



## SIAC Midterm Review Meeting

organized by the CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council's  
**Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA)**  
Venue: Villa degli Angeli - Via Spiaggia del Lago, 32  
00040 Castel Gandolfo - Italy  
**27 – 28 February 2015**

### AGENDA

#### Thursday, 26 February: Evening (19:30) Welcome Dinner

#### Friday, 27 February: Morning (08:45 - 12:30)

#### 08:45 – 09:10 1. INTRO / CURRENT STATUS (Presenters: Doug + Tim)

- Welcome and introductions
- Background, overall scope, objectives and vision of success of the SIAC program
- Modus operandi for commissioning studies
- Timeline – budget + key milestones

#### 09:10 – 09:30 2. PURPOSE OF THE MID-TERM REVIEW (Presenter: Doug)

- Provide a comprehensive and integrated view of SIAC program to PSC & research activity leaders
- Assess state of progress to-date across the various activities against the planned timetable and vision of success as outlined in proposal
- Corrective measures and adaptation required in view of delays, etc.
- Agree on plan for final external review in late 2016
- Summary of major shifts in focus (late 2012 – early 2015)

#### 3. PROGRAM REVIEW

##### **SIAC Objective 1. Develop and pilot innovative methods for collection & assembly of diffusion data**

(Chair: Doug; Presenter: Mywish, Skype)

#### 09:30 – 10:30 Activity 1.1: Advance methodologies for tracking the uptake and adoption of improved varieties

- Summarize results to-date from three field studies: Cassava in Ghana; Beans in Zambia; Maize in Uganda

10:30 – 10:45 COFFEE

#### 10:45 – 11:05 Activity 1.2: Advance methodologies for tracking the uptake and adoption of NRM technologies

Summarize results from and implications of:

- IRRRI's study: Hyper-spectral signature analysis (alternative wetting & drying of rice in Bangladesh)
- CIMMYT's study: Mobile phone-based applications (improved nutrient management in India)
- ICRISAT's proposal

#### 11:05 – 11:15 Activity 1.3: Exploring market-based approaches for tracking adoption

Concept note, ready to launch open call

##### *Activity 1.4: Develop and disseminate best practices for collecting diffusion data*

No activity thus far; workshop will bring together results/learning from 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3 in late 2015

##### **SIAC Objective 2. Institutionalize the collection of diffusion data**

(Chair: Meena; Presenters: Mywish, Tim, James)

#### 11:15 – 11:45 Activity 2.1: Crop germplasm improvement, filling gaps in adoption estimates.

Progress to-date; plans for completion by October 2015

#### 11:45 – 12:45 Activity 2.2: Natural resource management, filling gaps in adoption estimates.

NRM research outcome database – initial candidates (PMS and Annual Reports); next steps for validating; and geo-spatial integrated outcomes database proposal

12:45 – 13:45 LUNCH + WALK BREAK

#### Friday, 27 February: Afternoon (13:45 - 17:30)

#### 13:45 – 14:15 Activity 2.3: Policy-oriented research (POR) influence claims.

POR outcomes database and report (Mitch Renkow by skype) and next steps

**14:15 – 15:00** *Activity 2.4: Institutionalising adoption data collection*  
LSMS-ISA in Ethiopia & Malawi (Frederic and John) and plans for other countries; National surveys in Zambia & Mozambique; India; Entry points for the agricultural census round??

**SIAC Objective 3. Assess the full range of impacts from CGIAR research**

(Chair: Julian; Presenters: Erwin (3.0), Karen (3.2), Bob (skype) or Meena (3.1), Tim/Doug Merrey (3.3)

**15:00 – 15:40** *Activity 3.0: Measuring the impact of CGIAR research on health and nutrition*  
Progress to date; issues arising

15:40 – 16:00 COFFEE

**16:00 – 16:30** *Activity 3.3: Under-evaluated areas of CGIAR research*  
Plan and progress to-date (irrigation report by Doug Merrey); next steps

**16:30 – 16:50** *Activity 3.1: Documenting long-term, large scale impacts from CG research*  
Progress to-date; brief description of the ranked study proposals (decision next week by PSC)

**16:50 – 17:30** *Activity 3.2: Micro-scale impact studies using experimental and quasi-experimental methods*  
Progress to-date; inception workshop and capacity development

*Adjourn at 17:30. Drinks and Dinner at 19:00*

**Saturday, 28 February: Morning (08:30-13:00)**

**SIAC Objective 4. Support the development of communities of practice for ex-post IA**

(Chair: Rachel; Presenters: Jeff Alwang, Lakshmi, James, Tim)

**08:30 – 08:35** *Activity 4.1: Small grants*  
What we learned from those we commissioned and why we cancelled it

**08:35 – 09:05** *Activity 4.2: IA capacity building in the CGIAR*  
Virginia Tech with CIP and CIFOR – progress update and plans

**09:05 – 09:10** *Activity 4.3: Workshops and conferences*  
Brief update (Minneapolis & IAFP meeting) – future plans (IAAE; Science Forum in Jan 2016)

**09:10 – 09:35** *Activity 4.4: Quality Rating System for IA studies*  
On-line review of CGIAR impact studies – update

**09:35 – 09:50** *Activity 4.5: CGIAR Impact Website*  
Brief overview/demonstration

**09:50 – 10:00** **M&E: Survey of donor demands for impact assessment:**  
Email survey results – key messages and remaining issues; next steps

10:00 – 10:15 COFFEE

**10:15 – 12:00** **Flagged topics / Cross-cutting issues** (Chair: Doug)  
SIAC deliverables – on target for delivery? Highest value outputs?  
Reassessing priorities – scope for re-allocating resources to achieve specific results (eg. adoption vs impact)?

**12:00 – 12:30** **SIAC management** (Chair: Doug)  
Scope for improving PSC meetings and member/observer interactions?  
Enhancing engagement with the FC, via the sub-committee FCEIA?  
External review in 2016 – commissioned by the IEA?  
Need for a 6-month extension beyond Dec 2016

**12:30 – 13:00** **Final Session** (Chair: Doug)  
Summarizing key take-home messages; Assessing progress towards achieving our vision of success

13:00 – 14:00 LUNCH + Adjourn for those leaving



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#### PARTICIPANT LIST

1	Julian Alston	UC Davis & SIAC PSC
2	Jeff Alwang	Virginia Tech
3	Rachel Bedouin	CGIAR IEA
4	Erwin Bulte	Wageningen University & SPIA
5	Denyse Faulkner	CGIAR Consortium Office
6	Peter Gardiner	CGIAR ISPC
7	Maggie Gill	University of Aberdeen & CGIAR ISPC
8	Doug Gollin	University of Oxford & CGIAR ISPC/SPIA
9	John Ilukor	CGIAR ISPC/SPIA
10	Meenakshi J.V.	University of Delhi & SPIA
11	Doug Merrey	Independent Consultant (via Skype)
12	Tim Kelley	CGIAR ISPC/SPIA
13	Frederic Kosmowski	CGIAR ISPC/SPIA
14	Lakshmi Krishnan	CGIAR ISPC/SPIA
15	Karen Macours	Paris School of Economics & SPIA
16	Mywish Maredia	Michigan State University (via Skype)
17	Shantanu Mathur	IFAD
18	Mitch Renkow	NC State University (via Skype)
19	James Stevenson	CGIAR ISPC/SPIA
20	Alan Tollervey	DFID & SIAC PSC (via Skype)
21	Ira Vater	CGIAR ISPC/SPIA