Supplementary information

S1 Coordination and project management

During the project duration, annual meetings are organised to discuss the progress, the needs and the future orientations. They are organised in coordination with other international meetings to facilitate logistics and limit travels cost. Regular teleconference calls (at least 3 per year) maintain the contact between working groups which interact to work on specific topics. Annual activity reports are provided to the Wheat Initiative committees.

The successful establishment of any coordinated system requires an inclusive approach. The WheatIS Expert Working Group (EWG) is a network of experts that coordinate volunteers willing to contribute to the WheatIS project. The members of the working group were selected after an open call for proposals and they elect a chair and 3 co-chairs to lead the group for a 2 years period. The current chair is Hadi Quesneville, with co-chairs: Mario Caccamo, David Edwards and Gerard Lazo. Other members include Michael Alaux, Ruth Bastow, Ute Baumann, Fran Clarke, Laurel Cooper, Robert Davey, Kate Dreher, Jorge Dubcovsky, Paul Kersey, David Marshall, Klaus Mayer, Amidou N'Diaye, Christopher Rawlings, Mark Sawkins, Taner Sen and Doreen Ware. Together, they represent all major wheat bioinformatics groups internationally.

The IRIC is coordinated by Nickolai Alexandrov at IRRI with his group leading the development of the SNP-Seek portal, and Ken McNally serves as co-coordinator focusing on outreach and communication. IRIC is governed by an Advisory Committee (AC) with its members elected from the participating insitutions for a term of three years. The AC meets once a year at the Plant and Animal genome (PAG) conference in San Diego to determine main priorities of IRIC for the next year. The AC has conference calls several times a year to update on progress, exchange ideas and to make decisions during the year. Currently the AC members are: Mario Caccamo from NIAB, David Edwards from the University of Western Australia, Harish Gandhi from Syngenta, Hei Leung from IRRI, Takashi Matsumoto from the National Institute of Agrobiological Sciences (NIAS) of the National Agricultural Research
Organization (NARO), Susan McCouch from Cornell University, Debashis Rana from Bayer CropScience, Rod Wing from University of Arizona, Gengyun Zhang from the Beijing Genomics Institute and Qian Qian from the China National Rice Research Institute. Together, they represent the diverse international rice research community and leading bioinformatics groups from public and private sectors.

**S2 List of IRIC members**

1. International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
2. National Institute of Agricultural Botany (NIAB)
3. University of Western Australia
4. Cornell University
5. University of Arizona
6. Bayer
7. Syngenta
8. National Institute of Agrobiological Sciences (NIAS) of National Agriculture and Food Research Organisation (NARO)
9. BGI
10. Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences
11. King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST)
12. French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD)
13. L'Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD)
14. National Taiwan University
15. Lousiana State University
16. International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
17. Kongju National University