

JUNO  Transforming
Evidence for Agriculture,
Food and Climate



An evidence alliance for food systems



Our vision

A world where high-quality evidence drives better decisions for agriculture and food systems

ials > article

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nature

Farming feeds the world. We desperately need to know how to do it better

Interventions designed to improve agricultural practices often lack a solid evidence base. A new initiative could change that.



Our mission

We provide high-quality evidence to help decision-makers address key challenges and create a more nutritious, food-secure, and climate-resilient future



**Clear, targeted
solutions**



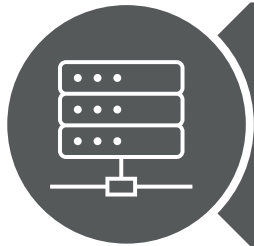
**A coordinated
network**



**Inclusive,
evidence-based
decisions**

What does Juno solve?

Evidence is not being systematically used to address societal challenges



Decision-makers and researchers can't keep **up-to-date** or **access** the huge volume of research and data



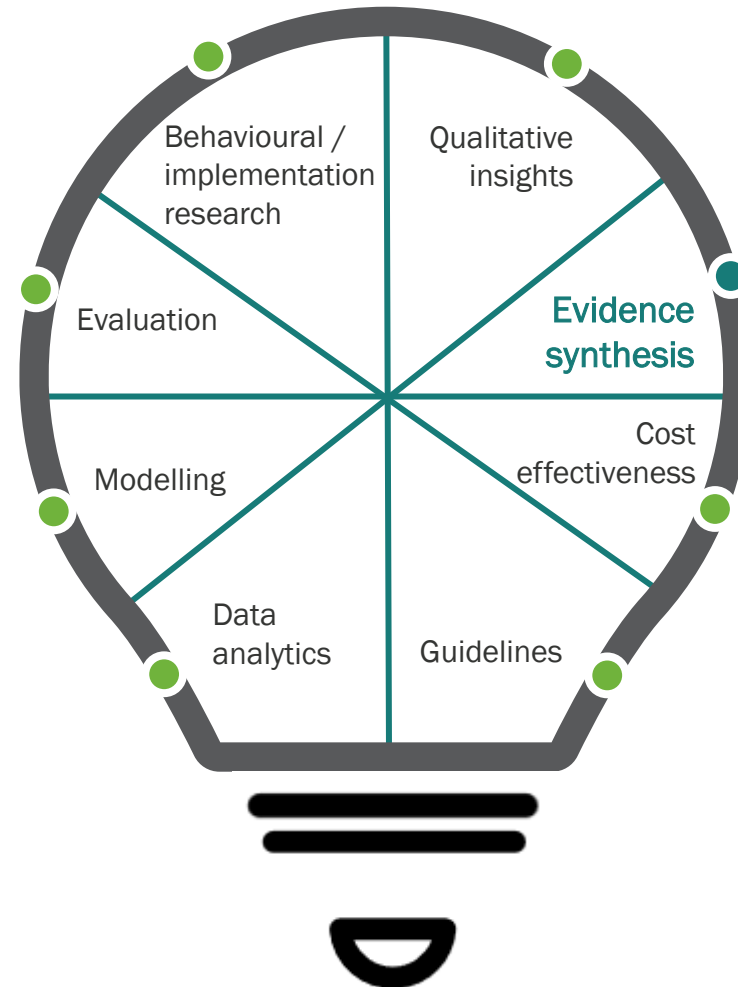
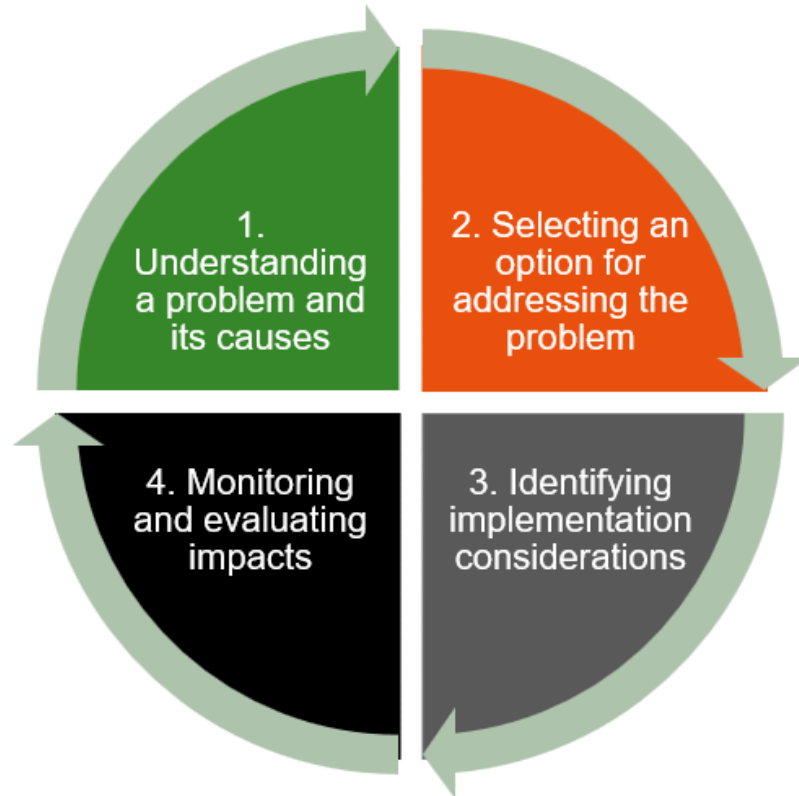
Evidence review processes are currently **expensive** and **time-consuming**



Lack of awareness of what best evidence is

Evidence informed decision-making

Policymakers engage in a four-step decision-making process and use 8 types of evidence



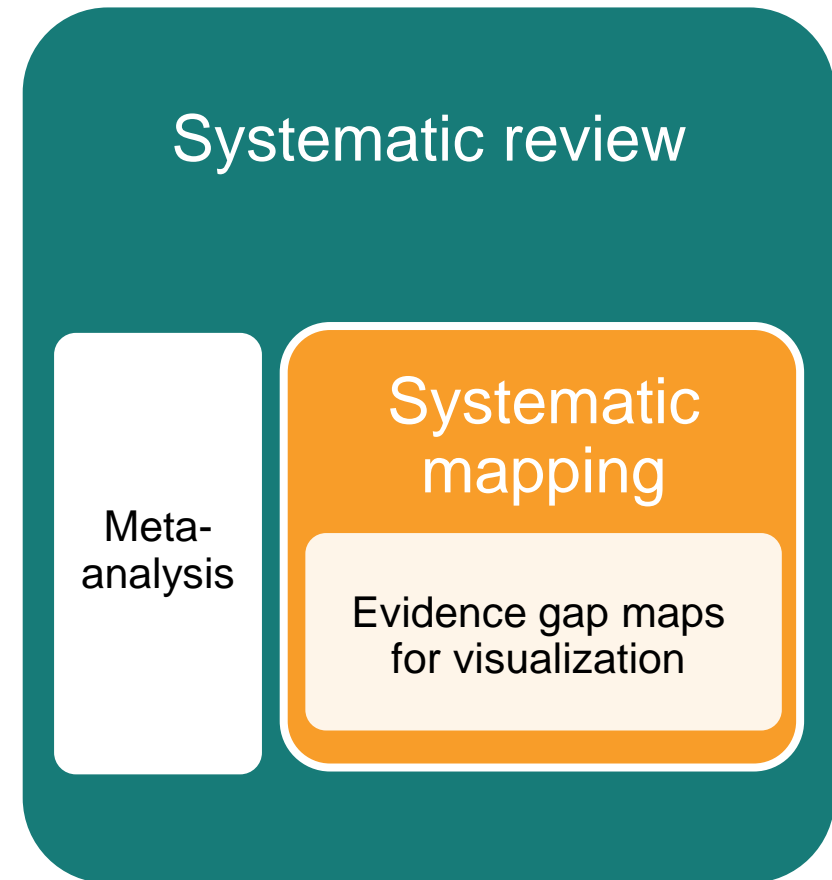
Evidence synthesis: our primary product

Summarizes what we know and don't know based on all studies that have addressed a similar question

Multiple methods available depending on purpose

Our evidence synthesis is:

- Comprehensive
- Representative
- Transparent and reproducible
- Reliable and precise
- Timely



Other sectors are leading the way...



Cochrane is an international network producing systematic reviews to help people make informed **health** decisions.



Campbell is the leading global source of evidence syntheses informing **economic and social** policy decisions



CEE promotes and delivers evidence syntheses on issues of greatest concern to **environmental** policy and practice

Evidence synthesis: proven impact



Our solutions

Supporting Member Countries

Equip researchers with **proven methodologies** to generate rigorous, high-quality evidence

Expand data sources and use AI to **accelerate evidence synthesis** and improve **cost-effectiveness**

Partner with **regional and local research networks**, enhancing their ability to generate and advocate for better evidence



Identify and prioritize evidence needs to help organizations and governments make informed policy decisions

Train researchers in **policy-relevant evidence production**, fostering a global network of collaborators

Drive awareness and adoption of high-quality evidence, ensuring its impact reaches diverse audiences

Our partners and funders



Gates Foundation



Our work in 2024

Focus on agriculture, food, and climate



A machine-driven bibliometric analysis of current and emerging **plant health** challenges

FCDO



Understanding critical factors for **One Health** implementation

FCDO



Sustainable agricultural practices for **gender** equity and women's empowerment

FCDO



Best Buys: Cost-effective interventions to **support nutrition**

FCDO



Effectiveness of **nature based solutions** for climate adaptation and mitigation

FCDO



Crop variety performance in **Nepal**

FCDO



State of the Field Report on research in agrifood systems

FCDO / Gates



Vision for Adapted Crops and Soils synthesis

Rockefeller



Public interventions contributing to sustainable agriculture and food outcomes **across Latin America and Caribbean**

USAID



Incentives and mechanisms can support and scale climate action across Latin America and Caribbean

USAID



Assessing the impact of **agrifood system** interventions on **resilience**

FAO



Country focus: Nepal

2024

Local policy-relevant research

Stakeholder consultations

- Key informant interviews:
15+ organizations
- Facilitated workshop to finalize
research question
- Top priorities: climate change
& plant breeding



Systematic review

Evidence informing policy

Crop breeding in Nepal

- 40,000+ potentially relevant records
- AI narrowed these down to 81 suitable for statistical analysis of yield data

THE YIELD AND EVIDENCE OF STRESS RESPONSE OF CROP VARIETIES DEVELOPED THROUGH DIFFERENT BREEDING METHODS IN NEPAL

PROBLEM STATEMENT

Nepal's crop output has stagnated in recent years. Moreover, its food and nutritional security is under threat from an increasing reliance on food imports, exacerbated by the reduced availability of arable land and agricultural labour, and the impact of climate change. It is crucial to develop crop varieties with multiple beneficial traits to increase yields and ensure resilience to these threats.

INTRODUCTION

The primary breeding goal for Nepal's key staple food crops is to increase crop yields while minimizing biotic (diseases, weeds, and pests) and abiotic (water deficiency, drought, and heat) stress effects. To this end, approximately 728 crop varieties have been released and registered over the last 70 years.

Our systematic review of the developed crop varieties assesses the effectiveness of different breeding methods (hybridization, introduction, and domestication) in improving crop yields and resilience to plant stressors.

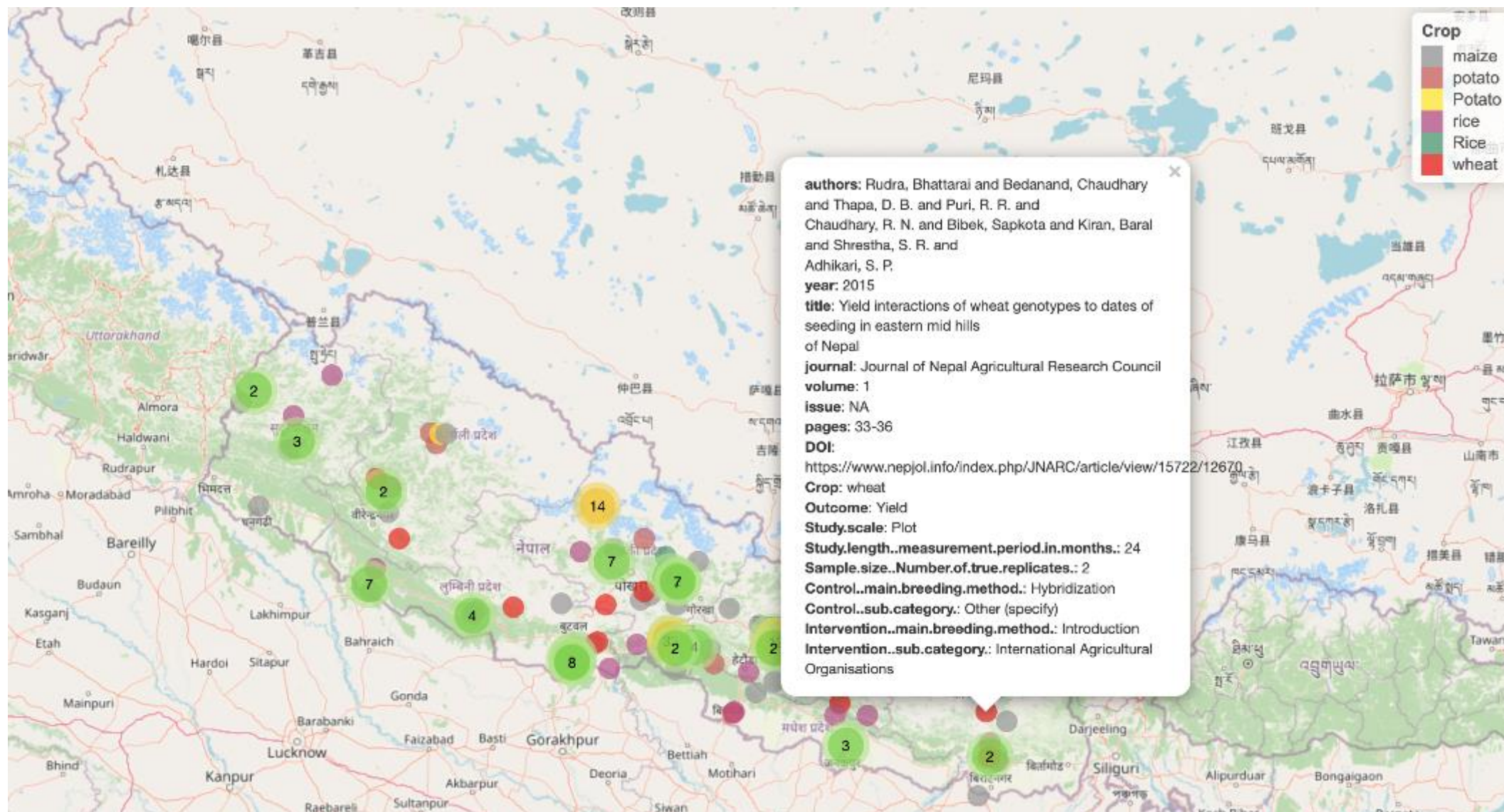
POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Prioritize crop breeding research to improve farmers' access to better-performing varieties: Reorient Nepal's national agricultural research system to focus on developing high-yielding, climate-resilient crop varieties, mainly through hybridization.

Invest in modern breeding techniques: Increase investment in modern breeding to improve the research capacity of local researchers and breeders, as well as to accelerate plant variety development. This includes investing in modern tools for the rapid development of varieties through local hybridization, introducing high-quality plant genetic resources, and characterizing landraces for specific traits.



Crop variety performance in Nepal



Key recommendations

Invest in vegetable breeding:

Limited research on potato and other vegetable crops compared to rice, maize, and wheat.

Prioritize crop breeding research to improve farmers' access to better-performing varieties:

Reorient Nepal's national agricultural research system to focus on developing high-yielding, climate resilient crop varieties, mainly through hybridization.

Invest in modern breeding techniques:

Increase investment to accelerate plant variety development, investing in modern tools for local hybridization, introducing high-quality plant genetic resources, and characterizing landraces for specific traits.



Training Nepalese researchers

Video highlights and testimonials





2025

2025 Roadmap

Nutrition & Gender in the spotlight

Products

What Works
Search Builder
Protocol Repository

Reviews

Gender
Biodiversity & Climate
Nutrition

Engagement

Donor engagement on
common learning
priorities
Evidence Hackathon
CABI Regional
Consultations

Training & Mentoring

CGIAR mentoring
programme
New training materials
for synthesis
In-person trainings

New reviews commissioned in 2024, published in 2025



Promoting **sustainability in the agricultural sector** across Latin America and Caribbean countries

IDB / USAID



One Health Zoonosis systematic mapping

OHH / FCDO



One Health Horizon scanning

OHH / FCDO



Nutrition-sensitive agricultural interventions that can effectively and sustainably address food security and nutrition

Gates



Identifying the links **between climate resilience, food security and nutrition** in LMICs

Competitive FCDO + BMZ



How do **local food systems and procurement** provide nutritional school meals: A systematic review focused on Honduras

Competitive proposal FCDO



The role of **feminism in management and leadership capacity** in agrifood systems in SSA

Competitive proposal FCDO



The role of **gender in soil health**

FCDO



Global Opportunities and Challenges to the **Uptake of Biopesticides**: An Evidence Map

FAO & CABI

Get involved



Thank You

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Q&A