nutrition promotion. The symposium was coordinated by the SAFANSI-funded Integrating Nutrition Promotion and Rural Development (INPARD) study. Sri Lankan and overseas resource persons, policy makers including the permanent secretary of Ministry of Policy Planning and Economic Affairs, Deputy Director General (Planning) of Ministry of Health, Regional Administrators and multi-sectoral field level staff presented at the symposium. The overall scope of the symposium included showing some real life examples for multi-sectoral approaches for nutrition promotion and to discuss the steps involved in developing such interventions. Case studies of interventions developed through the INPARD study were presented, demonstrating development the project had made in this area, an evaluation plan of using individual level and area level data was also discussed.

Additionally, INPARD researchers from the University of Oxford, Australian National University and University of Colombo were invited to present the INPARD program at several scientific conferences including the Global Food Security Conference 2015, Ithaca, New York, and The International Society for Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity (ISBNPA) 2015, Edinburgh, UK. INPARD will also have a number of presentations at the International Union for Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE) conference which will be held in Brazil in May 2016.

Wickramasinghe, Kremlin. “Integrating Nutrition Promotion and Rural Development (INPARD) Symposium Report.” Accessed 7 July 2015.

https://www.dropbox.com/s/z6aiiupgn1hc3p9/SLMA%20INPARD%20Symposium%20report_Final.docx?dl=0

Report of the first dialogue convened by the World Health Organization Global Coordination Mechanism on Non-communicable Diseases

Funded under SAFANSI I.

Dr. Kremlin Wickramasinghe represented the INPARD team at the first meeting on linking poverty reduction and non-communicable disease prevention (NCD) organized by the Global Coordination Mechanism of the WHO and the UN Interagency taskforce. This meeting and the resulting report considered interventions to improve nutrition promotion, recognizing nutrition as one of the main risk factors for NCDs which are increasing in low and middle income countries. The SAFANSI-funded INPARD study is highlighted as a case study to illustrate a good global practice to link poverty reduction, with some lessons from the project shared as recommendations in the report. The report also highlights the importance of the funding of such projects by SAFANSI, when regular research funding bodies are reluctant to fund important population-level work which cannot be designed as randomized controlled trials. The report urges major research funding bodies to fund such programs, demonstrating appreciation for SAFANSI for recognizing the importance of this area. The report recognized the significance of “training multi-sectoral village level stakeholders” conducted by the INPARD study and the importance of linking with community driven development programs to promote health. The role of the UN system: How multi donor trust funds and loans can contribute to NCD prevention and the relevant INPARD section can be found in the last paragraph of page 18 and first paragraph of page 19 of the report.

World Health Organization. *Report of the first dialogue convened by the World Health Organization Global Coordination Mechanism on Non-communicable Diseases*. Geneva, Switzerland. 20-21 April 2015. 56.

http://www.who.int/global-coordination-mechanism/final_meeting_report_dialogue_ncd_development_april15_en.pdf?ua=1