

Center Directors' Committee

The Center Directors' View on the CGIAR Longer Term Financing Strategy

The Center Directors Committee (CDC) endorsed the principles laid out in the report with regard to public awareness (PA) and resource mobilization (RM) as they are broadly consistent with those underlying the Future Harvest strategy both in its establishment and in its current operations (i.e. building on its PA base toward proactive RM). The CDC welcomes the invitation to lift up and broaden the Future Harvest effort within the CGIAR.

The CDC suggests that there are a number of areas of the report that need further refinement in consultation with the Finance Committee through the participation of Future Harvest and the Public Awareness Association (PAA). These are:

1. CDC hoped that the name of the foundation would be simply Future Harvest and that it not formally include mention of the CGIAR.
2. CDC expressed its hope that the composition of the board of the foundation be creative and innovative, building on the expertise in PARC in consultation with the centers, and including individuals – both from within and outside the CGIAR -- with specialized expertise in PA and RM.
3. CDC expressed its belief that the most effective way to proceed with the foundation is to build on the activities and strengths of the already-active Future Harvest organization by expanding this activity. The CDC noted that the Future Harvest organization's legal structure, name and logo, as well as its mission already encompass what is necessary to move forward. CDC expressed its desire that the momentum gained by Future Harvest should be maintained, and it endorsed its new initiative in RM and PA in Europe and eventually in other regions.
4. CDC feels that the process of further development of funding strategies would be greatly enhanced if all relevant actors, including Future Harvest and PAA, be included.
5. CDC feels strongly that Future Harvest should be elevated from a center-led initiative to a system-level operation, but that it remain independent operationally and intellectually. It expressed a strong desire to be consulted about the location of the enlarged operation. The CDC stressed that the Centers and their work are at the heart of Future Harvest and in its new "incarnation" they should remain so.
6. CDC was pleased that it has been recognized that in the interim period Future Harvest should continue to operate under the leadership of its Board and PARC and under optimal conditions. The CDC, along with the Future Harvest board and PARC, expressed its willingness to work with the parties involved to ensure that Future Harvest does not lose its momentum in the process.
7. CDC emphasized that the evolving Future Harvest should be linked to the PA and RM efforts of the Centers and not be a substitute or competitor for these.