

## Progress with the development of the NL-CGIAR Portfolio Report of a stock taking meeting

By Coosje Hoogendoorn

Date & time: Thursday June 2, 2016 - 13:30 till 17:00, followed by Drinks

Location: New Babylon Meeting Center, Anna van Buerenplein 41a - 2595 DA The Hague; Room 3.6

Chair: Wijnand van IJssel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

### Summary

The strategic partnership between the CGIAR and the Netherlands is taking shape. CGIAR Research Programs (CRPs) that most clearly target shared Priority Knowledge Domains have been identified, and productive partnerships are developing between these CRPs and Dutch knowledge providers for these priorities. There are a number of additional partnerships being developed as well. Modalities to support the NL-CGIAR partnership financially are taking shape. The process is expected to be completed by the end of the year, and the CRPs will start in 2017. Twenty-two participants from knowledge institutions, government, private sector, civil society and CGIAR CRPs were present at the meeting.

### Taking stock

NL Conveners of four CRPs, those that have been preliminary identified as most likely to be in line with the priorities of the NL-CGIAR partnership, provided updates. Based on these updates the table below summarizes how these CRPs, still under development, are targeting these priorities, and which organizations in the Netherlands are likely to be strategic 'Tier 1' partners. For all four CRPs several other, more incidental, Dutch partners were also mentioned, including private sector partners.

| CRP   | Priority Knowledge Domains         |                                    |   |                           | Tier1 Partners             |
|-------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|----------------------------|
|       | Agriculture for Nutrition & Health | Sustainable Value Chains & Sectors | Genetic Improvement & Propagation Materials | Climate Smart Agriculture |                            |
| PIM   |                                    | +++                                |   |                           | Wageningen UR*<br>SOW-VU   |
| CCAFS |                                    |                                    |   | +++                       | Wageningen UR*             |
| WLE   |                                    | +                                  |   | ++                        | UNESCO-IHE*<br>RUAF        |
| A4NH  | +++                                |                                    | +   |                           | Wageningen UR*<br>AIM/GAIN |

\*NL Convener

NL Tier 1 strategic partners of other CRPs also gave a short overview of developments in relation to the four NL-CGIAR Priority Knowledge Domains. Links were less pronounced and more indirect than those described above. However, input into Climate Smart Agriculture, and to a lesser extent Sustainable Value Chains & Sectors and Genetic Improvement & Propagation Materials, was highlighted. NL strategic partners have been invited in particular to these CRPs because of their relevant expertise with the systems approach, enabling and scaling, and experience with public-private partnerships:

| CRP         | Tier1 Partners                                 |
|-------------|--|
| Fish        | Wageningen UR                                  |
| FTA         | Tropenbos International                        |
| Livestock   | KIT – Royal Tropical Institute                 |
| MAIZE Wheat | Wageningen UR & KIT – Royal Tropical Institute |
| RTB         | Wageningen UR                                  |

Additional strengths of NL strategic partners mentioned were gender and policy development. Furthermore it became clear that although MAIZE and Wheat are separate CRPs, they have the same Dutch Tier 1 partners for very similar inputs in the programs.

During the discussion of the presentations it was noted that a difference between the Dutch academic organizations and the CGIAR is that the CGIAR in general involves only few PhD students and post-docs in its work – although sandwich PhD students trained by Wageningen are snapped up enthusiastically by the CGIAR. The meeting noted that it inspires to bring more young researchers to the CGIAR. It also inspires to bring country stakeholders in the discussions. This is something to be kept in mind while developing and implementing the partnership.

It was noted that the number of stakeholder organizations at the meeting was a lot less than in earlier meetings in 2014 and 2015, and this raised the question whether all available NL expertise participates in the on-going discussions. It was noted that the agenda and the invitations for this meeting had been specifically targeted to apparent Tier 1 strategic partners of CRPs. It was thought that other NL stakeholder organizations are likely to be more occasional or project partners rather than highly involved strategic partners (i.e. Tier 2 partners). This may in particular be true for private sector partners, which tend to focus on clear-cut projects. Hence one of the roles of NL Tier 1 partners should also be to be a broker for relevant NL Tier 2 partners, including PPPs.

## Next steps in 2016

The CRP portfolio will be completed by the CGIAR and partners in 2017, with one major round of revisions expected in July, and a final, minor round ('Must-haves') in November. At the same time the CGIAR Consortium and the Fund Council offices will merge into a single CGIAR System office, also in July, with HQ solely in Montpellier. NL Tier 1 partners can help fine tune the CRP proposals in line also with the priority knowledge domains. The figure below shows the time path for the year. Because the development of the new portfolio of CRPs (CRP2) is still far from completed, NL Tier 1 partners of the CRPs were recommended to stay in touch with the NL-CGIAR working group to ensure smooth progress towards a CRP2 portfolio that embraces as best as possible the priority knowledge domains of the NL-CGIAR partnership.

| CGIAR                                      | Month        | Netherlands              |                                    |
|--|--------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Submission full CRP2 proposals by March 31 | March 2016   |                          |                                    |
|  | April        |                          |                                    |
|  | May          |                          |                                    |
| Review CRP2 completed by June 27           | June         | Portfolio meeting June 2 |                                    |
| Revision CRP2 & submission by July 31      | July         |                          |                                    |
| Review final CRP2                          | August       |                          |                                    |
|  | September    | Portfolio meeting        | Development of CRP2 financing plan |
|  | October      |                          |                                    |
| Final decision on CRP2 portfolio by Nov 10 | November     |                          |                                    |
| "Must-haves" included by Dec 10            | December     |                          |                                    |
| CRP2 kick-off                              | January 2017 |                          |                                    |

## Enabling environment provided by CGIAR and NL

A very first draft of partnership supporting modalities was shared and discussed with the participants of the meeting. Such support will be at three levels:

| Level  | Modalities  |
|--|---|
| First level (overall)                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steering committee MoU CGIAR-NL</li> <li>• Window 1 funding</li> <li>• Community of Practice on PPPs</li> <li>• Community of Practice of Dutch senior staff in CGIAR</li> </ul>  |
| Second level (within CRP2 portfolio)           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personnel to priority knowledge domains (Young and Senior experts)</li> <li>• Research program funding to priority knowledge domains (Windows 2 and/or 3)</li> <li>• Calls for proposals to reinforce weak spots among the Priority Knowledge Domains, e.g. Genetic Improvement/Propagation materials</li> <li>• Trust Fund at System office to support NL-CGIAR partnership activities</li> </ul> |
| Third level (outside specific CGIAR financing) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional support, e.g. for envisaged CCAFS secretariat in Wageningen</li> <li>• Opportunities within Applied Research Fund</li> <li>• Leveraging other opportunities, e.g. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ EU, NWO, Topsectors, NUFFIC, RVO</li> <li>◦ Bilateral country programs</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |

The support modalities at the 2nd level are expected to have a strong focus on the Priority Knowledge Domains, the first level modalities are more general. It was suggested that support for Senior Expert Positions might be used for joint appointments. BMZ and GIZ (Germany) have much experience with staff support for the CGIAR and could be consulted. Apart from the PPP CoP at the 1st level, support for PPPs and/or the related topics of Piloting and Scaling may require specific instrument development.

All participants were invited to send comments on the proposed partnership modalities to the NL-CGIAR working group c/o [c.hoogendoorn@kit.nl](mailto:c.hoogendoorn@kit.nl) and [frans.verberne@knowledge4food.net](mailto:frans.verberne@knowledge4food.net) by July 1, 2016.

## Closing

Many strategic collaborations are planned within the CRP2 portfolio, both directly in line with the shared NL-CGIAR Priority Knowledge Domains as well as in additional areas. At the meeting mainly envisaged Tier 1 strategic partners were present, which were encouraged to also be ready to act as a broker for Tier 2, more occasional partnerships between CRPs and NL Knowledge partners including private sector and civil society partners for scaling.

By becoming more specific in setting priorities and partnership modalities it is more likely that the common NL-CGIAR goals will be realized, but at the same time there is a risk of scattering of work and support mechanisms, which should be avoided.

While the work isn't finished yet, it is clear that the Netherlands has transformed from being a donor to being a strategic partner of the CGIAR.

## Participants

| CRP*                 | NAME                        | ORGANIZATION                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| A4NH                 | Herbert Smorenburg          | AIM                                |
| A4NH                 | Inge Brouwer                | Wageningen UR                      |
| A4NH/PIM             | Ruurd Ruben                 | Wageningen UR                      |
| CCAFS                | Frank Brentrup              | Yara International                 |
| CCAFS                | Henk van der Mheen          | Wageningen UR                      |
| CCAFS                | Martin van Ittersum         | Wageningen UR                      |
| PIM                  | Lia van Wesenbeeck          | SOW-VU                             |
| WLE                  | Charlotte de Fraiture       | UNESCO IHE                         |
|                      |                             |                                    |
|                      | René Boot                   | Tropenbos International            |
|                      | Rhiannon Pyburn             | Royal Tropical Institute (KIT)     |
|                      | Bart de Steenhuijsen Piters | Royal Tropical Institute (KIT)     |
|                      | Hugo Verkuijl               | HIVOS                              |
|                      | Huub Löffler                | Wageningen UR                      |
|                      | Jan Verhagen                | Wageningen UR                      |
|                      | Richard Hawkins             | ICRA                               |
|                      |                             |                                    |
| CCAFS                | Anette Friis                | CGIAR                              |
| WLE                  | Julie van der Blik          | CGIAR                              |
|                      |                             |                                    |
| <b>Working Group</b> |                             |                                    |
|                      | Corinne Abbas               | Ministry of Foreign Affairs        |
|                      | Patricia Wagenmakers        | Ministry of Economic Affairs       |
|                      | Wijnand van IJssel          | Ministry of Foreign Affairs        |
|                      | Frans Verberne              | Food & Business Knowledge Platform |
|                      | Coosje Hoogendoorn          | Royal Tropical Institute (KIT)     |

\* The 4 CRPs potentially identified for inclusion in the NL-CGIAR partnership

## Agenda

| Timeslot           | Subject   | Speaker   |
|--------------------|---|---|
| 13:30-13:35        | Opening   | Chair   |
| <b>13:35-15:00</b> | <b>Taking stock</b>   |   |
| 13:35-13:45        | General overview of process up till now   | Coosje Hoogendoorn (NL-CGIAR working group)   |
| 13:45-14:05        | Status of each of the 4 CRPs potentially identified for inclusion in the NL-CGIAR partnership | Four speakers (5 min), representing:<br>PIM – Ruerd Ruben (replacing Erwin Bulte), Wageningen UR<br>CCAFS – Henk van der Mheen, Wageningen UR<br>WLE – Charlotte de Fraiture, UNESCO-IHE<br>A4NH – Inge Brouwer, Wageningen UR  |
| 14:05-14:20        | Additional strategic NL-CGIAR partnerships that are developing around other CRPs              | Fish – Henk van der Mheen (replacing Johan Verreth), Wageningen UR<br>FTA – René Boot, Tropenbos International<br>Livestock – Rhiannon Pyburn, KIT<br>Maize – Bart de Steenhuijsen-Piters (replacing Mariana Wongtschowski), KIT<br>RTB – Martin van Ittersum (replacing Cees Leeuwis), Wageningen UR<br>Wheat - Martin van Ittersum, Wageningen UR |
| 14:20-15:00        | Discussion  | Moderator: Corinne Abbas (MinFA)  |
| 15:00-15:30        | <i>Coffee / tea break</i>   |   |
| <b>15:30-16:45</b> | <b>Next steps</b>   |   |
| 15:30-15:45        | Next steps for CRP portfolio  | Coosje Hoogendoorn (NL-CGIAR working group)   |
| 15:45-16:00        | Partnership modalities  | Wijnand van IJssel (MinFA)  |
| 16:00-16:45        | Discussion  | Moderator: Corinne Abbas (MinFA)  |
| <b>16:45-16:55</b> | <b>Summary remarks</b>  | Patricia Wagenmakers (MinEA)  |
| <b>16:55-17:00</b> | <b>Closing</b>  | Chair   |
| 17:00-17:45        | <i>Drinks</i>   |   |