



Agenda Item 2

For Decision

Issued: 22 February 2022

Recommendation of the CGIAR System Board for second batch of CGIAR Initiatives

Purpose

The document sets out a recommendation of the CGIAR System Board pursuant to its role in the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization to “recommend to the System Council proposals and indicative funding requirements for the CGIAR Portfolio” (Article 8.1 aa)).

Action Requested

The System Council is requested to review the advance materials provided for this agenda item, and if thought appropriate, approve the decision point presented below:

Decision: Pursuant to Article 6.1 q) of the CGIAR System Framework, the System Council approves the proposals for 12 CGIAR Initiatives to commence from 1 April 2022, noting that the indicative funding amounts for those proposals is set out in the 2022-2024 CGIAR Portfolio and Designated Financing Plan as approved by the System Council at its 15-16 December 2021 meeting.

<p>Document category: Working document of the System Council There is no restriction on the circulation of this document</p>

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Background

1. The System Board met on 21 February 2022 to consider its formal recommendation to the System Council on the second set of Initiatives as part of the [2022-2024 Investment Prospectus](#) (as approved by the System Council during its 13th meeting in June 2021).
2. The second set of 12 Initiative Proposals (as listed in the Annex) were submitted to the CGIAR Advisory Services Shared Secretariat on 3 December 2021 for external review moderated by the ISDC. That review was supported by the ISDC's earlier review in 2021 of a Companion Document on the 2022-2024 Investment Prospectus.
3. In advance of its 21 February meeting, the System Board benefitted from early view of the ISDC's reports of the external review of the 12 Initiative proposals. The System Board expressed its sincere gratitude to the ISDC for the thoughtful and dedicated work to undertake their review, which provided overall comfort that the proposals are of high-quality, and valuable insights on how these could continue to be strengthened as they are taken forward.
4. The System Board's deliberations also benefitted from rich discussion with the ISDC Chair, the Executive Management Team and senior science leadership, and committed to continue to explore the themes raised.
5. The System Board has confidence in management's planned approaches to take forward areas of clarification and strengthening identified during the 6-month 'inception phase' of the Initiatives, particularly as these relate to:
 - i. The role and positioning of the Regional Integrated Initiatives in the broader context of the 2022-2024 Prospectus
 - ii. The role of partnerships, including in addressing identified internal CGIAR skills gaps
 - iii. Specific needs relating to social scientists within each Initiative

Recommendation of the System Board

6. Thus, at the conclusion of its deliberations, the Board:
 - i. **Approved** the proposals for a set of 12 CGIAR Initiatives **and recommended these to the CGIAR System Council** pursuant to Article 8.1 aa) of the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization;
 - ii. **Recognized** the clearly identified opportunities for strengthening of the research agenda for the 2022-2024 investment period; and
 - iii. **Requested** that at the conclusion of the inception phase, the initially submitted proposals for all CGIAR Initiatives be revised into new documents, building on the recommendations of the ISDC's reviews and further stakeholder consultation in countries and regions.

Annex – Second Set of CGIAR Initiative Proposals

- [Resilient Cities Through Sustainable Urban and Peri-urban Agrifood Systems](#)
- [From Fragility to Resilience in Central and West Asia and North Africa \(F2R-CWANA\)](#)
- [Nature-Positive Solutions for Shifting Agrifood Systems to More Resilient and Sustainable Pathways](#)
- [AgriLAC Resiliente: Resilient Agri-Food Innovation Systems Driving Food Security, Inclusive Growth, And Reduced Out-Migration in Latin America and the Caribbean \(LAC\)](#)
- [Resilient Aquatic Food Systems for Healthy People and Planet](#)
- [Securing the food systems of Asian Mega-Deltas for climate and livelihood resilience \(AMD\)](#)
- [Sustainable Intensification of Mixed Farming Systems \(SI-MFS\)](#)
- [Transforming Agrifood Systems in West and Central Africa \(TAFS-WCA\)](#)
- [Foresight and Metrics to Accelerate Food, Land, and Water Systems Transformation](#)
- [Harnessing Digital Technologies for Timely Decision-Making across Food, Water, and Land Systems](#)
- [Fruit and Vegetables for Sustainable Healthy Diets \(FRESH\)](#)
- [HER+: Harnessing Gender and Social Equality for Resilience in Agrifood Systems](#)