What is MEL?

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) is an 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 to save resources and time, reducing paperwork, facilitating administrative steps, quickening project related communications and enabling near real-time data collecting to inform decision-making.

Who works at MEL?

MEL is the result of the synergic efforts by CGIAR Research Program on Dryland Systems (CRP-DS), CGIAR Research Program on Roots, Tubers and Bananas (CRP-RTB), CGIAR Research Program on Dryland Cereals (CRP-DC), CGIAR Research Program on Grain Legumes (CRP-GL), The International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), The International Potato Center (CIP), ICARDA Geoinformatics Unit (GIS), and is powered by D-Space and Amazon Web Services.

Why is MEL Needed?

- MEL safeguards intellectual property and provides full credit to the authors of knowledge reported, making use of international metadata standards such as Dublin Core. The platform has been aligned with HR management, internal finance and internal sharing systems (e.g. One Corporate System – OCS, SharePoint).
- MEL holds a flexible structure that can be tuned with impact pathways and results frameworks used by CGIAR and donors. Its modular structure allows the implementers to customize the platform and re-shape it to meet their specific needs.
- The platform comes with an Integrated Open Access repository that boosts the projects’ outreach. Carved in the system is the Knowledge Share toolset, which includes an internal discussion forum, a technical assistance chat, project dedicated web-pages, and a communication-friendly module to write and disseminate project related blog stories.

Who benefits from MEL?

Scientists, Project Managers, Flagship/Cluster/Output Leaders and Co-Leaders, CRPs Admins and Directors, Center DGs and DDGs, Communication/Capacity Development/Gender/Intellectual Property/Geoinformatics and Data/Finance Focal Points, and more.