Draft Insights, conclusions

From discussions and feedback at NARES-CGIAR Leadership meeting,
Morocco, Oct. 2023
1. High-level engagement – Nairobi Aide Memoire Articles 10, 14, 15, 16, 18 and 19

1. Continue to strengthen and make **transparent alignments** between efforts at levels of NARES, SROs, universities and One CGIAR.

2. **High-level engagement and documented** endorsements of priorities at the level of both countries and SROs through **MoUs**.

3. Need for **coordination with common partners**: funders, ARIs, AGRA, NGOs and the private sector.

4. Need for joint, high-level **resource mobilization**.
2. Joint prioritization and decision making – Nairobi Aide Memoire Article 7, 8, 9 and 12

1. Make agreed priorities and linkages with national development plans part of MoUs.
2. Ensure cross-institutional and cross-programmatic engagement for priority setting.
3. Strong value chain orientation fosters update and adoption of new varieties.
4. Budgets need to be defended with clear priority setting and by comparative advantage - capturing alignment with development priorities, describing the impacts that can be achieved.
3. Approaches to collaboration – Nairobi Aide Memoire Article 5, 6, 9 and 13

1. Strengthen well-aligned commodity networks, instead of having many individual, disjointed projects.
2. Mainstream NARES involvement in steering committees and decision-making. Good practices need to be scaled across crop networks.
3. NARES more proactive and contribute to better coordination.
4. Further streamline communication between NARES and CGIAR at level of Genetic Innovation.
5. Co-development of research projects with more resources and leadership by NARES; strengthen and not replace the NARES.
6. CGIAR and NARES to make transparent contributions to collaborative activities.
7. Performance indicators capturing progress in CGIAR-NARES partnerships.
8. Timeliness of implementing new projects and releasing funds.
9. Ensure participation of countries from all regions.
4. Germplasm development –
Nairobi Aide Memoire Article 5, 6 and 9

1. Principles of complementarity and subsidiarity since some NARES have build capacity - clearly defined handover points in germplasm development, or working together right from population development all through to variety release – it will increase staff motivation.

2. Further improve incentive mechanisms for greater ownership: active roles by NARES researchers in (co-) design and (co-)creation; joint publications, secondments.

3. Empower NARES for better varieties output, uptake and adoption.

4. Need for effective stacking approaches to respond to new pests and diseases in local materials

5. Systematic implementation of joint advancement meetings

6. Transparency in pedigree information during germplasm development / before materials are being deployed.
5. Capacity development –
Nairobi Aide Memoire Article 9

1. Demand for training stays high, including in support of individual programs pursuing modernization plans.
2. There is high demand for:
   • Possibilities for secondments and scientific stays in CGIAR laboratories.
   • Post-graduate research attachments with CGIAR and NARES.
   • More face-to-face training.
3. Need to strengthen the area of technology dissemination
4. Ensure inclusion of wide range of disciplines in genetic innovation, such as pathologists, entomologists, food scientists, agronomists, gender specialists, seed specialists, economists, field and lab personnel.
6. Infrastructure modernization – Nairobi Aide Memoire Article 9

1. Complete **breeding site developments**. For approved plans, accelerate pace of implementation.

2. Further **strengthen infrastructure** for use by the wider range of partners: more good phenotyping sites are needed, access to rapid advancement facilities for all crops.

3. **Infrastructure rehabilitation** requires fencing stations for security; irrigation systems, mechanization of operations, lab and cold rooms.

4. Increase emphasis on **Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)**.
7. Progress indicators

1. Participants agreed to establish an indicator dashboard to and identify bottlenecks, towards improved collaboration and greater alignment.

2. Feedback to a set of draft indicators will be incorporated after the meeting.
Participants are kindly requested to **represent the spirit and action points** arising from this meeting within their organizations, as policy makers, and as part of other NARES - SRO - CGIAR interactions.

This recognizes that transformation towards stronger and more effective partnerships needs the **combined efforts at all levels**.
Thank You!