NL-CGIAR Research Programme

Partnerships for Global Food Security
The NL-CGIAR research programme aims to enhance collaboration between the Netherlands and CGIAR researchers to jointly contribute to transformational change in agriculture around the world. It accomplishes this by advancing food system knowledge and joint public and private innovation. From 2017-2022, this programme is part of a cooperation agreement between the government of the Netherlands and the CGIAR, the global research partnership for a food secure future.

The Dutch government contributed 79.9 million Euro to a 3-year collaboration with the CGIAR, of which 15 million Euro was dedicated to the NL-CGIAR research programme. The programme consists of three partnership instruments.

Instrument Overview

The NL-CGIAR research programme consists of three instruments:

- **The Seed Systems Development (SSD) programme**, financing joint research projects on ‘Enabling and scaling genetic improvement and propagation material’
- **The Senior Expert Programme (SEP)** to support participation of Dutch knowledge institutes in CGIAR research
- **The Public-Private Partnership (PPP-) Expert** collaborating with the CGIAR
- Bangladesh
- Egypt
- Ethiopia
- Ghana
- India
- Indonesia
- Jordan
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Nigeria
- Sierra Leone
- Tanzania
- The Philippines
- Uganda
- Uzbekistan
- Vietnam
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

SSD
8.5 million Euro budget
9 projects
9 countries
53 partners
2 Dutch host institutes
6 CGIAR institutes

SEP
2.95 million Euro budget
17 experts
18 countries
5 Dutch host institutes
10 CGIAR institutes

PPP
300,000 Euro budget
1 expert
Seed Systems Development (SSD)

Seed Systems
A seed system is considered to be the whole chain of activities involved from production to use of improved seed or seed stock or other propagation materials – from breeding and selection of new varieties, their safe storage, to release, packaging, distribution, maintenance, adoption and use.

Enabling and scaling
The NL-CGIAR SSD research programme focuses on ‘enabling’ and ‘scaling’, or in other words, the steps in between variety development and use of these varieties within local farming systems.

The nine projects
- Identify how high-quality seed and propagation materials can improve smallholder farmers’ food and income security;
- Identify and test ways to improve availability of and access to high-quality seed for smallholder and family farms, especially faster and at a larger scale than in current practice;
- Identify and test how to make value chains for private and public seed and animal seed stock more efficient, sustainable and anchored in a supportive enabling environment.

Gender & Youth
The projects pay specific attention to gender norms and roles in seed systems and tailor delivery methods and interventions to women’s needs. Youth entrepreneurs are actively involved in the programme.

A glimpse of SSD Research
‘The randomized controlled trial will provide a rigorous evaluation of how the training and mobile platforms [on tilapia farming] work. The set-up of broodstock multiplication centers, nurseries, and small-scale feed production along with the experiences in the design and implementation of the certification system will all be documented and assessed. We are using both quantitative and qualitative methods to test and document these approaches. These evaluations and documentations will inform how to scale up these approaches in Ghana and other similar countries.’ (Accelerating aquaculture, Ghana)
### Awarded SSD Projects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Title – Country</th>
<th>Project lead (institute)</th>
<th>Consortium</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Upscaling improved groundnut varieties – Ghana &amp; Mali</td>
<td>Dr. H. Desmae (ICRISAT)</td>
<td>IER, CSIR-SARI, KIT, SOPROSA-SARL, Heritage Seeds Company Limited</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feed and forage seed business models dairy sector – Kenya &amp; Uganda</td>
<td>Dr. T. van Mourik (KIT)</td>
<td>Barenbrug SA, Advantage Crops Limited, CIAT, ILRI, NARO-NalIRRI, Livestock</td>
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<td>Women-led chicken seed dissemination – Ethiopia &amp; Tanzania</td>
<td>Dr. A. Omore &amp; Dr. A. Galie (ILRI)</td>
<td>KIT, EIA, TALRI, MoLF, Ethiochicken, AKM Glitters, Livestock</td>
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<td>Accelerating aquaculture development – Ghana</td>
<td>Dr. C.R. Ragasa (IFPRI)</td>
<td>KIT, CSIR-WRI, MOFAD, ICLARM (WorldFish), S-HOIN Limited, Crystal Lake Fish Limited, Fish Agri-food systems (FISH), Policies Institutions and Markets (PIM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seed market development – Uganda</td>
<td>Dr. R.A. Sparrow (WUR)</td>
<td>WUR, IFPRI-Washington, MUK, NARO, WCDI, Policies, Institutions, and Markets (PIM)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scaling quality cassava seed systems – Rwanda &amp; Burundi</td>
<td>Dr. S. Tumwegamire (IITA)</td>
<td>WUR, Spark, Roots Tubers and Bananas (RTB)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Integrated vegetable seed systems development – Vietnam</td>
<td>Dr. C.P.M. Swaans (CIAT)</td>
<td>IER, CSIR-SARI, KIT, SOPROSA-SARL, Heritage Seeds Company Limited, Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH), Grain Legumes (GLDC)</td>
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### Senior Expert Programme (SEP)

#### SEP Aim and Objectives

- Better use of the strengths and qualities of Dutch International Agricultural-Research (IAR) strengths\(^1\) for the benefit of CGIAR and achievement of common objectives;
- Strengthen the participation of Dutch research organisations in CGIAR;
- Strengthen the level of alignment of the work of the Senior Experts in the CGIAR Research Programmes (CRPs) and Platforms to the four priority knowledge domains\(^2\);
- Increase the added value of the time and tasks of the Senior Experts to the CGIAR CRP/Platform.

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\(^1\) IAR-strengths: systems approach, public-private partnership and enabling & scaling

\(^2\) The four priority knowledge domains of the NL-CGIAR partnership are: 1) Agriculture for nutrition and health; 2) Sustainable and inclusive value chains and sectors; 3) Genetic improvement and propagation materials; 4) Climate smart agriculture
## Detailed Overview of Awarded Senior Experts

**Senior Expert**

Title (subject) – Senior Expert ...

1. **Main CRP (CGIAR Research Programme)**
   - Dutch Host institutes
   - Host CGIAR institutes

### Dr. C.J.M. Almekinders
- at the CRP RTB and the CRP MAIZE
  - Roots, Tubers and Bananas (RTB)
  - WUR
  - CIMMYT

### Dr. ir. M. van den Berg
- on Food Systems Innovations
  - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH)
  - WUR
  - IFPRI

### Dr. ir. I.D. Brouwer
- at Food Systems for Healthier Diets
  - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH)
  - WUR
  - IFPRI

### Prof. dr. ir. E.H. Bulte
- at Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM)
  - Policies, Institutions and Markets (PIM)
  - WUR
  - IFPRI

### Prof. dr. ir. M.K. van Ittersum
- on Low emission development of cropping in sub-Saharan Africa to triple production towards 2050
  - Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS)
  - WUR
  - CIMMYT

### Prof. dr. ir. C. Leeuwis
- on Innovation and Scaling in the CRP on RTB
  - Roots, Tubers and Bananas (RTB)
  - WUR
  - IITA/CIP

### Dr. B.T.M. Louman
- at Innovative Finance for Sustainable Landscapes
  - Forest, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA)
  - Tropenbos International
  - CIFOR/FTA

### Prof. dr. ir. P.J.M. Oosterveer
- at A4NH - Food Systems for Healthier Diets Anchoring and Upscaling
  - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH)
  - WUR
  - IFPRI

### Dr. M.C.J. Vergedem
- on ecological intensification of aquaculture
  - FISH: Fish Agrifood Systems
  - WUR
  - WorldFish

### Dr. E.F. Talsma
- at Healthy and Sustainable Diets in Vietnam and Bangladesh
  - Agriculture for Nutrition and Health (A4NH)
  - WUR
  - IFPRI

### Dr. M.J. Versteeg
- at Livestock Agri-food Systems
  - Livestock (Livestock Agri-food Systems)
  - University of Twente
  - ILRI
Public-Private Partnership Expert (PPP)

**Aim and objectives of the PPP-expert:**
- Increasing the role of the private sector in CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs) and Platforms;
- Detecting opportunities and developing strategies for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP);
- Strengthen system capacity to engage in PPPs;
- Showcase value-proposition of PPP opportunities.

The grant has been awarded to Dr Sarah Cummings, who for this purpose is associated with Wageningen University. She aims to facilitate practice and learning across the CGIAR system and provide system-wide intellectual support to CRP’s and Platforms on PPP’s to strengthen their delivery and impact at scale.

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**Expert Highlight**

*Inge Brouwer, Senior Expert at Food Systems for Healthier Diets*

‘The SEP Grant allowed me to strengthen the role as coordinator and manager of the flagship Food Systems for Healthier Diets in the CG Research programme Agriculture for Health and Nutrition (A4NH). This allowed the combined efforts and expertise of the partner CGIAR Institutes (The alliance of CIAT and Bioversity International, IFPRI, IITA) and Wageningen University & Research to provide scientific underpinning for steering food systems transformations. Through engagement in the policy and scientific debates, attention to the importance of incorporating healthy diet perspectives for pursuing multiple food system outcomes (health, sustainability, equity) has strongly increased. The SEP grant allowed me to contribute to these debates and discussions within and outside the CGIAR.’
While the information is considered to be true and correct at the date of publication (October 2021), changes in circumstances after the time of publication may impact accuracy of the information. For up-to-date information, please visit www.nwo.nl/cgiar.