

Global Asset Review Report

A System-wide View of CGIAR Centers' Research Assets

Purpose

This document is submitted for the System Council's discussion of the Global Asset Review, which was launched at the Council's request to provide a system-wide view of the research infrastructure that underpins CGIAR's scientific mission.

Background

- At its 19th meeting (October 2023), the System Council requested a system-wide examination of CGIAR's research and operational assets.
- In February 2024, the Executive Managing Director commissioned the CGIAR Global Asset Review in response to that request.
- All Centers contributed to a consolidated inventory of more than 3,000 tangible and intangible assets, including facilities, laboratories, field stations, long-term trials, digital assets, and germplasm collections ineligible for endowment.
- The effort represents the first unified, system-wide asset inventory across CGIAR, supported by more than 250 staff across 70 countries, with approximately 2,500 assets validated by the Centers.
- An Assets Insights Dashboard was developed to provide centralized visibility on asset location, condition, and use.
- The review highlights growing financial and operational pressures, including aging infrastructure, rising operating costs, and declining unrestricted funding.
- Several assets critical to delivery of the 2025–2030 Science and Innovation Portfolio face readiness and sustainability challenges, underscoring the need for improved prioritization and longer-term resourcing mechanisms.
- The study calls for a strategic, multi-level response—strengthening enablers and optimizing assets within Centers, establishing system-wide standards and planning tools, and collaborating with funders within current constraints—to ensure the long-term sustainability of CGIAR's most strategic assets.

Action Requested

The System Council is invited to take note of the Global Asset Review Report and provide strategic input.

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