

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: Private-Sector Research Investments in Agriculture, Food and Biofuel

Type of Report
(ERR, EIB, EB) ERR

Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service Highly Influential Scientific Assessment
USDA

Agency Contact: Elise Golan, egolan@ers.usda.gov

Subject of Review: Future growth in the productivity of the global food and agricultural system will largely be determined by today's investments in research and development (R&D). In the past several decades the private sector has become a major player in developing innovations for food and agriculture. The emergence of biotechnology and other new scientific developments, the strengthening of intellectual property rights (IPR) over agricultural innovations, the expansion of markets for improved agricultural inputs and food products, and consumer demands for more diverse kinds of food products, are some of the key factors that have driven private companies to invest in food and agricultural research. More recently, the rapid growth in the market for biofuel has caused a diverse set of companies to expand their R&D investments in this area as well. This report seeks to quantify investment trends by for-profit companies in agricultural, food and biofuel R&D and explore how changing market demand and industrial structure may be affecting these trends.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: Panel Review Individual Reviewers

Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 12/17/10 End: XX/XX/XX Completed: XX/XX/XX

Number of Reviewers: 3 or fewer 4 to 10 More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: Agency Designated Outside Organization

Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

