

Site Integration Workshop

Sandralia Hotel, Abuja. Nigeria

16–17 November 2015

A. Background and Context

The Consortium of the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) centers has launched the 2nd generation of Consortium Research Programs (CRPIIs), a portfolio of integrated research agendas to more effectively contribute to the objectives and targets set by the Strategic Results Framework of CGIAR.

Previously research topics and sites have been picked independently by Centers for CRPs work in countries that may not be ideal from a CGIAR system point of view. Therefore, it was suggested that (a) the CRPs and centers develop a more integrated and strategic portfolio of research activities in countries and (b) they review and rationalize (i.e. reduce) the number, location, and scale of the field sites in a country from a national and CGIAR system perspective. Further, this integration should be undertaken in consultation with the countries involved in order that the research is contributing their agricultural goals. Therefore, all CG centers & their respective CRPs, in order to ensure coordination of R4D activities, are in the process of developing country and **site integration plans** which will bring together the work of CGIAR Centers and programs in key countries, where innovations are expected to reach millions of people. A key dimension of this increased integration aims to focus on improving coordination and collaboration within selected geographies, meaning '*site integration*' which is largely expected to take place at country level and, as appropriate, within specific field research sites.

Country and site integration entails the preparation of integration plans, including carrying out necessary consultations with national partners and stakeholders as a vital step in this process. Nigeria, is among the six countries selected by the Consortium for piloting the integrated approach because of the many CRPs and centers with plans for continued investment. Importantly, there is the potential to achieve research outcomes at scale if the CGIAR can better coordinate its research contributions and to link them with the major agricultural research and development initiative undertaken in Nigeria. It is expected that developed *site integration/ collaboration* plans in any particular country will have to be included in the CRPs' II proposals showing how the CG centers and CRPs are going to work together while also aligning with the national strategies and priorities.

B. Objectives

1. To understand priority needs of national clients that the CGIAR is in a position to address
2. To understand how the integrated efforts of CGIAR can complement those of other partners and national programs to deliver mutually sought outcomes.
3. to develop a site integration plan for each country
4. To develop a plan for tracking progress and assessing impact of the integrated implementation
5. To develop resourcing modalities for implementing the integrated plan
6. To develop a governance structure, communication plans and coordination mechanisms

C. Expected outputs/outcomes

1. A site integration plan
2. A progress-tracking and impact assessment plan
3. A governance structure and coordination mechanism
4. A resourcing plan
5. A communication plan agreed upon

D. Tentative Agenda of the National Consultation Workshop on Site Integration for Nigeria

Time	Day 1	Day 2
0830	Session 1a: Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Welcome remarks – IITA DG (or rep.) ➤ Statement by donor group- representative of the Development Partners Agriculture Working Group ➤ Statement by GFAR ➤ Statement by CG Consortium representative ➤ Opening address: Permanent Secretary or representative of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Overnight thoughts & recap of Day 1 Session 6: Resourcing mechanisms <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Input presentation: Who is funding agriculture – what are they funding and where? - Donor Working Group representative ➤ Exploring sources and mechanisms (Buzz Group) ➤ Report back and plenary
1000	Tea/Coffee	
	Session 1b: Introductions, expectations and process	Session 7: Resourcing mechanisms (cont'd) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Synthesis: Resourcing plan/way forward
	Session 2: Scene-setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The context and why we are here ➤ (Chairperson of the Site Integration Steering Committee - IITA DDG-Research) 	Session 8: Progress tracking and impact assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Input presentation – what we have been doing in M&E and how that should be adjusted to reflect site integration approach – IITA M&E Expert ➤ How will we know we are making progress and creating impact (Buzz Group) ➤ Report back and plenary discussion ➤ Synthesis: progress tracking and impact assessment plan/way forward
	Session 3: Site integration- status review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Where are the CGIAR centers and CRPs currently working and focus thematic areas? (input presentation by the site integration lead CGIAR center-IITA) -10 minutes ➤ Where the national priority sites are and focus thematic areas? (Input presentation by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development, Agricultural Research Council of Nigeria - 20 minutes) ➤ Plenary & Buzz groups to reach common understanding 	Session 9: Communication Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Input presentation – expected communication needs under the new integrated approach: IITA Communications Expert ➤ Buzz Group discussion on key communication areas ➤ Report Back ➤ Synthesis: Communication plan/way forward
1300	Lunch	
1400	Session 4: Analysis of challenges & opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Challenges and opportunities for integration (Buzz Group) ➤ Report back and plenary discussion ➤ What needs to be done to harness the opportunities and address challenges identified (Buzz Group) ➤ Report back and plenary discussion 	Session 10: Governance structure and coordination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Input presentation – the proposed structure and the basis for it - Chair of SC ➤ Plenary discussion of proposed structure and coordination mechanisms ➤ Synthesis: Agreed structure
1500	Session 5: The site integration planning – what, where, how, who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Agreement on common sites ➤ Collaboration mechanisms ➤ Collective goals and targets ➤ Alignment of CGIAR research activities ➤ Joint research outputs & public goods ➤ On-going dialogue & engagement ➤ Sharing of CGIAR facilities & effective use of staff ➤ Effective delivery & scaling ➤ Streamlining policy engagement 	
1600	Tea/Coffee	
1630	Site integration planning (cont'd)	Session 11 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Next steps ➤ Evaluation ➤ Close
1730 1800	Adjourn Cocktail	