

Global Index Insurance Facility

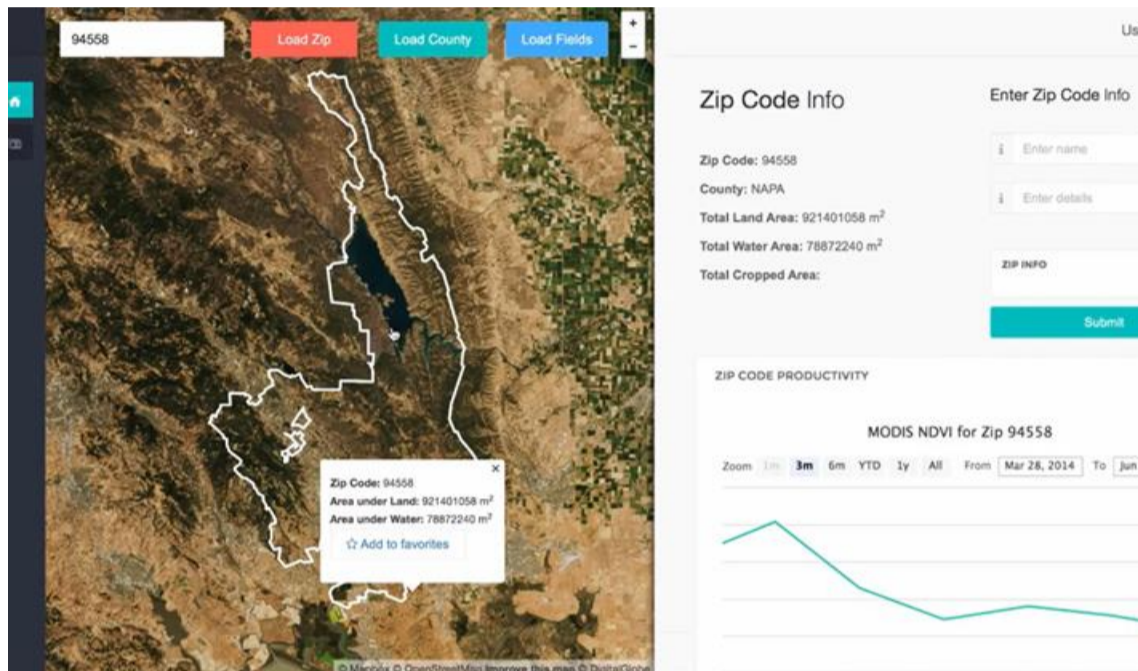


July Newsletter



INNOVATOR INTERVIEW

Niruthi: Award Recipient in Data & Analytics Category in the last Insuretech Innovation Challenge hosted by GIIF



Niruthi is an Agritech company that offers solutions for monitoring, modeling, and forecasting crop conditions through location-specific weather, crop health and crop yields. An array of tools and technologies derived from the Terrestrial Observation and Prediction is employed to capture and synchronize data from satellites, mobile phones, drones, and automated weather stations to enable machine learning on cloud computing platform. Niruthi provides field-level insights needed by farmers, financial institutions, insurance companies and government agencies.

In this opportunity, GIIF talked to **Cristina Milesi** (Director at Niruthi Climate & Ecosystems Services) and **Mallikarjun Kukunuri** (Chief Executive at Niruthi Climate & Ecosystems Services) to discuss how does Niruthi uses technology to improve the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, what are the challenges and opportunities the organization faces in the Agritech, and what is Niruthi's plan for the future.

Niruthi was awarded under the Data & Analytics Category in the last [Insuretech Innovation Challenge](#) the Global Index Insurance Facility (GIIF) organized, and which was hosted in Mumbai, India in July 2019. [Watch the full video.](#)

GIIF EVENT

DAWN of Women in Agriculture: Technology as an enabler



As part of the [Food Systems Summit Dialogue](#), the [Future Food Institute](#) and [Moofarm](#) organized a virtual event on July 2nd about the role of women in farming and agriculture around the globe. GIIF attended to this event as Moofarm is one of the winners of the [July 2019 GIIF agriculture insuretech challenge](#), organized in India. Main speakers include

PUBLICATION

Digital Solutions for Youth Agripreneurs



This [S4YE Knowledge Brief "Digital Solutions for Youth Agripreneurs"](#) delves into how digital solutions can address four key constraints for youth agripreneurs: 1) access to finance, 2) access to inputs, 3) access to markets, and 4) capacity development. We discuss some digital tools and services which can help address these four constraints, e.g., mobile banking, alternate credit scoring, crowdfunding, real-time pricing, e-Agri extension, precision agriculture. Customization of services (e.g., addressing gender intersectionality, localization) can lead to increased adoption by youth agripreneurs. But there are associated risks, including the lack of data privacy, cybersecurity breaches which need to be addressed by policymakers.

Young farmers may be more open to adopting digital solutions in agriculture. More segmentation and customization of digital services can further increase adoption of digital services. Digital platforms which bundle services can bring multiple solutions into one relationship with young farmers and create efficiencies through aggregation and cross-subsidization. [Read full brief.](#)

GIIF BLOG

Gender and Technology Part II: Improving Women's Access to Insurance through Technology and Design Thinking



Photo Credit: Arne Hoel / World Bank

In the [previous part](#), we brought to your attention rural women's needs to access to insurance, and related research to better understand the importance of gender-responsive insurance products to mitigate women's financial and health risks. In this Part II, we'll provide detailed information on emerging trends on this topic.

participants from Future Food Institute, UN Scaling-Up Nutrition Movement, Devices Reliance Jio Infocomm, UNIDO ITPO Italy, Food Tank, and representation of the Government of Maharashtra.

In this blog, you will read a summary of main points mentioned at the event and a link to the [presentations](#) for more information. The discussion in the event highlighted that approximately 70-90% of the work in the livestock sector is done by women, but they are not fully participating nor taking advantage of the benefits that technology could bring to them and to the field. [Read more.](#)

GIIF INTERVIEW

Gaining the Momentum: Insurtech for Development



Photo Credit: Chhor Sokunthea / World Bank

In recent decades, an increasingly number of insurtech solution firms, mobile network operators and other innovators are brought into the insurance industry to harness power of new data and technology to catalyze innovation to reduce costs and increase client value. As one of the key pillars of the GIIF Program, innovation is central to realize the full potential of GIIF in closing the last mile protection gap with the aim to increase livelihoods of farmers and low-income families through improved access to knowledge, institutions (financial services and inputs, etc.) and markets.

GIIF plans to integrate technology in its operation in Sub-Saharan Africa and has commissioned market scoping and diagnostic studies to identify emerging insurtech players and tech solutions providers to insurance companies in the region. The Task Team Leader for this market analysis and mapping study in Africa is **Levan Shalamberidze**, Senior Investment Officer at the Equity and Fintech unit of the IFC Financial Institutions Group (FIG). Levan offered insights on the initiative in the broader context of technology and financial services. [Read more.](#)

[A 2019 study by CTA and Dalberg Advisors](#) found nearly 400 different digital agriculture solutions working across the continent reaching 33 million registered farmers, demonstrating the market potential. There is no doubt that COVID-19 has accelerated digital transition where digital platforms and financial products are increasingly employed to effectively reach and serve the clients. Financial services delivered via mobile phone show a promise in bridging the last mile gap, bringing financial tools directly to women where they live and work. [Read more.](#)

GIIF ARTICLE

Protecting Pastoralists and Building Resilient Livestock Sector



Photo Credit: Ray Witlin / World Bank

The livestock sector supports livelihoods of some 60% of rural households made up of 1.7 billion people worldwide. Currently, the World Bank has [US\\$1.9 billion](#) in active investments in improving livestock sector and enhancing pastoral livelihoods mostly in Africa, South Asia and Central Asia.

The Sahel region of Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly, has a strong tradition of animal rearing. Livestock sector contributes to [one-third to half of agriculture GDP in many Sahelian countries](#) such as Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger as well as Mauritania and Chad. Despite pastoralism being a major economic pillar in Sahel, pastoralists in the drylands experience a multitude of serious challenges. According to [International Livestock Research Institute \(ILRI\)](#), catastrophe herd loss due to drought is identified as the major source of vulnerability and cause of poverty. [Read more.](#)

ABOUT GIIF

On behalf of the Global Index Insurance Facility, we would like to welcome our new Knowledge Management & Communications colleague: Sandra Carrollo who joined the GIIF team last April 2021. Sandra is a national from Perú, and she comes from the International Monetary Fund where she worked as a Communications Officer for the COMs Department for almost five years. Welcome on board, Sandra!

The Global Index Insurance Facility (GIIF) is a dedicated World Bank Group's program that facilitates access to finance for smallholder farmers, micro-entrepreneurs, and microfinance institutions through the provisions of catastrophic risk transfer solutions and index-based insurance in developing countries. Funded by the European Union, the governments of Germany, Japan, and the Netherlands, GIIF has facilitated approximately 9.6 million contracts, covering close to 48 million people, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean.

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