

# RENEWED POLICY ACTION FOR THE POOREST AND HUNGRY IN SOUTH ASIA

Regional Dialogue  
Facilitated by  
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)  
as part of the international consultation on "Taking Action for the World's Poor and Hungry People"

Supported by  
Asian Development Bank (ADB)  
and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

New Delhi, India  
Tuesday, December 2, 2008

## AGENDA

(as of December 1, 2008)

### Workshop Inauguration

(9:30 – 9:45 am)

- Welcome Note  
*Ashok Gulati, Director in Asia, IFPRI-New Delhi Office, India*
- Introduction to international consultation on "Taking Action for the World's Poor and Hungry People"  
*Rajul Pandya-Lorch, Chief of Staff and Head of 2020 Vision Initiative, IFPRI*

### MORNING SESSION: SECURING INCLUSIVE INCOME GROWTH

#### Framing Policies for Improving Incomes of the Poorest in South Asia

(9:45 – 10:45 am)

Chair: *Ashok Gulati, Director in Asia, IFPRI-New Delhi Office, India*

- Leveraging land, labor, and financial markets for improving livelihoods of the poorest  
*Speaker: Amitabh Kundu, Professor, Centre for Study of Regional Development (CSRDC), India*

Globalization and the unskilled poor in South Asia: recent lessons from international labor migration in South Asia  
*Speaker: Manohar Sharma, Research Fellow, IFPRI, USA*

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Coffee and tea break (10:45 – 11:00 am)

#### Panel Discussion: Income and Employment Policies for the Poor and Hungry: Lessons from Recent Country Experiences

(11:00am – 12:30pm)

Chair: *Tun Lin, Asian Development Bank*

- Country presentation: Bangladesh  
*Speaker: Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad, Chairman, Bangladesh Unnayan Parishad, Bangladesh*

- Country presentation: India  
*Speaker: Jayati Ghosh, Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India*

*Commentator: Amitabh Kundu, Professor, Centre for Study of Regional Development (CSRDC), India*

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Lunch (12:30 - 1:30 pm)

## AFTERNOON SESSION: ENHANCING HUMAN CAPABILITIES OF THE POOREST IN SOUTH ASIA

### Renewing Nutrition and Social Protection Policies in South Asia

(1:30 – 2:30 pm)

Chair: **Minnie Mathew**, *The World Food Programme (WFP), India*

- Improving Nutrition in South Asia: Opportunities and continuing challenges  
Speaker: **Purnima Menon**, *Research Fellow, IFPRI, India*
- Strengthening Social Protection for Human Development in South Asia  
Speaker: **Akhter Ahmed**, *Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI, India*

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Coffee and tea break (2:30 – 2:45 pm)

### Panel Discussion: Improving Effectiveness of Human Capital Investments

(2:45 – 4:30 pm)

Chair: **Arthur van Diesen**, *Senior Social Development Advisor, DFID India*

- Country presentation: Bangladesh  
Speaker: **Naomi Hossain**, *Research Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, UK*
- Country presentation: India  
Speaker: **Abusaleh Shariff**, *Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI, India*
- Country presentation: Sri Lanka  
Speaker: **Ramani Gunatilaka**, *Center for Poverty Analysis (CEPA), Sri Lanka*

GENERAL DISCUSSION

## CONCLUDING SESSION

### Panel Discussion: From Words to Action: Strengthening Policy Implementation

(4:30 – 5:30 pm)

Chair: **Pratima Dayal**, *Principal Economist, Asian Development Bank – India Office*

- Speaker: **Vijay Kumar**, *Chief Executive Officer, Society for the Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), India*
- Speaker: **Ashok Gulati**, *Director in Asia, IFPRI-New Delhi Office, India*

GENERAL DISCUSSION

Concluding Remarks and Vote of Thanks: **Akhter Ahmed**, *Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI, India*