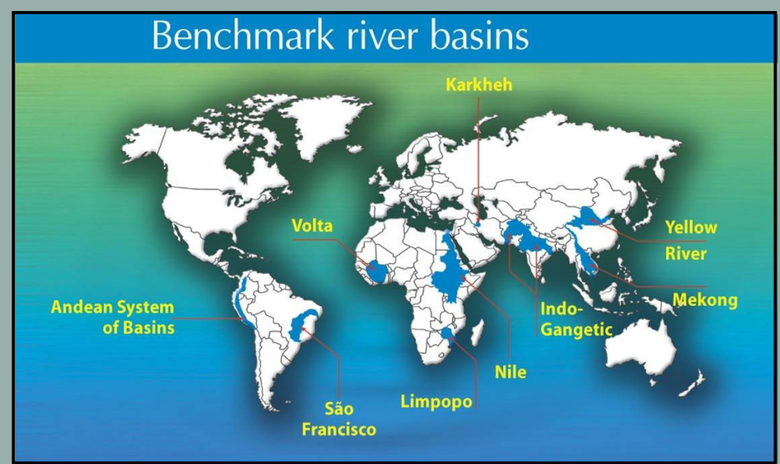
Funding and Management Structure

The proposed funding and management structure of the CPWF Capacity Building program is similar to that of the CPWF as a whole. The CPWF would play primarily a coordination, monitoring and evaluation role, with the bulk of funds passing through the CPWF to implementing partners and mentoring universities. The estimated budgets for each of the four mechanisms described above are listed in Table 1 below.

Table 1.	Estimated Budget
Curriculum Development	USD 75,000 per course (5 courses = 375,000) one time cost
Applied Field Courses	USD 100,000 per year
Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Cohorts	USD 200,000 per year
Advanced Training Opportunities	USD 150,000 per year
Internships	USD 50,000 per year
Total for 5 year Program	USD 2,625,000 (USD 525,000 per year)



For more information on the Challenge Program on Water and Food, and its Capacity Building Strategy, please contact:

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CGIAR Challenge Program on
WATER & FOOD

Capacity Building

Increasing the ability of scientists to carry out integrated research on water and food with a basin perspective

Africa

Asia

Latin America

CPWF and Capacity Building

The Challenge Program on Water and Food (CPWF) is an international, multi-institutional research initiative with a strong emphasis on north-south and south-south partnerships. The initiative brings together research scientists, development specialists, and river basin communities in Africa, Asia and Latin America to create and disseminate international public goods (IPGs) that improve the productivity of water in river basins in ways that are pro-poor, gender equitable and environmentally sustainable.

The research portfolio of the CPWF currently supports capacity building for scientists in the biological, physical, and social sciences, providing practical training in use of tools, methodologies and processes for integrative water and food research. This document describes the CPWF's objectives to expand the scope of its current capacity building activities.

Rationale for extended capacity building activities

Programs such as the CPWF attempt to have a basin wide impact. In transboundary basins composed of countries at different levels of social and economic development, the asymmetrical distribution of knowledge and resources can be reinforced when research funding is offered through competitive processes. Having a capacity building program in tandem with a research initiative helps to reduce these inequities. Rather than research objectives, CPWF capacity building can focus on learning objectives, according to project, institution, country, and basin specific needs.

Objectives

• Extend knowledge and methodologies from CPWF research projects to wider pool of beneficiaries

• Facilitate broader collaboration and knowledge sharing within and among river basins in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

• Support un-met training needs within the CPWF portfolio

• Support basin-serving universities in the South through joint program development and partnership arrangements with mentoring universities in the North.

Box 1: Advanced Training Opportunities

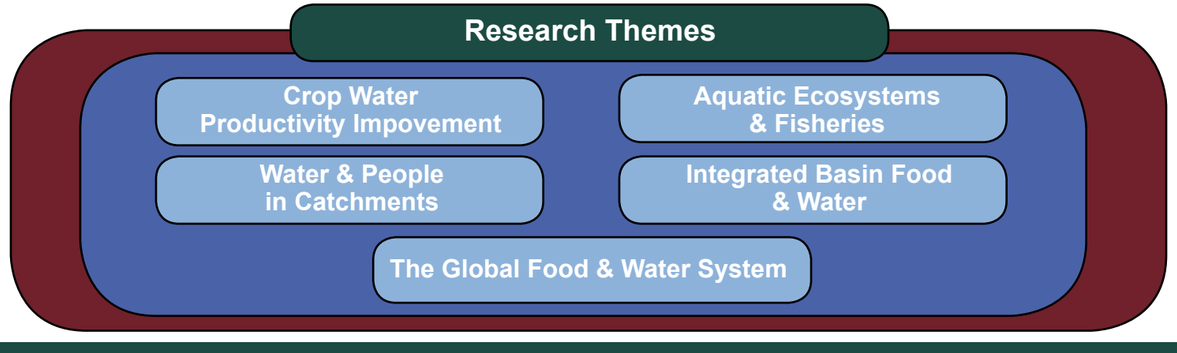
Multiple Use Systems
Design, operation & maintenance of small reservoir ensembles
Waste water irrigated peri-urban vegetable production
Modeling tools for the simulation of crop growth and yield, soil and plant water, nutrient and carbon dynamics and their application to real world problems
Assessing water productivity at the farm, catchment, and basin levels.
Livestock water productivity
Modeling climate change impacts and assessing adaptation options
Using DSS for dam planning and operation
Structuring and conducting social science research around local – customary water management
Poverty & Equity in watershed management
Participatory water management research.
Increasing water productivity in rainfed areas by supplemental irrigation
Assessment of upper/lower basin interaction with respect to changes in water resource management
The role of policy and institutional issues in increasing water productivity.
Collaborative research planning, writing, and management

Programs designed to reach objectives

1. CPWF Research Theme Applied Field Courses
Five, 150 hour Water Productivity training modules, designed collectively by CG Centers, supporting universities in the North, and implementation partners in the south, offer field based training drawing on the lessons learned by the research projects of the CPWF and the Comprehensive Assessment of Water in Agriculture (CA).

Participants (instructors and attendees) are recruited from agriculture and water sectors, representing both biophysical and socioeconomic backgrounds. Research undertaken as part of the course can be tied to institutional research needs of participant institutions. Modules can also be offered as distance learning courses through the supporting university program.

2. Interdisciplinary Postgraduate Cohorts
This program supports advanced degrees in fields related to agriculture and integrated water resource management, and builds competency in interdisciplinary analysis, as well as collaborative research planning and coordination skills. Each cohort consists of five masters and one PhD student, each representing a different academic field, who work together through out the course of their degree. Students and faculty at a host university in a CPWF benchmark basin university work together with a mentor university in the North to plan and execute an extended CPWF research project.

3. Advanced Training Opportunities
Advanced training opportunities provide specialized training in more advanced methodologies, drawn from the CPWF research portfolio. This mechanism will ensure opportunities for cross-basin learning and for amplifying the impact of research projects with especially innovative or successful training programs. Examples from the current CPWF portfolio are in Box 1.

4. Internships
CPWF interns will work on a research project for an NGO or NARES with a demonstrated commitment to interdisciplinary, cross-sectoral research collaboration, that would benefit from additional manpower. The CPWF will monitor the learning of the intern, and provide additional mentorship and training as appropriate.