

# Improving livelihood of marginal communities, by out scaling irrigation and agricultural practices, through collectives, in the Eastern Gangetic Plains



## Key details

### Location

Bangladesh, India, Nepal

### Duration

**Start** Jul 2019

**End** Jun 2020

### Budget

AUD 250,000

### Commissioned organisation

University of Southern Queensland

### Partners

Birmingham University, United Kingdom;  
 Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences ;  
 International Water Management Institute ; Uttar  
 Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, India; Centre for  
 the Development of Human Initiatives, India;  
 Sakhi Bihar, India; International Development  
 Enterprises

### Project Leader

Erik Schmidt, University of Southern  
 Queensland

### Program

Water

### Project code

WAC/2018/163

## farmers by out-scaling smart, efficient irrigation and agricultural practices through farmer collectives, in the Eastern Gangetic Plains

The combination of appropriate agricultural and irrigation practices, and innovative social interventions through farmer collectives, seen through previous ACIAR projects, have demonstrated opportunities to strengthen marginal and tenant farmer livelihoods in the Eastern Gangetic Plains.

While a promising model, with broad development implications for food security and poverty alleviation, further research is required to facilitate scaling, social inclusiveness and resilience of cooperatives to withstand future climatic, hydrological, social and economic stresses.

The projects key activities include gender research in one of the demonstration sites, strengthening marginal farmer groups and focusing on key research questions required to out-scale and ensure sustainability.

## Expected project outcomes

- Improving marginal farmers' agricultural productivity and profitability using climate-smart irrigation and water management practices.
- Evaluating and facilitating institutional structures, policy frameworks and value chains that support the long-term sustainability of farmer collectives at a village level.

## Overview

This projects aims to improve the livelihoods of women and marginal



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