



# CRSP

## COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAMS

### Learning from Success



PHOTO COURTESY OF AQUAFISH CRSP

*The CRSPs have forged lasting relationships between U.S. and developing country universities. The AquaFish CRSP has created an invaluable legacy in Kenya through strategic investments in facilities, equipment, and specially trained human resources which in turn have been leveraged into effective long-term development programs.*

### Building the Technical and Institutional Capacity to Feed the World

To solve the puzzle of sustainably producing more food and feed for tomorrow under conditions of increasing resource scarcity it is critical to build the knowledge and skills of actors in the global food system today. This task has been undertaken by the **Collaborative Research Support Programs (CRSPs)** who are world leaders in offering scientific training to students from the U.S. and developing countries. Jointly funded by USAID, U.S. universities, and other partners, the CRSPs have not only supported students in degree programs but also faculty research and the professional development of many agricultural practitioners. They have also trained many thousands of producers in field schools, training programs, and exchange visits. Overall, about one-fourth of CRSP budgets are allocated to training.

These students came from 130 countries, with 25 percent coming from sub-Saharan Africa, 23 percent from the U.S., 22 percent from Latin America and the Caribbean, and 21 percent from Asia, 2 percent from Europe and Eurasia, 2 percent from the Middle East and 5 percent not reporting. They studied in 36 of the 50 states, with the top four being Texas, Indiana, Nebraska, and Kansas.

Their degrees have been granted in dozens of scientific fields, from agronomy, entomology, and food science, to agricultural economics and other social sciences.

Many CRSP graduates have gone on to shape agricultural programs and policies in international and national institutions. A graduate of the former **Bean/Cowpea CRSP**, Augustine Langyintuo, now heads the Policy Program of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), an African-led organization that supports sustainable and profitable smallholder farming in Africa. He is joined by Margaret Kroma, a **SANREM CRSP** graduate, who is the Gender Advisor for the Policy Program and contributes to gender integration across the institution.

From 1978 to 2011, a total of at least 3,791 students received funding under CRSP activities to obtain at least 3,820 degrees (some students were supported for multiple degrees).<sup>\*</sup> By current best estimates, 30 percent of these degrees were PhDs, 40 percent were MSc/MA, and 20 percent were BS degrees, with no reporting on 10 percent. By conservative estimates, if each of these students went on to teach, train, or mentor even 100 other students, farmers, or agricultural development professionals, they will have assisted about 380,000 people.

<sup>\*</sup>Data are missing for a few years for a few CRSPs.



*Initiated by Title XII of the Foreign Assistance Act, Collaborative Research Support Programs mobilize the capacities of land-grant universities to address issues of food security, human health, agricultural growth, trade expansion, and sustainable use of natural resources in the developing world. For more information, visit [www.crsps.net](http://www.crsps.net).*

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