



Central Performance and Impact Assessment Unit

Strategic Research Network - Terms of Reference

MANDATE

The Central Performance and Impact Assessment (CPIAU) Unit Strategic Research Network (SRN) is an advisory body that will promote research collaboration within the Government of Canada's Business Innovation and Growth Support (BIGS) program community and inform the research agenda of the CPIAU within the Results Division of Expenditure Management Sector, Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS).

OBJECTIVES

The key objectives of the Committee are:

- Engaging in substantive discussion through open dialogue to determine central research questions, propose and debate methodological approaches, and refine analysis using BIGS program administrative data linked to Statistics Canada's Linkable File Environment (LFE);
- Coordinating departmental research agendas and sharing research plans for BIGS data as well as best practices to ensure common approaches and reduce duplication;
- Suggesting and developing topics for analysis by the CPIAU;
- Identifying data needs and potential data development activities;
- Participating in peer review of select research products;
- Discuss emerging issues to advance research agendas and outputs;

CONTEXT

Following the 2017 Horizontal Review of Business Innovation Programs, Budget 2018 announced \$2M of ongoing funding to Treasury Board Secretariat for "placing evidence at the centre of program evaluation and design", with a focus on business innovation programs. To meet this budget commitment TBS has formed the CPIA Unit within the Results Division of Expenditure Management Sector. In support of this mandate, \$1M is provided to Statistics Canada.

CPIAU and Statistics Canada undertake an annual joint data collection exercise that collects BIGS program administrative data and links it to the LFE, an integrated microdata environment based on the entire universe of Canadian businesses in Statistics Canada's Business Register. This has resulted in the creation of a shared data asset and provides an opportunity for the CPIAU and BIGS departments to engage in rigorous statistical analysis to better understand the impact of BIGS programming on Canadian firms.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Co-Chairs



- Director, CPIAU, Expenditure Management Sector, Treasury Board Secretariat
- Director of Data, Innovation Canada, Innovation, Science and Economic Development

Members (Standing)

The departments listed below may have one member on the SRN and one delegate. The member is at EX-02 or EX-01 level and the delegate, is at the EC-07. Delegates are optional.

- Statistics Canada, Economic Statistics
- TBS, Economic Sector
- Privy Council Office
- Finance Canada
- Innovation, Science and Economic Development
- Major BIGS Departments (NRC, NSERC, NRCan, AAFC, GAC)
- The Regional Economic Development Agencies (ACOA, CANNOR, CEDQ, FEDDEV, WD)

Members

The Co-Chairs may agree to invite additional subject matter experts or senior executives to participate in meetings as and when required.

Secretariat

A Secretariat, within TBS, has been established to support the administration of the Committee, including scheduling meetings and distributing materials to support them.

MEETINGS

The Committee will meet formally quarterly: in January it will discuss research plans for the upcoming fiscal year and in September it will discuss results of the previous year and any newly identified data development requirements. Other meetings may take place over the course of the year on an ad-hoc basis to facilitate peer review or partnerships on special initiatives.

An agenda will be maintained by the Secretariat.