What we mean by *Innovation* in CGIAR

**Purpose:**

*Science Highlight 3 – Innovation in CGIAR*

**Prepared by:**

Introduced by the Executive Managing Director
Presented by Simon Heck, DG, CIP
Innovation - a key process for catalyzing impact from research

Innovation needs to be well targeted

• On well-defined, impactful challenges (improving the lives of millions)

• Through equitable partnerships (that can propel and sustain solutions)
“Job to be done”

The key to successful innovation is identifying jobs that are poorly performed in customers’ lives and then designing products, experiences, and processes around those jobs.

Innovation models in use in the CGIAR

5 examples
1 – Diverse ‘jobs to be done’ in the livestock sector

LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS ARE DIVERSE

Our solutions must also be diverse

Low-emission, climate-resilient livestock solutions can cut greenhouse gas emissions by up to 30% and help livestock farmers and pastoralists adapt to climate change.
2 – An Innovation Service Model

Core Platform
- Embed social and sustainability governance and policies into ASAPs
- Facilitate ASAP contribution to social and environmental resilience to reduce farming impacts on sustainability issues such as deforestation, species eroding, chemical leakages, cultural disputes
- Pursue partnerships that enhance social and environmental sustainability

Research Body
- Develop crops with improved yield, requiring less land & mass
- Develop crops that require less water to reduce wastage
- Develop disease- and post-resistant seeds and crops
- Develop agricultural practices that encourage social and environmental sustainability
- Disseminate social and environmental sustainability policies

Delivery Hub
- Encourage social inclusion and environmental sustainability literacy
- Develop social network to improve ASAPs sustainability
- Disseminate social and environmental sustainability policies

Agronomy Science Scaling and Acceleration Platform (ASSAP)

- Integrating research and delivery
- Customized governance model
  - Led by private sector, government, or development partners
- Building on evidence and tools from ‘Innovation Platforms’ (e.g., MasAgro, e-Agrology)
- Can be adapted to national or regional scale
3 – Linked innovations to catalyze system change

Program for Seed System Innovation for Vegetatively-propagated crops (VPCs) in Africa

Our Core Business

Innovations that enable decentralized quality seed delivery systems for banana/plantain, cassava, yam, sweetpotato

Technologies – enterprise capacities – market incentives - regulatory changes

Innovation Partners

- CGIAR Centers
- Consultancy organizations
- National Research Institutions
- Seed Regulatory Agencies
- Seed Companies
4 – Pooling public and private resources for innovation ..... and for sharing benefits

TAP5
Tropically Adapted Potato

Objectives

1. Develop fast-maturing, disease resistant potato suited for tropical environments

2. Accelerate breeding cycle from 12 to 8 years

Variety HCIP210
Vietnam (2023)

Commercial use by HZPC in India, Bangladesh
Public release in other countries in Asia and Africa
Research use by NARS and CIP everywhere
Benefit sharing through the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources
5 – Technological and institutional paradigm shifts reinforcing each other

Roots, Tubers, and Bananas (RTB) Breeding

New High Impact Technologies

- Historical step change for root and tuber crop improvement
- Start with potato, and leverage science progress for cassava and sweetpotato

Equitable Partnerships

- Enable NARS leadership of RTB breeding in Africa
- CGIAR-NARS breeding networks led by NARS
- Integration of multiple crop teams for faster progress and efficiency gains
- Supported by the world’s largest potato seed company, leveraging PPP model for other crops
Innovation in Portfolio 25

**CGIAR is in a privileged position** in highly complex innovation ecosystems

- Excellent partnerships and in-depth collaboration in relevant arenas
  - farm level, landscape level, policy level
  - in countries that are key to our mission

- Have access to advanced science tools (biophysical and social sciences)
Innovation in Portfolio 25

How will we make better use of our privileged position?

Utilize insights and methods from management science
- Invest effort in ‘knowing our customers’
- Define actionable ‘jobs to be done’ for the CGIAR

Partnerships
- Mobilize the innovation capacity and competencies of our partners (private sector, informal sector, etc.)
- CGIAR’s role as an innovator, and as a convener/connector of innovation

Catalyze impact
- Focus on ‘jobs to be done’ that can result in impact at scale
- Keep focus on types of impact (aligned to SDGs, poverty goals)
- Bring ‘scaling partners’ into the innovation process

- Move from counting the number of innovations to strengthening capacity to innovate
Thank you!