A Strategic Partnership in Research for Development

We thank the UK Department for International Development (DFID) for their significant support of the "research for development" initiatives at CIAT.

In 2010, the CGIAR requested proposals for programs on seven key development themes. These programs would represent a new way of working, the hallmarks of which would be research integration, strong partnerships, and sharp focus on development impact. Given its broad mandate related to food security and climate change research, CIAT is actively involved in research partnerships in several CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs). The Center's researchers are substantially involved in the CGIAR Global Rice Science Partnership (GRiSP) and the CRP on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS). CIAT contributed significantly to several proposals, and now plays central roles in the two programs already under way.

We look forward to strengthening our partnership with DFID and aligning some of our initiatives more closely with its priorities. We also welcome continued efforts to identify opportunities for research and institutional cooperation between our UK partners and colleagues in developing countries to fight against poverty, improve rural livelihoods, and better understand climate change and its impacts.

CIAT initiatives supported by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), 2002–2011

Project name	CIAT staff member	Period	US$ (in '000s)	Results
HarvestPlus Challenge Program – Phase II	Joe Tohme	2009–2010	5230	• High-yielding, candidate, biofortified lines of different crops have been submitted for varietal release: cassava in Nigeria, maize in Zambia, beans in Rwanda, and pearl millet in India. These lines meet at least 50% of the nutrient target densities.
A Situation Analysis to Identify Challenges to Sustainable Management of **Ecosystems to Maximise Poverty Alleviation:** Securing Biostability in the Amazon/Andes	A. Jarvis	2007–2008	234 (DFID funds through the Natural Environment Research Council [NERC])	• Published report that provides details to NERC–DFID on the priority entry points for work on ecosystem services for poverty alleviation in the Amazon/Andes Region. Results were used to design and implement the Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) program.
National Systems for **Agricultural Innovation** that Work for the Poor: Building on the Bolivian experience	C. Quiros, J. Ashby	2005–2011	1917	• A web-based knowledge platform, with a catalog of proven participatory methodologies, was established. Seven of the methods were tested by the Andean Change Program and used for impact studies. Policy briefs were written up to encourage their institutionalization with the National Policy Roundtables conducted in Bolivia, Ecuador, and Colombia. In these countries, the Program also advanced the institutionalization of participatory methodologies by NARIs and their partners. The positive benefits of the methodologies for the poor and women was documented. Results were published in book-length papers and case studies.

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Tropical Whitefly **Integrated Pest Management** (TWF-IPM) Project	A. Bellotti, F. Morales	2001–2008	1941	• The project emphasized the transfer of IPM information and improved germplasm to those small farmers in the tropics who are affected by whitefly and the viruses that this insect pest transmits. • Resistant cassava and sweet potato varieties introduced into Tanzania, Uganda, and Nigeria. • Emphasis given to the education of farmers and adoption of plant health practices such as the use of virus-free versus virus-infected planting materials, the role of infected plants as sources of virus in the field, virus symptomatology, and the role of whiteflies as pests and virus vectors. • The project linked the crop improvement activities of international centers to its own IPM technology dissemination activities to ensure the sustainability of improved cassava (IITA) and sweet potato (CIP) germplasm released in sub-Saharan Africa. • Commercial common bean varieties that possessed resistance to whitefly-borne viruses were widely distributed in Central America, together with information on the rational and safe use of agrochemicals. • Successful participatory approaches used to increase common bean yields and reduce pesticide applications in pilot sites of Colombia and Ecuador. • Deployment of improved tomato lines, possessing resistance to whitefly-borne viruses, made a huge socioeconomic impact on more than 1 million farmers in Asia. • Resistance to the whitefly pest was identified and transferred to commercial cassava cultivars in South America. Crosses were also made with African cassava cultivars.
Knowledge-Sharing Methodologies for Agricultural Innovation: Scaling Out **Projects for the Innovation of Applied Technologies (PITA's)** Results to Marginal Farming Communities	V. Zapata, C. Quiros	2004–2007	110	• Five workshops were carried out to train knowledge managers in the different components to strengthening local and institutional actors. More than 150 knowledge managers-to-be from four macro-ecoregions were trained. • Arrangements were made to integrate the trained managers to the PITA execution chronogram. • A knowledge management manual, prepared with contributions by participants of the Facilitating Innovative Technologies Program (FIT 8), was published and distributed. • A guide for training knowledge managers was developed. • Book published on *Technological Innovations for Small Producers: Lessons Learned from the FIT Program*.
Boosting the Production and **Marketing of High-Value Crops** through ICT-Enabled Information Networks	N. Russell	2004–2006	85	• Helped strengthen the Bolivian System for Agricultural Technology (SIBTA) by developing methods to enhance information networks involving small-scale production of high-value crops. The methods used were social network analysis of agricultural value chains, formation of voluntary groups of information and communications promoters, and enhancement of rural people's capacity to use market information effectively.

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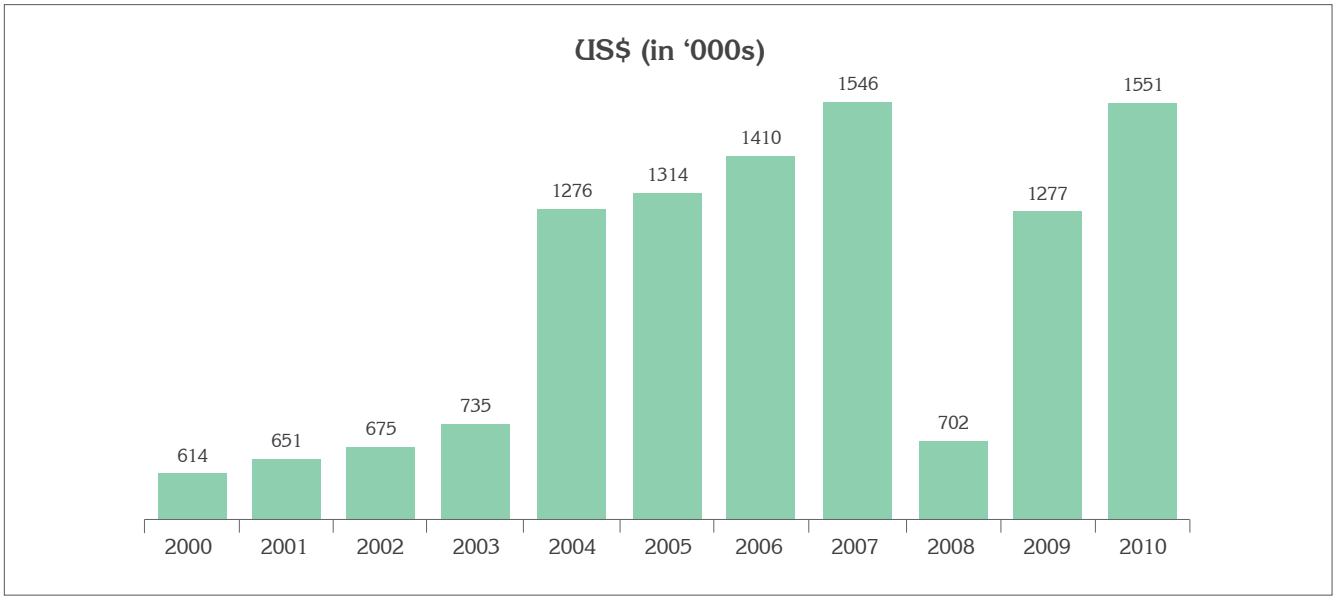
Improving the Nutritional Quality of **Cassava** Roots to Improve the Livelihoods of Farmers	Joe Tohme	2003–2010	2076	• Developed evidence that indicated (a) no tradeoff exists between yield and the mineral and vitamin density of seeds and roots; and (b) high zinc density under certain growing conditions may enhance yields. • Developed and implemented high-throughput, low-cost, screening methods for measuring minerals and vitamins in seeds and roots. • Strengthened the capacity of NARS in target countries to breed for minerals and vitamins. NARS are already conducting multi-site trials for several crop-nutrient combinations.
Promotion and Dissemination of **Integrated Pest and Soil Fertility Management** Strategies to Combat Striga, Stemborers, and Declining Soil Fertility in the Lake Victoria Basin	A. Bationo, S. Koala	2002–2005	50	• Created benefits related to various aspects of rural livelihoods in target areas. These benefits meet DFID's development goals: food security, human health, gender empowerment, dairy and livestock production, and soil conservation and fertility.
Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PM&E) for Rural Innovation in Bolivia to Articulate Poor Farmers' Demand for Agricultural Research with Supply and to Increase the Accountability of Research Providers to the Poor	C. Quiros	2002–2005	285	• Institutionalized, in the Bolivian System for Agricultural Technology (SIBTA), the participatory monitoring and evaluation (PM&E) methodology. This enabled farmers in the Projects for the Innovation of Applied Technologies (PITAs) to take social control over projects executed by institutions in their communities. • More than 200 professionals and technicians from more than 50 national research and development institutions were strengthened in their capacity to apply and execute participatory methodologies that include farmers in processes for technological innovation. • Compendiums were compiled to document experiences of applying participatory methodologies. More than 10 other documents such as manuals and flyers were also published to disseminate project results.

As shown below, UK's unrestricted contributions to CIAT during the period 2000–2010 have been instrumental for the Center to achieve its mandate, complementing the support given through grants.



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