



ICUC @ IWMI



## The International Center for Underutilized Crops (ICUC) moves to Sri Lanka Joint Statement by IWMI and ICUC

**June 7, 2005, Colombo, Sri Lanka**

The International Center for Underutilized Crops (ICUC) and the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) are pleased to announce the relocation of ICUC's Headquarters from the United Kingdom to Sri Lanka, with effect from April, 2005. The ICUC is now co-located and hosted by IWMI at its Headquarters in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Established in 1992, the International Center for Underutilized Crops (ICUC) is an autonomous, nonprofit, scientific research and training center. The Center addresses ways of increasing the use of underutilized crops for food, medicinal and industrial products, and also for environmental conservation. It provides expertise and acts as a collaborative institute for tropical, sub-tropical and temperate crop development. The ICUC operates through regional offices and works in close collaboration with national partners for sustainable technology development for products and marketing of underutilized crops.

The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is a nonprofit scientific research organization focusing on the sustainable use of water and land resources in agriculture and on the water needs of developing countries. IWMI works with partners in the South to develop tools and methods to help these countries eradicate poverty through more effective management of their water and land resources.

ICUC's move to IWMI is expected to provide greater synergy to the programs of both institutes through its research activities. For example, the ICUC's strategic theme *Improving Degraded Land through use of Underutilized Crops* is closely linked to IWMI's research theme on *Land, Water and Livelihoods*. Hence, both institutions will greatly benefit by working together on research projects of mutual interest such as "The potential of underutilized crops to contribute to the drought coping strategies of the poor" and "The potential of underutilized crops to grow under wastewater reuse conditions."

Since the founder Director of the ICUC – Dr. Nazmul Haq is retiring soon, a new Director will be appointed shortly. The ICUC and IWMI will be working in close collaboration in developing a partnership of mutual cooperation. The global program of ICUC will continue to be run through its existing network in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

For more information on ICUC's move to IWMI, please contact Prof. Frank Rijsberman, Director General of IWMI ([iwmi@cgiar.org](mailto:iwmi@cgiar.org))

For more information on the ICUC Program, please contact Dr. Nazmul Haq: [director\\_icuc@cgiar.org](mailto:director_icuc@cgiar.org) or visit the ICUC web site: [www.civil.soton.ac.uk/icuc/](http://www.civil.soton.ac.uk/icuc/)

International Water Management Institute  
127, Sunil Mawatha, Pelawatte, Battaramulla  
Sri Lanka  
[www.iwmi.org](http://www.iwmi.org)