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Executive Council.

Development. Toward this end, EIARD policies of agricultural research for development of the 25 member states of the European Union, which brings together the European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development (EIARD), the European Initiative for Agricultural Research for Development Cooperation. In this context, the secondment of scientists and junior professionals to the Centers. Belgium also actively supports the CGIAR. In 2005, four Belgian nationals served at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT). In 2004, the CGIAR approved new System Research Priority for CGIAR for the period 2005 – 2015, which were developed through extensive consultation. Three criteria were used to identify these priority areas: the expected impact, the degree to which the research provides international public goods, and the evidence of alternative sources of supply of the research.

Some Products of our Partnership

Allocations by Region

Belgium's Directorate General for Development Cooperation. In this collaborative work, particular attention is given to research in Latin America and Africa.

The international Centers supported by the CGIAR collaborate with leading Belgian universities, specialized research institutions and development organizations.

In 2005, the CGIAR and Belgium actively supported the secondment of scientists and junior professionals to the Centers.

One facet of Belgium’s financial support for the CGIAR takes the form of core funding. This is used for maintaining the strategic focus of the Centers’ collaborative research, and it indicates strong Belgian commitment to our partnership.

Belgium is an active member of the European Strategy for High School Research (ESHSR), which brings together the 25 member states of the European Union, plus the European Commission, Switzerland and Norway. ESHSR works to improve coordination of European actions of agricultural research for development. Toward this end, ESHSR participates in meetings of the CGIAR Executive Council.

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The CGIAR:

Growing Support: The reform program has been well received, and the membership and funding of the CGIAR are on the rise. The Group’s financing plan for 2006 requires an investment of $550 million, an increase of more than 15 percent from the 2004 level of $489 million. The new performance measurement system (PMS) has increased transparency and accountability across the CGIAR and is enabling Centers to better manage their research programs. Eventually, the system may also cover other member’s decisions and programs. In this context, the CGIAR is striving to achieve greater integration of the CGIAR’s results (outputs, outcomes, impact and stakeholder perceptions) and the Centers’ financial health.

Building Blocks of Reform:

Increased Alignment: Within the framework of its main priorities, the CGIAR is striving to achieve greater alignment of research, programs, corporate services, governance mechanisms and structures. Centers in West, Central, and Eastern Africa have made substantial progress in aligning their research programs and are identifying opportunities to share corporate services.

Performance Measurement:

The new performance measurement system (PMS) was piloted in 2005 using data from 2004. The new performance measurement system (PMS) includes transparent and accountability across the CGIAR and is enabling Centers to better manage their research programs. Eventually, the system may also cover other member’s decisions and programs. In this context, the CGIAR is striving to achieve greater integration of the CGIAR’s results (outputs, outcomes, impact and stakeholder perceptions) and the Centers’ financial health.

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Belgium's Directorate-General for Development Cooperation. It is in this collaborative work, particular attention is given to research in least-developed countries.

The international Centre supported by the CGIAR includes Belgium, which participates in the CGIAR's Research Programme on Sustainable Intensification of Agriculture (SIP). In 2005, Belgium committed €7 million in support of the SIP, which supports the CGIAR's efforts to improve coordination of European research initiatives.

The CGIAR is a strategic alliance of 14 international agricultural research centers, including 11 international centers and 3 international programs. The centers are located in 12 countries and conduct research focused on improving agricultural productivity and sustainability.

Some Products of our Partnership

Belgium is an active member of the CGIAR's Executive Council, and the Council has identified several important priorities for the CGIAR's work. These priorities include:

1. Improving the effective and efficient use of our support to the research programs and by institutional and corporate services.
2. Simplifying the way we do business;
3. Opening up the CGIAR by forging new science-based partnerships;
4. Strengthening science;
5. Improving policies and facilitating the access to research programs in this region.

Building Blocks of Reform:

- Transformation and strengthening of the CGIAR's strategy
- Opening up the CGIAR
- Strengthening science
- Improving policies and facilitating

AN EVOLVING AND GROWING CGIAR

In the early 1990s, Belgium was one of the key partners in the creation of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI). IRRI is now one of the world's leading centers for research on rice production and distribution.

The CGIAR is an evolving and growing organization. Its research programs are designed to address the needs of farmers and consumers around the world. In 2005, the CGIAR's membership approved new research priorities for the period 2005–2015, which were developed through extensive consultation. These priorities will be subject to annual review and mechanisms are being developed to ensure appropriate funding.
Belgium’s Directorate General for Development Cooperation. In this collaborative work, particular attention is given to research in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The international centres supported by the CGIAR collaborate with leading Belgian universities, specialized research institutes, and development organizations. In 2005, four Belgian nationals served on the Board of Trustees of the CGIAR. Belgium also actively supports the involvement of scientists and other professionals to the Centers.

Belgium’s active commitment to the CGIAR is reflected in the fact that it is the second largest donor to the CGIAR after the United States. Belgium actively supports the CGIAR’s array of initiatives, including the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the International Centre of Inland Fish Research and Development (ICIFISH), the International Centre for the Improvement of Wheat and Barley (ICроб), the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), and the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF).

Belgium is an active member of the CGIAR Research Program on Forests, Trees, andAgroforestry (FRAGFOR), which brings together the 25 member states of the European Union, plus the European Commission, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). FRAGFOR works to improve coordination of European action against deforestation and to develop a coherent European strategy to address the need for sustainable forest management.

Some Products of our Partnership

The work of the CGIAR directly impacts the lives of millions of people around the world. Through its research and development initiatives, the CGIAR seeks to improve the productivity and sustainability of agriculture, particularly in developing countries. Some of the key products of this partnership include:

- **International Gene Banks and Genetic Resources:** The CGIAR has established a network of gene banks that preserve and make available a wide range of crop and wild species, including bananas, cassava, rice, and many others. These gene banks facilitate access to a diverse range of genetic materials for research purposes.
- **Improved Crop Varieties:** The CGIAR supports the development and dissemination of improved crop varieties that are more resilient to pests, diseases, and climate change, and that can be adapted to local conditions.
- **Research and Development Programs:** The CGIAR conducts research and development programs in areas such as climate change adaptation, sustainable agriculture, and food security.
- **Training and Capacity Building:** The CGIAR works to build the capacity of scientists and researchers in developing countries, providing them with the skills and knowledge they need to conduct high-quality research.
- **Policy and Institutional Support:** The CGIAR provides support to governments and policymakers in developing countries, helping them to develop policies that are informed by the latest research findings.

The CGIAR is an evolving alliance of 15 research centers and institutions, collaborating to develop new technologies and strategies to address global food and nutrition challenges. The CGIAR is committed to innovation, collaboration, and partnerships, striving to address the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable populations around the world.
Shared Priorities and Close Collaboration

Belgium’s development cooperation is directed toward achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), with particular emphasis on promoting gender equity and finding sustainable solutions to widespread diseases, such as HIV/AIDS and malaria. In its support for agricultural research, Belgium is committed to strengthening food security and reducing poverty through partnerships, capacity building, and support for policies in favor of sustainable development. These priorities are fully aligned with those of the CGIAR, which works closely with...
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