

CAS Evaluation Function 2021 Progress

Purpose

This additional resource for SC12 illustrates key achievements of the evaluation function since the beginning of 2021, with a focus on the completion of the 12 CRP reviews in 2020 and the commencement of the. Synthesis and Lessons Learned from Evaluations across CGIAR System and CRP Evaluations covering the period 2016 to 2020.

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System Council: Evaluation Function under CGIAR Advisory Services (CAS)

CAS Evaluation function has commenced delivery on its 2021 work program, while building on the 2020 results .

2020 Reviews of 12 CGIAR Research Programs

In 2020, the CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat (CAS Secretariat^[1]), through its evaluation function completed independent reviews of the twelve CGIAR research programs (CRPs^[2]): most of them were the 2nd phase of earlier five-year CRPs.

- One response has been received for [PIM CRP review](#) and posted in January 2021. PMU agreed to 4 out of 6 recommendations and provided an approach to address other recommendations.
- Knowledge Management around CRP 2020 reviews is supported by a database to facilitate learning. Knowledge sharing and targeted presentations have been made to various stakeholders: Science Leaders, ISDC and MEL COP.
- As of January 2021, across 12 CRP reviews reports were downloaded 1351 times.

2021 Synthesis and Lessons Learned from CRP 2020 review and previous evaluations

In response to the request of CGIAR System Council, the evaluation function under CAS Secretariat has commissioned a synthesis of evidence from evaluations and reviews conducted between 2016 and December 2020. The TOR for Synthesis and Lessons Learned from CRP 2020 review and previous evaluations was endorsed by SIMEC in February 2021.

The 2021 synthesis builds on the [2016 synthesis of CGIAR's evaluative studies coordinated by CGIAR Independent Evaluation Arrangement's](#) (IEA), which was the predecessor to the Evaluation function of CAS. IEA's 2016 synthesis covered evaluative studies and reviews undertaken within the first phase of CRPs (2010-2016). Further, the 2021 synthesis is contextualized by the Multilateral Organization Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN's) [first diagnostic assessment of the CGIAR](#) in 2019. The 2021 synthesis will aggregate and crystallize findings, lessons learned, and recommendations from the evaluations and reviews undertaken within 2016-2020 to evidence-fit the research portfolio and emerging Investment Plans. This synthesis would serve the dual purpose of accountability to the CGIAR system and learning; steering the delivery of the One CGIAR research strategy in navigating complexity and uncertainty to achieve impact. The draft report of the synthesis along with its outline is expected by 23 April 2021, and a FINAL report is expected no later than 10 May 2021. Subsequently series of knowledge sharing events around the synthesis results will be organized with diverse stakeholder groups.