

Progress Report on Implementation of EPMR Recommendations

Center: International Potato Center (Centro Internacional de la Papa (CIP))

Dates of EPMR Report Presentation and Discussion:

Interim Science Council: March 2002

CGIAR Executive Council: April 2002 and September 2002

CGIAR (AGM): October 2002

Recommendation	Center's Response	Implementation		
		Milestones	Progress Achieved	Target Date of Completion
1. Integration of breeding efforts under single leadership	Accepted	Single breeding program institutionalized	Achieved. The CIP Visioning Exercise has been completed. One outcome is a realigned Program, now approved by the Board of Trustees. Within the new Program there will be a single Division of Germplasm Enhancement and Crop Improvement (i.e. breeding), as recommended by the EPMR.	September 2003 Implementation date of January 2004.
2. Identification of resources to establish high-throughput genotyping facility; skills and competency strengthening in bioinformatics and computational biology	Accepted	Adequately staffed facility established	Research Informatics Unit (RIU), which includes bioinformatics, created. RIU strategic planning underway Human and financial resources mobilization has commenced	September 2002 December 2003 Implementation in 2004
3. Conduct priority setting of NRM to ensure balance between applications and process; CIP mandate crops vis -à-vis livestock-based systems	Accepted	Visioning and priority setting exercise conducted	CIP Visioning Exercise completed; NRM confirmed as a priority. Strategic Planning for the NRM Division is underway	September 2003 December 2003 Implementation in 2004

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4. CIP scientists to work together in the CONDESAN benchmark watersheds and use them as a mechanism for development, evaluation and dissemination of integrated technologies and policy	Accepted, but clarified that the Center would <i>recommend</i> their use as such to CONDESAN partners	Opportunities for integration identified.	EPMR recommendation communicated to CONDESAN Board	July 2003
			At CIP, the realigned Program calls for a new working relationship between CIP research projects and CIP partnership projects. Formal collaboration planning has commenced.	December 2003
5. CIP to continue to have strong scientific vision and methodological input in the CONDESAN Consortium; Technical Committee and coordinators of crosscutting themes to be revived	Accepted		New CONDESAN Board Chair has met with DDG-R and CONDESAN Coordinator to discuss how to achieve this.	August 2003
			As above, Collaboration planning has commenced.	December 2003
6. Continue the interaction of social scientists with biological and physical scientists but with broader involvement of partners and constituency groups.	Accepted	Application in relevant programs	CIP's realigned Program calls for a new working relationship between CIP research projects and CIP partnership projects. Formal collaboration planning has commenced. This recommendation is being specifically addressed.	Implementation in 2004
7. Reallocate social sciences resources to do more work on science and technology policy issues	Accepted	Increased number of activities/projects on S&T policies resulting from reallocation of resources	Collaboration with IFPRI has been strengthened through a first round of exchange visits in DC and Lima.	June/July 2003
			Policy research has been explicitly outlined in 3 of the 6 new research divisions.	September 2003
			Content will be defined during Strategic Planning Exercise.	December 2003

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8. Develop a consistent framework for the collection and analysis of basic data on adoption and constraints; strengthen skill on sophisticated statistical approaches for collection of such data	Accepted	Framework developed and adopted as part of the Centre's overall strategy	CIP's realigned Program includes a new division of Impact Enhancement. This division has been charged with analysis of constraints to adoption and dissemination and research on adoption, scaling out, and impact enhancement.	Implementation in 2004
10. Formulate a strategy for engaging in different types of partnerships, including the private sector	Accepted	Strategy for partnerships formulated	As above, CIP's realigned Program calls for a new working relationship between CIP research projects and CIP partnership projects. Formal collaboration planning has commenced. The specific issue of the public-private partnerships is being addressed by the Impact Enhancement division.	Implementation in 2004
11. Encourage more publications in referred journals and set more demanding annual publication performance targets	Accepted	Communication department reorganized; publications database system created; CIP performance evaluation criteria modified	The Communications Department has been reorganized and has developed mechanisms to provide greater assistance to scientists on publications. The Communications Department has created a publications database for tracking institutional publications. A Systemwide discussion on the definition of "publication" is still needed. Performance evaluations have been modified to emphasize publications. Analysis of effect will be on-going.	September 2002 August 2003 March 2003 On-going

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12. Reallocate resources from management staff to hire international development officer; along with a marketing survey, a strategic plan for increasing external funding should be developed	Accepted	International development officer hired; fund raising program developed; more projects developed/funded	Advertisement and search for a project development officer was undertaken. No successful candidate was identified. A second search, targeting a broader community, is underway.	April 2003 September 2003
13. Board of Trustees should change CIP's External Auditor at the conclusion of the 2002 end-of-year audit/reporting cycle, and every 3-5 years thereafter	Accepted	New External Auditor retained	New External Auditor already working as of April 2002	Completed
14. Completion of the changes required to transform CIPFIS into a full-fledged Management Information System; managers at all levels to be given access to complete and transparent budgetary information on the activities they are accountable for; CIP management to devise incentives to encourage and increase cost-consciousness and efficiency	Accepted	Enhanced CIPFIS fully in place; Benefits resulting from higher efficiency realized	Transformation into a full-pledged MIS underway. Completion of MIS, reflecting the newly approved Program structure, expected by end of 2003.	Implementation in 2004
15. The Board to ensure that it receives adequate financial and budgetary information from management and that it spends sufficient time exercising its budgetary and financial oversight functions	Accepted	Board is provided financial and budgetary reports on a regular basis; Increased attention given by the Board on financial and budgetary issues	Financial Action Plan prepared in order to achieve 120 days of operational reserves over the next 5 years. Plan reviewed and approved by Board Chair.	August 2003 August 2003

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16. Board to be more challenging and forward looking in its discussions of the Center's long-term scientific strategy	Accepted	Board's more active participation in the Center's strategic planning exercise	Creation of a Science and Technology sub-committee, within the Board's Program Committee. CIP's Visioning Exercise co-chaired by Board Program Committee Chair. Active participation by entire Board in CIP's Visioning Exercise.	October 2002 On-going October 2002 – September 2003 October 2002 – September 2003
17. DG should not be a member of the Board's Nominations Committee and the DDG-FIA should not be the Secretary to the Board and its Executive Committee	First point accepted; recommended change described in the second point constrained by the Center's founding statutes	Board's Nomination Committee excludes the DG; New Secretary of the Board designated	The first part of the recommendation already implemented.	Completed March 2002
18. Develop a vision and strategic plan that integrate crop improvement and protection, natural resource management, and the social sciences in an approach that will guide the understanding of problems developing countries face as they experience economic development.	Accepted	Visioning and priority setting exercise conducted; Strategic plan which has the recommended elements formulated and adopted	CIP-Vision Exercise conducted Strategic Planning exercise underway	Vision completed and approved by Board September 2003. September – December 2003