**AEI research rubric**

This is an exploratory rubric to assess the capacity of a team or research endeavor to be able to do AEI research.

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| **Dimension** | **Sub-dimension** | **Criteria** | **Rating** |
| Systems thinking | Human, social systems | Does not consider humans | 0 |
| Considers culture, practices and/or perceptions of individuals, households, and/or groups | 1 |
| Tries to get at tacit motivations, psychology of individuals | 2 |
| Tries to understand how sub-groups interact and social systems and networks are connected and used | 3 |
| Natural systems | Does not consider biophysical or natural system | 0 |
| Just focuses on a crop/ biophysical component (e.g. pest) | 1 |
| Focuses on a crop/ component, but consider other elements that interact with it in the landscape | 2 |
| Explores feedback loops and negative or positive interactions, thresholds, and/or non-linearity within biophysical elements | 3 |
| Nat-human | Only discusses biophysical OR social elements | 0 |
| Considers some combination of social/human and biophysical/ ecological/ natural elements | 1 |
|  | 2 |
| Explores feedback loops and/or interactions between natural and human systems, thresholds, non-linearity | 3 |
| Context-sensitive | Participatory | On-station | 1 |
| Technology transfer | 1.5 |
| Observational (in the field but not participatory) | 2 |
| Participatory, outsider-led | 2 |
| Participatory, capacity strengthening | 2.5 |
| Co-creation | 3 |
| Ecological | Organic | No particular mention of AE | 0 |
|  | 1 |
| Breeding for AE (drought, P&D resistance), support diversification, other ecological principles | 2 |
| Avoid or reduce chemical inputs | 3 |
| Diversity | Heterogeneity | Takes averages, make blanket statements | 0 |
| Takes heterogeneity into account in design and analysis (present ranges, not averages) | 1 |
|  | 2 |
| Provide an OxC statement, where the context wasn't just a place but a factor | 3 |