

**Hybrid Rice Research and Development Consortium**  
**(HRDC)**

**in partnership with NARES and the private seed sector**

**International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)**

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# ***Rationale***

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- Developing hybrid rice requires effective collaborations between the public and private sectors
- Private companies have advantages in commercial seed production, infrastructure of seed process and marketing
- IRRI and NARES have the advantages in research, product development, testing, extension, collaboration, training and capacity building
- Further progress cannot be sustained at the current levels of interaction between the public and private sector
- A mechanism that combines the advantages of public and private sectors to accelerate the dissemination of hybrid rice technology

# ***Current issues and constraints for Hybrid Rice at IRRI***

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- **History of resources**
  - Unrestricted core budget (declining)
  - ADB – “Development and use of hybrid rice in Asia”, 1998-2005
  - Other small grants (collaborative studies with other IRRI projects)
- **Current constraints/issues dealing with private sector**
  - No effective mechanism for hybrid rice commercialization between IRRI and private sector
  - Insufficient research resources
  - Too many germplasm requests
  - No feedback for the performance of IRRI products
  - Private sector commercializes IRRI products without IRRI’s knowledge

# *Objectives*

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- Support research for developing parental lines and hybrids at IRRI and NARES
- Provide better information on the performance of hybrids and best management practices
- Support information sharing, public awareness and capacity building, and better decision-making of new products
- Strengthen the partnership between IRRI, NARES and private sector to accelerate the adoption of the technology

## *Principles of operation*

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- A membership association to provide fee-based products and services to the private sector
- Maintaining current IRRI policy of **freely** sharing germplasm and information with NARES
- Mutual, transparent benefits to IRRI, NARES and the private sectors

# ***Annual membership fees***

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- Private Sector ***Primary*** Member - \$15,000
- Private Sector ***Promotional*** Member - \$5,000
- Private Sector ***Supporting*** Member - \$2,500
- ***Public*** Sector Members (NARES) - Voluntary contribution

# ***Governance and use of HRDC funds***

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- IRRI Coordinator and secretariat
- Advisory Committee:
  - **two** private sector ***primary*** members
  - **one** private sector ***promotional*** member
  - **two** ***NARES*** representatives
  - **two** ***IRRI*** representatives
- Annual HRDC meeting for work plan, budget, general research directions and priorities
- Final approval of fund use – IRRI DG

## ***Functions of the Advisory Committee***

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- Screen applications for membership
- Review annual workplan and budget
- Recommend charges for germplasm
- Establish mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the operations of HRDC
- Formulate policies to fulfill the goals of the HRDC

## ***Governance and use of funds***

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- IRRI, in collaboration with its NARES partners, will propose the general research directions and priorities to the Advisory Committee
- Consortium members are encouraged to contribute suggestions regarding research prioritization and other activities of the HRDC

## ***Germplasm Access and Charges Applicable for IRRI-bred Hybrid Rice***

Germplasm Category	Private sector members of the HRDC <sup>1</sup>				Public Sector
	Primary	Promotional	Supporting or Non-member	Charge (US\$) per sample <sup>2</sup>	
(1) Hybrid breeding lines	Yes	No	No	\$100 (5 g)	Free Access
(2) A/B pairs under conversion	Yes	No	No	\$200 (50 seeds of A & 5 g of B)	Free Access
(3) Designated A/B/R/S-lines	Yes	Yes (delayed)	No	\$1000 (100 g)	Free Access
(4) Released A/B/R/S-lines	Yes	Yes	No	Auction (5 kg, 2 yr right) <sup>***</sup>	Free Access

\* *Defined in the “Membership” section* .

\*\* Proposed fees for cost recovery, final rates to be determined by the Advisory Committee during its annual meeting and approved by the IRRI DG

\*\*\* Royalties apply if commercialized after 2 years (5% of gross sales to IRRI + 0.077% of gross income from commercialization to FAO (Treaty))

## ***Benefits for public sector members***

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- Primary beneficiaries of the HRDC funds: IRRI, NARES and other public sector organizations engaged in hybrid rice research and development:
  - Support for collaborative research on hybrid rice development
  - Hybrid rice scholarships and Training courses
  - Professional development of young scientists
  - Support for attending international conferences
  - International Hybrid Rice Award
- NARES members can also submit their own germplasm for testing, auction, licensing, and commercialization through the same mechanism

## ***Benefits for private sector members***

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- Differentiated & earlier access to four classes of germplasm and associated information
- Participation in multi-location hybrid performance trials
- Accelerated research progress – better products
- Promotion of HR technology and policies
- Improved management practices for HR
- Capacity building
- Forum for interaction

## ***Benefits for rice farmers***

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- Improved pipeline for product development - more and better rice hybrids available
- Accelerated access to hybrid rice - based technologies: quality seed, knowledge, and services provided by the public and private sector
- Increased farm income

## ***Contact for further Information***

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# **The 5<sup>th</sup> International Hybrid Rice Symposium**

**September, 11-15, Changsha, Hunan, China**