

## PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVES INFORMATION SHEET

### Name of the Partnership/Initiative

*Partnership between the Belgian Government, Belgian Scientific Institutions, the CGIAR-centres and Southern partners in the promotion of agricultural research for development.  
(CGIAR: Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research)*

### Expected date of initiation:

*The Belgian support to the CGIAR started since its creation, but from 2000 on has entered a new phase whereby the partnership approach is key in the support of sustainable agricultural development and particularly the involvement of Southern stakeholders in all phases of the activities. ~~and particularly the involvement of Southern stakeholders in all phases of the activities~~*

### Expected date of completion: open

### Partners Involved:

#### Governments:

*Belgian Government through the Department of Development Co-operation  
National agricultural research, extension services and farmers'-organisations and farmers' organisations of the partner countries*

Intergovernmental organizations: *FAO, UNDP, WB*

#### Major groups:

*International Agricultural Research Centres  
Belgian Agricultural Research Institutes  
Agricultural Research Institutes of Developed Countries  
National Agricultural Research Institutes in Southern Countries  
Regional and Subregional Agricultural Research Organizations  
NGO's of developed and developing Countries,  
Farmers organizations in the South especially in West and Eastern Africa*

#### Other:

*Leading Partner: CGIAR - centers*

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### Main objectives of the Partnership/Initiative

Please provide a brief description:

*The main objectives of the agricultural research activities for development, in the frame of this partnership and of the CGIAR in general, are to contribute to food security and poverty eradication in developing countries through research partnerships, capacity building, and policy support, promoting sustainable agricultural development based on the environmentally sound management of natural resources.*

Relationship of the Partnership/Initiative with the objectives of Agenda 21 as well as relevant goals and objectives of the United Nation Millennium Declaration:

*This partnership is of direct relevance for the draft Plan of Implementation for the WSSD, in particular, its § 38 j. (support efforts to strengthen agricultural research) and 56 d. (support african countries to develop effective science and technology institutions).*

*Agenda 21: This partnership is of direct relevance under chapters 2 (international cooperation), 14 (promoting sustainable agriculture and rural development), 15 (conservation of biological diversity) and 35 (science for sustainable development), and to other chapters, through its contribution in the following areas:*

- *strengthening national partners,*
- *-protecting the environment,*
- *improving policies and increasing agricultural productivity*
- *integrated approaches to improved management and use of water resources*
- *conservation of biological diversity*
- *environmentally sound management of biotechnology*
- *management of fragile ecosystems, including marine resources and coastal area management*
- *combating deforestation*
- *strengthening the research capacity of national institutions*
- *policy research and options for policy reform*

*Millennium Declaration. The Belgian partnering role is of direct relevance to the millenium development goal of halving, by 2015, the proportion of world's people whose income is less than \$1 a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger.*

*The Belgian partnership with the CGIAR includes an important part devoted to the education and training of young scientist of the South in highly specialised laboratories for agricultural research in Belgium and in other developed countries*

*Since 2002 the Belgian Government has put special emphasis on 2-3 aspects, which are key criteria in the selection of research projects:*

- *a bottom up approach in the conception of agricultural research for development co-operation activities which are developed for small farmers and farmers associations in the South;*
- *partnerships with farmers associations and National Agricultural Research and Extension Services of the Southern countries, developed for the preparation and implementation of the research activities and for the dissemination of the technologies obtained as a result of the research;*
- *integration of social, environmental and economic issues in relation to agricultural research for development and promotion of the scientific basis for sustainable agriculture and rural development.*

#### **Expected results:**

- *contribute to the promotion of sustainable agriculture and rural development through an increase of the food production and a better organisation of local and regional markets*
- *contribute to the well being of poor farmers in the South so that they take part, effectively and*

*in a socially acceptable way, in the economic development of their countries while conserving biodiversity and the environment*

- *strengthening the involvement of all the partners in international agricultural research for development especially those of the Southern countries*
- *capacity building and participatory approaches to sustainable development*

*Significant results of the CGIAR are summed up hereafter, in which the Belgian collaboration in the past and in the ongoing projects is internationally recognised:*

- *delivery of more than 300 varieties of wheat and rice and more than 200 varieties of maize*
- *intensive use of new technologies saved 300 million hectares of land from cultivation and by so doing the biodiversity conserved of those saved lands*
- *under the auspices of the FAO, some 600.000 accessions of more than 3.000 crop, forage, and pasture species are held in public trust for the future. These are the world largest collections of plant genetic resources.*
- *the use of pesticide in developing countries is significantly reduced due to Integrated Pest Management, biological control of pests and disease-resistant plant varieties developed by the CGIAR – centres*
- *in irrigated areas more sustainable farm production has been achieved through research on water management generated by the CGIAR –centres*
- *environmental indicators for tropical forests have been developed on the basis of research into community-based forest management*
- *the scientific capacity in Southern countries has been strengthened through partnership arrangements, institution building and training*
- *a bottom-up approach to priority setting by the CGIAR and collaboration with NARS, civil society institutions, and the Subregional and Regional Fora and the Global Forum on Agricultural Research for Development has promoted participatory research.*

### **Specific targets of the Partnership/Initiative and timeframe for their achievement:**

The thematic focus and specific targets of the new phase of this partnership are:

- *promotion of improved cropping systems with special emphasis on plant pathology (groundnut)*
- *conservation of the agro-biodiversity of banana and plantain (Musa sp.).*
- *breeding and delivering of superior plantain and banana to smallholder in Sub-Saharan Africa*
- *Promotion of balance nutrient management systems in maize based farming systems of moist savanna in West-Africa*
- *Improved livestock and small ruminants management, with special focus on animal health,*
- *development of improved systems for the control of land degradation*
- *sustainable management of pastoral lands and wetlands*
- *promotion of community-based participatory integrated crop management in rice-base systems*
- *genetic improvement of beans*

*Geographic focus: West-Africa, Eastern Africa, Southern and Central Africa.*

### **Coordination and Implementation mechanism**

Please provide a brief description of expected coordination/implementation mechanism of the Partnership/Initiative.

*The implementation of the different research projects approved and funded by the Belgian Government will be coordinated by the international agricultural research centre involved.*

*Workshops with the different partners involved will be held during the different phases of the project: preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation, dissemination of the results.*

#### **Arrangements for funding**

- *a yearly contribution of 6 million EUR is provided by the Belgian government through the department of development co-operation*
- *the secondment of Belgian senior scientists to international research centres*
- *the secondment of Belgian junior scientists to international research centres*
- *in kind contribution of Belgian research institutes, CGIAR-centres and local research organizations*

#### **Arrangements for capacity building and technology transfer**

Please include information if the Partnership/Initiative provides for training, informational support, institutional strengthening and/or other capacity building measures:

- *in each of the programmes of the agricultural research projects an important part of the activities is directly related to training and institutional strengthening as well as capacity building. Among others following activities can be mentioned:*
  - *training in the newest laboratory techniques related to the research activities of young scientist from laboratories of the partner countries in the South*
  - *participation of Southern scientists in international meetings where new technologies and research results are discussed*
  - *participation in international research networks of scientists in different scientific domains*
  - *yearly planning meetings of research activities : monitoring of ongoing research activities , planning and budgeting of following years*
  - *special courses in advanced research institutes in developed countries on scientific disciplines related to the project*
  - *capacity building of farmers' organizations and national agricultural research and extension services*

Please also provide here a brief description of expected arrangements for technology transfer (if applicable).

- *the technologies developed and used in modern laboratories in developed countries are transferred to the laboratories of the partners in the South during the project implementation phase*
- *the technologies developed together in Northern and Southern laboratories are implemented in farmers' fields using demonstration plots with the collaboration of extension services and NGO's*

#### **Links of Partnership/Initiative with on-going sustainable development activities at the international and/or regional level (if any)**

Please provide a brief description:

- *all the projects funded in the framework of the Belgian support to international agricultural research for development are implemented by different partners who carry out the strategic programmes of the international centres. These programmes are approved by the Group of Donors who support the CGIAR-centre.*
- *in each continent some Centres have focused the main part of their programmes on*

<p><i>agricultural problems that are critical for the region or subregion;</i></p> <p><i>- <u>for many years Belgian support to banana and plantain research, multiplication and extension, and in situ conservation (collections) programmes are carried out by different stakeholders involved: international research centres (INIBAP, IPGRI, IITA), small farmers and farmers' associations, NGO's, bilateral partners (research and extension) in the South.</u></i></p>
<p><b>Monitoring Arrangements</b></p> <p>Please describe expected arrangements for monitoring of progress in the implementation of Partnerships/Initiative after it will be launched at the WSSD: (e.g. frequency/modalities of preparation of progress reports; electronic updates, news-letters, etc)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>yearly activity and or progress reports are produced by each centre and in each centre by each department</i></li> <li>- <i>in many cases the project managers are producing separate reports as required by the donors who are financing the project or at least part of the centre-programme</i></li> <li>- <i>most of the centres are producing news-letters and thematic brochures focused on particular programme activities</i></li> <li>- <i>very important are the quinquennial EPMR's (external programme and management reviews) and stripe reviews coordinated by the Scientific Council of the CGIAR</i></li> <li>- <i>each centre is also reviewed internally by IMER's (internally managed external reviews)</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Other relevant information:</b></p> <p>Web-site (if available): <a href="http://www.cgiar.org">www.cgiar.org</a></p>
<p><b><i>Name and contact information of the person filling in this table:</i></b></p> <p><i>Name: Luc Sas</i>  <i>Position: CGIAR – officer</i>  <i>Address: Brederodestraat 6, 1000 Brussels, Belgium</i>  <i>Phone: 32 2 519 05 00</i>  <i>Fax: 32 2 519 05 70</i>  <i>E-mail: : <a href="mailto:luc.sas@diplobel.fed.be">luc.sas@diplobel.fed.be</a></i></p>