

An Indian-Australian research partnership

## Project Title:

Linkages of HDI to Nutrition in a Transient Economy of India

## Project Number

IMURA0366

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## Research Academy Themes:

### Highlight which of the Academy's Theme(s) this project will address?

*(Feel free to nominate more than one. For more information, see [www.iitbmonash.org](http://www.iitbmonash.org))*

1. **Advanced computational engineering, simulation and manufacture**
2. Infrastructure Engineering
3. Clean Energy
4. Water
5. Nanotechnology
6. **Biotechnology and Stem Cell Research**

## The research problem

*Define the problem*

Making impactful improvements in HDI of a large country like India will need a "Long-term Policy" that is implementation friendly. Health of the hugely populated country can best be managed not through "disease-care" but more effectively through health-care that is "Food and Nutrition" centric. Therefore nutrition has been on the top most agenda of many developing countries and it occupies important place in UN Millenium development goals. Recent World bank report links Nutrition to GDP. Inspite of

efforts consecrated by governments, Indian states show mal-nutrition. (30 % kids below age of 6 years). The proposed project will evaluate Institutional, social and economic barriers in effectuating the planned objectives and suggest ways to have a 'implementation" friendly policy initiatives

## Project aims

### *Define the aims of the project*

- To study nutrition related indicators for economic growth
- To study the interventions/ policies/programs that are focused on improving nutritional status of children/adolescents
- To identify gaps/ weaknesses in the policies or program
- To study whether improvement in the rates of malnutrition impacted on the improved economy of Maharashtra (western state of India where IITBombay is situated) in the recent past
- To study if malnutrition later in life has an impact on economic growth of the State/Country
- Developing possible index to co-relate health-costs to an economy in absence of proper Food and Nutrition.

## Expected outcomes

Possible Index to Correlate Nutrition and Health.  
Based on data collected : Compare cost of "Disease Care" Vs "Health Care" through Food and Nutrition.

### **How will the project address the Goals of the above Themes?**

The proposed project is relevant to Theme 6 where it will address the issues of "Public-health" through appropriate policies to articulate a connectivity between "Food-Nutrition and Health" for a developing economy like India. The hypothesis : "costs much lower for the HDI improvement feasibility will be explored" . Data for a sample state ie Maharashtra will be collected and analysed.

### **Capabilities and Degrees Required**

*List the ideal set of capabilities that a student should have for this project. Feel free to be as specific or as general as you like. These capabilities will be input into the online application form and students who opt for this project will be required to show that they can demonstrate these capabilities.*

*Qualification in Biological sciences related to Nutrition and Public health will be useful to carry out the doctoral thesis work involving data collection, interpretation, analysis and report making..*