3.3 ISPP Subject Matter Committees (SMCs) and Taskforces

Taskforce on Global Food Security. During 2013-2018 the Task Force on Global Food Security chaired by Professor Lise Korsten reviewed its aim and strategies.

The aim of the ISPP Task Force on Global Food Security (TF-FS), in consultation with ISPP’s Executive Committee, is to foster linkages between plant pathology and key food security challenges, to promote understanding of the issues and to facilitate action to sustain global food security.

This is to be achieved through a balanced program including action-based projects and institutional linkages. The TF-FS will serve as a platform for information exchange, for example through the Food Security journal, and through knowledge bases, position papers, think tanks and conferences. Progress towards the aim will require funds to be raised.

The ISPP Executive agreed that ISPP would not fund additional 'Challenge Projects”. At the ISPP executive meeting in Capetown in 2017, it was agreed that the Task Force on Global Food Security should produce a final report (20 years of activity) and could then continue to function under the guidelines for ISPP Subject Matter Committees, and that ISPP should consider an additional Task Force with a different focus in the future.

- The Task Force on Global Food Security and ISPP were represented by Professors Lodovica Gullino (ISPP Past President) and Lise Korsen (Task Force Chair) at the 3rd World Forum on Local Economic Development in Torino, Italy during October 2015.
- Professor Korsten was Conference Chair for the 3rd International Conference on Global Food Security: Global Challenges, Local Solutions and Connected Pathways, 3-6 December 2017 sponsored by Elsevier and the University of Pretoria. Several Task Force members and three ISPP Executive members participated and / or presented papers.
- The TF-FS has organized keynote and concurrent sessions and a public meeting for ICPP2018.


In 2018-2023, the Commission on Global Food Security will continue to serve as a platform for information exchange, for example through the Food Security journal, and through knowledge bases, position papers, think tanks and conferences and the organization of a Plenary Session at ICPP2023.