

Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

Bank Contact: Responsible Sector and Bank Unit: Recipient Agency: Web Address:	Ren Wang / 202-473-8918 ARD - SDN CGIAR http:// www.cgiar.org
Financial Arrangements for FY09 (Amount in US \$ Million)	
Total Budget: DGF Funding Request: DGF Percentage: *CY2007 outcome	495.00* 50.00 10%
Objectives and Expected Outcomes	
<p>The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) is a strategic alliance of 64 countries and institutions. CGIAR contributes to food security, poverty eradication, and sustainable development by fostering science-based agricultural growth in developing countries, promoting sustainable agricultural development based on environmentally sound management of natural resources, and helping to develop policies appropriate to these objectives and expected outcomes. CGIAR complements the Bank's efforts to enable developing countries realize their full potential in agricultural technology and production.</p>	
Main Components	
<p>(i) CGIAR has in-house research expertise at 15 International Centers whose activities span over 100 countries. (ii) CGIAR-supported Centers generate global/international public goods. (iii) CGIAR objectives are achieved through research products (knowledge, technology, policy advice and special services), contributions to international rule-setting, and international advocacy. (iv) CGIAR contributes to international deliberations on topical issues of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, livestock, food policy, and sustainable development through analytical work, participation in scientific fora, provision of scientific advice, and by fostering discussion on food policy.</p>	
Performance Indicators	
<p>(i) An annual Performance Measurement System (PMS) allows the Bank as a CGIAR Member to follow results obtained at Center level as measured by 19 indicators. The result of the CGIAR 2006 performance measurement is shown in attachment 27 of the full application. The 2007 data have been collected and are being verified, and results will be available by June 2008. The PMS exercise is a regular component of the overall Monitoring and Evaluation systems in the CGIAR. (ii) The World Bank funded Global Public Goods Rehabilitation was completed in 2006 at cost of \$17 million, with the upgrading of the genebanks of the CGIAR. The upgrading involved facilities, processing of collection and the information system that links the CGIAR genebank collection. The Centers are now in a very strong position in meeting their in-trust obligations of ensuring collections are secure and accessible. A second phase (2007-09) to further enhance CGIAR genebank operations is underway. (iii) (a) CGIAR communication activities in the first quarter of 2008 focused heavily on rising food prices, investigating the drivers behind these unprecedented trends and exploring the solutions that agriculture research can provide. Media coverage skyrocketed during this period, with well over 5,000 media stories featuring the CGIAR Centers during this period. A series of press conferences at the global and regional levels were held to respond to journalist demand for expert opinions on the situation. Additional media coverage during this period centered on the opening of the Svalbard Global Seed Vault in Norway, and the effectiveness of seed aid. b) Parliamentarian engagement consisted of a video conference briefing for African Parliamentarians on the findings of the 2008 World Development Report relevant to Africa. This activity was implemented in partnership with the Parliamentarian Network on the World Bank (PNoWB). c) A communications strategy in support of the ongoing CGIAR Change Management Initiative was launched, including a website and monthly newsletter on progress within the process. A story development workshop brought together CGIAR Center communications staff to strengthen media outreach capacity and initiate development of a sub-Saharan Africa Campaign, which will be launched later this year. (d) Following the successful CSO Forum of AGM06, the CGIAR launched a competitive grants initiative of US\$1 million to fund four successful projects proposed</p>	

through partnership of CSOs and CGIAR Centers.

Progress and Achievements

Progress since the last year can be summarized into two broad thrust: achievements on the research front and the continuation of the CGIAR reform program. (1) Research conducted by the 15 international agricultural research Centers supported by the CGIAR delivered results in 2007. A snapshot follows: (i) The CGIAR advanced the development of stress-tolerant varieties of maize, rice and other crops. These included climate-ready crops such as the flood-tolerant version of a rice variety grown on six million hectares in Bangladesh that enables farmers to increase yields two to three fold with the crop under prolonged submergence, a situation that will become more common due to climate change. (ii) A new fast and inexpensive method for detecting aflatoxin, a deadly poison that infects crops, making them unfit for consumption or export, as well as a novel biological control method that reduces aflatoxin by nearly 100 percent. Both advancements are helping to curb this major threat to human health, especially in children, and to save millions of dollars in lost sales of food for export. (iii) Results from research on natural resource management (NRM) included a simple method for integrating agriculture with aquaculture to bolster income and food supplies in areas of Africa where the agricultural labor force has been devastated by HIV/AIDS; a new approach to predicting the impact of climate change on major crops wild relatives, a key source of genes needed to enhance climate resilience; and analysis of the likely consequences of biofuel development in China and India for increasingly scarce water supplies. (v) Research on the causes of deforestation and opportunity costs in relation to climate change are informing policy decisions related to avoid deforestation as a means to mitigate climate change. These and other GPGs from the CGIAR are helping to deliver on the MDGs, especially those on poverty and hunger, health and environment. (2) Building on the 2001 Reform program, the CGIAR launched a facilitated change management process on research prioritization, funding mechanisms, partnerships and governance. The process will involve broad stakeholder consultations and build on recommendations from the ad hoc committee on funding system priorities. The process will culminate in decisions at the 2008 Annual General Meeting.

Partners

The 64 Members comprise twenty-three industrialized countries, twenty-four developing countries, five foundations, and twelve international organizations. In addition, private sector foundations (e.g. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation), commercial companies and advanced research institutions continue to provide strong support to the CGIAR, over 200 Civil Society Organizations currently partner with the CGIAR supported Centers.

Governance and Management

World Bank Vice President, Katherine Sierra, serves as CGIAR Chair, World Bank Director, Ren Wang serves as the CGIAR Director and the Chief Economist, provides oversight for the Bank. (1) Annual General Meetings (AGMs) review all major policy issues, provide guidance to components of the CGIAR System, and approve a consolidated program prepared by the Centers under overall strategic directions approved by the CGIAR. Center work programs are developed by Center management in collaboration with partners and approved by Boards of Trustees. A Bank Vice-President chairs the AGM as well as the Executive Council. (2) A 20-Member Executive Council representing members, Centers, and partners acts on behalf of the CGIAR on items delegated to it by the AGM; and submits recommendations for decision-making at the AGM. (3) A Science Council guides the relevance and quality of science in the CGIAR. (4) A virtual System Office (SO) supports these bodies, the overall membership, and the Centers. The Secretariat, a SO component, is housed and staffed by the Bank. It is led by a director and staffed by professionals with expertise in communications, finance, governance/ partnerships and administration. (5) External and Independent evaluations continue to be an essential part of the CGIAR's accountability system.

Exit Strategy

As SDN and the CGIAR are both fully committed to a rural development and agricultural strategy to achieve sustainable development and poverty eradication, the Bank should continue to support the CGIAR. In FY09, half of the Bank's funds will be allocated to support the Reform Program and CGIAR's Global Public Goods (technology, knowledge, policy advice and genebanks) assets. The other half is provided as general support to Centers. The final report of the independent evaluation review is due by July 2008.