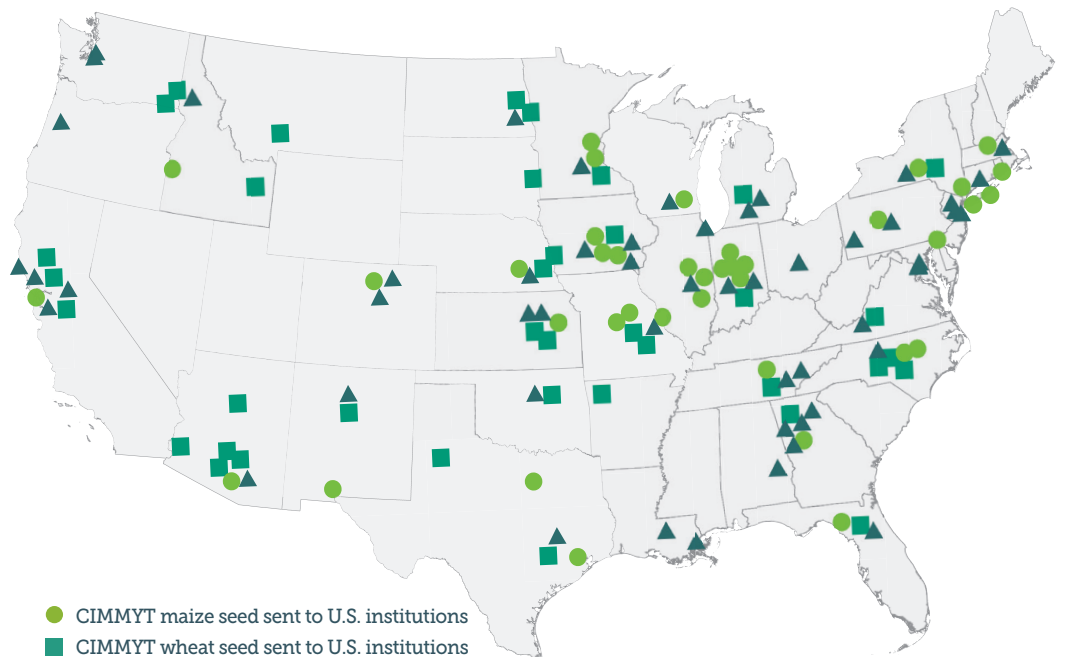


# USA and CIMMYT

**CIMMYT's collaboration with the United States of America (USA) goes beyond financial support.**

Over 100 American institutions from the agricultural industry, academia and government are working with CIMMYT to improve maize and wheat varieties for farmers in the USA and the developing world, as demonstrated in the map.



- CIMMYT maize seed sent to U.S. institutions
- CIMMYT wheat seed sent to U.S. institutions
- ▲ Partnership with U.S. institutions

Nearly 40 U.S. nationals work at CIMMYT, with an even greater number of staff from various nationalities having completed studies at leading American universities.

A key outcome of U.S. investment in CIMMYT is the contribution of our research and development outputs to American farming and economy. Though CIMMYT's main purpose is to improve livelihoods in developing countries, new plant varieties have made their way onto American farms from Washington State to the Carolinas. **60% of all wheat grown in the U.S. is derived from CIMMYT<sup>1</sup>**, representing a major contribution to increased productivity. U.S.-based economists have estimated that the economy gained between \$3.4-13.7 billion from 1970-1993 as a result of CIMMYT's work<sup>2</sup>.

## An entwined history

In 1940, while driving from Washington D.C. to Mexico City, Vice President elect, Henry A. Wallace, witnessed the deterioration of Mexican agriculture. He urged the Rockefeller Foundation and the government of Mexico to establish a special program to improve Mexican agriculture that CIMMYT eventually grew out from.

Joining this program was U.S. national, Norman Borlaug, who later was awarded the Nobel Peace

Prize for his work at CIMMYT. He also established the World Food Prize based in Iowa and received a Congressional Gold Medal from President George W. Bush in 2007.

By the mid-50s, thanks to work already being conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture at Washington State University, Mexico achieved wheat self-sufficiency.

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cimmyt.org/global-wheat-breeding-provides-billions-in-benefits-cimmyt-study-shows/>

<sup>2</sup> Hidden Harvest: U.S. Benefits from International Research Aid, Food Policy Report, IFPRI, Washington DC, September 1996.

### Bringing U.S. expertise to developing countries

CIMMYT helps improve livelihoods in developing countries by bringing American technical expertise, helping foster economic growth, develop strong diplomatic ties and increase food production. CIMMYT's global network enables top American institutions, to gain access to a wider array of genetic material and agricultural technologies that are crucial to advancing both scientific and business ventures, strengthening the competitiveness of American companies and universities worldwide.

### Improving food security through private sector partnerships

In sub-Saharan Africa, Monsanto® and CIMMYT are contributing drought tolerant and insect resistant breeding materials to private-public partnerships that are helping smallholder farmers gain access to robust maize hybrids. DuPont® Pioneer® and CIMMYT are applying CRISPR-Cas technologies to address maize lethal necrosis disease in sub-Saharan Africa<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.cimmyt.org/press\\_release/duPont-pioneer-and-cimmyt-form-crispr-cas-publicprivate-partnership/](http://www.cimmyt.org/press_release/duPont-pioneer-and-cimmyt-form-crispr-cas-publicprivate-partnership/)



Farmers in Malawi have improved harvests thanks to the U.S.

### Increasing farmer incomes

In South Asia, farming is the main economic activity in many rural areas and is critical for economic growth. In the eastern Indian state of Bihar, American funded zero-tillage adoption is helping increase wheat productivity while reducing production costs.

### Reducing poverty in Central America and the Caribbean

With thanks to the American Government, Haiti's farmers are benefiting from improved maize seed as part of a project developed to help kick-start the local seed sector and reduce dependence on international aid and imports. In Guatemala, CIMMYT is working with marginalized indigenous farmers to increase production of native maize varieties. Increasing productivity and seed quality helps reduce poverty and malnutrition.

### Emergency support for drought affected farmers

Dry conditions in Ethiopia resulting from the 2015-2016 El Niño led to the worst drought in a decade and left 1 in 10 Ethiopians in need of emergency assistance. With the support of the U.S. Agency for International Development, CIMMYT worked with partners to supply over 2,700 tons of seed to more than 226,000 households, making sure that quality seed reached farmers who needed it most.



Guatemalan farmers' show how U.S.-funded projects are improving their livelihoods.

### About CIMMYT

CIMMYT - The International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center - is the global leader in publicly-funded maize and wheat research and related farming systems. Headquartered near Mexico City, CIMMYT works with hundreds of partners throughout the developing world to sustainably increase the productivity of maize and wheat cropping systems, thus improving global food security and reducing poverty. CIMMYT is a

member of the CGIAR System and leads the CGIAR Research Programs on Maize and Wheat. The Center receives support from national governments, foundations, development banks and other public and private agencies.

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### Key U.S. donors and partners:

