

Creating a One CGIAR Evaluation Policy

Purpose: This note provides the approach brief for revising the 2012 CGIAR External Evaluation Policy.

2012 CGIAR Evaluation Policy Revision- Approach: The One CGIAR change calls for a fit-for-purpose evaluation policy that supports the evolving needs and demands of One CGIAR vis-à-vis evaluation. In line with the CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat Terms of Reference, as custodian of the policy, the Shared Secretariat is coordinating the process of revising the policy. The approach is consultative, iterative, inclusive, and guided by evaluation industry standards.

The revision approach has been vetted with SIMEC on 21 May 2021 and scoping and consultation exercises have started with internal users, such as CGIAR MEL COP.

The policy revision will be aligned with the [CGIAR 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy](#), its companion document, the [CGIAR Performance and Results Management Framework 2022-2030](#), and the [CGIAR Strategy and Results Framework-2016-2030](#).

Action(s) Requested: The System Council is invited to peruse the 2012 CGIAR Evaluation Policy Revision- Approach Brief for informational purposes. For those who wish to engage further on the process, content, and next steps for the policy revision there will be a discussion during the ‘deep-dive’ virtual session on Friday 11 June.

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CGIAR Evaluation Policy Revision- Approach Brief

Context and Background: The 2012 CGIAR Policy for Independent External Evaluation addresses independent external evaluations of CGIAR as a whole and in particular the CGIAR [Research Programs \(CRPs\)](#). The 2012 Policy underpins the management and support of high-quality evaluations of CGIAR to ensure accountability, promoting learning, knowledge-sharing and a culture of evaluation across CGIAR.¹

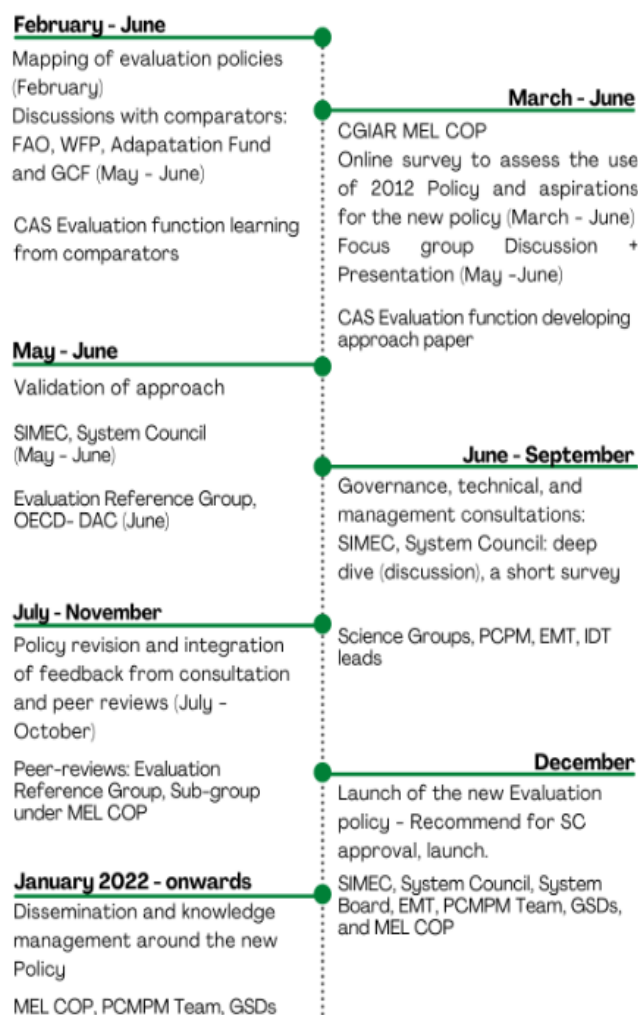
Internal drivers for 2012 Policy revision are: (i) the transition to One CGIAR, (ii) addressing the 2019 MOPAN review, (iii) transition from IEA to CAS. External drivers for the revision are: (i) the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and, (ii) [OECD revised DAC criteria](#) in 2019.²

The revised evaluation policy aims to:

- Establish an institutional basis and define the governance structure of CGIAR evaluation-related function(s);
- Reinforce demand for and use of evaluations for learning, to support decision-making and accountability in One CGIAR;
- Enhance attention to quality assurance dimensions for all evaluations commissioned within CGIAR;
- Enhance capacity and guidance on conducting and use of evaluations within CGIAR initiatives;
- Strengthen complementarity between evaluation and Performance Results Management functions.

Principles and Process: The revision process is (i) evidence-based (ii) iterative (iii) inclusive, and (iv) guided by evaluation industry standards. It follows a 4-phased approach (milestones illustrated on the right) with three core phases to be implemented in 2021, followed by knowledge management and dissemination in 2022:

- I. Scoping (Q1-Q2)
- II. Approach Validation / Consultations (Q2-Q3)
- III. Evidence-based revision (Q3-Q4)
- IV. Knowledge Management & Dissemination (2022)



Stakeholder group	Scoping	Validation/ Consultations	Revision/ Peer-review	Dissemination/ Knowledge Management
CGIAR MEL COP	X	X	X	X
Governance bodies (SIMEC, System Council) and System Board	X	X		
Evaluation Reference Group		X	X	
External: comparators, OECD-DAC	X			
Internal: Project Coordination, Monitoring and Performance Management Team/Research Delivery and Impact Division	X	X	X	X
Internal CGIAR stakeholders: Executive Management Team (EMT), Global Science Group Directors (GSDs), Initiative Design Team (IDT) leads, Performance Panel.		X		X

¹ CGIAR Policy for Independent External Evaluation – paragraph 2

² OECD DAC criteria provide a normative framework used to determine the merit or worth of an intervention (policy, strategy, programme, project or activity) – the basis upon which evaluative judgments are made.