

TERMS OF REFERENCE SRP TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

1. INTRODUCTION

The SRP Technical Committee provides technical oversight over management and development of the SRP Standard and Performance Indicators, the Assurance Scheme, the training programme and farmer support tools. The Committee also provides *ad hoc* technical guidance for the Board, Secretariat and members.

2. COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE

1. The Technical Committee shall comprise a maximum 7 representatives, including Full Members, Observers and (at the Committee's discretion) external experts as dialogue partners on a *pro bono* basis.
2. The Technical Committee shall be appointed and led by a member of the Board and shall maintain a fair balance of stakeholder constituency interests.

3. SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work of the Technical Committee is defined in these Terms of Reference, as approved by the Board. Specifically, the Committee is responsible for the following functions:

1. Oversight of implementation and revision of the Standard and Performance Indicators, including responding to technical queries from members and external parties, and recommending revisions to correct errors or improve clarity or usability.
2. Oversight of implementation of the SRP Assurance Scheme by GLOBALG.A.P. as SRP's designated Assurance Service Provider.
3. Develop official SRP positions on key scientific and technical issues, prepare technical documents, provide timely inputs to SRP project funding proposals and provide guidance to the Executive Director in responding to external queries and issues on request.
4. Maintain a Register of SRP Partner Projects via Partner Project Registration and oversee project reporting to the Secretariat.
5. Receive, review and recommend actions on grievances relating to Standard implementation and the Assurance Scheme in compliance with the relevant provisions on grievance procedures contained in the currently applicable version of the ISEAL Assurance Code of Good Practice¹.

¹ [https://www.isealalliance.org/sites/default/files/resource/2018-02/ISEAL Assurance Code Version 2.0.pdf](https://www.isealalliance.org/sites/default/files/resource/2018-02/ISEAL_Assurance_Code_Version_2.0.pdf)

4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Draft, amend and implement the TORs of the Committee as approved by the Board.
2. Based on identified needs, identify prospective partners or third-party product and service providers.
3. Review/evaluate submitted proposals based on merit, in a fair and transparent process that maximizes benefits to members and to rice farmers and customize as necessary to meet the requirements of the SRP.
4. Make recommendations to the Board.
5. Oversee implementation and report to the Board via the Executive Director.

5. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS

1. Committee members agree to actively contribute time, skills and organizational resources to develop, evaluate, make recommendations and oversee implementation.
2. Members agree to work in the spirit of mutual respect in support of SRP's goals and objectives.
3. Committee members agree to be ready to lead or participate in time-bound sub-groups on request.
4. Committee members agree to discharge their duties responsibly, adhering to agreed processes and deadlines.
5. Members are responsible for ensuring collaborative rather than bilateral implementation of all tasks, and for communicating and reporting any breaches to the Committee Chair.

6. MEETINGS

1. The Committee's business will generally be conducted by teleconference, webinar or other agreed means.
2. Meetings will be held a minimum of six times per year, with additional meetings as required, especially during the first months of operation.

7. GOVERNANCE

1. The Committee lead shall report to the Board and liaise closely with the Executive Director.
2. The Committee will strive to reach decisions by consensus, with the absence of declared opposition. If a consensus cannot be reached, any member may call for a vote. As a prerequisite, a quorum has to be established with each institutional member represented by only a single vote, with a quorum 2/3 of membership required. Members with an actual or perceived conflict of interest are required to declare such conflicts and may be excluded from voting. Decisions are carried with a 2/3 majority of voting participants.
3. It shall be assumed that Committee members who do not participate in 3 consecutive calls shall be considered as having left the group and will not be further included in the Committee's communications.

8. REVIEW

1. The Committee's Terms of Reference will be reviewed on a regular basis at year-end, with next review in October 2021.

- NOTHING FOLLOWS -