Die im Jahr 1971 gegründete **Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research** (CGIAR) (Beratungsgruppe für Internationale Agrarforschung) ist eine strategische Partnerschaft von 64 Mitgliedern, die mit einer Vielzahl von Regierungsorganisationen, zivilgesellschaftlichen Organisationen und auch der Privatwirtschaft in der ganzen Welt zusammenarbeitet. Die Mitglieder der CGIAR sind sowohl 21 Entwicklungs- und 26 Industrieländer, vier Co-Sponsoren, sowie dreizehn internationale Organisationen. Heute sind mehr als 8000 Wissenschaftler und Mitarbeiter in über 100 Staaten für die CGIAR aktiv. Das Gründungsziel der CGIAR war, "die Bekämpfung der Nahrungsmittelknappheit in den tropischen und subtropischen Ländern durch Forschung und Investitionen in neue, hochproduktive Pflanzensorten und verbesserte Nutztierhaltung". [1]

Alliance of CGIAR Centers

- More on the Alliance
- Collective Action
- Interactive Map of the Alliance of CGIAR Centers
- Biographies of the Directors General

The Alliance is a center-driven coalition created by the 15 International Research Centers in 2006 to enhance collective action among the Centers and between the Centers and their partners. By joining forces to enhance impact and deliver better, more rapid results, it enables the Centers and their partners to make the most of available resources and increase their impact for the benefit of the poor in developing countries.

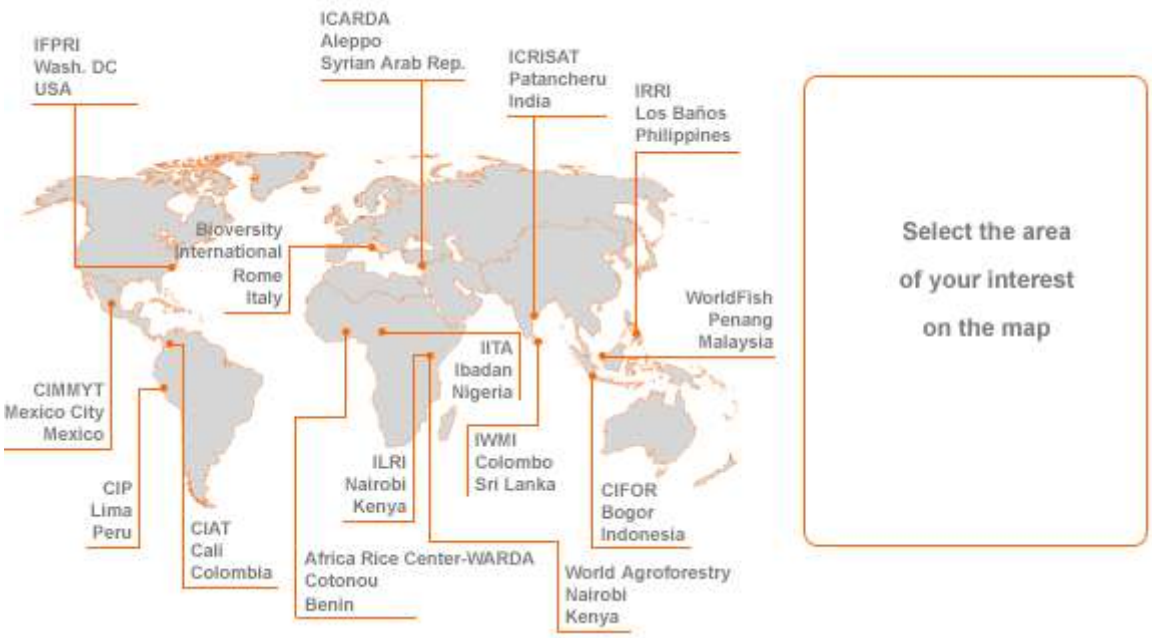
The goals of the Alliance are to enhance Centers' ability to fulfil the mission of the CGIAR through programmatic collective actions to increase overall impact on poverty alleviation and the environment and institutional collective actions to increase efficiency with which this impact is produced.

Through the Alliance benefits are realized not only for the Centers themselves but for the partners and stakeholders; for CGIAR members and donors, and for the System. More

efficient access to the expertise of the Centers allows more effective program outputs and outcomes. The Alliance provides the channel for consolidated Centers' contributions to CGIAR business ensuring that the full capacities of the Centers can be used in effectively tackling complex problems. The Alliance affords greater consistency in Center policies as well as a means by which decisions of the System will be more efficiently and effectively implemented. It creates a mechanism that enables Centers to speak and negotiate authoritatively with a united voice on common issues and to achieve economies of scale through such measures as programmatic alignment and use of common services. The Alliance is a focal point for enhancing corporate spirit and action and provides a systematic basis for participation in collective action with sister Centers and other agencies on major global agricultural, forestry, fisheries and water issues for which no one Center could deliver alone.

Collectively the Alliance of CGIAR Centers harness:

- More than 2000 scientists
- in 100 countries
- with over US$500 million invested per year for research for development



- Africa Rice Center
- Bioversity International
- CIAT - Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical
- CIFOR - Center for International Forestry Research
- CIMMYT - Centro Internacional de Mejoramiento de Maiz y Trigo
- CIP - Centro Internacional de la Papa
- ICARDA - International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas
- ICRISAT - International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
- IFPRI - International Food Policy Research Institute
- IITA - International Institute of Tropical Agriculture

- ILRI - International Livestock Research Institute
- IRRI - International Rice Research Institute
- IWMI - International Water Management Institute
- World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
- WorldFish Center

Mission und Prioritäten [Bearbeiten]

Die **Mission** der CGIAR lautet: Nachhaltige Ernährungssicherung zu erreichen und die Armut in Entwicklungsländern durch wissenschaftliche Forschung und Aktivitäten in den Feldern Landwirtschaft, Forstwirtschaft, Fischerei und Umwelt zu reduzieren.

Die CGIAR bietet wissenschaftliche Erkenntnisse, um nachhaltiges landwirtschaftliches Wachstum zu fördern, dass insbesondere ärmeren Bevölkerungsgruppen durch eine bessere Ernährungssicherheit, bessere Ernährungsweisen und eine verbesserte Gesundheit, höheres Einkommen und verbessertes Management von natürlichen Ressourcen, zugute kommt.

Die **fünf Prioritäten** der CGIAR lauten daher:

- Hunger und Unterernährung durch eine verstärkte Produktivität besserer Nahrung (durch genetische Optimierung) zu reduzieren
- Landwirtschaftliche Biodiversität erhalten (*in situ* und *ex situ*)
- Möglichkeiten für eine ökonomische Entwicklung durch landwirtschaftliche Diversifizierung und hochwertige Rohstoffe und Produkten fördern
- Nachhaltigen Umgang und Erhaltung von Wasser-, Land- und Waldressourcen sicherstellen
- Politikrichtlinien verbessern und institutionelle Innovationen erleichtern [2]

Forschungszentren [Bearbeiten]

Die CGIAR unterstützt 15 internationale Forschungseinrichtungen ("*Future Harvest Centres*"). Diese Forschungseinrichtungen sind eigenständige, unabhängige Institutionen mit jeweils eigener Satzung.

Die 15 *Future Harvest Centres* mit ihren Forschungsschwerpunkten und ihrem jeweiligen Sitz sind:

Institut	Schwerpunkt	Sitz
Africa Rice Center (ehemals WARDA)	Reis	Cotonou, Benin
Bioversity International	pflanzliche genetische Ressourcen	Maccarese, Rom, Italien

CIAT (Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical)	Tropische Landwirtschaft	Cali, Kolumbien
CIFOR (Center for International Forestry Research)	Wald	Bogor, Indonesien
CIMMYT (International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center)	Mais und Weizen	Mexiko-Stadt,Mexiko
CIP (Centro Internacional de la Papa)	Kartoffel	Lima, Peru
ICARDA (International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas)	Landwirtschaft in Trockengebieten	Aleppo, Syrien
ICRISAT (International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics)	Semiaride Tropen	Patancheru, Indien
IFPRI (International Food Policy Research Institute)	Internationale Ernährungspolitik	Washington D. C., USA
IITA (International Institute of Tropical Acriculture)	Tropische Landwirtschaft	Ibadan, Nigeria
ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute)	Viehhaltung	Nairobi, Kenia / Addis Abeba, Äthiopien
IRRI (International Rice Research Institute)	Reis	Los Baños, Philippinen
IWMI (International Water Management Institute)	Wassermanagement	Colombo, Sri Lanka
World Agroforestry Centre (ehemals ICRAF)	Agroforstwirtschaft	Nairobi, Kenia
WorldFish Centre	Fische	Penang, Malaysia

Forschung [Bearbeiten]

Die CGIAR betreibt landwirtschaftliche Forschung für die Menschen und für den Planeten. Nach eigener Aussage bringt die CGIAR-Forschung für Entwicklung die *benefits* der modernen Wissenschaft an die armen Bauern in der ganzen Welt. Die Forschung der CGIAR konzentriert sich auf die Verbesserung von jeder kritischen Komponente im landwirtschaftlichen Sektor. Eingeschlossen sind hier: Waldfeldbau, Biodiversität, Ernährung, Futter und Baumfrüchte, umweltfreundliche Landwirtschaftstechniken, Fischerei, Waldwirtschaft, Viehbestand, Ernährungsrichtlinien und Beratung über Agrarforschung.

Innerhalb der Forschung sind fünf Felder von besonderem Interesse:

- Nachhaltige Produktion (Saat, Viehhaltung, Fischerei, Waldwirtschaft und natürliche Ressourcen)
- Stärken nationaler Kapazitäten (durch gemeinsame Forschung, Politikunterstützung, Training und Wissensverteilung)
- Verbesserung des Keimgewebes (*priority crops*, Viehhaltung, Bäume und Fische)
- Sammlung von Keimgewebe (weltgrößte Saatgut-Sammlung in elf Gendatenbanken, die öffentlich verfügbar sind)

- Politikrichtlinien (Förderung von Forschung über Politikinhalte die einen großen Einfluss auf die Landwirtschaft, Gesundheit, die Verbreitung von neuen Technologien und den Umgang und Erhalt von natürlichen Ressourcen haben)

Die Forschung der CGIAR ist dynamisch, flexibel und kann schnell auf entstehende Herausforderungen im Bereich der Entwicklung reagieren.

Bedeutung der agrarwirtschaftlichen Forschung [Bearbeiten]

Steigende Lebensmittelpreise, die Sorge über die globale Erwärmung, die Energiekrise und neu erweckte Interessen im Bereich der Biotreibstoffe haben in der letzten Zeit zu neuen Herausforderungen und Möglichkeiten in der Landwirtschaft und für den Umgang mit den natürlichen Ressourcen geführt. Diese globalen Trends haben hohe Risiken und Konsequenzen zur Folge, insbesondere für die Menschen, die in ländlichen Gebieten leben und deren (Über-)Leben direkt oder indirekt von der Landwirtschaft abhängig ist.

Der Klimawandel wird die Wachstumsbedingungen für die Feldfrüchte verschlechtern und darüber hinaus die Kapazitäten der landwirtschaftlich nutzbaren Fläche strapazieren. Zugleich bedroht die globale Erwärmung den Produktivitätszuwachs zu gefährden, der so wichtig ist um die Armut zu reduzieren. Wissenschaftler (Vierter Sachstandsbericht des IPCC) gehen davon aus, dass steigende Temperaturen und wechselnde Muster der Niederschläge einen Rückgang der landwirtschaftlichen Produktion von bis zu 50% in vielen afrikanischen Ländern und bis zu 30% in Ländern Zentral- und Südasiens zur Folge haben werden.

Auf dem nationalen und internationalen Level ist daher ein verstärktes Engagement in die landwirtschaftliche Wissenschaft essentiell, um den neuen und vielfältigen Herausforderungen begegnen zu können. Wenn die Millennium Development Goals und das Vorhaben, die Zahl der Hungernden Menschen in der Welt bis zum Jahr 2015 zu halbieren, erreicht werden sollen, dann müssen starke Programme über relevante und effektive Forschungen ganz oben auf den internationalen Entwicklungsagenden stehen.

Die Wissenschaft, die durch die Forschungszentren und ihre Partner entwickelt wurde, hat signifikante Erfolge, in Form von weniger Hungernden und einem verbessertem Einkommen für Kleinbauern in allen Entwicklungsländern erzielt.

Die Bundesrepublik Deutschland und die CGIAR [Bearbeiten]

Deutschland ist seit 1971 Mitglied in der CGIAR und hat zu ihrer Gründung beigetragen. Die offizielle Unterstützung der CGIAR durch die Bundesrepublik wird über das Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (BMZ) sichergestellt. Die Leistungen der BRD im Jahr 2008 an die CGIAR betrugen rund 17,5 Millionen Euro. Deutschland unterstützt seit 2007 den Aufbau eines Forschungsschwerpunktes zur Anpassung der afrikanischen Landwirtschaft an den Klimawandel.

Von den Mitteln vergibt das BMZ einen Anteil von 25% als projektungebundenen Beitrag zum Budget der Forschungszentren. Der weitere Anteil wird an die Beratungsgruppe Entwicklungsorientierte Agrarforschung (BEAF) der GTZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für technische Zusammenarbeit) vergeben, um die projektgebundene Förderung zu gestalten.

Nach eigener Aussage organisiert die BEAF *"die Auswahl der zu finanzierenden Forschungsprojekte der Zentren nach entwicklungspolitischen und wissenschaftlichen Kriterien. Sie unterstützt die Abwicklung der Forschungsvorhaben und die Entsendung deutscher Fachkräfte an die Internationalen Agrarforschungszentren. Darüber hinaus berät sie das BMZ in dessen Rolle als einer der größten der 64 Geber in der CGIAR bei der Wahrnehmung seiner Aufgaben in den Steuerungsgremien. Die BEAF ist in allen bedeutenden Gremien national und international aktiv. Umfangreiche Beratung wird auch in der Öffentlichkeitsarbeit für Forschung angeboten werden. Die professionelle Verknüpfung von Forschung und Entwicklungszusammenarbeit sowie die Evaluierung von Forschungsvorhaben und deren Wirkungsbeobachtung sind das wichtigste Know-how der BEAF".* [3]

Einzelnachweise [Bearbeiten]

1. ↑ http://www.bmz.de/de/wege/multilaterale_ez/akteure/wio/cgiar/index.html?follow=adword
2. ↑ http://cgiar.org/who/index.html
3. ↑ http://www.gtz.de/de/themen/laendliche-entwicklung/1995.htm

Weblinks [Bearbeiten]

- CGIAR
- BMZ

Von „http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Consultative_Group_on_International_Agricultural_Research“
Kategorien: Landwirtschaftliches Forschungsinstitut | Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Gesellschaft

The **Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research** (CGIAR) was originally created at the initiative of the Rockefeller Foundation, which had sponsored international meetings of agronomists at its *Bellagio Conference Center* in Lake Como, Italy, from 1968 onwards.

In 1970, foundation officials proposed a worldwide network of agricultural research centers under a permanent secretariat. This was further supported and developed by the World Bank; on May 19, 1971, with the FAO, IFAD and UNDP as co-sponsors, the CGIAR was established. By 1983 there were thirteen research centers around the world under its umbrella.[1] CGIAR now has 64 governmental and nongovernmental members and 15 research centres.

At the time of its establishment there was widespread concern that developing countries would succumb to famine; the successes of the Green Revolution had started in Asia and the Pearson Commission on International Development had urged that the international community undertake "intensive international effort" to support "research specializing in food supplies and tropical agriculture". CGIAR was formed for the coordination of international agricultural research with the goals of poverty reduction and achieving food security in developing countries through agricultural research.

Active CGIAR Centres	Headquarters location
International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)	Cali, Colombia
Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)	Bogor, Indonesia
International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)	El Batán, Mexico State, Mexico
International Potato Center (CIP)	Lima, Peru
International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)	Aleppo, Syria
WorldFish Center (International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management, ICLARM)	Penang, Malaysia
World Agroforestry Centre (International Centre for Research in Agroforestry, ICRAF)	Nairobi, Kenya
International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)	Hyderabad, India
International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)	Washington, D.C., United States
International Water Management Institute (IWMI)	Battaramulla, Sri Lanka
International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)	Ibadan, Nigeria
International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)	Nairobi, Kenya
Bioversity International	Maccarese, Rome, Italy
International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)	Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines
Africa Rice Center (West Africa Rice Development Association, WARDA)	Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire / Cotonou, Benin

Defunct CGIAR Centres	Headquarters	Change
International Livestock Centre for Africa (ILCA)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	1994: merged with ILRAD to become ILRI
International Laboratory for Research on Animal Diseases (ILRAD)	Nairobi, Kenya	1994: merged with ILCA to become ILRI
International Network for the Improvement of Banana and Plantain (INIBAP)	Montpellier, France	1994: became a programme of Bioversity International
International Service for National Agricultural Research (ISNAR)	The Hague, Netherlands	2004: dissolved, main programmes moved to IFPRI

CGIAR also organises a number of inter-Center initiatives and Systemwide Programmes (SP), and Challenge Programmes (CP). The Initiatives and SPs cover cross-Center issues. The CPs

are time-bound, independently-governed programs of high-impact research, executed in a partnership among a wide range of institutions. Currently there are three in operation: the Generation Challenge Programme, Harvest Plus and Water and Food.

[edit] Notes

1. ^ Establishment of CGIAR - see Mark Dowie, *American Foundations: An Investigative History,* Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, 2001, (p.114)

[edit] External links

- Official website
- Generation Challenge Programme
- HarvestPlus Challenge Programme
- CGIAR Challenge Program on Water and Food
- Institutional Learning and Change (ILAC)
- Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property
- ICT-KM: the CGIAR program on ICT and Knowledge Management
- CGIAR Systemwide Program on Collective Action and Property Rights (CAPRi)

[hide]

v · d · e

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) Centers

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) · Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) · International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) · International Potato Center (CIP) · International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) · International Center for Living Aquatic Resources Management (ICLARM) · International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF) · International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) · International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) · International Water Management Institute (IWMI) · International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) · International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) · Bioversity International · International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) · West Africa Rice Development Association (WARDA)

Categories: Agriculture organizations | Rockefeller Foundation | World Bank | Agricultural research institutes

Who We Are

Members

Chair

Director

Science Cou

The CGIAR Mission, Vision and Strategic Objectives

The CGIAR mission is to achieve sustainable food security and reduce poverty in

Research Centers

Partners

History

Structure & Governance

developing countries through scientific research and research-related activities in the fields of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, policy and environment. Its vision is to reduce poverty and hunger, improve human health and nutrition, and enhance ecosystem resilience through high-quality international agricultural research, partnership and leadership. Its strategic objectives are as follows:

- Food for People: Create and accelerate sustainable increases in the productivity and production of healthy food by and for the poor.
- Environment for People: Conserve, enhance and sustainably use natural resources and biodiversity to improve the livelihoods of the poor in response to climate change and other factors.
- Policies for People: Promote policy and institutional change that will stimulate agricultural growth and equity to benefit the poor, especially rural women and other disadvantaged groups.

Why agricultural research matters

Rising food prices, concern over global climate change and energy supplies, and new interest in the potential of biofuels have ushered in a new era of challenge and opportunity for agriculture and natural resource management. These global trends, while affecting people everywhere, have particularly high risks and consequences for the 2.1 billion people who live on less than US$2 a day. About three-fourths of these people live in rural areas and depend directly or indirectly on agriculture for their livelihoods.

For poor consumers in rural and urban areas alike, higher food and energy prices will force further tradeoffs in their spending, drastically reducing their possibilities for improved well-being.

By worsening growing conditions for crops, climate change further strains the capacity of agricultural land and threatens the growth in crop productivity that is vital for reducing poverty. Scientists estimate that rising temperatures and changing rainfall patterns could cause agriculture production to drop by as much as 50% in may African countries and by 30% in Central and South Asia.

Strengthened investment in agricultural science nationally and internationally is essential to meet these new and multifaceted challenges. Moreover, such research needs to be scaled up to foster innovations for increased agriculture productivity to benefit the rural poor while conserving natural resources such as water and healthy soils, forests and fisheries.

According to the *World Development Report 2008*, investment in agriculture research has “paid off handsomely,” delivering an average rate of return of 43% in 700 development projects evaluated in developing countries. Clearly, strong programs of relevant and effective research must be at the top of the international development agenda to meet the Millennium Development Goals of halving hunger and poverty by 2015 and expanding these gains in the decades to come

An evolving strategic partnership

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), established in 1971, is a strategic partnership, whose donors support 15 international Centers, working in collaboration with many hundreds of government and civil society organizations as well as

private businesses around the world. The CGIAR generates cutting-edge science to foster sustainable agricultural growth that benefits the poor through stronger food security, better human nutrition and health, higher incomes and improved management of natural resources. The new crop varieties, knowledge and other products resulting from the CGIAR's collaborative research are made widely available to individuals and organizations working for sustainable agricultural development throughout the world.

The priorities of CGIAR research are:

- reducing hunger and malnutrition by producing more and better food through genetic improvement;
- sustaining agriculture biodiversity both in the field and in genebanks;
- promoting opportunities for economic development and through agricultural diversification and high-value commodities and products;
- ensuring the sustainable management and conservation of water, land and forests; and
- improving policies and facilitating institutional innovation.

A critical task for 11 of the CGIAR Centers is to maintain international genebanks, which preserve and make readily available the plant genetic resources that form the basis of food security worldwide.

In addition, the CGIAR implements several innovative Challenge Programs designed to confront global or regional issues of vital importance. Implemented through broad-based research partnerships, Challenge Programs mobilize knowledge, technology and resources to solve those and other problems such as micronutrient deficiencies, which afflict more than 3 billion people; water scarcity, which already affects a third of the world's population; and climate change, which poses a dire threat to rural livelihoods across the developing world.

The CGIAR constantly strives for excellence. The Change Management Initiative in 2008 and 2009 yielded agreement on how to restructure the CGIAR to reposition it in a rapidly changing external environment to deliver new technologies and new knowledge that will deliver the best possible results and formulate a forward-looking strategy for the CGIAR.

The CGIAR is open to all countries and organizations that share a commitment to achieving sustainable agricultural development and are willing to invest financial, human and technical resources to this end. Membership has expanded and diversified over the years, and the CGIAR is poised for further growth. CGIAR expenditure of US$542 million in 2008 was the single largest investment in mobilizing science for the benefit of the rural poor worldwide.

Without public investment in international agricultural research through the CGIAR,

- world production would be 4-5% lower,
- developing countries would produce 7-8% less food,
- world food and feed grain prices would be 18-21% higher, and
- 13-15 million more children would be malnourished .

For every $1 invested in CGIAR research, $9 worth of additional food is produced in developing countries, where it is needed most. The evidence is clear: agricultural growth alleviates poverty and hunger.

Benefits for the poor and the planet

International agricultural research has a strong record of delivering results that help confront the central development and environmental challenges of our time. The science developed by CGIAR-supported Centers and their partners has delivered significant gains in terms of reduced hunger and improved incomes for smallholder farmers across much of the developing world. The objectives of CGIAR research are much broader than improving agricultural productivity alone, encompassing a range of initiatives related to water, biodiversity, forests, fisheries and land conservation. It has advanced sustainable management and conservation practices, thereby protecting millions of hectares of forest and grasslands, safeguarding biodiversity, and preventing land degradation.

Among the outcomes of that research are the following:

- Biological control of the cassava mealybug and green mite, both devastating pests of a root crop that is vital for food security, succeeds in sub-Saharan Africa. The economic benefits of this work alone, estimated at more than $4 billion, are sufficient to cover all costs of CGIAR research conducted so far for Africa.

- New rices for Africa (NERICAs) combine the high yields of Asian strains with African strains' resistance to local pests and diseases. Currently sown on 200,000 hectares in upland areas, NERICAs help reduce national rice import bills and generate higher incomes in rural communities.
- More than 50 varieties of recently developed drought-tolerant maize varieties now grow on 1 million hectares across Eastern and Southern Africa.

- A flood-tolerant version of a rice variety grows on 6 million hectares in Bangladesh. The new variety enables farmers to obtain yields two to three times higher than those from non-tolerant versions following prolonged submergence, a situation that will become more common with climate change.

- Resource-conserving "zero-till" technology has been widely adopted in the vital rice-wheat systems of South Asia. Employed by close to half a million farmers on more than 3.2 million hectares, this technology has generated benefits estimated at $147 million through higher crop yields, lower production costs, and water and energy savings.

- An agroforestry system called "fertilizer tree fallows" renews soil fertility in

Southern Africa using on-farm resources. More than 66,000 farmers have adopted this technology in Zambia, where it has strengthened food security and reduced environmental damage, and the system is spreading in four neighboring countries.

- Information and tools are used by conservationists to monitor some 37 million hectares of forest, supporting better management of this diminishing resource and contributing to more sustainable livelihoods for forest dwellers.

- A new method of detecting aflatoxin — a deadly poison that infects crops, making them unfit for local consumption or export — benefits farmers throughout sub-Saharan Africa. This technology, together with a novel biological control method that has proved able to reduce aflatoxin by nearly 100%, helps to curb this major threat to human health, especially children's health, and to save millions of dollars in lost sales of food for export.

- A simple methodology for integrating agriculture with aquaculture bolsters income and food supplies in areas of Southern Africa where the agricultural labor force has been devastated by HIV/AIDS. Under large-scale testing in Malawi, the method doubled the income of 1,200 households and dramatically increased fish consumption.

- A new approach predicts the likely impact of climate change on major crops' wild relatives, which are a key sources of genes needed to enhance climate resilience, as well as provides valuable findings on the likely consequences of biofuel development in China and India for increasingly scarce water supplies.

- Increasing smallholder dairy production in Kenya improves childhood nutrition while generating jobs. This award-winning project with smallholder dairies has contributed up to 80% of the milk products sold in the country and strengthened local capacity to market milk products.

Click here for our page on scientific recognition.

The CGIAR Genebanks

CGIAR scientists play major roles in collecting, characterizing and conserving plant genetic resources. Eleven Centers together maintain over 650,000 samples of crop, forage and agroforestry genetic resources in the public domain. Read more on the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and on the Standard Material Transfer Agreement.

Data on the identity, sources, characteristics and transfers to users of the germplasm samples held in Center genebanks are available through the CGIAR Systemwide Information Network for Genetic Resources (SINGER).
To access SINGER, click here.

CGIAR Stakeholder Perceptions
In 2006, the CGIAR commissioned GlobeScan Inc., a global public opinion and stakeholder research firm based in Canada, to study the perceptions of its key stakeholder groups (CGIAR Members and Center partners). The survey shows that quality research is by far the most important driver of the CGIAR's overall reputation, while also identifying opportunities for improving the CGIAR's perceived performance. A report with the key results can be found here.

Who We Are:
History of the CGIAR

[Structure & Governance]

Overview

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) grew out of the international response to widespread concern in the 1950s, ’60s and early ’70s that many developing countries would succumb to hunger. Experts predicted widespread and devastating famine between 1970 and 1985, with hundreds of millions starving to death. Such grim predictions were proved wrong by a combination of connected trends: the reorientation of domestic policies in developing countries that were considered particularly vulnerable, sharply focused research by scientists in these countries, a great effort by farmers, and the impact of international research on tropical agriculture.

As the central instigator and steward of international research on tropical agriculture for nearly 4 decades, the CGIAR has evolved with the times and the changing demands of its stakeholders and donors. In terms of research, the CGIAR broadened its brief in the 1970s from an initial focus on breeding improved cultivars of the dominant staple grains — rice, wheat and maize — to include the smallholder farming systems under which these and other staples are grown in the South and how to manage the soil, water and genetic resources that support their productivity. In the 1980s, the CGIAR strove to maximize how effectively agricultural research alleviates hunger and poverty among rural producers and urban consumers, enhance national policy and research capacity to leverage international research inputs, and ensure the conservation of the natural resources upon which sustainable and equitable rural development depends. In the 1990s, the CGIAR expanded its effective definition of agricultural research to include forest and fishery management, agroforestry, and aquaculture.

In institutional terms, the CGIAR struggled to keep pace with its broadening research mandate. As its “consultative group” moniker suggests, the CGIAR was conceived as a loose association of autonomous research Centers and independent donors that shared objectives but pursued them without necessarily a great deal of strategic coordination. The late 1980s saw the beginning of a series of evaluations of the CGIAR’s research portfolio and governance and management structure. This culminated in the Change Management Initiative that saw the CGIAR transition in 2010 from a system managed for the most part informally by consensus into a new model that emphasizes binding contractual obligations and clear lines of accountability. This businesslike structure and its clarified roles, responsibilities and decision-making processes promise to enable the CGIAR to do more and do better, as it fulfills its mandate to fight poverty and hunger while conserving the environment.

The CGIAR in the Making

The roots of the CGIAR go back almost 3 decades before its formal inauguration, beginning with a collaborative program between Mexico and the Rockefeller Foundation. High-yielding semidwarf varieties of wheat developed in Mexico in the 1950s and of rice developed in the Philippines in the 1960s demonstrated the potential of publicly funded international agricultural research to unlock the productivity of smallholder farms in the developing world. A series of senior consultations — known as Bellagio conferences after the Italian city where many of them took place — explored how best the international community could

- consolidate and spread the benefits of agricultural research and agricultural transformation globally;
- respond to the urging of the Pearson Commission on International Development for an "intensive international effort" to support "research specializing in food supplies and tropical agriculture"; and
- protect and strengthen the four international agricultural research centers already established on four continents with the support of the Ford and Rockefeller foundations and their partners: the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in Colombia, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center in Mexico, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Nigeria, and International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines.

Participants in Bellagio conferences invited the World Bank to set up a consultative group for international agricultural research, similar to other groups that it had created to coordinate and support development in individual countries. The World Bank accepted the challenge and led the effort to create the CGIAR. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Nations Development Programme worked with the World Bank as cosponsors, subsequently joined by the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Click here to read "**The Origins of the CGIAR**"

TOP

Inauguration

The inaugural meeting of the CGIAR was held on 19 May 1971 at the World Bank with Richard H. Demuth, director of the World Bank's Development Services Department, presiding. Nineteen representatives of the governments of industrialized countries and other organizations attended as members, as did 10 as observers.

The founding meeting

- adopted a resolution setting out the **objectives, composition and organizational structure** of the CGIAR;
- decided to support the four existing international centers;
- established the **Technical Advisory Committee** (TAC) to provide the CGIAR with independent scientific advice;
- invited FAO to arrange a rotational system for a maximum of five governments to represent developing regions and countries in the CGIAR for 2 years at a time; and
- received pledges of financial support from founding Members, with the World

Bank and the US taking the lead.

Since then, **membership** in the CGIAR has increased to 64. The number of **CGIAR Centers** grew to 18 and then consolidated at 15 as their research interests diversified.

From the inception of the CGIAR, the World Bank provided the CGIAR with its chair, the primary leadership position first held by Richard H. Demuth. The World Bank also provided the CGIAR executive secretary and secretariat, as well as funding. The TAC Secretariat was housed at FAO.

TOP

The First Decade (1971-1980)

Forrest Hill, a CGIAR pioneer, said that the impact of the CGIAR would be judged by the ability of the Centers it supported to improve the availability of affordable food in tropical countries that faced serious scarcity. In that context, the CGIAR gave highest priority in its early years to research on the cereal staples rice, wheat and maize. Soon, however, the research portfolio was broadened to include cassava, chickpea, sorghum, potato, millet and other food crops, as well as pasturage. The emphasis on improving the availability of affordable food brought great benefits to developing countries, but other aspects of agricultural development were not neglected.

The founding resolution of the CGIAR had demanded that support for agricultural research take into account not only technical considerations but also ecological, economic and social factors. The same resolution urged national and international research Centers to work together. In keeping with these sentiments, the CGIAR branched out into several new areas of research such as livestock, farming systems, the conservation of genetic resources, plant nutrition, water management, policy research, and services to national agricultural research centers in developing countries. As the scope of research widened, the number of international Centers in the CGIAR grew from 4 to 13.

TOP

The Second Decade (1981-1990)

The objective of research was defined as increasing sustainable food production in developing countries in such a way that the nutrition and general economic well-being of the poor were improved. This approach called for a more direct focus on poverty, as well as greater emphasis on protecting biodiversity, land and water. Four major program thrusts were identified:

- enhancing sustainability through resource conservation and management,
- raising the productivity of commodity production systems,
- improving the policy environment and
- strengthening national research capability.

Centers were encouraged to use multidisciplinary approaches, increase inter-Center cooperation, support national research systems and collaborate with others in an emerging global agricultural research system. Towards the end of the decade, largely at the initiative of CGIAR Chair David Hopper, the CGIAR launched an inquiry into the need to further expand the number of Centers and thereby strengthen the CGIAR's capacity for research

related to sustainability. The “expansion inquiry” and changes based on its findings signaled a new trend in CGIAR-supported research.

The inquiry was entrusted to TAC, which had already drawn the CGIAR’s attention to the importance of sustainability in agricultural development. Even before the expansion inquiry was completed, the CGIAR decided that agroforestry and forestry should be included in the CGIAR research portfolio (see the Canberra Declaration of 1989). The TAC report on expansion confirmed this view.

TOP

The Third Decade (1991-2000)

In 1991, when the expansion inquiry was completed, the research interests of the CGIAR included livestock, agroforestry, forestry, fisheries, water management, and banana and plantain, in addition to crop agriculture as it is narrowly defined. The number of Centers rose to 18. Subsequently, two livestock Centers merged into the International Livestock Research Institute, and research on banana and plantain was folded into the agenda of the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (since renamed Bioversity International). This consolidated the number of Centers at 16.

The CGIAR mission statement was reformulated to read as follows: “through international research and related activities, and in partnership with national research systems, to contribute to sustainable improvements in the productivity of agriculture, forestry and fisheries in developing countries in ways that enhance nutrition and well-being, especially of low-income people.”

As these developments expanded the CGIAR’s horizons, concerns were expressed about the adequacy of governance, resource mobilization, and financial management to meet new challenges and changing needs. Other issues raised by Members included the impact of research, and linkages with national agricultural research systems in developing countries and civil society organizations. Consultations tried to come to grips with these problems. Consequently, CGIAR Chair V. Rajagopalan persuaded the Group to establish oversight and finance committees and explore new ways of boosting financial support.

A crisis emerged, however, when some major donors reduced their CGIAR contributions in response to domestic budgetary problems. In May 1994, the CGIAR endorsed a proposal from its new chair, Ismail Serageldin, to undertake an 8-month renewal program to restore the CGIAR to full vigor. The short-term financial crisis was overcome with strong emergency support from the World Bank and other donors. Measures were taken to ensure greater transparency in the CGIAR. Impact assessment was emphasized, and the research agenda was increasingly focused on the nexus of agriculture, poverty and the environment.

The high-point of the mid-1990s renewal program was a ministerial-level meeting in Lucerne, Switzerland, in February 1995, which reaffirmed the critical importance of agriculture as both a catalyst and an integral part of development, with agricultural research serving as an indispensable component of agricultural development. The meeting adopted a declaration and action plan that would enable the CGIAR to serve the world’s poor and disadvantaged, and help protect the environment, well into the future. The mission statement of the CGIAR was amended by the Lucerne Declaration and Action Program to read as follows: “to contribute, through its research, to promoting sustainable

agriculture for food security in the developing countries."

Ten developing countries joined the CGIAR during and after the renewal program, and the practice of selecting regional representatives through FAO ended. Today, 25 of the countries in the CGIAR are in the South, versus 22 in the North. Productivity and natural resource management are the twin pillars of research on food crops, aquatic resources, the conservation of genetic resources and biodiversity, forestry and agroforestry, livestock, soil and water nutrients, water management, and policy research, as well as of endeavors to strengthen scientific capacity in developing countries. The Global Forum for Agricultural Research linked the CGIAR with many new partners in the global agricultural research community.

TOP

The Fourth Decade (2000- 2010)

With the new millennium, the CGIAR faced several challenges, which incoming CGIAR Chair Ian Johnson listed as (1) maintaining science and research at the highest levels; (2) exercising the "new age" institutional assets of lightness, agility, responsiveness and cost-efficiency; (3) strengthening the role of the CGIAR as a producer of global public goods; (4) creating a new framework for partnerships; (5) providing the Centers with stable and secure funding; and (6) devising the most effective means of linking CGIAR-supported research with the development programs of countries in the South. The membership voted to redefine the post of CGIAR executive secretary as the CGIAR director, to serve as the Group's
de facto chief executive officer. It further established the Change Design and Management Team, whose report, published in April 2001, led through a series of consultations to four noteworthy innovations:

- **Creating the Executive Council** (ExCo) to act on behalf of the Group allowed it to halve its annual meetings from two to one and facilitated the creation and endorsement at the 2004 Annual General Meeting of the CGIAR charter — the first such charter in the third of a century since the Group's inauguration.

- **Adopting Challenge Programs** put CGIAR research on a more programmatic footing. These high-impact, focused, time-bound programs respond directly to the major concerns of the global development agenda. They creatively mobilize human, financial, knowledge and technological resources to address major global or regional issues. They have encouraged broad-based partnerships that harness cutting-edge science within and outside the CGIAR to benefit the poor, protect the environment and strengthen the social network. The first three Challenge Programs, launched in 2003, are Water and Food, to generate knowledge and methods to grow more food using less water; HarvestPlus, to improve the micronutritional value of the staple foods from which the poor draw most of their nourishment; and Generation, to harness global stocks of crop genetic resources to create, though molecular biology, a new generation of plants that meet farmers' needs. The subsequent Sub-Saharan Africa Challenge Program aims to deploy integrated agricultural research for development to foster synergies among disciplines and institutions toward reviving agriculture in Africa. The Challenge Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security, launched in 1999, seeks to overcome threats to agriculture and food security in a changing climate

and explore new ways of helping vulnerable rural communities adjust.

- **Transforming TAC into the Science Council**, with an interim stage from 2001 to 2004, allowed the smaller body, consisting of six members and a chair, to refocus and harness cutting-edge science to help developing countries meet the Millennium Development Goals, working through standing panels — on strategies and priorities, monitoring and evaluation, and mobilizing science — chaired by Science Council members. (The Standing Panel on Impact Assessment chair and members are drawn from outside the Science Council, but with the panel's chair serving as an *ex officio* council member.) The Science Council proposed priorities and strategies for the Centers and helped to strengthen mutually reinforcing linkages between the CGIAR and the global science community.

- **Creating the CGIAR System Office** integrated the activities of the following entities providing common services to the CGIAR: Central Advisory Service for Intellectual Property, CGIAR Secretariat, Chief Information Office, Future Harvest Alliance Office, Gender and Diversity Program, Internal Audit, Science Council Secretariat, and Strategic Advisory Service on Human Resources.

In 2004, the International Service for National Agricultural Research, having ceased operations the previous year in The Hague, became a focused program in the International Food Policy Research Institute, further consolidating the number of CGIAR-supported Centers at 15. Several Centers began exploring ways to pool knowledge and resources and benefit from streamlined management arrangements.

In 2008, the CGIAR began its Change Management Initiative, the most ambitious move to reform the Group's organizational structure and ways of doing business. Katherine Sierra, the ninth CGIAR chair and the first female incumbent, was spurred to lead the initiative by a dramatic spike in food prices that highlighted the reversal of a decades-long decline in prices for staple foods. Higher food prices pose a daunting challenge to hunger and poverty alleviation — and even risk reversing past gains.

"The crisis confirmed our need to step up to the challenges of the 21st Century and better harness the power of agricultural research for poverty alleviation, economic growth and environmental sustainability," Sierra wrote in the foreword of the joint declaration of December 2009 by which the CGIAR committed itself to restructuring. "It confirmed our commitment to re-imagining our institutions and approaches, and ensuring that we have the best possible structure and systems in place to get the best possible results from our knowledge and resources for the poor and hungry. And we know that, as the world changes, our past success is not sufficient to meet the challenges of the future. We need more — and better — investment in the CGIAR."
TOP

Today

The CGIAR opened a new chapter of its 39-year history in 2010, when it adopted a new business model following 2 years of consultations within and beyond the partnership. Advancing beyond informal management by consensus, the new model emphasizes clear lines of accountability.

The central innovation of the new model is to clearly delineate the responsibilities and

accountability of those who conduct research on the one hand and those who fund it on the other. The Consortium of the CGIAR Centers unites the international agricultural research Centers supported by the CGIAR and provides a single contact point for donors. In due course the Consortium will become a legal entity. Similarly, CGIAR donors join together in the CGIAR Fund, and its smaller Fund Council, with the aim of harmonizing their contributions to agricultural research for development, improving the quantity and quality of funding available, and engendering greater financial stability.

Cementing this two-pillar management structure are four bridging mechanisms:

- the Strategy and Results Framework, which guides the development of a results-oriented research agenda in line with the CGIAR's new vision and strategic objectives;
- the Independent Science and Partnership Council (ISPC), a standing panel of world-class scientific experts;
- the monitoring and evaluation framework, which streamlines review processes while strengthening monitoring and evaluation outputs and meeting the fiduciary requirements of the Fund and the Consortium; and
- legally binding funding and performance agreements that render the Consortium and Fund Council mutually accountable while operationalizing the Strategy and Results Framework through a portfolio of CGIAR Mega Programs.

The implementation of research through contractual relationships — both within the CGIAR and between the lead Centers of Mega Programs and research partners outside of the CGIAR — puts greater emphasis on results on the ground. Click here for more detail on the institutional structure of the new CGIAR.

Today, the CGIAR is better situated than ever to be a full and effective contributor to sustainable development. The Millennium Development Goals and agreements reached at the World Food Summit and the World Summit on Sustainable Development, among others, have reaffirmed the centrality of agriculture and the relevance and impact of the CGIAR. Several Southern national agricultural research systems are now much stronger than when the CGIAR was established and ready for more creative collaboration with CGIAR Centers. Public and private sector actors are similarly ready for full engagement with a more businesslike CGIAR.