Pre-RFP Release Notification
for the
Dry Grain Pulses Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP)

Michigan State University, the Management Entity for the Dry Grain Pulses CRSP, will issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for projects no later than October 15, 2007.

The RFP will invite 30-month proposals for multi-disciplinary collaborative research, institutional capacity building and outreach projects addressing constraints of bean and cowpea value-chains for the funding period of April 1, 2008 through September 30, 2010. Based on the current obligation of funds from USAID, the Management Office anticipates making approximately 9 awards ranging from $300,000 to $450,000 in total financial support for each project.

Projects are to be led by a U.S. university with collaborative activities subcontracted to Host Country institutions (e.g., National Agriculture Research Systems, agricultural universities, non-governmental organizations, International Agriculture Research Systems and other U.S. institutions. “Lead” universities submitting project proposals must have predominant capacity to provide scientific leadership to the proposed research and training activities, a commitment to build the capacity of the partner developing country institutions, an institutional vision for contributing to the sustainable development and economic growth of the host countries in accord with the USAID Mission Strategic Objectives, and a willingness to partner with the Management Entity in the achievement of the Dry Grain Pulses CRSP’s global goals. U.S. institutional participants will also be required to provide non-federal cost share. Eligible “lead” universities include U.S. land-grant universities, colleges, and minority-serving institutions as defined by the Title XII legislation of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (and its subsequent amendments).

The global themes, priority topical areas, and strategic Host Countries for project focus will be specified in the RFP.

Proposals will be peer-reviewed by an external panel of experts with no conflicts of interest with the applicant institutions and scientists using criteria clearly specified in the RFP.

The RFP will be posted on the website for the Dry Grain Pulses CRSP, (www.pulsecrsp.msu.edu) along with other documents including: budget template, Cost Application Instructions, Expressions of Host Country Institutional Needs and Interests, Pulse CRSP Technical Program Description, etc. An “Expression of Interest to Participate” form will also be provided which must be completed and submitted by those U.S. universities and scientists intending to submit a proposal as a “lead” university for a project.

Questions regarding the new program can be sent via email to dqpcrsp@msu.edu and responses will be posted on the web page for public viewing after October 15, 2007.

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