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**ORCID Implementation for the  
ICARDA Research Staff**

**Final Report**

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Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) is multi-center and multi-CRP online platform for integrated management, monitoring, and reporting of projects, from planning to budgeting, risks' assessment, knowledge sharing and more. MEL creates synergy between research and development partners, bridging competences in a results-oriented platform. MEL allows saving resources and time, reducing paperwork, facilitating administrative steps, quickening project related communications and enabling near real-time data collection to inform decision-making.

*MEL is the result of the synergic efforts by CGIAR Research Program on Grain Legumes and Dryland Cereals (GLDC), CGIAR Research Program on Roots, Tubers and Bananas (RTB), CGIAR Research Program on Fish (FISH), The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), The International Potato Center (CIP), The World Agroforestry Center (ICRAF), The International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), ICARDA Geoinformatics Unit (GU), and is powered by iMMAP, Codeobia, D-Space and Amazon Web Services.*

For more information, please visit:

Main website: <https://mel.cgiar.org>

YouTube channel: [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCle4a86Rp-hcTt5C\\_x4YkHg/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCle4a86Rp-hcTt5C_x4YkHg/videos)

Guide: <https://cgiarmel.atlassian.net/wiki/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=8552452>

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<sup>1</sup> International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA)

## Revision History

| Version | Date                            | Originator(s)                     | Reviewer(s)                        | Description        |
|---------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1.0     | 26 <sup>th</sup> August 2018    | Sara Jani                         | Valerio Graziano, Enrico Bonaiuti, | Structure, content |
| 2.0     | 6 <sup>th</sup> September 2018  | Valerio Graziano                  | Enrico Bonaiuti                    | Data review        |
| 2.1     | 10 <sup>th</sup> September 2018 | Chandra Biradar, Valerio Graziano | Enrico Bonaiuti                    | ORCID overview     |

## Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Revision History .....  | II |
| Acronyms .....  | IV |
| Introduction .....  | 1  |
| 1. Overall Reporting Strategy Steps .....                     | 2  |
| 1.1 Target Capacity .....                                     | 2  |
| 1.2 Team Members and Responsibilities .....                   | 2  |
| 1.3 Communication Strategy .....                              | 3  |
| 2. Use of ORCID iD .....                                      | 4  |
| 3. Results .....  | 4  |
| 3.1 First Stage (14th April) .....                            | 5  |
| 3.2 Second stage (1st August) .....                           | 7  |
| 4. Lessons Learned .....                                      | 9  |
| 5. Next steps .....   | 9  |
| 6. Annex's .....  | 10 |
| Annex 1: List of staff .....                                  | 10 |
| Annex 2: Staff Without ORCID iD or Not Synched with MEL ..... | 13 |
| Annex 3: Initiation email .....                               | 14 |

## Acronyms

|        |   |
|--------|---|
| BIC    | Biodiversity & Crop Improvement                                 |
| CIP    | International Potato Center                                     |
| CRP    | CGIAR Research Program  |
| DDGR   | Deputy Director General – Research                              |
| GLDC   | CGIAR Research Program on Grain Legume                          |
| GU     | ICARDA Geoinformatics Unit                                      |
| HR     | Human Resources   |
| ICARDA | International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas |
| ICC    | International Cooperation                                       |
| ICRAF  | World Agroforestry Center                                       |
| IITA   | International Institute of Tropical Agriculture                 |
| MEL    | Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning                             |
| OCS    | One Corporate System  |
| RALS   | Resilient Agricultural Livelihood Systems                       |
| RTB    | CGIAR Research Program on Roots, Tubers and Bananas             |
| WLME   | Water, Land Management and Ecosystems                           |

## Introduction

[ORCID](#) is a not-for-profit organization, sustained by fees from our member organizations. It is part of the wider digital infrastructure needed for researchers to share information on a global scale. ORCID provides **free of any charge** a persistent digital identifier that distinguishes each research from every other one and, through integration in key research workflows such as manuscript and grant submission, supports automated linkages between researchers and their professional activities, ensuring recognition.

More than 5 millions<sup>2</sup> professionals worldwide have already adopted ORCID. Additionally, ORCID implements an policy of full interoperability with other notorious identifiers such as Thomson-Reuters ResearcherID.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning platform ([MEL](#)) staff has initiated a plan to ensure all the research staff of the International center of Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas ([ICARDA](#)) to register and synchronize with MEL an [ORCID](#) iD by end of 2018. ***ORCID IDs ensure worldwide recognition of research and institutions, contributing in setting a standard way to credit and safely sharing knowledge among organizations, publishers and researchers.***

The knowledge reported through MEL is consultable on [MELSpace](#), which already shows the ORCID ID of the authors synched with the platform and shall soon incorporate ORCID lists of publications and records, in order to reduce manual reporting and improve search and discovery of the information products across many research information databases.

The initiative has been impactful. The total number of responders has been 101 resources out of 141, although every resource asset has been checked by a MEL Admin.

The total time spawn of the activity has been 3 months, encompassing the following activities:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> of April 2018</a>  | Strategy Planning                        |
| <a href="#">14<sup>th</sup> of April 2018</a> | Initiation                               |
| <a href="#">22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2018</a> | 1 <sup>st</sup> Wrap-Up                  |
| <a href="#">1<sup>st</sup> of August 2018</a> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Wrap-Up and finalization |

The work carried out aimed at ensuring that all ICARDA research staff possessed an ORCID account synchronized with MEL, complete of up to date BIO and profile picture.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://orcid.org/statistics>

## 1. Overall Reporting Strategy Steps

The task strategy has been drafted on the 1<sup>st</sup> April and then finalised on 14<sup>th</sup> April, prior to the start of the activity on the 16<sup>th</sup> April. The planning required a total of 10 days, including document finalisation as part of the general programmatic activities.

The planned steps were divided to primary and secondary, and are hereby listed and subsequently explained in the related sub-chapters:

The primary tasks were to:

1. Check how many resources already had an ORCID iD.
2. Verify the existing ORCID iD of the resources.
3. Check whether the resources had synchronized their ORCID iD with MEL.
4. Support the ICARDA research staff in registering new ORCID iD and synchronize them with MEL.
5. Overall ensure that all ICARDA research staff had an ORCID iD registered and synchronized with MEL by the end of the activity.
6. Prepare guidelines on how to link publications to ORCID

The secondary task consisted in ensuring that all ICARDA research staff had an updated bio and profile photo within MEL.

### 1.1 Target Capacity

The list of ICARDA staff has been obtained from OCS<sup>3</sup>, modified by Mr. Valerio Graziano (Learning & Open Access Consultant) and subsequently refined by Ms. Sara Jani (FAIR Knowledge and Data Officer for the Big-Data platform).

The total number of target capacity was 141 of which 111 active and 30 inactive as they left ICARDA or were in the process.

The complete list is attached as Annex 1.

### 1.2 Team Members and Responsibilities

The team members and related roles are hereby listed:

- 1) Katrin Park: Initiate leader, Head of Communication
- 2) Enrico Bonaiuti: Team co-leader, Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Specialist.
- 3) Chandra Biradar: Team co-leader, Head of Geoinformatics Unit.
- 4) Hadiya Razouk: Webmaster and Information Management Specialist.
- 5) Sara Jani: Trainer.

Ms. Katrin Park has initiated the work by sending an email to the selected ICARDA staff explaining the work to be done and requesting their cooperation.

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<sup>3</sup> OCS is the source for HR data at ICARDA

### 1.3 Communication Strategy

**Initiation:** The first step was to check if the ICARDA research staff had an ORCID iD already and, in case they had, if it was synchronized with MEL. By doing so, all scientists have been provided training material on MEL in the form of online [User Guide](#). All information gathered in this phase has then been provided to Ms. Katrin Park as excel list.

**Execution:** By collecting the scientists replies, the type of assistance requested has been identified and provided to each accordingly. In times, extra support has been offered by directly carrying out the synchronization for the scientists or uploading on MEL their bio and profile pictures, just as received.

**Templates:** The initiation email (attached as Annex 2) has been re-sent as follow up on 16<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> May, 11<sup>th</sup> June and 7<sup>th</sup> July to all those resources that have not replied.



## 2. Use of ORCID iD

In order to brand any publication with the ORCID iD, the users are only required to synchronize their ORCID iD with MEL through the “Your ORCID” tab on their dashboard. In case the users do not possess an ORCID, it is simply required to follow the instructions detailed on the [MEL Guide](#) or the official [ORCID website](#).

Once the connection is established, all publications reported within MEL will be attributed with their author’s ORCID iD automatically.

Publications reported prior to the synchronization of ORCID with MEL shall be notified to the [MEL Team](#), which will check and reapprove them to apply the ORCID attribution.

## 3. Results

The data has been collected and analysed in two stages:

- a. Total data on ICARDA research staff on 14<sup>th</sup> April<sup>4</sup> (141 resources of which 19 leavers<sup>5</sup>).
- b. Total data on ICARDA research staff on 1<sup>st</sup> August<sup>3</sup> (141 resources of which 30 leavers<sup>4</sup>).

The data being:

- a. ORCID iD registered
- b. ORCID iD synchronized with MEL
- c. Bio in MEL
- d. Profile pictures in MEL

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<sup>4</sup> 20 resources joined the activity in mid-June. Their data before the activity implementation and after has been redistributed accordingly in the First Stage and the Second Stage of the implementation.

<sup>5</sup> Includes both permanent staff and consultants

### 3.1 First Stage (14<sup>th</sup> April)

Out of **141** resources screened, the total number of resources who had an ORCID iD was **74 (52%)**, of which **28** were synchronized with MEL and **46** resources were not. **67 (48%)** resources had no iD.

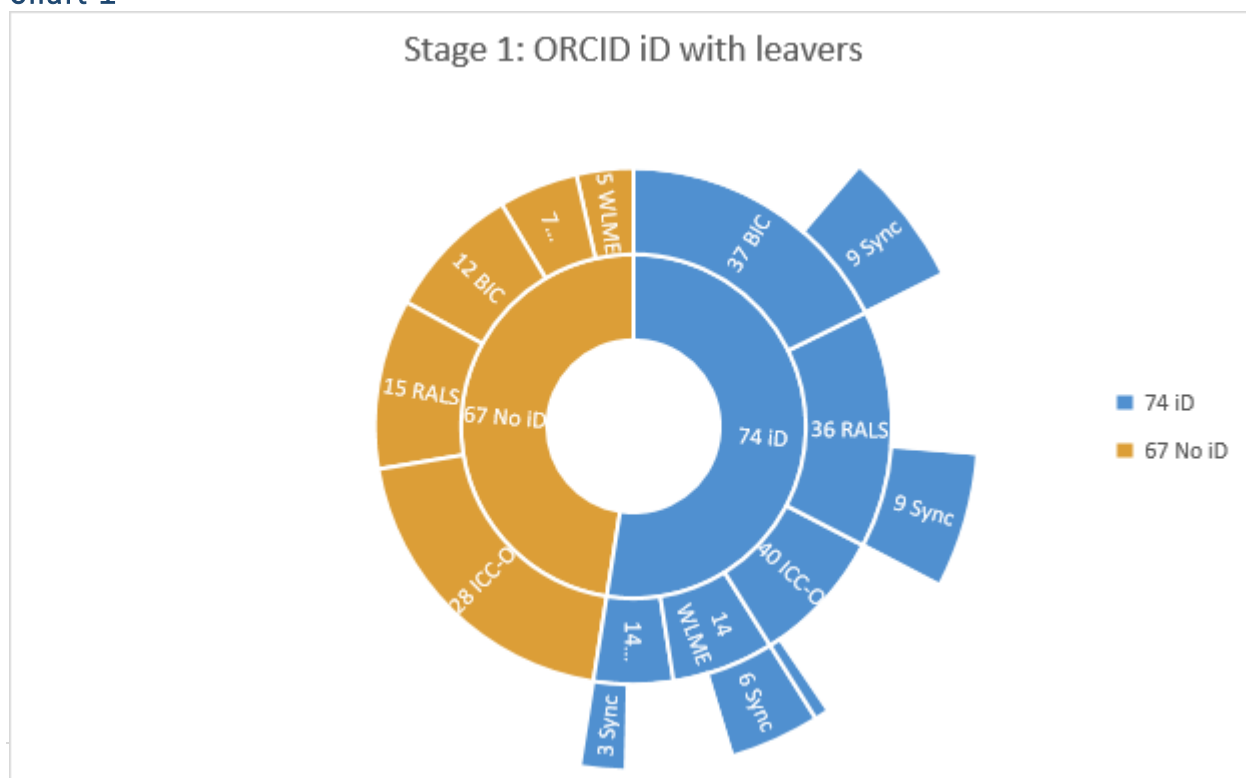
It also showed that **45 (32%)** resources had their bio updated and **59 (42%)** resources had their picture updated in MEL.

Table 1

| Program | Staff     | ORCID      |                |         | BIO     | Picture  |
|---------|-----------|------------|----------------|---------|---------|----------|
|         |           | iD Synched | iD Not Synched | No iD   |         |          |
| BIC     | 37 (1*)   | 9          | 16             | 12 (1*) | 9       | 9        |
| DDGR-O  | 14 (3*)   | 3          | 4 (2*)         | 7 (1*)  | 10 (1*) | 12 (2*)  |
| ICC-O   | 40 (4*)   | 1          | 11 (1*)        | 28 (3*) | 3       | 8        |
| WLME    | 14 (3*)   | 6          | 3 (1*)         | 5 (2*)  | 9 (2*)  | 12 (2*)  |
| RALS    | 36 (8*)   | 9          | 12 (6*)        | 15 (2*) | 14 (4*) | 18 (6*)  |
| Total   | 141 (19*) | 28         | 46 (10*)       | 67 (9*) | 41 (7*) | 59 (10*) |
|         |           | 74 (10*)   |                |         |         |          |

\*staff leaving ICARDA

Chart 1



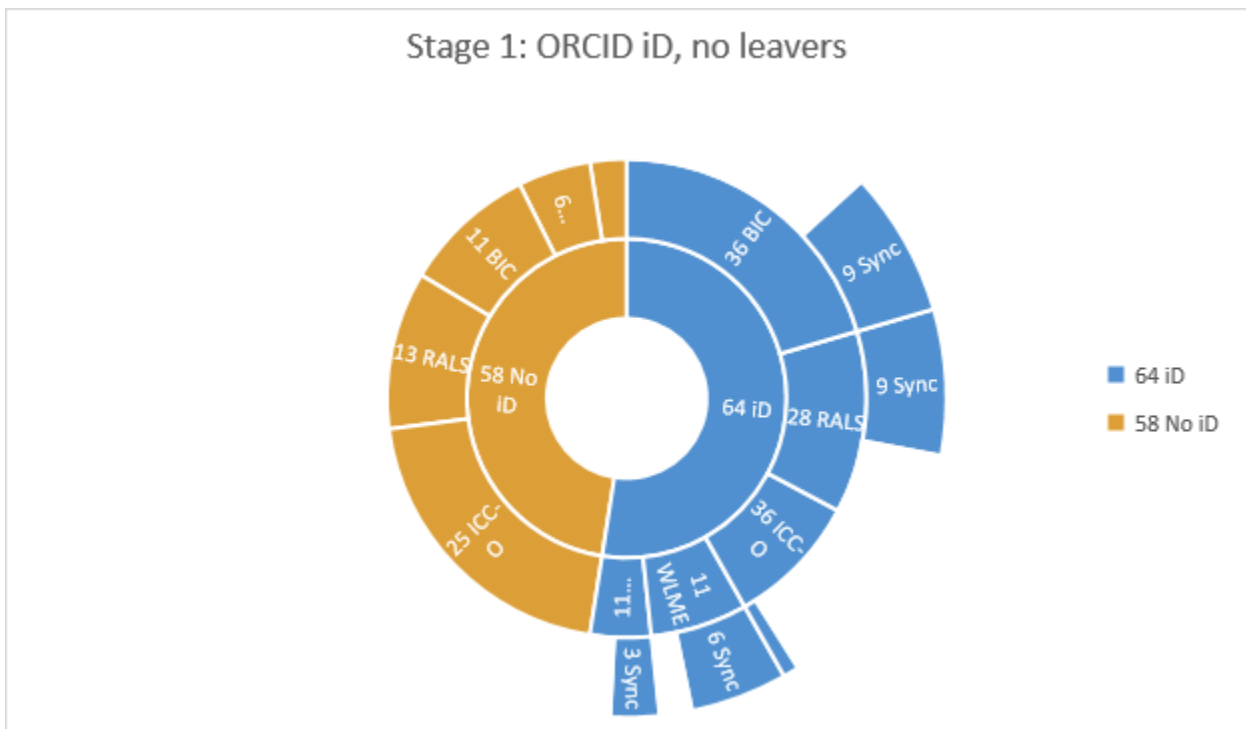
Without taking into account the leavers, out of 122 resources screened, the total number of resources who had an ORCID iD was 64 (52%), of which 28 were synchronized with MEL and 36 were not. 58 (48%) resources had no iD.

It also showed that 38 (31%) resources had their bio updated and 49 (40%) resources had their picture updated in MEL.

Table 2

| Program | Staff | ORCID      |                |       | BIO | Picture |
|---------|-------|------------|----------------|-------|-----|---------|
|         |       | iD Synched | iD Not Synched | No iD |     |         |
| BIC     | 36    | 9          | 16             | 11    | 9   | 9       |
| DDGR-O  | 11    | 3          | 2              | 6     | 9   | 10      |
| ICC-O   | 36    | 1          | 10             | 25    | 3   | 8       |
| WLME    | 11    | 6          | 2              | 3     | 7   | 10      |
| RALS    | 28    | 9          | 6              | 13    | 10  | 12      |
| Total   | 122   | 28         | 36             | 58    | 38  | 49      |
|         |       | 64         |                |       |     |         |

Chart 2



### 3.2 Second stage (1<sup>st</sup> August)

The increases have been of **+39 (+28%)** registered ORCID iDs, **+80 iDs (+57%)** synchronized with MEL, **+44 (+31%)** bio and **+52 (+37%)** pictures uploaded. The activity has almost **maximized the usage of ORCID** within ICARDA.

In details, out of **141** resources screened, the total number of resources who had an ORCID iD was **113 (80%)**, of which **108** were synchronized with MEL and **5** were not. **28 (20%)** resources had no iD.

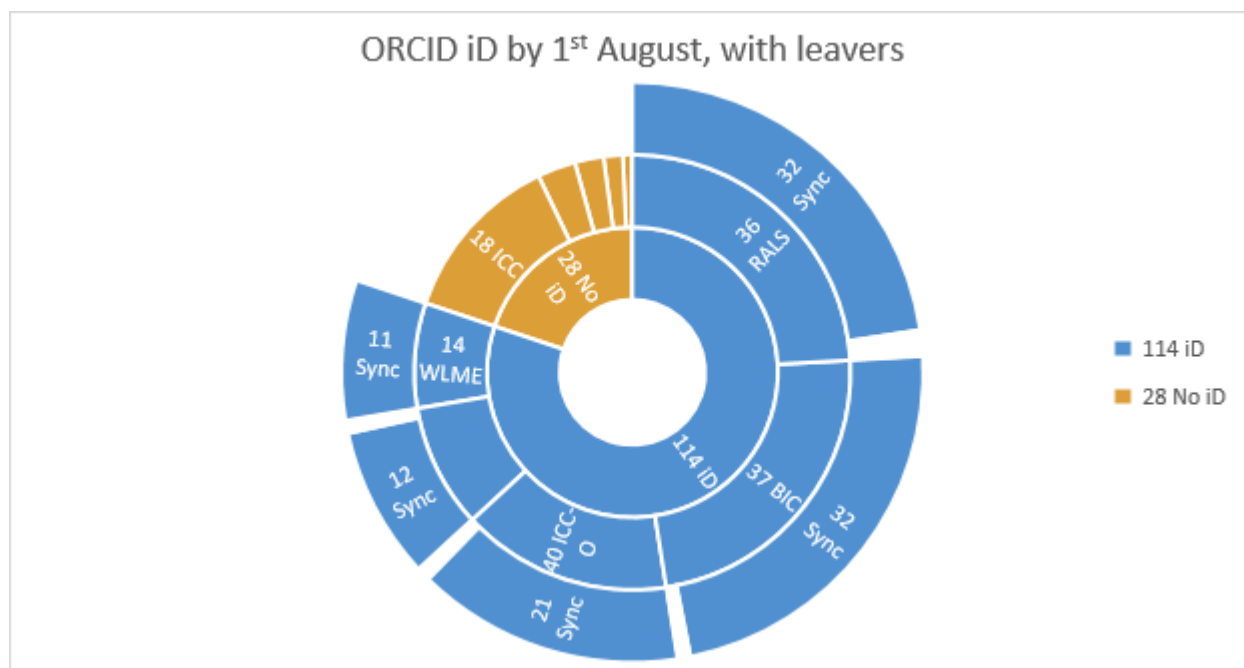
It also showed that **89 (63%)** resources had their bio updated and **111 (79%)** resources had their picture updated in MEL.

**Table 3**

| Program | Staff     | ORCID      |                |          | BIO     | Picture   |
|---------|-----------|------------|----------------|----------|---------|-----------|
|         |           | iD Synched | iD Not Synched | No iD    |         |           |
| BIC     | 37 (4*)   | 32 (2*)    | 1              | 4 (2*)   | 22 (1*) | 29 (2*)   |
| DDGR-O  | 14 (3*)   | 12 (1*)    | 1 (1*)         | 1        | 13 (2*) | 14 (3*)   |
| ICC-O   | 40 (14*)  | 21 (1*)    | 1 (1*)         | 18 (12*) | 15 (1*) | 22 (2*)   |
| WLME    | 14 (4*)   | 11 (1*)    | 0              | 3        | 11 (2*) | 13 (3*)   |
| RALS    | 36 (5*)   | 32 (2*)    | 2 (2*)         | 2 (1*)   | 28 (2*) | 33 (3*)   |
| Total   | 141 (30*) | 108 (7*)   | 5 (4*)         | 28 (15*) | 89 (8*) | 111 (13*) |
|         |           | 114 (12*)  |                |          |         |           |

\*staff leaving ICARDA

**Chart 3**



Without taking into account the leavers, The increases have been of **+38 (+39%)** registered ORCID iDs, **+73 iDs (+66%)** synchronized with MEL, **+43(+39%)** bio and **+49 (+44%)** pictures uploaded.

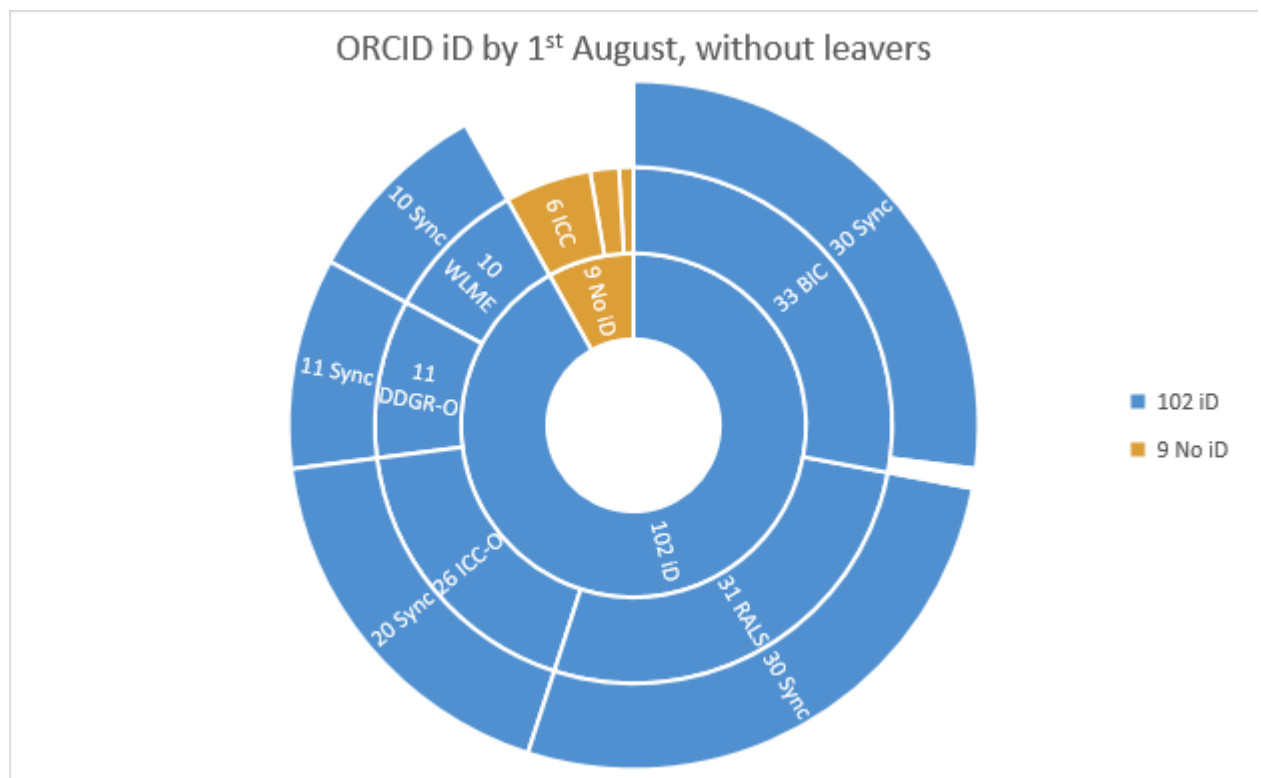
In details, the results showed that, out of **111** resources screened, the total number of resources who had an ORCID iD was **102 (92%)**, of which **101** were synchronized with MEL and **1** was not. **13 (8%)** resources still had no iD (see Annex 2).

It also showed that **78 (70%)** resources had their bio updated and **98 (88%)** resources had their picture updated in MEL.

**Table 4**

| Program | Staff | ORCID      |                |       | BIO | Picture |
|---------|-------|------------|----------------|-------|-----|---------|
|         |       | iD Synched | iD Not Synched | No iD |     |         |
| BIC     | 33    | 30         | 1              | 2     | 21  | 27      |
| DDGR-O  | 11    | 11         | 0              | 0     | 11  | 11      |
| ICC-O   | 26    | 20         | 0              | 6     | 14  | 20      |
| WLME    | 10    | 10         | 0              | 0     | 9   | 10      |
| RALS    | 31    | 30         | 0              | 1     | 26  | 30      |
| Total   | 111   | 101        | 1              | 9     | 81  | 98      |
|         |       | 102        |                |       |     |         |

**Chart 4**



## 4. Lessons Learned

About half of the scientists did not possess any prior knowledge of ORCID before the start of the activity and the purpose of registering an ORCID iD is still not clear overall among them. While some scientists welcomed this new, additional way of crediting their work, the majority retains general distrust toward ORCID, seen as unnecessary and redundant.

## 5. Next steps

Looking forward to similar, new trainings, an induction prior to the start of the activity is strongly recommended. The resources would greatly benefit from receiving institutional communications clarifying the object and aim of the activities, in addition to providing some background and exhaustive reasons for implementing the new tool or best practice. Such induction would also be beneficial in terms of receiving feedback on the activity before implementing it, thus collecting thoughts, requests and doubts to be addressed during the training or even re-assessing the necessity of carrying out the operation.

In addition:

- 1) It is recommended that the HR requires new hired staff the creation of an ORCID iD and liaise with MEL for synchronization. OCS may also store ORCID for future use.
- 2) Scientists to communicate ORCID iD to publisher and MEL to monitor how many paper are without ORCID iD.
- 3) MEL to contact ORCID administration and discuss on how to synchronize it with MELSpace in order to share information from one page to the other, in order to import and report publications directly from ORCID and to update ORCID with reported items.

The ORCID Implementation team is to:

- 1) Produce a blog on the value of crediting standards (ORCID) and sharing licenses.
- 2) Follow up with the ICARDA research staff in 6 months (March 2019).
- 3) Include ORCID awareness in relevant courses on Publication and Data Management.







|        |  |  |  |
|--------|--|--|--|
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
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| RALS   |  |  |  |
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| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| DDGR-0 |  |  |  |
| BIC    |  |  |  |
| DDGR-0 |  |  |  |
| DDGR-0 |  |  |  |
| BIC    |  |  |  |
| DDGR-0 |  |  |  |
| WLME   |  |  |  |
| DDGR-0 |  |  |  |
| DDGR-0 |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| RALS   |  |  |  |
| DDGR-0 |  |  |  |
| WLME   |  |  |  |

**Annex 2: Staff Without ORCID iD or Not Synched with MEL**

List of Staff with Personal Information has been removed to comply with EU General Data Protection Regulation (<https://eugdpr.org/>).

| No ORCID iD          |            |           |        |
|----------------------|------------|-----------|--------|
| Program              | First Name | Last Name | E-mail |
| BIC                  |            |           |        |
| BIC                  |            |           |        |
| ICC-O                |            |           |        |
| ICC-O                |            |           |        |
| ICC-O                |            |           |        |
| ICC-O                |            |           |        |
| ICC-O                |            |           |        |
| ICC-O                |            |           |        |
| RALS                 |            |           |        |
| ORCID iD Not Synched |            |           |        |
| Program              | First Name | Last Name | E-mail |
| BIC                  |            |           |        |

### Annex 3: Initiation email

**Subject:** Status update: MEL BIO + Photo + ORCID

Colleagues:

We are preparing a page for each ICARDA scientist in our website. Enrico's team has prepared the status of three pieces of information we would need from you in MEL to be harvested by other systems – please see attached.

Could you login into MEL (<https://mel.cgiar.org>) with your CGIAR email and password and update the information we specified in the file (BIO and/or PICTURE and/or ORCID). In the columns H, I, you may find the ORCID ID(s) Sara was able to find on the ORCID website; we need you to synch this to avoid any manual mistake from our side.

Here a short guide to:

Update your Bio/Picture: <https://cgiarmel.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/MEL/pages/8552504/Account>

Sync your ORCID: <https://cgiarmel.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/MEL/pages/37060680/Your+ORCID>

In case you need any assistance, please contact Sara or Enrico. Sara will also follow up with you individually.