



Fund

Ad-hoc Funders Forum

April 7, 2011 - Montpellier, France

"ISPC Comments on Strategic Results Framework"

(Presentation by ISPC Chair, Ken Cassman)

*Document presented for Agenda Item 3:
Presentation of the SRF for Endorsement*

Submitted by:
ISPC

ISPC comments on: **Strategic Results Framework**

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ISPC comments on the SRF

- **What the SRF must do**
 - **Develop the roadmap for the CGIAR workplan across Centers and with appropriate partners**
 - **Identify set of strategic system-level outcomes based on:**
 - **Core competencies**
 - **Comparative advantages**
 - **Existing infrastructure and assets**

ISPC comments on the SRF

Positive aspects:

- **Comprehensive description of CGIAR context—past, present, future.....**
- **Four System-Level Outcomes (derived from MDGs and CGIAR Vision) are foci of the SRF strategy:**
 - **Reducing rural poverty**
 - **Improving food security**
 - **Improving nutrition and health**
 - **Sustainable management of natural resources**

ISPC comments on the SRF

Positive aspects (cont.)

- **SLOs are combined with core competencies**

Currently:

- **Productivity/Commodities**
- **Natural resource management**
- **Social science and policy research**

Additional:

- **Production systems**
- **Climate change**
- **Nutrition and health**

ISPC comments on the SRF

- **Positive aspects (cont.):**
 - SRF intends to provide the targets for CRP research outputs derived from SLOs:
 - Proposes integration of research across core competencies
 - Provides guidelines for differentiation of partnerships across the spectrum of the R & D process

ISPC concerns with the SRF

- Does not provide a framework for bringing the research portfolio in the 15 CRPs in line with the SLOs across the 15 Centers
- If there is a need to approve this document (to maintain flow of funds), a timetable for its revision is needed so it can function as an SRF
 - Sets scope and focus of the CRP portfolio
 - Provides the yardstick against which outputs and outcomes are assessed
 - Guides prioritization if funding is insufficient

ISPC concerns with the SRF (cont.)

- Acceptance of the document should not automatically lead to acceptance of the 15 CRPs proposed because that will lock the system into an unsubstantiated portfolio, which will be difficult to change
- The SRF is not a results framework and pushes responsibility for defining activities, and the pathways for outputs, outcomes and impacts, to the CRP-level and even to the operational plan level
- Absence of an adequate SRF makes ISPC reviews of individual CRPs more difficult