

## **Peer-review system of ReSAKSS Products**

### **Preamble**

The reputation of ReSAKSS depends on the quality of ReSAKSS products and publications. The purpose of the Peer-review system for ReSAKSS Products is to ensure that ReSAKSS products are reviewed and produced in a timely and high-quality manner. This is crucial as we move forward at rapid pace and urgency to deliver quality and usable ReSAKSS products. Currently, ReSAKSS products are differentiated into Issue Briefs, Working Papers and Annual Trends and Outlook Reports. ReSAKSS central coordination at IFPRI will serve to maintain the quality of ReSAKSS products by commissioning anonymous reviews from carefully selected internal and external reviewers. It will also oversee the review process, including establishment of suitable deadlines for reviews and for revisions of papers. Although this support will be provided by ReSAKSS centrally, it will not carry out the reviews. ReSAKSS Coordinator at IFPRI-DSG will remain in charge of the review process and will recommend their publication to the division director of DSG upon successful completion of all reviews and corresponding revisions. Final approval and rejection decisions will be made by the division director. Rejections of publications will be accompanied by a memo that explains the decisions based on reviewer reports.

### **Review Procedure**

For all ReSAKSS products, the ReSAKSS nodes will submit the products to ReSAKSS central coordination at IFPRI, along with the title of the product and suggestions for potential reviewers (2 names in the case of Working Papers and Annual Trends and Outlook Reports, none are needed for Issue Briefs). ReSAKSS central coordination at IFPRI will submit the products to potential internal and external reviewers after deeming the products

acceptable for potential publication, pending review (in terms of substance and language). The review of the products will be carried out as follows:

**Issue Briefs:** All Issue Briefs from ReSAKSS will be reviewed by one internal reviewer within the ReSAKSS network. In this context ReSAKSS network implies all ReSAKSS managers and supervisors as well as key members of ReSAKSS collaborative partners. Issue Briefs will be reviewed internally by a member of the ReSAKSS network other than the one preparing the brief.

**Working Papers:** All Working Papers will be reviewed by at least an internal reviewer from the ReSAKSS network and at least one external reviewer. The quality of the Working Papers will be similar to that of IFPRI's Discussion Papers. A desired criterion is that ReSAKSS Working Papers should include at least one important issue relating to ReSAKSS Common Agenda. ReSAKSS Working Papers may include early output from projects and incomplete material awaiting further study and analyses, and conceptual, guide and review materials. The review procedure for ReSAKSS Working Papers is also similar for any publication that ReSAKSS publishes with another organization and that carries the logo of ReSAKSS in the context of a collaborative network or program.

**Annual Trends and Outlook Reports:** Each ReSAKSS node and ReSAKSS central coordination at IFPRI is expected to produce an Annual Trends and Outlook Report (ATOR). A key criterion is that the ATOR format must be similar across the regional and Africa-wide nodes. For example, the theme for the 2008 ATOR focused on food price crisis while also providing analysis of other indicators such as agricultural investments, spending, poverty, growth, trade and malnutrition. The ATOR will be reviewed by at least one internal reviewer from ReSAKSS network and at least one external reviewer. ReSAKSS nodes will compile names of potential external reviewers from their regions that are capable and willing to assist in the reviewing process.