OPEN IFPRI DATA: AN OPEN OPPORTUNITY

Objectives:
Data is no longer a by-product or just an input to publications. Data is a valuable resource to promote informed decision/policy making and innovations. Managing these datasets and making it available in usable form presents an opportunity to conduct further research with minimum investments. To this end, the project “Opening IFPRI Data” is conceived. The main objective of this project is to advance research and development by providing free access to data produced by IFPRI through web-interface. The IFPRI Datasets in Dataverse, which is a digital repository, is aimed to archive and display all data from IFPRI current and past research.

On-going activities:
IFPRI chose Dataverse hosted at the Harvard University as the platform to archive and share its data assets. IFPRI started placing data collected by selected research projects in Dataverse since 2008. Until now, 97 data studies with proper metadata were created. All these datasets can be freely downloaded and can be shared with proper acknowledgements as indicated in metadata. To capture the impacts of IFPRI open data and how it is being cited in research and academics, we are collaborating with Thomson Reuters to register in their Data Citation Index. Currently we are collecting datasets within the institute from the research projects that started as early as 1980s. The knowledge management unit in IFPRI prepares, catalogue and create proper metadata to share them through IFPRI instance of Dataverse. Furthermore, this units also establish the relationship between the datasets and publications that are archived at the institutes publication repository, IFPRI ebrary.

Results
IFPRI datasets are widely discovered and accessible than ever before. These datasets are already downloaded over 18000 times and cited over 194 times. Some of these datasets are used to create knowledge applications. Some of these datasets were used toward fulfilling advanced degree requirements including thesis dissertations. We receive a lot of email queries about these datasets.

URL: http://dvn.iq.harvard.edu/dvn/dv/IFPRI