



Keeping up with the latest evidence on Food Systems & Nutrition - our first ever living Evidence Gap Map



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Issue statement

- There is a huge evidence base in the Food systems & Nutrition field
- Policymakers and researchers need a quick & easy way to identify studies of interest to them

Solution: Evidence Gap Maps (EGMs)

An EGM is a research tool that systematically collects and presents all available impact evaluations and systematic reviews of impact evaluations on a given topic



Why do an EGM?

1. Allow for the easy retrieval of relevant information
2. Describe the literature base to assist with the prioritization of new research



Agenda

- What is a living Evidence Gap Map (EGM)?
- What does the latest research in Food Systems & Nutrition show us?

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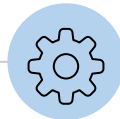
What is a living Evidence Gap Map?

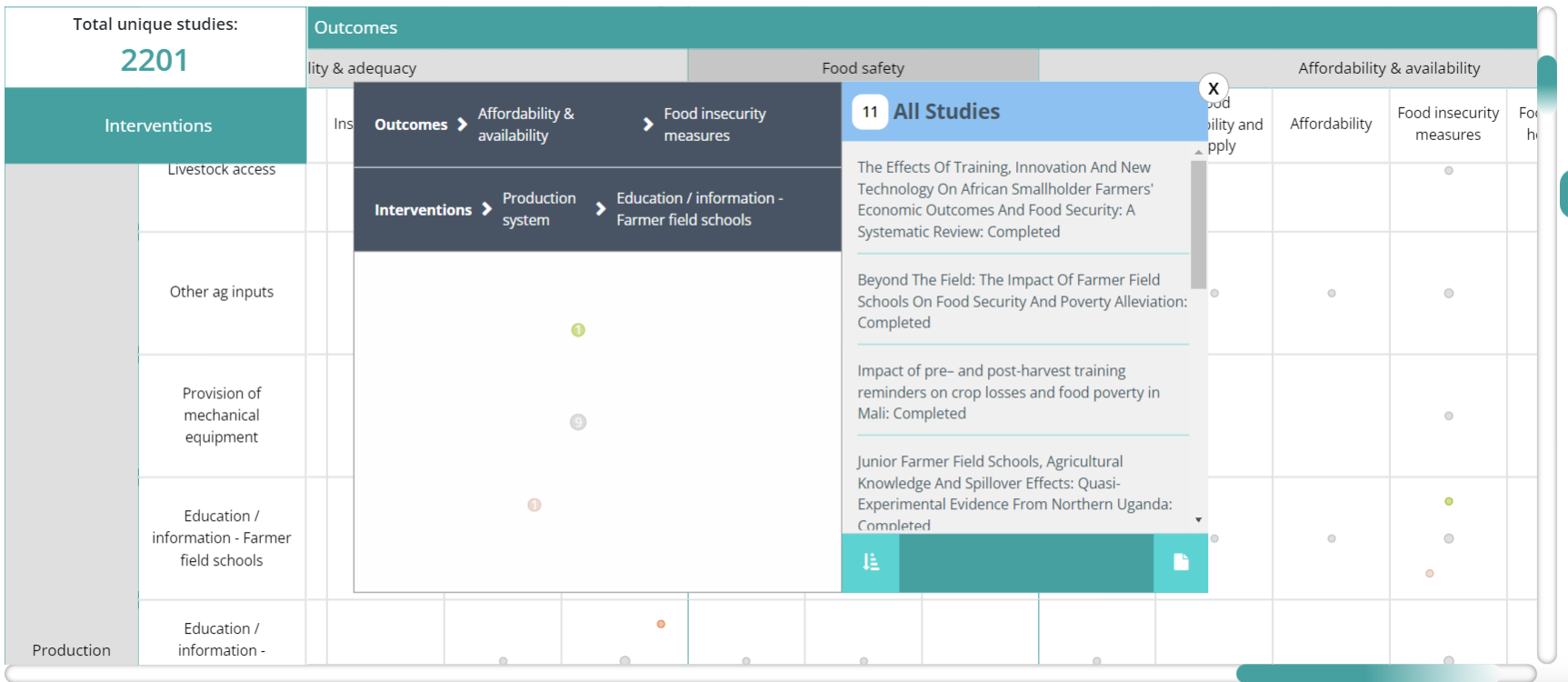


Intervention Categories

Outcome Categories

	Outcome 1	Outcome 2	Outcome 3	Outcome 4
Intervention 1	Study A		Study A Study B	N/A
Intervention 2		Study B	Study B	
Intervention 3	Study B	N/A	N/A	Study C Study D
Intervention 4			Study C	Study C



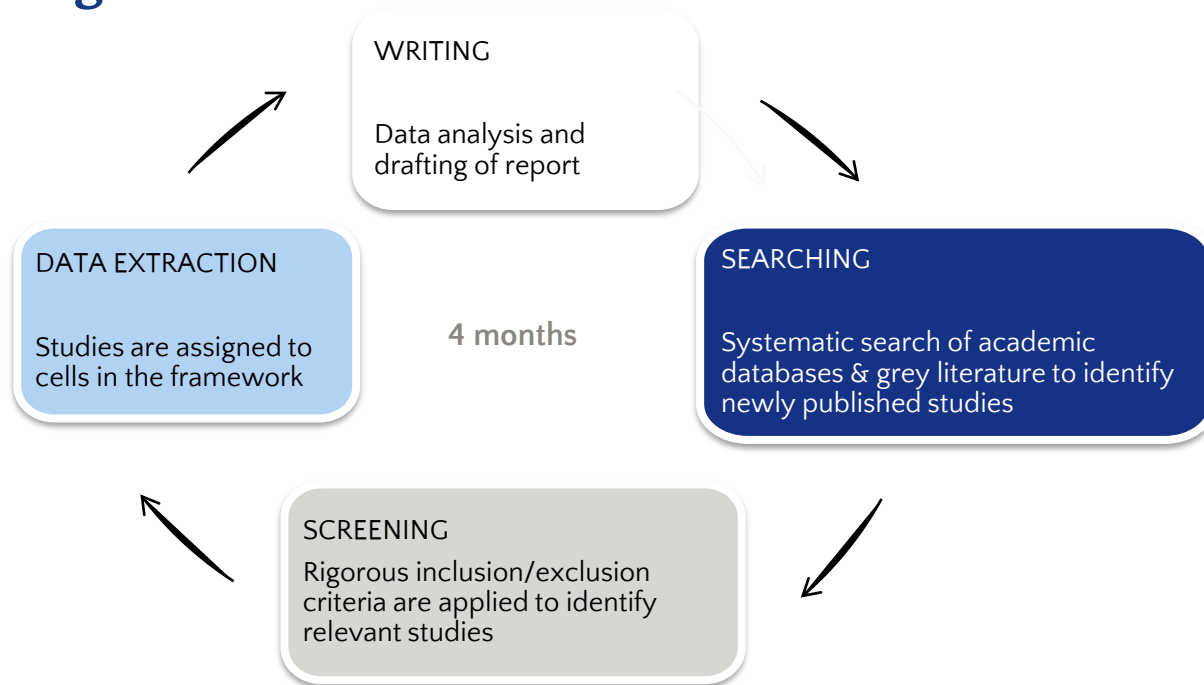


● Low confidence reviews
 ● High confidence reviews
 ● Medium confidence reviews
 ● Impact evaluations
 ● Ongoing evaluations
 ● Ongoing reviews
 ○ No records found

Feedback



A living EGM



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What does the latest research in Food Systems & Nutrition show us?



The original Food Systems & Nutrition Evidence Gap Map

- 3ie's largest-ever EGM (2 016 studies)
- Covers research published since 2000
- Published in early 2021



The original Food Systems & Nutrition Evidence Gap Map

- Main studied interventions:
 - Supplement provision (20 %)
 - Fortification (16 %)
 - Direct food provision (11 %)
 - Peer support and counselling targeting consumer behaviour (7%)

- No or few evaluations assessed:
 - Advertising regulations
 - Food waste education programmes
 - Food packaging
 - Governmental price manipulations
 - Interventions supporting women's decision-making
 - Measures of women's empowerment outcomes
 - Measures of diet insufficiency



Which direction is the evidence base moving in?

- Since the original EGM from early 2021, we have already identified 156 new studies. That figure represents about 8 percent of the total number of studies.
- There was continued growth of well-represented interventions, such as peer support and counsellors, classes, and supplement use or provision
- A reduction in the reliance on experimental designs from 80 per cent to 67 per cent



New studies in areas previously identified as priorities for research

Interventions	Update #2 (July 2021-January 2022)	Update #1 (May 2020 - June 2021)	Original EGM (January 2000 – May 2020)
Total Studies	82	74	216
Food supply	32	52	861
Food environment	20	9	729
Consumer behavior	32	18	569
Common multi-component	3	6	92
Previously identified gaps			
<i>Illustrative list of interventions to priorities for evaluation</i>			
Government manipulations of price	1	1	22
Advertising and labelling regulations	0	0	3
On-farm, post-harvest processing	0	0	4
Interventions to support food packaging	0	0	9
Efforts to support women's empowerment within the food system	0	2	19
Innovative store design	0	0	5
<i>Illustrative list of outcomes to priorities for evaluation</i>			
Women's empowerment	3	3	43
Economic, social, and political stability	0	0	3
Food loss	0	0	3
Environmental impacts of the food system	0	1	2
Measures of diet insufficiency	4	1	27
<i>Illustrative list of evidence synthesis priorities</i>			
Provision of free or reduced-cost farm inputs to crop production	0	0	9
Educational approaches within the food value chain	0	0	8
Agricultural insurance products	0	0	1
Outcome related to other diet quality and adequacy measures	0	0	24

- A shift towards evaluating consumer behavior in recent years
- Some new studies in previously identified evidence gaps: Women's empowerment (n=6), governmental manipulations of price (n=2), and measures of diet insufficiency (n=5)
- But no evolutions in a good amount of evidence gaps



Thank you!

Any questions?



Resources

The **living EGM & notes on the December 2021 and April 2022 updates** can be found under:

Moore, N., Lane, C., Storhaug, I., Franich, A., Rolker, H., Furgeson, J., Sparling, T. & Snilstveit, B. 2021. Food Systems and Nutrition Evidence Gap Map. New Delhi. 3ie. <https://developmentevidence.3ieimpact.org/egm/food-systems-and-nutrition-evidence-gap-map>

The **original EGM (June 2021)** can be found under:

Moore, N., Lane, C., Storhaug, I., Franich, A., Rolker, H., Furgeson, J., Sparling, T. & Snilstveit, B. 2021. The effects of food systems interventions on food security and nutrition outcomes in low- and middle-income countries. . New Delhi. 3ie.://www.3ieimpact.org/sites/default/files/2021-01/EGM16-GIZ-FSN.pdf