

CAC Program Highlights

Sustainable Agriculture in Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC)

Led by INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN THE DRY AREAS (ICARDA)



ROUND TABLE MEETING WITH SYRDARYA REGIONAL KHOKIMIYAT

The round table meeting dedicated to Innovative development of economy of Syrdarya region was organized on 17 March 2017 in Gulistan, Uzbekistan in cooperation with Syrdarya Regional Khokimiat (local administration), ICARDA, IWMI, Bioversity International, WorldVeg, ICBA, Syrdarya Center for Transfer of Technology. The meeting was attended by representatives of International organizations, Gulistan State University, Syrdarya Center for Transfer of Technology and local administration. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss potential collaboration in the field of agricultural and rural development of Syrdarya region, identify priority areas of cooperation, including the preparation of project proposals and submission to international donors for prospective funding.

Being aware of activities of ICARDA, IWMI, WorldVeg, ICBA, Bioversity, CACAARI in the countries of Central Asia and particularly under conditions of Uzbekistan, International organizations were requested to contribute to the development of agricultural research and the introduction of innovative technologies suitable for local conditions through the ongoing projects being implemented in Syrdarya. Participants presented their main research achievements in the region and discussed required research work and technologies suitable for Syrdarya soil and climatic conditions.

Based on the results of the round table meeting, the gaps were identified and the work plan for further preparation of joint research projects for sustainable agricultural development in Syrdrya region to be submitted to international donors was discussed.

March 2017



WORKSHOP ON ECOLOGICALLY SAFE AGROTECHNOLOGIES FOR HOUSEHOLDS

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg), ICARDA, ICBA and National University of Uzbekistan jointly organized a workshop on "Ecologically safe agrotechnologies for development of households" on 24 March 2017 in Bekobod district of Tashkent region, Uzbekistan. The event was participated by 115 stakeholders including district householders, deputies of ecomovement, representatives of Khokimiyat and women's committee, and specialists of local universities and research institutes.

The workshop was organized to share the information on ecologically safe technologies for vegetable production, soil fertility improvement, production of cash vegetables crops and balanced diet amongst local communities. WorldVeg distributed seed sets of 16 varieties of 14 vegetable crops for growing in local households.

March 2017



REGIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON MODERN METHODS OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

The training course on modern methods of scientific research for vegetable production was organized by the World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) and Tashkent State Agrarian University in cooperation with the Regional Office of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) in Central Asia and the Caucasus (CAC) on April 4-8, 2017 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, There were 21 M.S. and Ph.D. level students, and young researchers from Central Asia and the Caucasus countries (Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan) who attended the training course. The purpose of the training course was to introduce the modern international methods of scientific research in breeding, selection and seed production. Training course included lectures and practical exercises on relevant topics, such as field experiments and statistical analysis, breeding of varieties resistant to different stresses, diagnostics of vegetable crop diseases and management of pests and soil fertility, and vegetable production in greenhouses. This training allowed the participants to improve their knowledge and skills on modern vegetable production tools and approaches.

April 2017



IWMI Central Asia Team at the International Scientific-Practical Conference and Exposition

"The problems and perspectives of effective water management in conditions of globalization" International scientific-practical conference and exposition was held on 11-12 April, 2017 at Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Melioration (TIIM) organized by the Ministry of Agriculture and Water Resources of the Republic of Uzbekistan and TIIM. The purpose of the conference was to consider the theoretical and practical problems on sustainable water resources management in the region, application of innovative technologies for water savings and rational water use, improvement of operative data exchange in water allocations, improved management of transboundary water resources, last but not least the implementation of economic mechanism for water saving.

The members of the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia (ICWC) from Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, representatives of Amudarya and Syrdarya Basin Water Organizations, Scientific Research Institute on Problems of Irrigation and Water Resources at TIIM, UNDP, GIZ, IWMI, CAREC, Embassy of Switzerland in Uzbekistan, Scientific Research Institutes, Design Institutes, Experts of Water Management organizations, Donor projects and students of TIIM have participated in the event. The plenary meeting was continued by the exposition on water saving technologies. IWMI team took part in the conference and during the Exposition and has presented innovative technologies and research products implemented by IWMI projects in the region.

April 2017



IWMI launches a new project in Central Asia

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in Central Asia initiated the new project on 'Implications of climate change, land use and adaptation of interventions on water resources and agricultural production in Transboundary Amu Darya River Basin for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) Cycle 5', funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The project aims at building of research capacity of scientists and farmers, as well as introduction of modern scientific achievements in the field of agricultural machinery at the local, regional and national levels in order to increase agricultural productivity and for natural management. To discuss further implementation of the project and develop activity plan for 2017-2018, the leading specialists of IWMI-CA visited the Central Asian Irrigation Research Institute (SANIIRI) in Nukus, Karakalpakstan on 12-13 April

April 2017

REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON POST-PARIS PROCESS IN CENTRAL ASIA ORGANIZED BY CAREC



The Regional Office of the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) and International Center for Biosaline Agriculture were invited to the Regional Technical Workshop organized by the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) on April 17-18, 2017 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. This event was held within the framework of the Regional Component of Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Program for Aral Sea Basin (CAMP4ASB) supported by the World Bank and implemented by CAREC. The aim of the workshop, which brought together participants from all Central Asian countries, was to determine regional needs on knowledge and information on climate change adaptation and mitigation in the context of Post-Paris process in Central Asia.

Particular interest of ICARDA team was to learn about the regional initiatives such as the preliminary findings of the regional assessment on climate knowledge and information on climate change adaptation and mitigation, as well as C5+1 initiative supported by USAID in the region. ICARDA presented options to address the environmental challenges to food security in Central Asia and shared the set of innovations to integrate into the CAMP4ASB initiative.

April 2017

IWMI CONTRIBUTES TO THE SEMINAR ON WATER MANAGEMENT IN CAC FOR AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL AND URBAN USE



Seminar on "Water Management in Central Asia and the Caucasus for agricultural, industrial and urban applications» was organized by the International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) on April 20-21, 2017 in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The activity of this center is to facilitate international science projects and assists the global scientific and business community to source and engage with institutes that develop or possess an excellence of scientific expertise.

Mr. Zafar Gafurov, Research Officer of the Regional Office of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) in Central Asia, presented a report on the challenges facing water management in Central Asia and highlighted IWMI's research capacity and experience in the region and contributions to the initiative. During the seminar, the participants took part in the interactive sessions led by external experts and discussions on papers for a special issue of the Central Asian Journal of Water Research (E-Journal).

April 2017

PUBLICATIONS

Oyiga, B.C., R.C. Sharma, M. Baum, F.O. Ogbonnaya, J. Leon, and A. Ballvora. 2017. Allelic variations and differential expressions detected at quantitative trait loci for salt stress tolerance in wheat. Plant, Cell and Environment. Published online on 7 March 2017. DOI: 10.1111/pce.12898

Wutelaw T. A. Amri, M. Baum, M. Sanchez-Garcia, S.G. Assefa, M. Keser, R. Sharma, Z. Bishaw, A. Niane, K. Nazari, M. El-Bouhssini, S. Tawkaz, S. Amira El Hanafi, H. Halila. 2017. Wheat breeding at ICARDA: Strategies, Achievements and Prospects. Proceedings: 13th International Wheat Genetics Symposium, April 23-28, 2017, Tulln, Austria. Page 116. http://iwgs2017.boku.ac.at/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/IWGS 2017 Proceedings.pdf

Kokhmetova, A., R.C. Sharma, S.Rsaliyev, Z. Ziyaev, K. Galymbek, H. Muminjanov, A. Morgounov, K. Zhambakin. 2017. Screening of Central Asian wheat germplasm for stripe rust resistance. Page 267. http://iwgs2017.boku.ac.at/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/IWGS 2017 Proceedings.pdf

ABOUT US

CGIAR Regional Program for Central Asia and the Caucasus was initiated in 1998, and operates as a consortium of the Centers of the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR), National Agricultural Research Organizations and advanced research institutions. The Program aims at reducing poverty and hunger, improving human health and nutrition, and enhancing ecosystem resilience through high-quality international research, partnership and leadership. It fosters cooperation among the countries in the Region and promotes their collaboration with the wider international community. Based in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, the Program provides policy, technical and administrative support for the implementation of the various activities and projects. It operates under the legal agreement between the Government of Uzbekistan and the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA) on behalf of the consortium.

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