

# NARES-CGIAR partnership and collaboration: Feedback from West African

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*Genetic Innovation: The Second  
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# Progress on what is working well

## Genetic and innovation support

- Excellent support and team networking on Genotyping & and phenotyping;
- Access to cutting-edge technologies, tools, research facilities, and advanced approaches for breeding programs to a stakeholder demand (PPD, MS, Core Elite lines defined close to Elite germplasm pool, QTL, genotypic QA/QC on F1, MAS, RGA, TRICOT approach"..) for more accuracy and efficiency and better performance;

**Progress  
on what is  
working  
well**

## **Breeding Infrastructure Modernization and Capacity Development**

- Funds being distributed or raised with NARES for the facilities (lab equipment, green/screen house, field testing, irrigation systems, fencing, soil improvement, cold chamber)
- Human capacity development on the value chain/team of stakeholders

# Progress on what is working well

## **Germplasm and technology exchange**

- Good levels of germplasm exchange (NARS-CGIAR like ICARDA, IITA, AfricaRice, CIMMYT, ICRISAT, and World Vegetable Center) for fast development / adaptation and deployment innovation

## **Training**

- Training on Continuous Improvement
- Training on modern Breeding methods, techniques, and tools to achieve higher genetic gains

# What needs further improvement



- **Decision making**
  - WCA and ESA steering committees created with the NARs

# What needs further improvement

## Accelerate upgrading NARES facilities

- Fencing station for security;
- irrigation system,
- screening facilities,
- mechanization of operations,
- lab and cold chamber,
- field testing land ... **by easing slowing procedures** even though a lot of planning has been done;

# What needs further improvement

## Training

- Possibilities for scientific stays in CGIAR laboratories for capacity building,
- Maintenance & use of infrastructures and equipment including SOPs writing;
- More face-to-face training less virtual

## Resource availability and fundraising

- Co-development of research projects with more resources and leadership by NARS and the backstopping by CGIAR;
- Clear discussions on budgeting activities as allocated funds are too small for NARES and without overheads;
- Motivate researchers with consistent staff time;
- Timely release of funds for research

# Thank you

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