

SNAPSHOT: FEED THE FUTURE INNOVATION LABS

Feed the Future, the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative, is pairing American ingenuity and expertise with some of the best and brightest minds across the globe through its 23 Feed the Future Innovation Labs. A unique network supported by over 50 top U.S. universities along with many partner country research and educational institutions, the Innovation Labs are on the cutting edge of efforts to research and develop effective technologies and innovations for scaling implementers to address current and future challenges posed by a changing climate and the need to feed a growing global population with safe and nutritious food. The Feed the Future Innovation Labs also provide short- and long-term training to support the sustainability of these efforts while training the next generation of scientists.

Below is a brief description of the 23 Feed the Future Innovation Labs, with lead university and individual contact information highlighted. For more information about the Feed the Future Innovation Labs, please contact clevin@usaid.gov.

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Applied Wheat Genomics

Lead University: **Kansas State University**

This Innovation Lab is developing heat-tolerant, high-yielding, and farmer accepted wheat varieties through local characterization and breeding networks, using the most advanced genomic tools.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, India, Nepal

Director: Jesse Poland, jpoland@ksu.edu · *Website:* www.k-state.edu/wheat-innovation-lab/

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Climate-Resilient Beans

Lead University: **The Pennsylvania State University**

This Innovation Lab is integrating new scientific technologies with traditional breeding approaches to develop heat- and drought-tolerant, high-yielding, farmer accepted bean varieties.

Research Focus: Colombia, Honduras, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia

Director: Jonathan Lynch, jpl4@psu.edu · *Website:* <http://plantscience.psu.edu/research/labs/roots/projects/usaid-crb>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Climate-Resilient Sorghum

Lead University: **University of Georgia**

This Innovation Lab is using new scientific tools to develop drought- and heat-tolerant varieties of sorghum, which builds climate resilience into sorghum production systems, while also exploring new approaches to production through the development of perennial sorghum.

Research Focus: Ethiopia, India, Kenya, Mali, South Africa

Director: Andrew Paterson, paterson@uga.edu · *Website:* <http://www.caes.uga.edu/global/feed-the-future-innovation-labs/climate-resilient-sorghum-innovation-lab.html>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Climate-Resilient Wheat

Lead University: **Washington State University**

This Innovation Lab is using conventional breeding approaches, improved breeding tools, and leveraging genomic resources to develop new wheat varieties that withstand heat stress in the Indo-Gangetic plains.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, India

Director: Kulvinder Gill, ksgill@wsu.edu · *Website:* <https://agrilinks.org/activities/climate-resilient-wheat-innovation-lab>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Crop Improvement

Lead University: **Cornell University**

This Innovation Lab serves as a support system for national, regional, and international agricultural research institutions in target regions to identify, develop, pilot, and transfer tools, technologies, and methods for crop improvement. Focus crops include roots, tubers, bananas, legumes, sorghum and millet.

Research Focus: Specific countries to be determined

Director: Stephen Kresovich, skresov@clemson.edu

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Fish

Lead University: **Mississippi State University**

This Innovation Lab is researching technologies and practices that lead to sustainable increases in fish production, reduction and mitigation of risks to fish production systems while increasing household nutrition and economic opportunities.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Kenya, Nigeria, Zambia

Director: Mark Lawrence, lawrence@cvm.msstate.edu · *Website:* <https://www.fishinnovationlab.msstate.edu>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Processing and Post-Harvest Handling

Lead University: **Purdue University**

This Innovation Lab is working to increase access to safe and nutritious foods along the value chain by improving the drying and storage capacity of smallholder farmers and expanding market opportunities through diversified processed products that address quality in the market and nutritional needs.

Research Focus: Kenya, Senegal

Director: Jacob Ricker-Gilbert, jrickerg@purdue.edu · *Website:* <https://ag.purdue.edu/ipia/fpl>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Safety

Lead University: **Purdue University**

This Innovation Lab aims to design, lead, and implement a food safety research and capacity building program that addresses food safety opportunities and challenges, serving as a resource for development partners converging on the role of food safety in inclusive economic growth, nutrition-sensitive agriculture, gender-sensitive and youth-inclusive development, and resilience.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Senegal

Director: Haley Oliver, hfoliver@purdue.edu

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy

Lead University: **Michigan State University**

This Innovation Lab is helping to establish policies conducive to market-led, smallholder-focused, inclusive agricultural growth, and a sustainable and inclusive agrifood system, by focusing on country, regional and global research, capacity building and support to donor food security policy work.

Research Focus: Burma, Ghana, Malawi, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Tanzania, Zambia, Venezuela, Africa Great Lakes and West Africa regions

Director: Mywish Maredia, maredia@msu.edu · *Website:* <http://fsg.afre.msu.edu/fsp/index.htm>

Feed the Future Food Innovation Lab for Food Security Policy Research, Capacity, and Influence

Lead University: **Michigan State University**

This Innovation Lab is building capacity of local agricultural policy research organizations to strengthen their capacity to carry out rigorous research on food security policy, contributing to a global research agenda, and to engage directly with their countries' policy makers, to bring insights from the research into better policy-making that improves food security.

Research Focus: Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia (specific countries to be determined)

Director: David Tschirley, tschirle@msu.edu · *Website:* <https://www.canr.msu.edu/prci/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Genomics to Improve Poultry

Lead University: **University of California, Davis**

This Innovation Lab is working to reduce limitations to chicken production by applying and developing advanced genetics and genomic approaches to enhance innate resistance to Newcastle disease and tolerance to heat stress in chickens in places where Newcastle disease and hot climates are prevalent.

Research Focus: Ghana, Tanzania

Director: Huaijun Zhou, hzhou@ucdavis.edu · *Website:* <http://gip.ucdavis.edu/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Integrated Pest Management

Lead University: **Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University**

This Innovation Lab is supporting improved, environmentally sustainable yields for smallholder farmers through the implementation of participatory, integrated pest management (IPM) programs in horticultural, grain and legume crops using centers of excellence for dissemination of best IPM practices and scalable solutions.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nepal, Tanzania, Vietnam

Director: Rangaswamy "Muni" Muniappan, rmuni@vt.edu · *Website:* <http://www.oired.vt.edu/ipmil/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Legume Systems Research

Lead University: **Michigan State University**

This Innovation Lab is fostering dynamic, profitable and environmentally sustainable systems for edible legumes (such as common bean, pigeon peas, and cowpeas - including black-eyed peas) while investigating crop production systems that utilize legume tree species for soil fertility.

Research Focus: Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal

Director: Barry Pittendrigh, pittendr@msu.edu · *Website:* <https://www.canr.msu.edu/legumelab/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems

Lead University: **University of Florida**

This Innovation Lab is working to improve livestock systems by addressing key issues of livestock value chains, including quality feed supply, disease management, food safety, market access and enabling policies that drive sustainable increases in animal source food consumption to combat undernutrition and poverty.

Research Focus: Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Uganda

Director: Adegbola Adesogan, adesogan@ufl.edu · *Website:* <http://livestocklab.ifas.ufl.edu/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Markets, Risk, and Resilience

Lead University: University of California, Davis

This Innovation Lab will study the root causes of persistent poverty and food insecurity, and how best to improve the resilience of individuals, households, communities, and systems, particularly in the face of recurrent crisis.

Research Focus: Specific countries to be determined

Director: Michael Carter, mrcarter@ucdavis.edu · *Website:* <https://basis.ucdavis.edu>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Nutrition

Lead University: **Tufts University**

This Innovation Lab is identifying ways that policy and program interventions, particularly those that involve agriculture, can most effectively achieve large-scale improvements for maternal and child nutrition.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, Egypt, Malawi, Mozambique, Nepal, Sierra Leone, Timor-Leste, Uganda

Director: Patrick Webb, patrick.webb@tufts.edu · *Website:* <http://www.nutritioninnovationlab.org/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Peanut

Lead University: **University of Georgia**

This Innovation Lab works to alleviate hunger by helping smallholder farmers grow and profit from healthy peanut crops which includes developing new varieties, pre-and post-harvest management and processing, and research areas focused on peanut-based nutrition, gender and youth.

Research Focus: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Haiti, Malawi, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Mozambique, Senegal, Uganda, Zambia

Director: Dave Hoisington, davehois@uga.edu · *Website:* <http://ftfpeanutlab.caes.uga.edu/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for the Reduction of Post-Harvest Loss

Lead University: **Kansas State University**

This Innovation Lab works to reduce post-harvest loss of stored product crops (grains, oilseeds, legumes, root crops, nuts, spices, seeds) and related processed products by enabling smallholder farmers, cooperatives, agribusinesses, NGOs and other partners to improve moisture measurement, drying/storage techniques, insect and mycotoxin prevention, and market-based value chain access.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Honduras, Nepal

Director: Jagger Harvey jjharvey@ksu.edu · *Website:* <http://www.k-state.edu/phl/>

www.feedthefuture.gov

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Rift Valley Fever Control in Agriculture

Lead University: **University of Texas, El Paso**

This Innovation Lab is developing a vaccine against Rift Valley Fever, a highly infectious and deadly cattle disease, and fine-tuning a novel, needle-free injection device to deliver the vaccine. The program is also designing a diagnostic test to help people differentiate between infected and vaccinated animals—information that is critical for exports and trade.

Research Focus: Tanzania

Director: Doug Watts, dwatts2@utep.edu · *Website:*

<http://research.utep.edu/Default.aspx?alias=research.utep.edu/riftvalleyfeverinnovationlab>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Small-Scale Irrigation

Lead University: **Texas A&M University**

This Innovation Lab aims to promote small-scale, gender-sensitive irrigation technologies that have the potential to benefit millions of farmers in sub-Saharan Africa by contributing to an increase in profitable and sustainable farming systems and promote nutrition and health outcomes.

Research Focus: Ethiopia, Ghana, Tanzania, Mali, West Africa

Director: Nicole Lefore, nichole.lefore@ag.tamu.edu · *Website:* <http://ilssi.tamu.edu/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Sorghum and Millet

Lead University: **Kansas State University**

This Innovation Lab is advancing biophysical and social sciences that contribute technologies and knowledge toward the enhancement of adaptation, resilience and profitability of sorghum- and millet-based production systems and value chains.

Research Focus: Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Haiti, Mali, Niger, Senegal

Director: Timothy Dalton, tdalton@ksu.edu · *Website:* <http://www.k-state.edu/smil/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Soybean Value Chain Research

Lead University: **University of Illinois**

This Innovation Lab focuses on African farmers and companies for whom soybean can serve as an economic driver that reduces poverty and hunger. The team is comprised of technical soybean experts that provide evidence-based innovations, tools, and technologies across the value chain to enable sustainable livelihoods through profitable soybean production and utilization.

Research Focus: Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Uganda, Zambia

Director: Peter Goldsmith, pgoldsmi@illinois.edu · *Website:* <http://soybeaninnovationlab.illinois.edu/>

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Sustainable Intensification

Lead University: **Kansas State University**

This Innovation Lab focuses on integrated farming systems research and technologies to sustainably increase agricultural productivity and income that provide food security and contribute to improved nutritional outcomes of smallholder farmers.

Research Focus: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Senegal, Tanzania

Director: Vara Prasad, vara@ksu.edu · *Website:* www.k-state.edu/siil