2022: Kick-off workshop of the InsuResilience Sectoral Community on Integrated Resilience Approaches in Agriculture

16th of March 2022 3.30pm – 5.30 pm CET

The InsuResilience workshop on Integrated Resilience Approaches in Agriculture was attended by many members of the respective Sectoral Community under the IGP Working Group on Integrated approaches, as well as by external experts and invited guests. The workshop aimed to provide an impetus to the implementation of risk transfer projects and initiatives in the agricultural space that are effectively integrated with wider risk reduction and risk management efforts.

Summary of Discussion

The workshop was structured in three parts.

The first part of the workshop was dedicated to the question "How much do we know about ‘integrated approaches’ in agriculture? What are remaining priority evidence gaps?". Tara Chiu (MRR Innovations Lab/ UC Davis) presented evidence priorities relevant to agricultural risk transfer and integrated approaches contained in the CDRFI Evidence Roadmap. Rebecca Hausberger (GIZ) presented a recent study (Hazell, Jäger and Hausberger 2021) that provides an update of the status quo, emerging trends and innovations on agricultural insurance globally. The ensuing discussion focused inter alia on evidence on effective insurance bundling models, contract farming, insurance pricing and best practice examples from successful pilots and case studies.

Acknowledging remaining knowledge gaps, the second part of the workshop was centered around the question “How and to what extent can agricultural development projects already promote integration?”. This workshop segment was kicked off by a presentation on a recent funding window for CSA-informed agricultural risk insurance proposals, related selection criteria and first experiences by Annette Detken (InsuResilience Solutions Fund). Participants then split into breakout groups to discuss implications of funding arrangements for integrated approaches in the agricultural space for both project developers and project funders and their investment decisions. While each breakout took a different angle to addressing these questions, common themes included the need for both developers and funders to focus on complementarities, synergies and efficiency of the proposed integration ideas, all while being pragmatic about remaining knowledge gaps. While a focus on end beneficiaries was proposed in one
group, another discussed de-risking approaches along value chains. Biodiversity implications of agricultural projects and their integration into project appraisal and design was a common discussion theme, too.

The final part of the workshop aimed to ‘connect the dots’, and addressed **how to meaningfully apply ‘integration’ ideas in practice while knowledge gaps continue to exist**. Berber Kramer (IFPRI) presented ideas on a way forward that sets out how project developers can address some of the evidence gaps around integrated solutions that have been identified in early-stage project development, and on how researchers and practitioners can work together.

**Takeaways and next steps:**

The workshop ended on a brief outlook on takeaways and next steps for the Sectoral Community. These may include the development of a set of recommendations for project developers and project funders in the agricultural risk management space, and will be decided and finalized in future group calls and activities of the Sectoral Community.

In case of interest to stay engaged with the Sectoral Community on a permanent basis, interested parties may contact secretariat@insuresilience.org or janek.toepper@insuresilience.org.