

Proposals should be sent to: james.stevenson@fao.org
no later than: **23:59 Rome, 31 January 2016**

Following a competitive call for Expressions of Interest (Eoi) in November 2015, the CGIAR Independent Science and Partnership Council's Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA) received 64 Eois. These were reviewed and scored by SPIA, and representatives of 18 Eois were invited to participate in a workshop in Rome on 16 and 17 December 2015. Following plenary discussions and collaborative group work in that workshop, SPIA is now inviting full proposals for 9 work packages outlined in table 1 overleaf.

These work packages can be led by a university, a consultancy firm, or a CGIAR research institute. Contracts can be awarded to individual institutes that are working together as a consortium for a single work package, or can be allocated to a lead institute for each work package, with sub-contracts to collaborators. Preference is given to the consortium model, with the lead institute being independent of the CGIAR center most associated with the practice under study. Please note that despite our preference for collaborative proposals for each work package, this is still a competitive process across work packages with no guarantee of funding.

Objective of SIAC Activity 2.2: "Documenting adoption of NRM practices"

The primary objective of SIAC Activity 2.2¹ is to use a multiplicity of approaches (desk review, personal interviews of scientists at CGIAR, expert opinion, carefully-timed farmer surveys, frontier technology² like remote sensing or drones, and qualitative methods including stakeholder interviews) to estimate current levels of adoption for a number of high-priority NRM practices. Similar to major efforts such as the [DIIVA](#) project that documented the adoption of improved varieties, the goal with this work is to demonstrate the viability of systematically tracking and documenting the outcomes from NRM research. The goal is to produce a report, to make available to donors and CGIAR stakeholders, that summarises reliable information on NRM research outcomes that have been verified and that can be attributed to the work of the CGIAR.

Guidance for teams preparing full proposals for work packages

1. Definitions of the necessary elements of the **technology** that are to be measured and of sufficient conditions to be considered **adoption** should be consistent across countries (and in the case of conservation agriculture, agreed across work packages) wherever possible.
2. Wherever possible, new household surveys should be nationally representative, or representative at the level of the most significant regions for the technology in question. New samples over limited geographic scope (e.g. two or three of districts) should only be proposed where there is either: a) a clear link to a nationally representative survey that lacks data on technology use and the team are attempting inference from the small area to the national scale; or b) to validate / calibrate an approach based on remote sensing; c) to estimate the extent and direction of the bias arising from using large-scale cell phone based (SMS or voice) surveys.
3. All data should be geo-referenced to the finest spatial scale possible, given the design.
4. A separate, independent, qualitative evaluation will be needed that interrogates the plausibility of the link between historical CGIAR research activities, and the current levels of adoption of the NRM practice in question. However, all efforts from CGIAR researchers involved in one of these work packages to collate internal documents on historical projects / programs / previous unpublished data on the NRM practice that can be shared with SPIA, would be appreciated.
5. Each proposal should have a "**core**" set of activities, and an "**upgraded**" set to include additional desirable activities, budgeted accordingly. The budget envelopes for core and upgraded activities for each work package are outlined in table 1.
6. **A template for the full proposals (8 – 10 pages) will be shared in early January 2016.** As described in the workshop presentation by Melanie Bacou, all full proposals should include a one-page data management plan outlining how the work

¹ See SIAC project at: <http://impact.cgiar.org>.

² Refer SIAC Activity 1.2 for MSU-led SPIA effort to test innovative approaches. <http://impact.cgiar.org/methods/nrm-technologies>

package will comply with the CGIAR open data policy. **Invited parties should update SPIA by 8th January 2016** regarding their intention to submit a full proposal and the expectations of other institutions in the work package. **Full proposals are due by 31st January 2016** and will be sent out for external review and subsequent consideration by the SIAC Project Steering Committee during February 2016, with final decisions to be communicated no later than 7 March 2016 and awarded contracts to commence as soon as possible thereafter.

Table 1 - List of 9 work packages for which full proposals are solicited under SIAC Activity 2.2

	Focus	Countries	Methodological considerations	Envelope - Core	Envelope - Upgraded
1	CA - Africa	Zambia, Malawi, Mozambique.	Analysis of data either currently in public domain or in the pipeline. Also provide estimates for adoption of agroforestry from same datasets where possible, and share with group leading work package 7.	\$100,000	\$125,000. As core, plus 1) Additional analyses on impact of adoption, or determinants of adoption; and 2) Convening expert opinion elicitation meetings in all three countries (for comparison with survey results)
2	CA and MD - Africa	Zimbabwe, Niger	Collate all CIMMYT and ICRISAT data for conservation agriculture and micro-dosing, and carry out expert opinion elicitation	\$100,000	\$150,000. As core, plus 1) Additional HH survey in Zimbabwe to complement
3	CA - Central Asia	Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan	Primarily expert opinion elicitation, and use of existing datasets	\$75,000	\$150,000. As core plus 1) Using links to household surveys (IGZ panel); and/or 2) Remote sensing (CIMMYT) for Kyrgyzstan
4	CA - South Asia	India (Indo-Gangetic Plains)	Phone survey across major agro-ecological zone where conservation agriculture has been promoted, coupled with HH surveys and remote sensing (where feasible) for validation.	\$200,000	\$300,000. As core, plus 1) Addition of a further S Asian country (either Pakistan and/or Bangladesh); and/or 2) More extensive survey work to test extent of bias from phone surveys; and/or 3) Additional remote sensing approaches
5	CA - Mexico	Mexico	Expert opinion estimation and calibration of remote sensing approach to representative area of Mexico	\$50,000	\$75,000. As core, plus more extensive validation
6	AWD	Vietnam, Bangladesh, Philippines	Remote sensing of soil moisture and/or other remote sensing approaches (considering that hyperspectral methods are not ready to be operationalised to date), with careful use of survey(s) to validate / calibrate. Consider network of moisture sensors. Exploit to maximum potential the links to existing SPIA grant for impact study (by NCSU and IRRI) which already has provision in budget for adoption estimation.	\$250,000	\$300,000. As core, plus 1) Include Indonesia and/or Myanmar; and/or 2) Incorporate additional remote sensing approaches to check for consistency across methods
7	Agro forestry	Zambia, Kenya, Rwanda, Zimbabwe	Biophysical survey + remote sensing + field validation and interrogation of use. Building on existing data wherever possible, including that which is being collected by ICRAF as part of SPIA-funded study on impacts of agroforestry in Kenya	\$150,000 Zambia and Kenya only	\$250,000. As core, plus 1) Add Rwanda and Zimbabwe
8	ICPM	Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana	Estimation of use of a selection of practices promoted under the ICPM process. Consolidation of existing data and new expert elicitation	\$50,000	\$100,000. As core, plus 1) Add at least one household survey to cross-check expert opinion estimates
9	ISFM	Kenya, Rwanda, Zambia	SMS surveys with links out to existing panel surveys (TAPRA II and IGZ) and additional HH level data collection to validate	\$250,000	\$300,000. As core plus 1) Incorporate crop simulation modelling