

INNOVATION LAB FOR ASSETS & MARKET ACCESS

Feed the Future Innovation Labs draw on the expertise of top U.S. colleges and universities in collaboration with developing country research and educational institutions to tackle some of the world's greatest challenges in agriculture, food security, and nutrition. Led by U.S. universities, the Feed the Future Innovation Labs are on the cutting edge of efforts to research, develop, and take to scale safe and effective technologies that address current and future challenges posed by a changing climate and the need to feed a growing global population.

Why Assets and Market Access?

A projected 702 million people still live in extreme poverty. Many live in rural areas and rely on agriculture for a living. Climate or market shocks can further drive them into a downward spiral, making dire circumstances even worse. Creating growth in the agriculture sector can spur economic development, since increasing food production not only creates more to eat but also allows for more to sell. By pioneering approaches to reduce risk, protect assets, and create new avenues for farmers to reach markets, the Assets & Market Access (AMA) Innovation Lab has been creating stability and opportunity in impoverished regions around the world.

Impact:

Since 2009, the AMA Innovation Lab has been identifying and supporting agricultural economic research and promoting those projects that empower the vulnerable to rise up out of poverty. Our broad portfolio of projects has shown that index-based insurance packages, flexible savings and credit programs, and temporary input subsidies are all adding significant value to the lives of smallholder farmers and pastoralists.

Focus Activities:

Through a pioneering toolbox of financial, behavioral, and informational innovations, our lab strives to better understand the roadblocks that stop farmers from adopting new technologies and works to design interventions to close yield gaps, increase productivity and secure more sustainable livelihoods. The AMA Innovation Lab's policy-relevant research on how market function and access affects asset accumulation and the competitiveness and the capacity of smallholder farmers and the rural poor to manage economic and climate-related shocks is making real-world impact.

To Learn More:

Visit our website to read more about the impact of our projects, such as Index-based Livestock Insurance in Kenya and Ethiopia, and our work on Temporary Input Subsidies in Mozambique.



Photo: Nick Magrann

In Nepal, as well as in many other developing countries, the AMA Innovation Lab is working on ground-breaking agriculture economic research structure to understand the role risk plays in keeping people poor, and how to mitigate that risk.



B A S I S

**Collaborating across borders to
strengthen small-scale farmer access to
markets & assets**

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Focus countries: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Mexico, Nepal, Tanzania, Senegal, and Uganda

Award: \$40,000,000- 5 years

Led by UC Davis since: 2012

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