

Minutes of the Meeting of the Research Ethics Committee, FTZ, CZU

3. 3. 2026

On 3 March 2026 at 10:00, a meeting of the Research Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Tropical AgriSciences, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee"), was held. The following committee members were present:

Members present: doc. Ing. Johana Rondevaldová, Ph.D.
prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D.
Ing. Olga Leuner, Ph.D.
Ing. Radim Kotrba, Ph.D.
Ing. Jiří Hejkrlík, Ph.D.
Ing. Miroslav Mulko

Secretary: Ing. Vendula Ludvíková, Ph.D.

The Committee met in full composition and is quorate.

Agenda

1. Assessment of applications received by 15 February 2026
2. Miscellaneous

Course of the Meeting

1. Assessment of applications received by 15 February 2026

The Committee generally evaluated the submitted applications. A total of nine applications were considered. None of the submitted applications involved the

manipulation of plants or animals. Overall, the Committee concluded that all applications demonstrated standard procedures in data handling within questionnaire-based research.

Subsequently, Committee reviewed the following submitted applications for ethical assessment:

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-001

Applicant: Rhoda *Lomotey*

Project title: Food identity and its role in food security status in Greater Accra Region, Ghana

Voting results:

In favour: 5; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D. was in a conflict of interest and therefore did not participate in the voting.

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-001** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified. The Committee identified only one weaker aspect of the application - the Benefit Sharing section - and agreed that it would be advisable to give more consideration to the benefits for local stakeholders with whom the project investigator will collaborate.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-002

Applicant: Shreya *Bhardwaj*

Project title: Exploring the Dynamics of Out-migration Among Farming Households in Purvanchal, Uttar Pradesh, and its Influence on Regional Food Security

Voting results:

In favour: 5; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D. was in a conflict of interest and therefore did not participate in the voting.

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-002** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-003

Applicant: Kwarkye Evans *Agyapong*

Project title: Sustainable Agricultural Practices and their Influence on Household Food Security in the Deciduous Agroecological Zone in Ghana

Voting results:

In favour: 5; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D. was in a conflict of interest and therefore did not participate in the voting.

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-003** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-004

Applicant: Miloslav *Machoň*

Project title: Back-channel Diplomacy as (a new) Forest Ecosystem Service: The Case Study of the Presidential Forest Game Reserve in Lány

Voting results:

In favour: 5; Against: 1; Abstained: 0

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-004** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

The Committee identified only one weaker aspect of the application—the Benefit Sharing section—and agreed that it would be advisable to give this issue more thorough consideration and to examine the potential benefits in greater depth.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-005

Applicant: Girma Mekuria *Lagiso*

Project title: Local Community Awareness, Perceptions, Attitudes, and Participation in the Management of the Gambella National Park

Voting results:

In favour: 6; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-005** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-006

Applicant: Jimmy *Njobvu*

Project title: Invasive Species and Food Security: Assessing Impacts, Local Coping Strategies, and Pathways for Resilient Rural Livelihoods in Zambia

Voting results:

In favour: 5; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D. was in a conflict of interest and therefore did not participate in the voting.

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-006** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-007

Applicant: Gideon Gobti *Ayeah*

Project title: GIS-based Multicriteria Assessment of Biogas Potential and Utilisation Scenarios in Buea Urban Municipality, Cameroon

Voting results:

In favour: 5; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Prof. Ing. Jan Banout, Ph.D. was in a conflict of interest and therefore did not participate in the voting.

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-007** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-008

Applicant: Francisco Ceacero *Herrador*

Project title: Personality traits explain the behaviour of the Ecuador white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus ustus*) in ecotourism centres

Voting results:

In favour: 6; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-008** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

FTZ-ETHICS-2026-009

Applicant: Jiří *Hejkrlik*

Project title: Listening to the Voiceless: An Inquiry into Rural Development Strategies and Indigenous Empowerment for Uganda's Batwa amidst Eviction and Globalisation

Voting results:

In favour: 5; Against: 0; Abstained: 0

Ing. Jiří Hejkrlik, Ph.D. was in a conflict of interest and therefore did not participate in the voting.

Resolution: Based on the information provided, **the Committee approves project FTZ-ETHICS-2026-009** and states that it meets the requirements of research ethics and that no ethical obstacles to its implementation have been identified.

2. Miscellaneous

The Committee discussed the low number of submitted applications. A higher number is expected at the next meeting. The next meeting is tentatively planned for September/October 2026.

The Chair of the Committee thanked the members for their constructive comments and efficient meeting.

In Prague, 3 March 2026

Recorded by: _____

Ing. Vendula Ludvíková, Ph.D.

doc. Ing. Johana Rondevaldová, Ph.D.
chairman of the Committee