






WHO WE ARE?

AHEAD is steered by a high level Committee that provides leadership for management, funding, networks, identifies global research questions and supports scientific interaction. The office of AHEAD is based at the Julius-Kühn-Institute with the Wheat Initiative.




CONTACT

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ASPIRATIONS

- Development of global research programs integrating expertise across multiple international partners
- Knowledge of, and ready access to germplasm, intellectual capacity, technological resources and facilities
- Increased investment in wheat heat and drought research reflecting robust research delivery and rapid progress in global adaptation to heat and drought
- Open and frequent communication globally, and the opportunity for regular exchange of staff and students between research groups and countries
- Ability to openly and effectively compare germplasm and technologies and their communication to facilitate uptake and adoption
- Development of efficient and rapid technology delivery paths to facilitate adoption

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AHEAD

Alliance for Wheat Adaptation to Heat and Drought

WHY WHEAT

Wheat is an important part of almost everyone's diet, rich or poor, making up 20% of the calories and protein consumed by humans worldwide. In many less-developed countries, it is the main source of calories. The number of extreme weather events – droughts and heat waves included – have tripled in the last 30 to 40 years, causing huge damage or loss of entire crops.

VISION

A global coordinating program facilitating development and delivery of new technologies to ensure wheat varieties and agronomic practices can meet the challenges of increasingly hotter and drier production environments.

MISSION

- Bring the wheat research community together to inform and exchange new germplasm, technologies and ideas for enhancing tolerance to heat and drought.
- Build the capacity for research and technology delivery in all regions where heat and drought challenge wheat production.
- Provide a framework for effective investment from funding organisations and value-adding across global research, enabling ready access and uptake of new technologies and resources.
- Engage the global wheat R&D and breeding community to promote collaboration and information sharing on heat & drought-related discoveries.

OUR OFFER

AHEAD helps plant scientists around the world to:

- Exchange information and ideas equitably by meeting regularly and sharing data.
- Pool resources to allow efficient, cost effective, and smart science.
- Set up international projects with an interdisciplinary approach to generate high impact.
- Increase the relevance and impact of heat and drought research for wheat producers and policymakers.
- Share wheat germplasm for research and breeding.
- Identify what technologies work best to make wheat climate resilient.
- Advocate for investment in heat and drought research with support of the Steering Committee.
- Identify options for new funding.
- Obtain seed funds for staff and student exchanges, meetings and project development.

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