

CGIAR CapSha Innovation Pitch Template

Towards Stronger CGIAR–NAREES Partnerships for Agrifood Systems Transformation

1. Project Title (*Maximum 20 words*)

Provide a concise, compelling, action-oriented title that clearly communicates the innovation and capacity-sharing focus of the proposed idea.

2. Lead Institution (NAREES)

The proposal must be led by a recognized National Agricultural Research, Extension and Education System (NAREES) institution.

Lead Institution

Type of NAREES Institution

Country

Lead Contact Person

Position

Email

Telephone

3. Consortium Partners

List all collaborating institutions and clearly describe their expected roles by filling out the table below

Institution	Country	Type of Institution	Expected Role
		NAREES	
		CGIAR Centre	
		University	
		Government Agency	
		Private Sector	
		Farmer Organization	
		NGO	
		Regional Organization	
		Other	

4. Problem Statement and Rationale (*Maximum 250 words*)

Describe the challenge your innovation seeks to address. Your rationale should answer the following questions:

- What capacity challenge currently exists?
- Who is affected?
- Why does this challenge matter for agrifood systems?
- Why has this challenge persisted?
- Why is addressing it now important?
- How does it constrain achievement of national agricultural priorities?
- Why are existing approaches inadequate for addressing the challenge?

A strong rationale should clearly describe:

- Current situation
- Existing capacity gap
- Opportunity for innovation
- Expected transformational value

5. Goal (*One sentence*)

State the overall development goal your innovation seeks to achieve.

6. Specific Objectives (*3–5 objectives*)

Clearly state the specific objectives.

These should describe what the innovation intends to achieve rather than the activities.

For example:

- Strengthen institutional capacity for...
- Develop collaborative innovation platforms...
- Enhance knowledge exchange...
- Build sustainable research partnerships...
- Accelerate innovation uptake...

7. The Capacity Sharing Innovation and Value Proposition (*Maximum 300 words*)

This is the heart of the proposal.

Describe the innovative capacity-sharing approach.

Explain:

- What is innovative?
- How is this different from traditional capacity development?
- What new partnership model is proposed?
- What makes this idea transformative?
- What makes it scalable?
- How is it cost-effective?

- How does knowledge flow among partners?
- How can CGIAR and NAREES together generate greater impact than working independently (potential complementarity in roles)?
- How will all partners benefit from the collaboration?
- How will the partnership continue after the initial investment?

This section should answer the question:

Why should CGIAR invest in this idea?

8. Alignment with National Priorities (*Maximum 250 words*)

Demonstrate how the proposed innovation directly supports national development priorities.

Reference to relevant national policies or strategies where appropriate.

9. Alignment with CGIAR Strategy (*Maximum 250 words*)

Explain how the proposed innovation contributes to CGIAR's 2030 Research and Innovation Strategy and long-term development goals.

Identify the CGIAR impact areas to which your proposal contributes.

Applicants are not expected to contribute to every impact area.

Instead, clearly explain:

- Expected outputs
- Expected outcomes
- Expected impacts
- Pathway to CGIAR impact

11. Cross-disciplinary and Partnership Approach (*Maximum 200 words*)

Describe how the proposal brings together different disciplines and institutions.

Indicate how collaboration will occur among:

- Research
- Extension
- Education
- Policy
- Private sector
- Farmers
- Youth
- Women
- Civil society
- Development partners

The proposal needs not include all listed collaboration.

Also describe how the proposal promotes:

- South–South cooperation
- Multi-country learning
- Communities of Practice
- Joint leadership

12. Sustainability and Scalability Strategy (*Maximum 200 words*)

Explain how the initiative will continue beyond initial investment.

Consider:

- Institutional ownership
- National financing
- Policy integration
- Communities of Practice
- Digital knowledge platforms
- Long-term partnerships
- Resource mobilization
- Capacity institutionalization

13. Expected Outputs, Outcomes and Long-term Impacts

- List the immediate deliverables
- Describe medium-term changes.
- Describe the broader development impacts.

14. Indicative Budget

Provide an estimated budget for your proposed idea.

Budget Category	Amount (USD)
Personnel	
Capacity Sharing Activities	
Workshops/Communities of Practice	
Digital Platforms	
Travel	
Monitoring, Learning and Knowledge Sharing	
Other	
Total Budget Requested	
Co-investment	
Type	Amount (USD)
In-kind Contribution	
Cash Contribution	
Other Leveraged Funding	

Total Co-investment	
----------------------------	--

16. Why Should CapSha Support this Idea? (*Maximum 150 words*)

Provide a concise closing statement highlighting why this proposal stands out and why it deserves to be showcased in the CapSha Innovation Pitch Challenge

Address:

- What makes it unique or stand out?
- Why is it timely?
- Why is it scalable?
- What unique value does it bring to CGIAR–NAREES collaboration?
- What long-term transformation will it achieve?

Submission Checklist

Before submitting, ensure that your proposal:

- ☐ Is led by an eligible NAREES institution.
- ☐ Focuses on capacity sharing rather than training alone.
- ☐ Addresses food, land, and water systems capacities.
- ☐ Demonstrates cross-disciplinary collaboration.
- ☐ Includes multiple partners.
- ☐ Aligns with national development priorities.
- ☐ Aligns with CGIAR Strategy and Impact Areas.
- ☐ Identifies opportunities for co-investment.
- ☐ Presents a clear pathway to sustainability.
- ☐ Demonstrates potential for scaling and long-term impact.
- ☐ Is endorsed by your lead institution by providing a letter of endorsement.