

CGIAR Annual General Meeting (AGM07)
Science Forum: Harnessing Advances in Science
For Sustainable Agriculture
December 4, 2007, Beijing, China

Objectives of the forum:

1. Reflect on major scientific achievements in fostering sustainable agriculture.
2. Examine recent developments and advances in science that hold significant promise for enhancing the effectiveness of agricultural research.
3. Explore strategies by which CGIAR researchers can incorporate the concepts, tools, and methods of new science into their research while offering opportunities to colleagues from the scientific community-at-large to contribute to sustainable agriculture and its multiple roles.

Opening Plenary

0830 Opening Remarks - Rudy Rabbinge, CGIAR Science Council Chair

0835 Welcome – Katherine Sierra, CGIAR Chair

Presentations:

0845 Overview of the World Food Situation, Joachim von Braun, Director General, IFPRI

0920 World Development Report

0945 Agricultural Research in China and Its Impact, Huqu Zhai, President, CAAS

1010 New Science for Agriculture: Challenges and Opportunities, Hans Herren, Member, CGIAR Science Council

1030 Coffee

1100 ***Parallel Session Theme 1: Science at Work for Sustainable Agriculture and its Multiple Roles.***

What have been the major scientific achievements in and beyond the CGIAR, and what lessons have been learned?

Four regional sessions will address the above question:

- Asia and the Pacific
- Central and West Asia and North Africa
- Latin America and the Caribbean
- Sub-Saharan Africa

- 1230 ***Viewing of Exhibition and Lunchtime Presentations***
Parallel presentations will be offered
(Details to be available in November)
- 1400 ***Parallel Session Theme 2: Advanced Science to Enhance Research Effectiveness***
What developments in various fields of science are needed to better address challenges to achieving sustainable agriculture and its multiple roles?
- Four thematic sessions will address the above question:
- Molecular biology
 - Agroecology
 - Spatial information technology
 - Social science
- 1530 ***Parallel Session Theme 3: Strategies for Harnessing Advanced Science***
What are the main strategies to harness advanced science in research and disseminate the results for sustainable agriculture and its multiple roles?
- Up to 12 thematic sessions, focused on topics suggested by participants in an on-line survey held in August.
- 1630 Coffee
- 1700 **Closing Plenary**
Chair: Katharine Sierra
- Remarks: Rudy Rabbinge, Hans Herren and Ren Wang, CGIAR Director
- 1730 Closing: Katherine Sierra
- 1800 Busses depart entrance BICC for Great Hall of the People
- 1930 Crawford Lecture at Great Hall of the People
Dr. William Calvin, Affiliate Professor Emeritus,
University of Washington, USA
- Followed by a Reception hosted by the CGIAR Chair