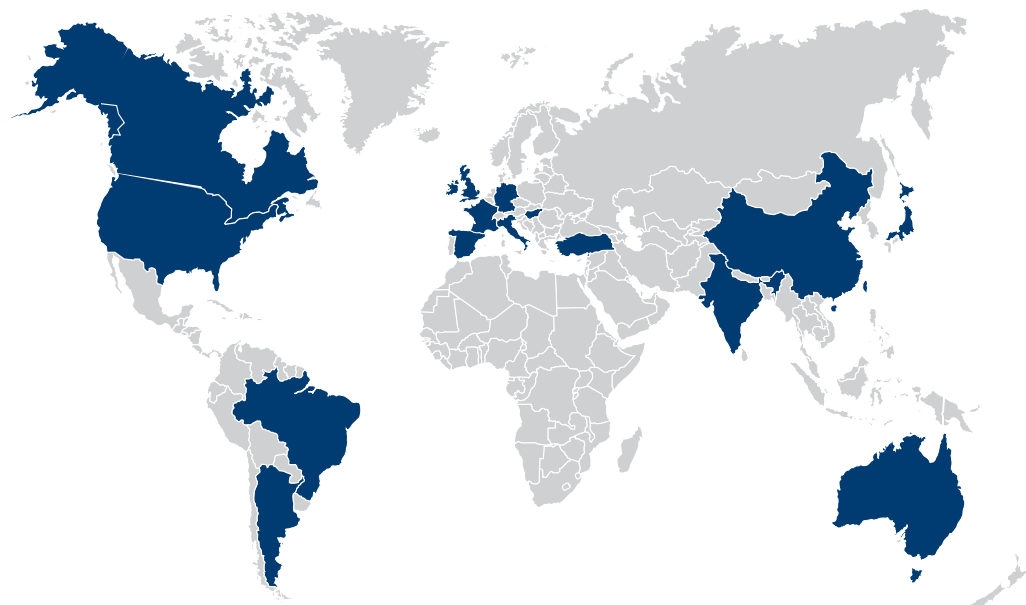


PARTNERS

The Wheat Initiative currently brings together **16** countries, **2** international research organisations and **9** private companies, whilst continuously welcoming new public and private members.



MONSANTO



Bayer CropScience



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VISION AND MISSION

The Wheat Initiative aims to encourage and support the development of a **vibrant global public-private research community sharing resources, capabilities, data and ideas to improve wheat productivity, quality and sustainable production around the world.**

To answer the challenges of wheat research internationally, the Wheat Initiative:

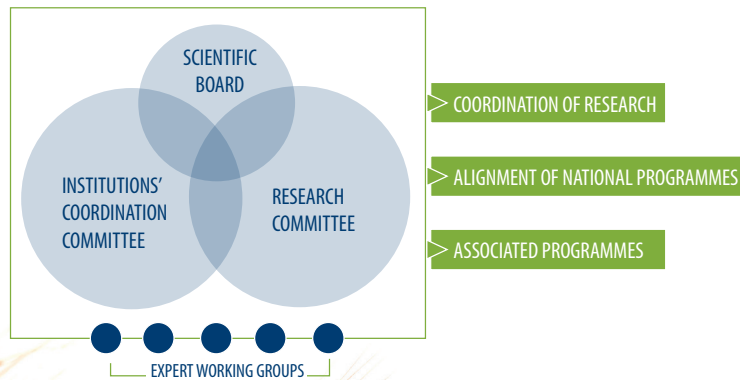
- › Develops a **global strategic agenda for wheat research** through the identification of priorities and challenges beyond the capacity of single research groups and countries, which can best be addressed by international coordination and collaboration between researchers, research institutions and funding arrangements
- › Encourages **efficient investment in wheat research** based on the capabilities of, and synergies among, national and international programmes
- › Initiates the development of new **collaborative programmes and coordinated actions across developing and developed countries**
- › Develops and coordinates **knowledge sharing** amongst the international wheat community
- › Improves **access of all to resources, services and facilities**
- › Supports **education of students and life-long learning of wheat researchers and farmers**
- › Stimulates **public-private collaborations**

THE CHALLENGE: IMPROVING WHEAT PRODUCTIVITY, QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Wheat is the most widely grown crop in the world and provides 20% of the daily protein and food calories. It is the second most important food crop in the developing world after rice. With a predicted world population of 9 billion in 2050, **wheat demand is expected to increase by 60%**. To meet the demand, annual wheat yield increases must grow from the current level of below 1% to at least 1.6%.

All countries share an urgent need to increase the rate of wheat genetic progress for yield, tolerance to abiotic stresses, pathogens and pests, as well as to improve input use efficiency for a more sustainable wheat production, while ensuring the production of high quality and safe products. To take full advantage of wheat genetic potential, improved agronomic practices and the development of innovative cropping systems are paramount.

ORGANISATION AND IMPACT PATHWAY OF THE WHEAT INITIATIVE



ADVANCING WHEAT RESEARCH FOR A FOOD SECURE FUTURE

Created in 2011 following endorsement from the G20 Agriculture Ministries, the Wheat Initiative provides a **framework to establish strategic research and**

organisation priorities for wheat research at the international level. The Wheat Initiative **fosters communication between the research community, funders and global policy makers**, and aims at securing efficient and long-term investments to meet wheat research and development goals.

Through its Expert Working Groups, the Wheat Initiative identifies potential synergies and nurtures collaborations between research and development programs for wheat improvement in both developed and developing countries. The Wheat Initiative also initiates and supports activities in order to **enhance communication and increase access of all to information, resources and technologies**. The Wheat Initiative actions will lead to the creation of improved wheat varieties and to the dissemination of better agronomic practices worldwide. The combination of new varieties and agronomic practices will in turn allow farmers to improve and stabilise wheat yields in diverse production environments.

The success of the Wheat Initiative depends on the **engagement of the global wheat community**. It is of great importance that all countries and companies interested in wheat improvement participate and contribute to the development of this global research coordination platform. Members' engagement is instrumental to improve food security and resolve the urgent challenge of sustainably providing enough safe, nutritious and affordable food for a growing population.

