

Plant Variety Protection and Technology Transfer:  
The benefits of public-private partnership

## Perspectives of the CGIAR Consortium of International Agricultural Research Centers

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## CGIAR Consortium: Who and where we are

Consortium of 15 International Agricultural Research Centers that operate in over 200 locations world wide  
Formed in 2010 as part of reform of the CGIAR, this year 40 years old  
Consortium Office established in Montpellier, France in March 2011

IFPRI  
CIMMYT  
CIAT  
CIP  
Africa Rice  
IITA  
ILRI  
CIFOR



World Agro-Forestry  
Bioversity  
ICARDA  
ICRISAT  
IWMI  
World Fish  
IRRI

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## Our Vision

**Task :** ① To reduce poverty and hunger, ② improve human health and nutrition, and ③ enhance ecosystem resilience



**How:**

- high-quality international agricultural research
- partnership and leadership

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CGIAR 40  
YEARS

Photo: CGIAR

## CGIAR Research Programs

**Main organizational mechanism for planning and conducting research**

**Built on three core principles**

- **Impact** on system-level outcomes
  - *reduced rural poverty*
  - *improved food security*
  - *improved nutrition and health*
  - *sustainably managed natural resources*
- **Integration** across CGIAR core competencies
- Appropriate **partnerships** at all stages of R&D

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## CGIAR Research Programs

Title	Lead Center
Integrated agricultural production systems for the poor and vulnerable in dry areas	International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
Integrated systems for the humid tropics	International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)
Harnessing the development potential of aquatic agricultural systems for the poor and vulnerable	WorldFish Center
Policies, institutions and markets to strengthen food security and incomes for the rural poor	International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
WHEAT – Global alliance for improving food security and the livelihoods of the resource-poor in the developing world	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
MAIZE – Global alliance for improving food security and the livelihoods of the resource-poor in the developing world	CIMMYT
GRiSP – a global rice science partnership	International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)

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## CGIAR Research Programs

Title	Lead Center
Roots, tubers and bananas for food security and income	International Potato Center (CIP)
Grain Legumes – enhanced food and feed security, nutritional balance, economic growth and soil health for smallholder farmers	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
Dryland cereals: food security, better health and economic growth for the world's most vulnerable poor.	ICRISAT
More meat, milk and fish by and for the poor	International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
Agriculture for improved nutrition and health	IFPRI
Water, land and ecosystems	International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
Forests, trees and agroforestry	Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
Climate change, agriculture and food security	International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

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## Intellectual Assets and the Consortium

**The Consortium and its member Centers regard results and outputs of our research and development activities as goods for the public at large (IPGs)**

- committed to their widespread diffusion and use
- seek to achieve maximum possible access, scale and scope of impact from them
- for the benefit of the poor, especially farmers in developing countries;

## Observations

- Open access ≠ widespread dissemination or use
- Many new varieties developed, but varying degrees of uptake by farmers and companies
- Ensuring more reliable supply of seed requires multiple types of seed supply, especially in remote areas
  - private sector and formal systems
  - farmer/community based, informal seed systems
- PVP provides incentives for breeders, local seed entrepreneurs and producers

## Essential Role of Partnerships

- **To achieve the CGIAR mission, partnerships are essential.**
  - The CGIAR has a wide range of partners
  - Farmers, national agricultural research systems, advanced research institutes, civil society organizations, governments, national, regional and international organizations and the private sector
- **Partnership needed to ensure**
  - access to the best knowledge and innovation
  - harness efficiencies in product development
  - achieve maximum impact through effective delivery and deployment of research outputs to target resource-poor farmers
  - such partnerships may require incentives that must be innovatively designed, carefully managed and diligently monitored
- **We recognize the indispensable role of farmers, agricultural professionals and scientists in breeding and conserving genetic resources**

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## Some key principles we consider on our intellectual assets

**Committed to managing intellectual assets in ways that fully support the CGIAR Mission**

**Committed to maximizing their global accessibility and ensuring they lead to the broadest possible impact on target beneficiaries**

**Shall not impose or allow conditions that restrict global availability of the intellectual assets produced by members**

unless necessary for further improvement and/or to enhance the scale or scope of impact on target beneficiaries

**Support general principle of non-exclusive access**

exceptions, if justified, are limited as possible in duration, territory and/or field of use in all cases remain available for research and development in developing countries as well as for ARIs in support of the CGIAR Mission

**Support sound stewardship and IP management in accordance with all applicable national and international laws**

integrity, fairness, equity, responsibility, and accountability wherever they operate

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## Specific provisions we support with regard to access to genetic resources.

**Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture ('PGRFA') under the purview of the Treaty.**

**Member Centers provide facilitated access to the following PGRFA (both Annex 1 and non-Annex 1 materials), for the purposes of research, breeding and training for food and agriculture, under the terms of the Standard Material Transfer Agreement ('SMTA') adopted by the Governing Body of the Treaty:**

- a) all PGRFA held 'in trust' by Member Centers in gene-banks placed within the purview of the Treaty under the agreements signed in 2006 by the hosting Member Centers and the Governing Body of the Treaty;
- b) all PGRFA received by a Member Center under the SMTA; and
- c) breeding lines, genetic stocks and other materials developed/improved by a Member Center that incorporate material described in sub-sections (a) and (b) above.

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## Specific provisions we support with regard to access to genetic resources (cont..)

**Under the SMTA -**

**Member Centers' developed/improved materials may be identified as PGRFA under development and Member Centers may impose additional conditions to those set out in the SMTA**

- provided that such additional conditions are consistent with the SMTA and in line with the Consortium's IA Principles

**Member Centers have agreed, going beyond their agreements with the Governing Body of the Treaty, to make Center-developed/ improved materials that do not incorporate material described in sub-sections a) and b) in the previous slide also available under the SMTA.**

*NB. Any additional conditions that would restrict availability of PGRFA under Development would need to satisfy the conditions previously described in this presentation*

- I.E conditions are necessary for the further development of the product or to enhance the scale or scope of its impact on target beneficiaries

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## PVP and the CGIAR Consortium

- **PVP is an option that can be successfully utilized in support of the new Consortium strategic vision**
  - stimulating partnerships that will more effectively commercialize new pro-poor varieties and traits
  - PVP may be the best and only option for downstream partners to achieve commercialization in some countries
- **Innovative PPP models being developed that will be consistent with the principles shared**
  - encouraging and stimulating new relationships with private sector – CIP, ICRISAT, IRRI, and many others
  - without compromising the mission to maximize global accessibility, especially for the resource poor
- **Under our IA principles, PVP allowed if required to maximize access and availability**
  - applies to products of Centers' research
  - not for germplasm held in trust

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**CGIAR**

Reducing poverty and hunger, improving human health and nutrition, and enhancing ecosystem resilience through high-quality international agricultural research, partnership and leadership.

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**Thank You**



Photo: CGIAR



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