



Food and Nutrition Security in Africa

*The role of agricultural research and the Australian
aid program*

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Australia Africa Conference 2015



Australian
International Food
Security Research
Centre

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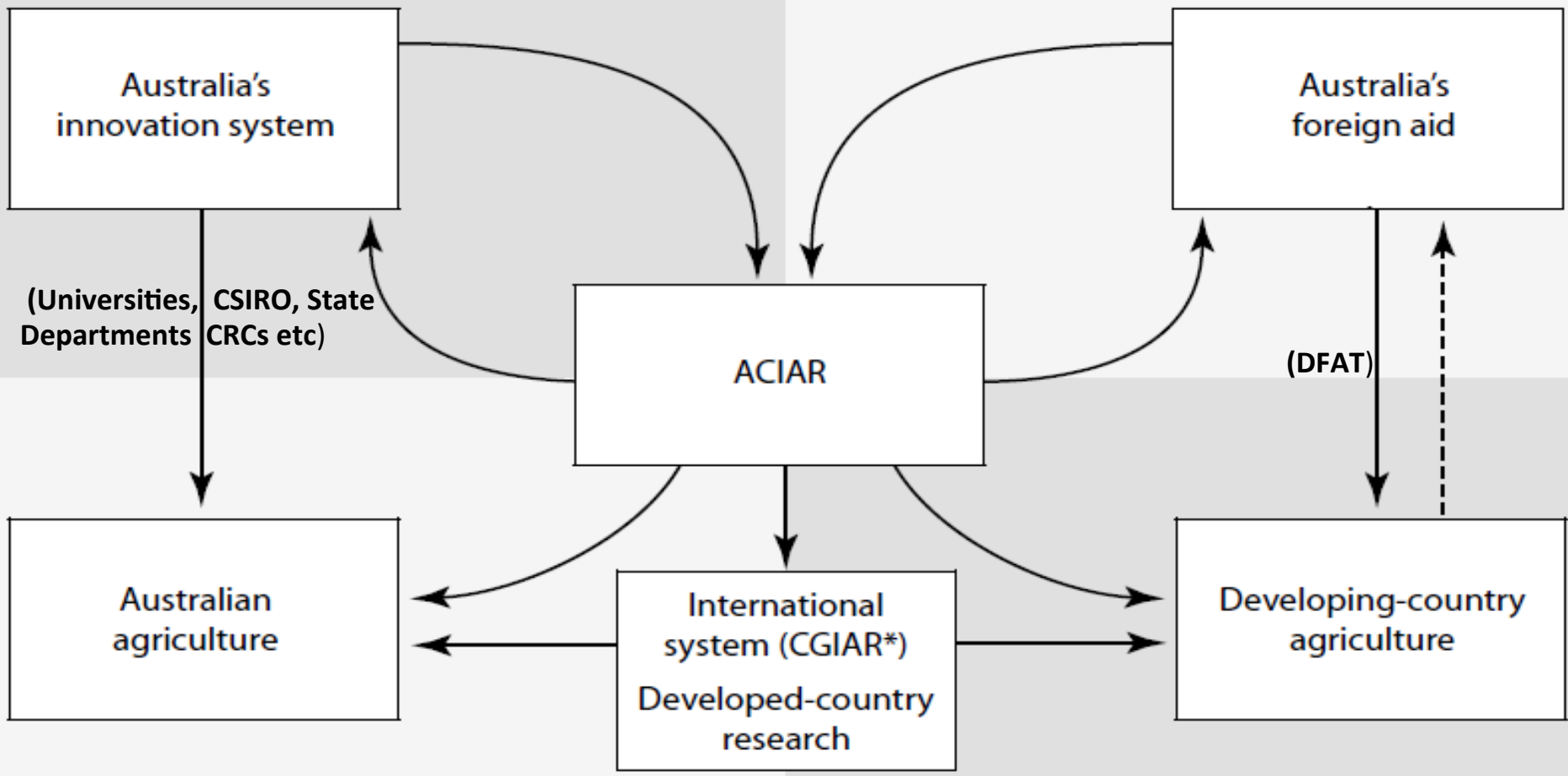
Australian Government
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International Agricultural Research



African Food Security

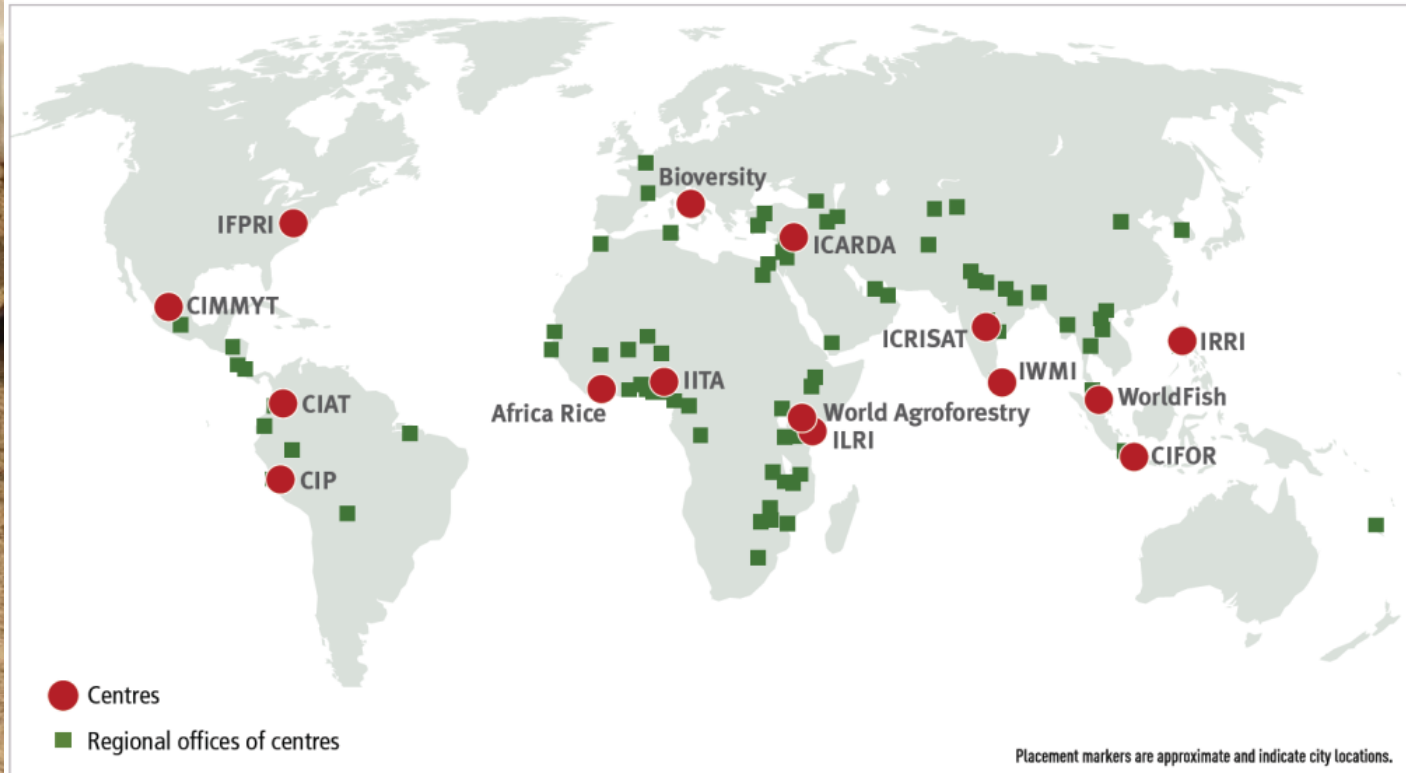
- Striking evidence of improved agricultural performance
 - Real agric growth rate of 3.4% (c.f. popⁿ 2.5%)
 - Undernourishment down from 33% in 1990-92 to 23% in 2014-16
 - Food availability increased by nearly 12% over the past two decades
- But, lags every other region of the world
 - ½ the average rate of developing countries
 - Around ¼ people remain undernourished
- Uptake of *appropriate* technology critical







International Agricultural Research Centres & offices





ACIAR

- ACIAR has supported collaborative research in Africa for over 3 decades
 - Well placed to contribute to food security
- Expanded rapidly
 - From 2009 – Africa Food Security Initiative
 - From 2011 – Food Security Centre
 - Responded to NEPAD, CAADP, guided by FARA
- Focus
 - Eastern and southern Africa
 - Accelerating adoption
 - Food availability, access and utilisation
 - Nutrition-sensitive agriculture
 - Gender in agriculture
 - Partnerships - private sector





Examples

- Identifying socioeconomic constraints to and incentives for faster technology adoption
 - 4y project investigating barriers to adoption
- Farm mechanisation and conservation agriculture for sustainable intensification (FACASI)
 - 4y project identifying small-scale machines to improve farming practices

Promoting Australia's national interests by contributing to sustainable economic growth and poverty reduction

To achieve

Private sector development

Human development

We maximise impact by being innovative and leveraging knowledge and finance

Infrastructure, trade facilitation and international competitiveness

Agriculture, fisheries and water

Effective governance: policies, institutions and functioning economies

Education and health

Building resilience: humanitarian assistance, disaster risk reduction and social protection

Gender equality and empowering women and girls

We invest in

For each country, the balance of investments will be tailored to country context and reflect Australia's national interest



Looking to the future

- Program emphases
 - Sustainable intensification and resilience of crops
 - Livestock production and value chains
 - Water management in irrigated systems
 - Cross-cutting nutrition and gender
- Modalities
 - Innovative partnerships for impact
 - Regional programs





Looking to the future

- ACIAR remains committed to Africa
 - Existing levels of expenditure
 - Responding to regional/national priorities
- Australian International Food Security Research Centre
 - Programs continue
 - Staged transition to fully integrate in ACIAR
- Strong partnerships underpinned by mutual benefit

Thank you



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