

Switzerland



Current Swiss member of Board of Trustees and Swiss staff

Dr Ruth Egger is the current chair of CIP's Board of Trustees and has 30 years of experience of working in rural development in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe. Her area of expertise is the financial sector and institutional development, with a focus on gender issues and poverty reduction.

Ms Alice Thomann is an associate expert with CIP's Papa Andina initiative and works on corporate social responsibility issues.

Dr Peter Trutmann leads the Global Mountain Program (GMP), a System Wide Program of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, which is housed within CIP. GMP acts as an umbrella program to CGIAR activities on mountains.

The CIP vision

The International Potato Center (CIP) will contribute to reducing poverty and hunger; improving human health; developing resilient, sustainable rural and urban livelihood systems; and improving access to the benefits of new and appropriate knowledge and technologies. CIP will address these challenges by convening and conducting research and supporting partnerships on root and tuber crops and on natural resources management in mountain systems and other less-favored areas where CIP can contribute to the achievement of healthy and sustainable human development.

www.cipotato.org

CIP is supported by a group of governments, private foundations, and international and regional organizations known as the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR).

www.cgiar.org

and the International Potato Center

The Swiss Agency for Development Cooperation (SDC) is a major partner of the International Potato Center (CIP). Shared priorities relate to: agriculture and rural development; improved stewardship of natural resources to address climate change; and methods for economic development that promote socially and ecologically sustainable economic growth. SDC's priority bilateral countries include seven countries in which CIP is currently active: Mozambique; Tanzania; Bolivia; Peru; Bangladesh; Nepal; and Vietnam. CIP also has activities in the SDC priority regions of the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

Current SDC support for CIP activities



SDC has consistently supported CIP's priority research programs by contributing to CIP's core budget. This support currently benefits CIP's ISO-17025 accredited genebank germplasm distribution system, its potato and sweetpotato crop improvement and crop protection programs, and its work on sustainable production systems. SDC also supports CIP activities in South America and Mongolia through specific research contracts, and in 2008 provided support for activities to celebrate the international year of the potato.

Also focused on the Andes, **Papa Andina** is a CIP regional initiative that promotes technological, commercial, and institutional innovation in the potato sector in Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru. Now in its third phase, Papa Andina seeks to reduce poverty among small-scale farmers by improving the competitiveness of potatoes in the market, and by enabling small farmers to participate more effectively in markets for potatoes and potato-based products. Papa Andina brings research, development organizations and users together in a process of "learning by doing". This facilitates greater participation of the different stakeholders in the generation, use, and dissemination of knowledge, contributes to efficient R&D and technology development, and helps partners to adapt to circumstances, resources and changing opportunities.

CONDESAN (Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecoregion), an award-winning partnership platform hosted by CIP, is a diverse set of partners that carries out and facilitates research, training, development and policy initiatives to contribute to the well-being of the population of the Andean ecoregion. CONDESAN receives SDC support to run the Latin American decentralized hub of **Mountain Partnership**, which

is a voluntary alliance, members of which are working together to improve livelihoods, conservation and stewardship throughout the world's mountains.

InfoAndina is CONDESAN's Resource Center for Sustainable Development of the Andes. It facilitates the flow and exchange of information for the sustainable mountain development (SMD) community in the Andes through electronic communications, virtual working groups, e-conferences and daily newsletters. InfoAndina receives SDC support to host the Mountain Forum Latin American Hub and to provide information services for the Andean SMD community and CONDESAN regional projects.

In **Mongolia**, CIP is providing backstopping support to the Mongolian Potato Project which is executed by the Mongolian Farmers Association for Rural Development and funded by SDC. This support includes facilitating access to new germplasm of potatoes from other countries for the purpose of testing new varieties, providing information about the methodology and results of potato research, and about technology for seed production and storage, introducing seed protection measures and tools, and conducting training for seed multipliers on participatory research methods and monitoring. The aim is to build direct links between the Mongolian partners and CIP so that at the end of the project, institutional links will be maintained.

SDC funding to CIP

Unrestricted funding enables the organization to maintain operations that serve as essential underpinning to CIP's research activities.

Associated with a specific project or research topic, mostly for a specific country or region, restricted funding allows the organization to dedicate expertise and time to achieving precisely-identified research objectives.

Unrestricted funding in US\$

2003	945,000
2004	1,029,000
2005	828,000
2006	823,000
2007	887,000
2008	972,000

Restricted funding in US\$

2003	1,160,000
2004	1,214,000
2005	1,203,000
2006	955,000
2007	1,238,000
2008	1,644,000*

*Includes received and pledged funds.

In addition to SDC funding, CIP received funding of US\$ 150,000 during 2004-2007 from the Swiss Centre for International Agriculture (ZIL) for a project to research exotic strains of *P. infestans* in the Andes.