

# INTEGRATING GENDER & NUTRITION WITHIN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SYSTEMS (INGENAES)

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 Gender and Nutrition?

Globally, women make up approximately 43 percent of the agricultural labor force and typically carry a heavier burden than men, having both field and household duties. Women are often primarily responsible for weeding, harvest, food preparation, child-rearing, and collecting fuel and water (Sofa Team and Doss, 2011). Despite these extensive roles, most developing country extension systems (extension consisting of public, private and non-profit organizations) do not sufficiently address the needs of female farmers or rural workers. Further, while advances have been made in many areas of development, 70% of the world's poor live in rural areas and nutritional problems, such as wasting and Vitamin A deficiency, remain very high.

## Impact:

With the vision to empower women to contribute to household incomes, increase productivity and reduce gender gaps in agriculture, and improve nutrition outcomes for farming families, INGENAES team members work with USAID missions, civil society and farmer organizations, and private sector service providers in Feed the Future countries. We work through action-oriented training, learning exchanges, and mentoring programs to promote gender-transformative agricultural development and nutrition sensitive agricultural practices.

## Focus Activities:

INGENAES assists partners in Feed the Future countries by helping to build more robust, gender-responsive, and nutrition-sensitive Extension Advisory Services capable of assessing and responding to the needs of both men and women farmers.



**INGENAES**  
Integrating Gender and Nutrition  
within Agricultural Extension Services

## Improving livelihoods through agricultural extension services

**Director:** Dr. Paul McNamara, UIUC

**Focus countries:** Bangladesh, Zambia, Nepal, Honduras, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Uganda, and Tajikistan.

**Award:** \$7,000,000- 4 years

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