

## NOUVELLES

## NIEUWS

## NEWS

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**ICARDA**

Established in 1977, the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) is one of the newest links in a worldwide network to improve and increase food production. The Center's principal geographic area of concern involves 22 countries of the Middle East and North Africa with a population of more than 300 million people. It extends from Morocco in the west to Pakistan in the east and from Turkey in the north to Sudan in the south.

ICARDA serves as a regional research and training center, in cooperation with other international centers and national programs, for the improvement of bread wheat, durum wheat, triticale, chickpeas, pasture and forage crops, and farming systems. Also, it has been designated as a world center for barley, lentils, and faba beans.

The Center is governed by an international Board of Trustees and organized into five main operational programs: Farming Systems, Cereal Crops Improvement, Food Legumes Improvement, Forage and Pasture Crop Improvement, and Communications.

Principal financing for ICARDA is arranged by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR). Support for ICARDA's programs in research and training in 1982 was provided by the Arab Fund, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Ford Foundation, France, Germany, IDRC, IFAD, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, OPEC Fund, Spain, Sweden, UNDP, United Kingdom, United States (USAID), and World Bank. Saudi Arabia has joined and will make an annual contribution starting in 1983.

Headquarters for the Center, which includes its principle research station, is at Tel Hadya, Syria, about 30 km south of Aleppo on the Damascus-Aleppo highway. Land for the site 948 hectares — was granted to ICARDA by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic. Another main station is located in Lebanon, and the Center has sub-stations in several other countries.

International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA).

Source: ICARDA RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS 82

**ICRISAT**

ICRISAT is one of 13 international centers in a worldwide research network devoted to improving food production in less developed countries. ICRISAT's mandate is to improve the yield, stability, and food quality of five crops basic to life in the semi-arid tropics (SAT) and to develop farming systems that will make maximum use of the human and animal resources and the limited rainfall of the region.

The seasonally dry semi-arid tropics are spread over nearly 20 million square kilometers and cover all or parts of 40 nations on five continents. They include much of South Asia, parts of Southeast Asia, West Asia, and Australia, two wide belts of Africa, areas of South America and Central America, and much of Mexico.

The SAT is a harsh region of limited, erratic rainfall and nutrient-poor soils; it is populated by more than 700 million people, most of them living at subsistence levels and dependent for their food upon the limited production of small farms.

The crops researched by ICRISAT are sorghum and pearl millet — two of the major cereals in the SAT — and pigeonpea, chickpea, and groundnut, the most important food legumes of the region. Groundnut, rich in oil, is also an important cash crop for the SAT farmer. The four others are all primarily subsistence food crops; over half the total production of each — in some places nearly all of it — is consumed on the farms where it is grown.

ICRISAT's headquarters are at Patancheru, India, 26 km northwest of Hyderabad, but it also has scientific staff posted in eight countries of Africa, in Mexico, in Syria, and in six cooperative research stations of agricultural universities in India. Principal operations in Africa are in Niger, Upper Volta, Mali, Senegal, Nigeria, Sudan, Kenya, and Malawi. The work in Africa will be at the new Sahelian Center now being developed near Niamey, Niger. Other scientists are posted at experiment stations of the countries concerned.

The international Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is a nonprofit scientific educational institute receiving support from donors through the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. Donors to ICRISAT include governments and agencies of Australia, Belgium, Canada, Federal Republic of Germany, France, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States, and the following international and private organizations: Asian Development Bank, European Economic Community, Ford Foundation, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Development Research Centre, International Fertilizer Development Center, International Fund for Agricultural Development, Leverhulme Trust, Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Rockefeller Foundation, and the United Nations Development Programme.

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Source: ICRISAT Research Highlights 1982.

## I.I.T.A.

The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) — one of the major links in a worldwide network of agricultural research and training centers — was established as an autonomous, non-profit corporation on July 27, 1967. The Federal Republic of Nigeria allotted 1,000 hectares of land for the IITA site, and the Ford Foundation provided initial capital for buildings and development.

IITA is governed by an International Board of Trustees, the membership of which includes representatives from developing countries in areas of the Institute's concern.

The principal financing of the Institute (and other centers) is arranged by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) — an informal group of donor countries, development banks, foundations, and agencies. Support for IITA's research and training core program in 1982 was provided by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Overseas Development Ministry of the United Kingdom (ODM), U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), World Bank, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Ford Foundation, OPEC Fund for Agricultural Development, and the governments of Australia, Belgium, France, India, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, and Federal Republic of Germany. In addition, other donors provide funds to the Institute, particularly to support specific research or training programs.

The "geographic mandate" of IITA includes the humid and subhumid tropical zones, and the Institute concentrates its research and training in two major areas: farming systems and crop improvement of certain designated cereals (rice and maize), grain legumes (cowbeans), and roots and tubers (yams, sweet potatoes, and cassava).

### Board of Trustees (1982)

Mr. Guy Vallaeys (Chairman)  
Deputy Director General, Institute for Tropical Agricultural Research (IRAT), Paris, France.

## CIAT

The purpose and approach of CIAT — one of several agricultural research centers under the aegis of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) — is given in the following statement of objectives:

To generate and deliver, in collaboration with national and regional institutions, improved technology which will contribute to increased production, productivity, and quality of specific food commodities in the tropics — principally countries in Latin America and the Caribbean — thereby enabling producers and consumers especially those with limited resources, to increase their purchasing power and improve their nutrition.

The CIAT strategy to accomplish these objectives is summarized by the following statements regarding resources emphasis, commodity choice, institutional role, and scope of activities.

### Resource emphasis.

CIAT's strategy emphasizes enhanced production through increased resource productivity on farms with limited resources and on underutilized land areas.

### Commodity choice.

Commodities to be included under CIAT's mandate are predominantly food staples. Each commodity has one or more of the following attributes: it is a relatively inexpensive source of calories; it is a relatively inexpensive source of protein; it is an important component in the food budget of low-income consumers in the geographic region of emphasis.

### Institutional role.

A basic premise of CIAT's strategy is that it represents only one small segment of the agricultural research and development matrix. All centers activities therefore are viewed as complementary to those of other organizations.

The most important interface is with national research systems. In partnership with these programs, CIAT concentrates on activities for which CIAT has a clear comparative advantage and the results of which have international transferability. Such activities include the assembly of germplasms banks, large-scale screening, crossing and selection, methodology development, and information services.

### Scope of activities.

CIAT's efforts are predominantly focused on the American tropics. Its commodities are selected for their importance in this region.

### Current Mandate

In order to achieve the objectives and apply the strategy described above, and, taking into account the results of socioeconomic studies and the mandates of other centers, the CIAT programs have involved to currently encompass the following responsibilities:

1. Principal responsibilities for beans (*Phaseolus vulgaris* and related species) and cassava (*Manihot esculenta*);
2. Principal responsibilities for tropical pastures (specific responsibilities for the acid, infertile soils of the American tropics);
3. Regional responsibilities for rice (specific responsibilities for the American tropics).

CIAT is a non-profit organization devoted to the agricultural and economic development of the lowland tropics. The government of Colombia provides support as a host country for CIAT and furnishes a 522-hectare site near Cali for CIAT's headquarters. In addition, the Colombian Foundation for Higher Education (FES) makes available to CIAT a 184-hectare substation in Quilichao and a 73-hectare substation near Popayan; the Colombian Rice Federation (FEDEARROZ) also makes available to CIAT a 30-hectare farm — Santa Rosa substation — near Villavicencio. CIAT co-manages with the Colombian Agrarian Institute (ICA) the 22000-hectares Carimagua Research Center in Colombian Eastern Plains and carries out collaborative work on several of ICA's experimental stations in Colombia; similar work is done with national agricultural agencies in other Latin American countries.

### CIAT donors in 1982:

The governments of Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Federal Republic of Germany, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and the United States; the World Bank; the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB); the European Economic Community (EEC); the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD); the OPEC Fund for International Development; the Ford Foundation; and the Rockefeller Foundation. In addition special projects funds are supplied by various of the afore mentioned donors plus the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the International Fertilizer Development Centre (IFDC), and the W.K.Kellogg Foundation.

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Source: Ciat Report 1983