

Photo of farmers in Central Asia, courtesy of IWMI/N. Palmer

“The complex challenges facing dry areas cannot be solved with one silver bullet, but will require an integrated approach involving sustainable natural resource management, crop and livestock genetic improvement, as well as socio-economic innovation.”

Frank Rijsberman,
Chief Executive Officer, CGIAR Consortium



RESEARCH PROGRAM ON Dryland Systems

Food security and better livelihoods for rural dryland communities

drylandsystems.cgiar.org



Our mission

To improve the lives of 1.6 billion rural people and to mitigate land and resource degradation in 3 billion hectares, covering the world's dry areas through integrated agricultural systems research.

Systems thinking for people-oriented solutions

Our integrated 'systems approach' takes into account the explicit economic, social and environmental co-benefits needed to achieve viable livelihoods, and ensure social and environmental wellbeing for 1.6 billion people living in the rural dryland communities of the developing world.

Our partnership

Our partnerships combine scientific research results with the skills and capacities of national agricultural research systems, advanced research institutes, non-governmental and civil society organizations, the private sector, and other actors to test and develop practical innovative solutions for dryland farming communities.

Led by:



In partnership with:

