

Agreement on CRP Governance Structure: The FC's Evaluation and Impact Assessment Committee (EIAC) is recommending the FC's approval of a new CRP Governance Structure

At FC11, the Fund Council discussed the Review of CGIAR Research Programs Governance and Management (RPGM) which was commissioned by the Independent Evaluation Arrangement (IEA). The review was intended to provide a better understanding of the various governance and management arrangements across all CRPs. The RPGM concluded with eight recommendations aimed at improving both the performance and accountability of the CRPs.

The EIAC, which reviewed the report in detail prior to the FC meeting, expressed its full agreement with all the RPGM recommendations. However, it noted differences of opinion/interpretation with the Consortium Board on recommendations 1 and 4. These recommendations addressed the reporting lines and also the independence of the governing bodies of the CRPs as follows:

Recommendation 1: "Create a single, balanced governing body for each CRP that reports directly to the lead center board on the performance of the program. The CRP governance body should bring together appropriate expertise, include a majority of independent expert members, and accommodate lead center and partner representation."

Recommendation 4: "Strengthen the authority of the CRP leader to manage for results: (i) place the reporting line and accountability for performance with the CRP governing body included in Recommendation 1; (ii) give CRP leaders the authority to establish appropriate management and program advisory arrangements; (iii) institute a formal role in the performance evaluation of CRP program managers and coordinators employed by centers."

After discussion, the FC asked the EIAC to establish a joint EIAC and Consortium Board ad hoc committee (with support from the IEA) to examine further the recommendations in the RPGM and to look into possible solutions and then report back to the FC.

The Fund Office is pleased to report to the Fund Council that the EIAC has reached an agreement with the Consortium Board (represented by Consortium CEO Frank Rijsberman) on the proposed reporting structure for CRPs.

CRP GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Agreement:

- The CRP Independent Steering Committee (ISC) is the central decision-making body.
- The ISC manages the performances of the CRP Leader, approves the work plan and budget.
- On a day-to-day basis the CRP Leader reports to the Lead Center DG.
- Center DGs are expected to be members of the ISC, as *ex officio* members. Centers DGs can't represent a majority on the ISC.
- The implementation of the proposed structure is mandatory for the next generation of CRPs. During the extension phase (2015-2016), Lead Centers are invited to consider a progressive transition towards the proposed reporting structure.

