

ISDC Membership Renewal

Purpose

This document provides the background information for the requested decision to renew one ISDC member for a second three-year term from 01 January 2026.

Action Requested

The System Council is requested to consider approval of:

- Extension of [Dr. David R. Just](#) as an ISDC member for a three-year term in effect 01 January 2026

Special notice on 'Consent Agenda' status of this document

This item is presented to the System Council according to Article 7.1(a) of the System Council's Rules of Procedure, permitting a 'consent agenda' consisting of items that require formal System Council decision but are submitted as a group for adoption by the System Council without discussion.

Further to the Rules of Procedure, **should a System Council member or Active Observer wish to remove an individual item from the Consent Agenda, that request should be communicated to the Secretary of the System Council by close of business Paris time on Wednesday 3 December 2025.**

Document category: Working document of the System Council. There is no restriction on the circulation of this document.

Prepared by: ISDC Secretariat within CGIAR's Independent Advisory and Evaluation Service on behalf of the ISDC Chair.

ISDC Membership Renewal

This document summarizes an ISDC membership renewal for decision at the 23rd meeting of System Council. The proposal represents a holistic approach to ensuring that ISDC's membership and leadership continues to deliver on the range and depth of competencies and diversity defined in its Terms of Reference and in line with System Council needs.

ISDC member renewal

The proposal for appointment renewal of three years is requested for one member whose term ends 31 December 2025. The member is **David R. Just**. Annex 1 presents his biography.

Professor Just contributed to a number of ISDC outputs over his membership period. The most intensive tasks for ISDC were the publication of the “Responding to Evolving Megatrends” discussion paper as well as the independent reviews of the 2025-2030 Research and Innovation Portfolio, notably the review of the Portfolio Narrative and 13 Proposals in 2024 as well as the Review of 13 Inception Reports in 2025. Dr. Just provided expertise crucial to the finalization of the megatrends study and has led two external Portfolio-related reviews in both 2024 and 2025.

Table 1: ISDC membership

Member	Affiliation	Role	Appointment End Date
Lesley Torrance	Honorary Fellow at the James Hutton Institute and Emeritus Professor of Biology at the University of St Andrews, UK	Chair	20 September 2028
Nompumelelo Obokoh	CEO, South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP)	Vice Chair/ Member	31 December 2025/ 30 June 2027
Bhavani Shankar (start 1 January 2026)	Professor and Co-Director at the Institute for Sustainable Food, University of Sheffield, UK	Member	31 December 2028
Ingrid Fromm	Research Associate and lecturer in International Agriculture at the Bern University of Applied Sciences, School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences, Zollikofen, Switzerland	Member	30 June 2028
Erin Lentz	Associate professor at the LBJ School of Public Affairs at The University of Texas, Austin, USA	Member	31 March 2028
Magali Garcia	Professor Emeritus, Universidad Mayor de San Andres, Bolivia	Member	30 June 2027
David Just (renewal)	Susan Eckert Lynch Professor of Science and Business, Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, USA	Member	31 December 2025

Proposed decision to be put forward to the System Council for approval

Pursuant to Articles 6.1 e) and f) of the CGIAR System Framework, the System Council is requested to:

- i. **Appoint** Dr. David R. Just as ISDC member for a second three-year term effective from 1 January 2025.

Annex 1: Renewal Member Biography

ISDC Member David Just

Dr. David Ryan Just received his PhD (2001) and MS (1999) degrees in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of California, Berkeley, and a BA (1998) in Economics from Brigham Young University. He is currently a Professor and was previously the Director of Graduate Studies in the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management at Cornell University. In addition, he served as co-director of the Cornell Center for Behavioral Economics in Child Nutrition Programs.

Dr. Just has more than 20 years of experience in agricultural economics, with a specific focus on agricultural, behavioral, and experimental economics. He has a strong academic background with an interdisciplinary focus, including collaborations with crop scientists, food scientists, veterinary researchers, entomologists, nutrition researchers, and psychologists.

Dr. Just's research is highly recognized by the Agricultural and Applied Economics Association (AAEA), leading to his selection as a Fellow of the Association. He has published numerous publications with more than 11,000 citations (Google Scholar [here](#)). He has written one of the premier textbooks in the field of Behavioral Economics (*Introduction to Behavioral Economics*, 2014).

His work in behavioral economics and innovative methodologies addresses both ease of access to information and how credibility is assessed, as well as drivers of technology adoption, such as how agricultural producers assess risk and how they seek information to guide choices. He has done significant work on how behavioral interventions can guide food choice, including the adoption of healthier diets and foods that may often face resistance. His work spans both developed and developing countries, with several projects in sub-Saharan Africa, India and China.