

How can hunger and poverty be reduced, rural livelihoods improved, and environmentally and socially sustainable economic growth be facilitated through the generation, access and use of agricultural S&T?

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Process

The Proposed Assessment

Proposed features of the assessment – do you agree?

- Be policy relevant, not policy prescriptive
- **Build on existing/ongoing literature and assessments**
- Embrace risk assessment, management and communication
- **Be technically accurate**
- Engage different points of view and quantify uncertainties
- **Be peer reviewed by all stakeholder groups**
- Be conducted according to an open, transparent and representative process
- **Involve all stakeholders (ensuring the poor farmers and fisherpersons have voice)**
- Take a local, regional and global perspective

The Proposed Assessment

Key Questions

- Do you agree with the proposed features for the assessment
- Intergovernmental – non-governmental
- IPCC or MA model or IAC or Large Dams Commission model
- If inter-governmental – which agency or agencies should manage it -- FAO, WHO, UNDP, UNEP, WB??
- If non-governmental who should manage it

International Assessments

➤ **Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (1988-present)**

- inter-governmental – governments approve the scope of each WG and Synthesis Report - input from scientists, NGOs and private sector
- prepared by experts from all stakeholder groups from around the world
- expert and government peer-review, government approval of the SPM
- influential on public opinion, private sector, and national and international policy process

International Assessments

➤ **Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2001-present)**

- non-governmental, but closely tied to intergovernmental processes (CBD, CCD and Ramsar) through multi-stakeholder Board of Directors and its Executive Committee
- scope developed by experts, based on a set of “user-needs” documents from the Conventions and private sector -- approved by Board of Directors representing a broad range of stakeholders
- prepared by experts
- expert and government review
- approved by the Board of Directors
- impact – yet to be determined

International Assessments

➤ **World Commission on Dams**

- Established by IUCN and WB to assess development effectiveness of LDs and develop internationally acceptable criteria for planning, design, monitoring, etc
- 12 WCD members served in individual capacity;
- 39-member Forum “sounding board” to WCD
- Case studies and thematic reviews commissioned; Final report - limited peer review
- Seen as overtaken by one group, so impact unclear

➤ **Food for Africa: IAC Panel**

- Commissioned by UN SG Kofi Annan to develop a strategic plan on technology and science to improve food security in Africa
- Panel comprised of scientists and stakeholders with interest, expertise and experience
- Workshops, synthesis papers and building blocks followed by Panel analysis – final report due in June 2003