

Empowering the Poor: Reducing Vulnerability, Enhancing Livelihoods

This conference brings together a group of development practitioners from governments in South Asia and Africa, World Bank, IFAD, UNDP, Foundations, and academia who are at the forefront of development, implementation and study of Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods Program. With the financial and professional support from the World Bank and related international development agencies, various regional governments in Asia and Africa have implemented or are implementing such programs. Individually, these programs have been monitored, evaluated, and studied, but the lessons learned from them are scattered, highlighting the need for a comprehensive, rigorous synthesis of steps involved in their development; an examination of the challenges in their implementation; and a discussion of the evidence of their impacts.

This 3-day conference is designed to meet the above goal by allowing in-depth discussions on a select number of livelihoods programs in Asia (e.g., JEEViKA and the National Rural Livelihoods Mission) and Africa, and by inviting the perspectives of the three key stakeholders: the international development organizations, regional governments responsible for the implementation of the programs, and researchers who have systematically evaluated and studied these programs for their economic and non-economic aspects, as well as their short- and long- term impacts. More specifically, the workshop will look at what has been achieved, what lessons have been learned, and what the implications are for programming the implementation of similar programs in other countries.

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Host

The Initiative for Agency and Development (IfAD), University of Arizona

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Tauhidur Rahman, University of Arizona
Parmesh Shah, World Bank
Vinay Vutukuru, World Bank
Anjani Kumar Singh, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

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University of Arizona and World Bank Development Economics Conference

February 17-19, 2020

Tucson, Arizona



MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

SONORA ROOM, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA STUDENT UNION

9:00-9:30 AM: Welcome and Opening Remarks

Shane Burgess, Vice-President, ALVCE and Dean, CALS, University of Arizona
Shobha Shetty, Practice Manager, Africa Region, World Bank
Usha Kiran Tarigopula, Deputy Director, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Facilitator: Tauhidur Rahman, Associate Professor, University of Arizona

9:30-10:30 AM: “Empowering the Poor and Enabling their Economic and Human Development: Scaling up Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods Program”

9:30-10:10 AM: Parmesh Shah, Global Lead, World Bank
10:10-10:20 AM: Discussant Remark
Price Fishback, Thomas R. Brown Professor of Economics, University of Arizona
10:20-10:30 AM: Q&A

10:30-11:15 AM: “Gender in the Developed and Developing World”

10:30-11:00 AM: Basit Zafar, Professor of Economics, Arizona State University
11:00-11:15 AM: Q&A
Moderator: Anna Josephson, Assistant Professor, Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of Arizona

11:15-12:30 PM: JEEViKA and the NRLM Program: The Overall Lessons and Learnings

11:15-11:45 AM: The JEEViKA Story: Origins and the Scale up
Arvind K. Chaudhary, Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Bihar, India
11:45-12:30 PM: Implementation of JEEViKA: Key Challenges and Lessons
Balamurugan D., CEO, JEEViKA, Government of Bihar, India
Asha Devi and Amarita Devi, Community Members of JEEViKA
Chair: Parmesh Shah, World Bank

1:30-3:00 PM: JEEViKA and the NRLM Program: Specific Lessons and Learnings

1:30-1:45 PM: Learning from Initiatives on Access to Financial Services
Pushpendra Tiwari, State Project Manager, Financial Literacy & Bank Linkage
JEEViKA, Government of Bihar, India
1:45-2:30 PM: Learning from Agriculture and Livestock Initiatives
TBD
2:30-3:00 PM: Leveraging Community Mobilization for Human Development:
JEEViKA Experience
Irina Sinha, Technical & Strategy Advocacy, Project Concern International
Ms. Somya, Project Manager, Health & Nutrition, JEEViKA, Govt. of Bihar, India
Moderator: Russell Tronstad, University Distinguished Outreach Professor, Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of Arizona

3:15-5:30 PM: Results from Impact Evaluations

3:15-3:45 PM: Monitoring and Evaluation System of JEEViKA
Ajit Ranjan, State Project Manager, M&E, JEEViKA, Govt. of Bihar, India
Paramveer Singh, Resident Representative to JEEViKA from World Bank
3:45-4:30 PM: Results from the Impact Evaluation of JEEViKA
Tauhidur Rahman, Associate Professor, UA
4:30-5:15 PM: Specific Impacts on Health and Nutrition
Kala Mehta, Stanford University
5:15-5:30 PM: Q&A
Moderator: Jeffrey Michler, Assistant Professor, Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of Arizona

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

SONORA ROOM, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA STUDENT UNION

8:30-11:00 AM: Reflections and Perspectives from Key Development Actors

8:30-9:00 AM: Fabrizio Felloni, Deputy Director, Independent Office of Evaluation
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
9:00-9:10 AM: Q&A
9:10-9:40 AM: Almudena Fernandez, Advisor to the UN Assistant Secretary General
and Regional Director, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Latin America
and Caribbean
9:40-9:50 AM: Q&A
9:50-10:20 AM: Usha Kiran Tarigopula, Deputy Director, Bill & Melinda Gates
Foundation
10:20- 10:30 AM: Q&A
10:30-11:00 AM: Nicholas Eichman, Private Sector Engagement Advisor, The Palladium
Group
11:00-11:10: Q&A
Chair: Timothy Finan, Professor of Anthropology, University of Arizona

11:15-12:15 PM: “The Shifting Challenges of Poverty as Countries Move Up the Development Ladder: The Case of China”

11:15-12:00 PM: Scott D. Rozelle, Helen F. Farnsworth Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli
Institute for International Studies, Stanford University
12:00-12:15 PM: Q&A
Moderator: Satheesh Aradhyula, Associate Professor, Agricultural & Resource
Economics, University of Arizona

1:15 to 2:45 PM: “Agriculture and Rural Livelihoods Programs in Africa”

1:15-1:30 PM: “Overview of Agricultural and Rural Livelihoods Programs”
James Musinga/Vinay Vutukuru, Senior Specialist, World Bank
1:30-2:00 PM: “National Agriculture and Rural Inclusive Growth Project (NAGRIP)”
John Kimani, National Program Coordinator, NAGRIP
2:00-2:30 PM: “Kenya Climate Smart Agriculture Project (KCSAP)”
Francis Muthami, National Program Coordinator, KCSAP
2:30-2:45 PM: Q&A
Moderator: Vinay Vutukuru, Senior Specialist, World Bank

2:45-3:45 PM: “Agency and Development”

2:45-3:30 PM: David Schmitz, Kendrick Professor of Philosophy and Director of the
Center for the Philosophy of Freedom, University of Arizona
3:30-3:45: Q&A
Moderator: Daniel Asia, Professor of Music, University of Arizona

4:00-5:30 PM: Panel- “Gender Equality”

Liesl Folks, Senior Vice-President and Provost, University of Arizona
Shobha Shetty, Practice Manager, Africa Region, World Bank
Jane Bambauer, Professor of Law, University of Arizona
Alison Deming, Agnese Nelms Haury Chair in Environment & Social Justice Regent’s
Professor, University of Arizona
Moderator: Tauhidur Rahman, Associate Professor, Agricultural & Resource
Economics, Director, The Initiative for Agency and Development, University of Arizona

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

MARLEY BUILDING, ROOM 230

9:00-10:00 AM: “Laboratory Experiments on Growth and Development”

9:00-9:45 AM: Charles Noussair, Eller Professor of Economics and Director Economic
Science Laboratory, University of Arizona
9:45-10:00: Q&A
Moderator: Cathleen Johnson, The Initiative for Agency and Development

10:00-11:30 PM: “Way Forward: Applying Lessons from South Asia”

John Kimani, National Program Coordinator, NAGRIP
Francis Muthami, National Program Coordinator, KCSAP
Vinay Vutukuru, Senior Specialist, World Bank
James Musinga, Senior Specialist, World Bank
Usha Kiran Trigopula, Deputy Director, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Chair: Shobha Shetty, Practice Manager, Africa Region, World Bank

11:30 -12:00 PM: Closing Remarks and Way Forward

Vinay Vutukuru, World Bank
Anjani Kumar Singh, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
Tauhidur Rahman, University of Arizona

