

Methods for measuring the cost of the most affordable nutritionally adequate diet in a country

Project Title: P348 - Tools and methods to assess and promote enabling environments for nutrition-sensitive policies

Description of the innovation: In 2018, IFPRI researchers began applying a methodology for measuring and analyzing food affordability and constraints, including relative price measures, price decompositions and economy-wide simulation analyses. Measuring the cost of healthy diets using locally available items focuses attention on prices for healthy foods that low-income people might buy, if those items were affordable. With better data, governments and development agencies can steer their countries so that it's possible for everyone to eat a healthy diet.

New Innovation: No

Stage of innovation: Stage 4: uptake by next user (USE)

Innovation type: Social Science

Geographic Scope: Global

Number of individual improved lines/varieties: <Not Applicable>

Outcome Impact Case Report: <Not Defined>

Description of Stage reached: The research has been extensively cited. Donors have recognized how the methodology can be used to guide their own strategies and approaches. Efforts are now focused on equipping governments and development agencies with accurate, updated metrics to monitor diet costs and affordability to inform agricultural and food systems interventions.

Name of lead organization/entity to take innovation to this stage: <Not Defined>

Names of top five contributing organizations/entities to this stage:

- IFPRI - International Food Policy Research Institute
- Tufts University
- The World Bank

Milestones: No milestones associated

Sub-IDOs:

- 15 - Increased access to diverse nutrient-rich foods
- 39 - Increase capacity of beneficiaries to adopt research outputs

Contributing Centers/PPA partners:

- IFPRI - International Food Policy Research Institute

Evidence link:

- <https://ourworldindata.org/food-prices>
- <https://theconversation.com/3-billion-people-cannot-afford-a-healthy-diet-160139>
- <https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en/c/cb4474en>
- https://sc-fss2021.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Healthy_Diet.pdf
- <https://tinyurl.com/yahqhrjc>

Deliverables associated:

- D2369 - ARENA - article on patterns and trends in relative prices of food groups and nutrients (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.gfs.2017.05.005>)
- D2368 - ARENA - paper on patterns and trends in relative prices of food groups and nutrients (**Not disseminated**)
- D2367 - ARENA - Cross-country dataset linking food prices to food supplies and nutrition outcomes (**Marked as Confidential**)

Contributing CRPs/Platforms:

- A4NH - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health