

IMMANA Competitive Research Grants – Round 2

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LSHTM

Funded by:



IMMANA at a glance

- IMMANA aims to accelerate the development of a **robust scientific evidence base** needed to guide changes in global agriculture and food systems to feed the world's population in a way that is both healthy and sustainable.

Objectives and Workstreams

Objectives	Workstreams
1. Stimulate development of innovative methodological approaches and novel metrics in agriculture and food systems for improved health and nutrition	IMMANA Grants
2. Build a cadre of early-career researchers skilled in developing and applying cutting-edge methods and metrics	IMMANA Fellowships
3. Facilitate learning, sharing and new interdisciplinary research collaborations ;	Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy (ANH Academy)

Partners

London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK - lead partner; IMMANA Grants

Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy at Tufts University, USA – IMMANA Fellowships

Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health (LCIRAH), part of the London International Development Centre (LIDC)

SOAS, University of London, UK

LONDON
SCHOOL of
HYGIENE
& TROPICAL
MEDICINE



Tufts
UNIVERSITY



SOAS
University of London

LCIRAH
Leverhulme Centre for Integrative
Research on Agriculture and Health

immana

Innovative Methods and Metrics for
Agriculture and Nutrition Actions

IMMANA Grants

- Research grants to accelerate development of innovative interdisciplinary metrics and methods filling the key knowledge gaps.
- 15-20 research grants of up to £250,000 over two rounds.

IMMANA Grants Round 1

1. **Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research: The Women's Empowerment in Nutrition Index (WENI):** Measuring nutritional empowerment to better link agriculture to nutrition.
2. **International Food Policy Research Institute:** Leveraging value chains to improve nutrition: collaborative learning initiative on methods and metrics for improving the identification, design and evaluation of interventions.
3. **Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University:** Women's empowerment in livestock-focused agriculture: Identifying and understanding pathways to impact for maternal and child nutrition in East Africa.
4. **Tufts University:** Indicators of Affordability of Nutritious Diets in Africa (IANDA).
5. **University of Michigan:** Developing an innovative approach to measuring the livelihoods of smallholder farmers and testing critical linkages from farmer livelihoods to nutrition.
6. **World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF):** Surveillance of Climate-Smart Agriculture for Nutrition (SCAN).
7. **World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF):** Probabilistic Causal Models for Nutrition Outcomes of Agricultural Actions.

IMMANA Grants – Round 2

Indicative Topics and Approaches

- **Develop:**
 - a suite of indicators or a composite indicator.
 - innovative metrics.
 - analytical methods.
 - market-based indicators.
 - innovative tools.
 - or apply novel methods to examine the impact.
 - methodology to measure the contribution.
- **Design and test:**
 - nutrition metrics.
 - appropriate methods.
- **Evaluate or develop methods to analyse the impact.**
- **Link diverse sources of data through new tools.**

Eligibility

- Demonstrated ability to **conduct research of international standards of excellence** in the topic proposed.
- Researchers and institutions from both **developed and low and middle income countries (LMICs)** are eligible.
- Demonstrated **strong partnerships**.
- **Added value** = contribution to enhancing the scientific capacity of the Southern partners.
- **More than one application allowed** provided each application is scientifically distinct.

Budget and Duration of IMMANA Grants

- Funding will be a maximum of **£250,000** per grant.
- All budgets in **pound sterling (£)**.
- The maximum duration is **two years (24 months)**.
- The **size and duration** of each award will vary.
- ***All applications will be scrutinised for value for money.***

Indicative list of eligible costs

- **Salary costs** for research staff.
- **Data collection.**
- Standard class **travel costs.**
- **Publication costs.**
- **Equipment.**
- **Attendance** at the Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy annual conference - **mandatory.**
- **Overhead costs** - cannot exceed **15%** of the total grant budget.
- **Inflation** – for salaries only & capped at a maximum of **3%** per year.

Review process

- **Two step** approach.
- The first step = **eligibility check** by IMMANA team.
- The second step = **scientific assessment** by external reviewers.
- **Oversight** by the Chair of the Independent Panel of Experts.
- Final **endorsement** by the Steering Committee.

Evaluation criteria – Step 1

- Contributing to improved understanding of the linkages between agriculture, food systems and nutrition in LMICs. Y/N
- Focusing on developing a **new/improved** metric, tool or methodology. Y/N
- Demonstrating **strong partnerships**, and **the added value** that would be created by the proposed partnership. Y/N
- Demonstrating the ability to conduct **research at an international standard of excellence** in the topic proposed. Y/N
- All criteria met = Step 2

Evaluation criteria – Step 2

- **Innovation.**
- **Scientific excellence.**
- **Development relevance.**
- **Translational value.**
- **Collaborative approaches.**
 - Each criterion is equally important.
 - A score between 1 (not competitive) and 5 (outstanding).
 - High overall and well balanced between criteria = invitation to submit the full proposal.

Timelines

Milestones	Dates
Submission of concept memos	15 February 2016
Invitations to submit full proposals	28 March 2016
Submission of full proposals	28 June 2016
Notification of awards	3 October 2016
Grants start	1 November 2016

More

<http://immana.lcirah.ac.uk/grants>

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