

# ISDC in 2024—Advice and Progress on Workstreams & Portfolio Evolution

**ISDC Chair, Holger Meinke**

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Rabat, Morocco**

# 2024 Workplan:

- **Portfolio Evolution**
- **Megatrends,**
- **Science Forum,**
- **Inclusive Innovation,**
- **Methods and Tools**



Photo: N. Palmer/The Alliance

## Portfolio Evolution

### 1. **Clearly articulate what type of review you expect**

2. Preparation and review of 2025-27 Portfolio Document

3. Independent review of new portfolio proposals and Impact Area Platform proposals

- 2025-27 Portfolio Document needs to provide rational and structure for the entire Research & Innovation Portfolio
- The revised document following ISDC's review will inform any required changes at Initiative level
- Evaluations of Initiatives and Platforms during 2024 should provide additional input
- Based on these steps, decisions can then be made about adjustment to research priorities at Initiative level
- ISDC has/will provide guidance (e.g. Comparative advantage analyses; Inclusive Innovation, Coherence and Cohesion, Megatrend Analysis etc)

# Portfolio Evolution

Photo: N. Palmer/The Alliance

- **Timing and sequencing** are key for the Portfolio Document, followed by more detailed proposals.
- Outline the **CGIAR science agenda** and the process to ensure duplication is avoided and that CGIAR uses its comparative advantage wisely.
- **The role and funding mechanism for the Impact Areas Platforms** should be described.
- Final version of Engagement Framework for Partnerships & Advocacy should be available before the Portfolio Document is written.
- **Provide visibility for the entire portfolio and not only the 30% pool funded.**
- Major points for considerations: partnerships, priority setting and funding, comparative advantage, coordination and management, and innovation.
- **Clearly articulate SCIENCE; broad-bracket science portfolio with the right level of risk appetite.**

# Megatrend Review

The world changes more rapidly than our ability to respond.



Photo: N. Palmer/The Alliance

Commissioned report & communication materials

Full report of the review covering all Impact Areas available by late December 2023.

We asked:

- *what megatrend dynamics have changed* since the CGIAR Strategy was prepared (2019-21)?
- *how and if* these megatrends affect the CGIAR Strategy through its **five Impact Areas** and associated **collective global targets**?

We conducted a **literature review** triangulated with **quantitative data** and **qualitative interviews** with diverse stakeholders.

So far we identified **nine key megatrends** that should inform the portfolio evolution.

Results are relevant for the **portfolio evolution processes**, including the identification of portfolio gaps and changes in research priorities.

# Nine interconnected anthropogenic Megatrends

## (Gender, Youth & Social Inclusion)



### 1) Demographic trends

- Insufficient employment for youth in SSA & SA

### 2) Changing consumption patterns

- Food price index increased by 50%

### 3) Market concentration in the ag sector

- Increased concentration AND fragmentation

### 4) Climate change

- Exceeded 1.5 deg increase much sooner than expected

### 5) Natural resource scarcity, land degradation & biodiversity loss

- More rapid ecosystem decline

### 6) Shifting global health challenges

- Global poverty increased due to COVID

### 7) Geopolitical instability

- 70% of food-insecure live in conflict zones

### 8) Inequalities

- Largest rise in income inequality in 3 decades

### 9) Technology and innovation

- 50% gender gap in digital tech

# Inclusive Innovation

Special issue in  
*Agricultural Systems*



Photo: N. Palmer/The Alliance

## Guest Editors for a Special Issue

- The issue will bring together world class thinking on the topic.
- Call for manuscript proposals resulted in 68 submissions across 18 countries.
- Twenty-eight manuscripts are currently in peer review.
- The first few papers have now been peer-reviewed and will be published successively
- Many papers have CGIAR scientists as authors or co-authors
- The collection is designed to influence global thinking and approaches to Inclusive Innovation

# Science Forum 2023 & 2024

Photo: N. Palmer/The Alliance

- After assessment of the 2023 Science Forum and confirmation of the 2023 workload for portfolio evolution, consideration of a Science Forum in 2024
- Purpose: independent facilitation of a 'safe space' for conversations about science with CGIAR scientists and funders

## What we heard from the Panel

- The **institutional responsibility** of inclusion is critical
- **Exclusion & inequity** are concurrently **drivers, trends, and impacts**
- Consider the evolution of academic landscape
- Focus on **the future we want to create**
- Leapfrog
- The best way to make agricultural sector attractive to youth is to make it profitable
- **CGIAR must demonstrate agility**
- AFS transformation will occur through youth.
- The Arab spring was driven by youth and women

## currently in review for *Nature – Sustainable Agriculture*



Photo: N. Palmer/The Alliance

Aim: to strengthen the social and environmental sustainability components of allied, future R4D portfolios.

Explores three interlinked operational frameworks

- QoR4D
- Comparative Advantage and
- Inclusive Innovation

Presents practical tools and lessons to enhance the quality and impact of R4D portfolios.

## 1 **Evolution of the One CGIAR's research and** 2 **innovation portfolio to 2030: approaches,** 3 **tools and insights after the reform**

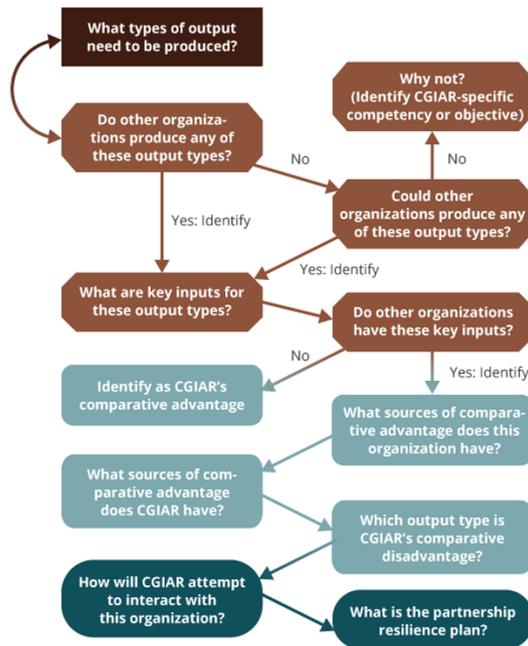
### 4 **Authors**

- 5 Holger Meinke<sup>a\*#</sup>, Andrew Ash<sup>b#</sup>, Christopher B. Barrett<sup>c#</sup>, Allison Grove Smith<sup>d^</sup>, Joshua S. Graff Zivin<sup>e</sup>,  
6 Fetien Abera<sup>f#</sup>, Magali Garcia<sup>g#</sup>, David R. Just<sup>c#</sup>, Nompumelelo H. Obokoh<sup>h#</sup>, Suneetha Kadivala<sup>i#</sup>,  
7 Christine Negra<sup>j</sup>, Lesley Torrance<sup>k#</sup>, Amy R. Beaudreault<sup>d^</sup>, Pierre Boulanger<sup>d^</sup>



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Photo: N. Palmer/The Alliance



## 1 Evolution of the One CGIAR's research and 2 innovation portfolio to 2030: approaches, 3 tools and insights after the reform

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**Figure 1: CA Analysis (coloured by steps):** Note that while “Identifying Potential Partners” is listed as the second step, it does not discount the involvement of existing partners in the initial steps or in formulating proposals. Existing partners may provide valuable insights into the necessary deliverables and aligning with development objectives. The analysis should be dynamic, with updates and reassessments conducted in response to the evolving capabilities and the changing landscape.