



## Why become a member?

By joining International Wheat Yield Partnership (IWYP) you can be part of the solution for increasing global wheat productivity in order to meet the needs of a growing world population where wheat is a primary source of calories. Further, you can gain valuable early access and insights into the output from cutting edge research conducted by some of the leading wheat research groups around the world. Private Members also provide strategic direction for IWYP research initiatives.

### **IWYP offers two tiers of membership:**

#### **Standard – US \$5,000 annually**

##### **Requirements:**

Available to all companies engaged in wheat research or seed production and sales.

##### **Membership benefits include:**

- ❖ Opportunity to develop joint projects with IWYP public partners by providing know-how, cash and/or in-kind contributions and thus leveraging the resources of a large publicly funded program;
- ❖ Free registration to the annual IWYP Program Conference permitting direct access to the public and private partners of IWYP;
- ❖ Early access to results and knowledge (including germplasm) from the research projects ahead of companies that are not IWYP members;
- ❖ Opportunity to provide guidance and advice to IWYP management via a private sector engagement forum;
- ❖ Privileged access to IWYP nurseries on an “invitation only” basis; and
- ❖ Access to the Members area section of the IWYP web portal for information and updates on research.

## Executive – US \$10,000 annually

### Requirements:

- ❖ Wheat must be a strategic commercial crop where the organization has significant R&D capabilities and investment; and
- ❖ The member must have an existing track record of wheat genetics research and breeding.
- ❖ If invited, the Member must be able to provide time and commitment of a senior R&D leader with appropriate seniority, research management experience and scientific credibility to engage with IWYP.

### Membership benefits include:

- ❖ All benefits from Standard membership; **PLUS**
- ❖ Potentially a seat on the IWYP Science and Impact Executive Board (SIEB) as an equal partner to help guide the direction of the program and support the process of recommending grants to be awarded to public sector partners.

If you would like further information on membership or the IWYP in general please contact [iwypprogmanager@iwyp.org](mailto:iwypprogmanager@iwyp.org) or [iwypprogdirector@iwyp.org](mailto:iwypprogdirector@iwyp.org).

## IWYP Membership FAQs

### ❖ I am already member of the Wheat Initiative (WI) and IWYP is an Associated Program of the WI? Am I not a member of IWYP by default?

- No. IWYP is a \$100m research partnership focused funding projects based on a specific research theme: increasing the genetic yield potential of wheat. It is committed to the development and equitable access to improved wheat germplasm and other products developed as part of IWYP. The Wheat Initiative (WI) is an overarching global mechanism to help coordination and sharing of resources across existing funded programs and in all areas of wheat research. However, unlike IWYP, the Wheat Initiative does not fund R&D projects *per se*. Being an Associated Program simply means the opportunity to increase IWYP's international visibility through participation to the various activities of the Wheat Initiative and provide an opportunity for us to contribute to the development and implementation of global research priorities.

### ❖ Our main cereal market is winter wheat. Why should we support a project where the focus is spring wheat?

- It is the intention of IWYP that the technology developed will be applicable to both spring and winter wheats. While it is true that IWYP Hub currently contains mostly spring wheat germplasm from CIMMYT, discoveries made and validated in spring wheat can easily be transferred into a winter wheat background. The IWYP Hub may also be used to create populations enriched with valuable traits in elite winter wheat backgrounds for subsequent distribution.

### ❖ How would I benefit from IWYP membership when all the outputs of the project will be public goods?

- By engaging as a Member you would gain early access to information and materials, compared to non-members, providing a valuable time advantage.

### ❖ Is it possible to include our own registered and commercial varieties in the project to complement that from the public sector?

- Absolutely. We welcome any germplasm that you think would be of benefit to the program and which ultimately would benefit your breeding activities. These can be contributed to projects as bilateral agreements, or provided direct to the IWYP Hub where it would be used to validate discoveries coming out of the different research activities. This would need to be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

### ❖ The IWYP has a research focus that is too long for us. How can we rapidly utilize IWYP results into our breeding programs to have impact on our business?

- As a member you would have early access to results coming out of the funded projects (for example: markers, genes, novel phenotyping methodologies, germplasm). You

would not have to wait until the end of the project or when results are made available in publications as a non-member would have to. How and when you utilize the results is your decision.

❖ **How relevant will the IWYP Research and Breeding Hub at CIMMYT in Mexico be for our market? Will germplasm developed as part of the IWYP be adaptable to our target market?**

- The IWYP Hub, situated in Obregon, Mexico is representative of approximately one third of the global wheat growing area identified by CIMMYT. Therefore, any successful material developed and deployed here would be expected to have a major impact on global wheat productivity and the livelihoods of farmers in those regions with a similar environment to Obregon and the environments it simulates through different planting and irrigation regimes. The Hub will also provide markers and populations based on germplasm provided by Members companies, enriched for selected IWYP traits, for Members to assess in their own markets. Finally, public material would be available for multi-locational testing as part of the International Wheat Improvement Network (IWIN), where germplasm is dispatched to over 100 locations worldwide to wheat scientists to be evaluated under a wide range of environmental conditions. Data is then returned to CIMMYT, analyzed and then made available to the global wheat community. This would provide useful information on the adaptability of the germplasm.

❖ **We are partly owned by a company that is an existing member of the IWYP. Does this also give us access to the benefits of membership?**

- Only if the parent company has > 50% stake in your company. In this case you would benefit from flow through from the parent Member (access to information etc.) but would not automatically qualify in having a representative at IWYP meetings or access to seed from the IWYP Hub. In order to qualify for these benefits, you would need to become a separate member.

❖ **How much funding has been raised so far and who is funding it?**

- Currently IWYP supports scientific research at a level of US\$20 million with another US\$15.5 million in a Call process. Towards the latter part of 2016 we expect to be announcing another Call. The list of parties interested in supporting the goals of IWP are continually growing and we would encourage you to check out our webpage at [www.iwyp.org](http://www.iwyp.org) for more information.

❖ **What are the key research themes, and what sort of projects are being funded?**

- The International Wheat Yield Partnership (IWYP) is working towards a goal to increase the genetic yield potential of wheat by up to 50% in the next 20 years. We aim to accomplish this by improving the photosynthetic capability of the wheat plant and the amount of captured carbon that is sent to the developing grain. The target areas that fall within the research scope of IWYP are (i) increasing carbon capture before

flowering, (ii) optimizing photosynthetic efficiency, (iii) optimizing plant architecture and modifying flowering time, (iv) increasing biomass and (v) optimizing harvest index. Currently 8 projects are being fully supported by our funding organizations. More information can be found at <http://iwyp.org/media>.

❖ **If we want to engage in a project directly, how can we do this and under what terms?**

- If you wish to participate in one of more supported IWYP projects, we would encourage you to contact the lead institute directly. Please bear in mind however that any bilateral agreements should conform to the terms and conditions laid out in the agreement signed by project institutes with the IWYP funding partner.

❖ **What is the process for identifying projects and research organizations to perform them?**

- The mechanism for identifying suitable research projects and research institutions/organizations is through a Competitive Call for Research Proposals. Interested parties are asked to provide short pre-proposals which are then filtered on how well they met the research scope of IWYP and then sent to expert international scientific peer review. The projects that are selected are then invited to provide detailed Full Proposals which are also subject to expert international peer review. Results of this review are then combined with recommendations from IWYP management to request financial support from our funding organizations via our Science and Impact Executive Board (SIEB).

❖ **Who decides what projects are funded?**

- The IWYP SIEB with input from experts in the field of global wheat / cereal research (including representatives from our private sector members) review and recommend projects to our funding partners. The funding organizations make the final decisions.

❖ **Will the Executive Members make all the decisions, and leave the Standard Members disenfranchised?**

- No, we recognize that all private members will bring value to IWYP and we would hope that, irrespective of their membership status, they would engage fully with IWYP and provide input into the scientific direction of the Partnership and development of strategies for deploying IWYP research discoveries. Executive members need to fulfill certain requirements in order to join and will be expected to commit more time to IWYP. The expertise they bring in wheat research and commercial development will benefit all members of IWYP and no one player will be able to set the IWYP research direction that just benefits themselves at the cost of the other members. In addition, both standard and executive members would have equal access to IWYP research outputs such as tools and germplasm.