

# Foresight for sustainable food systems

## ACIAR SDIP

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# Outline

- Overview of the ACIAR SDIP program
- Where the Foresight work fits
- Workshop objectives
- Workshop structure
- Key contacts







# Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio (SDIP)

*A major Australian program to support regional partners in South Asia to improve food, energy and water security to support climate resilient livelihoods and economic growth, benefiting the poor and vulnerable, particularly women and girls*

- Strengthened mechanisms for regional collaboration
- Critical knowledge generated and used
- Improved enabling environment

# Sustainable Development Investment Portfolio

- Diverse program funded by DFAT with seven Australian and regional partners working on different aspects of water – energy – food systems
  - ACIAR, CSIRO, ICEWaRM, ICIMOD, SAWI, IFC, TAF
- Phase 1 2012 - 2015; **Phase 2 2016 - 2020**; *Phase 3 2021 - 2024*
- ACIAR SDIP focuses on food in the context of the food – energy – water nexus in the Eastern Gangetic Plains

# ACIAR's contribution to SDIP

*Maximising agriculture's contributions to sustainable food systems for improved food, energy and water management*

- **Phase 1** - Sustainable and Resilient Farming Systems Intensification project (SRFSI)
  - Conservation agriculture-based sustainable intensification
  - Focused on testing practices at the farm and community level, followed by scaling of relevant technologies
- **Phase 2** - more broadly based work on understanding the opportunities and constraints for sustainable food systems



# ACIAR SDIP Component structure

## Component 1: Coordination, Systems Analysis, Synthesis and Communications

### Component 2: Regional Food Systems Foresight and Dialogue

- Status and synthesis of food systems
- Capacity development
- Scenario analysis
- Policy engagement through regional programs and forums

### Component 3: Policy and Institutional Innovation

- Identifying, measuring and promoting effective institutions
- Building institutional capacity for strategic planning
- SRFSI scaling - aligning with national and state programs

### Component 4: Field Scale Innovation

- SRFSI scaling - improving technical capacity, tracking adoption
- Identifying soil constraints in the EGP
- Landscape targeting of soil and weed dynamics

### Component 5: Analytical Studies

- Improving access to mechanisation through value chains, institutional arrangements and strategic planning
- Modelling the impacts of closing the yield gap
- Localised access to water resources
- The role of women in agriculture
- Political economy of the rice trade

Improved food, energy and water security for sustainable food systems

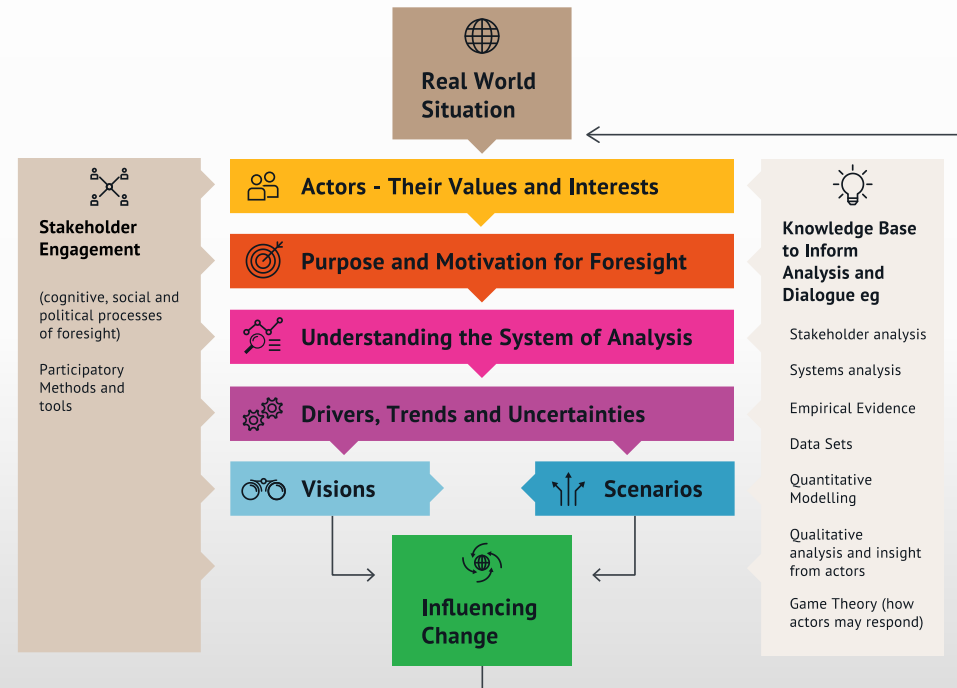


# Foresight component: Aims

1. To improve collaboration between key regional partners to strengthen understanding of longer term food systems changes, and the implications for food, water and energy security
2. To identify transformational opportunities for the food system, particularly in the context of gender and climate change
3. Act as an integrating component within ACIAR SDIP

# Workshop aims

- Exposure to Foresight approaches
- Build capacity to participate in Foresight work
- Contribute to planning for future work and investments within ACIAR SDIP
  - Regionally
  - Specific locations







# Workshop structure

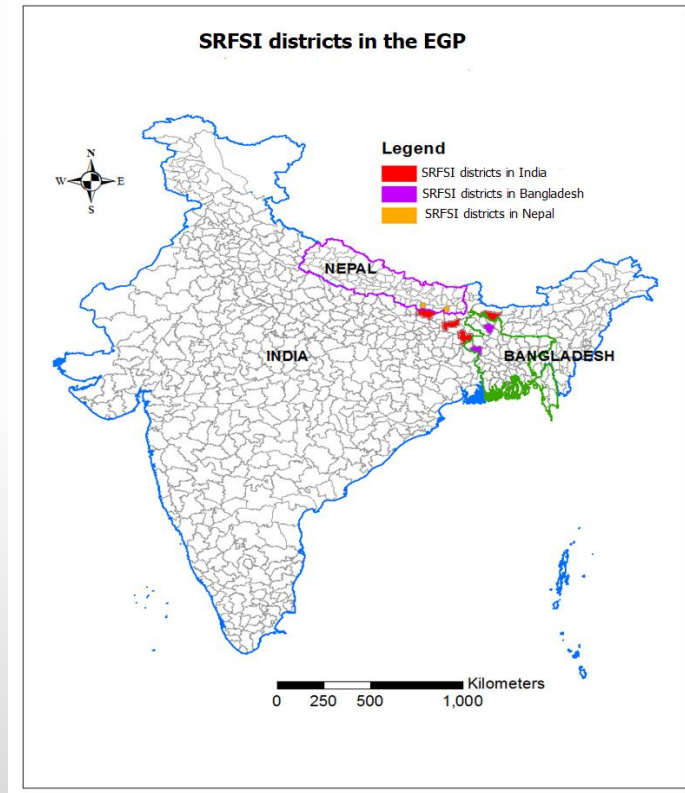
- **Day 1:** Introduction to foresight and food systems for the EGP
- **Day 2:** Modelling and data contributions to foresight and scenario analysis
- **Day 3:** Mapping the dynamics of food systems and emerging drivers, trends and uncertainties
- **Day 4:** Scenarios for food systems in the EGP, and taking foresight forward

# What do we hope for from this workshop?

- Be clear on how these approaches can be used in the region
- Build a community of practice to participate in future foresight work
- Prepare for future work within SDIP, provide funding support to do this at the local level –
  - Local level case studies in the next phase of ACIAR foresight in key locations
  - Identification of trends and information sources/gaps at the regional level
  - Contribute to planning for regional level science-policy dialogue in early 2020

# How do we draw it all together this week?

- Break into four location specific groups (Bangladesh, Bihar, Nepal, West Bengal) + 1 regional group
- Synthesise the activities as we go through the week
- Present the synthesis on Day 4, to the program Steering Committee
- Presentations should include:
  - Reflections on the workshop content and process
  - A synthesis of the activities undertaken during the workshop that summarises the narrative for the location
  - Consideration of what bigger picture foresight could involve in your location? What piece of this can SDIP support given limited time and resources?
  - Prioritise local level foresight activities to be supported by SDIP
  - How could foresight exercises be used to trigger and inform policy discussions?



# Key contacts & role in ACIAR SDIP Foresight work

- **Avinash Kishore – IFPRI South Asia**  
Coordination of regional Foresight work, with Madhav Karki (Nepal) and Jahangir Alam (Bangladesh)
- **Jim Woodhill – Advisor to the ACIAR SDIP Program**  
Oversight and mentoring of the Foresight process, and links to global initiatives
- **Kuhu Chatterjee – ACIAR SDIP Regional Coordinator**  
Support to the regional Foresight group
- **Tamara Jackson – ACIAR SDIP Program Manager**  
Ensure integration with other parts of the ACIAR SDIP program



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For Further Information

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