

The Fund Council in turn is empowered to instruct the Fund Office at the World Bank not to execute payment requests from the Consortium if misuse of funds is suspected.

If the Fund Council determines that funds have been misused, Norway has reserved the right to require that the funds be repaid.

### 3. Norway's policy towards CGIAR

CGIAR's focus gives it high political relevance in relation to the food price crisis, food production and security, climate change adaptation and poverty reduction. This coincides closely with Norway's priorities. Furthermore, CGIAR's two forest research institutes have been a central partner in the Norwegian Climate and Forest Initiative. CGIAR is also an important partner in Norway's efforts to promote climate-change adaptation agriculture, where up to USD 50 million will be allocated over a ten-year period for the development of climate-resilient food crops through the Global Crop Diversity Trust.

Norway is a member of the group of European donors to CGIAR, which seek to coordinate their positions. Norway therefore primarily works to gain support for its positions in this group. The following areas are particularly important for Norway:

Follow-up of the reform process: The actual implementation of the reform process is by no means over, and must be followed up closely in the coming years. This also includes further developing the Strategy and Results Framework.

Maximising the impact of research: The new research programmes reflect a strong emphasis on collaboration, the development dimension, more participatory processes and partnerships, in order to ensure that research is relevant and that the research results are communicated to and applied on the ground. However, the decisive factor is ensuring that these good intentions are followed up on during the actual implementation of the programmes. The donors have a responsibility in this respect.

Safeguarding research results as international global goods: In a world where patents are increasingly common, and where private actors are important partners in securing access to effective new research methods and products, as well as efficient, broad distribution, there is also growing pressure on CGIAR to accept that a price be put on its products. This involves striking a difficult balance between the principle of free access, on the one hand, and effective research and ultimately the greatest possible impact on the ground, on the other hand. This is a trend that Norway intends to follow closely.

# CGIAR

The Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research

## 1. Facts and figures

**Type of organisation:** International organisation consisting of 15 international agricultural research centres under the leadership of a consortium, financed by a multi-donor trust fund at the World Bank

**Established in:** 1971

**Headquarters:** Montpellier, France

**Number of country offices:** 15 international agricultural research centres located in 14 countries

**Head of organisation:** Carlos Perez de Castillo (Uruguay) is Chair of the CGIAR Consortium Board.

**Dates of Fund Council meetings in 2011:** 5-6 April, 6-8 July and 8-9 November

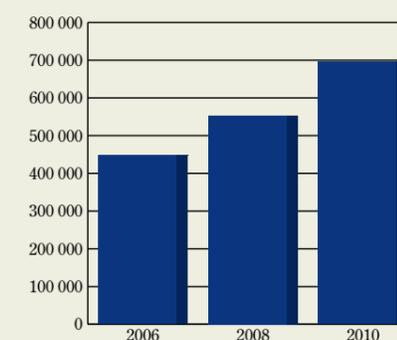
**Norway's representation in Fund Council:** The Nordic countries hold one seat on the Fund Council on a rotation basis. Sweden holds this seat until 2013. There are four Norwegian Board members on the Boards of the 15 research centres.

**Number of Norwegian staff:** None in the Consortium

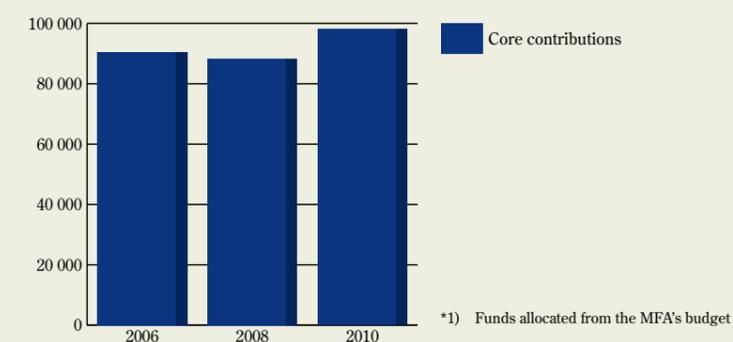
**Responsible ministry:** Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)

**Website:** [www.cgiar.org/](http://www.cgiar.org/) and [www.cgiarfund.org/](http://www.cgiarfund.org/)

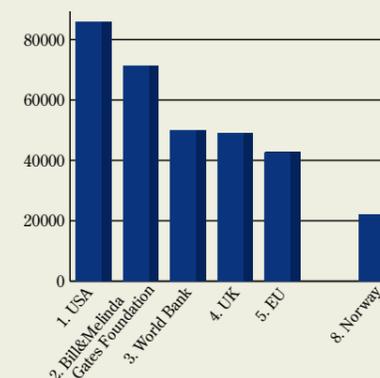
Total revenues (in US\$ 1000)



Norway's contributions<sup>\*1)</sup> (in NOK 1000)



The five largest donors, and Norway, in 2010 (in US\$ 1000):



Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Visiting address: 7. juni plassen 1 / Victoria terrasse 5, Oslo,  
P.O.Box 8114 Dep, NO-0032 Oslo, Norway.

For more information, contact Section for Budget and Administration on  
e-mail: [sbf-fn@mfa.no](mailto:sbf-fn@mfa.no). The document can be found on our web site:  
<http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/ud/selected-topics/un>.

## Mandate and areas of activity

The 2011 Strategy and Results Framework (SRF) defines the following four goals:

1. Reducing rural poverty
2. Improving food security
3. Improving health and nutrition
4. Promoting sustainable management of natural resources

The areas in which research is being carried out to achieve these four goals are:

- agricultural and food policy
- property and other rights to land and other natural resources
- women's role in agriculture and resource management
- income, innovation and social change
- integrated farming systems
- nutrition
- food crops, such as maize, rice, wheat, sorghum, millet, potatoes, cassava, bananas, beans, peas, etc.
- biodiversity and climate change adaptation
- livestock and fish
- water management
- forest management

The research is carried out in the form of cross-cutting research programmes focusing on both sociological and scientific issues and in the form of cohesive system research. Most of the research programmes also contain a significant element of climate research.

## Results achieved in 2010

Research takes time. So does ensuring that the results are communicated to and applied in activities on the ground. An

independent review that examined what the global situation would have been without the benefits from CGIAR research from 1971 up to the present reached the following conclusions, among others:

- World food production would be 4-5 per cent lower, and developing countries would produce 7-8 per cent less
- World grain prices would be 18-21 per cent higher, and
- 13-15 million more children would be malnourished (see <http://www.cgiar.org/impact/index.html>)

Results at a somewhat less general level include the following:

- More than 50 new varieties of drought-tolerant maize have been developed and are now grown on over 1 million hectares of farmland in southern and eastern Africa, with the result that average yields have increased by 20-50 per cent.
- A new approach to seed dissemination has given 100 000 Indian farmers access to a new variety of "scuba rice" within just one year after development work was completed. The new flood-resistant rice variety increases crop yields by 1 tonne per hectare, even if it has been submerged for up to two weeks, making it particularly attractive for use on India's 12 million hectares of flood-prone farmland.
- A 2007 study shows that rice research conducted by CGIAR enabled 6.75 million Chinese to move out of poverty in the period 1981-1999, largely on account of lower grain prices due to larger crops. The corresponding figure for India for the period 1991-1999 was 14 million.
- The latest results include new wheat varieties that not only are resistant to new plant diseases (Stem rust fungus Ug99 and Black rust), but also boost crop yields by up to 15 per cent. Ug99 was discovered in Uganda in 1999 and has since ravaged the highlands of East Africa. As predicted, it then was airborne to West Asia, arriving in Yemen and Sudan in 2007, and Iran in 2008.

and a system of legal agreements was put in place for the new organisation. The assessments and descriptions below must be seen in this light, and thus deal primarily with intentions, and less with how the organisation functions, as this remains to be seen.

The aim of the reform is to increase effectiveness and strengthen results orientation, as well as to facilitate contact between donors and CGIAR, and promote increased funding and greater use of core funding among donors.

The new research programmes that are now being presented on an ongoing basis have followed up this aim by adopting new approaches characterised by:

- 1) More and closer collaboration between the research centres, in order both to address broad-based issues that require concerted efforts and to extract synergies more effectively,
- 2) Emphasis on the development dimension, including the gender equality perspective, and more participatory processes, to ensure relevant and applicable research, and
- 3) Systematic use of partnerships to ensure that results are applied on the ground.

The above-mentioned factors are now also significant components of the extensive assessments to which research programmes are subjected prior to being discussed at Fund Council meetings. The programmes are both assessed by the CGIAR's Independent Science and Partnership Council (ISPC), the Consortium itself, international experts commissioned by donors, and the donors.

The ISPC, which consists of experts appointed by the Fund Council, is accountable to the Fund Council. The Fund Council also approves the ISPC's budget, which is financed by donors through a system cost of two per cent that is deducted from all funding provided through the CGIAR Fund. The ISPC bases its assessments on a set of criteria approved by the Fund Council, it also makes use of independent experts to cover areas in which it does not have the requisite expertise. Implementation and commissioning of impact studies are the remit of an independent panel attached to the ISPC: the Standing Panel on Impact Assessment.

The ISPC's independence and influence can be illustrated by the process related to CGIAR's new Strategy and Results Framework (SRF), which was drawn up by the Consortium. The ISPC was in favour of approving the proposed SRF, on condition that a more functional SRF was developed in the course of a year. The SRF was approved by the donors at the Funders Forum in April 2011, on condition that the shortcomings of the document were addressed in the course of one to two years (the final date has yet to be set).

As far as the results framework is concerned, Norad's review summed it up as follows: This is a very well-thought out document, and the results approach generally far exceeds what is usually seen in this type of project document. Nonetheless, not all the elements for measuring performance are in place, and improvements can be made to ensure that CGIAR's contributions to achieving results in the areas that it has defined can actually be measured. We recommend that a complete results matrix be developed to ensure that all the performance measurement elements are in place, or at least that indicators with baseline data for each target are defined more clearly.

The way the evaluation function is to be organised has not yet been decided. A final report on this question will be presented at the Fund Council meeting in July 2011. It is important, and anticipated, that the evaluations are to be delegated to an independent body on behalf of the Fund Council. As in the case of the ISPC, the evaluation unit's budget is to be approved by the Fund Council, and will also be financed by the donors through the system cost of two per cent. The following otherwise applies as minimum requirements for evaluations:

- I. An independent evaluation of each research programme every four years.
- II. An independent overall evaluation of CGIAR, including the Consortium, the Fund Council, the ISPC and the Fund Office at the World Bank, every six years. The evaluation will be commissioned by a special group consisting of representatives of all the stakeholders, established for this purpose.
- III. Regular periodical evaluations of the research centres' governance and management every four years.

Responsibility for auditing is shared: The World Bank is responsible for the funds and thus also for auditing them while the monies are held in the CGIAR Fund. As soon as the monies are transferred to the research centres, responsibility is passed on to the Consortium.

The World Bank performs its role by conducting an annual external audit of the CGIAR Fund. The Fund Council and donors are sent the audited financial statements and auditor's report as soon as it has been completed.

The research centres also undergo annual external audits, which are then summarised by the Consortium in an annual financial report that is submitted to the Fund Council. The Fund Council may also request the Consortium, in collaboration with a donor specially appointed by the Fund Council, to undertake an external audit of all or parts of the funds provided through the CGIAR Fund.

To the Ministry's knowledge, no major weaknesses have been identified in the annual audits.

The Consortium is also tasked with preventing corruption and fraudulent use of funds provided as core support (such as Norway's support) and funds provided directly to one of the research programmes, but is not accountable for funds provided directly to one of the research centres as institutional support (bilateral support).

The Consortium has an obligation to keep the Fund Office at the World Bank and the Fund Council informed of any matter that prevents or is liable to prevent the research programmes or the Consortium from carrying out their duties. Misuse of funds is such a matter.