



INTERNATIONAL
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IFPRI Country and Regional Offices Report

January–June 2026

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Executive Summary

The first half of 2026 was a period of continued growth, adaptation, and strategic engagement for IFPRI's country and regional offices under the Development Strategy and Governance Unit. Across Africa, Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and the Pacific, country and regional teams strengthened their role as trusted partners to governments, regional organizations, and development partners, combining rigorous analytical work with sustained policy engagement, capacity strengthening, and implementation support.

The operating environment remained challenging. Many countries continued to grapple with fiscal constraints, climate shocks, conflict and insecurity, food price volatility, and evolving donor priorities. Governments increasingly sought practical support in identifying policy options and designing, sequencing, and implementing reforms. Across the portfolio, IFPRI responded by deepening its engagement in areas such as food systems transformation, agricultural productivity, nutrition, climate resilience, digital innovation, social protection, and institutional strengthening.

Several country offices reached important milestones during the reporting period. The establishment of IFPRI's new office in Papua New Guinea significantly expanded the Institute's presence in the Pacific, while country teams in Ethiopia, Nigeria, Kenya, Malawi, Bangladesh, and India strengthened long-standing partnerships with governments through policy support, analytical work, and implementation-focused engagement. In Sudan and Myanmar, IFPRI continued to demonstrate the value of sustained analytical capacity in fragile settings, providing timely evidence to inform humanitarian response, market monitoring, and recovery planning. China, Egypt, and the regional offices further strengthened IFPRI's contribution to international policy dialogue, South–South cooperation, and regional collaboration.

A notable feature of the reporting period was the increasing emphasis on implementation. Across countries, IFPRI's work extended beyond policy analysis to include support for implementation readiness, institutional capacity, policy coordination, and adaptive learning. Governments increasingly turned to IFPRI for assistance in translating evidence into operational programs, reflecting growing recognition that successful development depends on sound policy choices and effective institutions and delivery systems.

Partnerships remained central to this work. Country and regional offices continued to work closely with national governments, regional organizations, CGIAR science programs, universities, development partners, civil society, and the private sector. These collaborations strengthened both the quality and uptake of research while helping to mobilize new resources and expand IFPRI's reach. The reporting period also demonstrated the resilience of country teams in

responding to funding uncertainty through diversification of partnerships and closer integration across IFPRI's research portfolio.

Taken together, the first half of 2026 saw the continued evolution of IFPRI's country and regional offices into a global network of embedded policy platforms. Although the largest concentration of activity remains in Africa, the growing engagement across South Asia, East Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and the Pacific illustrates the increasing reach of IFPRI's country-based model. By combining scientific excellence with long-term partnerships and implementation-oriented policy support, these platforms are enabling IFPRI to respond more effectively to diverse national and regional priorities while generating lessons that benefit countries around the world.

Introduction

This report summarizes the activities and achievements of IFPRI's country and regional offices under the Development Strategy and Governance Unit during the first half of 2026 (January–June). It highlights progress across a diverse portfolio of country and regional engagements spanning Africa, Asia, and the Pacific, drawing on updates provided by country and regional office leaders. Together, these updates illustrate the breadth of IFPRI's policy engagement and the growing role of its country presence in supporting evidence-informed development.

The reporting period was characterized by a rapidly evolving global environment. Many partner countries continued to face the combined pressures of economic uncertainty, fiscal constraints, climate change, conflict, and food systems disruptions, while also pursuing ambitious national agendas for agricultural transformation, food security, nutrition, and economic development. These challenges reinforced the importance of timely, policy-relevant evidence and sustained engagement with governments and development partners to support both policy design and effective implementation.

Across the portfolio, IFPRI's country and regional offices continued to strengthen their role as trusted policy partners. In addition to generating high-quality research, country teams increasingly supported governments in translating evidence into action through policy dialogue, implementation support, institutional capacity strengthening, and the development of practical analytical tools. Strong partnerships with national institutions, regional organizations, CGIAR science programs, universities, development partners, civil society, and the private sector further enhanced the relevance and impact of this work.

The country highlights that follow demonstrate the diversity of IFPRI's engagement across regions while also stressing a common thread: a growing emphasis on helping countries move from analysis to implementation. Although each office operates within a distinct national and regional context, together they reflect IFPRI's commitment to combining global scientific excellence with deep local engagement to support more resilient, productive, inclusive, and sustainable food systems.

Country and Regional Offices Highlights

Africa

The Africa Office continued to play a central role in strengthening IFPRI's engagement across the continent during the first half of 2026, supporting country programs while advancing strategic partnerships, regional initiatives, and institutional positioning. Working closely with country offices and CGIAR science programs, the office expanded its engagement with the African Union

Commission, the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), regional economic communities, the African Development Bank, and other continental partners to support implementation of the Kampala Declaration and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) Strategy and Action Plan (2026–2035). A major area of focus during the reporting period was strengthening country support for the domestication and implementation of the Kampala Declaration. Building on IFPRI's long-standing analytical leadership in agricultural transformation, the Africa Office worked with country teams to support governments in translating continental commitments into national priorities, investment strategies, and implementation frameworks. This work reinforced IFPRI's role as a trusted technical partner at both continental and national levels.

Bangladesh

Bangladesh remained an important focus of IFPRI's country-level engagement during the first half of 2026, with work spanning food systems, nutrition, agricultural transformation, and social protection. Building on a period of organizational transition, the country team continued to strengthen its policy engagement through close collaboration with government, development partners, and national research institutions. Analytical work supported policy dialogue on food environments, nutrition, agricultural modernization, and social protection, while maintaining a strong emphasis on implementation feasibility, institutional coordination, and evidence-informed decision-making. The Bangladesh experience continued to demonstrate the resilience of IFPRI's country platform and its ability to sustain policy relevance in a dynamic and resource-constrained environment.

China (Beijing Office and East and Central Asia)

The Beijing Office and East and Central Asia Office continued to strengthen IFPRI's role as a strategic partner in advancing food systems transformation, climate resilience, and international agricultural cooperation during the first half of 2026. Working closely with Chinese research institutions, government agencies, and CGIAR partners, the office supported high-level policy dialogue, collaborative research, and South–South cooperation across agriculture, trade, nutrition, and sustainable development. In addition to supporting national policy priorities, the office continued to play an important regional role by promoting knowledge exchange between China and developing countries, particularly in Africa and Asia, while contributing to CGIAR's broader engagement in global food systems transformation. These activities reinforced the office's position as an important platform for international collaboration, policy innovation, and scientific exchange.

Egypt and the Middle East and North Africa Region

The Egypt Office continued to strengthen IFPRI's engagement across Egypt and the wider Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region during the first half of 2026, combining high-quality analytical work with sustained policy dialogue and strategic partnerships. Working closely with governments, regional organizations, and development partners, the office supported policy

processes on food systems transformation, social protection, nutrition, climate resilience, and agricultural development, while expanding collaboration across the Gulf region and other parts of MENA. A defining feature of the reporting period was the office's growing regional role. Building on its strong country presence in Egypt, the team broadened its engagement with regional institutions and international partners to facilitate knowledge exchange, strengthen regional cooperation, and support evidence-informed policy dialogue across countries facing shared challenges related to food security, water scarcity, economic reform, and conflict. The office also continued to contribute analytical support in fragile settings, demonstrating IFPRI's capacity to bridge humanitarian and development priorities through rigorous evidence and sustained engagement. Across these activities, the Egypt Office increasingly positioned itself as a regional platform for policy innovation, implementation support, and partnership development, illustrating how country-based analytical capacity can contribute to regional public goods while remaining responsive to national priorities.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia remained one of IFPRI's most strategically important country programs during the first half of 2026, continuing to provide analytical support for agricultural transformation, food systems, climate resilience, and economic development. Working closely with government institutions and development partners, the program combined rigorous policy analysis with sustained engagement to support national reform priorities and strengthen evidence-informed decision-making. During the reporting period, IFPRI contributed to policy design, implementation planning, and analytical work across a range of national priorities, including food systems transformation, agricultural productivity, and climate resilience. The program also supported Ethiopia's engagement with the CAADP implementation agenda while continuing to strengthen national analytical capacity through long-standing institutional partnerships. Ethiopia remains an important example of IFPRI's ability to combine high-quality research with practical policy engagement in support of long-term agricultural and food systems transformation.

Ghana

The Ghana Strategy Support Program continued to strengthen IFPRI's contribution to food systems transformation and agricultural policy during the first half of 2026 through close collaboration with government, academia, and development partners. The program supported national efforts to improve agricultural productivity, strengthen value chains, enhance nutrition, and build resilience to climate change, while contributing analytical evidence to inform policy reforms and investment decisions. A distinguishing feature of the Ghana program has been its emphasis on integrating sector-specific research within a broader food systems perspective. Working closely with national institutions, the team supported evidence-informed dialogue on agricultural modernization, climate adaptation, and inclusive rural development, as well as strengthening national analytical capacity and fostering collaboration across research and policy communities. Ghana continues to demonstrate how sustained partnerships can help translate high-quality analysis into practical policy action.

India and South Asia

The India and South Asia Office remained one of IFPRI's largest and most influential policy engagement platforms during the first half of 2026, combining large-scale analytical work with sustained support to national and state-level policy processes. Building on long-standing partnerships with government and research institutions, the office advanced work across agriculture, food systems, nutrition, social protection, labor, and climate resilience, while continuing to contribute to regional dialogue and knowledge exchange across South Asia. A defining strength of the program is its ability to bridge rigorous empirical research with practical policy advice in one of the world's most complex development settings. During the reporting period, the office continued to support evidence-informed decision-making on agricultural transformation, food and nutrition security, and social protection, while expanding collaboration with national institutions and regional partners. Through both its national and regional engagement, the India Office reinforced IFPRI's role as a trusted long-term partner capable of supporting policy reform at scale.

Kenya

The Kenya Office continued to serve as a major hub for IFPRI's work in Africa during the first half of 2026, combining policy research, implementation support, and regional collaboration across a broad portfolio of activities. Working closely with the Government of Kenya, county governments, development partners, and CGIAR science programs, the office advanced work on agricultural transformation, food systems, climate resilience, digital innovation, nutrition, and economic inclusion. The reporting period was characterized by an increasing emphasis on implementation. Building on earlier analytical work, the Kenya team supported the design and operationalization of policy reforms in areas such as agricultural input systems, digital service delivery, and climate action, while strengthening analytical tools to inform implementation and monitoring. The office also played an important convening role, bringing together government agencies, researchers, and development partners to address emerging policy priorities and promote cross-country learning. Kenya's experience continues to illustrate IFPRI's comparative advantage in combining rigorous analysis with sustained policy engagement and practical implementation support. As one of IFPRI's largest country programs, the office also serves as an important platform for innovation, partnership development, and regional collaboration, generating lessons that extend well beyond Kenya itself.

Malawi

The Malawi Strategy Support Program continued to play an important role in informing policy during a period of significant macroeconomic and food systems challenges. Working closely with government and development partners, the program generated evidence to support policy dialogue on agricultural productivity, input systems, food markets, nutrition, and economic resilience. Particular emphasis was placed on understanding the interaction between fiscal constraints, agricultural policy, and food security, helping policymakers navigate difficult trade-offs while maintaining a focus on longer-term transformation. The reporting period also saw

continued collaboration with national institutions to strengthen analytical capacity and support evidence-informed decision-making. By combining rigorous economic analysis with sustained engagement on policy implementation, the Malawi program reinforced IFPRI's role as a trusted partner in addressing both immediate food systems pressures and the structural reforms needed to build resilience and promote inclusive agricultural growth.

Myanmar

Despite continued political and economic uncertainty in Myanmar, the IFPRI's country program maintained its role as a critical source of evidence on food security, agricultural markets, rural livelihoods, and economic recovery. Through adaptive research approaches and close collaboration with humanitarian and development partners, the team continued to generate timely analysis to inform decision-making in one of the world's most challenging operating environments. During the first half of 2026, the program strengthened its contribution to monitoring the impacts of conflict and economic disruption on households, markets, and food systems, while continuing to provide evidence to support humanitarian planning and longer-term recovery. Myanmar remains an important example of IFPRI's ability to sustain analytical continuity and policy relevance under conditions of fragility, demonstrating how rigorous research can contribute to both immediate response and future reconstruction.

Nigeria

The Nigeria Strategy Support Program continued to consolidate its position as one of IFPRI's flagship country platforms during the first half of 2026. Working closely with federal and state governments, national research institutions, and development partners, the program advanced analytical work across agricultural transformation, food systems, nutrition, climate resilience, markets, and rural livelihoods, while strengthening policy dialogue and institutional capacity. A major focus during the reporting period was support for implementation of the CAADP Kampala Declaration and related national reform processes. Building on its long-standing partnerships, the program provided analytical support for policy prioritization, implementation planning, and institutional strengthening, as well as expanding engagement with state governments to promote evidence-informed decision-making at multiple levels. Nigeria's size and diversity make it an important platform for testing and adapting policy innovations, generating lessons with relevance across Africa, and reinforcing IFPRI's role as a long-term partner in agricultural and food systems transformation.

Papua New Guinea

The Papua New Guinea Office reached an important milestone during the first half of 2026 with the establishment of IFPRI's newest country office, significantly strengthening the Institute's presence in the Pacific. Building on several years of successful policy engagement, the office has evolved into a permanent platform supporting government decision-making on agriculture, food security, nutrition, and economic development. Working closely with national institutions and development partners, the team continued to expand its analytical work on food systems, public

investment, trade, and resilience, as well as strengthening national capacity through training, mentoring, and collaborative research. The establishment of the office marks an important step in IFPRI's long-term engagement in the Pacific. Beyond generating high-quality evidence, the program increasingly supports policy implementation through practical analytical tools, institutional partnerships, and sustained policy dialogue. Papua New Guinea demonstrates how long-term engagement can build enduring national capacity while providing a foundation for expanding IFPRI's work across the Pacific region.

Rwanda

The Rwanda Strategy Support Program continued to strengthen its position as a trusted partner to government during the first half of 2026 through sustained analytical support for agricultural transformation, food systems development, and climate resilience. Working closely with national institutions, the program contributed evidence to inform policy design, implementation, and monitoring, while supporting efforts to strengthen agricultural competitiveness, nutrition, and resilience. A defining feature of the Rwanda program is its close institutional partnership with government agencies. During the reporting period, IFPRI continued to strengthen national analytical capacity through collaborative research, technical assistance, and support for evidence-based monitoring and evaluation. Rwanda's experience illustrates how long-term partnerships can move beyond policy analysis to support institutional learning and continuous improvement, reinforcing IFPRI's role as a trusted advisor throughout the policy cycle.

Senegal and West Africa

The Senegal and West Africa Office continued to strengthen IFPRI's engagement across West and Central Africa during the first half of 2026, serving as a regional hub for policy research, partnership development, and capacity strengthening. Working closely with governments, regional organizations, research institutions, and development partners, the office supported evidence-informed responses to some of the region's most pressing challenges, including food insecurity, humanitarian crises, climate resilience, agricultural transformation, nutrition, regional trade, and economic integration. Beyond its work in Senegal, the office played an important convening role by promoting cross-country learning and regional policy dialogue on shared development priorities, particularly across the Sahel and coastal West Africa. Through sustained partnerships and regional analytical support, the office continued to strengthen IFPRI's contribution to building more resilient food systems, improving policy coordination, and supporting long-term development across one of the world's most dynamic—and most challenging—regions.

Sri Lanka

The Sri Lanka program expanded IFPRI's engagement in South Asia during the first half of 2026, building new partnerships to support policy dialogue on food systems, agricultural transformation, nutrition, and economic recovery. Working with government institutions, research organizations, and development partners, the program laid the foundation for a longer-

term analytical and policy support platform in a country seeking to rebuild resilience following recent economic shocks. The reporting period focused on establishing relationships, identifying priority areas for collaboration, and positioning IFPRI as a trusted source of evidence to inform policy reform. Although still at an early stage, the program demonstrates the value of IFPRI's country-based approach in responding to emerging opportunities and supporting governments through periods of economic transition and institutional reform.

Sudan

Despite continued conflict and one of the world's most severe humanitarian crises, the Sudan Strategy Support Program sustained an exceptionally strong program of research, monitoring, and policy engagement during the first half of 2026. Working under highly constrained conditions, the team continued to generate timely evidence on food security, markets, livelihoods, and social protection through innovative data collection approaches and high-frequency monitoring systems. These efforts provided critical analytical support to humanitarian and development partners while contributing to a deeper understanding of the economic and food systems impacts of the ongoing conflict. The program also continued to strengthen IFPRI's leadership in research on conflict, resilience, and recovery through high-level policy dialogue, publications, and collaboration with national and international partners. By maintaining analytical continuity under exceptionally difficult circumstances, the Sudan team reinforced IFPRI's comparative advantage in generating credible, policy-relevant evidence in fragile settings and supporting the transition from humanitarian response to longer-term recovery and resilience.

Uganda

In Uganda, IFPRI continued to strengthen its contribution to nutrition-sensitive agricultural development and climate resilience during the first half of 2026. Building on long-standing partnerships, the office combined work on biofortification, sustainable agricultural intensification, and climate-smart technologies with analytical support for agricultural policy and rural development. Through HarvestPlus and related initiatives, IFPRI continued to support the scaling of biofortified crops to improve diet quality and reduce micronutrient deficiencies, while strengthening linkages between agricultural research, markets, and nutrition outcomes. The program also expanded its work on natural resource management and climate resilience, generating evidence to inform policies on smallholder irrigation, renewable energy technologies, and sustainable water management. Together, these activities illustrate IFPRI's integrated approach to agricultural transformation, which brings together nutrition, climate resilience, technology adoption, and policy implementation to support more productive, resilient, and inclusive food systems.

Cross-Cutting Themes

The first half of 2026 revealed several important trends that cut across IFPRI's country and regional portfolio. Foremost among these was a growing emphasis on **implementation**. Across countries, governments increasingly sought IFPRI's support in identifying policy options, designing implementation pathways, sequencing reforms, strengthening institutional capacity, and monitoring progress. This shift reflects a growing recognition that successful development depends as much on effective delivery as on sound policy design.

A second trend was the increasing prominence of **regional collaboration**. While Africa remained the largest area of engagement—particularly through support for implementation of the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan—regional initiatives also expanded across South Asia, East Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and the Pacific. These platforms are facilitating cross-country learning, South–South cooperation, and the adaptation of successful policy approaches across diverse contexts.

The reporting period also demonstrated growing demand for **integrated approaches** to food systems transformation. Rather than addressing agriculture, nutrition, climate resilience, social protection, markets, or governance in isolation, country programs increasingly worked across sectors to support more coherent and coordinated policy responses. This was accompanied by wider use of digital analytical tools, simulation models, and real-time monitoring systems to support evidence-informed decision-making.

Finally, the portfolio highlighted the importance of maintaining analytical excellence while remaining responsive to rapidly changing operating environments. Whether responding to conflict, climate shocks, fiscal pressures, or emerging policy opportunities, country and regional offices continued to demonstrate the value of sustained local engagement supported by global research expertise.

Fundraising and Partnerships

Partnerships remained at the heart of IFPRI's country engagement during the first half of 2026. Across the portfolio, country and regional offices worked closely with national governments, regional organizations, CGIAR science programs, multilateral institutions, universities, civil society organizations, and private sector partners to co-produce evidence, strengthen policy dialogue, and support implementation.

Relationships with governments continued to deepen as country teams became increasingly embedded within national policy processes. In many countries, IFPRI's role extended beyond research to include convening stakeholders, facilitating dialogue across ministries and agencies, supporting policy implementation, and strengthening institutional capacity. This evolution

reflects growing confidence in IFPRI as a long-term strategic partner, rather than solely a provider of analytical products.

The reporting period also saw continued collaboration with regional organizations—including the African Union Commission, AUDA-NEPAD, regional economic communities, ASEAN-related institutions, and Pacific regional partners—as well as expanded engagement with international organizations such as the World Bank, FAO, WFP, IFAD, UNICEF, UNDP, and others. These partnerships strengthened country programs and enabled lessons and innovations to be shared across regions.

Despite a challenging global funding environment, country teams continued to diversify funding sources and develop new partnerships, reinforcing the resilience and sustainability of IFPRI's country and regional platforms.

Major Achievements

The first half of 2026 was marked by several notable milestones that strengthened IFPRI's country and regional presence. The establishment of IFPRI's new office in Papua New Guinea marked a significant expansion of the Institute's engagement in the Pacific, while continued growth in Sri Lanka broadened IFPRI's footprint in South Asia. Across Africa, country teams played an increasingly important role in supporting implementation of the CAADP Strategy and Action Plan, reinforcing IFPRI's contribution to continental agricultural transformation.

Country offices also expanded their role as trusted policy partners. From supporting implementation of agricultural and food systems reforms in Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, and Nigeria to sustaining critical market intelligence and policy analysis in Sudan and Myanmar, teams demonstrated their ability to provide timely, high-quality evidence under diverse and often challenging conditions. China continued to strengthen South–South cooperation and international policy dialogue, while Egypt expanded IFPRI's regional engagement across the Middle East and North Africa.

Beyond individual country achievements, an important milestone was the continued maturation of IFPRI's country and regional offices as long-term policy platforms—strengthening government partnerships, building national analytical capacity, convening policy dialogue, and supporting implementation across an increasingly diverse global portfolio.

Key Challenges

The first half of 2026 also highlighted several challenges that continue to shape IFPRI's country engagement. Many partner countries continued to be affected by conflict, climate shocks, macroeconomic instability, and fiscal constraints, which increases demand for timely policy support while complicating implementation of development programs.

Funding uncertainty continued to affect several country programs, underscoring the importance of diversified resource mobilization and sustained investment in long-term partnerships. At the same time, governments increasingly sought integrated support spanning agriculture, nutrition, climate, markets, governance, and social protection, requiring closer collaboration across IFPRI's research units and broader multidisciplinary expertise.

As IFPRI's country platforms continue to evolve, maintaining scientific excellence while responding rapidly to emerging policy demands will remain an ongoing challenge. Meeting this expectation will require continued investment in country presence, staff capacity, partnerships, and innovative analytical tools.

Strategic Priorities and Next Steps

During the second half of 2026, IFPRI will continue to strengthen its country and regional platforms as the principal mechanism for translating research into policy impact. Priority will be given to supporting implementation of national food systems and agricultural transformation strategies, including continued support for CAADP implementation across Africa and comparable regional initiatives elsewhere. IFPRI will also seek to deepen engagement beyond Africa by expanding partnerships and policy support across South Asia, East Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and the Pacific, reflecting the increasingly global nature of IFPRI's country portfolio. Continued investment in digital analytical tools, real-time data systems, and implementation support methodologies will further strengthen IFPRI's ability to respond rapidly to evolving policy needs. A further priority will be strengthening cross-country learning by systematically sharing experiences, analytical approaches, and implementation lessons across regions. By connecting country platforms more closely to one another and to IFPRI's global research programs, the Institute can increase both the efficiency and the impact of its country-based engagement.

Conclusion

The first half of 2026 saw the continued evolution of IFPRI's country and regional offices into a global network of embedded policy platforms. Although the largest concentration of activity

remains in Africa, the growing engagement across South Asia, East Asia, the Middle East and North Africa, and the Pacific illustrates the increasing reach of IFPRI's country-based model.

Across these diverse contexts, IFPRI is increasingly supporting governments and partners through rigorous research, long-term partnerships, institutional capacity strengthening, policy dialogue, and implementation support. This combination of scientific excellence and sustained country engagement represents a distinctive institutional asset—one that enables IFPRI to respond effectively to diverse national and regional priorities while generating lessons that benefit countries around the world.

As countries confront increasingly complex and interconnected challenges, the value of these embedded policy platforms will continue to grow. By maintaining strong country partnerships and drawing on IFPRI's global research capabilities, the Development Strategies and Governance Unit is well positioned to help governments translate evidence into more effective policies, stronger institutions, and lasting improvements in food systems, livelihoods, nutrition, and resilience.

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