

# Task Force on Enhancing Research Program Management at ICRISAT

## Terms of Reference

In its response to the recommendations of the 2003 External Review Panel, ICRISAT accepted the challenge to find a win-win scenario in enhancing its impact in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) with a sense of urgency. Concomitantly, it will continue shifting core resources to this region and at the same time sustain a strong response to its stakeholders in Asia. Moreover, the ExCo also noted that in the meantime, shifting programs and resources to Africa while maintaining the headquarters in India may be the most realistic move. Along this, a Task Force on Research Program Management (ERPM Task Force) will be constituted to advise the ICRISAT Governing Board on how to systematically implement the foregoing as follows:

1. Identify win-win strategies to enhance ICRISAT's impact in Asia and SSA.
2. Map out a plan for a programmatic shift to focus on integrated genetic and natural resource management in SSA and strategic plant genetic resources enhancement in Asia.
3. Identify long term benefits and losses in core and special project funding over the next 5 to 10 years which may result as a consequence of this shift.
4. Review the existing research management set up and technology exchange/sharing mechanisms at the Institute.
5. Critically assess CGIAR operations in SSA and indicate areas of programmatic synchronization with other Centers.
6. Recommend measures on how ICRISAT will be best positioned in Asia and SSA out of the findings of a new a task force to conduct a broader study on opportunities for synergies of CGIAR Centers and other actors starting with Africa.

## Composition

The Task Force will be composed of the following:

1. Chair : (a Governing Board member)
2. Members:
  - A representative of the Government of India (a Governing Board member)
  - A representative of Africa (a Governing Board member)
  - Two donor representatives
3. A Secretariat (headed by the DDG-Research of ICRISAT with the Regional Representatives and all Global Theme Leaders)

**Member Qualifications**

1. Substantial familiarity with the CGIAR system including ICRISAT and CGIAR activities in Asia and SSA .
2. Expertise on the costing of the proposed programmatic shift.
3. Familiarity with resources (human, fiscal and infrastructure), political and security conditions in various countries in SSA.

**Implementation Timetable**

<i>GB meeting Sept 2003:</i>	Approval of TOR
<i>AGM 2003:</i>	Discussion in the Business Meeting
<i>November 2003:</i>	Activation of Task Force
<i>GB meeting March 2004:</i>	Presentation of initial report
<i>GB meeting Sept 2004:</i>	Finalization of recommendations
<i>GB meeting April 2005:</i>	Report on initial implementation

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