About ICRISAT

Our Commitment

We innovate to help poor communities in Africa and Asia:
- Fight hunger and poverty
- Reduce malnutrition
- Revitalize the environment

We work across the whole value chain and have science-based solutions at all stages.

ICRISAT has specialized knowledge on the drylands, which covers 55 countries in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa and are inhabited by 2 billion people, 644 million of whom are poor.

These regions are most vulnerable to climate change with very little rainfall, degraded soils and poor social infrastructure.

We have specialized skills on crops of immense value to the nutrition and economics of the semi-arid tropics – dryland cereals (sorghum and millets) and grain legumes (chickpea, pigeonpea and peanut).

The Solutions

We don’t bring just one part of the solution. By analyzing key problems and opportunities, we work along the whole value chain:

- Sustainable On-farm Intensification
  - Managing soil and water
  - Breeding higher performing crop varieties
  - Diversifying farms
  - Developing on-farm practices and technologies

- Building Agribusinesses
  - Introducing processing technologies
  - Facilitating assistance to market access
  - Driving market development

What is unique about our holistic approach?

- It is multidisciplinary, combining social understanding with biophysical advances and business.
- All solutions are science based and continue to be monitored and evaluated scientifically.
- It not only works at the different stages of the value chain but can make the linkages from farmer to agribusiness to markets.
- We take it further than a value chain approach – with an Inclusive Market-Oriented Development (IMOD) approach. This requires:
  - being ‘inclusive’ of the stakeholders in developing solutions, and ensuring that all stakeholders, including the smallholder farmers and the women, benefit from the development.
  - being market driven in the developments moving the poor farmers from subsistence to a commercially oriented profitable business.
We believe all people have a right to nutritious food and a better livelihood.

Our Capabilities

**Multidisciplinary high class science**
from natural resource management, genetics, bioinformatics and phenotyping to economics and social sciences.

**On the ground in Africa and Asia**
with offices in Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Zimbabwe and India.

**Strong networks**
as we work in partnership at all levels – local, national, regional and international.

Participatory methods
have been developed and are used as part of our work,
involving the farmers through to the government and private industry where change is needed.

Recognized as independent
As an international non-profit organization that has worked in Asia and Africa for over 40 years, our scientific and independent credibility are well founded.

ICRISAT’s holistic approach to agricultural research for development

**Cross-cutting issues**

- Mainstreaming nutrition
- Empowering women – women are consulted, involved and supported to lead
- Attracting youth to agriculture

**Approach for Adoption**

- Participatory approach and partnering – working side by side
- Building capacity – at a national and local level
- Integrating communications – to build awareness and share knowledge
- Monitoring and evaluation – for feedback and adjustment
- Policy support – work closely with government to encourage the needed policies