
Future Harvest Consortium to Rebuild
Agriculture in Afghanistan (FHCRAA):
An Overview

INTRODUCTION TO FHCRAA

In January 2002, ICARDA, with the support of the USAID, brought together 34 organizations including the CGIAR centers and other research institutes, relief and development organizations, NGOs, U.S. universities, donor agencies, and the Afghanistan Ministry of Agriculture at a meeting in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. The result was the creation of the Future Harvest Consortium to Rebuild Agriculture in Afghanistan (FHCRAA).

Consultative Group on International Agriculture Research (CGIAR)

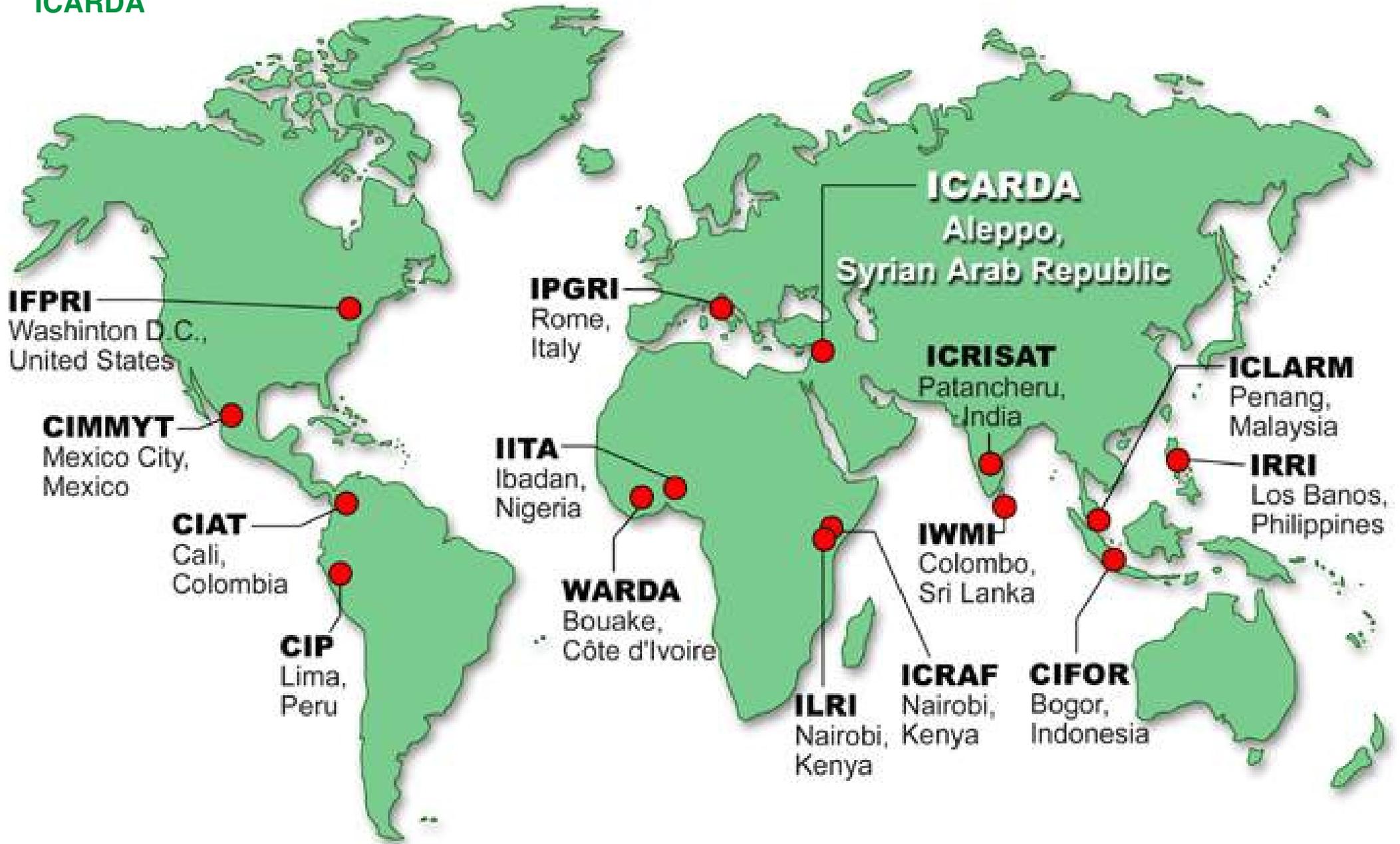
CGIAR is a strategic alliance of countries, international and regional organizations, and private foundations supporting 15 international agricultural centers that work with national agricultural programs and civil society organizations including the private sector.

(CGIAR)

The World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) are cosponsors of the CGIAR. The World Bank provides the CGIAR with a System Office in Washington, DC.



The CGIAR Centers



FHCRAA MEMBERS: CGIAR Centers

- International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)
- International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
- International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
- International Center for Maize and Wheat Improvement (CIMMYT)
- International Potato Center (CIP)

FHCRAA MEMBERS: CGIAR Centers

- International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)
- International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)
- International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI)
- International Plant Genetic Resources Institute (IPGRI)
- International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

FHCRAA MEMBERS

- World Vegetable Center (AVRDC)
- International Center for Development Oriented Research in Agriculture (ICRA)
- International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC)
- Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI)
- AKDN
- MADERA
- MC

FHCRAA MEMBERS

- ACTED; DACAAR
- FOCUS; ISRA
- FAO; WFP
- Texas A & M University, Cornell University,
- University of California, Davis; Michigan State University

FHCRAA Donors

■ USAID

■ IDRC

■ DFID

■ JICA

■ OPEC Fund for International Development

Objectives of FHCRAA

- Multiply and deliver quality seed of adapted varieties through effective delivery systems to reach affected farmers in time, and to build, with Afghan partners, an efficient regulatory system that enforces standards and promotes the use of high quality seed and varieties
- Establish a framework and strategy for CGIAR technical assistance, in cooperation with partners, for the development of seed systems and sustainable agricultural production systems in Afghanistan at the central, regional, and local levels
- Restore an enabling environment through capacity building



H.E. Mr. Hamid Karzai, President of Afghanistan, discussed the status of agriculture in his country and the work of the **FHCRAA**, with ICARDA Director General, Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, in Kabul on 7 October 2002.



ICARDA Director General,
Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy met with
H.E. Dr Abdullah Abdullah, Minister of Foreign
Affairs, discussed ways to strengthen the activities of
FHCRAA and achieve the goal of rebuilding agriculture
in Afghanistan more effectively and speedily.

First Steering Committee Meeting of FHCRAA held during August, 2002 at ICARDA Head Quarters at Aleppo, Syria,



Government of Afghanistan was represented by H.E. Deputy Minister Mohammad Sharif



H. E. Mr Sayed Hussain Anwari (right), Minister of Agriculture, Afghanistan, and Prof. Dr Adel El-Beltagy, Director General of ICARDA, signed a comprehensive agreement of collaboration when the Minister visited ICARDA in July 2002

IMMEDIATE AID



During 2002, the Consortium procured 3500 tons of improved wheat seed and coordinated its transport and distribution to around 70,000 farm families. ICARDA also distributed paddy, mung bean, flax, sesame, chickpea, lentil, and vetch seed to farmers.

IMMEDIATE AID

Farmers benefited from internal investment, training, access to high quality seed, and a reduced risk of importing pests. The seed cleaning and distribution operations also provided a source of income for Afghans living in the surrounding villages. More than 300 women were employed to clean the seed.

REHABILITATING RESEARCH CAPABILITY

During the civil war, Afghanistan lost its research stations and the national genebank that held the country's agricultural heritage. ICARDA, with help from USAID, rebuilt five agricultural stations in five provinces: Kabul, Baghlan, Kunduz, Takhar, and Nangarhar

Badam Bagh seed testing station, near Kabul—before (left) and after refurbishing



PRESERVING THE GENETIC HERITAGE

Germplasm from Afghanistan preserved in the genebank of the Consortium members of the CGIAR

Cent	Crop collections	Number of accessions
CIAT	Beans	73
CIMMYT	Maize, wheat	21
ICARDA	Genetic resources collection, wheat lentil, chickpea, forage legumes	2217
ICRISAT	Chickpea, small millets, sorghum	723
IITA	Genetic resources collection	77
ILRI	Genetic resources collection	23
IRRI	Rice collection	69

ESTABLISHING REGULATIONS FOR THE SEED INDUSTRY

- In May 2002, more than 80 participants helped develop a Code of Conduct for seed production and marketing. The Code takes into account Afghanistan's specific conditions while urging the nation to participate in developments in the seed industry taking place around the world.

SHORT-TERM, HIGH-IMPACT PROJECTS

Eight short-term, high-impact projects funded by USAID complemented other efforts to shift Afghanistan from emergency relief to an economically productive, sustainable, and diverse rural economy. ICARDA managed this grant program.

SHORT-TERM, HIGH-IMPACT PROJECTS

■ POTATO SEED PRODUCTION AND MULTIPLICATION

The International Potato Center (CIP) increased the supply of virus-free potato seed in Afghanistan by developing a farmer-based seed multiplication system. The project successfully trained farmers and introduced new high yielding and disease resistant varieties.

SHORT-TERM, HIGH-IMPACT PROJECTS

- **SUSTAINABLE MAIZE SYSTEMS: SEEDS FOR PEACE**
- **BUILDING HUMAN RESOURCE CAPACITY IN WHEAT AND MAIZE RESEARCH**
- **RANGELAND INFORMATION PRODUCTS FROM REMOTELY SENSED IMAGERY**
- **AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION ON DEGRADED/SALINE LAND**
- **FARM WATER MANAGEMENT AND IRRIGATION**

SHORT-TERM, HIGH-IMPACT PROJECTS

- **BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR
WATER AND SOIL**
- **BUILDING CAPACITY TO CONTROL SUNN
PEST INFESTATIONS**

Third Steering Committee February 2005



USAID-RAMP PROJECTS

- **DEMONSTRATING NEW TECHNOLOGY IN FARMERS' FIELDS TO FACILITATE RAPID ADOPTION AND DIFFUSION**
- **DEVELOPMENT OF VILLAGE-BASED SEED ENTERPRISES (VBSEs)**
- **INTRODUCING PROTECTED AGRICULTURE FOR CASH CROP PRODUCTION IN MARGINAL AND WATER-DEFICIT AREAS OF AFGHANISTAN**

FHCRAA

**CLEAN SEED PRODUCTION,
MULTIPLICATION AND MARKETING FOR
INCREASED POTATO PRODUCTION IN
AFGHANISTAN**

DFID, IDRC, OPED-Fund Projects

- **RESEARCH IN ALTERNATIVE LIVELIHOODS FUND (RALF)**
- **STRENGTHENING SEED SYSTEMS FOR FOOD SECURITY IN AFGHANISTAN**
- **COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT IN AFGHANISTAN**

FHCRAA: Ever growing family

- International Center for Research in Agro-forestry Research
- Perdue University?

FHCRAA and RALF

ICARDA

CIMMYT

CIP

DACCAR

Agriculture and Irrigation-----

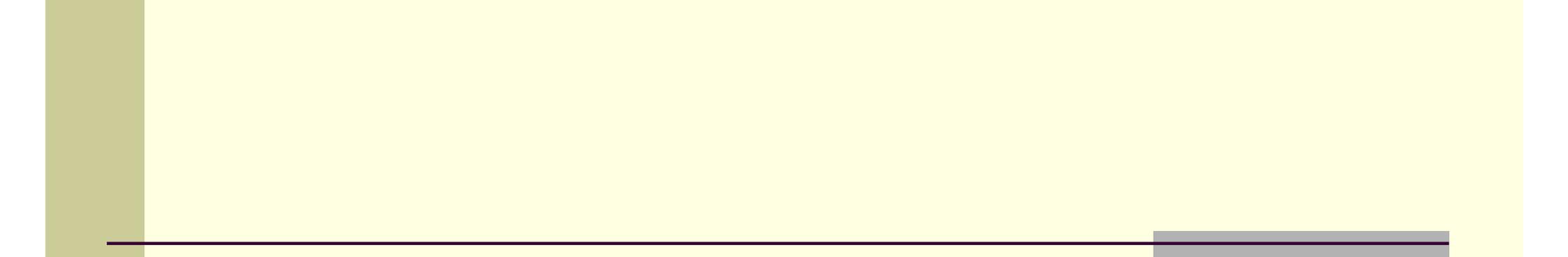
FHCRAA : Message of the Minister

**“The Afghanistan
Ministry of Agriculture is
with you in bringing back the country
on international agricultural map.”**



H.E. Mr. Obaidullah Ramin

**Inaugurating the third Steering Committee of
FHCRRRA**



Thank You