

WORKSHOP REPORT

National Consultation Workshop on Digital Innovation and Inclusion



4 December 2023

NAASC, New Delhi, India

Abstract

The National Stakeholder Consultation workshop, held in New Delhi on December 4, 2023, marked a pivotal step in advancing digital innovation and inclusion in agriculture. Jointly organized by the CGIAR Digital Innovation (DI) Initiative team from IRRI and IWMI, along with CRISP, this workshop served as a platform for sharing progress on the Digital Inclusion Index (DII) and the implementation of the Rice Crop Manager (RCM) within India's dynamic agri-digital ecosystem. The DII, still in its early stages, is designed to address multifaceted challenges in food systems, while the RCM integrates digital technology with scientific research to provide tailored nutrient and crop management advice, aiming to enhance yields and farmer incomes. The workshop's objectives centered around raising awareness and refining the DII, fostering collaboration for its pilot implementation, documenting best practices for digital inclusion, and supporting digital innovators in leveraging underutilized data assets to improve digital innovation quality and efficiency. Engaging 38 participants from diverse sectors including NGOs, research, and digital solution management, the workshop catalyzed a collaborative effort to propel digital inclusion and innovation in agriculture forward.

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Organized by:

International Rice Research Institute
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Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy

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Background

In a significant step towards fostering digital innovation and inclusion in agriculture, the CGIAR Digital Innovation (DI) Initiative team from the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) and International Water Management Institute (IWMI) organized a one-day National Stakeholder Consultation workshop in collaboration with the Centre for Research on Innovation and Science Policy (CRISP) in New Delhi on 4th December 2023. Through this workshop, the research team shared its progress in development of Digital Inclusion Index (DII) and implementation of Rice Crop Manager (RCM) with the diverse stakeholders within India's evolving agri-digital ecosystem.

Currently, in its nascent form, Digital Inclusion Index aims to provide solutions to various challenges in food systems including reliable information; faster communication; better and faster collection, processing, and storage of data; better decision support; improved working conditions; and improved transparency in supply chains and governance arrangements. While RCM works on blended digital technology and robust scientific research to generate a nutrient and crop management recommendation specific to a farmer's field that, if followed, is capable of boosting yields and incomes.

The major **objectives** of the workshop were to:

- Create awareness regarding the Digital inclusion index (DII) and receive feedback from the participants that could help in revision and finalization of the index.
- Explore collaboration opportunities with the national stakeholders to enable a pilot run of the index in the ongoing projects.
- Document good practices for promoting digital inclusion and find potential use case study for Digital Inclusion Index.
- Support digital innovators in coordinating the delivery of enabling data and analytics on underutilized data assets, improving the quality and efficiency of digital innovations, and generating new insights for impacts.

A total of 38 participants comprising 15 females and 23 males, representing NGOs, research and development organizations, entities involved in management and implementation of digital solutions and policies from the nationwide actively participated in the workshop.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

Introduction to the workshop

The session started with an overview presentation by **Dr. Aayushi Malhotra** (Assistant Scientist, IRRI) on the One [CGIAR Digital Innovations Initiative](#) that focuses on harnessing digital technologies for timely decision-making across food, water, and land systems. Aayushi emphasized on digital inclusion, which holds significant prominence within the initiative and specially in the Work Package 2 that aims at bridging the digital divide by assisting innovators in evaluating and understanding the inclusivity of their services. Furthermore, it aims to furnish research-backed solutions and pathways that could contribute to narrowing the gender digital divide and empowering users including women, youth and other marginal groups within agriculture. This informative introduction to the Digital Innovations Initiative was followed with a rapid introduction of participants.

A Comprehensive Overview on the Digital Inclusion Index

Dr. Carolina Martins and **Dr. Felix Opola** from IWMI set the tone for the workshop by delivering a comprehensive presentation on the DII. They delved into the challenges surrounding digital inclusion in India, explained the rationale behind creating the Digital Inclusion Index (DII), and elucidated on what exactly the DII entails. Dr. Opola commenced the presentation by highlighting the stark reality of digital exclusion prevalent in various parts of the world, discerning the global perspective. He emphasized that the global count of farmers engaging in digital agricultural services is projected to reach 200 million by 2030, underscoring the fact that the adoption of digital technologies is predominantly observed among large-scale farmers.

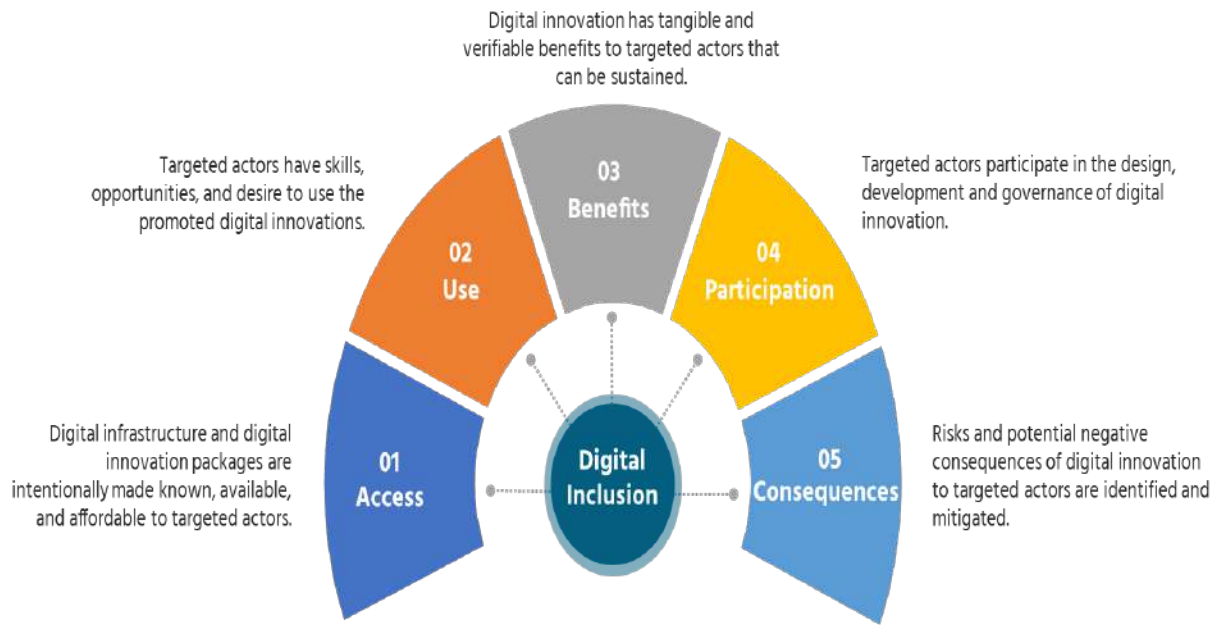


Furthermore, he highlighted the significance of ensuring inclusivity within digital solutions, defining it as the process of ensuring equitable access, participation, and benefits for all groups, regardless of gender, race, socio-economic status, or other characteristics, in the management and utilization of these vital resources. To achieve inclusivity, Dr. Opola proposed a starting point with fundamental questions of *"WHAT it is?, WHO it serves?, WHY it matters? and WHEN to use it?."* The discussion also emphasised the absence of standardized metrics and guidelines for enabling and evaluating digital inclusiveness, which is the gap the Digital Inclusion Index targets to bridge. He concluded the presentation by saying that "Inclusiveness emerges at the intersection of inclusion (ensuring access and participation) and inclusivity (the quality and extent of how welcoming and accommodating the digital environment is)."

The session was continued by Dr Carolina, who explained why the DII is not aiming to be yet another index to compete in the current index ecosystem, rather it is a tool to add value and promote collaboration. She explained that the index specifically focuses on under-represented groups viz., women, unlettered groups, youth, people with specific needs and rural communities in the food water land systems. The four purposes that the index can serve is for certification, scoring evaluation of inclusive assessment, scoring evaluation of exclusion risk and for risk mitigation feedback that helps in mitigating exclusion. She explained the implementation, theoretical and conceptual framework of the index. The major users of the index can be divided into three categories, as mentioned in the next section.

The first group of users are the ‘requestors’ who are the public or private organizations or individuals that would like to review a digital innovation. The second group is ‘evaluators’ who can be organizations or individuals that collect and analyse information during the review as well as innovation and inclusion specialists. The third group are the ‘consumers’ who use the results from digital inclusiveness reviews like funders, knowledge institutions, governments.

Fig 1: Theoretical framework of the index



Further she elaborated on the 7 indicators of the conceptual framework of the index which are *accessibility, beneficial impact, usage efficiency, ethical and responsible innovation, co-creation and governance, adoption facilitation and risks and harms*. Each of the indicators explained were evaluated by the stakeholders through an online rapid survey, the participants scored each indicator and their components based on their perceived level of importance in promoting digital inclusion. Additionally, the feedback was also collected through a breakout session where particular questions related to the index were thematically discussed in three different groups. Such consultation is crucial for improving the scope of the index and making it more robust and effective in assessing digital inclusion in various contexts.

Breakout Sessions and Group Work

The participants were divided into three groups for reviewing the Index based on the guiding questions provided by the organizers. The sessions were facilitated by **Felix Opola, Deepa Joshi, and Carolina Martins**. The three groups had three different sets of questions for guiding the discussion (*Annexure 4*). The first group discussed the index parameters, the second group on user groups and the third group on implementing the index.

Group Discussion on Index parameters

All participants highly rated every parameter and agreed that none should be excluded from the index. When discussing which indicators were crucial, participants highlighted ‘accessibility’ and ‘beneficial impact’ as primary for marginalized users, as these reflect their specific needs. They also emphasized that the remaining five indicators are equally vital in

establishing an enabling and safe environment for accessing digital innovation and deriving benefits from it.

Within accessibility, the ‘availability of digital and physical infrastructure’ is the most important aspect. The degree of analysis, whether at the individual, household, farmer association, or village level, determines the interplay between accessibility and usability. For instance, innovations that engage with households and communities benefit from a built-in support network, enhancing their accessibility and usability. As for usability, the pivotal dimensions revolve around capacity development and language.



The participants opined that within the dimension of beneficial impact, sustainability factor is not as important since this is already built into the programs/interventions. What could be important is sustainability of the innovation itself or the organization involved in its development rather than sustainability of the benefit. Within benefits, economic effectiveness/value of the digital innovation to the targeted actors is an important aspect that can be added in the index. Further participants highlighted that it’s a challenge to assess the inclusion aspect of digital innovation alone as these innovations are usually offered as a package with other types of innovations.

Group Discussion on User Groups

The discussion on the user groups started with the factors contributing to the digital marginalization of farmers. The focal point of the discourse revolved around identifying the key elements that hinder farmers' seamless integration into the digital sphere. Participants collectively opined that a multitude of factors, including demography, gender, social class, and financial status, play pivotal roles in perpetuating the digital divide. Demographic disparities were recognized as a significant hurdle, with age and geographic location influencing farmers' access and adaptability to digital tools. Additionally, the participants acknowledged the role of crop-specific challenges, where farmers growing cash crops were given more focus.

The participants emphasized the importance of validating data collection with the target audience to ensure accurate representation of the needs of marginalized farmers. They also highlighted the necessity of being mindful of social segmentation before administering the index to prevent a generalized assessment.

Regarding the role of marginalised farmers in the development and use of index, participants did not think there will be direct use of the index by individual farmers considering their limited

interest and time to contribute to the discussions as well as limited resources and literacy. However, farmer organizations or farmer groups may be interested to use the index to assess the inclusivity of digital interventions their member farmers are using, such data can also be used to continuously improve the index. Many stakeholders who can potentially use the index were identified like NGOs, Government, researchers, CBO, private companies, donors and investors, FPOs etc. Furthermore, participants expressed the view that the index would prove beneficial within their respective organizations by enhancing the inclusivity and customization of digital solutions, attracting donors and investors, and facilitating the development, validation, and scaling of digital solutions.

Group Discussion on Index Implementation

The discussion raised several queries regarding the index's implementation. Participants were curious whether the index would be introduced as a distinct, dedicated tool or integrated into existing tools. Additionally, concerns were raised about cybersecurity, acknowledging the potential impact of any mishap on community trust on the tool. When discussing the optimal certification period, the majority recommended a maximum duration of 6 months, emphasizing the importance of this timeframe being contingent upon testing and gathering empirical evidence.

Existing approaches to Digital Inclusion

Post lunch session focused on mapping the existing practices on digital inclusion undertaken by different organizations represented by the participants. The main aim of the session was to understand what the diverse strategies are these organisations adopt to make their solutions more accessible and what can be learnt from their practical experiences to enhance the scope of DII. The interested participants were invited to deliver presentations addressing three pivotal questions viz.,

1. What digital tools/platforms/interventions has your organization developed or is currently using?
2. How do you ensure digital inclusivity? i.e., who are your target audience, how do you evaluate the adoption of the digital solution and what are the challenges faced in scaling?
3. What outcomes have resulted from your efforts in ensuring digital inclusivity (in terms of reach and impact)?

The session was facilitated by **Dr Rasheed Sulaiman** (Director, CRISP) and eight presentations were made by the participants representing their respective organisations including [Watershed Organization Trust \(WOTR\)](#), [M S Swaminathan Research Foundation \(MSSRF\)](#), [Farmsio](#), [The Agri Collaboratory](#), [Self-Reliant Initiatives through Joint Action \(SRIJAN\)](#), [Dvara E-Registry](#), [Farm DSS](#), [National Association for Farmer Producer Organization \(NAFPO\)](#).

The first presentation was by **Mr. Ajay Shelke** from (WOTR), an internationally recognised not-for-profit organization based in Maharashtra. WOTR works at the intersection of practice, knowledge and policy across scales and in collaboration with various stakeholders across sectors. WOTR's goal is to ensure water and food availability, along with livelihoods and income security – to support the sustainable growth and well-being of vulnerable and disadvantaged communities in rural India. Mr. Shelke talked about their Farm Precise mobile application which generates dynamic weather-based crop management advisories that are tailored to crop and farm specific conditions. He explained that WOTR has been emphasising

on inclusion by focusing on small holders, youth and women. The main challenges to digital inclusion faced by them are lack of strong internet connectivity in rural areas, inaccessibility of smartphones, particularly for women farmers, lack of digital literacy and inability to conduct hands-on training and provide support at a large scale due to resource constraints. Few of the strategies adopted for digital inclusion is participatory development of advisories by involving farmers, free trainings to farmers who cannot afford to pay, making multilingual content in four different Indian languages, enhancing user experience through incorporation of multimedia content, an in-app forum called Krishi Manch for issue sharing and resolution, outreach and handholding through FPOs and women groups and continuous updation of content and features based on farmers feedback.

The next presentation by **Mr. R Rajkumar** from M S Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF), a not-for-profit trust focused specifically on tribal and rural communities with a pro-poor, pro-women and pro-nature approach for sustainable agriculture and rural development. He elaborated on the various digital tools developed and used by MSSRF like the digital plant clinics, MobiMOOC, audio and video conferencing, video-based learnings, audio advisory etc. One of the main strategies adopted for making their services more inclusive is using gender sensitive designing for content development and conducting a need assessment before content development. The digital tools are made user friendly (e.g through voice-based SMS) and content is made more understandable and interesting for semi-literate farmers and youth by using local languages and pictures. To overcome the lack of access to infrastructure like mobile phones and internet connectivity, video-based learning, audio conferencing etc are also used. Keeping in view the time poverty among women, capacity development and outreach programmes are scheduled to suit their timings. Marginalised communities are often reached out through collectives and village knowledge centres.



Mr Afzal Khan from Farms.io, a private tech company based at Tamil Nadu, with a diverse portfolio of digital tools like mobile application, web-based application, remote sensing tools

and Artificial intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) based tools. Their target audience are marginal farmers, women farmers, tribal farmers and other stakeholders. Offline applications that can work even in the remotest places where internet connectivity is an issue is a major inclusion strategy adopted by them. Also, they are focusing on building unicode applications that are supported by multiple operating systems. This helps them overcome the primary barrier to access that the small and marginal farm holders face by eliminating the need to have high end mobile phones. One of the main challenges they face in expanding their work is regarding the reluctance among the farming communities in adoption of new technologies.

Further the co-founder of The Agri Collaboratory (TAC) a non-profit private limited company, **Mr Sanjiv Rangrass** detailed on how they are democratising agri-finance for small, tenanted and women farmers. He talked about how a digital public infrastructure (DPI) for agriculture can provide effective interventions across the value chain and the rural ecosystem. Leveraging intermediaries like FPOs and farmer collectives to increase their reach and making the digital solutions that are affordable resource poor farmers is a major step they take for ensuring inclusion. Later, he explained about their on-going work on Agri-Digitisation Index that aims to assess the levels of digital readiness across all the states in India. This index would be helpful in generating actionable insights for the government and other stakeholders regarding the existing infrastructure that can be leveraged for digitisation of agriculture and also for identifying the areas for improvement and investment.

Ms. Juhi Kumari from Self-Reliant Initiatives through Joint Action (SRIJAN), a not-for-profit organization based in Delhi, elaborated on SRIJAN's commitment to enhance the overall well-being of the rural poor through livelihood initiatives, social development, and women empowerment. Following this, **Mr Vijay Shastri** and **Mr B.T. Gore** presented about inclusion strategies of Farm DSS Agritech Pvt Ltd. They have developed two mobile applications, online zoom courses and are highly active in social media platforms like YouTube, Telegram, Facebook etc. they deliver knowledge based agricultural extension services using digital tools. The major step they take for making their services inclusive is by providing free zoom courses for the farmers who cannot afford it.

Further, **Mr Tarun Katoch** from Dvara E-Registry, a portfolio company of Dvara holdings, spoke about their Doordhrishti digital platform that offers personalized crop advisories, market information, and virtual shops for FPO products. They conduct digital skill training for farmers. Dvara E-Registry, is a private limited company which aims to be a platform for financial inclusion and productivity enabling for all stakeholders in the agricultural value chain by providing farm level analytics and actionable insights by harnessing the transformative power of artificial intelligence, remote sensing & emerging technologies at scale.

The final presentation in this session was made by **Ms. Aneesha Bali**, from National Association for Farmer Producer Organization (NAFPO), a multi-stakeholder owned organization working towards building an enabling ecosystem to support Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) through institutional development, business stabilization & growth. They have a digital toolbox with a diverse set of digital tools like a digital accounting platform called Simplykhata, management and control system, e-learning management system, business planning tool etc. Capacity building, cost effectiveness and handholding are the key inclusion efforts undertaken by them.

Enabling Digital Platforms and Services

This session coordinated by the colleagues from the work package 5 of the DI initiative on enabling digital platforms and services focused on understanding the use of underutilized data

assets in improving the quality and efficiency of digital innovations and generating new insights for impacts. **Ms. Preeti Bharti**, Associate Scientist IRRI, presented a case study on the Rice Crop Manager (RCM) application developed by IRRI. She explained in detail about the working of RCM app which has both web-based and mobile based versions. Further, she elaborated that for disseminating and increasing the outreach of RCM, IRRI partnered with different implementing partners or outbound channels like Extension agents from the public sector, NGOs, private sector organization and rural youth. Also, common service centers, input dealers, state agriculture department offices and NGOs were the major inbound channels in RCM dissemination, where farmers came themselves for getting the RCM recommendations. For enhancing the shift from outbound to inbound channels, awareness creation through sensitization training, field days and capacity building training were undertaken. Further she explained about IRRI's efforts to institutionalize RCM by collaborating with the Odisha State Department of Agriculture and integrating with other digital tools like Meghdoot app of IMD and FarmRise app of Bayer.

The session was further led by **Dr. Shalini Gakhar**, Data Scientist, IRRI, who presented on how IRRI is leveraging underutilized RCM datasets. She elaborated on IRRI's plan on using artificial intelligence and machine learning to derive insights from the data. The session overall gave an idea about the immense potential of underutilized data available with various digital tools. Extending the scope of RCM, the platform commenced from the year 2015 – till date in India, RCM has been developed for Bihar, Eastern Uttar Pradesh, and Odisha. The analysis includes the most common varieties grown, the tentative date of sowing year-wise, the gender details, youth involvement and many more discernments. In this regard, the AI based approach is capable of predicting crop yields, disease outbreaks, and market trends by analyzing historical data. This helps farmers make informed decisions and optimize their agricultural practices. AI-powered recommendation systems can suggest the most suitable crops based on soil conditions, climate, and other factors.

WAYS FORWARD

Summarizing the day's learning, **Dr. Deepa Joshi** underscored the need to have a focus on human-centered design in developing inclusive digital solutions, which also remains an important consideration for the development of DII. She emphasized that it's the human intention behind technology and not merely the technology itself that fuels change. Dr. Joshi articulated that in the current phase of index development the central question revolves around the progress toward an inclusive design that aligns with the context and needs of stakeholders. She highlighted the necessity for the index to be adaptable enough to cater to a diverse range of stakeholders in terms of content, language, and design while also striking a balance between the benefits and risks of digital solutions. She further thanked the participants for their contributions and active involvement, noting that the inputs from the participants would significantly contribute to shaping the conceptual and theoretical framework of the index development process. Dr. Joshi concluded by stating that the workshop marks the beginning of a robust, interactive dialogue, and emphasized that it is not the end of the process but rather the commencement of collaborative efforts in co-designing and co-piloting with all stakeholders.

Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman V while delivering the concluding remarks, expressed gratitude to the participants for accepting the invitation. He provided a brief recap of the discussions held in various sessions. He highlighted that the workshop served as a common platform to bring together minds behind various digital initiatives working in the agricultural sector across India. Many of the experiences on digital inclusion shared during the workshop clearly revealed the need for building capacities among marginalized groups and communities including women in using digital technologies. In other words, efforts must be made at both ends, namely

strengthening capacities to use digital solutions and also in generating relevant content that meet the needs of diverse audiences and offer the same through the right digital tools that address the challenges of inclusion. Dr. Sulaiman emphasized the necessity for more collaborative partnerships involving multiple stakeholders, crucial for both research and scaling digital solutions. He stressed the importance of not just pushing digital solutions but also focusing on developing the capacities of the end users, especially those excluded from digital access. He concluded by asserting the need to document the ongoing developments in the digital realm to generate actionable evidence.

A significant takeaway from the workshop was the realization that despite the existence of numerous digital solutions, the evaluation process often neglects the crucial aspect of inclusion due to the absence of standardized metrics or methodologies. As evident from the presentations made by participants on good practices in digital inclusion, efforts are being made to make the services inclusive but there is very little effort in measuring and documenting it. Participants reached a consensus that the application of DII will contribute towards identifying and addressing the digital inclusion gaps.

FEEDBACK

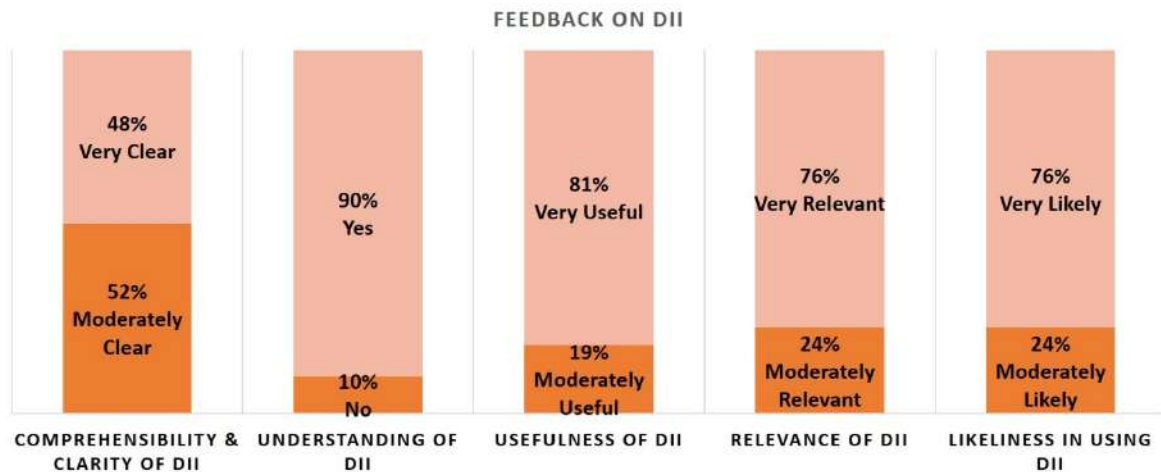
Major rationale for organising the consultation workshop was to gather the feedback from diverse stakeholders on the digital inclusion index, innovation and datasets. Towards the end of the workshop, feedback was collected using a three-sectioned short questionnaire that can be thematically analysed as:

Feedback on DII

The participants assessed five aspects of the index: Clarity and Comprehensibility, Understandability, Usefulness, Relevancy, and Applicability in their work. Among the participants, 90 percent expressed a comprehensive understanding of DII and its operational mechanisms.

The remaining 10 percent raised inquiries pertaining to the validation of negative consequences using DII, the rationale behind developing an index instead of a framework, potential variations in category weighting based on individuals or target audiences, the specific roles of stakeholders in implementing the index, the cost implications of moving forward, and the flexibility of DII to seamlessly integrate with other platforms.

Some of the suggestions from the participants to improve the index include, adding an economic effectiveness dimension to the index, building a mechanism to keep the index updated with changing dynamics in the digital domain, and conducting need assessment using primary data collection to make the index more localised and context based etc.



Feedback on Digital Innovation

Approximately 81 percent of the participants indicated extensive utilization of data assets for decision-making within their organizations, while the rest reported moderate usage. Among the available data assets within the participants' organizations, structured data emerged as most prevalent but underutilized, followed by unstructured data. A small minority (4-5 participants) noted underutilization of big data, IoT data, and other data types within their organizations.

The primary challenges rated by participants in unlocking the potential of underutilized data were data quality issues and restricted data integration. Subsequently, concerns about data security, limited data accessibility and management, and data governance followed in descending order of significance. Participants also highlighted challenges such as insufficient data ownership, lack of access to open data sets, and inadequate in-house capacity to leverage the available data.

As per the information gathered from the participants, key strategies or technologies explored by the organizations include advanced analytics and machine learning. Some other strategies as stated by them also include enhancing data accessibility through API integration, investing in data quality and assurance, cloud-based data storage and processing. Around 47 percent of the participants were exploring emerging technologies to enhance digital innovation in their organizations and the most quoted technologies were artificial Intelligence, machine learning, remote sensing and block chain technology.

General feedback on the organization of the workshop

Around 98 percent of the participants indicated that they are very satisfied with the way the workshop was organized. Remaining two percent were moderately satisfied and provided suggestions for improvement such as making more comfortable seating arrangements for group discussions, involving a greater number of stakeholders as participants and extending the time duration of the workshop to at least two days to have in-depth discussions. Additionally, all the participants rated the feedback process in the workshop as effective.

ANNEXURE 1

National Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on Digital Innovation and Inclusion

Dec 4, 2023

Office Block, NAS Complex (Ground Floor)

Pusa, New Delhi, 110012, India

CONCEPT NOTE

Digital innovations provide timely insights and services that can improve productivity, profitability and manage risks across food, land, and water systems. One CGIAR's Digital Innovation Initiative offers an opportunity to coordinate digital research across CGIAR Initiatives and synergize their R4D efforts. Through this initiative, we focus on generating research-based evidence and innovative digital solutions that are inclusive, action-oriented, and human-centered to advance the transformation of food, land, and water systems inclusively and sustainably.

Purpose of the Consultation Workshop:

The purpose of this workshop is to:

- Create awareness regarding the Digital inclusion index (DII) and receive feedback from the participants that could help in revision and finalization of the index.
- Explore collaboration opportunities with the national stakeholders to enable a pilot run of the index in the ongoing projects.
- Document good practices for promoting digital inclusion and find potential use case study for Digital Inclusion Index.
- Support digital innovators in coordinating the delivery of enabling data and analytics on underutilized data assets, improving the quality and efficiency of digital innovations, and generating new insights for impacts.

Participants:

Participants will include representatives from NGOs, research and development organizations, organizations involved in management and implementation of digital application programs and policies across India.

ANNEXURE 2

List of Participants

Sl.No	Name	Organization	Sector	Location
1	Rushi Laheri	Senior Coordinator, SEWA	NGO.	Ahmedabad
2	Rajkumar	Principal Scientist MSSRF	Research	Odisha
3	Ajay Shelke	Deputy General Manager WOTR	NGO	Maharashtra
4	Vijay Shastri	Director, Sanvidhi Tech Pvt Ltd	Private	Maharashtra
5	Sagar Kadao	Scientist BAIF	Research	Pune
6	Afzal Khan	Vice President Farms_io	Private Agri- tech company	Dehradun
7	Vickram Kumar	Manager Dvara E-Registry	Private Company	Hyderabad
8	Tarun Katoch	Co-founder Dvara E-Registry	Private Company	Odisha
9	BT Gore	CEO FarmDSS	Private Agri tech company	Maharashtra
10	Juhi Kumari	Project Executive SRIJAN	NGO	Jhansi
11	Yoganand Mishra	Team Leader PRADAN	NGO	Delhi -Noida
12	Ashish Kamra	Research Manager Precision Development	Private	Chandigarh
13	Sanjiv Rangrass	Co-founder The Agri Collaboratory	Agri-tech Consultant	Delhi
14	Akshay Gupta	Head- M&E Digital Green	Private	Delhi
15	Aneesha Bali	Project Coordinator NAFPO	Government/ Public	Delhi
16	Chandan Jha	Program Lead COUNCIL ON ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND WATER (CEEW)	Not-for-profit policy research institution	Delhi

17	Sultan Ahmad	Lead Gram Vaani Community Media	Social tech company incubated out of IIT-Delhi.	Delhi
18	Prabhat Kumar	Co-founder Sumarth	NGO	Bodhgaya
19	Poulami Bhattacharya	Lead – Women Entrepreneurship NASSCOM	CSO	Delhi
20	Mr. Bhupendra Kumar [bhupendra@cdac.in]	CDAC Noida	Joint Director	Noida
21	Dr. Karunesh Arora		Senior Director	Noida
22	Ashima Mohan	Research and Communications Manager Campbell Collaboration	Research and Communicatio ns Manager	Delhi
23	Suchaita Tenneti	IRRI	CGIAR	Bhubaneshwar
24	Mohammad Sultan [m.sultan@irri.org]	IRRI		Bhubaneshwar
25	Hom Gartaula	IRRI		Delhi
26	Felix Opola	IWMI		South Africa
27	Carolina Martins	IWMI		Portugal
28	Deepa Joshi	IWMI		Bangladesh
29	Preeti Bharti	IRRI		Bhubaneshwar
30	Devi Prasad Mahapatra	IRRI		Bhubaneshwar
31	Afreen Khan	IRRI		Bhubaneshwar
32	Sheetal Sharma	IRRI		Organising Team from Delhi
33	Shalini Gakhar	IRRI		
34	Aayushi Malhotra	IRRI		
35	Aparajita Khajur	IRRI		
36	Manisha	IRRI		
37	Shelly Parwar	IRRI		
38	Rasheed Sulaiman V	CRISP	Participants from CRISP	
39	Ditty Maria Dominic	CRISP		

ANNEXURE 3

National Consultation Workshop on Digital Innovation and Inclusion

4th December 2023

Lecture Hall (Ground Floor), Office Block, NAS Complex
Pusa, New Delhi - 110012, India

PROGRAM

9.00-9.30 (Reception area)	Registration	Manisha with support from CRISP representative
09.30- 09.45 (Lecture Hall)	Welcome and Setting the Context <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction to Digital Innovation Initiate Rationale for organizing the workshop 	Dr Sheetal Sharma
09.45-10.00 (Lecture Hall)	1 min introduction of participants (Name and Organisation)	All participants
10.00-11.00 (Lecture Hall)	10 mins brief introduction on the issues of Digital Inclusion-global and Indian context. Why these matters and how CGIAR is trying to address this including development of the DII. 35 mins Presentation on Digital Inclusion Index <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is DII and rationale behind it 5 dimensions and 22 indicators 15 mins Q&A on Index- questions and clarifications	Ms Carolina Martins Dr Felix Opola/ Ms Carolina Martins
11.00-11.15 (Lobby Area)	Group Photo & High Tea	
11.15- 12.00 (Committee Room)	Breakout sessions: Focus group discussions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divide the participants into 3 groups to review the Index based on guiding questions provided by the organizers. Each group identifies a facilitator and moderator for presentation	Dr Aayushi Malhotra with the support from CRISP representatives. Three groups facilitated by - Dr Felix, Dr Deepa and Carolina
12.00 - 13.00 (Lecture Hall)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 mins presentation from each focus group 35 mins Open Discussions (including interest in pilot testing the index in their own organizational/field context)	
13.00-14.00 (Lobby area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lunch Break 	

14.00-15.30 (Lecture Hall)	<p>Reflection on the good practices for digital inclusion- (Brief Presentations from the invited participants)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are innovators doing to make their solutions more reachable? • What can we learn from their practical experiences to enhance the scope of DII 	Dr Rasheed Sulaiman and Ms Ditty
15.30-15.45 (Lobby Area)	Tea Break	
15.45-16.30 (Lecture Hall)	<p>Session on enabling digital platforms and services. To support digital innovators (CGIAR and partners) by coordinating the delivery of enabling data and analytics on underutilized data assets, improving the quality and efficiency of digital innovations, and generating new insights for impacts.</p>	Dr Sheetal Sharma and Dr Shalini Gakhar
16.30-17.15	Reflections and feedback from participants on Digital Innovations and Inclusion	Dr Rasheed Sulaiman
17.15-17.25	Closing Remarks	Dr Deepa Joshi
17.25-17.30	Vote of Thanks	Dr Felix Opola

ANNEXURE 4

Breakout sessions

Instructions:

- We will form 3 groups.
- 45 minutes focus group discussions (15 mins to individually answer the questions on post-it sheets and 30 mins focus group discussion).

Group 1: Focus Group discussion on **index parameters** (qualitative info) (Facilitator: Felix)

- Why are these dimensions [based on results of the survey] selected to be the most important for digital inclusiveness?
- Which dimensions do you think does not require much attention? Why?
- What dimensions do you currently implement in your organization?
- How do you evaluate success?
- Do you think there are aspects of digital inclusivity that are still missing? Which ones?
- Any other feedback concerning these dimensions?

Group 2: Focus group discussion on **user groups** (Facilitator: Deepa)

- Who is marginalized from digital innovation processes?
- Do you think the index adequately reflects the needs and interests of marginalized groups of people?
- What role should these marginalized people play in the index development and use?
- What types of organizations would this index be most useful for? Social enterprises? Governments? Researchers? NGO's, Community based organizations?
- How would it be useful for the selected organizations?
- How would the index be useful for your organization?

Group 3: Focus Group discussion on **implementing the index** for General Usage (Facilitator: Carolina)

- In using the index, who should do the digital inclusiveness assessment?
- Which groups of people should we collect information from in using the index?
- Which data collection methods will be most appropriate?
- How much time should the whole review process take?
- What format of presenting results will be most useful?

12:00 - 13:00:

20 minutes for plenary presentations from focus groups