



Partner with ICRISAT

About ICRISAT

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is a pioneering, non-profit international scientific research for development organization, specializing in improving dryland farming and agri-food systems. The Institute was established in 1972, by a consortium led by the Ford Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation with the support from the Government of India. ICRISAT works with global partners to develop innovative science-backed solutions to overcome hunger, malnutrition, poverty, and environmental degradation in service to the 2.1 billion people who reside in the drylands of Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, and beyond.

Accolades

- UNDP Mahatma Award 2023
- Africa Food Prize 2021
- 9th India CSR Award 2020
- National CSR Award India 2019
- King Baudouin Award 1996, 1998 and 2002

Varieties/hybrids released

1,230 ICRISAT varieties released in 81 countries across the globe as of 2021

Germplasm shared

More than 1.64 million seed samples distributed to 150 countries

ICRISAT locations

ICRISAT - Hyderabad, India (Headquarters); New Delhi, India (liaison office).

ICRISAT - Nairobi, Kenya (Regional hub ESA); Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; Lilongwe, Malawi; Bulawayo, Zimbabwe; Maputo, Mozambique; and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

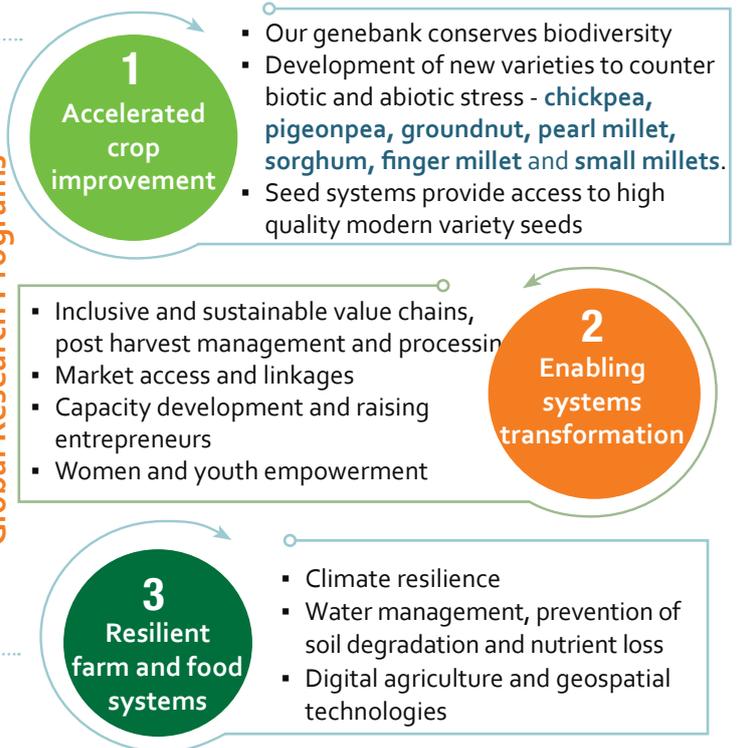
ICRISAT - Bamako, Mali (Regional hub WCA); Niamey, Niger; Kano, Nigeria; and Dakar, Senegal.

Research focus

The challenges facing the drylands are inextricably linked. As such the Institute adopts an holistic approach to its research with a focus on:

- Evidence-based solutions
- Markets to make farming more profitable
- Partnerships
- Environmental and business sustainability
- Participation, gender and social inclusion

Global Research Programs



Food and Nutrition Security in the Drylands

2 ZERO HUNGER



Challenge

The majority of the world's undernourished are found in Asia (**381 million**). More than **250 million** live in Africa, where the number of undernourished people is growing faster than in any other region of the world.

- *The state of food security and nutrition in the world, 2020, FAO*

Proven solutions

Dryland crops are a major source of nutrition in the semi-arid regions of Africa and Asia. ICRISAT was awarded the **Africa Food Prize 2021** for its work that resulted in improved food security across 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. The UN International Year of Millets – 2023 provided new opportunities for ICRISAT's millet research to counter the triple burden of nutrition (underweight, obesity and micronutrient deficiency).

Our approach



Develop improved varieties

High yielding and stress resistant varieties ensure more food supply. Biofortified crops bred for improved iron and zinc provide a cost-effective and sustainable approach for addressing malnutrition.



Build healthy farm systems

Our extensive work on reducing aflatoxin contamination has radically improved food safety and continues to prevent food loss. Good agricultural practices ensure that the produce is safe to consume.



Foster nutrition entrepreneurs

Agribusiness incubation support, food-processing training and India-Africa cross-learning platforms foster nutrition entrepreneurs.



Promote sustainable diets as Smart Food

Building the value chain and mainstreaming Smart Food, i.e., food that is good for you, the planet and the farmer, to address the dietary needs of women and children. Our impact studies and dietary behavior studies guide government policies and programs.

Successful impact of ICRISAT's interventions

Biofortified crops: **High iron and zinc pearl millet** (Dhanashakti) is the first biofortified crop cultivar to be officially released in India. It has been included in the Nutri-Farm Pilot Program launched by the Government of India and **94,000 households** benefited from its cultivation. **High iron and zinc sorghum** (Parbhani Shakti) has a higher yield of **10-15%** and higher protein content as compared to other varieties. **High-oleic acid groundnuts** (Girnar 4 and 5) contain about **35-40%** higher oleic acid as compared to regular varieties.

Agribusiness: Trained tribal women in Telangana, India, run licenced units to process and package ready-to-eat millet and pulse foods formulated by ICRISAT, which are supplied to their community centers (*anganwadis*).

Addressing hidden hunger: In Kenya, about **8,000 women** who attended nutrition workshops registered an increase in their dietary diversity score (**15%** women and **80%** children).

Partnerships



ICRISAT's work contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals

