



Morocco Inception Workshop on the CGIAR F2R-CWANA Initiative

**F2R-CWANA: From Fragility to Resilience in the Central
and West Asia and North Africa**



**F2R-CWANA Morocco Inception Workshop
Program
17 May 2022
Rabat, Morocco**



**F2R-CWANA: From Fragility to
Resilience in the Central and
West Asia and North Africa**



Morocco Inception Workshop

F2R-CWANA Initiative



Background

CGIAR's F2R-CWANA Initiative builds resilient agri-food systems in the region, primed to withstand the impact of climate change and generate better livelihoods for rural communities. At its core, this initiative will provide options for climate adaptation and mitigation that respond to, and are effective for, smallholder farmers in CWANA with a view to scaling up and out the best bet solutions. It recognizes the unique biodiversity richness of this center of origin of many species, and it promotes its conservation of soil, ecology and water resources in-situ and ex-situ. It is aware of the complex political interactions between countries in the region, and it bridges borders to deliver and widely deploy technologies.

Anchor Countries

The F2R-CWANA initiative has five planned regional anchor countries – Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Uzbekistan, Sudan, representing diverse needs and social contexts. Turkey and Syria, both member countries of the CGIAR, will participate in this initiative with their own funding.

OneCGIAR

All CGIAR Research Centers are engaged in a reform process ("One CGIAR") to achieve better impact through more strategically integrated research, unified governance, an integrated structure, and new research modalities. The OneCGIAR transformation is supported by CGIAR donors who have committed to increased funding as a result of these reforms.

The reform provides an opportunity for a fresh strategy to shape a stronger, more relevant science agenda for today's dynamic world. It integrates CGIAR's capabilities, knowledge, assets, people, and global presence for a new era of interconnected and partnership-driven research toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and it will operate as a cohesive organization with a single mission, seamlessly leveraging all of our capabilities and assets to deliver real benefits to people and our planet.

Through integrated systems research, CGIAR and country partners are striving for impact to create sustainable and resilient food, land, and water systems, and meet SDG targets through strategically designed global initiatives.

Contact Initiative Lead, Michael Baum, m.baum@cgiar.org or Co-Lead, Maha AL-Zu'bi, m.al-zubi@cgiar.org



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MOROCCO BACKGROUND

The CWANA region covers a vast swathe of land across Central Asia, West Asia, and North Africa and contains a vast diversity of cultures and agroecological systems. What unifies this area is a relative semi-arid and aridness that will become more extreme with ongoing climate change. The region is expected to experience an increase in the severity and frequency of hot temperatures, agricultural and ecological droughts, precipitation droughts, floods, climate variability, and climate change compound events with significant consequences for society and the environment.

Despite the inherent constraints in the CWANA region of a lack of productive agricultural land and severe water scarcity and unsustainable surface and groundwater abstraction (for use in agriculture), the predominantly rainfed agri-food systems (70%) are frequently the largest employers of the populace and of women, and significantly contribute to national GDP and local food security in a region heavily dependent upon food imports.

Yet the CWANA regional agri-food systems are highly vulnerable to overuse of the limited natural resources, the biophysical effects of present and future climate change, and their interplay with societal pressures, e.g., gender inequalities, youth unemployment, demographic shifts, a predominance of small, non-specialized smallholdings, institutional and economic pressures. Many of the countries in CWANA are fragile and conflict affected.

Analysis of future climate change reveals that Morocco is a highly vulnerable country. The adverse impacts of climate variability and extremes in Morocco are well documented. Morocco recently faced one of the nation's worst droughts in decades, posing significant risks to farmers. Rainfall was 64 percent below average across the nation this year as of February. The loss of productive assets and human capital, coupled with the effect of uncertainty on agricultural investments, stymie smallholders' efforts to improve livelihoods, exacerbating poverty and social tensions.

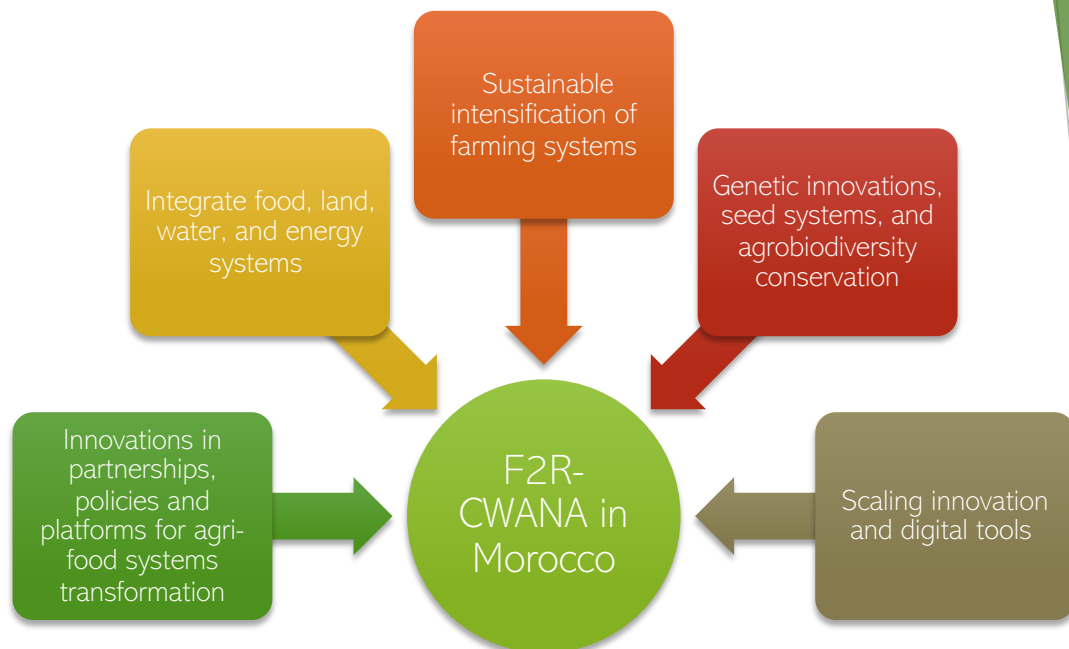
Despite these challenges, the momentum is high for building resilient agri-food systems in Morocco. Following the achievements of the Green Morocco Plan, Morocco's Green Generation Strategy 2020-2030 aims to improve water use efficiency, strengthen agricultural insurance programs, and increase access to climate finance. Further, the National Strategic Adaptation Plan (PNSA) 2020-2030 acknowledges the need for transformative adaptation interventions to reduce risk to vulnerable groups. It aims to improve climate information, adopt a strategic governance plan, and enhance resilience of the agriculture sector. The F2R-CWANA Initiative directly contributes to these goals.

Contact:

Initiative Lead Michael Baum, m.baum@cgiar.org

Co-Lead, Maha AL-Zu'bi, m.al-zubi@cgiar.org





F2R-CWANA research areas in Morocco

F2R-CWANA in Morocco

To address agricultural resilience challenges in Morocco, F2R-CWANA works with partners to test and upscale the following innovations:

- Farm-to-basin smart tools for water efficiency and management
- CGIAR Accelerator and Open Innovation Program
- The Rural Investment and Policy Analysis Modeling Toolkit
- Toolbox of Nature-based Solutions for people and planet
- Promoting in-situ conservation of CWANA dryland agrobiodiversity
- Participatory Product Profile Performances
- Resilient food and feed crops adapted to MENA region
- Scale-appropriate mechanization for CWANA
- Weather station-based irrigation advisory system

Together, these innovations will help Morocco's stakeholders become more resilient to the worsening effects of climate change.



Objectives of the workshop

CGIAR is excited to kick off its first F2R-CWANA national inception workshop in Morocco. Jointly organized and hosted by the INRA, this workshop aims to develop a common vision of F2R-CWANA impact in Morocco and validate an action plan for F2R-CWANA activities.

Specific objectives include:

- 1) Introduce the F2R-CWANA, its work packages, activities, timeline, objectives, anticipated output and outcomes
- 2) Present and discuss in-depth with stakeholders the planned activities in Morocco
- 3) Validate work plans around activities with stakeholders so that activities build on previous related efforts and are not duplicating ongoing activities
- 4) Identify the key partners (demand, innovation, scaling) who will be engaged during the implementation (what is their role and responsibilities)
- 5) To build relationships with stakeholders and understand their needs as they relate to F2R-CWANA
- 6) Identify capacity development needs,
- 7) To discuss specific opportunities for collaboration
- 8) To establish ways forward for engagement and implementation of joint activities.

F2R-CWANA Morocco Inception Workshop

17 May 2022, 8:30-18:00 Rabat Local Time (GMT)

Time (GMT)	Activity	Presenter / Facilitator
8:00 – 8:30	Coffee and Registration	
8:30 – 8:45	Opening Remarks	
	F2R-CWANA under the portfolio of CGIAR global initiatives in Systems Transformation	Martin Kropff, Global Director, Resilient Agri-food Systems Science Area (RAFS)
	Relevance of F2R-CWANA in the CWANA region amongst other initiatives	Aly Abousabaa, Regional Director, Central and West Asia and North Africa (CWANA); Director General of ICARDA
	Morocco as the most vulnerable region and what F2R-CWANA can contribute	Faouzi Bekkaoui, Director, National Institute for Agronomic Research, Morocco
8:45 – 10:30	Introductions	
8:45 – 10:30	Session 1: Introduction to F2R-CWANA	
	The purpose of this session is to introduce F2R-CWANA, providing background information about its objectives, timeline, proposed activities and expected outputs.	Michael Baum, F2R-CWANA Initiative Lead Maha Al-Zu'bi, F2R-CWANA Co-Lead
	Statements from: Lebanon, Uzbekistan, Morocco, Sudan and Egypt	Speakers (TBC)
	Statements from other CGIAR Initiatives: Climber, NPS, Genetic Innovation, Excellence in Agronomy, Nexus, etc.	Speakers (Initiatives Lead, Co-lead or IDT members)
	Q&A	
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break	
11:00 – 13:00	Session 2-A: Introduction to F2R-CWANA in Morocco	
	The purpose of this session is to present and discuss WP1, Innovation Platform, and National Stakeholders Alliance work plans and clarify roles and responsibilities for activities in Morocco based on input received from partners.	
	WP1: Innovations in partnerships, policies and platforms for agri-food systems transformation	Boubaker Dhehibi, WP1 Lead
	F2R-CWANA Innovation Platform	Miguel Sanchez Garcia, IDT membre
	National Stakeholder Alliance	Filippo Bassi, IDT membre
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	

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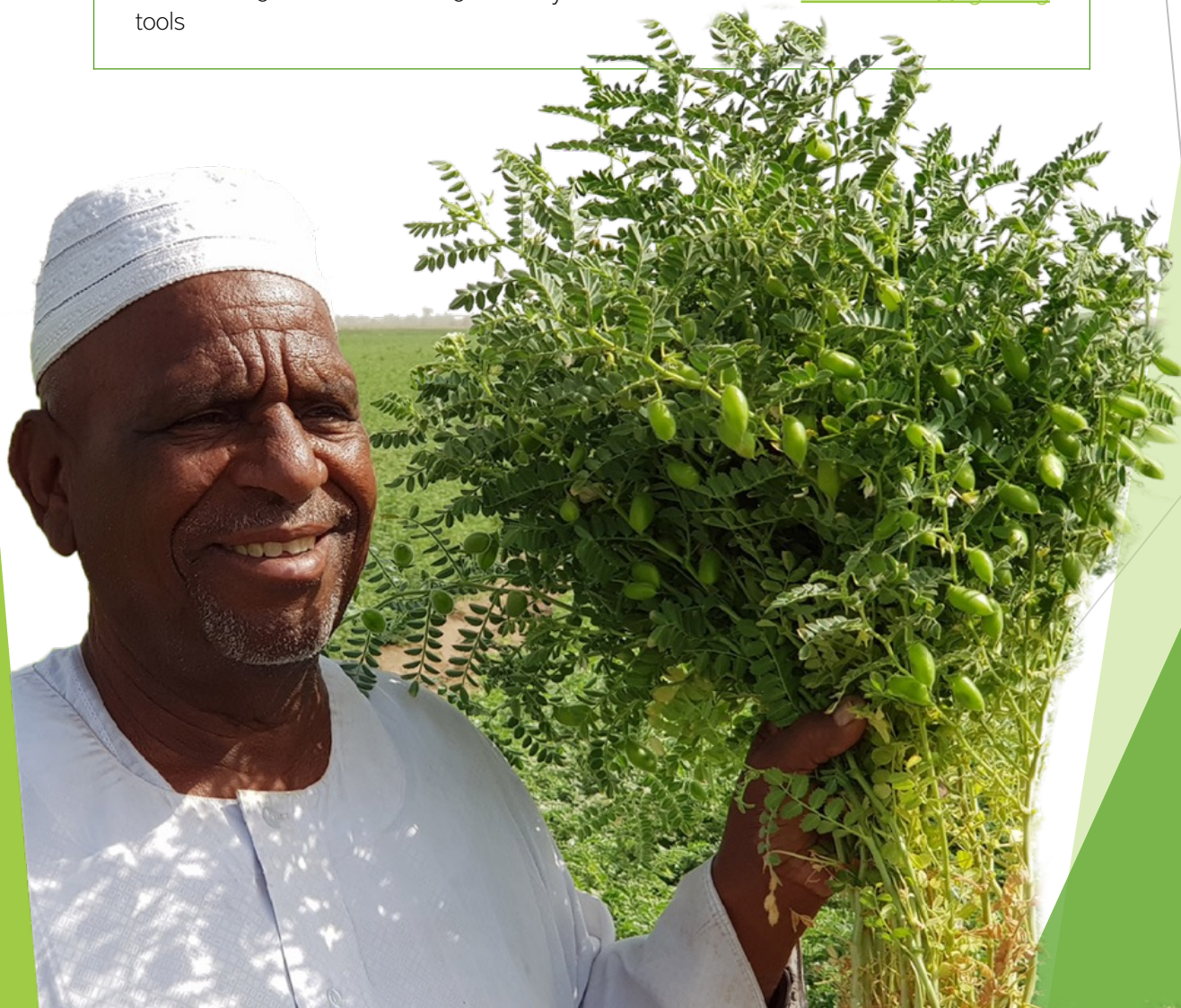
17 May 2022, 8:30-18:00 Rabat Local Time (GMT)

Time (GMT)	Activity	Presenter / Facilitator
14:00 – 15:30	Session 2-B: Introduction to F2R-CWANA in Morocco The purpose of this session is to present and discuss WP2 and WP3 work plans and clarify roles and responsibilities for activities in Morocco based on input received from partners. WP2: Genetic innovations, seed systems, and agrobiodiversity conservation WP3: Sustainable intensification of farming systems	Zewdie Bishaw, WP2 Lead Mangi Lal Jat, WP3 Lead
15:30-16:00	Coffee Break	
16:00 – 17:30	Session 2-C: Introduction to F2R-CWANA in Morocco The purpose of this session is to present and discuss WP4 and WP5 work plans and clarify roles and responsibilities for activities in Morocco based on input received from partners. WP4: Integrated food, land, water and energy systems WP5: Scaling innovation and digital tools	Nisreen Lahham, WP4 Lead Oytüre Anarbekove, WP5 Lead
17:30 – 18:00	Reflections and Wrap-Up	Michael Baum, F2R-CWANA Lead Maha Al-Zu'bi, F2R CWANA Co-Lead



Important Contacts

Item	Contact Person	Contact Email
General F2R-CWANA Queries	Michael Baum Maha Al-Zu'bi	m.baum@cgiar.org m.al-zu'bi@cgiar.org
Workshop Queries	Meriem Nassir	m.nassir@cgiar.org
F2R-CWANA WPs Contacts		
WP1: Innovations in partnerships, policies and platforms for agri-food systems transformation	Boubaker Dhehibi	b.dhehibi@cgiar.org
WP2: Genetic innovations, seed systems, and agrobiodiversity conservation	Zewdie Bishaw	z.bishaw@cgiar.org
WP3: Sustainable intensification of farming systems	Mangi Lal JAT	m.jat@cgiar.org
WP4: Integrated food, land, water and energy systems	Nisreen Lahham	n.lahham@cgiar.org
WP5: Scaling innovation and digital tools	Oytüre Anarbekov	o.anarbekov@cgiar.org



Venue

International Center For Agricultural Research In The Dry Areas

Station Exp. INRA-Quich

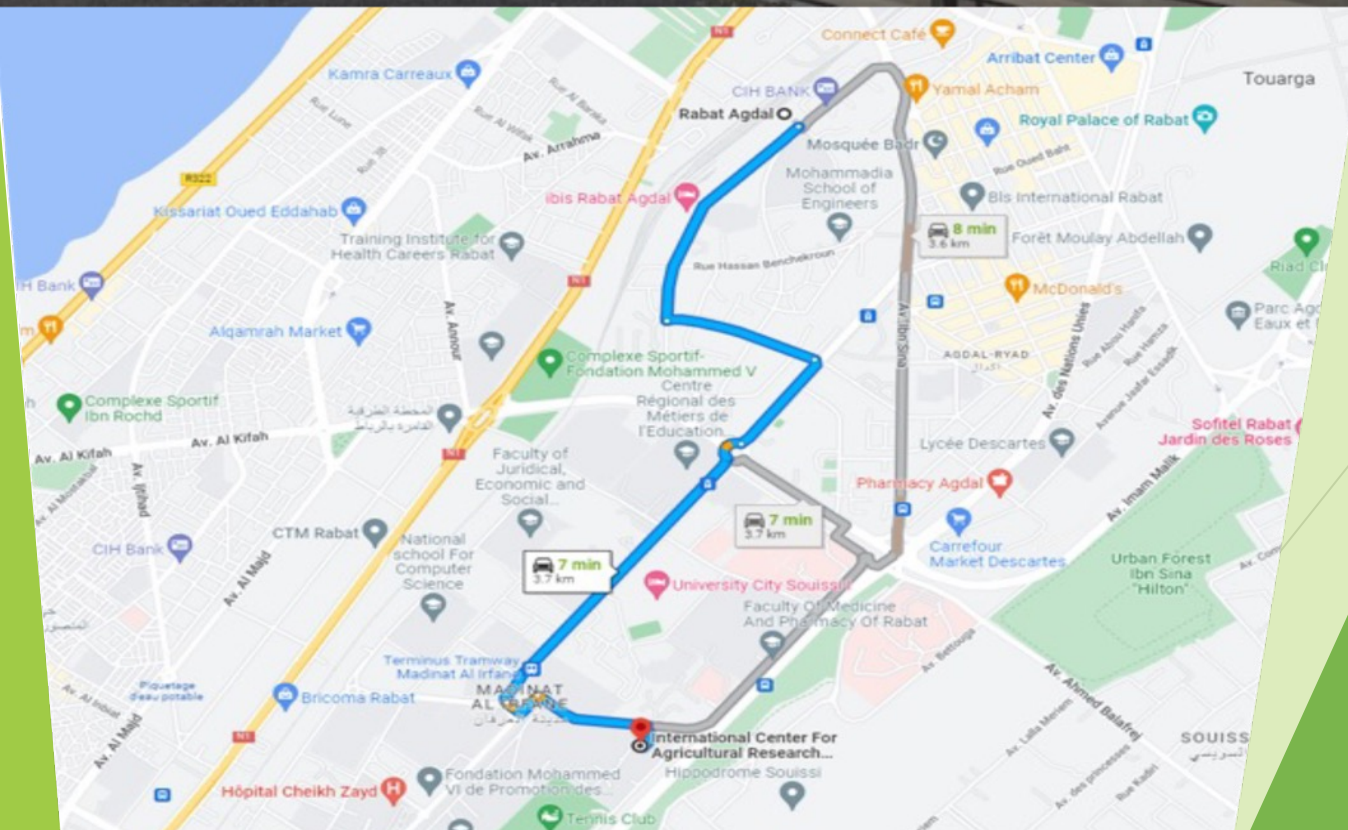
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This meeting is planned mainly as an in-person meeting, for participants who cannot make it to Rabat this time, they can contact the F2R-CWANA Lead and Co-Lead for further information:

Initiative Lead, Michael Baum, m.baum@cgiar.org / Initiative Co-Lead, Maha AL-Zu'bi, m.al-zubi@cgiar.org

Logistics Information

Accommodation:

The participants are booked through our agency in two main hotels, Le Terminus Onomo and La Tour Hassan. Confirmation to be sent accordingly to all participants along the payment method.

Le Terminus

- ▶ **Address:** 286 Ave Mohammed V, Rabat
- ▶ **Phone:** [05372-12900](tel:05372-12900)

La Tour Hssan

- ▶ **Address:** 26, Avenue Chellah B.P. 14, Rabat 10000
- ▶ **Phone:** [05372-39000](tel:05372-39000)

Transportation Airport, Hotel and to the Venue:

A driver will be waiting for you outside the airport holding ICARDA sign upon your arrival.

A bus will be picking you up from the hotel at 7:45 am and dropping you at the hotel by the end of the day.

Below you find the contact details of the organizing team.

Covid-19 entry requirements:

- ▶ Passengers travelling to Morocco must present a vaccination pass and a negative PCR test result less than 48 hours old before boarding the plane.
- ▶ It should be noted that all vaccine passes issued by other countries are accepted as long as they are valid in their country of emission.
- ▶ Travelers wishing to enter Morocco are advised to contact their airlines or embassies for more information on entry requirements.
- ▶ Before boarding, passengers must present [a health form](#), duly completed including the passengers address and two telephone numbers to locate them during their stay.
- ▶ Upon arrival at the airports, antigenic tests will be performed randomly on passengers.
- ▶ If the tests are positive, other preventive measures will be implemented.
- ▶ For more info: [Welcome back | Moroccan National Tourist Office \(visitmorocco.com\)](#)

Organizing Assistant

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