

Memorandum of Understanding

between

Government of the Netherlands

and

CGIAR System Organization

12 April 2022

This Memorandum of Understanding ("Memorandum") represents a statement of intent by the Government of the Netherlands ("GoN"), represented by the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and the Minister for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality and the CGIAR System Organization, to collaborate in the achievement of common objectives as described and on the basis outlined below.

WHEREAS:

- a. CGIAR is a global research partnership for a food secure future dedicated to transforming food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis, reducing poverty, enhancing food and nutrition security, and improving natural resources. The CGIAR System Organization is governed by the Charter of the CGIAR System Organization, and in collaboration with the CGIAR System Council, provides governance to the CGIAR System. The CGIAR System Organization has an important role in facilitating and overseeing the development, effective and efficient implementation of the CGIAR 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy and Results Framework. The CGIAR System Organization enters into agreements with the trustee of the CGIAR Trust Fund, Funders, Centers and other relevant entities for funding CGIAR Research and other activities of the CGIAR System.
- b. The Government of the Netherlands contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals ("SDGs") and addresses the root causes of poverty, instability and migration. It supports adaptation to climate change as well as the mitigation agenda in collaboration with local and international partners. Believing it can best do so by focusing on the themes in which the Netherlands itself excels, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality jointly focus, among other areas, on global food and nutrition security and related food system challenges and transformations. The Netherlands is well known for developing cutting edge solutions in agriculture and food, including horticulture, farming systems and natural resources management. It has extensive knowledge and innovation networks with a global reach that bring together public and private sector actors in targeting bottlenecks in the development of inclusive and sustainable agri-food systems. Collaborative approaches, sometimes called the Dutch Diamond, among research, government, civil society, private and financial sectors, as well as strong linkages with sector education systems, are a hallmark of success.

NOW THEREFORE the Government of the Netherlands and the CGIAR System Organization (each a "Signatory" and together, the "Signatories") intend as follows:

A. Objective

Consistent with their respective mandates, the Signatories desire to cooperate on contributing to transformational change in food, land and water systems around the world by advancing knowledge and mobilizing joint public and private innovation. Within the broader set of pathways to promote transformational change in terms of agricultural growth and food and nutrition security, the Signatories aim to cooperate in the following strategic areas:

- i. Eradicating existing hunger and malnutrition by better mobilizing research for agriculture, nutrition and health;
- ii. Promoting inclusive and sustainable growth in the agricultural sector (especially for smallholders) by developing and implementing tools for sustainable agri-food value chains and sectors;
- iii. Creating ecologically sustainable food systems by enhancing farming system resilience in the face of climate change as well as the efficient use of water and land resources;
- iv. Promoting locally-owned, evidence-based and integrated food system transformations at the national and regional level.

Particular focus will be attributed to domains where CGIAR and Dutch partners have complementary expertise and to promoting research impact through interdisciplinary research approaches, co-creation and downstream applied research partnerships, including with private sector and civil society organizations. Gender and youth inclusion are key concerns in intervention strategies. Priority areas for engagement include nutrition & health, climate change and capacity sharing with southern partners through co-development of research, innovations, and technologies that are truly responsive to the interests and needs of relevant stakeholders in key geographies.

Signatories will seek to enhance the strength and interlinkages of their mutual research efforts where appropriate.

B. Forms of collaboration

- i) To further the achievement of their common objectives, the Signatories intend to collaborate on the following within the strategic areas mentioned above:
 - a) Support CGIAR's global 2030 research and innovation strategy and its underlying portfolio of research initiatives;
 - b) Build, where most relevant, strategic partnerships between CGIAR's research portfolio or Impact Area Platforms and Dutch academia, public institutions, private sector, government agencies and nongovernment organizations including co-funding arrangements;
 - c) Facilitate expert secondments and/or mutually decided staffing programs for senior scientists/experts from the Netherlands to work within CGIAR's portfolio of research initiatives and for scientific staff from the CGIAR to work within public or private knowledge organizations in the Netherlands, in accordance with relevant CGIAR and Dutch policies and programs;

- d) Support CGIAR in new, innovative models of private sector engagement that would incentivize CGIAR research to deliver clearly defined, explicitly demand driven innovations;
 - e) Identify opportunities for working together at the country level, e.g. through synergetic approaches among CGIAR and Dutch bilateral food security or water programs;
 - f) Identify opportunities for synergistic or complementary initiatives in capacity sharing to the benefit of national knowledge, research and innovation capacities and infrastructure;
 - g) Develop any other form of collaboration arranged between the Signatories consistent with the objectives of this Memorandum.
- ii) The Signatories anticipate that each Signatory will contribute to the activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum, in one or more of the following ways:
- a) Mobilizing its own staff for the pursuit of the objectives set out in this Memorandum and establishing a Steering Committee to govern and monitor this partnership;
 - b) The allocation of pooled financial resources by the Netherlands to the CGIAR research portfolio and pooled or non-pooled funding to specific programs, pursuant to such decisions by either of the Dutch Ministers and following a CGIAR request to do so;
 - c) Mobilizing knowledge and expertise from various institutions to support the objectives and priorities set out in this Memorandum;
 - d) Such other ways as the Signatories may determine.

C. Contacts

Each Signatory hereby designates and appoints the person listed below as its point of contact with respect to activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum. Each Signatory may, by written notice to the other Signatory, designate different persons as points of contact but each Signatory expects to have only one person at a time designated as its respective point of contact for all activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum.

For the CGIAR System Organization
Elwyn Grainger-Jones
CGIAR Managing Director, Institutional Strategy and Systems
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Copied to: legal@cgiar.org

For the Government of the Netherlands
Wijnand van IJssel
Senior Policy Officer
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands
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D. Limits to the Memorandum

- a. This Memorandum does not constitute an agreement or commitment by any Signatory

to enter into or provide support for any specific activity or project. This Memorandum does not create any rights or obligations under international law.

- b. This Memorandum does not constitute prior approval of either Signatory to use the name or emblem of the other Signatory or its related institutions.
- c. Nothing in this Memorandum is intended to be, or should be construed as, a waiver of the privileges and immunities of any of the Signatories or its respective officers and employees, which privileges and immunities are hereby specifically reserved.
- d. This Memorandum will become effective upon signature by both Signatories and thereby replace the Memorandum of 21 September 2015 between the Government of the Netherlands and the Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research Centers. It will have an initial duration of six (6) years, after which it will be tacitly renewed for one more period of three (3) years, under the same terms and conditions, unless one Signatory gives thirty days' written notice to the other Signatory of its intent to terminate this Memorandum. This Memorandum may be terminated by mutual consent or by any of the Signatories by written notice from one to the other with not less than thirty days' notice.
- e. Any dispute arising in relation to the interpretation, application or implementation of this Memorandum will be settled amicably by mutual consultation or negotiation between the Signatories.

E. Intellectual Property

The Signatories recognize the importance of the sound management of all intellectual assets, and corresponding intellectual property rights, resulting from activities that are carried out under this Memorandum. Specific terms and conditions regarding intellectual asset management (intellectual property rights, publication and exploitation of results, confidentiality, etc.) will, as appropriate, be laid out in partnership implementation arrangements, in line with the Signatories' relevant intellectual property policies and the CGIAR Principles on the Management of Intellectual Assets.

F. Disclosure and Publicity

The Signatories expect that information relating to this Memorandum, as well as this Memorandum itself, will be publicly disclosed by CGIAR and the GoN in accordance with the Signatories' respective disclosure and/or access to information policies.

CGIAR and GoN expect to consult with each other concerning the manner and form of any acknowledgment of the other's support regarding the activities under this Memorandum.

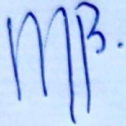
G. Periodic Meetings

The Signatories intend to meet in person at least once a year, to discuss progress of their collaboration under this Memorandum, and that minutes of this meeting, approved by both Signatories, would form the record of the partnership. The Signatories prefer that this meeting would be organized back to back with other relevant international meetings that both Signatories would attend.

Signed in triplicate in the English language,

The Hague, April 12, 2022

**For the Minister for Agriculture
of the Netherlands**



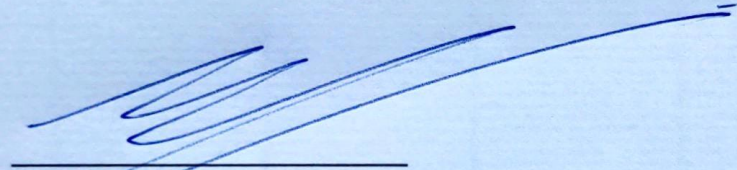
Marije Beens, Director General
Agro

**For the Minister for Foreign Trade and
Development Cooperation of the Netherlands**



Kitty van der Heijden, Director-General for
International Cooperation

For the CGIAR System Organization



Elwyn Grainger-Jones,
Managing Director