

# Agrifood Innovation Institute



**Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations**

# Welcome



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Innovation  
Institute



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**A/Professor Alison Bentley**

**Deputy Director  
ANU Agrifood Innovation Institute**



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The Institute's **strategic goals** for 2024–2028 are to:

1. Harness the diverse knowledge, expertise and infrastructure of ANU to transform agrifood systems
2. Build and deepen collaborative interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary projects between ANU and industry to address complex and global agrifood challenges
3. Develop and support the skills and capacity of students, researchers, innovators, producers and consumers to reimagine and shape future agrifood systems
4. Promote cultural change and process innovation at the ANU to foster a dynamic agrifood system

Leverage ANU interdisciplinary capability

Address complex agrifood challenges

Train next generation of researchers

Develop new ways of working

**These thematic areas will be addressed using cross-cutting enablers, including platforms, data science, policy development, economic and social science analyses and more.**

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The Institute has identified **six thematic areas for investment:**

- **Future Ready Crops:**  
Improving crop productivity and resilience
- **Emissions and Climate Adaptation:**  
Reducing emissions and transforming agrifood systems
- **Biosecurity and One Health:** Minimising the impact of pests and diseases
- **Bioeconomy:**  
Capitalising on changes in consumer demands for sustainable food production
- **Trade and Supply Chains:**  
Developing transparent, equitable and efficient food supply chains
- **Agrifood Energy Transitions:** Boosting profitability/sustainability through renewable energy technologies

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**Professor Ute Roessner**  
**Pro- Vice Chancellor Research  
Initiatives and Infrastructure**



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**Dr. Qu Dongyu**

**Director-General  
Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations (FAO)**



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**Dr James Moloney**

**Research Scientist  
CSIRO**



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Agricultural Research



## Pressures on Pacific Soils

Sea Level  
Rise

Natural  
Disasters

Changing  
Climate  
Patterns

Intensifying  
Agricultural  
Production

Isolation





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# Improving Soil Health

- Capacity Building
- Soil Management and Farming Systems Trials
- Building Soil Information Systems
- Boosting Soil Measurement Capability

• <https://research.csiro.au/pacsoils/>



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**Dr Nikki Dumbrell**

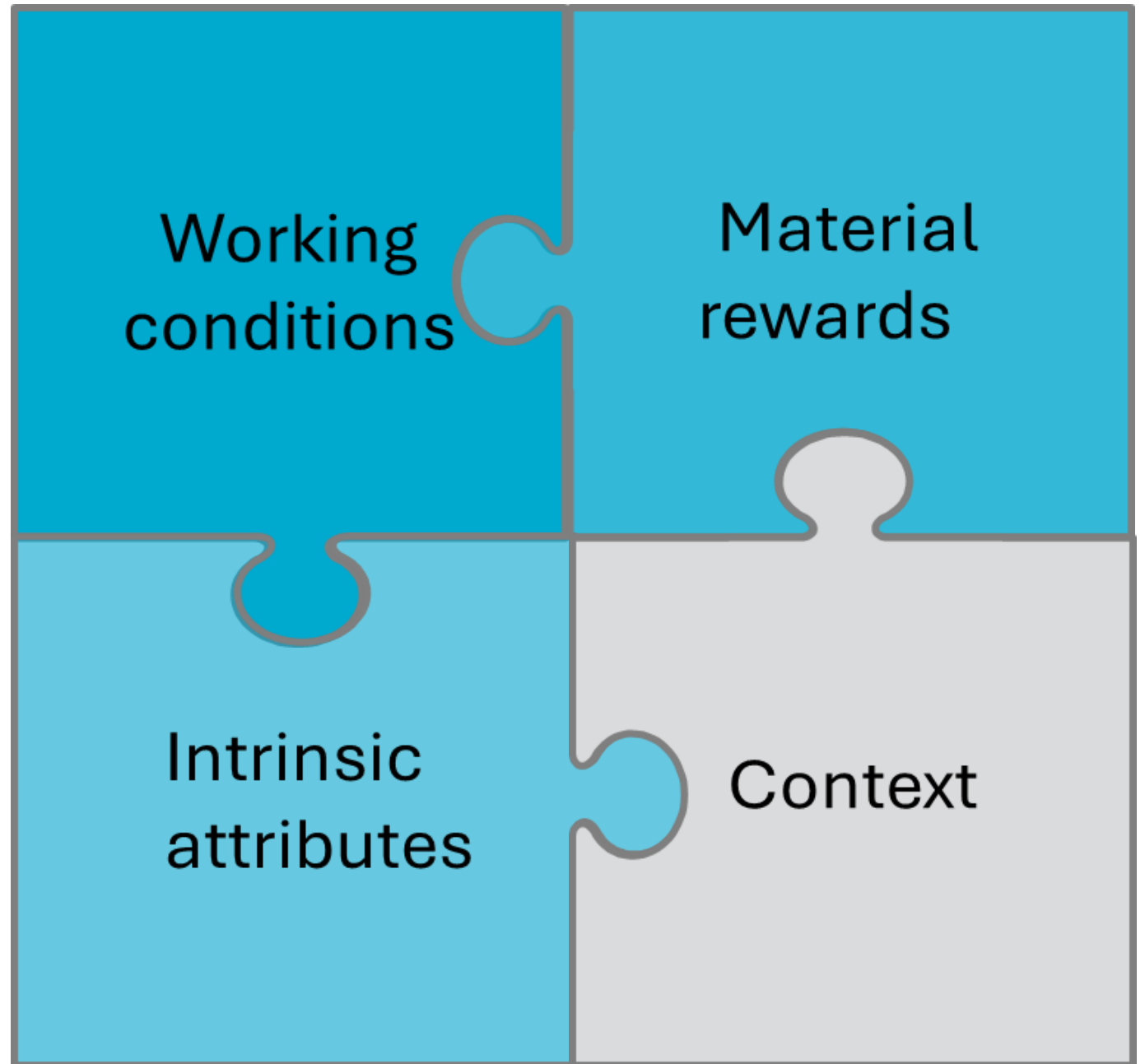
**Research Scientist  
CSIRO**



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- Social sustainability indicators are lagging environmental
- Jobs are a key component of social sustainability
- Not all jobs are 'quality'



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**John Yaxley**

**Graduate Research Officer  
ACIAR**



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# Where we work

In 2023–24, we will work in 31 countries in the Indo-Pacific region, with 375 research organisations, universities and government agencies and private sector organisations from Australia and partner countries.

## KEY

### Pacific

- 1 Fiji
- 2 Kiribati
- 3 Papua New Guinea
- 4 Samoa
- 5 Solomon Islands
- 6 Tonga
- 7 Vanuatu

### East and South-East Asia

- 8 Cambodia
- 9 China
- 10 Indonesia
- 11 Laos
- 12 Philippines
- 13 Timor-Leste
- 14 Vietnam

### South Asia

- 15 Bangladesh
- 16 India
- 17 Nepal
- 18 Pakistan
- 19 Sri Lanka

### Eastern and Southern Africa

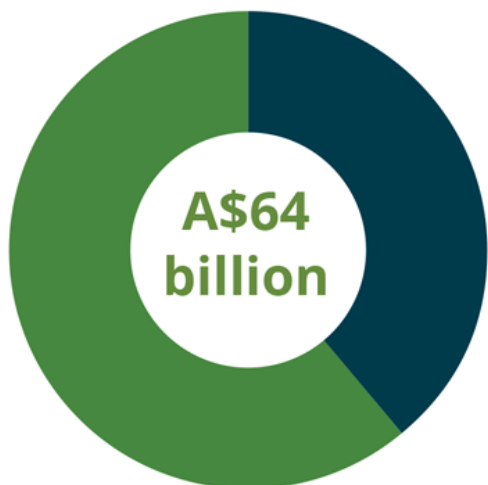
- 20 Botswana
- 21 Burundi
- 22 Ethiopia
- 23 Kenya
- 24 Malawi
- 25 Mozambique
- 26 Rwanda
- 27 South Africa
- 28 Tanzania
- 29 Uganda
- 30 Zambia
- 31 Zimbabwe



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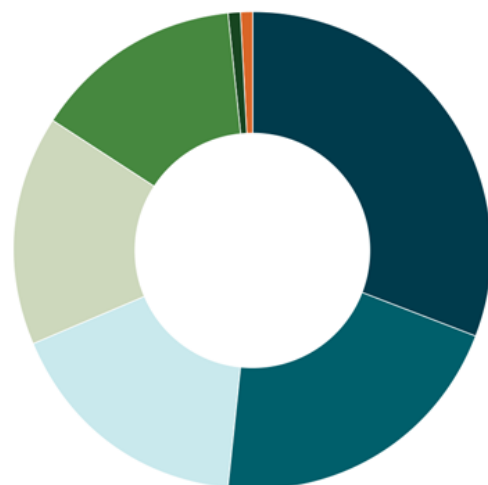
### Total benefit of ACIAR-supported projects



- Benefits attributed to ACIAR **\$25.2 billion**
- Benefits attributed to partners **\$39.2 billion**

Projects in this study represent approximately 10% of ACIAR investment since 1982

### Net benefit by impact pathway



- New varieties **\$19.4 billion**
- Pest and disease **\$13.1 billion**
- Capacity building **\$10.8 billion**
- Systems management **\$9.8 billion**
- Input management **\$8.8 billion**
- Post-harvest **\$0.6 billion**
- Policy **\$0.4 billion**

# 43 : 1

return on ACIAR investment

For projects examined in this study with outcomes specifically attributed to ACIAR

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**Harry Campbell – Ross**

**PhD Researcher  
ANU Fenner School of  
Environment & Society**



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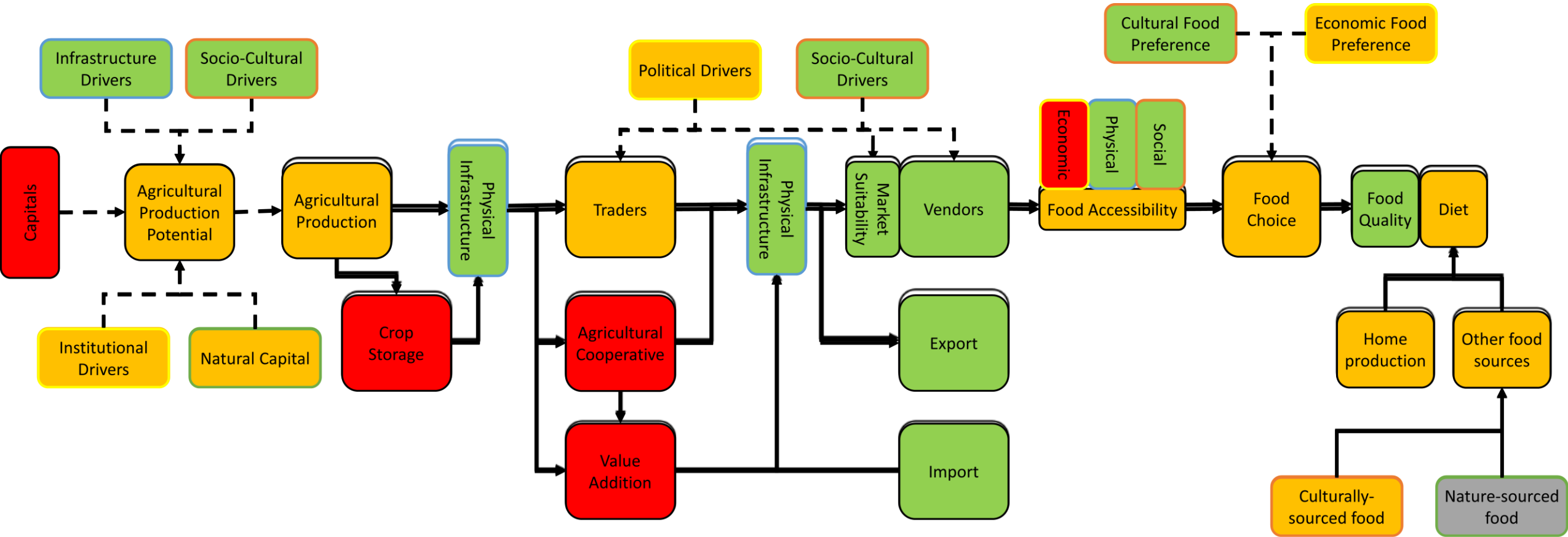
- **How can we use aid funding more effectively?**
- **Identifying the crux of the problem**
- **Food System Function**



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# Example



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***Thank you for joining us.  
Enjoy networking over breakfast***



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