

AUSTRALIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

A Driver for Change in our Region

Presented by

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8 February 2008



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The Bank's World Development Report

Four Key Messages:

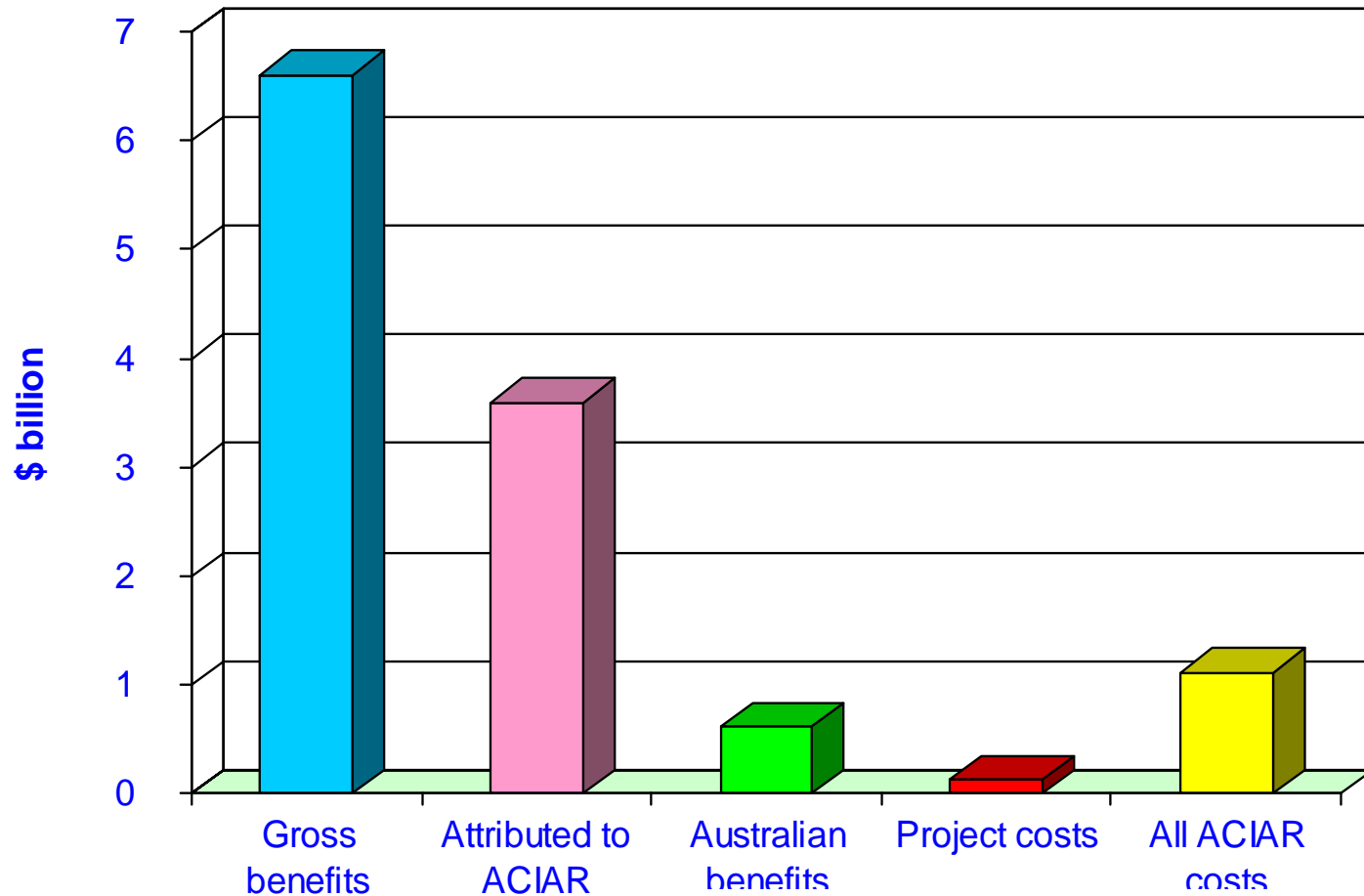
1. That the growth rate of yields for our major cereals in developing countries is slowing.
2. There is a big shift in food demand towards higher value horticultural products and animal proteins – putting more pressure on the basic staples.
3. There are acute land and water constraints at a time when cereal demand is projected to increase by 50% by 2030, and meat by 85%.
4. Neither biofuels nor climate change are going to make it easier.



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Total and Australian Benefits from Assessed ACIAR Projects (PV \$A Billion, 2004)

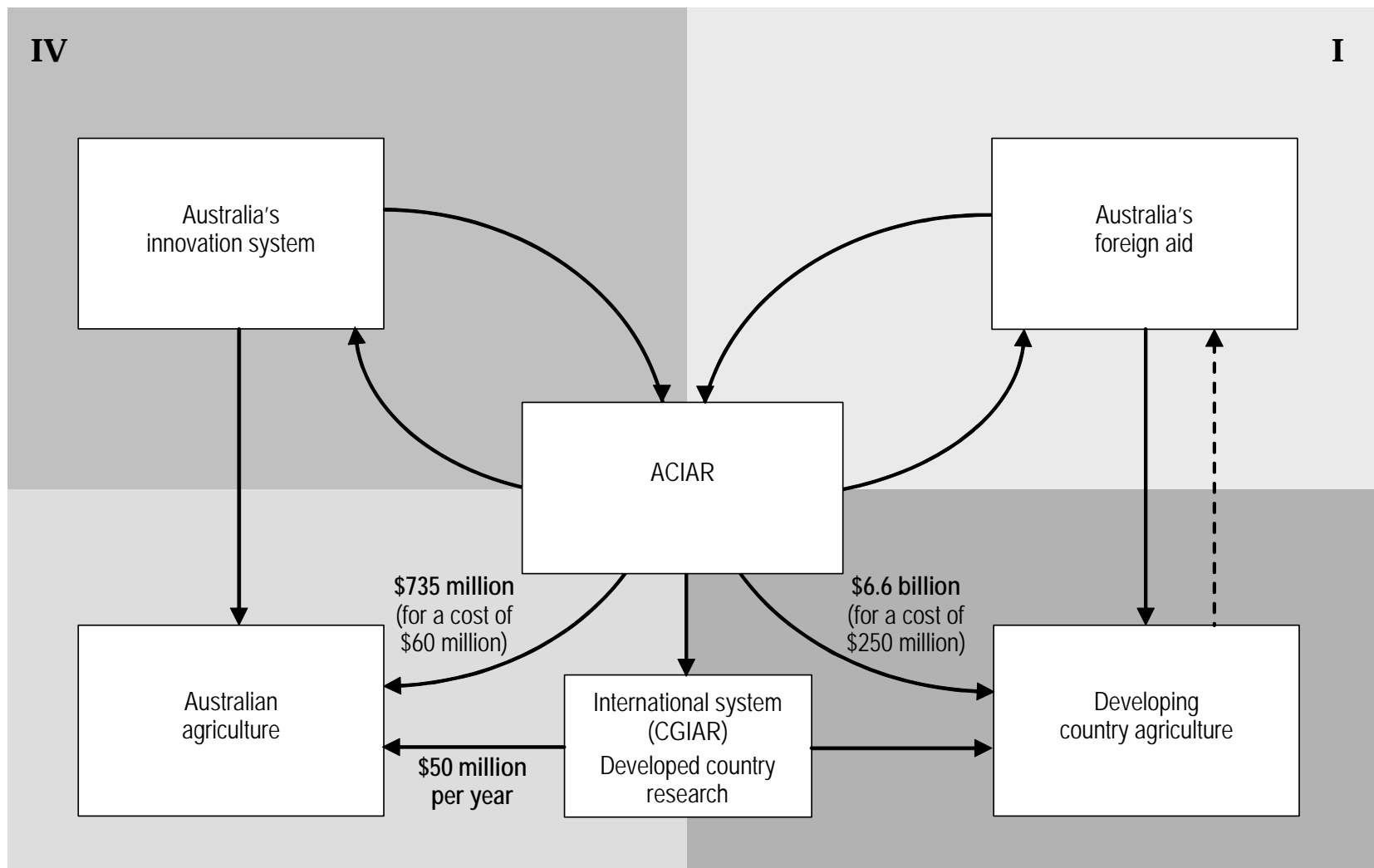


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ACIAR Provides a Unique Interface Between Australia's Foreign Aid and Innovation System



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Research Pay-offs

- While research returns are demonstrably high, the research portfolio is underpinned by super returns of the few.
 - our best examples are in the basic staples where research outputs have scale impact.
- Research is not a panacea – it is an essential part of the mix.



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The WDR – Some Small Quibbles

- What is it about some countries that make them successful while others are not?
- The WDR focus on linking smallholders to consumers via private enterprises.
 - Will it result in development aid funding being captured by the private sector?
 - What is the case in terms of spillover benefits?
 - Will the activities be sustained after development agencies withdraw?
- Does the WDR underplay the role of national systems in the developing country?



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World Development Report

- It is a key reference point and will be our 'Google' as ACIAR strives to ensure that research makes a meaningful contribution to sustainable development in countries in the Asian Pacific Region.



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Thank you



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