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Resource for the 2nd General Assembly of the Centers:

CGIAR Narrative

Background:

This document provides a 'CGIAR Narrative' as a key tool for attracting new investment. The Narrative was presented to the System Management Board at its 8th meeting with the following action agreed:

SMB/M8/AP2: Delivering a CGIAR Narrative
Noting the strong progress to date on developing a 'CGIAR Narrative', the System Management Office was requested to coordinate a further round of consultations, with a focus on the results area, in advance of finalization so as to provide a common narrative from which other more specialized products can be developed

Purpose for the General Assembly:

This document is provided in support of discussions in 'Agenda item 6. Aligning on a vision for optimal resource mobilization efforts-taking account of the various roles and needs of the many stakeholders in the System' and specifically
6.2a The 'CGIAR Narrative' as a key tool in attracting new investment (from existing or new donors). Are there different forms of the narrative that might be required for different audiences?

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CGIAR

SCIENCE FOR HUMANITY'S GREATEST CHALLENGES

Towards a world free of poverty, hunger and environmental degradation

FOOD SECURITY

Yield increases of staple crops have flatlined, struggling to keep pace with growing demand. Agricultural output must increase in harmony with the natural environment by improving access to quality inputs, extension services and innovations along the value chain.

HEALTH

2016 saw this decade's first increase in the number of chronically undernourished, now more than 800 million people. Two billion people suffer from micronutrient deficiencies, an equal number are overweight or obese.

ENVIRONMENT

Water, land and forests are precious, yet finite, natural resources. Agriculture accounts for about 70% of global water withdrawals and is the biggest cause of forest loss. Additionally, a third of the world's soil is classified as degraded.

CLIMATE

Climate change and climate shocks put the most vulnerable people at risk. Heat, drought, flood, and unpredictable growing seasons harm farmers and production systems.

JOBS

Many of the world's poor rely on agriculture and natural resources for food and livelihood. More than 85% of the world's 1.2 billion youth live in developing countries where meaningful employment and entrepreneurial opportunities are limited – contributing to migration and political insecurity.

We are at a crossroads in the world's food system. We cannot continue our current trajectory of consuming too little, too much, or the wrong types of food at an unsustainable cost to natural resources, the environment and human health. We must change course.
This will require a new relationship between food, landscapes and people, based on an infusion of knowledge, tools, policies and business models. The global food system can be fixed to solve some of humanity's greatest challenges.

THE CHALLENGES

Food – the way we grow, catch, transport, process, trade, and consume it – is central to the main challenges facing humanity.

GENOMICS REVOLUTION

To accelerate development of a new generation of crops and animals, to improve yield, as well as increase nutrient content and market value – while ensuring resilience to climate challenges, pests and diseases.

NUTRITION TRANSFORMATION

To tackle chronic malnutrition, hidden hunger and the availability of safe, healthy and diverse foods by harnessing the political, technological, and market potential of food systems.

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION

To revitalize rural economies, bring value to consumers, and leverage the power of economic growth to reduce poverty – targeting equity and the key role of women in production, post-harvest processing and across the value chain.

ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSFORMATION

To drastically cut the environmental cost of agriculture, scale up climate-smart agriculture; reverse land degradation and to improve soil health, agroforestry practices, natural resource management and water use efficiency.

INFORMATION REVOLUTION

For impact-at-scale by harnessing the power of agriculturally relevant data and analytics for farmers, businesses and governments, and to facilitate two-way information sharing for learning and decision support.

CGIAR research is development: Catalyzing these transformations to create better food systems will require an infusion of new knowledge, tools and policies. As a trusted advisor, collaborative partner, and engine of innovation in agriculture – CGIAR tackles poverty, nutrition imbalances, environmental degradation and social inequity.

CGIAR
HARNESSING INNOVATIONS

To solve these complex challenges, CGIAR partners with governments, national research institutes, civil society and the private sector on 5 global transformations.

As the world's largest global agricultural innovation network, CGIAR brings evidence to policy makers, innovation to partners, and new tools to harness the economic, environmental and nutritional power of agriculture.

CGIAR ASSETS

A trusted voice with a critical mass of world-class scientists – CGIAR's global network of 15 top-class research centers contributes to an unrivaled mix of knowledge, skills and research facilities able to respond to emerging development issues.

Unequalled world-wide partnership network – of national governments, academic institutions, global policy bodies, private companies and NGOs. CGIAR collaborates with and strengthens the capacity of national agricultural research and extension systems.

The world's largest and most diverse crop and forage collections – including 11 seed banks consisting of 750,000 samples of the most important global crops that are indispensable to future food security.

Local presence in over 70 countries – with deep knowledge of customs, values and market operations in developing countries.

Wealth of experience and knowledge spanning 50 years – that builds on a track-record of innovation and world class research.

Research for development and livelihood impact – CGIAR research contributes to the UN Sustainable Development Goals and delivers direct benefit to the most vulnerable people.

KEY CGIAR ACHIEVEMENTS FROM THE LAST 10 YEARS:

Improved climate resilience in farming communities in 21 countries through the establishment of Climate Smart Villages which test and scale resilient food system innovations.

Increased resilience, income and yield for 4.75 million farmers in India working across 3.7 million hectares by scaling CGIAR developed natural resource management practices.

Improved nutrition for 20 million people in low-income countries through increased access to critical nutrients via micronutrient fortified crops with higher content of vitamin A, iron, and zinc.

Reduced the health risk from rapidly expanding use of untreated wastewater for crop irrigation – a practice recently documented on more than 29 million hectares, posing a threat to 885 million rural and urban consumers.

Increased opportunities for women and youth engagement in the agricultural sector as a result of a CGIAR social inclusion toolbox which is now in use by 61 partners in 19 countries.

Helped African farmers battle crop contamination with the adaption and scale of aflasafe™, a biocontrol product developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service.

Improved harvests, income for farmers and nutrition for children under 5 years of age through the development of new tilapia strains, fisheries management practices, and integration of agriculture-fish crop systems.

Enhanced environmental management to curb groundwater overexploitation with new strategies for artificial recharge of hard-rock aquifers in semi-arid regions. The Indian Government allocated USD 400 million to implement improved practices in 100 districts of seven states, extending irrigation by 9 million hectares and boosting incomes by USD 1.35 billion.

Engaged global expertise and led collective responses to urgent and emerging crop and livestock diseases including the devastating Fall Armyworm outbreak in sub-Saharan Africa, the Wheat Blast epidemic in Bangladesh, and East Coast fever, a deadly cattle disease in East Africa.

Scaled access to improved wheat varieties reaching almost half the world's wheat area and more than 70% of wheat grown in South Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Central and West Asia and North Africa. Annual economic benefit of wheat breeding research range from $2.2 to $3.1 billion.

Increased rice yield by 0.5 to 1 ton per hectare and profitability by US$200 per hectare through development of a smart mobile crop management tool called 'RiceAdvice' used in 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

CGIAR

CGIAR is a global research partnership for a food secure future dedicated to reducing poverty, enhancing food and nutrition security, and improving natural resources.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

CGIAR Research Centers

AfricaRice
Bioversity International
CIAT
CIFOR
CIMMYT
CIP
ICARDA
ICRISAT
IFPRI
IITA
ILRI
IRRI
IWMI
World Agroforestry Centre
WorldFish

Help us change course and transform the global food system:
CGIAR research is made possible by our funders and partners. Continued and additional support is urgently needed to accelerate change. CGIAR enables investors to contribute to a research partnership which delivers direct benefit to the poor and most vulnerable.
For information on our programs visit www.cgiar.org