

Rome, Cali, Lima, Ibadan, and Montpellier, August 28th, 2017

Joint Statement for the RTB Partner Collaboration

The new CGIAR System governance has been adopted by the Centers and Funders and became operational with effect from 1 July 2016, in accordance with the CGIAR System Framework and Charter of the CGIAR System Organization.

The CGIAR System Council approved the second phase of the CGIAR Research Program entitled Roots, Tubers and Bananas (“RTB”) to be implemented jointly by BIOVERSITY, CIAT, CIP, CIRAD and IITA during 2017-2022.

The implementing RTB partners concur on the benefits, in the form of a Joint Statement, of deepening and strengthening their collaboration towards the achievement of common objectives not possible as independent entities. These objectives can include exploiting synergies across the different RTB crops for learning and impact, enhanced scaling, achieving crucial system goals (e.g. gender integration), reducing the cost of services and joint advocacy to raise the profile of our crops.

Purpose

The purpose of this joint statement is to specify, with respect to the RTB Program, the terms of a Partnership collaboration concerning certain general organizational and collaborative efforts among the Parties.

In the light of this joint statement the RTB Partners agree to the following strategy statements. These strategy statements may be expanded or modified in the future by mutual understanding:

Statement 1 – RTB Partnership Collaboration

We agree that RTB, is a shared asset which we should jointly promote and nurture in a collaborative way such that it can support collective action and add value to our center programs in the long term.

Statement 2 – Inclusive Partnership

We agree that openness, trust, and mutual respect and learning lie at the core of effective partnerships in support of the RTB goals, recognizing the different and complementary roles of all actors.

RTB Partners will share best practices, cross-pollinate ideas and learning, and communicate with other CGIAR CRP communities.

Statement 3 – Strengthening Business Partnerships for RTB

We agree to support cross cutting, multi crop, collective action research for development which would not be possible by each of the Parties acting separately. In this respect, the Parties recognize the synergistic nature of their core competencies and the value of leveraging resources. This could include

strengthening the business partnership for these types of endeavor with joint resource mobilization among the Parties where this is required.

Statement 4 – RTB and donor relations

We agree to promote joint stewardship to maintain the engagement of the existing set of Window 2 donors and sharing of resource mobilization intelligence for potential new Window 2 funding as it relates to RTB. This would be achieved by promoting RTB as a vehicle for collective action in relevant interactions with actual and potential donors. We would also agree to share new opportunities for Window 2 funding where they meet the criteria for resource mobilization for RTB.

Where Parties enter into contractual arrangements for Window 3 and bilateral funding we agree to pursue a policy of minimal reciprocal overheads for pass-through which relates to transfers across the members.

Where a Party of this RTB Partnership independently obtains Window 3 or bilateral funding for activities connected to the RTB Program, we agree to map the funding and results into the RTB Program so that the Program, as a whole, can benefit from the additional implementation rates and success stories of the Partner members.

Statement 5 - RTB and talent management

Talent management which flows across centers for RTB management positions such as flagship project and cluster leaders is a key part of the overall compliance mechanism.

We as RTB Partner members agree to linking and articulating talent management such that the other members' perspectives are taken into consideration in the individual talent management processes of each center.

Statement 6 - Communications

We agree to work together to ensure that communication/ public relations activities accurately reflect our collaborative efforts, and appropriately show the contribution of each Partner member. The RTB Partner members recognize the value of planning joint communications strategies, taking into consideration each organization's policies, procedures, and communication needs.

In witness thereof, the representatives of the agreeing centers sign this Joint Statement of the RTB Partner Collaboration on the dates indicated below.



By International Potato Center (CIP)

Barbara H. Wells

Dr. Barbara H. Wells
Director General

Date: 8-9-2017

Place: Dan er Salaam

By Bioversity International

Ann Tutwiler

Dr. Ann Tutwiler
Director General

Date: 4 SEP 2017

Place: ROME

By Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

Ruben Echeverria

Dr. Ruben Echeverría
Director General

Date: 1st September 2017

Place: Palmira, Colombia

By International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA)

Nteranya Sanginga

Dr. Nteranya Sanginga
Director General

Date: 8-9-2017

Place: Dan er Salaam

By Centre de Coopération Internationale en
Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement (CIRAD)

Jean-Luc Khalifaoui

Dr. Jean-Luc Khalifaoui
Director General in charge of Research and Strategy

Date: 1st Sept. 2017

Place: Montpellier

