

Press Release, 16 April 2021

THE G20 MEMBERS OF THE WHEAT INITIATIVE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE CONVENE

(Berlin) The members of the Wheat Initiative (WI) Institutions' Coordination Committee came together on April 14 and 15 for a two-day virtual meeting. The WI is an initiative of the G20 group of countries established to co-ordinate international research for wheat improvement.

The Institutions' Coordination Committee (ICC) brings together representatives of ministries, international agricultural research centres, research funding agencies and research organisations of participating countries, and observer countries. Representatives from Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Morocco, Turkey, United Kingdom, USA, Uruguay, CIMMYT and ICARDA participated in the meeting.

Key achievements were discussed:

- The Wheat Initiative's Expert Working Groups (EWG) with the participation of 635 experts from 47 countries in 11 EWG the EWGs work to identify opportunities and constraints in research and build collaborations across international borders to progress the development and sustainability of wheat in the global production system.
- The development of resources to enhance global sharing of resources and information.
- AHEAD the new alliance for wheat adaptation to heat and drought that provides a framework for collaboration around enhancing the stress tolerance of wheat.
- The recognition of the 10-year anniversary of the establishment of the Wheat Initiative.

Each member helps to shape the Wheat Initiative's work and set future global wheat research priorities.

The members of the ICC formally recognised and reaffirmed the strong and generous support to the Wheat Initiative provide by our host Germany, through the Ministry for Food and Agriculture and the Julius Kühn Institute.

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