



Extract of 19 December 2015 'Call for Proposals':
Platform assessment criteria

Purpose

As background information for the discussion on platform proposal development and assessment, this document sets out an extract of the relevant section of the 2017-2022 CGIAR Research Program Portfolio (CRP2) Final Guidance for Full Proposals, as issued on 19 December 2015.

The full document is available if required at:

https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10947/4127/CGIAR-2ndCall-GuidanceFullProposals_19Dec2015.pdf?sequence=1

4.1 Criteria for Assessing Full Proposals

The following criteria have been developed in consultation with the ISPC and will be used to review proposals. There is no formal weighting applicable to the criteria, and each criterion must be adequately addressed.

[...]

4.4 Criteria for Platforms

The platforms are envisaged as CGIAR system-level service platforms and will therefore be judged (and ultimately monitored) on the appropriateness and efficiency of their services and outputs to users, rather than the outcome focus of the programs – nevertheless a clear relationship should be established in terms of platform goals and illustrated demand from programs. Criteria for assessment of Platforms will therefore include:

- The extent to which the platform will **contribute to key strategic needs of CGIAR** (i.e. alignment with SRF and feasible contribution to targets described in the Results Framework)
- **Comparative and competitive advantage of CGIAR and ability to deliver** (Evidence - e.g. summary of the state of the art in the area and any lessons learned from previous or related efforts - to explain why CGIAR should lead the proposed platform).
- **Partnerships** (including such elements as the underlying strategy and advantages of partner choices, recognition of particular strengths and weaknesses—and how these will be addressed.)
- **Coherence and added value of the platform to the CRP portfolio and external users** (The extent to which the organization of the platform can add value to CGIAR programs and the cross-cutting interactions between other platforms and programs).
- **Track record and credibility of the team** (e.g. skills, experience, and capacity of the proposed lead as well as partners and collaborators to deliver fully and in a timely manner on the proposed activities).
- **Mechanisms for assuring the quality of data and of science.** (e. g. demonstration that effective means for data collection, and for ensuring data curation and its utility for sharing are in place; the adequacy of the plans for engagement with the research community; the adequacy of linkages to other institutes and providers; the quality and efficiency of platform arrangements, outputs and services).
- **Governance and management** (are the leadership, management and governance arrangements appropriate to CGIAR responsibilities for stewardship and IPG use, including for partnership management).
- The **business case** (whether the proposed business case will ensure sustainability of the CGIAR capability).
- **Appropriateness of budget in relation to the activities proposed**