

International Potato Research Partnership and collaborative framework

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Development of an International Potato Research Partnership is an initiative of several participating countries (see below). Conception and development of the Partnership have resulted from recognition of, and response to, short and longer-term changes that are occurring in the potato industry globally, particularly in relation to achieving the United Nations (UN) sustainability goals (ref A/RES/70/1. UN General Assembly, Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 21 October 2015), and the Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Dec. 12, 2015, T.I.A.S. No. 16-1104. The partnership addresses the need to adopt an integrated approach, deploying research funding available on a global level. This will provide investors with a coordinated series of research activities, ensuring the highest probability of success. It also addresses the need to build collaboration and teamwork between researchers internationally, and hence improve efficiency in research resource use. This initiative is a template for the future, is mission driven and industry guided, and is a broadly collaborative co-investment in potato research. The participating partners have committed to build international relationships that aim to develop international collaboration. The proposed partnership will initially involve collaboration between researchers in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Germany, the Netherlands, and the African Potato Coalition. Other countries and organisations have expressed interest in joining the partnership. This collaboration is important and will help achieve rapid progress towards the UN sustainability development goals, as well improve partners research capability through scientific exchange and collaboration.