



INTERNATIONAL  
FOUNDATION FOR  
SCIENCE



**ANNIVERSARY**  
**1972-2022**

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IFS 2022

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and others throughout the booklet are recent IFS grantees.

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**#IFS50**

# Greetings from the IFS Director

Dear Friends of the International Foundation for Science,

**O**ur story begins with people. The organisation that we call IFS has been shaped by the people who came before us, starting with our founders whose many passions included trying to make the world a better place for all. It has been shaped even further by thousands of IFS grantees, a wide network of IFS Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) Members, the staff at the Secretariat, the IFS Board of Trustees, and the generous contributions of the funders of IFS who joined us to ensure that the vision and mission of IFS would be sustained and not lost to an uncertain future.

Since 1972 when IFS was established, its grants have catalysed the scientific careers of thousands of early career researchers in LLMICs (low and lower-middle income countries). Their research has advanced knowledge of biological and terrestrial systems; highlighted food, water and energy linkages to livelihoods and wellbeing; and shown how human and natural systems are connected. While IFS may have played a crucial role in supporting these early career scientists, for many of them the connection with IFS has been transformative.

It is thanks to the foresight of the IFS founders and those who followed that we are all able to come together and celebrate 50 years of

**"These essays, poems, photos and graphics breathe life into the 50 years of the IFS story, and its people, passions and purpose. Happy reading!"**

IFS. While the booklet you are about to read takes you on a journey through our past, we must be mindful of and continue to focus on our future. Our world is ever-changing and today we are faced with some of our biggest challenges yet. Even as the scourges of poverty, inequality, unemployment, and marginalisation plague citizens and governments in LLMICs, they also must address the rising spectres of climate change, environmental degradation and resource overexploitation, among others. Existing research and innovation systems are woefully inadequate given the changing sustainability and development needs among growing populations – especially among young adults and especially in Africa.

The need to support quality research for greater societal impact in LLMICs has never been more urgent. A growing population of graduates, low levels of domestic, national support for science, limited ODA contributions for local impactful research, and continuing obstacles to effective integration of research and action, underscore the importance of IFS's mission. Rapidly changing societal contexts in LLMICs, coupled with the shocks of the COVID-19 pandemic, call for continued funding support for IFS so that it can effectively carry out its mission of impact through the support of research by early career scientists.

As we mark our 50th anniversary, we celebrate our growth and achievements, our progress and partnerships, and our perseverance. Most importantly, we celebrate our people, to whom we owe much gratitude for starting our story, and for weaving together our narrative over the past fifty years and far into the future. It is from our collective experiences of yesterday, today and tomorrow that we will write the next chapters of the IFS story, allowing us to preserve and protect our world as science is used for peace, prosperity, and justice.

This commemorative booklet features essays that we originally published throughout 2022 as blog posts on the IFS website. Following the introductory piece about the founders of IFS, are testimonials from across the community of IFS stakeholders, drawn from surveys of grantees, alumni, Scientific Advisory Committee members and external advisors, Secretariat staff and members of the Board of Trustees. Our IFS grantees, alumni and colleagues responded to questions about defining moments in their own experiences of IFS that exemplify its role in science, what IFS support has meant for them, or why they have supported IFS in their various roles, and their visions for a future IFS. Taken together, these essays and other elements of our anniversary booklet paint a picture of the Foundation's place in global science that was first imagined by the four founders who once sat around a table, turning an idea into one of their numerous scientific legacies.



*Dr Nighisty Ghezae*  
*IFS Director*

I am thankful to Bahati Orlando for carrying out the surveys, Bill Savage for co-authoring the essays with me and for compiling this publication, and Jennifer Sjölund and Jill Wallin for their final touches to the booklet. I am deeply grateful for our IFS grantees, alumni, SAC members and advisors, Board members, and especially each and every one of the Secretariat staff, for each moment of many years of their dedication and tireless efforts. They are IFS; you are IFS; we are IFS.

# Anniversary Poem

*If you look at the history of IFS  
you will see there's a pattern behind the success:*

*People, yes people! Together are we  
a big and flowering family tree.*

*Budding scientists, starting up their career.  
That is the base, so let's take it from here.*

*Some are successful right from the start,  
with projects that really are state of the art.*

*Others get feed-back, and lots of advice,  
encouraged to re-think, re-write and revise.*

*Grantees who grow and get recognition  
thereby fulfilling the IFS mission*

*Advisers sharing their knowledge and wisdom.  
They are the blood that runs through our system.  
Their devotion is well worth a standing ovation  
for paying it forward without compensation.*

*Trustees and chairpersons leading the way,  
carefully checking that we don't go astray.*

*Donors: your support makes it all come true.  
We wouldn't be here if it wasn't for you.*

*Directors have worked hard to steer the ship  
and search for new ways to better equip  
IFS for a future that is constantly changing.  
Their efforts were many and truly wide-ranging.*

*Numerous staff members have done their share  
to ensure each project is valued with care.*

*Our foundation is special we have heard through  
the years,  
"at IFS we are all welcomed as peers".*

*We've been praised by a princess and even a king.  
IFS is indeed a marvellous thing!*

*Thank you for making IFS the best!  
You are each a Gem in our treasure chest.*

By Ingrid Lindhe

## ABOUT IFS

IFS is an international NGO. IFS was founded in 1972 in Sweden by 16 Academies of Sciences and is governed by an international Board of Trustees. Our Secretariat staff comes from eight countries around the world.

## VISION

For LLMIC scientists to fully contribute to a global research community committed to reducing poverty and supporting sustainable development, both nationally and regionally.

## MISSION

Enhancing the capacity of early career women and men scientists in LLMICs to acquire the skills needed to conduct research and communicate their results, contribute to science literacy, influence science priority setting, and network and collaborate with the international research community to shape research agendas, both locally and globally.

**8 800+**

**GRANTS**

**105+**

**COUNTRIES**

**130+**

**AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS**

**1 400+**

**PRO-BONO SCIENTIFIC ADVISORS**

**40+**

**PRO-BONO SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

# Founders

**S**upporting Early Career Scientists in the Global South for 50 Years and Counting is the theme for 2022's year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of the International Foundation for Science. This theme recognises the intention and wording in the original Charter of Foundation of IFS, signed on 26 May 1972 by Sven Brohult, Robert E Marshak, Roger Revelle and Abdus Salam. These prominent scientists had picked up the torch that was lit by the recommendation to establish IFS by the Nobel Prize winning Pugwash Conference<sup>1</sup> in Venice in 1965.



From left: Sven Brohult, Roger Revelle, Abdus Salam and Robert E Marshak.

1. A conference series initiated by Bertrand Russell and Albert Einstein of scientists meeting annually in private as individuals seeking cooperative solutions to global problems.

## Past, Present, Future

Situating the aspirations for IFS within the lofty statements of the Preamble to the Charter of the United Nations and Article 27 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the founders emphasised the “socio-economic advancement of all peoples” and “the right of everyone freely to share in scientific advancement”. In particular, the IFS Charter envisioned IFS’s role “in developing countries, [as being] to promote meritorious research in natural and social sciences and technology”. The Charter also acknowledges that “a thriving scientific tradition requires a strong educational scientific community”.

Our anniversary theme is also explicit about what IFS does, and is a half-century-old reaffirmation of what the founders – as “representatives of scientific Academies and other scientific Organizations”<sup>2</sup> – saw as the work of IFS:

*... to seek out young scientists and technicians of outstanding merit from developing countries and provide them with material and moral support in their work, on condition that the research activity shall take place in the territory and for the benefit of the developing country in accordance with the rules set in the ... Statutes.*

In an editorial in the *Bulletin of Atomic Scientists*, Eugene Rabonovich (1966) early on agreed about the need for and work of a foundation such as IFS, as well as suggesting that one of its advantages would be:

*... to provide to outstanding young research talents a chance to develop their research at home, to return to their own countries after study or graduate work in scientifically developed countries, and to establish their own up-to-date research centers. These could later serve as centers to attract the next generation of scientists.*

Thus, the theme also looks beyond these 50 years, while implying that IFS’s work still counts, that it is an important and valuable resource for future generations of researchers. In other words, a relatively small research grant, meaningful capacity-enhancement activities, and the right kind of support do indeed contribute significantly to the work of early career scientists and to positive impacts in their countries.

2. The founding member organisations represented Argentina, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, India, Indonesia, Israel, Netherlands, Pakistan, Philippines, Sweden, Thailand and the USA.

## Beginnings and Being Human

At the time of IFS's founding and of the photograph on the previous page (from left to right), chemist Sven Brohult (1905–2001) was President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences; oceanographer Roger Revelle (1909–1991) was the Chairman of the Harvard Center for Population Studies; physicist Abdus Salam (1926–1996) was the Director of the International Center for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy; and physicist Robert E Marshak (1916–1992) was a Professor of Nuclear Physics at Rochester University.

Online searches about each of these men show there is much to be learned about their backgrounds, careers, scientific achievements and legacies. Reading biographies and media articles about them – and watching the 2019 documentary *Salam: The First \*\*\*\*\* Nobel Laureate* – reveals much more about who they were as people. Humble beginnings marked their early years: among their parents were teachers, a school administrator, a seamstress and a peddler. They each took advantage of educational opportunities that enabled them to become renowned scientists and influential leaders. They also had profound professional and personal life experiences that shook and shaped their views of the world and of humanity.

Revelle and Marshak were both involved in the US effort to develop atomic bombs, as Salam was in his home country of Pakistan. All three later became outspoken critics of nuclear weapons, leading to their involvement in such bodies as the Federation of American Scientists, Union of Concerned Scientists, and the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. The careers of both Salam and Marshak were affected by their cultural backgrounds, the former because his family belonged to the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community and the latter because his parents were Jewish immigrants from Russia in the United States. Revelle's own views were met with apprehension by his prosperous community of La Jolla, California, because of his opposition to discrimination against Jews.

It could be said of each of IFS's founders, as Henley and Lustig (1999) wrote of Robert Marshak, that they were “driven by a desire to help bring about world peace and prosperity and with an understanding of the unique role that science should play in achieving these goals” and that they had “an unquenchable quest for social justice”.

IFS grantee Mr Rodrigue Constant Sandjong Sani, studying the baobab tree, Cameroon.



## Boundaries and Borders

This sentiment of Sven Brohult's (1969) is indicative of a trait shared by the IFS founders: "One can learn to free oneself from certain limitations in one's thinking and avoid being limited by the familiar frameworks and thought paths". His own journey into such open-mindedness was certainly propelled in part by his studies in France as a teenage scholarship recipient and later university graduate. He even joined the French Minister of Research to organise a "Tour de France scientifique", inspiring school students in Sweden and the rest of Europe for further studies and research.

The founders also traversed the boundaries of disciplines and any particular field of study's limitations, in Revelle's case initially because of the nature of oceanography. He later "brought a refreshing perspective to global food problems, embedding them in the matrix of population, resources, economic development, energy, and, of course, knowledge – discovered, integrated, communicated, and applied" (Malone, Goldberg and Munk, 1998). The physicist Marshak became "a leading statesman of world science and contributed enormously to strengthening communications and cooperation among scientists across borders and consequently to world peace and well-being" (Henley and Lustig, 1999).

Actual country borders and international relations featured prominently in how the founders approached their scientific pursuits, at times brushing up against the powers of governments. In the documentary about Salam (Beall, 2019), his son Ahmad recalls "... his father's passion and anger to help overcome the greed and arrogance of the developed countries towards the developing countries". Despite the conditions faced by his community in Pakistan, Salam returned there from the UK several times to live and/or work, such was his commitment to his homeland's development. He must have seen himself as a bridge across age-old human chasms.

Revelle also recognised the importance of getting involved in addressing inequalities between so-called developing and developed nations, in particular concerning climate change issues. His was an early voice saying that "the continuing addition of carbon dioxide to the atmosphere, oceans, and biosphere could lead to global warming" (Malone, Goldberg and Munk, 1998). For his outspoken views, Marshak was thought likely to have been interrogated by the US government because of his bridge-building efforts, when he was among the first American scientists to visit the Soviet Union in 1956 after the death of Stalin (Henley and Lustig, 1999).



Research of Dr Moussa Ouedraogo, Côte d' Ivoire, aims to improve the productivity of wells and boreholes.

Ahmad Salam's words (Beall, 2019) say it all:

*Inequality in every sense is higher now than ever in history. Abdus Salam strived to make developing countries invest in education, science and technology to help their economic prospects, whereby they would grow faster and more sustainably with the support of the developed countries. That message is as relevant now as it was 50 years ago.*

## Scientists and Mentors: The Work of a Lifetime

The IFS founders' unwavering commitments to the advancement of global science played out on high-profile international public stages, in their hands-on work with early career scientists everywhere, and through the establishment of organisations that continue to this day. Sven Bruholt considered IFS and the Swedish-French Research Association to be among the four cornerstones of his career endeavours, along with research into the European snail *Helix pomatia* and the drug Ecomer. Abdus Salam and Robert Marshak were not only friends; together with others they founded the International Centre for Theoretical Physics at Trieste, Italy, where they served as Director and Science Council member, respectively. ICTP was set up "specifically to provide a place

for students from developing countries to connect with academics from around the world” (Beall, 2019). Marshak also “sought out the best graduate students from overseas, notably from India, Pakistan, and Japan, and brought them to Rochester ... Many of these students later became leaders in their countries’ scientific communities” (Henry and Lustig, 1999).

In outlining his life philosophy, in addition to notions about improving natural, social, human and educational environments, Roger Revelle knew that “to create a new world, we must first create within ourselves a higher concern for good, a stronger will for right action, and a deeper sense of brotherhood” (Malone, Goldberg and Munk, 1998). In other words, as we make our way through our own life’s work, we can each ask ourselves how we can be “a most generous friend and mentor, particularly to students and junior colleagues”, as Robert Marshak’s own colleagues wrote about him (Henry and Lustig, 1999).

## An Idea with a Future

Take a moment to look back at the photograph of Sven Bruholt, Roger Revelle, Abdus Salam and Robert Marshak. Take stock in your mind of what has changed in the world since this moment was recorded for us to appreciate. Now pull up a chair among the founders of the International Foundation for Science and, one at a time, tell them about how IFS has continued and improved its support of early career scientists in the Global South. You might mention, as examples of their foresight, the:

- Diversity of scientific professionals and communities now seated around a much larger table
- Increasing numbers of women grantees, now at 30% of new grants awarded
- Mentorship activities at the Secretariat, Scientific Advisory Committees and between established scientists and grantees
- Research being conducted into climate change, food and water systems, and pandemic issues, among other pressing matters
- Collaborative research projects carried out across borders in and between Africa and Asia, on topics such as biodiversity, underutilised species, and climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Networks and associations of IFS alumni within countries, regions and globally, organising events such as a seminar in Benin in December 2021 on the decolonisation of scientific research in Africa



Ms Azongnide G Gwladys, Benin, collecting data in experimentation on young seedlings of *Vitellaria paradoxa*.



Searching for new drug candidates for treating asthma. IFS grantee Dr Panumart Thongyoo, Thailand, is purifying synthesized peptidic inhibitors for targeting human-beta-tryptase.

- Numerous organisations from around the world who have affiliated and partnered with IFS over the years, including the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation's Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation, and the
- Thirty-two donors who have generously funded IFS over the past ten years, and others before, including the continuous support of the Swedish government, whom Sven Bruholt was instrumental in bringing on board at the beginning.

The issues of their time compelled our founders to respond in a novel way by turning the scientific and development communities' attentions and actions toward the needs – and mostly untapped potential – of early career scientists in so-called developing countries. Their sense of urgency must have been as strong as ours is today, buffeted as we are by the effects of climate change, political unrest, social and racial injustice, pandemic, misinformation and manipulation of truths, and a distrust of scientific and governing institutions, to name a few. IFS has continually evolved in response to the research needs of the day, and continues to do so.

In 1969, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences, Sven Brohult and colleagues published a Swedish-language volume called *Development Lines in Research and Technology (1919–2019)*. It was in two parts: “The past 50 years” and “The next 50 years”. The second part contained predictions about the future accomplishments of science. Among their “misses” was ... humans on Mars by 1985, among the “near-misses” ... small orbiting communities (if the International Space Station qualifies), and among the “hits” ... broadband cable networks to homes.

At the start of this present 50-year span, four scientist-friends made another prediction of sorts that remains true: a research grant, capacity-enhancement activities and support do indeed contribute significantly to the work of early career scientists and to positive impacts in their countries. Calling Roger Revelle “no doomsday prophet”, Malone, Goldberg and Munk (1998) remind us of how he wrote in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* in 1966 that “This analysis and prescription are as good (and as dependent on knowledge) today as they were the day they were written.”

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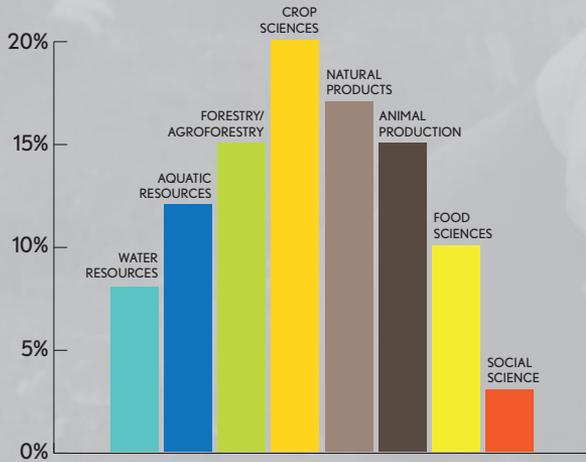
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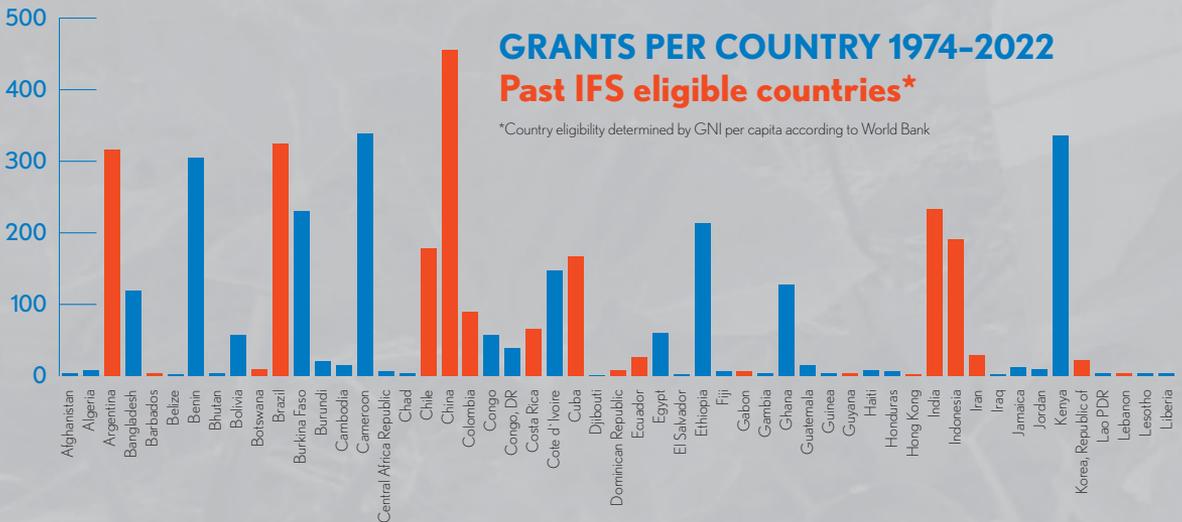
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# 50 Years of IFS

IFS has a proven 50-year track record of successful identification of and investment in future science leaders in low and lower-middle income countries who deliver impact-oriented and problem-solving solutions to local issues in three main areas.



A total of 8800+ grants of value of USD 98 million in 105+ countries.



## Geographical distribution of IFS grants 1974-2022

**24%**  
Latin America  
and the Caribbean

**6%**  
Middle East and  
North Africa

**28%**  
Asia and the Pacific

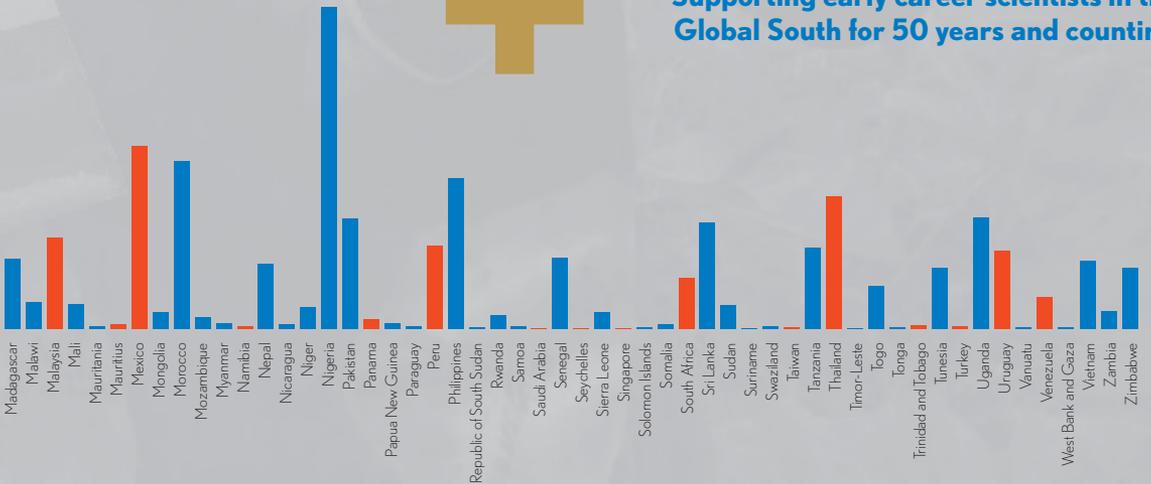
**43%**  
Sub-Saharan Africa

**70%**  
MEN

**30%**  
WOMEN



Supporting early career scientists in the  
Global South for 50 years and counting





**Supporting early career scientists in the Global South for 50 years and counting**



Training workshop on proposal writing, Abomey-Calavi, Benin, 2014.



Grain amaranth producer Mr Patrick Otieno, BaFam Cooperative, Kenya.



Dr Rupika Subashini Rajakaruna's research work with green turtle populations, Sri Lanka.



The golden mantella frog, Madagascar.

Collecting phytoplankton samples in Tri An reservoir, Vietnam, for Dr Thanh Luu Pham's research.





Dr Juliet Karisa studying degraded coral reef sites in Mswambeni, Kenya.



Dr Carolina Isaza Aranguren and Mr Hernando "Vikingo", Colombia.



Dr Susan Kerfua picking samples suspected of foot-and-mouth disease, Uganda.



Proposal writing training in Kenya, 2014.



Ms Iqra Sarfraz, Faisalabad, Pakistan.



*Synedrella nodiflora*, a plant used in a pharmacological study by Dr Patrick Amoateng, Ghana.

# Grantees

A common response to the question about a defining moment was “when I received the email about getting the grant”. This was important encouragement for early career scientists who were in dire need of a breakthrough. Some were contemplating quitting their graduate studies because of financial issues, or because their institution had no budget to fund it, giving up on their research projects or limiting their scopes. The IFS grant allowed them to pursue their original ideas, ensure the smooth running of their research, cover the expenses, finalise the data collection and analysis, and publish the results. The grant offered hope for early career scientists – often as a first award of its kind – and helped them to have confidence in themselves.

The grant also demonstrates the confidence that IFS has in early career scientists who are at the beginning of a line of research, when it is not easy to find funding. An IFS grant provides a chance for scientists to realise their research passion at home, to return to their own countries after study or graduate work in scientifically developed countries, to become core researchers, to establish collaborations and networks, and to set up and equip laboratories or their own up-to-date research units that can attract the next generation of scientists, especially the increasing numbers of women in science.

With its emphasis on empowerment through skills development and promoting interdisciplinary research among the natural and social sciences, simply put, IFS advances the conditions for conducting research from basic needs to the actual problems that need addressing. Such “gray areas” typically concern locally-driven problems and the development of locally-based solutions, or piloting studies that have never been done before, or carrying out a study whose objective is to contribute to the improvement of the living conditions of marginalized groups, especially women. These are often situations where minimal funds lead to larger impacts.

All of this encourages a rethinking of the way that science is conducted, and of how research results are valorised in grantees’ countries. Examples given included being able to conduct scientific work on wild oilseed species in Benin; the concentration of microplastics in surface water and sediment of Lake Victoria being made known for the first time; and proving through an experiment that the production of soybean cheese that meets the expectations of urban consumers in a developing country

# Poem for a Grantee Event

*We've brought you together from different nations  
to celebrate and say: Congratulations!*

*You all made it through and passed the test,  
and we will support you to all be your best.*

*Through thick and thin, whatever the weather,  
whatever the problem, we are in this together.*

*The IFS family has grown with you all  
so whenever you need us, just e-mail or call.*

*And if you're in town, come for coffee or tea  
it's normally ready just before 3.*

*And soon it is time for the networking session  
there's no better chance for a good first impression.*

*We wish you success for the coming years.  
Now off you go to meet your new peers.*

**By Ingrid Lindhe and Jennifer Sjölund**



Dr Damigou Bammite. Morphological description of taro in Togo.

can allow women who engage in this activity to substantially improve their income. As one grantee reported:

*It is exhilarating to be recognized for my work. In 2021, when there was a quality and safety issue with poultry products on the news, a major national TV media agency called me (as an expert) to comment on it and it was aired. I had no prior engagements with the media agency. Also, in 2021, another reputable media agency contacted me to contribute to a documentary they were producing on poultry. These two incidences were defining moments for me because I realized that my work had local impact beyond the stakeholders I was directly working with and the academic community. That, for me, is impactful research and IFS made that possible.*

The support which grantees receive from the IFS Secretariat leads one grantee to write that “it is moments like these that make me believe there are still good people on this planet”, with another saying that “the whole staff of IFS is always available regarding all inquiries”, and “the support that it provides to the researcher from the day of proposal submission, throughout the research project, until the completion of the final report is highly appreciated”, remarks another grantee. In addition to the Secretariat’s encouraging feedback, the constructive comments from the application reviewers and Scientific Advisory Committees promote confidence, self-belief and the can-do spirit which is the bedrock of science. Two examples illustrate grantees’ appreciation of how IFS operates:

*I was awarded my first ever research grant even without prior experience in grant writing. Many other funders need a demonstration of grant management experience but IFS provided me my first grant, which I use today to justify this experience and to win other grants.*

*My defining moment in my experience with IFS began when I received the first grant supported by IFS. Unfortunately, the first project did not work quite out as I had originally envisioned. I did not deliver the tangible outcomes as promised and instead reported all the failed results. Unlike other funding agencies, IFS did not pressure for publication, but recognizes science, regardless of its outcome. With a renewal grant from IFS, I published two articles in international peer-reviewed journals, supervised graduate students and a post-doc in a lab. Looking back, these publications and capacity building would not be possible if IFS did not continue to support our research.*



Exchange session with the field team. Research project of Mr. Oswald Fulgence Dan, Benin.

Other ways in which IFS support has personal meaning for early career scientists include:

- Learning about grant applications, writing and administration as a principal investigator
- Allowing me to assert myself as a researcher
- Obtaining a certain legitimacy in my field
- Establishing collaborations with other researchers
- Learning how to work during the pandemic situation
- Managing a project with little supervision, and hence, a high sense of accomplishment
- Conducting, leading, managing and overseeing an entire project “that I conceptualized”, in other words, leadership, and
- Applying for the position of Associate Professor this year, with the help of the grants and the papers emanating from them: “This will be a tremendous milestone for me personally and for other young women in STEM who look up to me as a role model.”

One of the intended impacts of IFS is to have a multiplier effect. By supporting early career scientists, IFS hopes that they will in turn support other scientists and contribute to scientific development at local (and potentially other) levels in various ways. Grantee experiences that exemplify this multiplier effect include:

- Internships offered to students
- IFS-funded equipment at my institution used for other research activities
- Research assistants from my institution starting their scientific careers
- MSc and PhD students finding their own research themes during my research, often towards fields little-studied in my country
- Students who get training through the IFS-funded project, who then have a multiplier effect in the national agriculture research and extension system
- Based on the experience I obtained during my IFS-funded research project, GIZ awarding me a six-month contract to build the capacity of staff
- A mentorship scheme where I supported students to develop grant proposals to become independent researchers
- Giving training to undergraduate students on how to write a grant, drawing most of my points from IFS grant instructions and the experience I had with my own application
- Organising GPS training seminars for local forest rangers and my colleagues
- Local farmers, conservationists, and secondary school students trained on sustainable management practices to protect crops
- Thirteen Bolivians – five women and eight men, between 20 and 40 years of age – directly involved with my raptor research and conservation initiatives in my country, with a growing community of 2000+ friends and followers on social media
- Advice rendered to me by previous grantees in my home country, seeing first hand how the careers of former grantees took an upward turn through the IFS grants, and
- Learned about IFS through an early career researcher at another university, he mentored, along with two other junior researchers receiving IFS funding, by a senior researcher who himself received IFS funding early in his career.



Ms Tran Thi Thanh Xuan, Vietnam,  
doing phage plaque assay.

# Alumni

**M**any of the surveyed alumni responded simply to say that when there was no other financial support for either their degree studies or their research project aspirations, the IFS grant and support provided that opportunity. In some cases, this meant having enough funding to do fieldwork, to acquire basic laboratory equipment, or to train at a European institution. In one case, the grant was seen as the early career scientist's initiation into the world of research; another continues the line of research started with the IFS grant. Others wrote about the grant giving them trust in themselves and funding bodies, and increasing the visibility of their work, which in turn fueled their career. As one alumnus expressed it:

*When I read the email congratulating me and announcing that my project was accepted for funding, you cannot imagine my joy and admiration for IFS. I burst with happiness because I knew I had won a great opportunity to evolve in science.*

Even before the awarding of a grant, alumni emphasized the importance of the feedback from reviewers on the project proposals, and how this convinced them of the need to get (and give) feedback in a “ping-pong” manner until the proposal was acceptable. When one person's first attempt for funding support was rejected, they followed up with the Secretariat and were given detailed reasons for the failure. That moment helped the researcher to understand how to gather information and prepare a proper proposal. They now encourage their students and university staff to visit the IFS website and also to take advantage of the learning opportunities offered by IFS. As examples, one respondent was invited to a workshop in Benin in December 2014, marking a turning point in their career with the boost in confidence. As far back as the 1980s, at an IFS General Assembly in Morocco, one former grantee recalled actively participating, receiving and taking care of international government and non-government guests, and presenting their IFS-funded aquaculture research work, remembering the event as if it has happened yesterday.

# Poem for Current and Former Grantees

*Eminent scientists once shared a vision that led to the creation of IFS, with the mission to help youth of the South do research at home rather than in London or Paris or Rome*

*to formulate projects for the problems at hand and develop their research in their own land*

*well filled and good IFS applications has aimed to improve for many a nation the knowledge 'bout creatures, on land and in sea about forests and crops and Kenyan tea*

*pollutants and waste, drinking water supply in a community, what rules do apply?*

*You are Africans, Latin-Americans, Asians yes, IFS grants go to many locations in the IFS family each grantee gets incorporated, though far apart, you are all related.*

*A black and white photo, of 4 old friends, is showing the start, but not how it ends. International Foundation for Science today - well, now it is your turn to show us the way.*

*Four men signed the charter, paved way for you all you are their legacy, be proud and stand tall when we celebrate 50 years of Success Long live our Foundation, Happy birthday IFS!*

By Ingrid Lindhe

## ABOUT IFS

# 80 000+

PEOPLE HAVE BENEFITED FROM SCIENTIFIC EQUIPMENT THANKS TO IFS GRANTS

**The IFS peer-review process is unique in providing detailed scientific feedback for both successful and unsuccessful applicants as well as encouraging reviewers to mentor applicants beyond the evaluation process.**



**Now I stand on my own feet.**

**Dr Nadira Sultana**, Animal Nutritionist, IFS Grantee, Animal Production and Water Resources, Bangladesh



**Science is power!**

**Ms Dorice Situma**, Environmental Chemist, IFS Grantee, Water Resources, Kenya

## Multiplier effects of IFS support:



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

***Describe a defining moment in your experience of IFS that exemplifies its role in science.***



For some alumni, IFS gave them their first opportunity to collaborate with scientists from their own regions, such as a fellowship at the Biosciences eastern and central Africa - International Livestock Research Institute (BeCA-ILRI) Hub in Nairobi. Bringing scientists from different countries and sometimes different disciplines to work together towards achieving a common goal shows how important IFS is in advancing science, especially where results would have been difficult to obtain if the research had been done individually. Such relationships are long-lasting, as in the case of one scientist who recently contacted previous teammates again to explore further collaboration. An alumna who participated in a capacity-enhancing workshop for women in agriculture was inspired by later career women in terms of work-life balance and excelling in their career without compromising their roles as women.

IFS's role in science is considered by some to be the connections that can be made between the actual lived experience of people and the results of research done by others. This can be a scientific solution to a certain problem in a community, or knowledge that is new to scientists or highlights gaps which they need to work on. Thanks to the funding that one respondent received for their research project on the impact of burning on crop yields, they were able to convince farmers about the negative impact on yield and on the climate through CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. IFS funding often enables research to happen on neglected flora and fauna and with under-represented communities.

Defining moments can also occur in unexpected ways, as in:

*...the day I invited the customs agents at the airport in Belém (Brazil) for a beer in order to explain to them why I sometimes received packages from abroad, and how damaging it was to my lab if these packages were somehow mismanaged or not readily released. The response to my explanation of what IFS was and the importance of the equipment for my projects – and the consequent change in their attitudes from then on – is to me (even after almost four decades) a defining moment of the role that science can and should have in society.*

The impact of IFS support on researchers and their careers is seen in maturing minds; thinking in new ways; launching into fruitful lines of research and directions of inquiry; and improving skills, knowledge and access to equipment to conduct research independently and originally. A woman researcher's confidence enabled her to believe in herself and eventually to collaborate on bigger projects. Another benefitted from funding for a post-doctoral collaborative project with three other African countries and four other early career researchers, even winning a prize for their project. The grant helped another respondent to acquire more funds and now as a mid-career researcher, to develop products for industry.

Through increased international networking, alumni present their research findings at global events, join rosters of experts, get invited to author book chapters, and publish in high impact factor journals, all of which help to secure more research grants from local and international funding sources, and be promoted. The IFS grant allowed one person to finish a project and to maintain scientific collaborations with the European laboratory where they did post-doctoral training. Another person found that the support was instrumental as they settled back into their own country after finishing a doctoral degree in Europe.

In terms of research that benefits from local scientists investigating local problems, one person published the first results in the region on a native species, forming a solid base to generate other projects and more knowledge on important species. IFS support was also the trigger for initiating the rapid evaluation of seed orchards for scientific tree breeding, enabling prediction of the gain versus diversity balance in each generation. Another early career scientist was the first to survey fishes in a particular region of their country, even discovering a new species. This gave them leverage to network with more groups on almost all continents. Grantees

were also involved in the creation of an association called New Vision for Africa Togo, where they provide technical assistance to local communities in the drafting and management of projects related to the sustainable management of natural resources in the context of climate change. Others support local communities through informal education via NGO partners.

When asked about one of the intended impacts of an IFS grant as having a multiplier effect, most respondents reported how they have now themselves become mentors, advisors, collaborators and co-authors, for their own MSc and PhD students, post-docs and research assistants who go on to further studies. Many of these have even started their own businesses, and some have gained positions as professors and researchers at other universities, research and extension institutions, and private companies.

Many research groups use equipment and infrastructure acquired through IFS grants, training others as well, and are no longer dependent on other laboratories and institutions. Some institutions have indeed become well-known as providers of analytic services using such equipment, while others have established “centers of excellence” that train early career scientists from all over the world. One institution in India is now an important node in mixed-species bird flock research globally. In Vietnam, one researcher introduced animal welfare studies into the country for the first time and is now collaborating with other early career scientists to seek additional funding and to publish their findings.

Grantees also pass on the benefits of their relationship with IFS by being involved in alumni associations in their countries and therefore contributing to the multiplier effect by helping in the capacity enhancement of junior colleagues to develop outstanding research proposals and articles. Women have especially been encouraged to forge ahead in science, including one daughter who now desires to follow the path of her scientist mother, who wrote: “It is an unending cord, initiated and knitted by IFS.”



Dr Ho Huu Loc, Vietnam. Air quality sampling.



# 'The IFS Way' Song for a SAC Event

(to the tune of My Way)

*It started long ago  
with clever men who had a vision.  
The past is good to know  
when working on our future mission.  
The aim has always been  
To help the young to have their own say  
In science – that's what we do  
The IFS way*

*Grantees – there's been a lot  
We cannot give each one a mention  
Some failed – but most did not  
And their success was our intention.  
We helped them at the start  
To get supplies, like a pipette tray  
We gladly did our part  
The IFS way*

*And here is SAC, you know it's true  
We could not manage without you  
All the advisers through the years  
Thinking of them might bring on tears  
In every call – we love you all  
The IFS way*

*And now, five decades on  
Where are we at - what is the reason  
For work that will be done  
The effort spent in every season  
It's time to look ahead  
Towards a bright and better new day  
We have a role to play  
The IFS way*

*So, what will we be, as Version two?  
Changing the old for something new  
This is our job in the next phase  
Figuring out what to replace  
And what to save – so things can stay  
The IFS way*

By Annika Eriksson



IFS grantee Dr Carolina Isaza Aranguren measuring and counting the leaf scars on the stem of *Mauritia flexuosa*, a wild palm species in the Colombian Amazon. Her project aims at contributing to developing sustainable harvesting practices of the edible palm fruits.

How the IFS Secretariat works with grantees and others – “the staff are pleasant and helpful” – was commonly given as an example of IFS’s role in science, with policies and practices which strive for equality, diversity and inclusion in the way the organisation conducts its activities. As examples:

*When IFS establishes a dialogue with a grantee, when it listens and responds, the grantee is not alone in a (frequently) harsh or hostile environment. There is an institution behind her or him, with people who respond.*

*There was an exchange with an IFS staff member who wanted to understand better a comment I made concerning recurring flaws I saw in some applications. I never see that happening with any other institution I am involved with.*

Advisors are appreciative of how IFS works with them, noting how well organised the Secretariat is, the ease of using the online reviewing platform, and an evaluation process that allows them to see the criteria for excellence expected when selecting IFS grantees.

Other moments which defined IFS’s role in science for some advisors include:

- Receiving proposals that show that the applicant fully understood and believed in the importance of the proposed work for her or his country and its people
- Evaluating IFS proposals knowing that the small grant (versus other funding sources) makes a difference in the career paths of early career researchers
- Discussing project feasibility, impact and quality during SAC meetings
- Seeing an important improvement in an applicant’s proposal when they have been given guidance on how to improve it
- Seeing a well-designed project funded
- Tracking scientists from under-represented countries who, sometimes with language issues, develop winning proposals and deliver great research, and
- Witnessing the medium-term results of a grant, e.g., high-quality scientific publications, or grantees coming back with a renewal application.

As one respondent expressed it, beyond a particular defining moment, there is “an overwhelming sense of the importance of being part of a net-

Mr Chansopheaktra Sovann. A drone for ground truthing data for classifying Landsat 8 Satellite images to update land cover map in Cambodia.



work that shares experience and knowledge openly across borders in a world that is increasingly riven by false information and multiple barriers”.

When asked why SAC members and reviewers support IFS, a couple of respondents wrote simply that they “believe in the role of IFS” and “in science as a driver of peace”. Several advisors are motivated by issues of gender and socioeconomic injustices or disparities that continue to hamper the emergence of scientists who can contribute to the well-being of their societies. Others wrote about how IFS is an important organisation that has built a reputation for science support in LLMICs. Advisors’ support was considered to be an effective means to contribute to IFS’s mission, and makes them feel like, in a small way, they are contributing to finding solutions to issues in the Global South.

For advisors coming from the Global South, they could easily understand the grounded context of research projects carried out by early career scientists (as well as their needs) and they could provide relevant recommendations to both IFS and its grant applicants. As IFS supported previous early career researchers who went on to build international reputations, to then become an IFS advisor is one way of their giving back to the IFS and scientific communities. Again, it is an enriching multi-directional exchange because advisors are able to put their experience to use and also learn from applicants and grantees, and as well about current research directions.

Advisors are also appreciative of the serious attention that is given to proposals and to the best interests of early career scientists, a reason one person has “stayed on for 38 years and counting”. The SAC members and reviewers have a wide scope to evaluate innovative ideas and approaches to research and development projects, and they are able to see their outcomes in real world settings.

According to one SAC member, in response to a question about IFS’s uniqueness:

*... independence of criterion, not subject to local pressures. IFS support recognizes scientific potential in people who only have their credentials to introduce themselves. IFS trusts them, trusts the person; it has confidence that the grant will be used for the purpose described in the application, without the need to monitor the grantee, save for final reports.*

*This trust-based commitment creates a solid link between the grantee and the organisation. It provides the grantees with confidence in their achievements, and empowers them to pursue a career in science based on them.*

Grantees often do not have many options for acquiring funding for their research, in particular those with scarce previous experience in autonomous research. IFS grants are like seed money that can be a credential in the search for complementary funds from other financial bodies. Being one of the few international funding agencies that offers whole-hearted support to early career scientists, as one respondent put it: “no one else does it ... how’s that in terms of uniqueness?”

In practical and administrative terms, elements of IFS’s unique and be-spoke approach are seen in:

- The personal approach which can be experienced at all levels (e.g., evaluation of proposals, contact within SACs with Scientific Coordinators in the Secretariat and with the IFS Director)
- Clear, simple and space-limited application guidelines and forms
- Fair reviewing process
- Fruitful feedback sent to grantees who are invited to submit renewal applications, for second and sometimes third grants
- Lack of bureaucracy for receiving and managing the grant
- Guidance from established scientists to develop and manage high-quality scientific research activities, and
- Support that goes beyond the provision of a grant, including opportunities to join workshops, funds to participate in scientific conferences and for equipment and supplies, and access to potential networks of collaborators.

# Board of Trustees

Several Board of Trustees (BOT) colleagues focused on the ultimate reason for IFS's existence: our grantees and their research. One mentioned serving on an IFS Scientific Advisory Committee over 20 years ago, while another highlighted the reviewer feedback that is helpful to applicants as they develop their proposals to the final stage. Seeing a project funded based on its content – and not the experience of the applicant – was one of the “most striking ingredients ... of great value.” As one of few financial support options for early career scientists around the world, respondents noted the role that IFS plays in the transformation of students into becoming university faculty themselves.

Meeting IFS grantees and alumni in person allowed one BOT member to learn how the support has transformed not only their lives but also helped to address problems in their own countries and regions. For example, a visit to a poorly-equipped soil lab in Burkina Faso showed how a small IFS grant made it possible for two early career scientists to make a difference there by conducting research that produced valuable data. One person suggested that “numbers matter” and noted the 8800 grants that have been given to early career professionals since IFS was established in 1972.

A number of BOT members have experienced firsthand the role that IFS plays because they started as applicants and grantees themselves, getting a boost to their research careers, publishing in peer-reviewed journals, and receiving international science awards. As one colleague wrote, “My defining moment was back in 1973 when I got news that my research on the *anthelmintic* plant got approved for funding by IFS. My university had rejected my application on the grounds that I lacked experience. IFS funded me because it was supporting young people with good ideas even when they did not have relevant experience.”

A former Board member from Argentina responded: “There is no such thing as a defining moment. I have been affiliated with IFS my entire professional life, and I am who I am largely due to its support.” She recalled an informal study she had carried out that showed a high percentage of IFS grantees stayed in Argentina to develop scientific careers in their home country, as well as a significant proportion of IFS alumni



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# Secretariat



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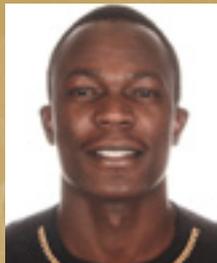
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# Vision for IFS

## Grantees

When asked about their visions for a future IFS, many grantees confirmed the relevance and need for a relatively small research grant, meaningful capacity-enhancement activities, and the right kind of support, and that this should not only continue but be expanded. In particular, IFS is “a place where it is possible for women and girls to have the essentials of STEM” and it is “a model in giving feedback on proposals and guiding early career scientists ... this makes a world of a difference”. Specific recommendations for change include:

- Instead of individual small grants, medium-size group proposals with larger impacts, i.e., more comprehensive experiences, linking society and policy
- Different types of grants: early career, mid-career and consolidation grants for experienced scientists
- No age limits, larger grant amounts, scientific visits and residencies
- Alumni working in synergy, while supporting junior scientists and helping their communities in sustainable development, with IFS support and guidance
- Grants that will help communities with the effects of climate change, biodiversity and food security, and more generally, research themes that are flexible, up-to-date and cross-cutting
- More collaboration between IFS and national research institutions and bodies to share their experiences in building policies and strategies to support early career scientists
- More opportunities for researchers to share their work with local stakeholders and to advocate with decision-makers at national and international levels
- Become more collaborative in its approach by bringing together scientists beyond national boundaries, a strong network of IFS-funded researchers to foster new collaborations across inter/multi-disciplinary boundaries.

## **Alumni**

Commonly mentioned as their vision for a future IFS was encouraging former grantees to serve the cause of IFS in various ways, e.g., through associations and networks of alumni, events that bring them together, mechanisms where they can donate time and money to IFS, and roles they can play to make IFS more visible in the world. Specific recommendations for changes to how IFS operates included:

- Having a separate call for women researchers
- Speeding up the selection results for each session so that scientists can move faster
- Increasing grant amounts, given inflation and high costs
- Supporting mid-career scientists whose research has taken off, especially so they can supervise junior colleagues, and
- Following up to turn research findings into actions that community members can resonate with.

A number of respondents also urged IFS to reconsider its research areas so that climate change is centered, with more multi-disciplinarity that touches communities directly through science, and that addresses socio-economic inequalities and scientific denialism. In other words, IFS is seen by many as having much potential as a change-making science advocacy organization.

## **SAC Members and Reviewers**

When asked about their visions for a future IFS, many of the SAC members and reviewers responded with a question of “Why change something which is working well?”, suggesting that IFS should not only continue its support of early career scientists from LLMICs, but also expand it significantly. Thus, one visionary respondent calls for “a world where scientists regardless of their location are supported and are part of a community that is collectively responding to current issues faced by humanity”.

Specific recommendations for how IFS could modify its operations and rise to such a vision include:

- Granting schemes for scientists returning from studies elsewhere to their home countries, where the scientific environment may be poor (not just in financing, but also in critical mass), and often even hostile to returning, well-qualified scientists
- Follow-on granting schemes where applicants can take a successful idea forward with larger-scale funding
- Support to recently graduated PhDs to establish research groups in their countries
- Integration of individual support and networking, including collaborative multi-disciplinary grants
- Mentoring programmes with continuous feedback between senior and junior scientists, and
- More exchanges between researchers from “developing” and “developed” countries, including partnerships between early career scientists in both settings, and scientific forums and conferences organised by IFS and its partners.

A common response about an envisioned future highlighted the need to review the research areas in which IFS funds grants, with the aim of fostering scientific originality to generate high quality science and realistic solutions to priority local problems. IFS’s mission may have to be more focused, in terms of categories of scientists that qualify for funding and the research areas. For example, there is little on the sustainability of agricultural production (e.g., soil fertility, role of organic matter in soils) and there is little on climate change (and its mitigation and adaptation) and the ways it affects agricultural and food production. One way to do this could be through grants to collaborative networks in different countries, carrying out research using common methodological frameworks applied to different case studies.

Representatives of the SACs and the community of external reviewers generally concurred that it is worth considering how IFS can establish itself more directly in its grantees’ countries. For example, IFS’s many alumni could play roles as coaches, mentors and collaborators, strengthening the involvement of the community of people who have benefited from IFS. Contacts and relationships could be facilitated in innovative ways among the regions of Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. As one person wrote, “It’s time to move, document and

celebrate what IFS has achieved in half-a-century, and build a refreshed grant-funding organisation for scientists in the Global South. There is an urgent need for more support from existing and new funding and strategic partners. IFS itself also needs to do more public awareness-raising to promote its work, so as to attract more attention and investment through cooperation with countries within its three regions.”

## **Secretariat**

In describing their ideas for a future IFS, past and present members of the IFS Secretariat envision an organisation that continues to create an equitable and truly global scientific community by being adaptable and addressing contemporary as well as emerging issues in science. They hope that IFS will still be able to play a part for early career scientists, helping those who might not have the possibility without us, through the mandate of identifying and supporting early career scientists through grants and capacity-enhancing activities. IFS staff would also like to see IFS being “owned” and driven more by the people for whom it was created, i.e., the grantees, and they would like to see all of the IFS stakeholders become more visible and vocal in international fora so that a sound vision can be created for the future and so that IFS can become more appealing to potential funding and programme partners.

## **Board of Trustees**

The Board of Trustees is also tasked with envisioning a future for IFS, and for crafting policies and strategies that will attract the funding necessary to create impact on the grantees and their countries. The respondents want to see an organisation that continuously refreshes its mandate, and they suggested a few areas in which IFS must take a fresh look, including:

- Interdisciplinary and thematic approaches
- Collaborative research in innovative fields
- Mentorship
- Fostering leadership in science-based entrepreneurship and job creation
- Working with local groups related to the environment, sustainable agriculture and other SDG-related areas, and
- Joining with national, regional and international movements in science, research and industry.



As one BOT respondent wrote when asked about defining moments, “the struggle in this direction is still ongoing” as IFS makes efforts to broaden its scientific approach to include interdisciplinary theories and methods to address urgent real-world problems. While IFS evolves into a change-making organisation better situated to meet the challenges of today’s world, it also continues to demonstrate that the vision of its four founders remains true: a research grant, capacity-enhancement activities and support do indeed contribute significantly to the work of early career scientists and to positive impacts in their countries.

Mr Romuald Hounyeme, Benin.  
Sampling of different fish species  
at the fishing point Calavi.



# Donors and Partners

Thank You to each of the 33 funding and programme partners with whom IFS has collaborated over the past ten years:

- > African Academy of Science (AAS), Kenya
- > Belgian Science Policy Office (Belspo), Belgium
- > Carnegie Corporation of New York, USA
- > Carolina MacGillavry Fund (Koninklijke Nederlandse Akademie van Wetenschappen), The Netherlands
- > Department for International Development (DFID), United Kingdom
- > Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG), Germany
- > European Commission, Research Directorate-General, Belgium
- > French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France
- > International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (icipe), Kenya
- > International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), Kenya
- > International Organisation for Chemical Sciences in Development (IOCD), Belgium
- > International Science Program (ISP), Uppsala University, Sweden
- > Institut de Recherche pour le Développement (IRD), France
- > INASP/AuthorAID, United Kingdom
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- > National University of Rwanda (NUR), Rwanda
- > Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad), Norway
- > Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), The Netherlands
- > Organisation of the Islamic Conference Standing Committee on Scientific and Technical Cooperation (COMSTECH), Pakistan
- > PODIO Project Management Software Citrix System Inc
- > PROTOS, Benin
- > Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture (RUFORUM), Uganda
- > Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Asia-Pacific
- > Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Co-operation (CTA), Netherlands
- > Biosciences eastern and central Africa – International Livestock Research Institute (BeCA-ILRI) Hub, Kenya
- > Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), Philippines
- > Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Sweden
- > Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Switzerland
- > Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture (SFSA), Switzerland
- > Western Indian Ocean Marine Science Association (WIOMSA), Tanzania
- > World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)/ CGIAR Gender & Diversity Program, Kenya
- > 1000 STEM Women Project

We are deeply thankful for the support of the long-time donors and strategic partners who have continued their relationships with IFS. They are:

- Sida, the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- SNSF, the Swiss National Science Foundation
- OPCW, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and
- COMSTECH, the Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation of the OIC (Organization of Islamic Cooperation).



Sida



Swiss National  
Science Foundation



We would also like to highlight and thank the Carnegie Corporation and the Belgian Science Policy Office (Belspo), as donors, the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), as a strategic partner, and Carolina MacGillavry, as an individual. Through their support, IFS has been able to successfully pilot three collaborative research projects in Africa and Asia, involving 112 individual grants to 57 women and 55 men, 31 team grants, 17 countries, five implementing partners and the above four funding partners.

Donors, strategic partners and individuals like Sida, SNSF, OPCW, COMSTECH, Carnegie, Belspo, SEARCA and Carolina MacGillavry are the reasons we can continuously support early career researchers and we truly cannot thank them enough.



*Carolina MacGillavry*

# An International Forum in Celebration of IFS's 50th Anniversary

Fifty years after its creation, IFS is commemorating the courage, wisdom, and foresight of its founders by convening an international forum that will lead to more significant progress on “Science for Peace, Prosperity and Justice” in the Global South. Held on 10 November 2022 – in recognition of the UN’s World Science Day for Peace and Development – the forum has these objectives:

1. Celebrate IFS’s remarkable record of awarding more than 8800 grants to early career scientists in more than 105 countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean
2. Identify issues and promising pathways towards:
  - Science for peace, prosperity and justice
  - The decolonization of science, and
  - Strengthening science and impact with indigenous and local community organizations
3. Present and discuss IFS 2.0 – A New Strategic Direction, and identify next steps







**Supporting early career scientists in the  
Global South for 50 years and counting**



**INTERNATIONAL  
FOUNDATION FOR  
SCIENCE**

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