

CIMMYT AND CHINA: 45 years of collaboration



The President of the People's Republic of China, His Excellency Xi Jinping, greets Dr. Martin Kropff after CIMMYT is presented with the International Science and Technology Cooperation Award, acknowledging the Center's collaborative work to improve China's maize and wheat research, and the training of national scientists.

The long standing research partnership between the People's Republic of China and CIMMYT, an international organization headquartered in Mexico, is improving the lives of millions of people in China through science-driven, evidence-based solutions. Thanks to close cooperation with the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) in Beijing, CIMMYT partners with government agencies, universities and farmers' organizations to sustainably increase the productivity of maize and wheat systems for improved livelihoods and food and nutritional security.

Key areas of collaboration

Wheat improvement

- Over 4 decades, CIMMYT-China collaboration has resulted in up to 10.7 million additional tons of wheat, worth US \$3.4 billion, based on 2011 prices, to China's national wheat output.
- Since 2000, 26% of wheat grown in China has been derived from CIMMYT germplasm.
- 200,000 CIMMYT accessions are stored in China; China has added over 1,000 varieties and lines to the CIMMYT genebank collection.
- CIMMYT has built resistance to powder mildew and yellow rust, common diseases in China.
- The joint MARA-CIMMYT wheat quality laboratory has developed 60 gene-specific markers for quality traits that are used in 24 countries.

Maize improvement

- CIMMYT maize varieties have been planted on more than 1 million hectares across the country.
- 3,000 new inbred lines were introduced to broaden the genetic base of Chinese maize germplasm in southwest provinces.
- The MARA-CIMMYT partnership has released 13 commercial maize varieties in Nepal and elsewhere.

Sustainable agriculture

- Conservation agriculture practices developed by CIMMYT and adjusted by Chinese scientists reduce tillage and improve water use and input production costs.
- Scaled adoption of the innovative raised bed planting system by farmers in both irrigated and rain-fed



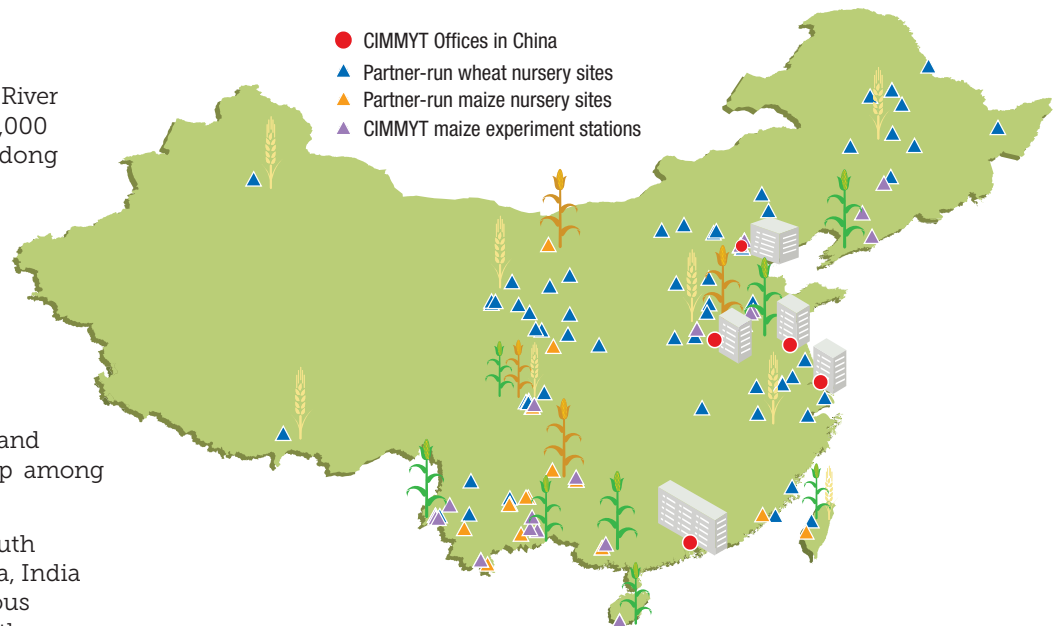
cropping zones of the Yellow River Basin now spans nearly 200,000 hectares in Gansu and Shandong provinces.

Partnerships

- Seven CIMMYT scientists are working closely with the Ministry of Agricultural and Rural Affairs and are located in Beijing, Henan, Shanghai and Guangdong, the largest group among CGIAR centers in China.
- CIMMYT relies on South-South collaboration between China, India and Brazil as well as numerous countries in Africa to tackle the core issues in low farm productivity, such as mechanization, and the impact of drudgery on women in southern and East Africa.

Training programs

- The CIMMYT-China partnership has developed 30 training courses to increase technical capacity in agriculture research. More than 5,000 Chinese scientists and graduate students have attended these courses in China to date.
- Over 110 CIMMYT-trained scientists hold research professor positions in Chinese research institutes and universities.



In China, CIMMYT partners with:

- CAAS
- China Scholarship Council
- China MARA (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs)
- China MoST including China State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs and NSFC
- China Agricultural University
- Foshan University
- Gansu Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Guangxi Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Henan Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Henan Agricultural University
- Huazhong Agricultural University
- Jilin Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Nanjing Agricultural University
- Ningxia Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences
- Northwest A & F University
- Shandong Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Shanghai Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Sichuan Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Xinjiang Academy of Agricultural Sciences
- Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences



Chinese Vice Premier Liu Yandong visits CIMMYT headquarters in 2016 to thank the Center for its contribution to China's agricultural development for over 40 years. During the visit, CIMMYT D.G. Martin Kropff signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chinese Scholarship Council to train 10 Ph.D. and Postdoctoral students each year.

Awards

- Eight wheat and maize varieties derived from CIMMYT germplasm received national awards.
- Seven CIMMYT scientists received the Friendship Award.
- The CIMMYT-China program received the CGIAR Regional Award (2007), the State Council Science and Technology Progress Award (2008 and 2015) and the China Ministry of Agriculture Innovation Team Award (2012) in addition to the China International Science and Technology Cooperation Award (2016).



From left to right: CAAS President Tang Huajun, Vice-Minister Yu Xinrong of the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs (MARA), MARA Minister Han Changfu, and CIMMYT Country Representative Zhonghu He.

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