Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Impact Assessment (MELIA) Design Guidance Document

Proposal Stage

GUIDANCE for Section 6: Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Impact Assessment (MELIA)

Introduction

This document provides key guidance to complete the MELIA section of the Proposal template.

The MELIA section of the Proposal template requires: *Statement of Initiative-specific metrics related directly to the Initiative objectives; Statement of alignment with CGIAR Performance and Results Management framework and system; Plans for Initiative-level evaluation and impact assessment; Arrangements for internal learning.* The MELIA section of the Proposal template consists of:

1. Results framework – table
2. MELIA Plan – 500-word narrative
3. Planned MELIA studies and activities – table

The MELIA section of the Proposal template will be assessed against ISDC Quality of Research for Development (QoR4D) criteria 16 and 17, namely:

QoR4D criteria #	Criteria for proposal assessment	QoR4D Elements
16	Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) plan for the Initiative is clearly defined, with flexibility to adapt. M&E plan supports effective management and learning, including baseline data collection, and evaluative and review processes corresponding to stage-gates and course-correction decisions. M&E occurs during the life of Initiative and is used proactively to reflect on and adapt the Theory of Change, where appropriate.	Credibility, Effectiveness, Legitimacy
17	Well-defined plan for Initiative-level evaluation and impact assessment based on expected end-of-Initiative outcomes and impacts. Links between the impact assessment plan and indicators in the Theory of Change are clear	Effectiveness, Relevance

This document consists of guidance on completing:

1. **Results framework – table**

a. Guidance: Impacts and Action Area outcomes (Tables A + B)
b. Guidance: Initiative and Work package outcomes, outputs and indicators (Table C)

2. **MELIA Plan – 500-word narrative**
   a. Guidance: Narrative section
3. **Planned MELIA studies and activities – table**
   a. Guidance: Planned MELIA studies and activities (Table D)

NOTE:

- It is strongly recommended that Initiative and Work Package ToCs are completed before starting the MELIA section.
  - The results framework must align with the results described in Initiative and Work Package Theories of Change (TOCs).
  - The MELIA section must be built to provide empirical evidence in support of critical steps in the ToC.
- MELIA guidance and operationalization will be provided through CGIAR-wide functions in coordination with the Initiative level. Please treat any proposals you provide here as the starting point for future discussion and planning with the incoming Project Coordination and Portfolio Performance Units at CGIAR level.
- Contact the MEL (cgiar-mel-cop@groups.cgiar.org) and IA COPs for MELIA-specific support.

Background

The CGIAR Performance and Results Management Framework (PRMF) is relevant to the MELIA section. Key PRMF content is highlighted below:

- *In support of [the CGIAR] global targets, specific impact pathways and indicators will be identified for each CGIAR Investment Plan.*
- *All CGIAR Initiatives within these Investment Plans will develop an accountability framework of the results that CGIAR intends to deliver or demonstrably contribute towards. Initiatives will systematically measure and be accountable for Initiative outcomes and associated outputs and will use the theory of change to demonstrate progress along impact pathways towards the ultimate collective global targets.*
- *CGIAR will invest in obtaining causal evidence of impact on specific targets that can be jointly attributed to CGIAR and its partners acknowledging that such impacts are not obtained by CGIAR alone. The research strategy envisioned to obtain such causal evidence will be integrated in the research design of each Initiative.*
- *CGIAR Initiatives will:*
  - *Plan and report annual progress against a theory of change (ToC) that incorporates results and indicators across the spheres of control, influence and interest as detailed above,*

- *Develop annual plans of work and budget, track progress and provide an annual report against their stated objectives and results achieved,*
- *Implement and/or commission evaluations and impact assessment studies, designed from the start as integral part of the research process to causally test the assumptions underlying the ToC in order to contribute to their improvement and increased impact.*

- *CGIAR will:*
  - *Compile and communicate a system-level annual plan of work and budget, and a CGIAR-level annual report comprised of Initiative-level results,*
  - *Invest in large scale data collection, through partnerships, to measure the reach and impacts of CGIAR innovations,*
  - *Invest in independent evaluations and impact assessment studies, designed as an integral part of the research process to causally test impacts on SDG targets and other indicators relevant for the impact areas,*
  - *Ensure that independent evaluations and impact assessments by CGIAR Advisory Services are used for both learning and accountability purposes.*

1. Guidance to complete the Results Framework – table

There are three distinct and inter-related result levels in the CGIAR Results Framework. The highest level is the CGIAR Impact Area level (Table A). The middle level is the Action Area outcome level (Table B). The lower level is the within-Initiative outcomes and outputs (Table C).

1. TABLE A: Impact Areas, collective global 2030 targets, common impact indicators and SDGs

The PRMF defines three result types:

Output: Knowledge, technical or institutional advancement produced by CGIAR research, engagement and/or capacity development activities. Examples of outputs include new research methods, policy analyses, gene maps, new crop varieties and breeds, or other products of research work.

Outcome: A change in knowledge, skills, attitudes and/or relationships, which manifests as a change in behavior of users of outputs, to which a combination of research outputs and related activities have contributed.

Impact: A durable change in the condition of people and their environment brought about by a chain of events or change in how a system functions to which research, innovations and related activities have contributed.

The PRMF describes the CGIAR's Impact Areas, Collective global 2030 targets, and Proposed common impact indicators. Initiatives and other projects map to the Action Areas, and to the CGIAR Impact Areas, Collective global 2030 targets, and proposed common impact indicators. Based on the Initiative TOC, select the common impact indicators per Impact Area that your Initiative will contribute to, and will be able to provide data towards. The common impact indicators in the PRMF may evolve over time based on needs. If you don't see an impact indicator matched to your Initiative, you can propose a new impact indicator. In doing so, consider the SDG impact indicators (see list here). Note that any proposed new impact indicators will be assessed for future inclusion in the CGIAR common impact indicator set. It is expected that collection of data against the CGIAR common impact indicators will happen in coordination with other Initiatives and projects in the portfolio.

Based on your Initiative TOC, indicate which SDG Targets are most relevant to the Initiative.

- Based on the Initiative TOC, for each Impact Area in TABLE A, highlight the impact indicators your Initiative will contribute to and will be able to provide data towards.
- If you don't see an impact indicator matched to your Initiative, you can propose an impact indicator. In doing so, consider the SDG impact indicators (list here).
- Note that any proposed new impact indicators will be assessed for future inclusion in the CGIAR common impact indicator set.
- Based on the Initiative TOC, indicate which SDG Targets are most relevant to the Initiative, per Impact Area.
- Cut and paste this set of information into the relevant rows of the Proposal template section 6 MELIA result framework.

	Impact Area 1	**Impact Area 2**	**Impact Area 3**	**Impact Area 4**	**Impact Area 5**
Title	**Nutrition, health and food security**	**Poverty reduction, livelihoods and jobs**	**Gender equality, youth and social inclusion**	**Climate adaptation and mitigation**	**Environmental health and biodiversity**
Collective global 2030 targets	End hunger for all and enable affordable healthy diets for the 3 billion people who do not currently have access to safe and nutritious food. Reduce cases of foodborne illness (600 million annually) and zoonotic disease (1 billion annually) by one third.	Lift at least 500 million people living in rural areas above the extreme poverty line of US $1.90 per day (2011 PPP). Reduce by at least half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.	Close the gender gap in rights to economic resources, access to ownership and control over land and natural resources for over 500 million women who work in food, land and water systems. Offer rewardable opportunities to 267 million	Implement all National adaptation Plans (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to the Paris Agreement. Equip 500 million small-scale producers to be more resilient to climate shocks, with climate adaptation	Stay within planetary and regional environmental boundaries: consumptive water use in food production of less than 2500 km3 per year (with a focus on the most stressed basins), zero net deforestation, nitrogen application of 90 Tg per year (with a redistribution

			young people who are not in employment, education or training	solutions available through national innovation systems. Turn agriculture and forest systems into a net sink for carbon by 2050, with emissions from agriculture decreasing by 1 Gt per year by 2030 and reaching a floor of 5 Gt per year by 2050	towards low-input farming system) and increased use efficiency; and phosphorus application of 10 Tg per year. Maintain the genetic diversity of seeds, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed genebanks at the national, regional, and international levels.
Common impact indicators – Select the impact indicators that your Initiative will contribute to and will be able to provide data towards. Add impact indicators if necessary.	#people benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #people meeting minimum dietary energy requirements #people meeting minimum micronutrient requirements #cases communicable and non-communicable diseases	#people benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #people assisted to exit poverty	women's empowerment and inclusion in the agricultural sector #women benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #youth benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #women assisted to exit poverty	#tonnes CO2 equivalent emissions #plans with evidence of implementation #$ climate adaptation investments #people benefiting from climate-adapted innovations	#ha under improved management #km3 consumptive water use in food production #ha deforestation #Tg nitrogen application #plant genetic accessions available and safely duplicated
SDG target #s – add the SDG target #s only, do not add accompanying text.					

2. TABLE B: Action Area Outcomes and Outcomes Indicators

Action Area outcomes and indicators are drawn from the CGIAR Results Framework in Annex B. Based on the Initiative TOC, select the AA outcomes and AA outcome indicators that your Initiative will contribute to, and will be able to provide data towards.

- In TABLE B, select the Action Area that your Initiative is mapped to and delete the others.
- For the single remaining Action Area in TABLE B, Highlight the AA outcomes and the AA outcome indicators that your Initiative will contribute to. Note that RIIs are free to map to any AA outcomes and AA outcome indicators.
- Cut and paste this set of information into the relevant rows of the Proposal template section 6 MELIA result framework.

Systems Transformation Action Area outcomes	Indicators

ST 1 - Farmers use technologies or practices that contribute to improved livelihoods, enhance environmental health and biodiversity, are apt in a context of climate change, and sustain natural resources.	STi 1.1 - Number of farmers using climate smart practices disaggregated by gender
	STi 1.2 - Number of farmers using agroecological practices disaggregated by gender
	STi 1.3- Measurable implications of adoptions such as production, profitability, input use, product quality and associated price, environmental and health damage avoided, livelihood, and employment
ST 2 - Consumers have the information, incentives and wherewithal to choose healthy diets.	STi 2.1 Diet quality score
ST 3 - Governments and other actors take decisions to reduce the environmental footprint of food systems from damaging to nature positive.	STi 3.1 Area of land under improved mitigation plans (or area that is decreasing in net carbon emissions – more ambitious and longer term)
	STi 3.2 Area under improved water use plans (or water use efficiency measures – more ambitious and longer term)
	STi 3.3 Trends in measures of non-point pollution where available.
ST 4 - Food system markets and value chains function more efficiently, equitably, and sustainably and lead towards healthier diets	STi 4.1 Number of commodity value chain x country combinations that use tested innovations to improve efficiency, inclusion, sustainability and nutrition objectives.
	STi 4.2 Gaps between farm/processor gate and consumer prices (with some measures focused on smallholder farmers if possible)
	STi 4.3 Domestic market price integration, both spatial and temporal
	STi 4.4 Improved international price and exchange rate transmission
	STi 4.5 Trends in relative prices of healthy to unhealthy foods
Shared Systems Transformation and Resilient Agrifood Systems Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**
ST & RAFS 1 - Smallholder farmers implement new practices that mitigate risks associated with extreme climate change and environmental conditions and achieve more resilient livelihoods	STRAFSi 1.1 Number of smallholder farmers who have implemented new practices that mitigate climate change risks, disaggregated by gender and type of practice
ST & RAFS 2 - National and local governments utilize enhanced capacity (skills, systems and culture) to assess and apply research evidence and data in policy making process	STRAFSi 2.1 Number of policies/ strategies/ laws/ regulations/ budgets/ investments/ curricula (and similar) at different scales that were modified in design or implementation, with evidence that the change was informed by CGIAR research
Resilient Agrifood Systems Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**
RAFS 1 - Smallholder farmers use resource-efficient and climate-smart technologies and practices to enhance their livelihoods, environmental health and biodiversity	RAFSi 1.1 Number of resource-efficient and climate-smart technologies at stage IV (uptake by next user), disaggregated by type
RAFS 2 - Research and scaling organizations enhance their capabilities to develop and disseminate RAFS-related innovations	RAFSi 2.1 Number of organizations
RAFS 3 - Public and private financial resources are invested to fund climate-smart business models.	RAFSi 3.1 Total amount (USD) invested in climate smart business models
Genetic Innovation Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**

GI 1 - Researchers and breeders use high-quality accessions data to efficiently access genetic resources from genebank collections operating to international performance standards	GIi 1.1 Number of accessions data used at various levels of the breeding pipeline (level of use: used in crosses, backcrosses, incorporated in elite germplasm)
GI 2 - CGIAR & partners use high-quality market intelligence to guide the development of new varieties to meet the needs and expectations of a wide-range of users, with special attention to marginalized groups.	GIi 2.1 Proportion of new released varieties developed in alignment with market intelligence-informed product profiles
GI 3 - CGIAR & partner breeding programs use state-of-the art technologies to accelerate variety development and quality.	GIi 3.1 Realized and predicted rates of genetic gain in farmer's fields and farmer relevant-conditions in the form of farmer-preferred varieties
	GIi 3.2 Increase in the capacity of CGIAR-NARES-SME breeding networks
GI 4 - CGIAR & partner breeding programs use best practices and shared services to rapidly and efficiently produce new varieties with in-demand traits.	GIi 3.1 Realized and predicted rates of genetic gain in farmer's fields and farmer relevant-conditions in the form of farmer-preferred varieties
	GIi 3.2 Increase in the capacity of CGIAR-NARES-SME breeding networks
GI 5 - Cooperation and co-investment by CGIAR, public- and private-sector seed-system actors supports coordinated and effective research and investment in the sector	GIi 5.1 Number of genetic innovations commercialized through public/private sector cooperation agreements
	GIi 5.2 Number of public/private sector cooperation agreements
GI 6 - Seed-sector actors' investments pipelines are profitable and effective in scaling-up new varieties from CGIAR breeding.	GIi 6.1 number of CGIAR-NARES-SME new varieties being scaled-up by seed-sector actors
	GIi 6.2 Production volumes of seed or clones by Seed system actors
GI 7 - Farmers have access to and use climate-resilient, nutritious, market-demanded crop varieties.	GIi 7.1 Number of farmers who grow climate-smart crop varieties, disaggregated by gender
	GIi 7.2 Number of farmers who grow crop varieties with increased nutritional content, disaggregated by gender
	GIi 7.3 Area weighted average age of varieties in Farmers' fields
Shared Systems Transformation, Resilient Agrifood Systems, and Genetic Innovation Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**
ST & RAFS & GI 1 Women and youth are empowered to be more active in decision making in food, land and water systems	STi 1.1 - Number of farmers using climate smart practices disaggregated by gender
	STi 1.2 - Number of farmers using agroecological practices disaggregated by gender
	STRAFSGIi 1.1 Positive trends in the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEIA) at various scales including nationally
	STRAFSGIi 1.2 Number of women, youth and people from marginalized groups who report input into productive decisions, ownership of assets, access to and decisions on credit, control over use of income, work balance, and visiting important locations
	STRAFSGIi 1.3 Number of farmers who grow market intelligence-informed new crop varieties, disaggregated by gender and age
	STRAFSGIi 1.4 Percentage of female headed farm households that use an improved crop variety

3. TABLE C: Initiative and Work package outcomes, outputs and indicators

NOTE: Initiatives are expected to map to the CGIAR Impact Areas, collective global targets, and impact indicators listed above. You are not expected to define Initiative-specific impacts in TABLE C.

The Performance and Results Management Framework (PRMF) defines small set of common output and outcome indicators. These have been adapted for use by IDTs in the Proposal process:

1. Capacity development:

- Output: Number of people trained, long-term (including Masters and PhDs) and short-term, disaggregated by gender.
- Outcome: Change in the capacity of key (i) Individuals, (ii) Organizations (government, civil society and private sector), and (iii) Networks (e.g. multi-stakeholder platforms).
    - Three levels:
        - (i) unrealized alignment and contribution to shared objectives
        - (ii) mid-point alignment and contribution to shared objectives
        - (iii) full alignment and contribution to shared objectives

2. Policies:

- Outcome: Number of policies/ strategies/ laws/ regulations/ budgets/ investments/ curricula modified in design or implementation, informed by CGIAR research.
    - Three levels of maturity:
        - (i) research taken up by next user,
        - (ii) policy enacted,
        - (iii) evidence of impact on people and/or environment of the policy.

3. Innovations:

- Output: Number of innovations
- Outcome: Number of beneficiaries using the innovation, disaggregated by gender.
- Outcome: Other quantitative measure of innovation use (e.g. area)
- Stage of innovation:
    - i) end of research phase (discovery/proof of concept);

- ii) end of piloting phase (if relevant);
- iii) available for uptake;
- iv) uptake by next user

4. Data Assets (Information products)[1]:

- Output: Number of peer reviewed journal papers
- Output: Number of other information products (including: reports, briefs, extension, training and e-learning content and other materials, books and book chapters, data and databases, data collection and analysis tools (e.g. models and survey tools), video, audio and images, graphics, maps, and other GIS outputs, computer software, models and code, digital and mobile applications, and web-based services (e.g. websites, data portals, online platforms)
- Outcome: Uptake of information product (including Altmetric score)

5. Initiative-specific indicators

- Additional Initiative-specific indicators required and/or beneficial to understanding progress and contribution to impact that do not fit easily within other standard categories
- Indicators referring to novel PRMF concepts such as Innovation Packages, Scaling Readiness and Projected Benefits

[1] Note that CGIAR's Open and FAIR Data Assets Policy applies to all data assets/information products. Peer reviewed journal papers will include additional disaggregates such as ISI, Open Access in implementation.

To complete TABLE C

Using your Initiative and Work Package TOCs as the source material:

- Copy all results from your Initiative and Work Package TOCs into the “Result” column.
- For each result, select a result type (outcome or output).
  - Remember that you are not expected to define Initiative-specific impacts in TABLE C (these have been covered in TABLE A).
- Define an indicator for each result and include it in the “Indicator” column.
  - Use the common indicator list above, noting that Initiative-specific indicators can be used if these are required and/or beneficial to understanding progress and contribution to impact, and do not fit easily within other standard categories.
- Define a unit of measurement.
  - Use generic number/percentage/area/weight/yield (tonnes/hectare), individual (person)/household/currency
- Define geographic scope.
  - Use global, regional (list region), country (list country or countries)
- Define the indicator data source.
  - Indicate if data is from Primary or Secondary source
  - Clearly state name of data source
  - Specify link to data source, where available
- Define the data collection method (for Primary data only)
  - Provide data collection method appropriate to the indicator and your field of research (e.g. key informant interviews, focus group discussions, observation, household interviews, household questionnaires)
- Define the frequency of data collection
  - Define how often data will be collected against the indicator using the data collection method (e.g. monthly, semi-annual, annual, mid-point/18 months)
- Define baseline value (**for outcomes only**).
  - If baseline value is not available, state ‘Not available’.
- Define the baseline year (**for outcomes only**).
  - If baseline year is not available, state ‘Not available’
- Define the Target value
  - All Target values must align with TOC
- Define the Target year
  - All Target year values should be within Initiative lifespan

Result type (outcome or output)	Result	Indicator **(use the common indicator list above)**	Unit of measurement	Geographic scope	Data source	Data collection method	Frequency of data collection	Baseline value (outcome only)	Baseline year (outcome only)	Target value	Target year

2. **500-word Max narrative section:** Describe your Initiative's MELIA plan by describing what kind of MEL activities and IA research are relevant to document outcomes and impacts related to the Initiative. Include a clear explanation of how MEL and IA will inform management decisions and subsequent research, and link explicitly with the Management Plan.

a. Narrative for MEL plans

- How your MEL will support effective management and learning, including baseline data collection, and evaluative and review processes corresponding to stage-gates and course-correction decisions.
- How your MEL will be used to proactively reflect on and adapt the Initiative and Work Package (TOCs), where appropriate.
- Identify key learning questions that will be focus of process evaluation in the Initiative and Work Package TOCs.
- Provide a plan for within Initiative lifespan evaluative studies (noting that the Office of Evaluation and Evidence/CAS is likely to conduct overall end of Initiative evaluations).

b. Narrative for Impact Assessment research plans

- Provide a plan for Initiative-level impact assessment based on expected End-of-Initiative outcomes, and projected future impact, with clear links to the Initiative and Work Package ToCs. This will need to go beyond documenting reach.

- Identify learning questions around key assumptions underlying the ToC that will be tested through causal impact assessment research during the 3-year cycle. As per the PRMF, it is expected that most Initiatives will be able to, and benefit from, incorporating such research.
    - These learning studies should be part of the overall Initiative research portfolio to provide evidence in support of the ToC or contribute to the improvement of the ToC. Explain how the results and learnings of these studies can lead to better and clearly evidenced long-term (10+ years) impacts across the relevant Impact Areas, including through adjustments of the innovation and scaling strategies to achieve targeted outcomes and impacts.
    - Identify specific questions and related outcome indicators that can be answered in the 3-year timeframe, and describe longer-term learning from the proposed studies.
    - Describe the methodological approaches that will be used to provide rigorous answers for each of the identified learning questions (experimental or non-experimental quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods) as precisely as possible. Describe data sources and measurement approaches for key outcomes. Motivate the choice of methods, metrics and scale based on the research questions, the impact pathways, the type and the stage of the research, and the activities in the Initiative.
    - Describe the team to conduct the IA research, including partnership with CGIAR or non-CGIAR IA experts
- Describe plans for tracing activities and policy advice aimed at improving the scaling (readiness) of innovations and innovation packages, to lay the groundwork for, and use as input into the design of potential long-term, large-scale impact studies.
    - Plans for agreeing with scaling partners on the monitoring/data collection activities to document where and how CGIAR innovations are used at scale, and by whom. Relevant for Initiatives that actively invest with partners in scaling of innovation.
    - Describe how, when and by whom policy advising activities will be documented and plans to trace policy influence. Relevant for Initiatives with such activities.
    - Although the timeframe for these activities could be 10-year or more, the IA plan should explain plans to start tracing scaling activities and policy advice from the start of the initiative.

3. Guidance to complete the MELIA studies and activities– table

To complete TABLE D:

- Select the type of MELIA study or activity planned from the list provided below (noting that you have the option to select and define 'other').
- Link the MELIA study or activity to a result or indicator in Tables A, B, or C.
- Define the anticipated year of completion (based on 2022-25 Initiative timeline. If part of the results will become available after 2025, please answer "2025 and beyond")
- List any co-delivery with other Initiatives (name of Initiative, joint impacts, outcomes)
- Describe how the MELIA study or activity will inform management decisions and contribute to internal learning

TABLE D: Planned MELIA studies and activities

Type of MELIA study or activity planned	State the result or indicator that the MELIA study or activity will contribute to – Select from Tables A, B or C.	Anticipated year of completion (based on 2022-25 Initiative timeline)	Co-delivery of planned MELIA study or activity with other Initiatives	How the MELIA study or activity planned will inform management decisions and contribute to internal learning

Type of study or activity:

1. Causal Impact Assessment learning studies
2. Adoption or diffusion studies addressing learning questions on the TOC
3. Tracing of scaling activities and policy advice, as a base for long-term, large scale impact assessments
4. Qualitative outcome study
5. Program/project evaluation or review
6. Ex-ante, baseline and/or foresight study
7. Scaling readiness assessment
8. Other MELIA activity (please specify)

Definitions of these types can be found in Annex A.

Annex A

Definitions of MELIA types

Type	Definition
Causal Impact Assessment learning studies	These are research studies designed to test key assumptions underlying different steps of the causal chain (theory of change) that links CGIAR research/innovations to high-level impacts. As learning studies, they can be implemented in a 3-year cycle and use credible counterfactuals to provide early evidence of causal impacts of intermediary outcomes in the theory of change, and effectiveness of different approaches/interventions to improve such outcomes. This additional credible evidence becomes a relevant feedback to the research process that aims to maximize the impact of CGIAR related innovations in the long-term.
Adoption or diffusion studies addressing learning questions on the TOC	A study that identifies the spread, acquisition and use of social, institutional or technological innovations. Adoption and diffusion studies can address learning questions within an Initiative's theory/ies of change by documenting whether and how innovation/s have reached intended beneficiaries. Assessments of adoption/acquisition/use seek to identify whether innovation/s have been taken up or rejected by intended beneficiaries, in order to make a case for CGIAR contribution to outcome/s, relative to other potential influencing factors. Together, studies that encompass diffusion and adoption assessments show how innovations have spread to and been adopted or rejected by end users. Note: Adoption and diffusion studies do not necessarily assess impact. However, impact assessments may, and often do, include assessments of diffusion and adoption.
Tracing of scaling activities and policy advice, as a base for long-term, large scale impact assessments	LTLS impact studies usually require a longtime frame to observe high-level impacts associated to the use of CGIAR related innovations or policy recommendations. The design of these studies should be done from the start when CGIAR related innovations are ready to initiate the scaling process. The tracing activities should be designed in order to document how, when, where and why CGIAR related innovations and policy advise are disseminated or made to next users.
Qualitative outcome study	A study that assesses changes in behaviors, practices, perceptions or attitudes among beneficiaries of an innovation, or those who can facilitate the diffusion and adoption of an innovation (e.g., policymakers). Qualitative outcome studies are often used to substantiate contributions to policies, investments, budgets, curricula or similar.
Program/project evaluation or review	A program/project evaluation refers to a systematic and objective assessment of an on-going or completed program or project. Program evaluations focus on the evaluation of a set of time-bound interventions involving multiple activities that may cut across sectors, themes and/or geographic areas. These would also include evaluations of Initiatives. Project evaluations focus on the evaluation of an individual intervention designed to achieve specific objectives within specified resources and implementation schedules, often within the framework of a broader program. Evaluations are external, completely or largely independent, and systematic studies of an in-depth nature using clear evaluation criteria, whereas reviews may be more flexible and narrower in focus.
Ex-ante, baseline and/or foresight study	An ex-ante study, also known as a baseline study, is conducted before an intervention to determine the baseline conditions against which future change, outcomes and impact can be assessed. A foresight study involves the structured and explicit exploration of multiple futures in order to inform decision-making. Foresight studies are usually conducted at the beginning of an intervention, but may be used throughout the duration of a project or program to refine decision- and priority-making.
Scaling readiness assessment	An assessment of how “ready” innovations are for scaling and the appropriate actions for the acceleration and/or enhancement of scaling. Scaling readiness assessments can also identify which scaling bottlenecks need to be addressed, the most cost-effective scaling strategies, and which partners to engage.
Other MELIA activity (please specify)	A study or analysis related to monitoring, evaluation, learning or impact assessment that does not belong to the abovementioned types. The study or analysis will in some way test assumptions, inform learning and adaptive management, meet accountability requirements and/or inform the design of new Initiatives, programs and projects. When choosing “other MELIA activity”, you must justify how the study or analysis you are reporting constitutes a MELIA activity. Examples that could be added here include monitoring and synthesis studies.

Annex B

CGIAR Results Framework

Collective 2030 global targets across five impact areas (SDG-related and other 2030 targets to which CGIAR will contribute, and assess impact against)					
Impact Area	**Nutrition, health and food security**	**Poverty reduction, livelihoods and jobs**	**Gender equality, youth and social inclusion**	**Climate adaptation and mitigation**	**Environmental health and biodiversity**
Collective global 2030 targets	End hunger for all and enable affordable, healthy diets for the 3 billion people who do not currently have access to safe and nutritious food. Reduce cases of foodborne illness (600 million annually) and zoonotic disease (1 billion annually) by one third.	Lift at least 500 million people living in rural areas above the extreme poverty line of US $1.90 per day (2011 PPP). Reduce by at least half the proportion of men, women and children of all ages living in poverty in all its dimensions according to national definitions.	Close the gender gap in rights to economic resources, access to ownership and control over land and natural resources for over 500 million women who work in food, land and water systems. Offer rewardable opportunities to 267 million young people who are not in employment, education or training	Implement all National adaptation Plans (NAP) and Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) to the Paris Agreement. Equip 500 million small-scale producers to be more resilient to climate shocks, with climate adaptation solutions available through national innovation systems. Turn agriculture and forest systems into a net sink for carbon by 2050, with emissions from agriculture decreasing by 1 Gt per year by 2030 and reaching a floor of 5 Gt per year by 2050	Stay within planetary and regional environmental boundaries: consumptive water use in food production of less than 2,500 km3 per year (with a focus on the most stressed basins), zero net deforestation, nitrogen application of 90 Tg per year (with a redistribution towards low-input farming systems) and increased use efficiency; and phosphorus application of 10 Tg per year. Maintain the genetic diversity of seed varieties, cultivated plants and farmed and domesticated animals and their related wild species, including through soundly managed genebanks at the national, regional, and international levels.
Common impact indicators	#people benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #people meeting minimum dietary energy requirements #people meeting minimum micronutrient requirements #cases communicable and non-communicable diseases	#people benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #people assisted to exit poverty	women's empowerment and inclusion in the agricultural sector #women benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #youth benefiting from relevant CGIAR innovations #women assisted to exit poverty	#tonnes CO2 equivalent emissions #plans with evidence of implementation #$ climate adaptation investments #people benefiting from climate-adapted innovations	#ha under improved management #km3 consumptive water use in food production #ha deforestation #Tg nitrogen application #plant genetic accessions available and safely duplicated
Systems Transformation Action Area outcomes			**Indicators**		

ST 1 - Farmers use technologies or practices that contribute to improved livelihoods, enhance environmental health and biodiversity, are apt in a context of climate change, and sustain natural resources.	STi 1.1 - Number of farmers using climate smart practices disaggregated by gender
	STi 1.2 - Number of farmers using agroecological practices disaggregated by gender
	STi 1.3- Measurable implications of adoptions such as production, profitability, input use, product quality and associated price, environmental and health damage avoided, livelihood, and employment
ST 2 - Consumers have the information, incentives and wherewithal to choose healthy diets.	STi 2.1 Diet quality score
ST 3 - Governments and other actors take decisions to reduce the environmental footprint of food systems from damaging to nature positive.	STi 3.1 Area of land under improved mitigation plans (or area that is decreasing in net carbon emissions – more ambitious and longer term)
	STi 3.2 Area under improved water use plans (or water use efficiency measures – more ambitious and longer term)
	STi 3.3 Trends in measures of non-point pollution where available.
ST 4 - Food system markets and value chains function more efficiently, equitably, and sustainably and lead towards healthier diets	STi 4.1 Number of commodity value chain x country combinations that use tested innovations to improve efficiency, inclusion, sustainability and nutrition objectives.
	STi 4.2 Gaps between farm/processor gate and consumer prices (with some measures focused on smallholder farmers if possible)
	STi 4.3 Domestic market price integration, both spatial and temporal
	STi 4.4 Improved international price and exchange rate transmission
	STi 4.5 Trends in relative prices of healthy to unhealthy foods
Shared Systems Transformation and Resilient Agrifood Systems Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**
ST & RAFS 1 - Smallholder farmers implement new practices that mitigate risks associated with extreme climate change and environmental conditions and achieve more resilient livelihoods	STRAFSi 1.1 Number of smallholder farmers who have implemented new practices that mitigate climate change risks, disaggregated by gender and type of practice
ST & RAFS 2 - National and local governments utilize enhanced capacity (skills, systems and culture) to assess and apply research evidence and data in policy making process	STRAFSi 2.1 Number of policies/ strategies/ laws/ regulations/ budgets/ investments/ curricula (and similar) at different scales that were modified in design or implementation, with evidence that the change was informed by CGIAR research
Resilient Agrifood Systems Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**
RAFS 1 - Smallholder farmers use resource-efficient and climate-smart technologies and practices to enhance their livelihoods, environmental health and biodiversity	RAFSi 1.1 Number of resource-efficient and climate-smart technologies at stage IV (uptake by next user), disaggregated by type
RAFS 2 - Research and scaling organizations enhance their capabilities to develop and disseminate RAFS-related innovations	RAFSi 2.1 Number of organizations
RAFS 3 - Public and private financial resources are invested to fund climate-smart business models.	RAFSi 3.1 Total amount (USD) invested in climate smart business models
Genetic Innovation Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**

GI 1 - Researchers and breeders use high-quality accessions data to efficiently access genetic resources from genebank collections operating to international performance standards	GIi 1.1 Number of accessions data used at various levels of the breeding pipeline (level of use: used in crosses, backcrosses, incorporated in elite germplasm)
GI 2 - CGIAR & partners use high-quality market intelligence to guide the development of new varieties to meet the needs and expectations of a wide-range of users, with special attention to marginalized groups.	GIi 2.1 Proportion of new released varieties developed in alignment with market intelligence-informed product profiles
GI 3 - CGIAR & partner breeding programs use state-of-the art technologies to accelerate variety development and quality.	GIi 3.1 Realized and predicted rates of genetic gain in farmer's fields and farmer relevant-conditions in the form of farmer-preferred varieties
	GIi 3.2 Increase in the capacity of CGIAR-NARES-SME breeding networks
GI 4 - CGIAR & partner breeding programs use best practices and shared services to rapidly and efficiently produce new varieties with in-demand traits.	GIi 3.1 Realized and predicted rates of genetic gain in farmer's fields and farmer relevant-conditions in the form of farmer-preferred varieties
	GIi 3.2 Increase in the capacity of CGIAR-NARES-SME breeding networks
GI 5 - Cooperation and co-investment by CGIAR, public- and private-sector seed-system actors supports coordinated and effective research and investment in the sector	GIi 5.1 Number of genetic innovations commercialized through public/private sector cooperation agreements
	GIi 5.2 Number of public/private sector cooperation agreements
GI 6 - Seed-sector actors' investments pipelines are profitable and effective in scaling-up new varieties from CGIAR breeding.	GIi 6.1 number of CGIAR-NARES-SME new varieties being scaled-up by seed-sector actors
	GIi 6.2 Production volumes of seed or clones by Seed system actors
GI 7 - Farmers have access to and use climate-resilient, nutritious, market-demanded crop varieties.	GIi 7.1 Number of farmers who grow climate-smart crop varieties, disaggregated by gender
	GIi 7.2 Number of farmers who grow crop varieties with increased nutritional content, disaggregated by gender
	GIi 7.3 Area weighted average age of varieties in Farmers' fields
Shared Systems Transformation, Resilient Agrifood Systems, and Genetic Innovation Action Area outcomes	**Indicators**
ST & RAFS & GI 1 Women and youth are empowered to be more active in decision making in food, land and water systems	STi 1.1 - Number of farmers using climate smart practices disaggregated by gender
	STi 1.2 - Number of farmers using agroecological practices disaggregated by gender
	STRAFSGIi 1.1 Positive trends in the Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index (WEIA) at various scales including nationally
	STRAFSGIi 1.2 Number of women, youth and people from marginalized groups who report input into productive decisions, ownership of assets, access to and decisions on credit, control over use of income, work balance, and visiting important locations
	STRAFSGIi 1.3 Number of farmers who grow market intelligence-informed new crop varieties, disaggregated by gender and age
	STRAFSGIi 1.4 Percentage of female headed farm households that use an improved crop variety
Within-Initiative/Project Result types and Indicator categories **(please see individual Initiative proposals for intended results (outputs and outcomes) and associated indicators)**	

Outcomes	Policy: ● Number of policies/ strategies/ laws/ regulations/ budgets/ investments/ curricula modified in design or implementation, informed by CGIAR research. Three levels of maturity: (i) research taken up by next user, (ii) policy enacted, (iii) evidence of impact on people and/or environment of the policy.
	Innovation: ● Number of beneficiaries using the CGIAR innovation, disaggregated by gender. ● Other quantitative measure of CGIAR innovation use (e.g. area)
	Capacity: ● Change in the capacity of key (a) Individuals, (b) Organizations (government, civil society and private sector), and (c) Networks (e.g. multi-stakeholder platforms). Three levels of maturity: (i) unrealized alignment and contribution to shared objectives (ii) mid-point alignment and contribution to shared objectives (iii) full alignment and contribution to shared objectives
	Uptake of information product: ● Altmetric score
Outputs	Innovation: ● Number of innovations Four levels of maturity*: i) end of research phase (discovery/proof of concept); ii) end of piloting phase (if relevant); iii) available for uptake; iv) uptake by next user *Stage 4 innovations are by definition outcomes and will be reported as such. The 4 point maturity scale will be reviewed over time to align with scaling readiness and use criteria.
	Capacity: ● Number of people trained, long-term (including Masters and PhDs) and short-term, disaggregated by gender
	Information product: ● Number of peer reviewed journal papers ● Number of other information products/data assets (including: reports, briefs, extension, training and e-learning content and other materials, books and book chapters, data and databases, data collection and analysis tools (e.g. models and survey tools), video, audio and images, graphics, maps, and other GIS outputs, computer software, models and code, digital and mobile applications, and web-based services (e.g. websites, data portals, online platforms)