

FoodSTART+ Project Affiliated Experts (Technical Advisory Pool) Terms of Reference

Background

Part of the formulation of the FoodSTART+ project calls for the identification of a number of individuals who can provide specialist technical advice and inputs in priority areas, including food security, vulnerability and resilience issues, root and tuber crops, value chains, the Asian rural development context, gender and climate change. The idea derived from positive experience in the FoodSTART first phase in which specialist inputs, especially in the areas of root and tuber crops, value chains and GIS, supplemented the skills of the FoodSTART team and strengthened the quality of outputs and outcomes.

Terms of Reference

Specialists with experience in research and development fields of central importance for FS+, will be identified and engaged as Project Affiliated Experts (PAE). In order to ensure familiarity with FS+ approach and partners, harmonized methodologies, and upon satisfactory performance of the first assignment, the PAE will enter in a roster of experts, named Technical Advisory Pool (TAP), to which to refer for future similar assignments. While ToR will be developed on a case-by-case basis, the PAE are expected to both advise and contribute to project activities and outputs. In particular:

1. PAE are expected to contribute specialist technical skills and advice needed to achieve the objectives of FS+.
2. PAE should also where possible provide linkages with broader networks relevant to FS+. These may be skills areas within university networks or may be opportunities linked to specific geographical settings such as particular countries.
3. PAE may be invited to attend project-wide meetings of FS+. During these meetings, they will act as resource persons providing inputs during sessions and as mentoring inputs to individuals. They may convene brief “buzz sessions” during the Annual meeting around particular issues – resilience, value chains, food safety etc.
4. PAE may also be invited to participate in an informal session alongside the main meeting. This will be an informal event with the aim of reviewing and learning lessons from previous inputs by TAP members and the identification of new areas for possible input. Based on these discussions, recommendations will be made about specific contributions to ongoing activities.
5. Where specific contributions of PAE are identified, these will be handled as short consultancies (except in the case of CIP/CIAT non-FoodSTART+ staff) and appropriate arrangements will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Presently the following PAE are included in the TAP:

- Gordon Prain
- Christopher Wheatley
- Julieta Roa
- Nozomi Kawarazuka
- Julian Gonzalves
- Gerry O'Brian
- M. Anantharaman