Reflections

from Prof. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda,
System Board Chair

27 October 2023
System Board 8 Priorities, Jan 2023

1. Ensure an effective System Board
   - SB with adequate representation & numbers for effective governance of highest standards.

2. Review Board Chair Network / System Board Roles
   - Alignment of governance at system and centre level.

3. Have effective delivery of our core business
   - One CGIAR delivers science & innovation that advance the transformation of food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis.

4. Enhance effectiveness & efficiency of the System Office
   - SO is a lean, efficient team leveraging and harnessing on the strengths of the CGIAR centres.

5. Deepen relationship with the host countries & key partners
   - Host country has win-win partnership with One CGIAR.

6. Communicate and advocate for One CGIAR
   - Showcase the comparative advantages of One CGIAR on a regular basis and bring-in relevant global research centres.

7. Calibrate relationship with the System Council
   - Ensure SB is empowered to govern the system and make decisions.

8. Mobilize Financial Resources
   - Diversity funding sources and use innovative financial models to attract additional funding.
**Vision 4. Engage with non-signatories of IFA to join One CGIAR**

**Obj. 4.1.** An engagement process to join One CGIAR is initiated with non-IFA signatories (e.g. ICRISAT, CIFOR-ICRAF)

- **Target 15**
  - ICRISAT joins One CGIAR
  - ICRISAT signed the IFA on 10 Oct 2023

- **Target 16**
  - CIFOR-ICRAF joins One CGIAR
  - 3 Virtual Meetings held with DG of CIFOR-ICRAF and in-person meeting in Bonn (Nov)
  - CIFOR-ICRAF reviewed & sent feedback on IFA5.

**Obj. 2.3.2.** Strategic partnerships beyond the CGIAR and IFA signatories are initiated.

- **Target 17**
  - At least 2 other non-CGIAR partners contacted for stronger partnership (FAO, ICIPE, WorldVeg)
    - Met with FAO DG to create stronger partnership in May (Italy).
    - Met twice with ICIPE DG to initiate dialogue in April (Kenya) and in June (Sweden).
    - Invited at CIMMYT-WorldVeg field trip in Sep (Tanzania) and will be keynote speaker at the 50th anniversary celebrations in November (Taiwan).
    - Advisor to the China-CGIAR partnership working group
## Vision 5. Advocate for One CGIAR

| Obj. 5.1. Center/Alliance staff are appreciative of the added value of One CGIAR |
| At least 5 centres visited including interaction with staff |
| Alliance of CIAT and Bioversity, CIMMYT, and ILRI HQs visited and met with staff at Town Halls where staff fielded questions on One CGIAR. Montpellier SO office visited and met with staff at Town Hall |

| Obj. 5.2. CGIAR Stakeholders receive regular updates from the SB Chair |
| SB Chair monthly blog released |
| April, May, June, July, August Blogs released |

| Obj. 5.3. Strategic partners are made aware of the contributions & value of one CGIAR as a global research organisation on food, land and water systems |
| At least 5 major global events receive contribution from one CGIAR SB either as key speakers or moderators |

- EU Mission ‘A Soil Deal for Europe’, Belgium
- EU AgriResearch Conference, Belgium
- UNFSS Stocktaking Moment, Italy
- WB Africa Agricultural Policy Leadership Dialogue, Zambia
- FARA Africa Science Week, South Africa
- G7 T7 Taskforce 3 on Science & Digitalization for A Better Future
- Linux Foundation’s Open Source Summit, Spain
- AfDB Annual Meeting, Egypt
- Africa Climate Summit, Kenya
- Africa Food Systems Forum, Tanzania
- Global Forum of Leaders for Agricultural S&T, China
- Borlaug Dialogue, USA
- World AgriFood Innovation Conference, China
We will build TRUST through

Common vision
Reaffirmation of the future we want

Inclusivity
Appreciation of diversity as strength

Transparency
Breaking the walls that divide us, listening to each other,
Effective internal and external communications
Speaking with one voice
Thank you