

Knowledge Sharing for a CGIAR without Boundaries

A project of the ICT-KM Program

"We've broken the mold—we've changed the way in which meetings have been traditionally run within CIMMYT. That's a huge leap forward." Dave Hodson, CIMMYT

Our objective

To encourage open and inclusive sharing of expertise and experiences among CGIAR staff members and partners, to support learning and change for improved effectiveness and impact in our work.

"The Peer Assist session has enhanced my capacity for future actions. I really appreciated the exercise." Jean-Claude Rubyogo, CIAT

What we did

- Pioneered an approach for transforming events into entry points for KS.
- Formed a core team of KS champions in four centers.
- Strengthened group facilitation skills in about 10 centers.
- Developed an innovative on-line toolbox to support KS initiatives.
- Forged strong ties with a global KS community of practice.
- Guest edited an issue of the new online journal KM4D.
- Examined human resources policies in relation to KS in a dozen organizations, including six CGIAR centers.

"[In the knowledge fair] there were plenty of things to do, and that generated a sense of high energy and excitement." Moira Moeliono, CIFOR

What we learned

- High-profile events can be effective for KS and learning.
- Be prepared for negative reactions to KS approaches.
- Staff need new skills, institutional support, and clear incentives to use KS approaches.
- Each center needs to devise its own action plan for promoting KS and developing in-house capacity, while working collectively through the ICT-KM Program to mainstream KS in all centers.

"I would like to give the facilitation workshop the strongest endorsement I can. I felt, and I think others felt, that it was the most useful event they'd attended since joining the CGIAR." Paul O'Nolan, IRRI

Where we're going

- Expanding and strengthening the CGIAR's community of KS practitioners, including professionals from research, capacity building, support areas, and management.
- Integrating KS into center activities.
- Strengthening research partnerships through KS.

"I think the [Open Space] technique helped us open our minds and listen to other people's ideas." Awitta Suwarno, CIFOR



This project is managed by CIAT in collaboration with CIFOR, CIMMYT, and IWMI, and in partnership with Bellanet at IDRC.

