

Tribute to CGIAR Partners

The year 2002 will be remembered as the Year of the Summits. At diverse fora and locales, the international community coalesced around a set of critical themes such as the challenges of financing development, reducing hunger and promoting sustainable development. The consensus emerging from the summits was unequivocal: partnerships are key to reducing poverty, hunger and environmental degradation — the global challenges that are integrally linked to the research-for-development efforts of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

The reports presented in this document demonstrate how the CGIAR alliance is helping to fulfill the objectives of the 2002 summits by mobilizing agricultural science to reduce poverty, foster human well-being, promote agricultural growth and protect the environment. We take this opportunity to acknowledge the support of our partners representing the public and private sectors, civil society and farmer groups, and the broader scientific and academic community in industrialized and developing countries. Our achievements and positive impacts would simply not be possible without their unstinting support.

African Development Bank
Arab Fund for Economic
and Social Development
Asian Development Bank
Australia
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Belgium
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Arab Republic of Egypt
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Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations
Ford Foundation
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Germany
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Indonesia
Inter-American
Development Bank
International Development
Research Centre
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Islamic Republic of Iran
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United States of America
World Bank



CGIAR at a Glance: Mobilizing Agricultural Science

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) is a strategic alliance of countries, international and regional organizations, and private foundations supporting 16 international agricultural research Centers that work with national agricultural research systems, the private sector and civil society. The alliance mobilizes agricultural science to reduce poverty, foster human well-being, promote agricultural growth, and protect the environment.

More than 8,500 CGIAR scientists and other staff members in over 130 countries work within the CGIAR alliance. Their research addresses every critical component of the agricultural sector, including agroforestry, biodiversity, food, forage and tree crops, environment-friendly farming techniques, fisheries, forestry, livestock, food policies and agricultural research services. Specifically, the research targets the special needs, crops and ecologies of poor farming communities worldwide.

The CGIAR has five areas of focus:

- **Increasing productivity** of crops, livestock, fisheries, forests and the natural resource base;
- **Strengthening national systems** through joint research, policy support, training and knowledge-sharing;
- **Protecting the environment** by developing new technologies that make more prudent use of land, water and nutrients and help reduce the adverse impacts of agriculture on ecosystems;
- **Saving biodiversity** by collecting, characterizing and conserving genetic resources (the CGIAR holds in public trust some of the world's largest seed collections, which are freely available to all); and
- **Improving policies** that affect agriculture, food, health, the spread of new technologies, and the management and conservation of natural resources.

Major reforms designed to mobilize science, extend the alliance, streamline governance and maximize impact on issues of global significance are gaining ground and yielding benefits. The innovative Challenge Program initiative is designed to address such important regional and global issues as combating the micronutrient deficiencies that afflict more than 3 billion people and addressing freshwater scarcity by improving water-use efficiency in agriculture. Challenge Programs are facilitating collaborative research and helping to mobilize knowledge, technology and resources.

> CGIAR RESEARCH SPECIFICALLY TARGETS THE SPECIAL NEEDS, CROPS AND ECOLOGIES OF POOR FARMING COMMUNITIES WORLDWIDE

The CGIAR alliance is open to all countries and organizations sharing a commitment to a common research agenda and willing to invest financial support and human and technical resources. In 2002, Israel, Malaysia, Morocco and the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture joined the alliance, whose membership is poised to grow further.

CGIAR contributions totaled \$357 million in 2002 — the single-largest investment in mobilizing science to generate public goods for the benefit of poor farming communities worldwide.

CGIAR and the Summits: Agriculture at the Heart of the Development Agenda

The summits of 2002 focused the world's attention on the development challenges confronting the human family and offered a road map for achieving sustainable development. Prominent among the outcomes was the recognition accorded agriculture and rural development as the twin pillars central to the agenda for sustainable development.

Recognizing the important, agenda-setting function of the summits, the CGIAR adopted a proactive stance, working closely with the United Nations system and other partners. A small CGIAR task force led by the International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI) and chaired by Coosje Hoogendoorn, IPGRI deputy director general for programs, coordinated the System's presence at these key events. CGIAR engagement and contributions included providing technical inputs and participating in deliberations, preparatory committee meetings and plenary sessions. The focus throughout was to demonstrate the beneficial impacts of new, science-based agricultural technologies specifically adapted to the crops, ecologies and development needs of poor farmers — benefits that foster economic growth that is environmentally friendly and socially responsible.

> WATER. ENERGY. HEALTH. AGRICULTURE. BIODIVERSITY. FIVE AREAS IN WHICH PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE WITH THE RESOURCES AND TECHNOLOGIES AT OUR DISPOSAL TODAY. FIVE AREAS IN WHICH PROGRESS WOULD OFFER ALL HUMAN BEINGS A CHANCE OF ACHIEVING PROSPERITY THAT WILL NOT ONLY LAST THEIR OWN LIFETIME, BUT CAN BE ENJOYED BY THEIR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN TOO.

— KOFI ANNAN, UNITED NATIONS SECRETARY-GENERAL, MAY 2002

The benefits of these efforts were tangible. Whether the spotlight was on the need for sustainable financing as in Monterrey, or on the call for redoubling efforts to combat the scourge of hunger as in Rome, or on charting the way forward for achieving sustainable development as in Johannesburg, the multifaceted contributions of science-based agricultural development figured prominently at the summits. In addition, the CGIAR System is an active and contributing partner to the range of summit follow-up activities that are underway.

Message from the Chairman and Director: From Words to Action

Several summits in 2002 explored the challenges and opportunities of international development. These summits serve as the backdrop to this annual report. We are honored to include contributions from distinguished members of the CGIAR partnership. Jacques Diouf, director-general of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), a CGIAR Cosponsor, developed the concept of a World Food Summit. Nitin Desai was secretary-general of the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg. Hamid Narjisse is the representative to the CGIAR from Morocco, which joined the alliance in 2002. Updated information from CGIAR-supported Centers, and the System's financial data, round out the contents of this report.

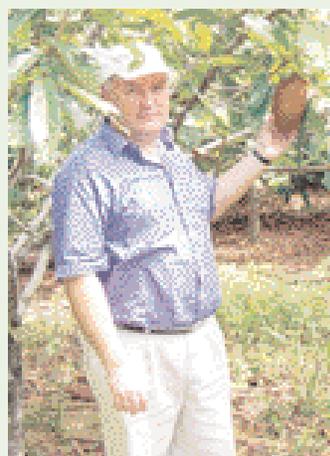
The challenges of poverty, hunger and environmental degradation define the international development agenda. Over a billion human beings continue to live in absolute poverty — on less than a dollar per day. An additional 2 billion exist on less than \$2 per day. But poverty is not only a matter of low incomes. The poor lack decent shelter, clothing, education and nutrition. They lack access to social and political participation. The world cannot stand idly by while these conditions persist.

> IT IS ENCOURAGING THAT THE CENTRALITY OF AGRICULTURE AS A COMPONENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IS ENJOYING RENEWED FOCUS IN PUBLIC POLICY

No country has been successful in fighting the many dimensions of poverty without the underpinnings of economic growth linked with poverty-reduction policies and programs. Agricultural growth is the starting point of economic growth in most developing countries because agriculture (encompassing crops, livestock, fisheries and forestry) is the single most important sector of their economies. An increase in crop yield of 1 percent in the poorest countries can reduce the numbers living under

the \$1-per-day poverty line by 6.25 million. Improved income is only the beginning. The evidence is clear that a thriving agricultural sector helps to enhance the well-being of people in many ways: improved nutrition and health, better education and social empowerment, and greatly expanded opportunities for participating in economic growth.

The necessary caution is that agricultural development that is environmentally harmful creates a new set of



Ian Johnson
CGIAR Chairman



Francisco Reifschneider presents the *CGIAR Annual Report 2001* to Sudesh P. Singh, a Rice-Wheat Consortium farmer in India.

problems that can offset the gains. Biodiversity, croplands, fish stocks, forests and water resources are already under threat. These trends must be reversed. Thus, agricultural development and effective management of natural resources are complementary and have to be treated as two aspects of a single endeavor: achieving sustainable development. Agricultural research committed to generating public goods can create new knowledge, thereby engendering new science-based technologies for achieving the sustainable agricultural productivity that supports robust, equitable development.

The CGIAR is encouraged, therefore, that the centrality of agriculture as a component of sustainable development is enjoying renewed focus in public policy. This process began at the Rio Earth Summit, the landmark United Nations Conference on Environment and Development of 1992. Rio produced a new paradigm of environmentally and socially sustainable development founded upon international conventions on biodiversity, climate change and desertification.

The Millennium Development Goals renewed the goals of the Rio Earth Summit, while the *Monterrey Consensus* (2002) laid the foundation for a new development partnership in a number of areas including trade, official development assistance, domestic savings and debt reduction.

The World Food Summit: five years later (2002) reaffirmed the goal adopted at the World Food Summit (1996) of halving the number of the world's hungry by 2015. The *Summit Declaration* made specific reference to the CGIAR's research-for-development efforts.

> A RANGE OF AGRICULTURAL ISSUES — BIODIVERSITY, FOOD SECURITY, INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT, NUTRITION, PRODUCTIVITY AND TRADE — FIGURED PROMINENTLY AT THE WORLD SUMMIT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN JOHANNESBURG

Because of its all-encompassing approach, the most far-reaching of the summits was the Johannesburg Summit 2002 — the World Summit on Sustainable Development. In preparation for that event, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan launched what came to be known as the WEHAB initiative for the five areas in which it calls for urgent and integrated action: water, energy, health, agriculture and biodiversity. CGIAR-supported research positively affects all of them, so it is not surprising that a CGIAR contribution figured prominently in the framework paper for action on agriculture presented in Johannesburg as part of the WEHAB initiative. The CGIAR was, in fact, very much engaged in preparations for the summit and was actively and capably represented in Johannesburg. The impact of the outstanding research carried out by CGIAR-supported Centers drew many favorable references.

A range of agricultural issues — biodiversity, food security, intellectual property rights, natural resource management, nutrition, productivity and trade — figured prominently in Johannesburg. Participants reaffirmed the critical importance of agriculture, adopting targets and timetables for action on a number of fronts. These include reducing biodiversity loss by 2010, restoring depleted fisheries by

2015, halving the proportion of people without access to clean water or sanitation by 2015 and, by 2020, producing and using only those chemicals that do not harm human health or the environment.

The CGIAR is ready to confront the complex challenges of the present and future. Our ongoing reform program is yielding benefits. The inclusion in 2002 of Israel, Malaysia, Morocco and the Syngenta Foundation for Sustainable Agriculture considerably strengthened the CGIAR alliance. A new Science Council is being established to ensure that CGIAR science continues to meet the highest international standards for quality and relevance. The new Challenge Programs are broadening research partnerships, aligning CGIAR research more directly for achieving Millennium Development Goals. Finally, streamlined governance and nimbler decision-making are providing value to CGIAR stakeholders, while increasing the overall effectiveness of the System. Highlights of the efforts by CGIAR Centers to design and implement programs consistent with the summits' priorities are spelled out in this annual report. Additionally, the Challenge Programs, which the CGIAR has embraced to target issues of global significance, received recognition at the Johannesburg Summit as an innovative and effective form of development partnership. Challenge Programs are conceived and fleshed out in collaboration with scientists in the national agricultural research institutes of developing countries, advanced research institutes, and other stakeholders representing the public and private sectors, civil society and farmer groups.

The CGIAR has approved two Challenge Programs as pilots; Water and Food is already in development, as is Biofortified Crops for Improved Human Nutrition. A third program, Unlocking Genetic Diversity in Crops for the Resource Poor, is under review. A fourth, led by the regional Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa, has been endorsed for full preparation.

> AGRICULTURAL GROWTH IS THE STARTING POINT OF ECONOMIC GROWTH IN MOST DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

And so we move on, from words to action. We thank all those who have already joined the CGIAR and warmly welcome new partners who are considering joining the alliance. Together, we can turn even the most difficult challenges into creative opportunities for science-based solutions that have lasting, beneficial impacts on people's lives and our environment.

Ian Johnson
CGIAR Chairman

Francisco J.B. Reifschneider
CGIAR Director