



ATSAF Academy
Academy for International Agricultural Research for Development

Junior Scientists Tandems

Final Report

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Supervisor at German Research Institution: Folkard Asch

National University (Country): ITSON

Supervisor at National University: Enrico Yepez

International Agricultural Research Center (Country): CIMMYT

Supervisor at International Agricultural Research Center: Carlos Robles

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I was shocked with the transportation system; it is amazing to me. Also, I was amazed by the beautiful castle of Hohenheim and the garden. It was by far, one of my favorite activities going for a walk in the garden during weekends. It was also the first time I was in a snowy environment, of course, I will remember those beautiful landscapes for the rest of my life.



I was nervous when I arrived because it was the first time for me to travel by myself and being abroad and far away from my family. The anxiety was replaced by happiness when I met the department's team, so I met good international friends. Also, I met people from different careers like Agroecconomics and I consider them very good friends from all over the world like Ethiopia, Ghana, Brazil, Colombia, Uganda and Italy.



During my project, we managed to design the experiment to take measurements and samples needed to analyze the effect of drought in among the chosen wheat lines and try to find a breeding trait target according to photosynthesis, soil moisture, and shoot

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biomass data collection. Thanks to Prof. Dr. Folkard and Dr. Alejandro I was able to perform my experiment in the glasshouse with a better design and method, they played an important mentor role with data collection and adaptation of my project during my stay. Some plants behaved quite differently as they were in the field, grew new tillers with different kinds of spikes, something new for me, at least with these wheat lines. At the end, I found out that the collected data has an important behavior among lines and treatments, which I hope will lead to interesting conclusions.



I had the amazing experience to meet people involved in crop science but under different topics and that opened my mind to another points of opportunity in the study of wheat. I also met people from Corteva and KWS, both important companies in crop science.

I also had a shock cultural problem with a person from Pakistan, this due to the difference in culture in our countries, it was as he had never received instructions from a woman and that made him uncomfortable. When I noticed, I tried to be as patient as I could and teach him about my crop science experience with wheat at CIMMYT in Mexico. At the end, we both apologized and worked together.

Stuttgart is one of the best cities I've ever been to. My favorite place to go is Schloss Platz, because of the restaurants and the beautiful palace. I went on an amazing trip with the ISO group of Hohenheim, they took us to Ludwigsburg when we walked outside the castle and the beautiful pumpkin gardens.

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I had the opportunity to reach a breeding symposium at the Uni of Hohenheim. It was a complete event with different presentations, all of them with interesting topics on breeding science. I also enjoyed the seminars that were managed by the Tropics and Subtropics department almost every Tuesday.

