



CGIAR Nutrition Impact Platform

Annual Technical Report 2024

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The Artificial Intelligence (AI) software ChatGPT was used to support the editing of parts of this report, specifically to improve clarity, grammar, and style. ChatGPT was not used to generate the content of the report. All edits made with AI assistance were reviewed and validated by the authors to ensure accuracy, coherence, and alignment with the original intent.

Acknowledgements

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CGIAR Technical Reporting has been developed in alignment with <u>CGIAR's Technical Reporting Arrangement</u>. This annual report ("Type 1" Report) constitutes part of the broader CGIAR Technical Report. Each CGIAR Research Initiative/Impact Platform/Science Group Project (SGP) submits an annual "Type 1" Report, which provides assurance on progress towards end of Initiative/Impact Platform/SGP outcomes.

As 2024 marks the final year of this CGIAR Portfolio and the 2022-24 business cycle, this Type 1 Report takes a dual approach to its analysis and reporting. Alongside highlighting key achievements for 2024, the report also provides a cumulative overview of the 2022-24 business cycle, where relevant. This perspective captures the evolution of efforts over the three-year period. By presenting both annual and multi-year insights, the report underscores the cumulative impact of CGIAR's work and sets the stage for the transition to the 2025-30 Portfolio.

The 2024 CGIAR Technical Report comprises:

- Type 1 Initiative, Impact Platform, and SGP Reports: These annual reports present progress towards end of Initiative/Impact Platform/SGP outcomes and provide quality-assured results accessible via the CGIAR Results Dashboard.
- **Type 3 CGIAR Portfolio Practice Change Report:** This report provides insights into CGIAR's progress in Performance Management and Project Coordination.
- **Portfolio Narrative:** Drawing on the Type 1 and Type 3 reports, as well as data from the CGIAR Results Dashboard, the Portfolio Narrative synthesizes insights to provide an overall view of Portfolio coherence. It highlights synergies, partnerships, country and regional engagement, and collective progress.
- Type 2 CGIAR Contributions to Impact in Agrifood Systems: evidence and learnings from 2022 to 2024: This report offers a high-level summary of CGIAR's contributions to its impact targets and Science Group outcomes, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), for the three-year business cycle.

The Portfolio Narrative informs the 2024 CGIAR Annual Report – a comprehensive summary of the organization's collective achievements, impacts, and strategic outlook.

Elements of the Type 2 report are integrated into the <u>CGIAR Flagship Report</u>, released in April 2025 at <u>CGIAR Science Week</u>. The Flagship Report synthesizes CGIAR research in an accessible format designed specifically to provide policy- and decision-makers at national, regional, and global levels with the evidence they require to formulate, develop, and negotiate evidence-based policies and investments.

The diagram below illustrates these relationships.

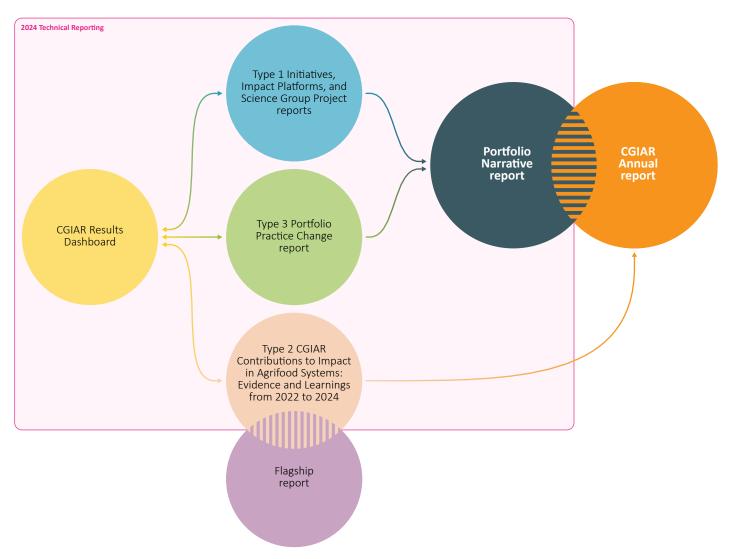


Figure 1. CGIAR's 2024 Technical Reporting components and their integration with other CGIAR reporting products.

Section 1: Fact sheet, executive summary and budget

| Impact Platform name | Nutrition, Health and Food Security Impact Area Platform |
|----------------------|--|
| Short name | Nutrition Impact Platform |
| Director | Shakuntala Haraksingh Thilsted |
| Start – end date | 01 January 2023 – 31 December 2024 |
| Links to source | 14th CGIAR System Council Meeting- CGIAR |
| documents / website | https://www.cgiar.org/research/cgiar-portfolio/nutrition-health-food-security/ |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The CGIAR Nutrition Impact Platform was established on 1 January 2023 to advance CGIAR's mission and its 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy. Its primary goal was to maximize contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by driving measurable improvements in food and nutrition security and health globally, particularly in the six target geographies. Alongside four other Impact Platforms, the Nutrition Impact Platform played a key role in fostering critical global discussions, strengthening CGIAR's internal capacity, advising CGIAR's Initiatives, and elevating CGIAR's external influence and voice through strategic engagements.

Guided by a practical theory of change, the Platform focused on four core functions to help end hunger, promote affordable diets for three billion people, and reduce foodborne illnesses and zoonotic diseases by one-third. Its cross-cutting efforts included enhancing research, scaling innovations, forging strategic partnerships, advocating for policy transformation, integrating evidence-based science into decision-making, and providing management support across the CGIAR Portfolio.

In 2023, the Platform amplified CGIAR's visibility in major global events, including the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment, Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy Week, the Africa Food Systems Forum, the Micronutrient Forum Global Conference, the Borlaug Dialogue, and COP28. It also convened its first Community of Practice (CoP), uniting regional experts and researchers to foster collaboration on food and nutrition security. Strengthening partnerships remained a priority, with alliances formed with organizations such as the Food and Land Use Coalition (FOLU), EIT Food and the Netherlands Food Partnership (NFP) to advance food, land and water systems transformation.

Building on this momentum, in 2024, the Platform further enhanced CGIAR's presence at key international forums, including the UN General Assembly, New York Climate Week, the World Agrifood Innovation Forum (WAFI), Future Food Asia, 52nd Plenary Session of the Committee on World Food Security, the G20, the 16th Biodiversity CoP, the Borlaug Dialogue Week of Events, and the UN Climate Change Conference (COP29) in Baku, Azerbaijan. While primarily focused on food systems and nutrition security, these engagements also highlighted critical intersections with gender and social inclusion, climate change, livelihoods and biodiversity.

Beyond event participation, the Platform contributed to shaping global agendas through impactful publications. In 2023, the Platform Director published an op-ed on the importance of dietary diversity, a theme revisited in 2024 with a focus on biodiversity. The year concluded with a joint publication by the Platform Director and Manager on the role of aquatic foods in nutrition, setting the stage for discussions leading to the 2025 Nutrition for Growth (N4G) Summit.

Capacity building remained central to the Platform's mandate. It provided travel bursaries and learning opportunities, enabling individuals to engage in key global dialogues. Additionally, the Platform supported three CGIAR Centers in producing and disseminating videos showcasing their innovations and initiated a South-South learning and collaboration group to strengthen ties between universities and CGIAR Centers.

As the CGIAR 2022-2024 Portfolio concluded, the Platform left a lasting impact on nutrition, health and food security. The momentum it generated is expected to be carried forward by the Better Diets and Nutrition Science Program, ensuring continued progress toward CGIAR's SDG commitments with stronger, more strategic engagements.

| | 2023 | 2024 |
|--------------------------------|---------|----------------------|
| APPROVED BUDGET ¹ > | \$0.78M | \$1.12M ² |

¹ The approved budget amounts correspond to the figures available for public access through the <u>Financing Plan dashboard</u>. ² This amount includes carry-over and commitments.

A young farmer harvests fresh vegetables in Himachal Pradesh, India. Credit: Neil Palmer, CIAT

O

Impact Platform-level theory of change diagram

This is a simple, linear, and static representation of a complex, non-linear, and dynamic reality. Feedback loops and connections between this Platform and other Initiatives and Impact Platforms' theories of change are excluded for clarity.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

CGIAR's work has achieved tremendous impact on the nutrition, health, and food security of poor people over the years, but potential remains to increase this impact. The Nutrition Impact Platform applies a cross-cutting approach to achieve impact, bringing together expertise in research, scaling, innovation, partnerships, capacity development, policy engagement, and other systems from across CGIAR and partners to align, amplify, and advise leadership on investments, innovation development, and agenda setting to support transformation across food, land, and water systems.

SPHERE OF CONTROL

KEY FUNCTIONS

UNCTION 1

Convene a community of practice (CoP).

KEY FUNCTION 2

Deepen capacities of CGIAR and close partners.

(EY FUNCTION

Amplifying CGIAR's external profile and pathways to impacts.

Key FUNCTION

Advise portfolio-level management and strategy.

HT ACALAN

Farmer's market with fresh fruits and vegetables in Kampala, Ugand Credit: MehmetO/Shutterstock

SPHERE OF INFLUENCE

PRIMARY OUTCOMES

PRIMARY OUTCOME 1

Functional CoPs influence CGIAR research 1 themes, perspectives, advocacy and thought leadership.

Capacities and capabilities of CGIAR science 2 🕨 leadership and partners to adopt, adapt and integrate nutrition-sensitive food systems research methods, innovations and solutions in the areas of nutrition, health and food security.

Strategic scientific synthesis and analysis of 3 Þ research gaps to articulate, advocate, and influence agenda in the areas of nutrition, health and food security.

PRIMARY OUTCOME 4

Systems and structures to influence, inform and support effective portfolio 4 management and performance for the CGIAR Impact Areas.

ACTION AREA OUTCOMES

- 1 · CGIAR partners develop and scale innovations that 1 contribute to the empowerment of women and other 3
 - social groups in food, land, and water systems.

- 2 Research institutions, government analytical units, and scaling partners in the Global South have improved
- 3 knowledge, skills, access to data, capacity to develop tools, innovations, and undertake research to support transformation of food, land and water systems contributing to livelihood, inclusion, nutrition,
 - environmental and climate objectives.

RESILIENT AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS

3 · National and local multi-stakeholder platforms are

-)))||

1 2 3 4 strengthened to become more effective and sustainable, addressing development trade-offs and generating strategies for effective food, land, and water systems transformation.

SPHERE OF INTEREST

IMPACT AREAS

NUTRITION, HEALTH & FOOD SECURITY

1 | 2 | 3 | · End hunger for all and enable affordable health diets for the 3 billion people who do not currently have access to safe and nutritious food.

• Reduce cases of foodborne illness (600 million annually) and zoonotic disease (1 billion annually) by one third.





Summary of progress against the theory of change

Building on the momentum generated in 2023, 2024 was a year of action, implementation and engagement for the Nutrition Impact Platform at national, regional and international levels. The inclusion and participation of the Platform in conversations, panels and discussions indicated the recognition and significance of CGIAR's contribution to delivering positive impacts in the areas of food and nutrition security and health. The Platform, guided by the Platform Director and Platform Manager, and supported by the CoP, went on full force, with a wide range of activities implemented to achieve the goals and objectives of the Nutrition Impact Platform, as outlined in its theory of change (TOC).

All activities of the Platform were guided by the four key functions described in the Systems Council document, and as reflected in

the functional TOC. These four functions also guide the Nutrition Impact Platform's delivery in the four interlinked functions outlined in CGIAR's 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy, namely: i) foster global critical thinking, use of evidence, and appropriate metrics around the Impact Area; ii) raise internal capacity across the Science Groups through strengthening and sharing common tools, standards, data sets, cutting-edge science and knowledge management; iii) advise management on the identification and performance management of CGIAR Initiatives; and iv) amplify CGIAR's external profile and voice by engaging in and shaping global policy discourse, and by leading external communications plans to influence well beyond agriculture and food sectors.

KEY FUNCTION 1: CONVENE A COMMUNITY OF RACTICE (COP)

The Nutrition Impact Platform leveraged the established CoP for stronger and more impactful CGIAR delivery at a regional level. While we believe that a smaller, targeted, functional CoP will be better positioned to streamline research priorities, methods, and impacts, it also created shared opportunities and partnerships for creating impact at regional and national levels. The first CoP, for Southeast Asia and the Pacific region was convened in October 2023, while the Africa-focused CoP was intended for July 2024, in conjunction with the inaugural CGIAR Science Week. However, that did not materialize due to the postponement of the Science Week to 2025. Despite that, the Platform also supported existing CoPs, namely the ANH Academy CoP and the Poshan CoP for South India and built on these networks and collaboration to disseminate information, share capacities and frame global agendas. These convening demonstrated the importance of adopting multi-stakeholder nutrition-sensitive food systems approaches in developing interventions; and the formation of cross-Center and Initiative communication platforms to share information, knowledge resources and investment opportunities for creating impact at scale.

KEY FUNCTION 2: DEEPEN CAPACITIES OF CGIAR AND PARTNERS

The Platform continued to invest in developing capacities of CGIAR researchers and partners, especially in the areas of food and nutrition security, food systems transformation, nutrition-sensitive food systems approaches, and health. Like 2023, the Platform continued to sponsor deserving individuals, both within and outside of CGIAR, to participate in high-level global events such as CGIAR Science Week, the COP 29, the Borlaug Dialogue Week of Events, and the Delivering for Nutrition in South Asia 2024 Conference. While the Platform does not have a complete breakdown of the individuals that were supported, specific mandates were issued to conference organizers and partners for the support to benefit early career researchers, women and youth. The Nutrition Impact Platform also supported the Netherlands-CGIAR Partnership (NL-CGIAR) Phase II, with one researcher with significant work in the Horn of Africa applying as the Platform cohort via the <u>Senior Experts Programme (SEP)</u>.

KEY FUNCTION 3: AMPLIFYING CGIAR'S EXTERNAL PROFILE AND PATHWAYS TO IMPACT

The Nutrition Impact Platform's role in amplifying CGIAR research and innovations in food systems transformation events continued through 2024. The Platform, through the engagement of the Platform Director or the Platform Manager, had a significant impact in global events, including the Montpellier Global Days 2024 at the 14th Global Summit of National Ethics Committees; the 21st International Institute of Fisheries Economics and Trade (IIFET) Conference; the Future Food Asia 2024 Conference; the 52nd Plenary Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS 52); the World Agri-Food Innovation (WAFI) Conference 2024; the Borlaug Dialogue 2024; New York Climate Week and many more. The Platform also represent CGIAR at three important platforms, namely the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), the UN Nutrition Steering Committee, and as observer at the <u>UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's Scientific Advisory Committee</u>. While the mode of participation in these various high-level events, conferences, dialogues, and forum differ, the message from the Nutrition Impact Platform remains the same: holistic, nutrition-sensitive food systems transformation towards diverse, equitable and sustainable diets are needed to end hunger for more than 3 billion in the world by 2030.

KEY FUNCTION 4: ADVISE PORTFOLIO-LEVEL MANAGEMENT AND STRATEGY

In 2023, the Nutrition Impact Platform was deeply engaged with several CGIAR Initiatives, namely, the CGIAR Research Initiatives on Asian Mega-Deltas (AMD), Sustainable Healthy Diets (SHiFT), Fruits and Vegetables (FRESH) and Resilient Cities, to better integrate nutrition-sensitive food systems approaches into solutions and innovations. Similar collaboration continued in 2024, culminating in a workshop jointly hosted by the Platform and the CGIAR Initiatives on Aquatic Foods and AMD in November 2024 in Penang. The Platform was also invited to the International Potato Center (CIP) headquarters in Lima, Peru, the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) headquarters in Texcoco, Mexico, and the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) headquarters in Los Banos, Philippines, to provide inputs to strengthen their delivery on the Nutrition, Health and Food Security Impact Area. The Platform was also deeply involved in the development of the new CGIAR Research Portfolio 2025-2030, especially in the Better Diets and Nutrition Science Program, and had supported efforts to convene and co-develop the proposal with the writing team.

Section 3: Key function progress

Key Function 1: Convene a community of practice (CoP)

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

To bring together CGIAR communities and close partners relevant to the Impact Area, facilitate information exchange, enhance coordination, and foster collaboration toward outcomes and impacts.

| OUTPUTS | OUTCOMES |
|--|--|
| Systems and structures for engagement with functional community(ies) of practice, working groups and themes. | Community(ies) of Practice actively engage and collaborate with CGIAR community(ies) and partners. |
| 2 • Multi-platform communication approaches to disseminate information and knowledge products. | |
| 3 · Capacities of CoPs (internal and external) to engage in advocacy and influence agende shaping. | |

END-OF-INITIATIVE OUTCOME 1

 Functional CoPs influence CGIAR research themes, perspectives, advocacy and thought leadership.

Through Function 1, the Platform aimed to i) establish systems for engagement with CoPs, working groups and thematic areas; ii) use multi-platform approaches for knowledge dissemination; and iii) strengthen CoP capacities for advocacy and agenda shaping. These efforts fostered active collaboration between CGIAR communities and partners.

In 2023, the Platform convened its first CoP for CGIAR researchers in Southeast Asia and the Pacific at WorldFish, Penang. This two-day event brought together researchers from five CGIAR entities (the Alliance of Bioversity International and CIAT [ABC], CIP, HarvestPlus, the International Food Policy Research Institute [IFPRI], and WorldFish) to discuss regional research priorities and pathways. In 2024, the CoP expanded with the inclusion of researchers from IRRI and the Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF). A convening was planned for in Kenya alongside the inaugural CGIAR Science Week to engage with gender and social inclusion researchers but was postponed to 2025.

Beyond establishing new CoPs, the Platform reconnected with existing ones. In 2023, it engaged with the ANH Academy and POSHAN (a South Asia CoP previously established under the CGIAR Research Program on Agriculture for Nutrition and Health). This collaboration extended into 2024. The Platform also committed sponsorship to ANH Academy's 2025 Academy Week in Tanzania, recognizing its partnership with CGIAR in advancing impact-driven research. The Platform contributed to global discussions through strategic publications. In 2023, it collaborated with Dr Ismahane Elouafi (then chief scientist to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO]) on an op-ed in The Telegraph about <u>dietary diversity</u>, published for World Food Day. In 2024, it released two op-eds shaping global discourse: one by Shakuntala Thilsted (Nutrition Impact Platform Director) and Cargele Masso (Biodiversity Impact Platform Director) on <u>diet-agrobiodiversity synergies post-Biodiversity COP</u> in Cali, Colombia, and another by Thilsted and Ben Wismen (Nutrition Impact Platform Manager) on the <u>role of small</u> fish in nutrition, leading up to the Nutrition for Growth Summit (N4G 2025).

The Platform also leveraged CoP expertise to produce two videos on the EAT-Lancet Planetary Health Diet, anticipating the EAT-Lancet 2.0 diet in 2025:

- 1. Experts' reaction to EAT-Lancet's Planetary Health Diet
- 2. The Planetary Health Diet: What to eat?

These initiatives underscored the Platform's commitment to fostering collaboration, knowledge sharing and impactful advocacy within CGIAR and beyond through a functional CoP system.

Key Function 2: Deepen capacities of CGIAR and partners

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

To support the science leadership by providing guidance to staff and projects, helping to identify and fill key skills gaps internally or through partnerships, advancing the use of good research methods, and informing resource mobilization efforts.

| FUNCTION 2 | |
|--|--|
| OUTPUTS | Outcomes |
| 4 Capacity built for awareness, understanding and readiness to implement nutrition-sensitive food systems solutions. | Capacity built among CGIAR scientists, partners and stakeholders. |
| 5 • Global standards and interactive tools to build capacities to create impactful outputs and outreach. | |
| 6 • Foster and broker knowledge across CGIAR and partner networks. | |

END-OF-INITIATIVE OUTCOME 2

2 Capacities and capabilities of CGIAR science leadership and partners to adopt, adapt and integrate nutrition-sensitive food systems research methods, innovations and solutions in the areas of nutrition, health and food security.

Through Function 2, the Platform aimed to i) build capacity for implementing nutrition-sensitive food systems solutions; ii) develop global standards and interactive tools for impactful outreach; and iii) foster and broker knowledge across CGIAR and partner networks. These efforts strengthened CGIAR science leadership and partners in integrating nutrition-sensitive food systems research in the areas of nutrition, health and food security.

The Platform invested significantly in capacity building for CGIAR staff and external partners. In 2023, it provided travel bursaries for 19 individuals including 13 youth and eight women. This sponsorship continued in 2024, supporting key events such as CGIAR Science Week, IIFET 2024, the Borlaug Dialogue, the Delivering for Nutrition Conference in South Asia 2024 and COP29. While exact breakdowns were unavailable, mandates ensured these funds prioritized early-career researchers, particularly women, and those from low- and middle-income countries.

In 2023, the Platform contributed to discussions for the NL-CGIAR Partnership 2, leading to the establishment of a <u>senior experts</u> <u>program (NL-SEP)</u>. In 2024, it supported the successful submission for an expert working in the Horn of Africa, set for implementation in 2025 under CGIAR's new Research Portfolio.

Additionally, in 2024, the Platform launched a small grant initiative to enhance Center capacity in developing and disseminating videos on

nutrition-sensitive food systems innovation. CIP, IRRI and WorldFish received grants and produced the following:

- 1. CIP's Integrating nutritious crops into community nutrition programs in northern Ghana
- 2. IRRI's Instant rice semolina upma mix: Quick, authentic and nutritious breakfast
- 3. WorldFish's <u>Fish-powered progress: The unsung hero of food</u> systems transformation

The Platform also convened a group of researchers to explore opportunities to build on South-South collaboration for capacity sharing. The group, comprising faculty members from the University of Sokoine, the University of Zambia, the University of the West Indies, the University of Copenhagen, Stockholm Agricultural University and WorldFish came together for two days in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to explore partnerships, collaboration, and long-term student and mentorship programs that can be put in place to grow capacity in global food systems transformation.

These initiatives underscored the Platform's commitment to building capacity and expertise, fostering innovation, and advancing nutrition-sensitive food systems across CGIAR and its global network.

Key Function 3: Amplifying CGIAR's external profile and pathways to impact

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

To support partnerships and advocacy leadership by coordinating CGIAR's voice and influence on specific topics related to the Impact Area, as well as scientific synthesis, strategic analysis of opportunities for advocacy and influence, and active outreach with partners, especially in the policy arena.

| | | 3 |
|--|--|---|
| OUTPUTS | OUTCOMES | |
| 7 • Strategic advocacy, outreach and engagement for global agenda setting. 8 • High-level engagement and advocacy opportunities to disseminate and magnify CGIAR evidence, innovations and solutions. | 7 3 • CGIAR evidence-based innovations and solutions visible within the areas of nutrition, health and food security, supporting and influencing pathways to impact. | |

END-OF-INITIATIVE OUTCOME 3

 Strategic scientific synthesis and analysis of research gaps to articulate, advocate, and influence agenda in the areas of nutrition, health and food security.

Through Function 3, the Platform aimed to i) drive strategic advocacy, outreach and engagement for global agenda setting; and ii) participate in high-level advocacy to amplify CGIAR evidence, innovations and solutions. These efforts enhanced CGIAR's visibility in nutrition, health, and food security, shaping impactful policies and programs.

In 2023, the Platform expanded its advocacy footprint at key global events from the UN Food Systems Summit +2 Stocktaking Moment in Rome, to COP28 in Dubai, emphasizing the need for holistic food systems transformation to ensure equitable, sustainable healthy diets.

In 2024, the Platform further shaped key agendas in major forums including the Montpellier Global Days 2024, and delivered impactful keynotes at the Our Ocean Conference, DialogueNEXT, the 14th Global Summit of National Ethics Committees, the Future Food Asia Conference, IIFET 2024, the Africa Food Systems Forum, and the Delivering for Nutrition in South Asia Conference 2024.

The Platform reinforced nutrition-sensitive food systems approaches at high-profile plenaries such as the UN Ocean Decade Conference, DialogueNEXT Mexico, New York Climate Week, the UN General Assembly, the World Agrifood Innovation Forum (WAFI 2024) and the 52nd Committee on World Food Security (CFS 52).

Advocacy efforts were further strengthened through strategic partnerships and co-hosted events including a nutrition-focused session at WAFI 2024, a joint side event with the GENDER Impact Platform at CFS 52, and two side events at the World Food Prize and Borlaug Dialogue Week of Events. The Platform also co-hosted two sessions at COP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan.

Additionally, the Platform continued representing CGIAR at the UN Nutrition Steering Committee, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS), and as an observer at the UN Food Systems Coordination Hub's Scientific Advisory Committee.

These initiatives reinforced the Platform's commitment to amplifying CGIAR research and innovation in high-level advocacy channels and making impactful changes in global food systems transformation.

Key Function 4: Advise portfolio-level management and strategy

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

To inform managerial decisions on prioritization, design, and implementation of the portfolio to maximize impact, support performance measurement and management, and participate in the portfolio management team.

| FUNCTION 4 | |
|--|---|
| OUTPUTS | Outcomes |
| 9 • Systems and structures to analyse gaps, trade-offs and synergies. 10 • Evidence-based results and indicators to inform CGIAR portfolio. | 9 4 • Robust scientific evidence for informing 10 portfolio development action. |
| 11 • Strategic directions by high-level panel of experts to influence portfolio management. | |

END-OF-INITIATIVE OUTCOME 4

4 ► Systems and structures to influence, inform and support effective portfolio management and performance for the CGIAR Impact Areas.

The Platform aimed to i) develop systems and structures to analyse gaps, trade-offs and synergies; ii) generate evidence-based insights and indicators to guide the CGIAR Portfolio; and iii) provide strategic direction through a high-level panel of experts to influence Portfolio management. By delivering robust scientific evidence, the Platform enhanced Portfolio development performance across CGIAR's Impact Areas.

In 2023, the Platform collaborated with the CGIAR Research Initiatives on Sustainable Healthy Diets (SHiFT) and Fruits and Vegetables (FRESH) to further strengthen research impact on nutrition, health, and food security. It also engaged with the AMD Initiative to expand its reach and effectiveness. In 2024, the Platform collaborated with the CGIAR Research Initiatives on Aquatic Foods and AMD to deliver a workshop on shaping a research agenda centered on aquatic food systems for CGIAR's new Research Portfolio. Additionally, the Platform facilitated the adoption of the OECD Nutrition Marker into the CGIAR Research Portfolio 2022-2024, enabling Initiatives to report progress against the Nutrition, Health and Food Security Impact Area.

In 2024, the Platform was invited by CIP, CIMMYT, and IRRI to contribute to discussions on integrating food and nutrition security into their research strategies, programs and implementation pathways. These engagements underscored CGIAR's commitment to advancing nutrition, health and food security.

The Platform also played a key role in shaping the CGIAR Research Portfolio 2025-2030, particularly the Better Diets and Nutrition Science Program. Its integration into this Program strengthens CGIAR's strategic approach to food and nutrition security, ensuring a more cohesive narrative and impactful research agenda.



Key function progress rating summary

management and strategy

| KEY | FUNCTION | PROGRESS RATING & RATIONALE |
|-----|--|--|
| 1 | Convene a community of practice (CoP) | On track Collective progress largely aligns with the Plan of Results and Budget. Functional CoPs have been established and leveraged upon to deliver impacts. |
| 2 | Deepen capacities of CGIAR and partners | On track Collective progress largely aligns with the Plan of Results and Budget. Actions were put in place to deepen the capacity of CGIAR staff and partners. |
| 3 | Amplifying CGIAR's external profile and pathways to impact | On trace Collective progress largely aligns with the Plan of Results and Budget. Investments were made to ensure that CGIAR was represented and influencing the agenda in key global events. |
| 4 | Advise portfolio-level | On track |

Collective progress largely aligns with Plan of Results and Budget. Investments were made to inform the development of the new CGIAR Research Portfolio 2025-2030.

On track

- Progress largely aligns with Plan of Results and Budget.
- Can include small deviations/issues/ delays/risks that do not jeopardize success of the key function.

Definitions



- Progress slightly falls behind Plan of Results and Budget in key areas.
- Deviations/issues/delays/risks could jeopardize success of the key function if not managed appropriately.



- Progress clearly falls behind Plan of Results and Budget in most/all areas.
- Deviations/issues/delays/risks do jeopardize success of the key function.

Section 4: Quantitative overview of key results

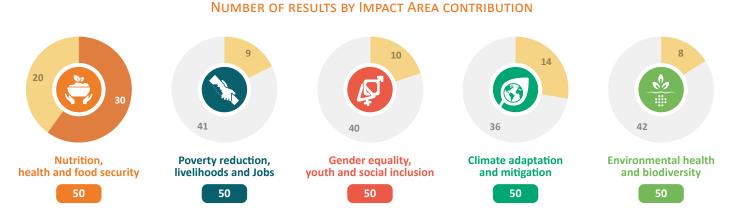
This section provides an overview of results reported and contributed to, by the CGIAR Initiative on Nutrition Impact Platform from 2023 to 2024. These results align with the <u>CGIAR Results Framework</u> and Nutrition Impact Platform's theory of change. Further information on these results is available through the <u>CGIAR Results Dashboard</u>.

The data used to create the graphics in this section were sourced from the CGIAR Results Dashboard on 04 April 2025. These results are accurate as of this date and may differ from information in previous Technical Reports. Such differences may be due to data updates throughout the reporting year, revisions to previously reported results, or updates to the theory of change.

OVERVIEW OF RESULTS BY CATEGORY



A notable amount of outputs are categorized as "Other outputs" and include the advocacy and engagement functions of the Platform. In 2024, the Nutrition Impact Platform delivered 29 impactful results, with five knowledge products informing evidence-based advocacy at the global level.



• 2 = Principal: Contributing to one or more aspects of the Impact Area is the principal objective of the result. The Impact Area is fundamental to the design of the activity leading to the result; the activity would not have been undertaken without this objective.

1 = Significant: The result directly contributes to one or more aspects of the Impact Area. However, contributing to the Impact Area is not the principal objective of the result.

• **0 = Not targeted:** The result has been screened against the Impact Area, but it has not been found to directly contribute to any aspect of the Impact Area as it is outlined in the <u>CGIAR 2030 Research and Innovation</u> strategy.

• Not applicable: Pertains to 2022 reported results when only information on Gender and Climate impact area tagging was available.

Intersections with other Impact Areas for both 2023 and 2024 demonstrate the importance of addressing nutrition and food security in relation to other areas.

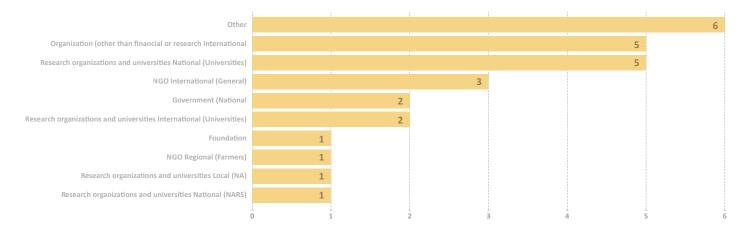


Colorful fish and vegetables can be purchased at the Ubud, Bali public market in the cultural heart of this fantastic Indonesian islana Credit: Edmund Lowe Photography/ Shutterstock

KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTS BY TYPE AND THEIR FAIR SCORES



PARTNER TYPOLOGIES CONTRIBUTING TO RESULTS



The Nutrition Impact Platform forged strong partnerships with various organizations within its two years of operation. Many of the results were co-developed and delivered through these partnerships, for stronger and sustainable impacts.



Nutrition and Gender Intersections in Urban Food Policy

CGIAR platforms convene global experts to embed nutrition and gender priorities into urban and peri-urban food systems policy at CFS52.



Primary Impact Area



Other relevant Impact Areas targeted



Contributing Initiative

CGIAR Nutrition Impact Platform $\,\cdot\,$ CGIAR GENDER Impact Platform

Contributing Centers

N/A

Contributing external partners

Geographic scope



Regions: Global

At the CFS52 High-Level Side Event, CGIAR's Nutrition and GENDER Impact Platforms brought together global leaders to spotlight the nutrition and gender intersections in rapidly urbanizing food systems. Contributions from Kenya, Egypt, Vietnam, and others helped shape discussions for future CFS guidelines. The session catalyzed critical debate on equity, food access, and urban planning, emphasizing the inclusion of women, children, and vulnerable groups in policy frameworks.

Urbanization is rapidly transforming food systems, reshaping how food is produced, distributed, and consumed across the globe. Today, more than 70 percent of the global population lives in urban and peri-urban areas—an irreversible trend that presents both challenges and opportunities. Yet, food-related policies often overlook critical issues such as gender disparities in access to nutritious food, caregiving burdens that fall disproportionately on women, and the unequal impacts of malnutrition in urban communities. The result is a growing urban food crisis: systems that are unsustainable, inequitable, and vulnerable to shocks, whether economic, environmental, or social.

Recognizing this urgency, the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE-FSN) released a landmark report calling for transformative governance in urban and peri-urban food systems. It outlines six key intervention clusters grounded in the right to food: creating systems that are equitable, just, productive, empowering, regenerative, and resilient. These clusters offer a roadmap for addressing structural inequalities while guiding investments and policies toward more sustainable and inclusive urban food futures.

Against this backdrop, CGIAR has taken a leading role in bringing urban food system challenges into global discourse. Through a high-level side event aligned with the 52nd Plenary Session of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS 52), CGIAR contributed to the discourse on developing new Voluntary Guidelines on Urban and Peri-Urban Food Systems. These guidelines are an important step in recognizing the unique dynamics of food in urban contexts and offer a much-needed framework to guide decision-makers at every level.

A central theme in CGIAR's contribution was the intersection of nutrition and gender—an often overlooked but critical aspect of urban food and nutrition security. Despite their central role in food provisioning and caregiving, women are frequently excluded from policy planning, and their specific nutritional needs remain underresearched. CGIAR has emphasized the need for more evidence and investment in this area, positioning nutrition and gender at the heart of its approach to urban food systems transformation. This commitment is reflected in CGIAR's ongoing research and programs, which prioritize context-specific, scalable solutions.

In Kenya, policies aimed at improving food safety had unintended consequences for women working in the informal milk sector. A regulation banning large liquid containers on local public transport effectively prevented women from transporting milk to markets, highlighting how formalized systems can disproportionately disadvantage women when their access to transport and market infrastructure is limited. In this case, what may seem like a neutral policy had a gendered impact that undermined livelihoods and access to nutritious food. In Egypt, CGIAR research on avian influenza revealed how gendered social norms and assumptions shaped both perceptions and food safety behaviors. Women were assumed to have deep knowledge of food quality, but many lacked information on disease identification. Moreover, while cultural narratives praised locally sourced fresh chicken, interviews showed women were purchasing frozen parts due to time constraints and cost—revealing a gap between perception and lived experience, with implications for nutrition and food safety.

Meanwhile, in Vietnam, factory settings became a focal point for research on how to improve diets for women workers. With limited time, low wages, and restricted food options, women in industrial jobs faced multiple barriers to healthy eating. CGIAR-supported programs explored how to provide better diets within these constraints, recognizing the structural challenges faced by urban working women.

The side event itself brought these issues to life. Featuring a keynote address, a panel of experts, and real-world examples from more than eight countries, it illustrated how global collaboration and evidence-based action can lead to meaningful change. Stakeholder engagement was strong, and the event's outcomes were positioned for the final CFS policy recommendations on urban and peri-urban food systems. As cities continue to grow and food systems become more complex, the need for responsive, inclusive governance has never been clearer. CGIAR and its network of partners are committed to advancing solutions that integrate gender, nutrition, and equity into the heart of urban food policy. The transformation is already underway—and with continued focus, research, and investment, it can help build a healthier, more just food future.

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Women, through gender equality, can be active part of the solution, but also how can we make sure women are empowered by food systems.

Nicoline de Haan, 2024



