

AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) Initiative, Objectives, Key Focus Areas

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The AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) Initiative, launched in September 2021 by the World Economic Forum, aims to use Artificial Intelligence (AI) to transform agriculture and global food systems. It brings together governments, private companies, and research institutions to scale practical agritech solutions.

AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) Initiative Objectives

AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) Initiative aim to

- To scale impactful agritech solutions globally.
- To strengthen **public-private partnerships** (PPP) in digital agriculture.
- To enhance farmer incomes and resilience.
- To accelerate the transition towards sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture.

The initiative has an ambitious target of reaching 10 million farmers by 2030, with at least 30% women beneficiaries, highlighting its focus on gender inclusion.

AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) Initiative Key Focus Areas

AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) Initiative works across three key focus areas to drive lasting impact in the agriculture sector:

- **Inclusivity:** Using technology to ensure agricultural services are inclusive and cater to the needs of smallholder farmers, women and other marginalized groups.
- **Sustainability:** Using technology to reduce the environmental footprint of the agriculture sector by minimizing the need for harmful chemicals and fertilizers, reducing water stress and building resilience against future shocks.
- **Efficiency:** Using technology to ensure that losses and wastages at all stages from farm to fork are minimized.

AI4AI Starter Toolkit

AI4AI Starter Toolkit is a key component of AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) Initiative. It is a practical guide designed to help governments plan and implement AI-based agriculture projects. It explains step by step how to plan, design, and implement such projects. The toolkit also shows how governments can work with private companies, identify key problems, and choose the right solutions. It provides ready-made templates and clear instructions, making the process easier. Overall, it helps turn ideas into real, working agriculture projects quickly and efficiently.

The **Government of Telangana** was the first in India to adopt the AI4AI framework through the **Saagu Baagu project** in 2021. The state has activated two core pillars – value chain transformation and the launch of the country's first Agricultural Data Exchange (ADeX).

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/ai-for-agriculture-innovation-initiative/>

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