CGIAR RESEARCH PROGRAM ON CLIMATE CHANGE, AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY (CCAFS) INDEPENDENT SCIENCE PANEL CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

The CCAFS Independent Science Panel (ISP) is established to ensure independence of the programmatic directions of CCAFS. The ISP is accountable to, and appointed by, the CIAT Board of Trustees as the CGIAR Lead Center of CCAFS.

CCAFS ISP members act in their best capacity and are expected to manage their relationships with other ISP members, CIAT BoT, CCAFS staff, donors, and partners with objectivity and integrity. It is clear that if a CCAFS ISP member has affiliation(s) with any of the above it is not considered in and of itself a Conflict of Interest, as it is in the best interest of CCAFS that such CCAFS ISP members, through their relations and affiliations, have a comprehensive world view as well as networks of connections to further the goals and objectives of CCAFS.

This policy guides members in identifying and handling potential conflicts of interest that may arise in a given case, enabling them to provide the relevant information required for each situation to be addressed appropriately. A potential conflict of interest refers to any interests or activities (be they professional, financial, personal, and/or others) that may influence or impair objectivity in the sense of preventing the ISP members from performing their duties and responsibilities as CCAFS ISP members in the best interest of CCAFS and in an unbiased manner.

All CCAFS ISP members maintain the highest degree of integrity in their work and avoid potential conflicts of interest and the appearance of conflict. CCAFS ISP members are alert to situations that might cause a conflict of interest and take appropriate action to prevent conflict or disclose it. CCAFS ISP members are trusted to perform sound judgment to prevent and disclose any potential conflict of interest. Members must adhere to this policy and declare/sign annually a Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form (Appendix A) which will be kept on the ISP file by the Coordinating Unit. Declaration of Conflict of Interest shall be a standard item of ISP meeting agendas and appropriate record of this declaration shall be kept in all ISP meeting minutes.

If a conflict of interest arises, CCAFS ISP members must inform the ISP Chair who will decide on his/her participation and voting rights in the specific discussion and decision making process. If the ISP Chair is impaired to resolve the case or has a conflict of interest, the case shall be evaluated by the Vice Chair.

APPENDIX A: CONFLICT OF INTEREST DISCLOSURE FORM

Name:
Current Employer:
Role in the CCAFS ISP:
1. Please list all significant and <i>relevant professional activities</i> that might be considered conflict of interest if it applies to you. These may include employment and/or consulting relationships.
2. Please list current, significant, and <i>relevant financial interests</i> that may be viewed as impairing objectivity in carrying out ISP duties and responsibilities or may create an unfair advantage for you or any person or organization. These may include financial investments, intellectual property and commercial interests and sources of private sector research support.
3. Please provide any <i>other relevant information</i> that may affect objectivity or independence to perform in your role as a member of the ISP if it applies to you.
I hereby declare to the best of my knowledge that the information provided is complete and accurate. I understand that this form will be considered confidential and will be reviewed annually or before if my situation changes as stated in the Conflict of Interest Policy.
I hereby declare that I will comply with the CCAFS ISP Conflict of Interest Policy.
ISP member Date