

Announcement

Knowledge Sharing Workshop

**Collaboration for Excellence:
Opportunities to discover,
learn about, and apply
innovative knowledge sharing
approaches for impact**



December 1

Why Knowledge Sharing?

[Post a comment](#)

Tags: participatory research, impact, knowledge sharing

More than 30 years after participatory research approaches emerged, we still face formidable obstacles to take up, use, and ultimately achieve impact from the results of CGIAR agricultural research. One missing element is the appropriate and effective sharing of knowledge, whether within our institutions, between Centers, or with our partners. At the same time, new and effective approaches and tools have been developed and proven to strengthen collaboration. Recent possibilities of participatory Web open new doors to more inclusive and transparent collaboration for excellence.

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Expected Results

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Tags: KS overview, KS action plans, coached KS experiences, publication



Overall: You should obtain an understanding and appreciation of the role and value of KS in research and institutional arenas; undergo experiences on how to apply KS concepts and approaches; and interact effectively with CGIAR staff and partners.

- ▶ Phase 1: An overview of KS methods and principles; and opportunities to apply them.
- ▶ Phase 2: Develop Action Plans to implement KS methods and principles in new or ongoing institutional or research projects.
- ▶ Phase 3: Coached experience on carrying out your KS projects, and joint publication.

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Content

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Tags: KS overview, face-to-face and virtual collaboration, Networks, Web 2.0, KS action plans, coached KS experiences, publication

We will work with CGIAR colleagues and research partners in an innovative 3-phase action-research-based design, as follows:



- ▶ Phase 1 DISCOVER: 4-week-long online event. (1 hour daily expected). We will **(1) Find Common Ground**. Get to know each other and build our learning community. Share our environments: Our people, networks, challenges and opportunities. **(2) Explore the Landscape**. About people, tools, and processes. Explore how a variety of tools and methods can help us achieve our purposes and reach our audiences, and how to choose the right ones. **(3) Homesteading**. We will dig in deeper, and explore key topics of interest that emerged throughout phase 1.
- ▶ Phase 2 FOCUS: 3-day face-to-face meeting. We will work in teams to understand more in-depth those of the participants' specific interests that were identified during Phase 1. We will also design activities that participants can then implement.

- ▶ Phase 3 APPLY: With virtual support from a coach, participants will apply the KS principles and methods covered in Phases 1 and 2. These experiences will be documented in a joint publication.

Dates

- ▶ **Phase 1:**
Online.
24 March
18 April 2008
- ▶ **Phase 2:**
Face-to-face.
6 - 8 May 2008
in Addis Abeba,
Ethiopia
- ▶ **Phase 3:**
Online.
May to end of
September 2008

You can choose to participate in Phases 1, 1+2, or 1+2+3.

Costs

- ▶ 500 USD (with a 30% discount for two or more participants from one center or organization).
- ▶ For Phase 2: Tickets, food, and housing to be covered by participants.
- ▶ For Phase 3: Costs of implementing activities to be covered by the respective centers and partners.

Language

The course will be conducted in English.

Contact Us

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Registration deadline:
February 29, 2008

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Guiding Principles

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Tags: action learning, systemic approach, open access

- ▶ The workshop methodology is based on action learning principles and offers a systemic approach to KS. We will actively reflect and jointly explore opportunities, using blogs, wikis, and other virtual collaboration tools. We will experience different meeting techniques, draw network maps, and use KS principles and tools throughout the activities.
- ▶ All workshop materials and contents are developed in an open access environment and are considered as a global public good.
- ▶ In Phase 3, care will be taken to design activities that are feasible, that is, possible for the time and resources available.



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Who Should Attend this Workshop?

[Post a comment](#)

Tags: researchers, HR managers, communication heads, administrative coordinators, project leaders, IT, IM, and IKM managers

- ▶ I am a researcher and would like to explore KS tools and principles to improve my team's work, which is spread over three continents.
- ▶ I am a human resource manager and I am looking for innovative ways to improve the internal communications of my center.
- ▶ I work with the CGIAR in Africa and would like to get a perspective on knowledge-sharing opportunities in rural areas.
- ▶ I am in charge of communications and would like to experiment with Web 2.0 tools.
- ▶ I am a Project Leader of a research project and want to improve collaboration and interaction with partners, stakeholders, and end users.
- ▶ I am an IT manager and would like to learn from researchers about their needs and expectations from ICTs.
- ▶ I am starting a community of practice and need to get it right from the start.



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Workshop Development Team and Facilitators

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Tags: Petr Kosina, Nancy White, Lucie Lamoureux, Nadia Manning, Simone Staiger-Rivas



Petr Kosina

Petr is the Knowledge Sharing and Capacity Building Coordinator at CIMMYT (Mexico). He has a background in biological sciences and education. His responsibilities include course design and development, and the facilitation of knowledge-sharing processes both inside and outside institutions.



Nancy White

Nancy works with organizations to strengthen collaboration and communication online and offline. She has a special interest in online facilitation, teams and communities of practice, and whole systems change. She is currently writing a book on technologies in support of communities and learning graphic facilitation.



Lucie Lamoureux

Lucie is an information professional with 8 years' experience in knowledge management within the field of international development. Her main focus is capacity or skills development, specifically, knowledge-sharing approaches and online networking. She also regularly designs and facilitates face-to-face meetings.



Nadia Manning

Nadia is a researcher and outreach coordinator at IWMI and project leader of the KS in Research project. With a background in anthropology, and development and environmental studies, she seeks to understand, develop, and promote ways in which people can work together to understand, decide on, and solve problems associated with natural resources.



Simone Staiger-Rivas

Simone, based at CIAT, Colombia, is leader of the Institutional KS Project. She is a trained social communicator with 13 years' experience coordinating electronic communications projects. Her interest lies in the enhancement of collaboration in institutional settings that contribute to organizational learning and change.

Scenario



Joe Researcher has been working on

a smallholder cacao project in Ecuador.

He gradually realizes his role is not only that of a researcher, but also as mediator in his project partners' network between his fellow scientists and the cacao farmers.

When he reframes his work to consider how knowledge emerges, flows, and is shared across the project, he was amazed to discover how productive and focused his team became.

Three of his early lessons were:
(1) network weaving finding and connecting people;
(2) convening useful gatherings for project work; and
(3) keeping the project information flow moving outwards.

He used to think the third lesson or area was his priority, but discovered that without the first two areas, the information was often ignored or misapplied.

After investing in the three areas, he finds that, in fact, he had more time to do his research and easier access to his partners for consultations.

Helping energetic communities thrive

Watch out for updates and post your comments at:

<http://ictkm.wordpress.com/category/ks-course/>