

cgiarNews

Nourishing the future through scientific excellence

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At the Opening Session of AGM'04. L to R: Francisco Reifschneider, Ian Johnson, Secretary Usabiaga, Victor Villalobos and Kanayo Nwanze.

Mexico Hosts CGIAR Annual General Meeting 2004: Strong push for science-based agricultural growth

Nearly 1,000 participants attended the CGIAR's Annual General Meeting 2004 (AGM04) hosted by the Government of Mexico during October 27–29, 2004. Secretary Javier Usabiaga of Mexico delivered inaugural remarks from President Vicente Fox, pledging the Government of Mexico's strong support to rural development and confidence in the long-standing partnership with CGIAR.

In his speech, "Bridge to the Future," Ian Johnson, CGIAR Chairman reminded participants to focus on the goal of helping the world's poor to begin a permanent

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Stop Press: The Africa Rice Center is relocating

The conflict in Côte d'Ivoire has exacted a heavy toll on the staff and families of The Africa Rice Center – WARDA. Even as the Africa Rice Center community were mourning the tragic death of Robert Carsky, the continuing strife required the evacuation of staff from Bouaké. Management, research and administrative staff will be relocated to Cotonu in Benin. Africa Rice Center staff normally located in Senegal and Nigeria will continue work as usual at those locations.

"We were greatly saddened that the hostilities cost the life of Bob Carsky, one of our leading scientists," said Kanayo Nwanze, Director General, The Africa Rice Center. "We are resolved to carry forward his legacy, and continue in our efforts to mobilize science for African development. We thank all members of the CGIAR family who have extended their most generous support to us during this severe crisis."



CGIAR

CGIAR Chairman
Ian Johnson

CGIAR Director
Francisco Reifschneider

CGIAR Members

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United Nations Development Programme
United Nations Environment Programme
United States of America
World Bank



Message from the Chairman and Director

Dear Colleague:

We are pleased to present the December edition of "CGIAR News." An e-version is available at www.cgiar.org, and we welcome comments at cgjar@cgiar.org

This edition covers the highlights and outcomes of the 2004 Annual General Meeting held in Mexico, home to CIMMYT. The meeting, and associated events marked another milestone in the CGIAR's growth and evolution in a year when support to the CGIAR is expected to exceed \$400 million. As co-hosts, the Government of Mexico and CIMMYT worked tirelessly to meet the expectations of the almost 1,000 participants who attended the meetings. We owe them our thanks and appreciation.

Several innovations marked the proceedings. We changed the format of Centers and Members Day, making it more appealing to CGIAR stakeholders by showcasing collaborative research activities and impacts achieved by national partners signifying the global-local links. A special session was devoted to strategic directions of CGIAR research for development, including highlighting ways in which the CGIAR is helping to meet the Millennium Development Goals. The Innovation Marketplace competition and exhibition, and a first-ever "Farmers Dialogue" rounded off our expanded efforts to reach out to civil society. We were honored to have the presence of Robert S. McNamara, Norman Borlaug, and Evangelina Villegas to celebrate the founding of the CGIAR. And we bade farewell to Ron Cantrell and Hubert Zandstra, both of whom have made an enormous contribution to the CGIAR. The CGIAR Charter was endorsed by acclamation, a major step that will further strengthen the CGIAR alliance.

AGM'04 received extensive coverage in print and broadcast media. Of the more than 100 stories tracked in the print media, nearly two-thirds reported on key events and research successes achieved by the CGIAR Centers and partners. The remainder addressed agricultural policy issues in Mexico, and the ongoing debate on genetically modified organisms.

Sadly, at the time of writing the situation in Côte d'Ivoire continues to be serious. We mourn the untimely death of Robert Carsky. Our thoughts are with the Africa Rice Center staff and their families who are relocating and facing hardship.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your energy, hard work and support, and wish you all a safe holiday season.

Cordially,

Ian Johnson
CGIAR Chairman

Francisco Reifschneider
CGIAR Director

CGIAR Charter Adopted by Acclamation

For the first time since it was founded in 1971, the CGIAR has adopted a charter to enhance and strengthen its efficiency. "The Charter of the CGIAR System" was adopted by acclamation at the 2004 Annual General Meeting of the CGIAR held in Mexico City.

"The CGIAR Charter was drafted through a transparent and participatory process that began in Nairobi last year" commented Francisco Reifschneider, CGIAR Director and Executive Secretary, CGIAR Executive Council. "We made full use of the Internet, posting successive drafts and comments received from CGIAR stakeholders. We can all be proud of the document," he added.

The Charter sets down the roles, responsibilities and functions of the main organs of the CGIAR. These include the Consultative Group itself, the 15 international agricultural research centers that conduct a research agenda endorsed and financed by the Group, a Science Council, and a virtual System Office. An Annex to the Charter contains the Rules of Procedure of the main organs. Notably, the

Charter outlines in detail the conditions and responsibilities of CGIAR membership.

A fine-tuning group chaired by Franklin Moore (USAID) included Afework Aklilu (African Development Bank), Per Pinstrup-Andersen (Chairman, CGIAR Science Council) and John Vercoe (representing the 15 CGIAR Centers).

At its founding in 1971, CGIAR was an informal association, established without a charter, rules of procedure, or conditions and procedures for membership. As the Group grew larger, and the research portfolio expanded and became more complex, the need for structure and consistency was recognized. As part of this process, the CGIAR noted the need for a comprehensive and uniform approach to its conduct of business, and the CGIAR Secretariat was tasked with drafting the charter for review and approval by the Group.

Full text of the Charter is available by clicking on:
<http://www.cgiar.org>




A Tragic Loss

In November, Africa lost a pioneering scientist, Dr. Robert J. Carsky, whose work will have lasting impact on hundreds of thousands of African farmers. At the time of his death, Bob was working as a cropping systems agronomist for The Africa Rice Center (WARDA) in Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire. The entire CGIAR staff and families of The Africa Rice Center and IITA lost a colleague, mentor, and friend.

Bob devoted his life and all his scientific skill to those goals. At IITA he did semi-

nal work in finding natural ways to enhance the fertility of soils so they would grow more food. In much of Africa, where farmers have little or no access to chemical fertilizers, the technologies Bob developed and tested offered real hope.

Bob is survived by his wife Rebecca and children Jasmine, Amado, and Julien. The impact of his work on so many African families will be his permanent legacy. He will be greatly missed. 

Morocco to Host Next Annual General Meeting: Mark your calendars for week of December 5, 2005

CGIAR is pleased to announce that the Government of Morocco has graciously agreed to host the 2005 Annual General Meeting during the first week of December. The change in timing, from late October to early December, was approved by the CGIAR.

"Morocco is delighted to host the CGIAR Annual General Meeting," said Hamid Narjisse, Director General, INRA. "We look forward to a stimulating meeting and new initiatives that can accelerate efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals."

Planning for AGM'05 has already commenced and the city and conference venue will be announced early in the new year after consultation with the Government of Morocco.

Centers Seek to Better Serve Poor People by forming an Alliance

Meeting at CIMMYT the week prior to AGM, the Committee of Center Board Chairs (CBC) and Center Directors Committee (CDC) unanimously agreed to form an Alliance of the Future Harvest Centers. The commitment formalized agreements already in place and, for the Centers, took the reforms currently underway in the CGIAR System to the next level.

The CBC and CDC produced a joint statement for their Framework for Collective Action, which laid out both immediate and longer-term goals. The Alliance will work to build on:

- Existing collaboration in programs, administration and policies;
- An analysis of deficiencies for collective action in the past, via a new focus on agreed upon guiding principles;
- Existing entities and mechanisms, such as the CDC, CBC and the Medium Term planning process and others; and
- The determination of the Centers to improve and streamline programming efforts in Sub Saharan Africa, in collaboration with the Task Forces, as a first priority, and then extend into other regions.

The CDC Chair, Kanayo Nwanze, during a presentation on Collective Action at AGM, stressed that the Alliance will focus on the collective work of the independent Centers, by establish-

ing mechanisms for conflict resolution and help the Centers speak with a common voice to raise visibility of issues addressed collectively, such as ongoing and planned work on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

In addition, the CBC and CDC acknowledge the importance of involving their regional and national partners from the outset in framing collective actions, in order to ensure as mentioned in the guiding principles, "Our allegiance is first and foremost to the poor."

The CDC is to immediately transform itself into the Executive of the Alliance, the CBC will act as the Alliance Board. Before meeting again in May, 2005, the Executive Committees of both CDC and CBC will meet to discuss progress and review priorities regarding the implementation of the Collective Action Framework. The support for the Alliance Executive will be further developed in the coming year, and will build upon the work currently underway through the Future Harvest Alliance Office (a member of the System Office). A joint working group of CBC and CDC members will draft a charter for the Alliance, for discussion during their meetings in May, 2005, at WorldFish Center.

Uzo Mokwunye, CBC Chair
Kanayo Nwanze, CDC Chair

Centers' and Members' Day: Focus on Innovations and Partnerships to Achieve Millennium Goals

For Centers and Members Day 2004, the Future Harvest Centers combined to showcase partnerships in the host region—Latin America and the Caribbean—and demonstrate how CGIAR is reshaping its work to help achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

On behalf of the Centers, Jacqueline Ashby, CIAT, described the strength and vitality of CGIAR-Latin America partnerships. Through a practical demonstration, Mauricio Bellon, CIMMYT, showed how geographic information systems are aiding the targeting of poverty in research-for-development programs.

Centers have forged strong partnerships with a broad range of institutions in Latin America. Key topics include fighting fusarium head blight in barley, promoting conservation of crop genet-

ic resources, potato production, and fostering participatory research in selecting new forestry trees for domestication. Successful partnerships in conducive environments included the Convenio Colombia which returned \$180 million on investments of \$14 million over 9 years in increased rice production alone. Another type of partnership is CONDESAN's keystone strategy of promoting horizontal integration of NGOs, universities, national and international research institutes, businesses, producer groups and government agencies to do research and development in the Andean region.

Ren Wang, IRRI and Ed Rege, ILRI, described how the Centers were working to achieve the MDGs. "For us, a focus on the

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Ministers discuss public-private partnerships for rural innovation and impact

Fostering Rural Innovation: Ministerial Roundtable discusses public-private partnerships for impact

The CGIAR Ministerial Roundtable was convened by Ian Johnson, CGIAR Chairman and co-chaired by The Hon. Javier Usabiaga, Secretary of Agriculture, Mexico and Ms. Usha Barwale-Zehr, Chair, CGIAR Private Sector Committee. The roundtable brought together Ministers from countries hosting CGIAR Centers (Côte d'Ivoire, Colombia and Mexico), Venezuela, and Eduardo Stern, CEO, Papalotla Seeds, Mexico.

Designed as an open forum, the roundtable sought to highlight the importance of public-private partnerships for generating agricultural innovations that increase the productivity, profitability and sustainability of agriculture in Latin America and beyond.

Ian Johnson, CGIAR Chairman, welcomed participants. Secretary Usabiaga said agriculture is a fundamental sector and science and technology are critical to improve competitiveness of the rural sector. Knowledge and know-how of the private sector must be mobilized to improve small-holder agriculture. Usha Barwale-Zehr's comments covered the role of CGIAR Private Sector Committee, and how a true public-private partnership resulted in the formation of Mahyco, and subsequently led to the creation of a thriving private sector seed industry in India. Minister Gustavo Carlo Cano of Colombia began by quoting Sir Francis Bacon who said 400 years ago that the basis of power is found in knowledge, and there is a strong relationship between

knowledge and competitiveness. Therefore, he felt that knowledge in the public domain had to be at the core of activities to promote a more equal world and improve the well-being of poor people.

Minister Marlene Yadira Cordova of Venezuela presented her country's efforts in mobilizing science and technology for development. For Venezuela, poverty is about preventing exclusion. The government's efforts are focusing on giving poor people control and possession of assets such as land, and creating different modalities for mobilizing knowledge to serve national development. Minister Mamadou Koné of Côte d'Ivoire described his government's efforts, noting that science and technology was seen as the most important component of overall development strategy, including meeting the first Millennium Development Goal of eradicating hunger and poverty. He urged the participants to play an advocacy role in helping increase spending on agriculture in Africa. He cited the example of Kenya's efforts in developing virus-resistant potatoes in partnership with the private sector, and efforts by The Africa Rice Center to mobilize public goods science to support agricultural development in Africa. Mr. Eduardo Stern of Papalotla Seeds spoke about how his company developed improved forage grass species in close partnership with CIAT. A brief question-and-answer session concluded the roundtable. 🌱

From the Science Council Chair

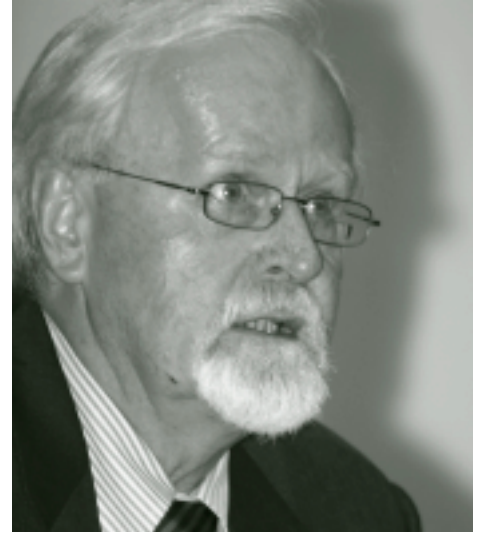
Can we, the CGIAR stakeholders, agree on a more focused, cohesive research program consisting of a set of high-priority research themes, each guided by a well defined goal, timeline and annual milestones? Based on the feedback my Science Council colleagues and I have received at the CGIAR Annual General Meeting in Mexico and from a large number of meetings, consultations, and informal interactions with donors, Centers, NARS, and other stakeholders, the answer seems to be a resounding yes. Virtually everyone with whom we spoke, agreed on the need to more sharply define system priorities. Rarely have I met a more positive and constructive response to a proposed change within the CGIAR than that received in stakeholder and business meeting sessions on system priorities, held in Mexico.

We have received many suggestions for additional research and development activities to be done by the CGIAR but virtually no suggestions for things we should stop doing. If we are to sharpen the focus of our work to a smaller number of high-priority activities and if we are to take on new research reflecting emerging issues, something we are currently doing must go. This calls for making difficult choices, but that is a challenge we cannot shrink away from. But what do we do about those activities that are certainly related to our work that come with earmarked funding but do not really constitute high-priority system research? Do we sacrifice that funding in the interest of a more cohesive research program for the CGIAR?

In my opinion, there should be room for some activities that are not necessarily part of our system priorities, particularly new exploratory type research that may eventually evolve into core system priorities. The Science Council proposes that 10–20 % of the CGIAR budget be allocated to such activities. But what about the activities that are really short-term

consulting and medium-term development type activities that Centers accept to keep the books balanced without even trying to argue that they contribute to research to generate international public goods? If Centers do not accept such jobs, they may lose the funding.

The solution to this problem is for the donors, including those who are not CGIAR members, to direct 80–90 % of their future funding away from such activities towards financing the agreed upon system priority research portfolio. An important part of such a solution would be that donors of activities that fall outside system priorities pay full costs instead of forcing Centers to spend part of the funds directed at system priority to cover indirect costs and in that way water down the funds allocated for system priority research. The current use of unrestricted funds to subsidize restricted projects is a major reason why some Centers have difficulties delivering on their core research priorities. We should discontinue such a practice if we want to take the system priorities seriously. Funds allocated to Centers or to the system for priority research areas would have only one restriction: money be spent on the agreed-upon system priorities. This would be the new “core funding.” Imagine if we could agree that 80–90 % of the total funding would be core, instead of the current 45%. We could put a critical mass of resources to work on each of a small number of agreed upon system priorities, we would undoubtedly have much greater impact, the impact would be more visible, and we would fulfill our mandate of producing international public goods that serve to help remove critical barriers to the alleviation of poverty, hunger and malnutrition and to sustainable management of natural resources. We could also reduce the large number of proposals, progress reports, evaluations, and other transactions costs associated with a large number of small specially funded donor projects. We would



CGIAR Science Council Chair,
Per Pinstrup-Andersen

operate as a System without sacrificing the benefits of independent Centers and bilateral interaction between donors and Centers.

Too good to be true? No, I do not believe so. Can we get there from here? Only if all stakeholder groups are determined to make it happen. The Science Council can provide the leadership, but it cannot make it happen. This is the time to act. The financial situation of the CGIAR is good, there is increasing awareness about the importance of agricultural development to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and there is tremendous goodwill among Centers and donors for changing the trend towards an increasing number of small individually-funded projects in favor of a more cohesive research program to generate international public goods. In addition, new science calls for more collaboration among Centers and more effective partnerships with institutions outside the CGIAR.

Based on the feedback we have received from all quarters, the Science Council is proceeding with preparations for individual planning meetings for the priority areas to take place in January and February, 2005. We hope to identify a final set of priorities at our April meeting. Our vision is that, over the next 2–3 years, the CGIAR will move to a situation in which 80–90 % of the total budget will be spent on system priority research. Together we can make it happen.

Per Pinstrup-Andersen

Farmers Address CGIAR, Share Hopes and Perspectives

A “Farmers’ Dialogue” held at the 2004 Annual General Meeting marked a major step forward in strengthening CGIAR’s ties with farmers and producers. Six farmers from three continents participated in the dialogue, the first of its kind with farmers sharing their perspectives on agricultural research and its impacts on livelihoods.

- **Delphine Koudou Ahuissi**, a rice farmer from Côte d’Ivoire told the audience about how she has been closely observing the different varieties of rice being cultivated in her country, and the advantages offered by the New Rices for Africa (NERICAs) developed by WARDA and its partners. She is currently working with other Ivorian farmers to promote NERICAs in the region.
- **Arun Kumar Bhakoo** is a rice and wheat farmer from Kashipur, Uttaranchal Pradesh, India. He has a farm in the foothills of the Himalayas and spoke of his farming successes and failures, noting that declining yields and soil health have reduced farmers’ incomes. He noted that new agricultural technologies from the Rice-Wheat Consortium for Indo-Gangetic Plains (RWC) were being enthusiastically adopted by farmers, and that he and his fellow farmers now routinely participate in RWC traveling seminars, interacting with other scientists, extension workers, and machinery manufacturers. Mr. Bhakoo is General Secretary of Krishak Manch, a farmers’ association.
- **Yulbek Kushmanov** has a 25-acre farm in Uzbekistan where he grows corn, cotton, and sunflowers. The farm and its surrounding areas have experienced a range of problems, including salinity, reduction of soil fertility, non-availability of farm equipment, and farmers lack of knowledge about new water-saving technology and strategies for diversifying crop portfolios. Mr. Kushmanov thanked ICARDA’s Central Asia and



Farmers share their hopes and perspectives on the impact of agricultural research on their livelihoods

Caucasus program and local farmers for helping improve his farm’s productivity.

- **Pedro Lopez Ignacio** from San Pablo Huitzo in Oaxaca, Mexico, spoke about his experiences in growing different maize varieties and compared the benefits of planting one type of maize versus another. He underlined the importance of forages for the area’s milk producers and explained how his work with CIMMYT scientists helped him to protect his maize crop from different pests.
- **Rodrigo Aveldaño Salazar**, a producer from Mexico and promoter of technology spoke about the importance of maize in Mexico, its nutritional aspects and the CIMMYT technologies that led to the development of Quality Protein Maize (QPM).
- **Alejandro Delfino** a producer from Argentina and member of the CGIAR’s Private Sector Committee spoke about agriculture in his homeland, and the importance of adopting new technologies including ‘zero-plow’ agriculture to boost farm productivity while sustaining the natural resource base. He also described how biotechnology was being marshaled in Argentina to increase soybean area and production.

In conversations, the farmers appreciated the opportunity to address the CGIAR, meet scientists, and participate in the Farmers Exchange. When asked how it felt to spend a week in Mexico City, Pedro Lopez Ignacio replied: “It’s time now to go home and work. My hands are getting soft.” 🌱



CGIAR 2004 Science Awards

Every year, CGIAR science and communication awards celebrate scientific excellence in the global battle against hunger, poverty, and environmental degradation.

“Bridging the world of high science and applying it to problems faced by poor farmers is our principal objective,” said Ian Johnson, CGIAR Chairman and World Bank Vice President for Sustainable Development. “This year’s awards once again demonstrate the power of science in improving the incomes and livelihoods of poor farmers worldwide and protecting our environment.”

Science Awards



Winner of Young Scientist Award:
P. Lava Kumar, ICRISAT

- P. Lava Kumar of ICRISAT received the Young Scientist Award for identifying the agent that causes sterility mosaic disease in pigeonpea (*Cajanus cajan*), a hardy leguminous plant grown by hundreds of thousands of poor farmers in Asia and Africa. Sterility mosaic disease is a widespread problem that drastically cuts pigeonpea yields, causing more than \$300 million in crop losses. The

harvested pods are a cheap source of vegetable protein for millions of poor consumers, and the leaves are an important source of fodder for livestock. By planting pigeonpea, farmers are able to improve soil health because the roots trap nitrogen. Mr. Kumar received a cash prize of \$5,000.

- Brian Perry of ILRI received the Outstanding Scientist Award for innovative work on the dynamics and control of tick-borne diseases of livestock that has led to improved methods of controlling these diseases at both farm and national levels. Livestock are central to the lives and livelihoods of 70 percent of the world’s poor people. His research has been instrumental in developing pathways out of poverty for poor farmers who depend on livestock for food, income, and nutrition security in Africa and beyond. The award carried a cash prize of \$5,000.

- Outstanding Partnership Award went to Community-based Fisheries Management, a partnership coordinated by WorldFish Center in Bangladesh that empowers communities by providing them with knowledge so they can make better-informed decisions on the sustainable use and management of the fisheries. Under the project cooperative relationships coordinated by WorldFish Center have grown to include 11 NGOs and private organizations, and more than 23,000 households living near 113 water bodies in Bangladesh. Anisul Islam of Bangladesh received a \$10,000 cash prize on behalf of the team.

- Christine Casal and the team at WorldFish Center won the Outstanding Scientific Support Award for developing



Winners of the 2004 CGIAR Science Awards

FishBase, an internationally recognized premier database and information system on the world’s fisheries. The team comprised biologists, computer programmers and web developers, and



Winner of Outstanding Scientist Award:
Brian Perry, ILRI

has produced over 50 publications, posters and presentations and delivered capacity-strengthening courses. The award carried a cash prize of \$10,000.



Anisul Islam, winner of the Outstanding Partnership Award, addresses the CGIAR



Christine Casal, Outstanding Scientific Support Award, addresses CGIAR

- Marta Vasconcelos, IRRI (and eight co-authors) won the Outstanding Scientific Article Award for their article "Enhanced iron and zinc accumulation in transgenic rice with the ferritin gene" published in *Plant Science*. The report shows the potential of using rice to deliver improved nutrition to millions of poor rice consumers. Such research may help address iron deficiency anemia that afflicts billions of people worldwide. The award carried a cash prize of \$5,000.
- The prestigious 2004 CGIAR King Baudouin Award was won by the Rice-Wheat Consortium of the Indo-Gangetic Plains (led by CIMMYT) for



Winner of the Outstanding Scientific Article Award: Marta Vasconcelos, IRRI

combining their efforts in promoting conservation agriculture benefiting large numbers of farm families in the

Indo-Gangetic plains of South Asia. Thanks to the efforts of the consortium and partners, zero tillage is now practiced on over 1.3 million hectares lowering land preparation costs and increasing farmer incomes. In 2003 alone, farmers in India and Pakistan derived \$100 million in net estimated benefits. The consortium is helping farmers to plant different crops such as quality protein maize, pigeonpea, mungbean, chickpea, lentil, faba beans, potatoes and vegetables for increasing incomes and household nutrition security.

Communication Awards

- Natasha Loder won the Outstanding Journalism Award for her article "The Promise of a Blue Revolution" published in *The Economist* on August 9, 2003. Her article demonstrated how aquaculture could meet the world's rising demand for fish without ruining the environment, and helped raise global awareness on this critical topic. The award carries with it a small travel grant.
- Hezekiah Muriuki, Kenyan Department of Agriculture, received the Outstanding Communications Award given to Smallholder Dairy Project, jointly implemented by ILRI, Kenyan Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, and the Kenyan Agricultural Research Institute (KARI). The project developed an innovative communication strategy that helped raise awareness among key policymakers about strategic and pro-poor issues in reforming East Africa's dairy sector. The award carried a cash prize of \$5,000. 🌱



Mangala Rai accepts the CGIAR King Baudouin Award on behalf of the CIMMYT-led Rice-Wheat Consortium of the Indo-Gangetic Plains. Looking on is Raj Gupta, facilitator of the Consortium.



Natasha Loder winner of the Outstanding Journalism Award



Hezekiah Muriuki accepts the Outstanding Communications Award on behalf of the Smallholder Dairy Project, Kenya.

The 2004 Sir John Crawford Memorial Lecture The Mystery of Capital: Role of Property Rights in Creating Wealth and Alleviating Poverty”

by
Hernando de Soto
Founder and President, Institute for Liberty and Democracy (ILD), Lima, Peru

“In the fight against poverty, property rights matter” was the central thesis of Hernando de Soto’s stimulating lecture delivered to a capacity crowd at the Hotel Sheraton Centro Histórico in Mexico City.

To make his case, he brought along an apple, ordered from room service, paid for in cash, and showed the receipt that certified the transaction. His point was simple. The receipt conferred on him ownership of the apple, opening up a wide array of options such as the freedom to sell, lease, pledge, or even consume the apple. Because poor people lack such precisely-defined “ownership” of assets, they get locked out of two great benefits—private property rights and the rule of— that are common in industrialized societies.

Credit, he explained, is drawn from the Latin “credere” which is “I believe in you, and I believe in you because you have something to lose. And if you have nothing to lose, you have no credit.” For poor people, including millions of farmers who lack tenancy rights, the lack of credit translates into a gloomy future with no possibility of breaking free from the viselike grip of poverty. The answer, he said, lies in empowering poor people with access to finance and ensuring enforceable property rights.

Painting a broad canvas, the speaker noted that creation of wealth depends on an interplay between people, institutions, laws, and trust. Increasing productivity, whether in manufacturing or farming sector, depends on people being ‘inside’ the legal system, and therefore having access to efficient markets, just laws, transparency, accountability, and enforceable property rights. All these are key to creating wealth. Poor people lack both the legal capacity to

organize the division of labor essential for increasing productivity as well as the legal capacity to represent the value of their assets. In essence, these are the people who run the risk of being bypassed by the benefits of globalization.

Hernando de Soto has been called a “Hero of Third World Capitalism” for being a tireless advocate on behalf of the world’s poor people. “The Economist” has hailed de Soto’s book “The Mystery of Capital” as “the most intelligent book yet written about the current challenge of establishing capitalism in the developing world.” His earlier book, “The Silent Path” published in 1989 has also received rave reviews. The raison d’être of the Crawford Lecture is simple—it seeks to challenge all those involved in agricultural research and development to think outside the proverbial box. Hernando de Soto’s talk fulfilled that criterion admirably. 🌱

Hernando de Soto, Institute for Liberty and Democracy, Peru, delivers the 2004 Crawford Lecture



Innovation Marketplace 2004 Catalyzes Capital Ideas

Development is a complex business, and it is not every day that an innovative idea wins top honors and a wager with a Minister. Yet, this is precisely what happened. Silverio Gonzalez, a researcher with FEDEPLATANO, a Colombian NGO, is working on Moko disease in bananas, a staple food for poor people. Fully confident that the efforts of FEDEPLATANO and its partners could help win the war against Moko disease, Gonzalez placed a bet with the Colombian Minister of Agriculture: if his entry won a prize in the CGIAR Innovation Marketplace competition, the Government would also provide support.

The rest, as they say, is history. FEDEPLATANO's entry won the "Outstanding Innovative Partnership Program Award" with a cash prize of \$10,000. And in a fortuitous ending to the story, no sooner was the prize announced, Gonzalez rushed off to claim his bet from the Minister who was also attending AGM'04. The Colombian Government is contributing more than 320,000 pesos for FEDEPLATANO to continue its scientific research on developing measures to control Moko disease. Furthermore, mayors of two Colombian cities are also offering support. FEDEPLATANO collaborates with CIAT and CORPOICA (Colombian Institute of Agricultural Research) in its work.

The Innovation Marketplace is in its second year of operation, highlighting innovative projects by civil society organizations that involve collaborative work leading to adoption or adaptation of CGIAR and national institutes' research. The 2004 jury comprised of Sebastiao Barbosa (EMBRAPA, Brazil), Usha Barwale-Zehr (Mahyco Foundation, India), Franklin Moore (USAID), and Jonathan Wadsworth (DfID, UK).

The second award, "Outstanding Potential Innovative Partnership Program Award" was given to CICAFOC

(Coordinadora Indígena Campesina de Agroforestería Comunitaria de Centroamérica, or Regional Indigenous Agroforestry Council) for strengthening management capabilities of community-based forestry organizations in Central America and Brazil. CICAFOC works in partnership with CIFOR and the Association of Forest Communities of Petén (ACOFOP, in northern Guatemala) and the Campesino a Campesino movement (PcaC in Siuna, northern Nicaragua). Through participatory research, these organizations have developed a vision of self-sustainability which will enable them to take control of their livelihoods and better manage their forest resources. Ruben Pasos Cedeños (CICAFOC) and Marcedonio Cortave (ACOFOP) were thrilled to receive the prize which consists of a scroll and cash award of \$10,000.



Jonathan Wadsworth, DfID, congratulates Silverio Gonzalez winner of the Innovation Marketplace Outstanding Innovative Partnership Program Award.

This year's "People's Choice Award" was just that—chosen and voted for by the AGM participants. It went to CIRNMA, a

Continued on page 15

Ruben Pasos Cedeños, winner of the Innovation Marketplace Outstanding Potential Innovative Partnership Program.



Centers' and Members' Day (continued)

MDGs is a way of addressing new issues, adopting new paradigms that better organize our work and the way it is done, and forging new partnerships for progress and change," they said.

For Centers, the starting point is to realign research to address the MDGs. Centers have created research units to monitor impacts of their work, and are conducting priority-setting studies. Changes made include a greater focus on human health and agriculture, natural resource management and policy research, and greater attention to rural wealth creation, plus the reallocation of resources regionally, especially to Africa. The IMPACT-WATER model has been used to project childhood malnutrition under different scenarios, including 'business as usual' and where the MDG goals will be met globally. These simulations show that even under favorable conditions, Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia are unlikely to meet the goals.

The new integrated focus is translating into new development and research paradigms such as producing high-value products to create wealth for the poor, ensuring that poor people have access to modern technology, making commodity production more market-oriented and envi-

ronmentally sustainable, *and* changing from 'technology transfer' mode to 'action research', 'learning alliances' and 'creative outreach'. A project on enabling rural innovation in Kenya is demonstrating an important paradigm shift of empowering people, both in the marketplace and on environmental management. Centers are also helping to develop new ways to get existing and new innovations to be scaled-up to reach millions more and are working particularly to get young people involved. The Future Harvest Centers have been enlisted by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) to facilitate, in collaboration with national programs and advanced research institutions, the development of Biosciences Eastern and Central Africa (BECA), a shared biosciences platform to help address Africa's priority agriculture and allied problems.

Center partnerships are broadening as they find that work directed at poverty, hunger, livelihoods and the environment is serving other goals such as education, health and gender empowerment. For example, more profitable farm production improves education through extra cash for school fees and improved cognitive abilities resulting from better nutrition at criti-



Center staff meet with CGIAR members in a plaza-style atmosphere

cal stages of child development. Another successful example involves Future Harvest Centers and partners working with the media and local drama groups to persuade 2 million rice-growing households in Vietnam to cut back chemical applications as a way of improving health.

The re-engineering within the Future Harvest Centers involves new and open processes, creation of synergies by working with new and a larger variety of partners, developing a broader agenda that looks beyond just food production, and increasingly involves multiple Centers working together to create farming solutions that benefit poor people. 🌱

Global Open Agriculture and Food University Launched

New program will provide first-rate higher education in developing countries

In Mexico, CGIAR launched the Global Open Agriculture and Food University. This new program will offer long distance learning using information communications technologies, in collaboration with partner institutions in developing countries.

"Agriculture has become a knowledge-intensive field. Improvements in agricultural productivity and natural resource management – which boost incomes of poor people – require the best available science," noted Kanayo Nwanze, director general of the Africa Rice Center.

The university will draw upon 35 years of CGIAR science research, as well as the work of the CGIAR's many national agricultural research partners and collaborators across the globe.

"By allowing the next generation of professionals to enhance their skills without leaving their countries, CGIAR's new program will make learning available to many more people, and it will reduce both the cost and time required for higher education," commented Wilberforce Kisamba-Mugerwa, director of the International Service for National Agricultural Research Program at IFPRI. 🌱

Celebrating the Founding of the CGIAR

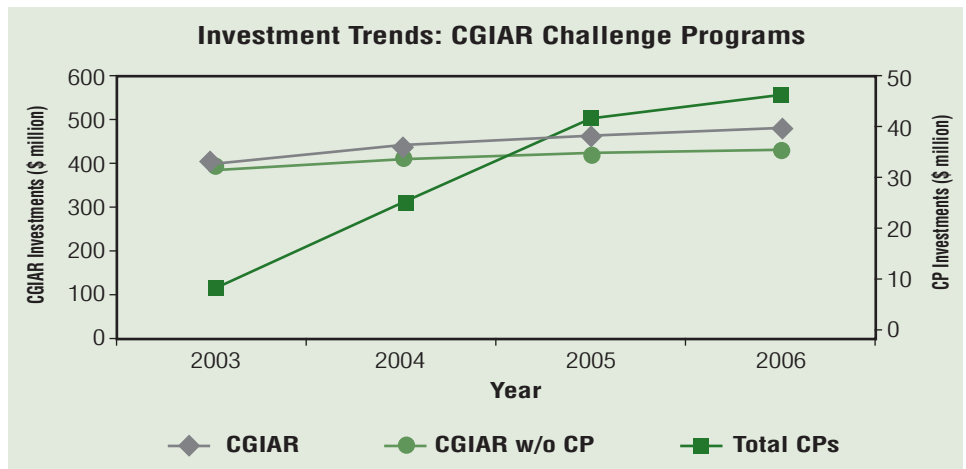
Mexico is the birthplace of the CGIAR, and the Annual General Meeting 2004 and related events helped to solidify the Mexico-CGIAR partnership. A special luncheon organized to celebrate the founding of the CGIAR featured Robert S. McNamara (former World Bank President), Norman Borlaug (Nobel Peace Laureate) and Evangelina Villegas (World Food Prize Laureate). They recalled early days of CGIAR and the critical role it continues to play in promoting sustainable development.



L to R: Ian Johnson, Evangelina Villegas, Norman Borlaug, Robert McNamara and Francisco Reifschneider

Update on CGIAR Challenge Programs

CGIAR Challenge Programs (CPs), an important element of ongoing reforms, are off to an excellent start. Three CPs are in the pilot phase, and a new CP developed by the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) and focused on jumpstarting agricultural development in Sub-Saharan Africa has just been approved. While the chart tracks the positive investment trends, CPs are playing an instrumental role in opening up the CGIAR system to new partnerships and attracting support—intellectual, technical and financial—which bodes well for the system. 🌱



Mexico Hosts CGIAR Annual General Meeting 2004 (continued)

escape from poverty. Growth, linked with responsible practices and policies, is the starting point of that process. For the great majority of the poor who live in rural areas, sustainable agriculture is the basis of sustainable growth he said, urging that the CGIAR must maintain momentum on the reforms.

A highlight of the meeting was a session on “Strategic Directions in CGIAR Research for Development” addressed by Francois Bourguignon, World Bank Chief Economist and Vice President. His presentation focused on the key role of agriculture in meeting the Millennium Development Goals, and noted that the challenge was greatest in Sub-Saharan Africa. Increasing productivity of agriculture – directly through new, higher-yielding crop varieties and indirectly by improving rural infrastructure – was central to meeting the challenge, he urged. Glenn Denning of the Millennium Project and Per Pinstrup-Andersen, Chair, CGIAR Science Council and World Food Prize laureate also addressed the group. The meeting and associated events were an opportunity to strengthen the CGIAR alliance and advance its mission of mobilizing public goods science to benefit

poor farmers.

Eight CGIAR Science and Communication Awards were given to CGIAR scientists and partners, celebrating the excellence and impact of CGIAR science. The 2004 King Baudouin Award went to the Rice-Wheat Consortium of the Indo-Gangetic Plains for pioneering resource-conserving technologies in South Asia’s breadbasket.

At the Centers’ Forum, Kanayo Nwanze (Chair of Center Directors Committee) and William Dar (incoming Chair, CDC) provided examples of partnerships and impacts. Participants also toured experimental plots at CIMMYT and INIFAP.

The 2nd CGIAR Innovation Marketplace featured 9 examples of innovative partnerships among CGIAR researchers and civil society organizations in Latin America. In addition, six farmers from three continents addressed the plenary and presented their perspectives on impacts of agricultural research on livelihoods. The Farmers’ Dialogue marked an innovative effort at reaching out to CGIAR’s primary clients, poor farmers in developing countries.

At a “Ministerial Roundtable” four Ministers from



Mexican Secretary of Agriculture, Javier Usabiaga, presents opening remarks on behalf of President Vicente Fox

Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, Mexico, and Venezuela spoke, joining two leading private sector representatives for a discussion on how public-private partnerships could spur rural innovation and benefit poor farmers.

At the business meeting, CGIAR Members unanimously approved the “CGIAR Charter” signaling their strong support to the alliance.

Mexico is the birthplace of the CGIAR, and the Annual General Meeting 2004 and related events helped to solidify the Mexico-CGIAR partnership. A special luncheon organized to celebrate the founding of the CGIAR featured Robert S. McNamara (former World Bank President), Norman Borlaug (Nobel Peace Laureate) and Evangelina Villegas (World Food Prize Laureate). They recalled early days of CGIAR and the critical role it continues to play in promoting sustainable development.

For more information on AGM’04, www.cgiar.org 



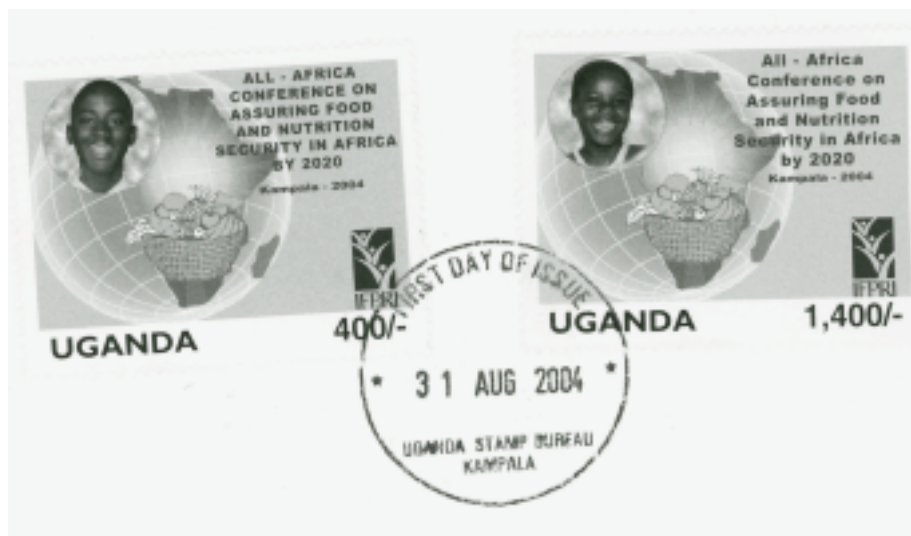
World Bank Sr. Vice President and Chief Economist, François Bourguignon, addresses CGIAR stakeholders

Stamping out Poverty in Africa

In April, 2004, the Government of the Republic of Uganda hosted the all-Africa Conference on "Assuring Food and Nutrition Security in Africa by 2020", organized by IFPRI's 2020 Vision Initiative.

Celebrating the success and outcomes of the conference, Posta Uganda, released a set of two commemorative stamps.

"IFPRI is honored that the Government of Uganda has produced these commemorative stamps", said Joachim von Braun, Director General, IFPRI. "They will help raise public awareness about food and nutrition security and the outcomes of 2020 Africa Conference".



Innovation Marketplace 2004 Catalyzes Capital Ideas (continued)

project that works in partnership with CIP and INIA (Peru) for combining biological and socioeconomic research methods to develop new farming technologies that use fewer inputs and are suited to the ecologies of hilly Andean regions. "People just don't realize how their choice will make an impact on efforts to reduce poverty in Puno, the Peruvian Andes," said Roberto Valdivia, CIRNMA representative, summarizing the importance of the Innovation Marketplace as catalyst for new ideas to combat poverty. CIRNMA received a cash prize of \$10,000.

At an informal "Farmers Exchange," Innovation Marketplace exhibitors, participants from the Farmers' Dialogue, and representatives of partner organizations met over lunch to share insights and learn from each others' experiences.

"I appreciated the opportunity to participate in the Innovation Marketplace," commented Domingo Totasig from Cotopaxi, Ecuador. "Even though my entry did not win a prize, I was glad to have been able to explain my work to over 800 people." These comments were echoed by Nyine Bitahwa of Uganda, a

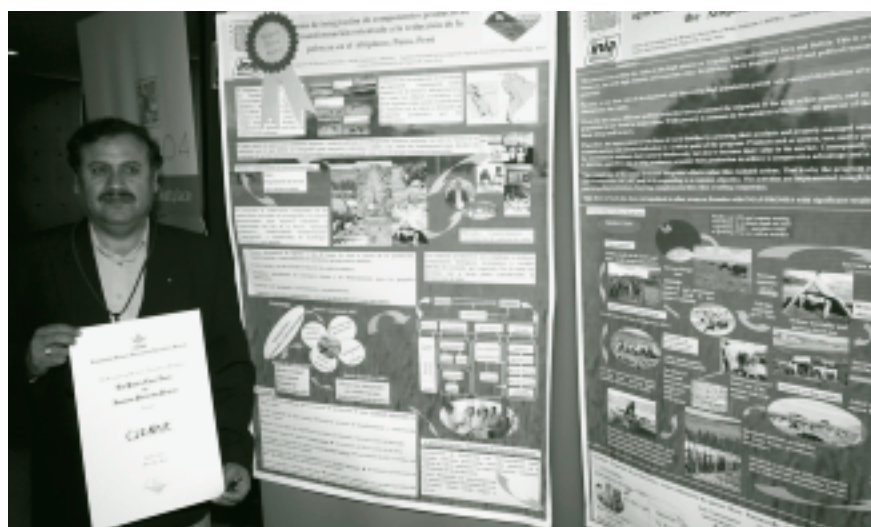
winner from last year's Innovation Marketplace: "The knowledge partnership between scientists and indigenous people will go a long way in solving problems of underdevelopment, in Africa and beyond."

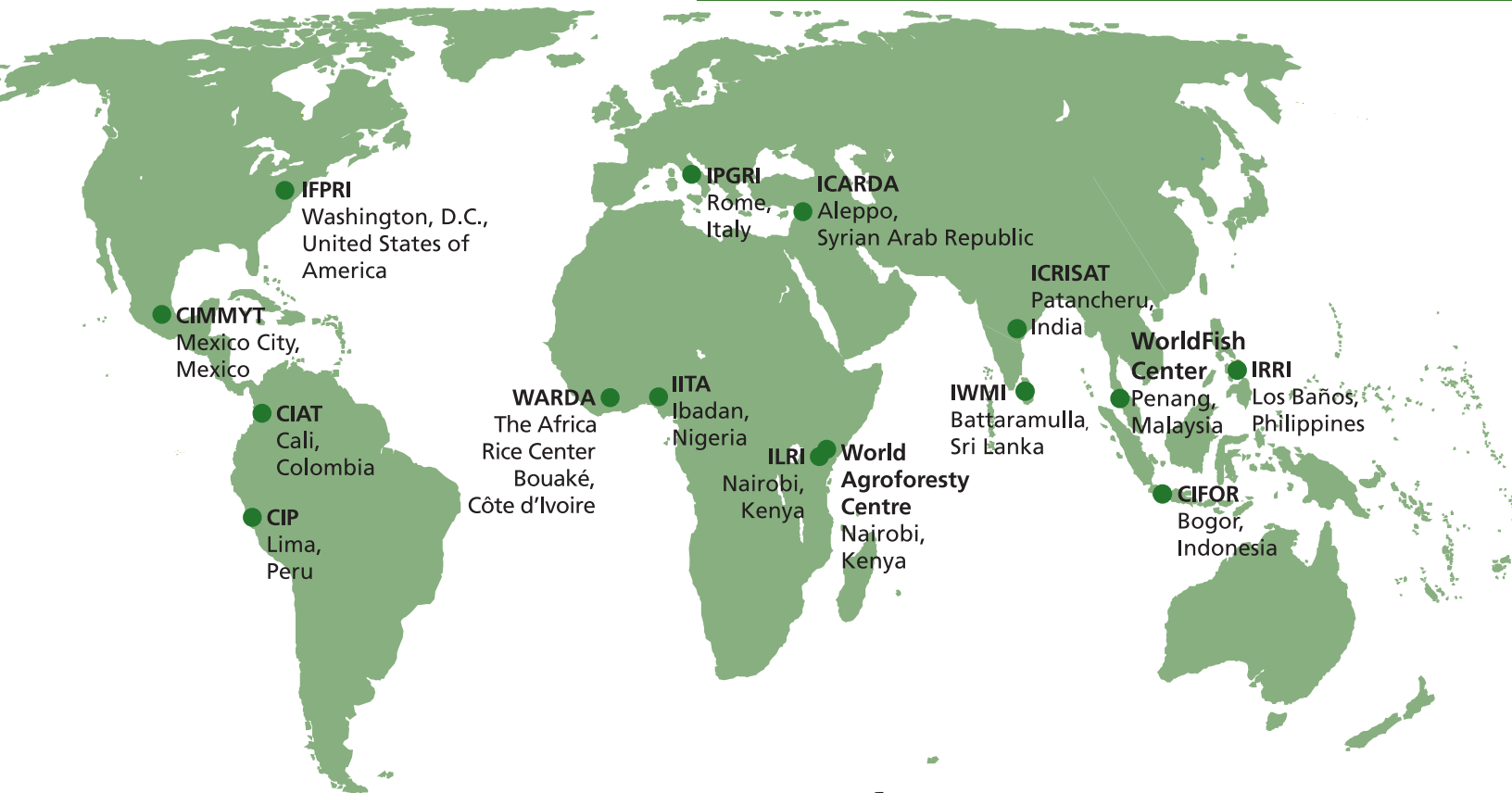
The 2004 Innovation Marketplace cycle was coordinated by RIMISP, a prominent

Chilean NGO based in Santiago. Three science writers have been commissioned to document and disseminate prize winners' success stories.

For more information, www.cgiar.org, www.rimisp.org 🌱

Chosen by AGM participants:
Roberto Valdivia, winner of the
People's Choice Award.





CGIAR-supported Future Harvest Centers

International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
www.ciat.cgiar.org

Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)
www.cifor.org

International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT)
www.cimmyt.org

International Potato Center (CIP)
www.cipotato.org

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA)
www.icarda.org

International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
www.icrisat.org

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
www.ifpri.org

International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)
www.iita.org

International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
www.ilri.org

International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI)
www.ipgri.org

International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
www.irri.org

International Water Management Institute (IWMI)
www.iwmi.cgiar.org

West Africa Rice Development Association–The Africa Rice Center (WARDA)
www.warda.org

World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)
www.worldagroforestrycentre.org

WorldFish Center
www.worldfishcenter.org