

Brainstorming



Session

From good science to good payoffs; Improving the targeting, effectiveness and efficiency of crop improvement investments

Stanley Wood, IFPRI
Carmen di Vicente - GCP,
(Carlos Tovar/)Ria Tenorio - IFPRI,
Godwin Asumugha NRCRI Nigeria,
Glenn Hyman CIAT,
Steve Waddington CIMMYT

Goals of the Brainstorming Session

- Learn briefly about experiences/lessons from some relevant SP5 projects
- Share views on bottlenecks and other threats to the successful and sustainable partnership and “handover” of GCP technologies to NARS
(or, What does a “perfect” NARS look like?)
- Share views about what capacities are most important, and how GCP might best assess them
(e.g. input vs output measures. NOTE: CI Goals include both GCP breeding materials & “biotech-enabled” genetic resource management and breeding programs)
- What are the capacity developments GCP should; invest in, help coordinate/monitor/advocate for?
(i.e. Are there key capacities that GCP is missing now)
- Other goals/issues you expected to see?

What are some key issues?

It's possible for GCP to be very scientifically successful but much less so in improving the welfare of its target beneficiaries, if;

- its crop technologies are not well targeted to the needs and options for smallholders (e.g., not working on problems and in/for locations with greatest potential impact)
- national seed systems, extension services and other support services cannot support technology packaging and dissemination
- R&D systems cannot develop GCP elite lines into finished varieties (and preferably do so using more advanced breeding tools, e.g., MAS, MABC, MARS)

How can we assess those risks?

- Assessing the relative importance of production-related constraints to poor smallholders
(John Dixon, Steve Waddington)
- Targeting GCP efforts to where poverty, food crop production, and drought (and other constraints) are most prevalent
(Glenn Hyman, et al. Ex ante Targeting - Attractiveness)
- Assessing the capacity of national breeding, seed systems, extension/support service delivery, and farmers to develop, adopt and best use GCP technologies
(Stan, Ria, and Godwin)
- Assess potential economic payoffs (e.g. DREAM)
[Gather ideas on how these different elements might come together to produce a **“Targeting & Sustaining Efficient & Effective Crop Improvement Investments”** best practice manual]

Brainstorming: Other issues/ideas?

- Will CIs undertake their own capacity assessment? If so we should target/package our outputs to them
- Should we already start to think beyond GCP Phase II to the CGIAR MP scope/scale? (and how would that affect what are our issues/ideas)
- Others?