

Report of the Parallel Session 11 - CGIAR Logical Framework and IAEG

Chair: Ren Wang; Rapporteur: Joseph K. Mukiibi
Thursday, October 29, 1998

Over fifty representatives of members, centers and NARS participated in the parallel session.

CGIAR Logical Framework

The TAC Chair Don Winkelmann reported that a stakeholder working group, under the leadership of TAC, has been developing a logical framework (logframe) for the CGIAR since 1996. The objective is to strengthen, in consonance with the approach taken by the Development Assistance Committee of the OECD, an output orientation for planning, allocation, monitoring and evaluation of CGIAR research agenda. The work has been facilitated

by Uwe Nagel of University of Berlin, an expert in logframe approach, who presented the proposed logical framework to the parallel session.

The parallel session notes that:

- The overall thrust of the proposed approach is appropriate. However, the logical framework introduces new terminology for defining the work of the centers.
- The logframe should not be mechanically implemented. The proposed logframe will have to evolve as we gain experience.
- In implementing the framework, centers should ensure that their project descriptions provide clearly defined time bound milestones.

The group recommends that the CGIAR adopt the proposed framework.

Impact Assessment and Evaluation Group

The IAEG Chair, Jim Peacock, reported on the results of the work on adoption case studies, conducted in cooperation with the centers. He also briefed the group on the overall scope of work and ongoing activities of IAEG.

The parallel session notes that:

- The adoption study undertaken by the IAEG has provided significant insights on the ways in which the centers' research outputs are put into practice. The IAEG is investigating a wider range of impacts including CGIAR germplasm research impacts on food supply, and the CGIAR impacts on poverty alleviation.
- The linkage of IAEG's ex post evaluation work with the overall priority setting and evaluation functions of TAC, is a positive development. This will also allow IAEG involvement in ex-ante impact assessment. Logframe will be an important tool for impact assessment and evaluation.
- To ensure a wider audience for IAEG's work, particularly decision makers, IAEG's results should also be made available in non-technical language.
- IAEG's collaborative approach is well appreciated by centers and NARS. IAEG should also be congratulated for its contribution to instilling an evaluation culture in the CGIAR centers.

The group commends IAEG for its excellent accomplishments.