

## One CGIAR transitional funding approach

### Purpose

This document sets out a set of proposed mechanisms to enable - as part of a transitional funding approach - targeted contributions to fund implementation of the objectives of One CGIAR. The approach was endorsed by the System Management Board during its 17<sup>th</sup> meeting on 5-7 May 2020 (Decision SMB/M17/DP8).

### Action Requested

The System Council is requested to **approve** the implementation of the mechanisms set out in this document as part of a One CGIAR transitional funding approach, taking note that after the appointment of the inaugural One CGIAR Executive Management Team (EMT), the EMT may bring to the System Management Board, and in turn the System Council proposals on substantive expenditure from the facility.

**Document category:** Working document of the System Council

There is no restriction on the circulation of this document

Prepared by: CGIAR System Organization, based on discussions at SMB17.

## Background

1. The System Council approved the creation of the W1 Special Alliance Fund in May 2019. All available funds were disbursed in support of eligible activities.
2. Subsequent to the creation of the W1 Special Alliance Fund, the System Reference Group (SRG) recommendations were unanimously endorsed by the System Council in November 2019.
3. Commencing from the System Management Board's 16<sup>th</sup> meeting in January 2020, with the SMB formally endorsing version 3 of the 'Initial Steps' document as the roadmap forward<sup>1</sup>, One CGIAR implementation has been initiated with the initial support of a bilateral grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
4. Another funder has deposited US\$ 1.1M in the provisional account of the CGIAR Trust Fund and earmarked this investment in support of One CGIAR implementation.
5. A full and complete costing of the transition to One CGIAR has been identified as an early deliverable of the Transition Program Management Unit (TPMU) that is expected to come on board starting 1 June 2020.

## Proposed Measures

6. The following mechanisms are proposed as key elements of a One CGIAR transitional funding approach:
  - a. To repurpose the narrowly defined W1 Special Alliance Fund to a One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility to support more expansive objectives of One CGIAR implementation;
  - b. To transfer the US\$ 1.1M provision account balance to the One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility;
  - c. To allocate the \$6.5M draw down facility approved as part of the 2020 Financing Plan to the One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility; and
7. To establish an indicative fundraising target of US\$ 40M-\$70M to fund investments into One CGIAR through the One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility between 2020 and 2024. Substantive disbursements under this facility would be based on detailed proposals recommended through the System Management Board to the System Council.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarorg/2020/01/SMB16-03a\\_Initial-Steps-and-Transition-Support-to-One-CGIAR-v3-WEBSITE.pdf](https://storage.googleapis.com/cgiarorg/2020/01/SMB16-03a_Initial-Steps-and-Transition-Support-to-One-CGIAR-v3-WEBSITE.pdf)

## Rationale

8. The aspirations and targets of the CGIAR transition have evolved significantly in the year since the creation of the W1 Special Alliance Fund.
  9. The bold package of recommendations arising out of the System Reference Group (SRG) and unanimously endorsed by the System Council have launched a program of work to fulfill the vision of 'One CGIAR'.
  10. One CGIAR seeks to achieve governance, managerial, and research cohesion across all Centers and the CGIAR System Organization beyond that which may be achieved by an Alliance between two or more Centers.
  11. The transition to One CGIAR is a complex process requiring investment and engagement across the System towards the objectives outlined in the SRG recommendations.
  12. The creation of the One CGIAR Transitional Funding Facility will provide the opportunity for Funders to invest directly in the transition process while ensuring resources are uniformly directed in effecting the transition towards One CGIAR.
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