**Dry Grain Pulses CRSP**

**Technical Management Advisory Committee (TMAC) Meeting**

**February 11, 12 and 18, 2012**

**AGENDA**

**Participants:** TMAC members includeDouglas Maxwell (Chair), Barry Pittendrigh (Co- Chair), Amanda Minnaar (Secretary), Mywish Maredia, Steve Beebe, Ousmane Boukar, Greg Varner, and Larry Beach. Representing the Management Office as ex-officio members- Irvin Widders (Director), Cynthia Donovan (Deputy Director) and Ben Hassankhani (Administrative Officer).

**Venue:** Lemigo Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda

**Friday, February 10**

TMAC members arrive into Kigali, Rwanda. Hotel to provide shuttle from airport.

**Saturday, February 11**

10:00 am Welcome and Review of Agenda (Doug Maxwell, Chair)

10:00 am Approval of Minutes of the August 29-31, 2011 Meeting in East Lansing, Michigan

10:15 am Objectives of TMAC meeting and tasks to be completed (Widders)

10:35 am Reports of TMAC site visits to projects in Zambia and Tanzania (Pittendrigh, Donovan and Widders)

11:00 am Evaluation of Performance (as evidenced by FY 11 Technical Progress) and Potential for Impact of Phase II and III Pulse CRSP Projects.

Theme: Increasing Pulse Productivity (via Genetic Improvement)

PII-UPR-1 *Development, Testing and Dissemination of Genetically Improved Bean Cultivars for Central America, the Caribbean and Angola* (Beebe Lead Reviewer)

PII-MSU-1 *Combining Conventional, Molecular and Farmer Participatory Breeding Approaches to Improve Andean Beans for Resistance to Biotic and Abiotic Stresses in Ecuador and Rwanda* (Varner Lead Reviewer)

PII-UCR-1 *Modern Cowpea Breeding to Overcome Critical Production Constraints in Africa and the U.S.* (Boukar Lead Reviewer)

12:00 (noon) Theme: Increasing Productivity (via Integrated Crop Management)

PII-UIUC-1 *Biological foundations for management of field insect pest of cowpea in Africa* (Maxwell Lead Reviewer)

PII- PSU-1 *Improving bean production in drought-prone, low fertility soils of Africa and Latin America – an integrated approach*. (Beebe Lead Reviewer)

PIII-ISU-2 *Enhancing Biological Nitrogen Fixation (BNF) of Leguminous Crops Grown on Degraded Soils in Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania* (Maxwell and Beebe Lead Reviewers)

1:00 pm Lunch for TMAC at the Lemigo, Hotel

2:00 pm Theme: Improving Nutrition and Increasing Pulse Utilization

PIII-MSU-3 *Improving Nutritional Status and CD4 Counts in HIV-Infected Children through Nutritional Support* (Minnaar Lead Reviewer)

* Discuss proposed changes in FY 12 workplan and need for no-cost extension

PII-TAMU-1 *Increasing Utilization of Cowpeas to Promote Health and Food Security in Africa* (Pittendrigh Lead Reviewer)

PII-ISU-1 *Enhancing Nutritional Value and Marketability of Beans through Research and Strengthening Key Value Chain Stakeholders in Uganda and Rwanda* (Minnaar Lead Reviewer)

3:00 pm Theme: Strengthening Pulse Value Chains

PII-MSU-2 *Expanding Pulse Supply and Demand in Africa and Latin America: Identifying Constraints and New Strategies.* (Boukar Lead Reviewer)

PIII-KSU-1 *Pulse Value Chain Initiative- Zambia* (Maredia Lead Reviewer)

Theme: Impact Assessment

PIII-MSU-4 *Impact Assessment of Bean/Cowpea and Dry Grain Pulses CRSP Investments in Research, Institutional Capacity Building and Technology Dissemination in Africa, Latin America and the U.S*. (Pittendrigh Lead Reviewer)

4:00 pm Break

4:30 pm Discussion of Phase II and III project “Performance” and assessments of “Potential” for future returns-on-investments to continued research (in respective areas in terms of both outputs and likelihood of developmental outcomes)

6:00 pm Adjourn for Day

**Sunday, February 12**

9:00 am Evaluation of technical and administrative performance of the Bean Technology Dissemination Associate Award in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Haiti. (Maxwell Lead Reviewer).

* + - Discussion of FY 12 Scope of Work with IICA in Haiti
    - Concept Paper for a study of seed systems through the Associate Award. (presented by Flores)

9:45 am Financial Report of the Dry Grain Pulses CRSP and of the Associate Award (Hassankhani)

10:00 am Report from the Office of Agriculture, Research and Technology, Bureau of Food Security, USAID-Washington (Larry Beach)

* USAID’s Implementation of the Feed the Future Research Strategy
* BIFAD Review of the CRSP Model and USAID engagement of U.S. Universities
* Extension of CRSPs that are up for renewal
* External Review of Administrative and Technical Performance of the Dry Grain Pulses CRSP by USAID
* Process and timeline for submission of Technical and Cost Applications, and USAID authorization of a five-year extension of the Pulse CRSP
* Other

Discussion of possible contribution of TMAC to USAID’s external evaluation of the Pulse CRSP.

11:00 am Break

11:20 am Presentation of MO’s proposed vision for the future of the Dry Grain Pulse CRSP, if extended for five years (FY 2012 - 2017). Widders and Donovan presenting

1:00 pm Lunch

2:00 pm Issues to discuss regarding the process and timeline for preparation and submission of Technical and Cost Applications for Pulse CRSP to USAID for period FY 2013 – 2017. Factors to consider:

* Alignment with FTF priorities
* Defining a research agenda for grain legumes and setting priorities
* Determining the geographical focus (countries and regions) of CRSP program
* Partnership and coordination of research with appropriate partners (e.g., productivity, nutrition)
* Mission Engagement and possible buy-in
* Process and timeline for preparation for Technical and Cost Applications
* Assessment of which Pulse CRSP Phase II and III projects to be extended (with likely redirection) and which should end in September 2012.
* Role of External Review and TMAC in informing the strategic directions and approaches in the Technical Application
* TMAC objectives for interactions with PIs at the Global Pulse Researchers Meeting and assessments of performance, potential and relevance.

3:15 pm CRP3.5 Grain Legumes- Strengthening ties and collaborations between the CGIAR and the Pulse CRSP. Meet with Dave Hoisington, Deputy Director General for Research, ICRISAT

3:45 pm Planning for TMAC Meeting on Saturday, February 18. Possible assignments for TMAC members to interact with PIs during week in preparation for discussions on February 18.

4:00 pm Adjourn

**Saturday, February 18**

8:30 am Reflections and Feedback on information gained by TMAC members during meeting

9:30 am Identification of possible future research and technology dissemination focal areas with alignment to FTF and high potential for impact. Discussion of strategies and approaches. Consideration of cross cutting issues (e.g., benefitting women, climate change, sustainable intensification). Possible general framework might include:

* Enhancing pulse productivity
* Transforming value chains
* Improving nutrition

10:30 am Break

10:45 am Continued discussion

12:00 noon Lunch

1:00 pm Formulation of recommendations for MO and USAID regarding future technical directions for the Dry Grain Pulses CRSPs, strategic partnerships, coordination of efforts, leveraging of resources, future disposition of Phase II and III projects, geographical foci, technical research areas to be competed (through RFPs), institutional capacity building needs and strategies, etc.

2:30 pm Break

3:45 pm Concluding comments and thanks (Maxwell and Widders)

4:00 pm Adjourn Meeting

PM Departure from Lemigo Hotel to Kigali, Airport