

TOWARDS ONE CGIAR



12 FEBRUARY 2020

This is a bi-weekly newsletter on the transition to 'One CGIAR' from the co-chairs of the Transition Consultation Forum (TCF). 'One CGIAR' refers to a future, more unified and integrated CGIAR, as set out in the recommendations of the System Reference Group (SRG) and endorsed by the CGIAR System Council at its 9th meeting in November 2019. The 14 November 2019 message from CGIAR System Council voting members to all CGIAR staff is accessible [here](#).

MESSAGE FROM THE CO-CHAIRS OF THE TRANSITION CONSULTATION FORUM (TCF)

Dear CGIAR colleagues and stakeholders,

We trust this finds you all well and that you have had an excellent start to the year 2020.

At the beginning of this year, Juergen Voegelé, Chair of the CGIAR System Council, proposed a broad-based Transition Consultation Forum (TCF) to promote consultation, inclusive communication, and co-creation in the transition to One CGIAR. The TCF comprises members of the CGIAR System Council, all members of the CGIAR System Management Board (SMB), all Center Board Chairs and Directors General, and the Chair of the Independent Science for Development Council. Juergen invited the four of us to co-chair this forum with a view to ensuring close collaboration and communication across our respective constituencies.

We have accepted this task and discussed and agreed on the following overarching modalities of work:

- Marco Ferroni as SMB Chair will serve as our convener, working closely with and supported by the co-chairs' group as a whole;
- As TCF co-chairs, we will communicate regularly with the broad TCF and wider stakeholder groups, aiming to foster close interaction – not just one-way communication;
- We will work as a team and seek to ensure that the four of us participate in all key conversations on the transition going forward;
- Our work will be supported by a dedicated Transition Management Unit, once established, and we will rely on the System Management Office until such time.

Over the coming weeks, we will work with the SMB and other members to further develop the terms of reference and working modalities of the TCF as well as other means to engage CGIAR stakeholders and experts in the transition process.

We will hold a first TCF call on Wednesday, 19 February at 14:00 Central European Time and we are actively exploring the feasibility of holding a first in-person meeting of the TCF in connection with the General Assembly of the Centers during the period 23–25 March.

The bi-weekly newsletter is intended as one among a number of tools to keep all CGIAR stakeholders informed of the transition. This first edition has been sent to all TCF members and posted on the [CGIAR website](#), but we hope that you can circulate it broadly to ensure that as many as possible have direct access to each newsletter. Equally important will be ensuring that the newsletter contains information that is helpful to as many people as possible. Please therefore provide your feedback on the topic areas that we could periodically include in the newsletter series, via email to tcf@cgiar.org. This will help us ensure that the information we share here is useful, relevant, and easy to understand.

With kind regards,

Aly Abousabaa, Convener, Center Directors General
Nicole Birrell, Convener, Center Board Chairs

Tony Cavalieri, Member, CGIAR System Council
Marco Ferroni, Chair, CGIAR System Management Board

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

This is a non-exhaustive overview of recent and upcoming meetings and events related to the transition to One CGIAR. More detailed information will be made available on the dedicated MS Teams workspace for the TCF and shared with additional stakeholders as relevant.

When	What	Who
RECENT		
13–14 November, 2019	9th meeting of the CGIAR System Council in Chengdu, China. For details, see the Chair's summary and message to CGIAR staff .	System Council members, active observers, invited guests, and Secretariat support
12–13 December, 2019	Extraordinary General Assembly of the Centers in Rome, Italy. For details, see the Chairs' summary .	General Assembly members, facilitation and Secretariat support
28–29 January, 2020	16th Meeting of the System Management Board (SMB) in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. For details, please see the Chair's summary .	SMB members, active observers, invited guests, and Secretariat support (please see the Chair's summary for a full list of participants)
5–7 February, 2020	CGIAR 'Big Lifts' workshop in Eschborn, Germany, provided multi-stakeholder input towards the implementation of SRG recommendations 1 (mission) and 4 (new research modality).	Invited guests, including representatives of Funders, Centers, ISDC, and the System Organization
12 February, 2020	Virtual meeting of the General Assembly of the Centers to consider process to reconstitute the SMB and approve associated amendments to the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization.	Members of the General Assembly, Secretariat support
UPCOMING		
19 February, 2020	1st call of the Transition Consultation Forum (TCF) to discuss proposed forward directions for TCF and Transition Advisory Groups (TAGs).	TCF members, support
23–25 March, 2020	In-person meeting of the TCF in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.	TCF members, facilitation and Secretariat support
25 March, 2020	In-person meeting of the General Assembly in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.	General Assembly members, facilitation and Secretariat support
5–6 May, 2020	17th meeting of the SMB (TBC).	SMB members, active observers, invited guests, and Secretariat support
9–10 June, 2020	10th meeting of the CGIAR System Council in Berlin, Germany.	System Council members, active observers, invited guests, and Secretariat support

CONTACT US

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BACKGROUND: WHAT IS ONE CGIAR?

One CGIAR is a dynamic reformulation of CGIAR's partnerships, knowledge, assets, and global presence, aiming for greater integration in the face of the interdependent challenges facing today's world. One CGIAR comprises (i) a sharper mission statement and impact focus to 2030, aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals; (ii) unified governance under a 'One CGIAR Common Board'; (iii) institutional integration, including stronger management, common policies and services, and a unified country presence; (iv) a new research modality; as well as (v) more, and pooled, funding. For further details, please refer to the [TCF web page](#).