

- An International Research Initiative for Wheat Improvement -

- The Wheat Initiative -

G20 agriculture

Technical meeting 12-13 april 2012

The Wheat Initiative

- A mechanism to **identify synergies and nurture collaborations** via facilitated open communications between research and technology development programmes for **wheat improvement**.
- **Endorsed by the Agricultural Ministries from the G20** member states to improve food security and resolve the urgent challenge of sustainably providing enough safe, nutritious and affordable food for a growing population, and **supported by research / funding organisations and research groups from many countries**

Scope of the Wheat Initiative

- Genomics, genetics, agronomy, cropping systems
- Bread wheat and durum wheat
- North and South

Objective: coordinate world-wide wheat improvement research efforts.

- **Identify synergies and encourage collaborations:** To add value to existing wheat research capabilities and activities through building and strengthening collaborations, coordination of research and support for accessing research outcomes.
- **Facilitate open communication:** Enable exchange of germplasm, data, materials and ideas within the wheat research community
- **Support the development of publically available integrated databases and platforms:** Develop minimum data standards and protocols for consistent and comparable analyses
- **Identify and update priorities for wheat research:**
 - Monitor progress of scientific activities
 - Communicate to funding agencies the needs of wheat research

What is the Wheat Initiative?

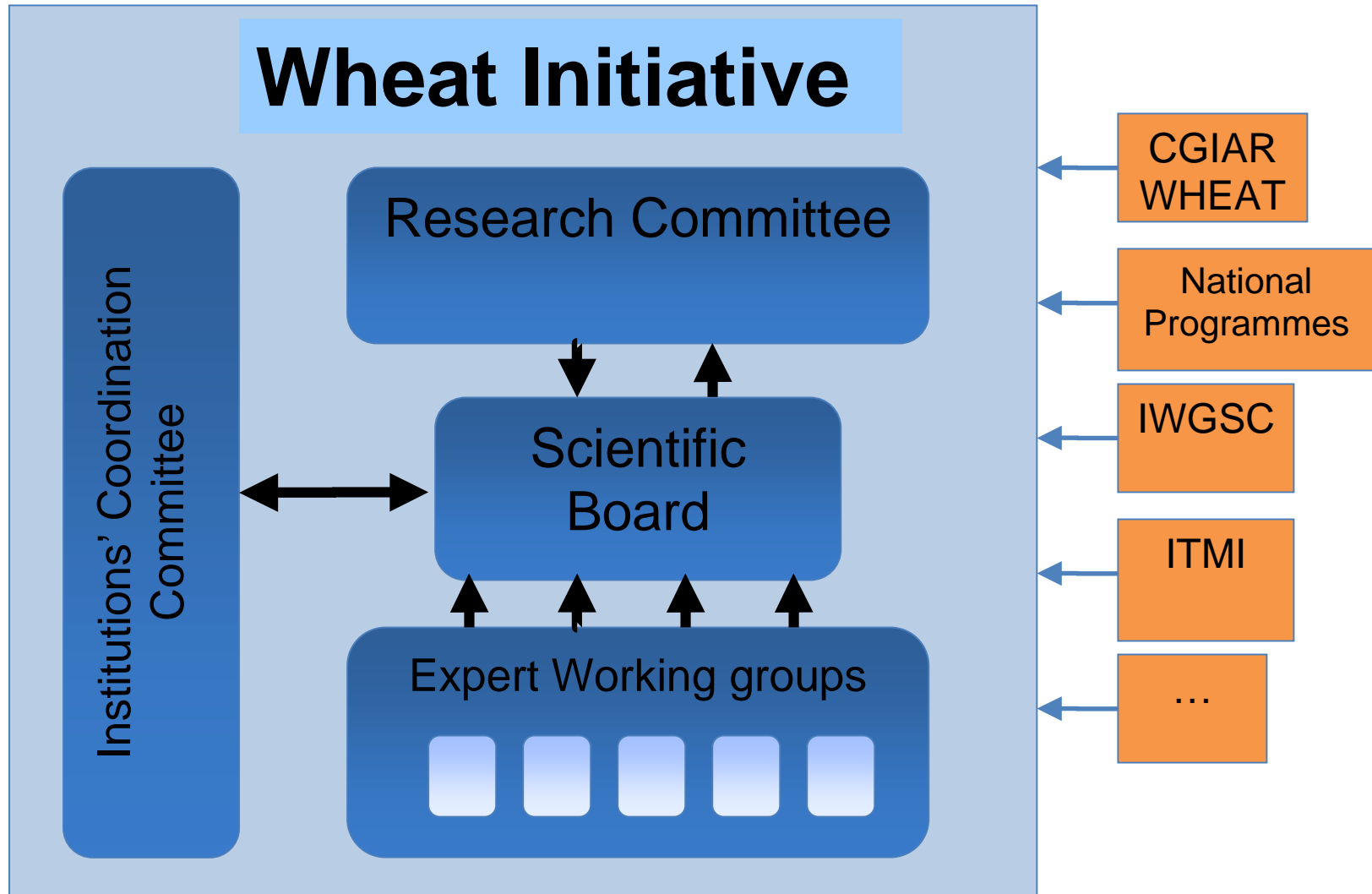
The Wheat Initiative is:

- A science-led initiative
- A way to bridge national and international programmes addressing grand challenges
- A mechanism for the wheat community to define and update research priorities
- A information platform for institutions to establish investment priorities
- Self-funded through members

The Wheat Initiative is not:

- A competing program with national or international existing initiatives
- A funding entity

Governance framework



Initial tasks for the Wheat Initiative

- Wheat Initiative **Kick-Off meeting**, Paris, September 15: 125 attendees, 24 countries (57 scientists, 46 representatives of countries or institutions, 22 private companies/stakeholders)
- Establishing and populating the **governance structure**
- Establishment of a **Wheat Centralised Information System**
- Building a Wheat Initiative **Website**
- Produce draft of **vision paper and strategic plan**

Populating the governance structure

Research Committee

- Public research : 1 representative per country, representing the collective view of the national research community
- Private companies & stakeholders : 1 representative per Cie/stakeholder

Institutions' Coordinating Committee: 1 representative public institution / country

Scientific Board:

- Interim Scientific Board: S. Baenziger, H. Braun, C. Feuillet, P. Langridge, G. Moore, Curtis Pozniak
- International Scientific Coordinator: H. Lucas (+ A. Collis)

Expert Working Groups:

- Wheat Information System (Hadi Quesneville, Mario Caccomo)
- Durum wheat (Roberto Tuberosa, Luigi Cattivelli)

Membership

- Need for 250-500 k€ annual budget
- Representation in the different committees providing payment of membership fees
- Annual membership fees:
 - Institutions
 - G20/OECD countries: 10 k€
 - International Research Centres: 5 k€
 - Others: 2 k€
 - Stakeholders:
 - Annual turnover > 500 million €: 20 k€
 - 50-500 million €: 10 k€
 - < 50 million €: 5 k€

Welcome to the Wheat Portal, an information resource and forum for the International Wheat Research community

A central resource where you can **access wheat datasets**, **find researchers** for collaboration, start a **discussion**, watch **video tutorials** and keep up-to-date with the **latest publications**, **news** and **events**

WHEAT DATA ▶

Links in one place, up-to-date and reliable

PRIVATE WORKSPACES ▶

Helping you collaborate remotely, and securely

PUBLICATIONS ▶

A list of all significant research papers and pubs

FUNDING INFORMATION ▶

A directory of international funding organisations

TUTORIALS ▶

Helping the next generation of researchers

LEARN ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT INITIATIVE ▶

Organisations from across the world are working towards improving wheat for future food security.

LATEST NEWS

Rothamsted Research granted approval to undertake scientific research of GM wheat »

Launching "Breedwheat", a French Stimulus Initiative Project »

Global Food Security Champion appointed by public partnership »

[See all »](#)

RESEARCH ▶

Research Datasets, resources and tools to help you in your research, plus the latest wheat research publications and details of research grants and consortia.

RECENT MEMBER ACTIVITY

[Stephen B. Goodwin](#) updated his current project to [Improving wheat yields under water-limitation](#) - 2 hours ago

[Mike Flowers](#) and [Stephen B. Goodwin](#) are now connected - 1 day ago

[Mike Flowers](#) - "The SQI is based on the relative performance of check varieties to historical means and the degree of variability ..." on the [Cereal Extension](#) project - 1 day ago

COMMUNITY DISCUSSIONS

[Cold acclimation protein WCOR410b »](#)

[Help with wheat images »](#)

[Wheat COS markers aligned to Brachypodium »](#)

[For all those at Plant GEM 2011 in Istanbul »](#)

[See all »](#)

FEATURED MEMBER



[Stephen B. Goodwin](#)
USDA Professor

Location: USA

Asked 20 Questions

Provided 25 Answers

Autobiography: Plant Pathology - molecular genetics of host pathogen interactions...

[Full Profile »](#)

Contacts

Contact: wheat.initiative@versailles.inra.fr

Basic information on the Wheat Initiative:

<http://urgi.versailles.inra.fr/Species/Wheat/Projects2/Wheat-Initiative>