**SPIA Declaration of Interest Statement**

The Standing Panel on Impact Assessment (SPIA) is an external, impartial panel of experts in impact assessment that is responsible for providing rigorous, evidence-based, and independent strategic advice to the broader CGIAR System on efficient and effective impact assessment methods and practices, including those measuring impacts beyond contributions to science and economic performance, and on innovative ways to improve knowledge and capacity on how research contributes to development outcomes. [[1]](#footnote-1)

To fulfill its mandate, SPIA works with a wide range of partners inside and outside CGIAR. It is imperative that SPIA is, and is seen to be, independent and objective. If its independence and objectivity are compromised, the quality of its advice is reduced and trust in SPIA’s advice is lost.

Conflicts of interest (COI) associated with the Panel Chair and Members could compromise, or be perceived to compromise, the independence and objectivity of SPIA.

The aim of this policy is therefore to ensure that any potential conflicts of interest are made open and transparent, and that processes are managed to take declared interests into account. No policy can account for every eventuality; it is the responsibility of all individuals working with SPIA to declare any unforeseen associations which could be perceived as a conflict.

Due to the nature of work and products produced for SPIA, it is incumbent on the individual to consider and volunteer any real, potential or perceived conflicts of interest. Many potential and perceived COI can be mitigated and managed with prior knowledge and consideration.

**What is a conflict of interest?**

There are many types of conflicts of interest, including personal, institutional, scientific, political or ethical. In these, an individual is compromised by their loyalty to individuals (themselves, family members, or friends), institutions (former or current students or colleagues), scientific interests or political allegiance.

The potential benefit or gain accrued may be obvious, such as financial reward or employment, or more subtle, such as reputational gain or access to privileged knowledge. The ‘benefit’ might also be negative, in the sense that a grievance or dislike is reflected by a negative opinion.

In the specific SPIA context, common examples of when conflict of interest may arise include:

* Commissioning work from family members, friends, colleagues, employers, former colleagues, former employers;
* Being involved in reviews or evaluations of projects/programs/proposals from, or including, family members, friends, colleagues, employers, former colleagues, former employers, competitors of current or former colleagues or employers;
* Considering family members, friends, former colleagues and former employers for appointment as SPIA Council or consultants.

**SPIA Chair/Member Declaration of Interest Statement[[2]](#footnote-2)**

1. **Are you now employed by a CGIAR Center/One CGIAR or during the last two years, have you personally been employed as the DG or Head of Research of a CGIAR Center/One CGIAR, the Director of a research program or the CEO/DG of a significant public research institute which is a collaborator/competitor of a CGIAR Center/One CGIAR or served as a Board Chair or Chair of a Board Science Committee of a CGIAR Center/One CGIAR.**

YES  NO

*If Yes, please provide brief details:*

1. **During the last five years, have you personally been involved in the activities of a CGIAR Center/One CGIAR or a research program, as an employee, consultant, adviser, Board or Advisory Committee member (i.e. in receipt of financial remuneration beyond expenses) or in receipt of significant funding from a financial contributor to the CGIAR?**

YES  NO

*If Yes, please provide brief details:*

1. **Are you now, or during the last two years have you personally been employed by a partner organization which is either a significant collaborator with a CGIAR Center/One CGIAR or research program, a significant competitor for donor funding or in receipt of donor funding?**

YES  NO

*If Yes, please provide brief details:*

1. **During the last five years, has a family member or someone with whom you have a strong personal or professional relationship, been involved in the activities of a CGIAR Center/One CGIAR, CGIAR Advisory Body or research program, as an employee, consultant, adviser, Board or Advisory Committee member (i.e. in receipt of financial remuneration beyond expenses) or as a financial contributor to the CGIAR?**

YES  NO

*If Yes, please provide brief details:*

1. **Are you (your organization or institutional department) a recipient of CGIAR funding (including SPIA grants)?**

YES  NO

*If Yes, please provide brief details:*

1. **Please give details of any other activity, engagement or relationship with the CGIAR during the last ten years:**
2. **Please give details of any ongoing grants you are receiving or consultancies relevant to CGIAR impact areas that you are carrying out for the private sector/industry [[3]](#footnote-3):**
3. **Due to the nature of work and products for SPIA, it is incumbent on the individual to consider and volunteer any real, potential or perceived conflicts of interest. Please use this space to declare any other information needed for IAES [[4]](#footnote-4) operating as secretariat to SPIA to assess and manage real, potential or perceived conflicts of interest that have not been covered in the preceding questions:**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Declaration:** I declare that the information provided on this Statement is true and complete. | | | | | |
| **Full Name**: |  |
| **Date** (DD/MM/YYYY): |  |  | **Signed** |  |
|  |  |  |  | *insert digital signature, or print and sign* |

**SPIA Specific Conflict of Interest Declaration**

**Name:**

**Date** (DD/MM/YYYY) **:**

**Summary/title of conflict of interest declared:**

**Description of conflict of interest declared:**

**Agreed action to manage conflict of interest:**

**Signed by SPIA Chair/Member:**

**Signed by Director, CGIAR Independent Advisory and Evaluation Service:**

1. https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarorg/2018/10/TOR-SPIA-Approved-4Oct2018.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. When offered an engagement as SPIA Chair/Members, you are expected to complete this Declaration of Interest Statement. Once appointed, you should bring to the attention of the Chair and the IAES Director any new activity you engage in, which relates to any of the questions in the original Statement (by updating and signing the Statement). Furthermore, on an annual basis, in December, you will be invited to declare new arising interests. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. If you are working or start working with another client under a non-disclosure or similar commercial-in-confidence arrangement, and if that work is relevant to CGIAR and may present a perceived or real COI, then careful consideration must be given as to whether it is appropriate, per the stated IAES COI policy, to enter into or continue an appointment with CGIAR IAES on behalf of SPIA. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. CGIAR Independent Advisory and Evaluation Service (IAES) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)