

CSO-CGIAR Forum Avenues for Working Together

Capacity building

- Technology transfer.
- Negotiating organizational relationships.
- Staff exchanges between CSOs and CGIAR.
- Fellowship program for CSOs.
- Use \$250,000 for training CSO leader in fundraising.
- Strengthening capacity of CSOs in CGIAR research results.

Priority Focus/Themes

- Africa.
- Markets/enterprise development.
- Agrobiodiversity indegraded lands.
- Global climate change.
- Projects that reconcile development and conservation in the long run.
- Involve non-traditional CSOs (health, ICTs, social development, education).
- Focus on a project deriving from scientific research with evidence that problems outlined can be solved.
- Integrated pest management.
- Research impact assessment.
- Aimed at poor.
- Gender sensitivity.
- Environment friendly.
- Extending knowledge to new people and areas.

- Theme that can be directly impact entrepreneurial community and resource poor.
- Policy changes that foster technology delivery.
- Livelihoods.
- Jointly develop approach for creating local information resources centers for farmers.
- Projects that target farmers to develop their capacity.
- Best practice models of microfinance, integrated into agriculture innovation

Communication/information/knowledge management

- Meaningful dialogue.
- A multilingual manual on CSO-CGIAR collaboration, based on experience in the field.
- Better sharing of information about the CGIAR.
- Global database of CSO/CGIAR expertise.
- Joint newsletter.
- Funding for CSOs to prepare publicity for relevant CGIAR research outputs.
- Documentation of lessons learned.
- Repeat this experience, and prioritize interaction type of activities.
- Clearing house of agricultural development projects.
- Improve communication, and create new structures that facilitate communication between CGIAR and CSOs.
- Create a facilitator role between CSOs and Centers.
- Increase virtual forums as a way to enhance interaction.
- Innovative means of communications (theatre, films, bus to each community).
- More information flow.

- Common website.
- Mailing list.
- Sharing of CSO documents.
- Passionate facilitation.
- Encourage CSOs and CGIAR to get to know each better thru sharing of strategies and plans and more online dialogues.
- New research to identify cost-effective means of disseminating technical knowledge (including distance learning, television).

Funding mechanisms

- Seed funds, competitive grants.
- Set aside a percentage of CGIAR resources for projects that specifically work with CSOs.
- Creation of demand of services and allocating funds for CSOs.
- Increase funding amounts and time (5-8 years for breeding programs); 1 million is unrealistic – way too little.

Collaborative mechanisms for better engagement and relationships

- Need to strengthen partnership between CSO and research Centers.
- Joint project development.
- Two-way learning CSO-CGIAR.
- Special unit within CGIAR that responds to CSO needs.
- Catalyze innovations.
- Regional fora.
- Principles of respect and trust.
- Use Africa's regional fora.

- CGIAR to ensure continuity so as keep track of the progress in engagement.
- More formal links between researchers, CSOs and policymakers.
- Shared tools (e.g., for impact assessment).
- Involve private sector.
- Create regional networks of CSOs.
- Need to create networks among CSOs.
- Improve the articulation with Centers and NARS.
- Select mechanisms for greater level of strategic decision making within the CGIAR and the CSO sector on who to partner and why.
- Create a mechanism for CSOs to participate in decision-making, and on how the CGIAR distributes the funds.
- Better CSO engagement as a criterion for performance assessment in the CGIAR.
- Cultural shift in the CGIAR toward greater flexibility in CSO engagement.
- Involve CSOs in work planning sessions.
- Institutionalize partnerships.
- Involve national organizations.
- Make CGIAR technology available/accessible to community groups working in agriculture.
- Direct relationship with potential beneficiaries.
- Serendipity.
- Useful engagement: consider CSO priorities.
- Improve institutional arrangements; private sector can support communities to generate income/employment for poor people.