



**ONE CGIAR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA:
UPDATES AND CONSULTATIVE MEETING
12-14 DECEMBER 2022. ALISA HOTEL ACCRA, GHANA**

Background

The CGIAR System Organization was founded in 1971 as the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research with the urgent task to raise agricultural productivity and production to feed the world's fast-growing population. Over the past 50 years, it evolved into a global research partnership, which is currently made up of 13 independent non-profit International Agricultural Research Centers that are active in more than 70 countries, globally. The CGIAR has carried out state-of-the-art research, which has generated technologies, tools, methodologies, practices, and policy options that have contributed immensely to increased productivity and agricultural transformation in many countries.

Over the period of its existence, the task of feeding the world's population has remained valid whilst diverse emerging interdependent challenges have revealed the complexity of such a task. The challenge of global hunger is inextricable from the survival of the planet and today's world faces more systemic and complex challenges than ever before. A food system transformation has never been more urgent.

One CGIAR is an ambitious reform involving a dynamic reformulation of CGIAR's partnerships, knowledge, assets, and global presence. This reform brings together existing CGIAR Centers and Alliances under a unified governance and operational umbrella. The ongoing One CGIAR reform will therefore build upon previous CGIAR successes to drive future transformations on food, land, and water systems in the face of an escalating climate crisis. This transformation is guided by the [One CGIAR 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy](#), which aims to scale research and innovation for positive impact on all Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The scaling out of research and innovation will deliver diverse, healthy, safe, sufficient, and affordable diets, which will ensure improved livelihoods. Focus is directed to the delivery of measurable benefits across the following five impact areas: *(i) Nutrition, health and food security; (ii) Poverty reduction, livelihoods and jobs; (iii) Gender equality, youth and inclusion; (iv) Climate adaptation and mitigation; and, (v) Environmental health and biodiversity.*

In the context of this institutional process of change, One CGIAR will work with partners not only on research but also on integrated technological and institutional innovations, capacity

development and policy engagement. The work will be in six major regions of the world: (i) Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC); (ii) Central and West Asia and North Africa (CWANA); (iii) **West and Central Africa (WCA)**; (iv) East and Southern Africa (ESA); (v) South Asia (SA); and (vi) South East Asia and the Pacific (SEA).

In the **West and Central Africa Region**, the CGIAR streamlines and enhances its presence and engagement at the national and regional levels under a demand-driven and adequately resourced One CGIAR engagement model. This includes country strategies, a country coordination function providing a one-stop shop for national stakeholders, as well as a research modality that is geographically explicit, seeking agricultural research for development solutions for targeted land- and waterscapes.

About the Event

The One CGIAR West and Central Africa Update and Consultative Meeting is being organized in collaboration with the West and Central African Council for Agricultural Research and Development (CORAF)

Specific objectives:

- To create awareness amongst partners and stakeholders in the WCA Region about One CGIAR's overall research agenda in the region.
- To share experiences and insights from different dimensions of WCA research operation at both regional and country levels with CGIAR colleagues and partners.
- To develop a roadmap for the next steps for the One CGIAR Initiatives Design.

Expected outputs:

- Enhanced stakeholder knowledge and understanding of the One CGIAR research and operations within WCA.
- A roadmap for the next steps in the stakeholder consultation process.

Approach:

- The Meeting will be held in Hybrid mode, with both in-person and virtual (online) participation.
- There will be presentations at plenary and discussions moderated by a facilitator using interactive methods to capture the inputs of participants.

Participation

Key stakeholders in the agricultural research and development space from various WCA countries have been invited to participate. Broad categories of participants will therefore include representatives of the One CGIAR management/leadership, CGIAR Country Representatives, Leads of One CGIAR Initiatives with operations in the WCA Region, regional partners (CORAF, ASARECA, FARA), NARES representatives from WCA countries, key Government Officials, Regional Centers of Specialization and the Regional Centers of Excellence, and development partners such as USAID, African Development Bank, and the World Bank.

Arrival: 12 December; **Working session:** 13 -14 December

PROGRAMME

TIME	ACTIVITY	SPEAKER / RESPONSIBLE
13 DECEMBER		
09:00	Call to order & Participant introductions	Moderator
09:30	Welcome / Opening	Dr. Nteranya Sanginga, Regional Director, One CGIAR-WCA, DG IITA
09:40	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One CGIAR • CORAF • ASARECA • FARA • Minister, MoFA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Harold Roy Macauley, MD R&P • Dr. Abdou Tenkouano, ED • Dr. Enock Warinda, ED • Dr. Yemi Akinbamijo, ED • Hon. Dr. Owusu Afriyie Akoto
10:15	Coffee Break / Group photo	
10:30	One CGIAR: Transitioning towards greater efficiencies	Dr. Kwesi Atta-Krah, <i>Interim</i> Chief Regional Engagement Officer, One CGIAR WCA
11:00	The CORAF Research Framework [including emphasis on opportunities to collaborate with the CGIAR e.g through FSRP/NCoS/RCoE]	Dr. Emmanuel Njukwe, Research Director, CORAF
11:30	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Accra, Ghana (leveraging issues – common interest areas and partnerships opportunities	Prof Paul Bosu DG CSIR
Summary presentation in One CGIAR Initiatives in the WCA Region <i>Presentation of the Initiatives according to the ONE CGIAR Research domain.</i>		Presenters
12:00 – 13:14	RESEARCH DOMAIN 1: Systems Transformation (8 Initiatives)	
	National Policies and Strategies for Food Land and Water Systems This Initiative aims to deliver food and water security by identifying ways of building stronger policies and strategies with greater coherence and capacity, helping countries address current crises and future development needs	Breisinger, Clemens
	Sustainable Healthy Diets through Food Systems Transformation This Initiative aims to identify effective policy options through research; strengthen capacity and develop robust metrics and tools that support stakeholders' decision making towards pathways for food systems transformation for healthy diets.	Ruel, Marie

	<p>Fruits and Vegetables for Sustainable Healthy Diets This Initiative aims to increase fruit and vegetable intake and in turn improve diet quality, nutrition and health outcomes while also improving livelihoods and empowering women and youth</p>	Ayenan, Mathieu
	<p>Gender Equality This Initiative aims to use impactful gender research to address gender inequality, including through applying gender-transformative approaches to harmful norms, and promoting inclusive governance and policies for increased resilience.</p>	de Haan, Noline
	<p>Digital Innovation and Transformation This Initiative aims to develop and support digital innovations to stimulate the inclusive, sustainable transformation of food, land and water systems in the areas of investments that policymakers could make to close the digital divide towards greater impact.</p>	Koo, Jawoo
	<p>ClimBeR: Building Systemic Resilience Against Climate Variability and Extremes This Initiative aims to transform the climate adaptation capacity of food, land and water systems in selected countries, ultimately increasing the resilience of smallholder production systems to withstand severe climate change effects like drought, flooding and high temperatures.</p>	Issa Ouedraogo (P)
	<p>Rethinking Food Markets: This Initiative aims to provide evidence on what types of bundled innovations, incentive structures and policies are most effective for creating more equitable sharing of income and employment opportunities in growing food markets, while reducing the food sector's environmental footprint.</p>	Rob Vos & Thai Minh (V)
	<p>Agroecology: This Initiative aims to develop and scale agroecological innovations with small-scale farmers and other agricultural and food system actors across different socio-ecological contexts in selected countries.</p>	Chris Dickes & Eric Scopel (V)
12:45-13:15	World Café – 1	
13:15-14:15	Lunch Break	
14:15 – 15:00	RESEARCH DOMAIN 2: Resilient Agrifood Systems (8 Initiatives)	
	<p>Transforming AgriFood Systems for West and Central Africa (TAFS-WCA) This Program, a Regional Integrated Initiative, aims to improve nutrition, incomes and food security within the context of climate change in West and Central Africa through nutritious, climate-adapted and market-driven food systems.</p>	Robert Asiedu (P)
	<p>Mixed Farming Systems (Sustainable Intensification) This Initiative aims to provide equitable, transformative pathways for improved livelihoods of actors in mixed farming systems through sustainable intensification</p>	Fred, Kizito

	within target agroecologies and socioeconomic settings.	
	Sustainable Animal Productivity This Initiative aims to contribute to transforming livestock sectors in target countries to make them more productive, resilient, equitable and sustainable.	Baltenweck, Isabelle
	Resilient Aquatic Foods This Initiative aims to build the resilience of aquatic food systems and realize their full potential for nature, people and climate and addressing missed opportunities for scaling, through agricultural innovation systems.	Everisto Mapedza (P)
	Livestock and Climate This Initiative aims at identifying existing solutions and to co-create and deliver innovations that quantifiably help producers, businesses and governments adapt livestock agrifood systems to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.	Issa Ouedraogo (P)
	Excellence in Agronomy This Initiative aims to deliver an increase in productivity and quality per unit of input (agronomic gain) for millions of smallholder farming households in prioritized farming systems.	Vanlauwe, Bernard
	Plant Health and Rapid Response to Protect Food Security and Livelihoods This Initiative aims to protect agriculture from devastating crop pest incursions and disease outbreaks by leveraging and building viable networks at multiple levels among institutions.	Lava Kumar (V) / Alejandro Ortega-Beltran (V)
	Nature-positive Solutions This Initiative aims to re-imagine, co-create, and implement nature-positive solutions-based agrifood systems that equitably support local food and livelihoods, while simultaneously ensuring that agriculture is a net positive contributor to nature.	Solomie Gebrezgabher (P)
	Resilient Cities This Initiative aims to provide research support to strengthen the vibrant, largely informal urban and peri-urban agrifood sector, to improve sustainability, equity and opportunity growth and to mitigate risks to human and environmental health	Simon Heck
15:00-15:30	World Café – 2	
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break	
16:00-16:30	General Discussion	
Day 2: 14 DECEMBER		
08:30 – 09:00	Recap of Day 1	
RESEARCH DOMAIN 3: Genetic Innovation		

09:00 – 09:20	Seed Equal This Initiative aims to support the delivery of seed of improved, climate-resilient, and nutritious varieties of priority crops, embodying a high rate of genetic gain to farmers, ensuring equitable access for women and other disadvantaged groups.	Ian Barker
	Breeding Resources This Initiative aims to improve the genetic, economic, social and environmental performance of breeding programs across the CGIAR-NARES breeding network.	Young Wha Lee
	Accelerated Breeding This Initiative aims to develop better-performing, farmer-preferred crop varieties and to decrease the average age of varieties in farmers' fields, providing real-time adaptation to climate change, evolving markets and production systems.	Quinn, Michael
09:20-09:50	World Café – 3	
09:50-10:40	PANEL SESSION: Reflections and feedback on the Initiatives and exploring potential linkages and partnerships	NARES, Donors
10:40	Coffee Break	
11:00	One CGIAR Country engagement and coordination Brief presentations of selected cases on One CGIAR at country level	
	Mali	Tahirou Abdoulaye (P)
	Senegal	Baboucarr Manneh
	Nigeria	Tarawali Gbassey (P)
	Rwanda	Konlambigue Abdoul (V)
	DRC	Lilian Togogo
	Burundi	Joseph Bigirimana (V)
11:50-12:00	Reflections on main lessons	
12:00	Lunch	
13:00 – 15:00	Ghana CGIAR Update and Stakeholder Consultations –	
	Overview presentation on the One CGIAR in Ghana (strategic goals, on-going activities; New initiatives, partnerships)	Olufunke Cofie, CGIAR Country Convener, Ghana
	Panel discussion on partnership experience (panellists from 3 stakeholder categories e.g public, private, development partner/University/ research / NGO/CSO)	
	Fishbowl session on country strategic framework (science delivery towards impact, and the associated coordination mechanism for integration and efficiency)	
15:00	Coffee Break	

15:30-17:30	Synthesis and closing session	
	Take-away messages from CORAF/FARA/ASARECA/UEMOA	Moderator
	Closing reflections by all participants [1-2-4 all exercise]	
	Closing Remarks by Minister for Environment, Science, Technology, and Innovation (MESTI)	
	End of Workshop	
18:00	Cocktail reception	