



CRSP
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH
SUPPORT PROGRAMS

THE COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH SUPPORT PROGRAM (CRSP) APPROACH

The CRSPs are a USAID program that funds U.S. universities and partners overseas to jointly pursue scientific investigations to overcome critical agricultural constraints facing today's global food systems.

Managed by U.S. universities, the CRSPs are applied research programs that support students and researchers in the U.S and around the world to work with leading scientists. They seek scientific solutions to overcome hunger and poverty while building the capacity of the institutions in which they work. Short-term, non-degree training courses provide applied agricultural science skills to development workers and rural producers.

The CRSPs are a unique partnership between U.S. universities, developing country individuals and institutions, and USAID Bureaus and Missions seeking solutions to hunger and poverty through agricultural research, training, and outreach. These partnerships include other Federal agencies, International Agricultural Research Centers including the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research, non-governmental organizations, and the private sector. Typically, both the U.S. and host country institutions also



DRY GRAIN PULSES CRSP

Its extensive network of developing country partners and their active participation in defining the programs' activities helps the CRSPs to always keep the end users in mind, whether the research occurs in the lab or in the field. Research projects serve as the vehicle for capacity building from the college campus to the communities.

make cash and in-kind contributions to the programs. These "matching" and leveraged funds range from 20% to over 100% of USAID support, making the CRSPs an extremely cost-effective mechanism.

A Brief CRSP History

Created in 1977, under Title XII of the International Development and Food Assistance Act of 1975, the CRSPs focus the scientific expertise of U.S. universities on improving agricultural productivity and marketing systems and enhancing food security in both the U.S and in developing countries.

The U.S. Congress authorized USAID to provide program support for long-term collaborative university research and coordination with other Federal and State efforts. In October 2000 Title XII was reauthorized, continuing these long-term collaborative university research programs "to achieve the mutual goals among nations of ensuring food security, human health, agricultural growth, trade expansion, and the wise and sustainable use of natural resources."

The CRSPs' approach has achieved critical scientific advances in plant and animal productivity and environmental management. The CRSPs also create and maintain a global scientific network focused on solving the agricultural problems of rural communities and have helped to educate some of the current leaders in major agricultural institutions and government positions worldwide.

Each CRSP works with its partners to develop an overarching plan to guide its interdisciplinary, collaborative research program. Following the guidance of USAID development priorities, including the recent Feed the Future strategy, this plan addresses key issues, such as nutrition, horticulture, market access, or environmental management.



In short, the CRSP approach:

Demand-driven, each CRSP seeks to address not only the critical research questions in its area of expertise but also the larger development questions and priorities expressed through relevant USAID strategies.

- Requires a coordinated, multi-disciplinary research strategy, collaboratively developed and cooperatively implemented, with shared responsibilities between U.S. and host country institutions and scientists.
- Develops enduring and sustainable human and institutional capacity in the countries where CRSP activities are located.
- Provides support to students in graduate degree programs, research assistantships, and workshops in conjunction with their research activities.
- Furthers USAID priority goals to support economic growth and to reduce poverty by generating and applying agricultural knowledge and technologies in both developing and transition countries and in the U.S.

Collaborative Research Support Programs

Aquaculture and Fisheries (AquaFish)

Oregon State University, Management Entity
Dr. Hillary S. Egna, Director • aquafishcrsp.oregonstate.edu

BASIS Assets and Market Access (BASIS AMA)

University of California, Davis, Management Entity
Dr. Michael Carter, Director • basis.ucdavis.edu

Dry Grain Pulses (Pulse)

Michigan State University, Management Office
Dr. Irvin E. Widders, Director • pulsecrsp.msu.edu

Global Nutrition

Tufts University, Management Entity
Dr. Patrick Webb, Program Director Asia
Dr. Jeffrey Griffiths, Program Director Africa
nutritioncrsp.org

Horticulture

University of California, Davis, Management Entity
Dr. Elizabeth Mitcham, Director • hortcrsp.ucdavis.edu

Integrated Pest Management (IPM)

Virginia Tech, Management Entity
Dr. R. Muni Muniappan, Director
www.oired.vt.edu/ipmcrsp

Livestock-Climate Change (LCC)

Colorado State University, Management Entity
Dr. Richard Bowen, Director • lcccrsp.org

Peanut

University of Georgia, Management Entity
Dr. Jonathan (Tim) Williams, Director • peanutcrsp.org

Sorghum, Millet and Other Grains (INTSORMIL)

University of Nebraska, Management Entity
Dr. John Yohe, Director • intsormil.org

Sustainable Agriculture and Natural Resource Management (SANREM)

Virginia Tech, Management Entity
Dr. Adrian Ares, Director • www.oired.vt.edu/sanremcrsp



CRSP
COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH
SUPPORT PROGRAMS

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.

Published by the CRSP Digest Project, September 2012. The **CRSP Digest** Project is supported by the USAID-funded Collaborative Research Support Programs (CRSPs) as their joint knowledge management activity. Implemented by Cultural Practice LLC, the Digest Project compiles, synthesizes, and disseminates data and information about CRSP activities and achievements through its website (www.crsp.net), a quarterly newsletter, and at outreach events for the agricultural research and development community.

For more information: www.crsp.net • +1 202 657 6021 • crsp@crsp.net •    

This publication was made possible through support provided to Cultural Practice LLC under contracts with US Universities supported by the Bureau for Food Security, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the Collaborative Research Support Programs. The opinions expressed herein are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID.