

Response to SP-IPM CCER Recommendations:

Recommendation 1: *The SP-IPM coordinator should prepare a short report indicating how cross-cutting research on IPM addresses CGIAR System Priorities.*

This recommendation is accepted. The report will be available for inclusion in the new MTP narrative.

Recommendation 2: *The cross-cutting approaches used in the SP-IPM Medium-term Plan for 2007-09 should be used as the basis for further research planning.*

This recommendation is accepted. The 2007-2009 MTP approach will be used for the 2008-10 MTP and will be the basis for discussion at the planning workshop to be held later in the year.

Recommendation 3: *The Program should develop clear criteria for identifying a limited number of new thematic areas of research in which there is clear added value to the majority of the partners.*

This recommendation is accepted. Priority setting will be conducted in the upcoming planning workshop. In addition, the value of the various new research areas will be assessed with stakeholders at the symposium planned for the upcoming IPPC meeting.

Recommendation 4a: *If the SP-IPM continues with the existing structure, it is recommended that it carefully considers the membership of the Steering Committee and IIWG whereby all significant partners can participate in the processes of programme planning and priority setting and decision-making is inclusive, fair and transparent.*

The recommendation is accepted. The membership of the SC and its relation to the IIWG will be taken up in the planning workshop later this year.

Recommendation 4b: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM resolves the current confusion and carefully considers the merit of a smaller but representative Steering Committee (largely elected on a rotational basis from members of the IIWG) to enhance the effectiveness and transparency of decision-making processes and resource allocation.*

The recommendation is accepted. The composition of the SC and its selection will be taken up at the planning workshop later this year.

Recommendation 5: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM considers seeking a Chair who is not associated with either a CG or a non-CG member for greater independence in decision-making. For enhancing the profile of the SP-IPM, it would be desirable to seek a person with an international reputation in IPM. With the enhanced emphasis of the SP-IPM on policy analysis, it is also recommended that a member with policy analysis expertise be invited to join the IIWG.*

These two recommendations are accepted. Efforts are currently being made to recruit a Chair from outside the CG and outside the IIWG. We are focusing on a Chair with an international reputation in IPM. We will also request that IFPRI reconsider its membership in the SP-IPM to bring in the needed policy expertise.

Recommendation 6: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM should develop TORs for the IIWG to highlight its roles as a discussion and priority-setting forum and clearly distinguish its responsibilities from those of the Steering Committee with which it currently shares many members. It is also recommended that annual evaluation of the Chair be included in the TORs of the Steering Committee and the evaluation report should also be forwarded to the Convening Centre.*

These two recommendations are accepted. The TOR for the IIWG will be considered at the upcoming planning workshop. It is clearly of benefit to include the annual evaluation of the Chair as part of the SC responsibilities. Reporting to the CC on the evaluation will allow for greater follow through if needed.

Recommendation 7: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM take account of the suggestions made concerning the required qualities of both the Chair of the Steering Committee and the Coordinator when recruiting for these positions in 2007. It is also recommended that the responsibilities of the two positions for resource mobilization should be greatly enhanced. In addition, the Chair and the Coordinator should consult with existing donors to the SP-IPM on what they expect from the programme.*

This recommendation is accepted. The suggested change in the TOR for both the Chair and Coordinator is accepted. The SP-IPM Management needs to carefully consider the need to involve the donors in the planning and in the SP-IPM activities. This will be done as soon as possible, including an invitation to the Donor for the planning workshop to be held later this year.

Recommendation 8: *It is recommended that as part of the revival process the SP-IPM implements an externally facilitated workshop in 2007 to discuss the recommendations of the CCER and the EPMR and to effectively operationalize those recommendations on focus, value-addition, substance and process.*

This recommendation is accepted. The externally facilitated workshop will be held as soon as possible in 2007.

Recommendation 9: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM gives urgent attention to improving its priority setting processes and focuses on no more than three key priority themes during the revival phase. In order to achieve a more equitable, demand-driven and transparent process, external facilitation of priority-setting may be needed initially.*

This recommendation is accepted. The priority setting process will be established for the upcoming planning workshop. The number of high priority themes will also be agreed upon and developed at that meeting.

Recommendation 10: *It is strongly recommended that a transparent procedure on 2007 funding allocation be urgently agreed among SP-IPM members based on a) achievement of the outputs in the approved MTP 2007-2009 log-frame, b) start-up development of a selected and further prioritised group (no more than 3) of the identified emerging R4D and c) other activities recommended by this review e.g. facilitated capacity building workshops for SP-IPM members. It is also recommended that the SP-IPM seek more innovative and transparent ways of funding its activities based on proven examples used in other system-wide programmes.*

These recommendations are accepted. Focus on allocation of 2007 funds will be on delivery of output targets for 2007, the planning workshop, and other activities recommended by the review. The budget will be presented and approved by the SC. The planning workshop will consider the best options to fund future activities of SP-IPM.

Recommendation 11: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM urgently develops a phased resource mobilization plan based on focussed and realistic outputs to re-build the programme and, especially, on donor intelligence.*

This recommendation is accepted. The draft resource mobilization plan will be considered by the SC after the agreed upon outputs are clearer from the planning workshop.

Recommendation 12: *To avoid further misconceptions and confusion of attribution, it is recommended that the SP-IPM should identify centres involved in all inter-centre activities in its reports and in the rolling MTPs and that individual centres explicitly acknowledge support from the SP-IPM in their reports and rolling MTPs. It is also recommended that the SP-IPM Coordinator clarifies future reporting requirements with SDC.*

This recommendation is accepted. The SP-IPM will benefit greatly from the acceptance of this approach for acknowledgement of contribution from and to its members. It will strengthen support for the SP-IPM within the Centres and insure member receive credit for value added outputs. The commitment and modality to implement this will be considered at the planning workshop.

Recommendation 13: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM builds an effective internal monitoring and evaluation system that will accommodate on-going monitoring and formative evaluation of both program management and research progress as well as ex ante and ex post evaluation of projects to demonstrate links between research and poverty alleviation. It is also recommended that the SP-IPM contract a consultant to help to develop and establish such a system in the programme.*

This recommendation is accepted. It is clear that an effective M&E system is needed for the SP-IPM. The use of consultant to develop the system will assist in building support

for it within the SP-IPM members. The new system will be presented to the SP-IPM planning workshop later in 2007.

Recommendation 14: *It is recommended that priority should be given to impact assessment in those pilot sites where significant achievements appear to have been made e.g. Morocco and Kenya. It is also recommended that - funding permitted – the SP-IPM should initiate actions to ensure that as much as possible is achieved by the programme in 2007 to contribute to future outputs in the MTP 2007-2009 through investment in appropriate activities as outlined above.*

The two recommendations are accepted. Funds will be allocated in 2007 for an assessment of impact from at least one pilot site. Allocation of 2007 funds will focus on 2007 output targets and planning for the future as suggested.

Recommendation 15: *It is recommended that the SP-IPM accepts the MTP 2007-2009 as a rolling MTP during its remaining lifetime, with modifications for specific activities (e.g. a limited number of new R4D themes), as it effectively captures the concept of adding-value to centre and global IPM activities.*

This recommendation is accepted. The 2008-10 MTP will be developed from the 2007-9 MTP. The 2007 planning workshop will consider modification and implementation of this rolling MTP.

Overall, the recommended changes in the TOR for the SC, Chair and Coordinator are accepted. These are shown in the final version of the TOR given below:

Body	Roles and responsibilities (TORs)
Convening Centre (CC)	Manage the SP-IPM Coordination Unit Fiscal and reporting responsibility for SP-IPM funds Represent SP-IPM within and outside the CG Serve as ex-officio member of the SC through the DDG-research
Board of Trustees (BOT)	Overall responsibility for and financial oversight of SP-IPM Approve the SP-IPM MTP project Approve changes to the SP-IPM mission, policy and TORs
Steering Committee (SC)	Nominates and elects the Chair Recruits the Coordinator for appointment by the CC Evaluates the Coordinator performance for the CC <i>Evaluates the Chair and reports on performance to the CC</i> Approves Coordination Unit and SP-IPM work plans Approves new thematic groups <i>Proposes and approves new members of the IIWG</i> Recommends SP-IPM mission and policy statements and TORs of component bodies for approval by the BOT
Chair	Promotes SP-IPM within and outside the CG system Provides overall leadership of the SP-IPM Promotes collaborative links within the SP-IPM and with other

	<p>allied organisations</p> <p>Chairs and assists with the organization of SC and IIWG meetings</p> <p><i>Supports the Coordinator for fund raising, advocacy and public relations</i></p>
Coordinator	<p>Serve as contact point catalyse and facilitate approved activities, mobilize and disseminate technical and material resources and facilitate communication between IIWG members and other stakeholder/partners</p> <p>Develop information and publicity materials and manage the SP-IPM website</p> <p>Serve as secretary to the SC to facilitate and organise SC and IIWG meetings</p> <p>Prepare biannual progress reports, technical reports to donors, other reports and minutes of SC meetings and report on the SP-IPM MTP to the CC</p> <p><i>Take the lead to generate and facilitate responses to funding opportunities, including gathering donor interest</i></p> <p>Prepare for approval and manage SP-IPM work plan and budget</p> <p>Report to the DDG of the CC and the Chair of the SC</p>