

## CGIAR Science Program Criteria

September 2024

Criteria <sup>1</sup>	QoR4D Elements	Alignment with Proposal Template
1. Clearly defined research problem that addresses Impact Areas, is a high priority in the targeted geographies, is well aligned to the 2030 Research Strategy, multi-funder priorities, and is well informed by previous research findings and lessons from the 22-24 Portfolio Initiatives.	Relevance, Effectiveness	2, 3
2. Evidence that the Science Program is demand driven through codesign with key stakeholders and partners (NARES, governments, farmers, private sector, funders) and research collaborators within and outside CGIAR. <sup>2</sup>	Relevance, Legitimacy, Effectiveness	2, 3, 7
3. Analysis of comparative advantage of CGIAR in delivering key outputs and outcomes (rather than focus on inputs) necessary for impact and how this has created opportunities for new partnerships.	Legitimacy, Effectiveness	4
4. Research questions address well defined knowledge gaps and emerging megatrends, with a particular emphasis on climate change, and are supported by underlying hypotheses.	Relevance, Credibility	2, 6
5. Theory of Change with intended outputs, outcomes, and impacts at scale clearly described. Assumptions are documented, causal linkages are clear, especially the role of partners in driving impact through inclusive innovation, and all indicators made explicit.	Effectiveness, Relevance	5
5.a When relevant Areas of Work 1 Areas of Work 2 Areas of Work 3 Areas of Work 4	Effectiveness, Relevance	6
6. Research approach and broad methodologies are fit-for-purpose, feasible, are innovative and rigorous in data collection and analysis, and make appropriate use of laboratories, field sites, modelling assets, and digital infrastructure (soft and hard).	Relevance, Effectiveness	Partly in 6
7. Research design and proposed implementation demonstrates genuine gender and social inclusion in both the research process	Legitimacy, Effectiveness	11

<sup>1</sup> Review of appendices are not required to assess proposal and are supporting materials.

<sup>2</sup> The types, range, and roles of partners needs to be fully explained. For example, partners involved in research implementation may be different to those partners needed for delivery of outcomes and scaling of impacts and they will have different roles in codesign and codelivery. How these partners have been included in the Initiative design process needs to be described with evidence of their support.

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and in its intended outcomes with explicit linkages to the Gender and Social Inclusion Accelerator.		
8. Anticipated research outputs (knowledge, technical, or institutional advances, specific technologies or products, policy analyses) are described and knowledge/gaps they will fill are evident with a demonstrated focus on quality and impact relevance.	<b>Credibility, Effectiveness</b>	<b>6</b>
9. Evidence that the Science Program will likely lead to impact at scale through approaches that drive inclusive innovation in research and partnerships, with explicit linkages to other Science Programs, Impact for Scaling, and Accelerators.	<b>Effectiveness, Credibility, Relevance,</b>	<b>7, 8, 10</b>
10. A risk framework that details main program risks and mitigation actions, including intended and unintended consequences of technologies/innovations for natural resources, GHG emissions, and social and economic aspects.	<b>Credibility, Legitimacy, Relevance</b>	<b>13</b>
11. MELIA approach that supports effective adaptive management and learning. Lessons are used to proactively to reflect on and adapt the Theory of Change. Impact assessment strategy outlined.	<b>Credibility, Effectiveness, Legitimacy</b>	<b>9, 10</b>