

LCIRAH

Leverhulme Centre for Integrative
Research on Agriculture and Health

Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health (LCIRAH)



Who we are

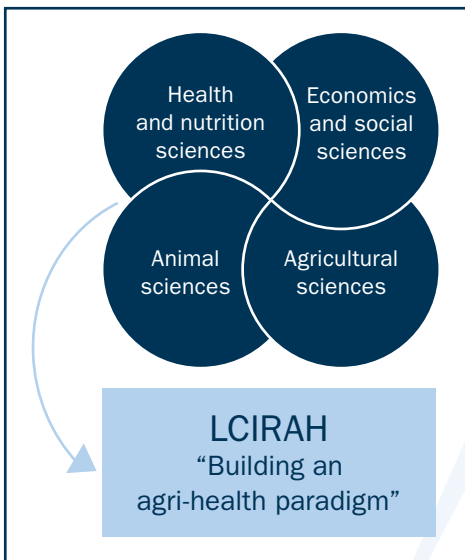
The Leverhulme Centre for Integrative Research on Agriculture and Health (LCIRAH) is an inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary platform for integrating research in agriculture, nutrition and health, with a focus on international development goals.

LCIRAH brings together a team of researchers in anthropology, epidemiology, economics, nutrition, veterinary sciences, public health and other disciplines across the agriculture, food and health sectors. It is a collaboration between the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), and the Royal Veterinary College (RVC), with a portfolio of interdisciplinary initiatives involving research partners around the world.

Our vision

Established in 2010, LCIRAH aims to create a unifying approach and methodology for understanding the relationships between food systems and population health and the factors that drive them, an interaction which we have called “agri-health”.

LCIRAH has a particular focus on low and middle-income countries (LMICs), where the current disconnect between agricultural development and the improvement of human nutrition and health is most severe, and where the potential for new solutions is the greatest. A common question links our diverse sectoral and disciplinary interests: How do we achieve sustainable food and agriculture systems that promote health and well-being for all people?



What we do

Innovative agri-health research

Our diverse research portfolio includes projects that seek to:

- establish an evidence base for an effect of food, agricultural and trade policies on nutritional outcomes and demonstrate, using price elasticities, how food prices may affect nutrition in LMICs and how policies may be used to drive changes in consumer behaviour through food prices.
- identify key opportunities for making diets both sustainable and nutritious, modelling the health and environmental co-benefits of dietary change and examining complex environment-agriculture-health interactions in LMIC settings.
- analyse animal food systems to explore and manage the disease and nutrition dimensions that affect the poor and to understand the relationship between agricultural intensification and vector borne disease risk.
- elucidate the economic and social factors that drive food production, acquisition and distribution at the household level, contributing particularly to understanding how women's time use and constraints are affected by agriculture practices and the impact this may have on child nutrition.

Building a global research community

In 2011, we established an annual international agri-health conference to stimulate research globally and share progress. The Innovative Methods and

Metrics for Agriculture and Nutrition Action project (www.immana.lcirah.ac.uk) has established a programme of competitive research grants and fellowships to accelerate methods and metrics development worldwide. In 2016 our annual research conference was incorporated into a new Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy (www.immana.lcirah.ac.uk/agriculture-nutrition-health-academy), an inter-institutional partnership that will hold annual research and skills training events around the world.

Interdisciplinary training programmes

Our PhD training is predicated on a principle of inter-sectoral and interdisciplinary supervision in a closely collaborating research team. We have published a free online training programme in agriculture for nutrition and health (www.lshtm.ac.uk/study/freeonlinecourses/nutrition/agriculture.html). Through a programme with other UK universities, we are pioneering new ways to build agri-health learning into postgraduate training programmes (www.ifstal.ouce.ox.ac.uk).

Supporting policy and practice

LCIRAH helps to build the evidence base for policy action and particularly the multilateral policy coordination required to deliver improved nutrition and health. We develop conceptual frameworks and evidence briefs that demonstrate how policies across the food system can influence nutritional and health outcomes and provide technical support to the Global Panel on Agriculture and Food Systems for Nutrition (www.glopan.org).

Engaging with LCIRAH



You can learn more about LCIRAH's team, projects, meetings and publications on our website where you can also engage with the activities of the ANH academy. We will also post calls for collaboration, employment and PhD opportunities here. If you have any questions about LCIRAH, please contact us.

LCIRAH is a formal intercollegiate collaboration under the London International Development Centre. We receive funding for our work from The Leverhulme Trust, UK Department for International Development, Wellcome Trust, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Irish Aid and other funders. We partner with the CGIAR Agriculture for Nutrition and Health Programme and Tufts University on the ANH Academy and IMMANA.

CONTACT US

36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PD

Email: LCIRAH@lidc.bloomsbury.ac.uk

Tel: +44 (0)20 7958 8262

www.lcirah.ac.uk

