CGIAR, the world’s largest agricultural research and innovation network, has long been a vital knowledge and science partner for climate action in food, land and water systems. In response to the challenges facing the global food system, CGIAR has undergone a transformation to “One CGIAR,” with a new organisational structure, far-reaching research and innovation strategy, and ambitious portfolio of game-changing initiatives that puts the climate crisis at the heart of agricultural research and innovation. CGIAR will contribute to the Global Action Agenda for Innovation in Agriculture by addressing climate change and protecting nature while advancing gender equality, poverty reduction, and food and nutrition security for the world’s most vulnerable small-scale producers and consumers.

KEY OBJECTIVES

CGIAR’s new mission is to deliver science and innovation that advance the transformation of food, land, and water systems in a climate crisis. Through a climate adaptation and mitigation platform, one of the five new Impact Areas guiding CGIAR research and innovation, CGIAR will make meaningful and lasting contributions to collective global 2030 targets, including implementing all national adaptation plans (NAPs) and nationally determined contributions (NDCs) to the Paris Agreement; equipping 500 million small-scale producers to be more resilient to climate shocks, with climate adaptation solutions available through national innovation systems; and turning agriculture and forest systems into a net sink for carbon by 2050, with emissions from agriculture decreasing by 1 Gt/yr by 2030.

HOW IT WORKS

“One CGIAR” unifies the governance and management of a global network of research centres and implement a new research modality with a clear focus on impact. This transformation brings with it strengthened investment in ambitious, strategic partnerships for change, centred on demand partners and country priorities. CGIAR Initiatives, co-designed and implemented together with these valued partners, will address priority climate and agriculture challenges at several levels:

- At systems level, e.g. through scientific evidence, climate-smart solutions and innovative finance;
- At farm level, e.g. through nature positive production systems and portfolios of practices adapted to the local needs of small-scale producers, affordable and accessible climate-informed services, particularly using digital tools; and
- At the genetic level, e.g. through adapted breeds and varieties, and the inclusion of long-term accessions in gene banks.
CONTRIBUTION TO THE GLOBAL ACTION AGENDA FOR INNOVATION IN AGRICULTURE

The projected benefits of the Initiatives are fully aligned with *Global Action Agenda* objectives. They include: more climate resilient food, land and water systems; improved biodiversity; better management and more efficient use of natural resources; enhanced resilience, productivity and incomes for millions of households; significant reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions and increased carbon sequestration; billions of dollars in climate-smart investment stimulated and/or informed by scientific evidence; and a stronger enabling environment for scaling innovations, including policies that reduce trade-offs, innovative public-private partnerships, and novel business models.

Illustrative impacts by 2030 include: 0.6 Gt CO₂e annual emissions avoided; over 200 million rural people with improved adaptative capacity; and 2 million hectares of deforestation averted.

CONTACT

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