

# The CPWF Working Paper series: Proposed new directions and notes for Contributors

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## 1. Focus and scope of the Working Paper series

The CPWF Working Paper Series (and its sub-series) is designed to facilitate publication and dissemination of research results (both final and interim) that emanate from CPWF-related research. This will come from project-level research as well as from Topic Working Groups.

The Working Paper series presents new thinking, ideas and perspectives from CPWF research and focuses on the implications for development, rather than just on the analysis of research results. The Working papers can be based on completed research or on-going research. Analysis will be based on sound scientific evidence and data though it may be incomplete. Papers will be peer-reviewed.

The focus and scope of the Working Paper series has changed since first initiated in 2008. The initial working papers were results from individual projects as well as a number of synthesis and evaluation reports (for a list of current Working Papers see Annex 1). Based on an analysis of current and future needs, it is proposed that the Working Paper series will consist of a number of sub-series, including:

1. **The Research-4-Development Paper Series:** This is the benchmark CPWF Working Paper series. It will present new thinking, ideas and perspectives and focuses on their implications for development, supported by appropriate research data.
2. **Impact Assessment Series:** The impact assessment series is based on a series of studies carried out to assess the impacts of CPWF research. This will continue throughout the life of the program.
3. **Topic Working Group Papers:** These are working papers that have been produced through the CPWF Topic Working Groups.
4. **Basin Focal Project Working Paper Series:** Focused on analyzing the water use accounts in the ten benchmark water basins that CPWF worked in.

## 2. Guidelines for the Research 4 Development Paper Series.

The **Research-4-Development Paper** series is different from other Working Paper series in that its targets are not just other researchers but also academics, project managers, and others interested in research for development. The Working Paper series presents new thinking, ideas and perspectives and focuses on their implications for development, supported by appropriate research data. While papers should have a development perspective in mind, they will be based on sound scientific evidence and rigor to ensure that the conclusions are soundly based and reproducible.

This new focus is proposed for two reasons. First, Basin Programs will be producing reports on their own. These will most likely be assessments, surveys and evaluation reports. Thus, interim analysis of research should be done through specific basin publications. Second, we wish to offer researchers the opportunity to write up the analytical aspects of their research in a less formal and more dynamic way than conventional research reports or journal articles. Thus, the CPWF Working Paper series will focus on analysis, synthesis and bringing new ideas and thinking to the fore. It will focus less on analyzing individual research results of projects or preliminary results. Again, all papers will be reviewed to ensure high quality standards and scientific rigor. The papers can be commissioned

or suggested by Project leaders or Basins leaders. In the initial stages it will be important to be proactive in searching for appropriate working papers.

Papers can cover the whole gamut of CPWF related topics and themes and should be scientifically sound even though the data may be incomplete. Areas that the Working Papers might focus on include:

- Research into use, development implications of the research, farmer adoption, adaptation, and policy-related issues;
- Synthesis of experiences across a basin or topic and bring out the development implications as well as the science implications;
- The five principles of the CPWF (adaptive management, capacity development, partnerships, gender and diversity, and inter-disciplinary research); and
- Key topics identified in CPWF research. Single-disciplinary research and technical papers (i.e. focused on presenting data from variety trials or productivity) should be published by your own institution or research center

In many circumstances material published in the Working Paper Series will go on to be formally published in an international refereed journals or research report and working papers series of their own organizations.

## 2. Length of the paper

Ideally a Working Paper should be relatively concise. It does not have to explain everything. It should focus on discussion and issues generated from research, rather than a vehicle for presenting large amounts of data and their analysis, which should be done in a research report. It should focus on analysis, comparison, synthesis, impacts and lessons learned and concentrate on the perspectives of different actors. Overall, we recommend that papers be no more than 10-15,000 words (20-30 single-spaced pages). Annexes should be kept to a minimum and should only be to provide more explanation of certain aspects of the paper. They should only contain the data necessary to support the explanation.

## 3. Guidelines

Guidelines for manuscript preparation are included in the document CPWF Revised Style Guide, which is a brief summary of the relevant parts of the *Chicago Manual of Style*, 15th edition. The Editorial team has prepared a template, which provides a pattern for authors to follow, as well as a collection of styles (in the Word sense) that authors can use to simplify the formatting of the text.

## 4. Process for submission and review

Since there are fewer projects in Phase 2 of the CPWF, we want the process of producing the Working Paper series to be collaborative rather than the typical peer review. We envision the following steps:

### **Identification of the topic/focus of the potential Working Paper:**

Working Papers can be commissioned, identified from discussions, evaluation reports or preliminary reports published at the Basin Level. They can also, of course, be proposed by project staff or Topic Working Groups. In whatever way they are identified, it is important that the basin leader, editors of the Working Paper series, and knowledge management team be involved / advised when the topic of the Working Paper has been identified.

### **Writing and initial review of the paper**

Authors should seek comments on a draft version of the paper from their project/basin leader or head of their topic working group. Once their approval/comments have been incorporated into the draft, it can be submitted to the Editorial team of the Working Paper series.

**Submission of paper the Editorial Assistant (Bing) – Approximately 1 week.**

The paper should be submitted to the Editorial Assistant (Bing). The Managing editor (Martin) will review it for scientific rigour and the Publishing editor (Michael) for formatting and messaging. At this stage Editorial team will decide whether the paper needs further scientific editing or can go for review.

**Review of paper – Approximately 3 weeks**

Papers will be reviewed by at least two reviewers (ideally one scientific reviewer and one development-oriented reviewer). Reviewers will be paid for their review.

**Revisions – Approximately 3-5 weeks**

Depending on the amount of editing needed, revisions should take:

- 2 weeks for minor editing
- 3 weeks for substantial inputs
- 5 weeks for major inputs and revisions

Given that the papers will have been screened twice already, it is not expected that major comments will be necessary

**Proof editing, layout and final corrections (4 weeks)**

Final proof editing will be carried out (1 week) and then a layout and retouching of figures and illustrations (2 weeks). During this time, authors will be asked for photos and other materials. A final proof will be provided to the author(s) and Editorial team for final approval (1 week)

## **5. Dissemination**

CPWF has a policy of primarily digital dissemination with on-demand printing. The final product will be placed in the Working Paper section of the CPWF website and the CPWF document repository. It will be publicized in various e-letters and links to other portals and websites. It will be publicized in the CPWF E-letter. Limited number (around 50) will be printed and sent to the authors, basin leaders and kept at the CPWF secretariat for handing out on a limited basis.

## List of Current Working Papers

(Reworked as of February 2, 2011)

### Research 4 Development Working Paper Series:

No.	Title	Author	Comments
R4D 01	Mitigating the effects of hydrologic variability in Ethiopia: an assessment of investments in agricultural and transportation infrastructure, energy and hydroclimatic forecasting	Paul J. Block	From WP series 01
R4D 02	<b>Use of decision support systems to improve</b> planning and operation of large dams in Africa	Matthew Mcartney	New WP

### Impact Assessment Series

No.	Title	Author	Comments
IAS 01	Stories from the field: a most significant change synthesis	Larry Harrington	From WP series 02
IAS 02	Most significant change stories from the Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF)	Cristina de Leon, Boru Douthwaite and Sophie Alvarez	From WP 03
IAS 03	Geographical extrapolation domain analysis: scaling up watershed management research projects, a toolkit to guide implementation	Jorge Rubiano and Victor Soto	From WP 04
IAS 04	Improving knowledge for targeting interventions: willingness of individuals to participate and calculation of institutional environment indices	Jorge Rubiano and James Garcia	From WP05
IAS05	An Impact Assessment of the Project on Developing a System of Temperate and Tropical Aerobic Rice (STAR) in Asia	Deborah Templeton and Ruvicyn Bayot	Would be WP 06
IAS06	Citizen Participation in Managing Water: Do Conversatorios Generate Collective Action? An Outcome Evaluation of the CPWF Project: Sustaining Collective Action Linking Economic and Ecological Scales in Upper Watersheds (SCALES/PN20)	Diana Marcela Córdoba and Douglas White	Formerly RR02
IAS 07	Strengthening CPWF Project Evaluations: Assessing Research-for-Development Impact	John Mayne	

**Basin focal project series** (which does not change)