The CGIAR Research program on Roots, Tubers and Bananas (RTB) is a broad alliance led by the International Potato Center (CIP) jointly with Bioversity International, the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA), and CIRAD, in collaboration with research and development partners. Research on its mandate crops—bananas, cassava, potato, sweetpotato, yams, and minor roots and tubers—is conducted through a product portfolio of seven themes. The research program was officially launched in 2012[1]. It is one of the 16 CGIAR Research Programmes (CRPs) that reach across the 15 CGIAR centres. The name CGIAR comes from the acronym for the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research. When CGIAR underwent a major transformation in 2008, the cornerstone of which are the CRPs[2], it kept the acronym as its name.

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Research themes
The RTB research program is organized around seven themes from which several research outcomes and development impacts are expected[3].

Theme 1. Unlocking the value and use potential of genetic resources
Theme 2. Accelerating the Development and Selection of Cultivars with Higher, More Stable Yield and Added Value
Theme 3. Managing priority pests and diseases
Theme 4. Making available low-cost, high-quality planting material for farmers
Theme 5. Developing tools for more productive, ecologically robust cropping systems
Theme 6. Promoting postharvest technologies, value chains, and market opportunities
Theme 7. Enhancing impact through partnerships

References
1. InfoMus@ news on the launch of RTB.
2. InfoMus@ article on Banana research in the new CGIAR.
3. RTB's seven themes on the RTB website.

Also on this website

News and blogs on RTB:
  - GWAS and the parthenocarpic banana
  - Project on the uptake of a technique to manage Xanthomonas wilt
  - Preventing the spread of TR4 in Africa
  - Who's breeding bananas?
  - RTB's banana breeder

More stories...
RTB publications in Musalit
RTB-led exercise on priority assessment

External links

Official website of RTB
Official website of CGIAR

Contributors to this page: System Administrator.
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