



TVG-YPARD Funding News

May - June 2009

A joint venture of Terra Viva Grants and YPARD to provide guidance about funding opportunities for young professionals in agricultural research, with a focus on research for development

Application Closing Dates

Through October 2009 (rolling calendar, updated each newsletter). **NEW** = Item was not included in the previous newsletter.

Academy of Sciences for the Developing World – Grants for Scientific Meetings: Grants to support international scientific meetings in developing countries. 01 June and 01 December are deadlines for applications.

http://users.ictp.it/~twas/mtm/SM_Form.html

NEW Academy of Sciences for the Developing World -- Ernesto Illy Trieste Science Prize for Science Achievements in the Developing Countries: Theme in 2009 is climate change and its impact on agriculture in developing countries. 31 May is application deadline.

<https://twas.ictp.it/prog/prizes/trieste-science-prize>

NEW l'Agence universitaire de la Francophonie - - Inter-University Scientific Cooperation, Union for the Mediterranean (MeRSI): 31 August 2009 for pre-proposals. Open to the 410 institutions of the Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF) in 23 Mediterranean countries. AUF will co-finance up to €50 thousand for each of 10 inter-university research projects. Themes are not specified (i.e., can include agricultural research).

<http://www.auf.org/communication-information/actualites/mersi-appel-d-offre-2009.html>

NEW Agropolis Foundation – Grants for (1) Partnerships in the Southern Mediterranean Region, and (2) Computational Plants and Ecosystems: 06 May for concept notes. Funding is for grants and fellowships in plant science and sustainable agriculture. For (1), Agropolis defines the eligible countries comprising the southern Mediterranean region. For (2), Agropolis defines the thematic areas of modeling and computer experiments.

<http://www.agropolis-fondation.fr/uk/supporting-science/call-for-proposals.html>

NEW Ashoka – Grants for “Cultivating Innovation: Solutions for Rural Communities”: 13 May is deadline for entries. With funding from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Ashoka invites ideas to demonstrate system-changing solutions in agriculture and in the lives of rural citizens in Sub-Saharan Africa, India, and around the world. Criteria are innovation, social impact, and sustainability. All types of organizations are eligible, and from all countries.

<http://www.changemakers.net/en-us/node/18948/competition/guidelines>

NEW ASARECA (Association for Strengthening Agricultural Research in Eastern and Central Africa) – Call for Project Proposals: 11 May is deadline for proposals. Natural resources management and biodiversity conservation in the dry lands of eastern and central Africa.

<http://www.asareca.org/index.php?page&as=85>

Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation - Grants: 11 June is proposal deadline for grants funding in 2010. Grants of US\$10,580 to individuals for research and educational programs. Thematic areas are agriculture, animal resources, plant resources, water resources, general conservation, and waste minimization. Open to citizens of all countries. Check Lindbergh website for precise date in June when applications are due.

<http://www.lindberghfoundation.org/application-form/2.html>

Conservation, Food, and Health Foundation - Grants: Concept notes are due 01 July for proposals reviewed in November, and 01 January for proposals reviewed in May. Grants to NGOs in resource conservation and sustainable agriculture (in addition to health). Grants support research and solve specific problems in order to build capacity in developing countries. No geographical restrictions. Average grant size is US\$11 thousand, and grants are rarely over US\$25 thousand.

http://cfhfoundation.grantsmanagement08.com/?page_id=6

NEW Crawford Fund Derek Tribe Award: 01 May 2009 to submit nominations. Award is made biennially to a citizen of a developing country in recognition of distinguished contributions to the application of research in agriculture or natural resource management in a developing country or countries.

<http://www.crawfordfund.org/awards/dtaward.htm>

EC FP7-ENERGY-2009-Brazil - Grants: 05 May to submit applications. Coordinated European and Brazilian research on advanced technologies for 2nd-generation biofuels. Open to any legal organization. €4 million budgeted.

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:001:0010:0010:EN:PDF>

NEW EC External Cooperation Programs – Grants for Food Security: Grants include support to improve agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and non-timber forest products. 03 June for proposals Timor Leste; 15 June for proposals Laos; 25 June for proposals Cambodia. *Editor's note: Grant seekers should search the website below for Thematic Programs, Food Security.*

<https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/online-services/index.cfm?do=publi.welcome>

NEW EC FP7 Research – Marie Curie International Incoming Fellowships: 18 August for applications. International incoming fellowships (IIF) support top-class researchers from third countries to work on projects in Europe. Researchers can be of any nationality. Applicants should have either a doctoral degree or at least four years of full-time equivalent research experience.

http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm?fuseaction=UserSite.FP7DetailsCallPage&call_id=199

Ekhaga Foundation - Grants: 31 May for receipt of applications. Grants are for agricultural systems where chemical compounds are replaced with ecological and biological measures of promoting production. No geographical restrictions. Applicants submit a project description which explains the problem to be addressed, present knowledge, project goals, methods proposed, and other background data. Details are on the website. Most grants range from 100-500 thousand Swedish crowns (about US\$12-60 thousand at current exchange rates).

<http://www.ekhagastiftelsen.se/eng/ansokan.html>

NEW l'Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) -- Jeunes Equipes Associées à l'IRD: Financial support of €60 thousand for teams of young researchers, at least three individuals in a team, in partnership with researchers of IRD (France) for a period of three or more years.

<http://www.ird.fr/fr/science/dsf/jeai/index.htm>

International Foundation for Science - "Green Water" Grants: 30 June and 31 December for

second and third grant cycles. Open to candidates at the beginning of their careers who have at least an MSc degree, are under 40 years old (45 for Africa), and whose research is carried out at a national university, national research center, or research NGO in a developing country.

http://www.ifs.se/Programme/Announcements/Call_for_applications_GreenWater_2008.pdf

NEW Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Scientists (JIRCAS) -- Japan International Award 2009 for Young Agricultural Researchers: 30 June for applications.

Award is to increase motivation among young researchers contributing to research and development in agriculture, forestry, fisheries and related industries in developing countries.

http://www.jircas.affrc.go.jp/english/event/h21wakate/h21boshu_e.html

McKnight Foundation, Southeast Asia - Grants: 01 June and 01 December for letters of inquiry to Southeast Asia Program (Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam). Program includes some elements of sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and conservation of natural resources. Grants over US\$100 thousand are possible. *[Search McKnight for its other program areas, including the program on agricultural research housed at Cornell University.]*

<http://www.mcknight.org/grantsprograms/howtoapply.aspx>

NEW Monsanto Fund – Grants: 01 January and 01 July for applications from outside of the USA. Agriculture is a large theme in the Fund, and some grants support applied research. Applications are sent to Monsanto's regional representatives by the indicated deadlines. These contacts are posted on the Fund's website, along with all necessary guidelines.

http://www.monsantofund.org/asp/Qualifications_and_Procedures/NONUSA_qualifications.asp

New England Biolabs Foundation - Grants: 01 March and 01 September, only if invited to submit a proposal after your preliminary inquiry. Grants of less than US\$10 thousand for technical assistance, education and capacity building, and research at the community level. Selected countries of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Interested applicants make a preliminary inquiry.

<http://www.nebf.org/guidlines.html>

NEW Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellows Program – Support for Training and Collaborative Research: The Borlaug Fellowship Program matches participants from developing countries with partners in the USA and the international agricultural research centers for short-term training and research. Application deadline varies by country. Current priority countries: African women from Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia. Other priorities are Bulgaria, Ecuador, India, Iraq, Mauritania, Montenegro, Mexico, Peru, Poland, and Serbia.

<http://www.fas.usda.gov/ICD/borlaug/borlaug.htm>

Rothamsted International - Fellowships: 19 June for applications to Africa Fellows Program. Rothamsted offers fellowships for mid-career researchers in agricultural sciences. One fellowship program is open to scientists from all developing countries, and another is for scientists from Africa. Applications are completed and submitted by a project leader at Rothamsted Research who has had previous contact with the applicant.

http://www.rothamsted-international.org/RIFS_applying_deadlines.shtml

Royal Geographical Society - Grants: Multiple deadlines. The Society has 18 named grant programs across four categories (research, students, teaching, and expeditions). Most grants are for individuals, and some are for UK residents only. Research grants focus on agricultural and pastoral systems, soil and water management, climate change, ecological surveys, and others. Grants range from £500 to £15 thousand. The Society posts a calendar of application deadlines.

<http://www.rgs.org/OurWork/Grants/Grants.htm>

Royal Society - Grants, Fellowships, Study Visits: Multiple deadlines. The Society's international program makes several types of grants to connect the UK with scientists in both

developed and developing countries. This includes grants and fellowships in agriculture, animal health, biofuels, climate change, plant conservation, and other areas of science and technology. Each type of award has an application deadline, which can be researched on the Society's website. For all international grant programs, a UK-based host scientist must submit the application. The Society has agreements with science academies in several countries, and preference for funding is for organizations and citizens of those countries.

<http://royalsociety.org/page.asp?id=1111>

Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture –

Grants: 01 August for Seed Fund for Research and Training. Projects considered by the Seed Fund for Research and Training must fit SEARCA's thematic focus on natural resource management and agricultural competitiveness. Grants up to US\$15 thousand for applicants from ASEAN countries. *[Also see SEARCA's other opportunities for fellowships, academic exchanges, and training collaboration.]*

<http://www.searca.org/web/grants/index.php>

NEW Swedish Research Links Program – Grants for Joint Activities between Swedish Researchers and Partners in Developing Countries:

06 May is closing date for applications. Researchers from the countries involved must submit joint applications. Planning grants are for one year, and collaborative research grants normally are for three years.

http://www.sida.org/sida/jsp/sida.jsp?d=679&language=en_US

NEW Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research – Award Prize 2009: 30 June is closing date for applications. SFIAR awards a monetary prize for innovative and results-oriented research with a sum of CHF5 thousand (CHF10 thousand for a team). Scientists working (or having worked) for a Swiss institution, and with at least one partner in a developing country, are encouraged to apply.

<http://www.sfiar.ch/award.htm>

NEW Swiss Research Fellow Partnership Program for Agriculture, Forestry, and Natural Resources – Fellowships and Internships:

31 March and 30 September for proposals. ETH Zurich, with funding by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, offers doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships and internships in partnership with a center of the CGIAR and a Swiss research institution.

<http://www.rfpp.ethz.ch/>

Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences – Research Partnerships with Developing and Transition Countries (KFH-DC):

01 April and 01 October for proposals. Funding for collaborative research on subjects relevant to development.

http://www.kfh.ch/index.cfm?nav=14&pg=47>yp_id=1&CFID=12859418&CFTOKEN=59487296&menu_type=key

System for Analysis, Research, and Training (START) – Grants, Fellowships, Awards:

Multiple deadlines. START is an international framework of scientists and institutions to conduct research on regional aspects of climate change, including in relation to land use. START's capacity building includes the following program areas: Advanced Institutes; Fellowships and Visiting Scientists; African Doctoral Fellowships; Young Scientists Awards; African Small Grants; and African Climate Change Fellowships. The website indicates which programs are open for applications, and the closing dates.

<http://www.start.org/Program/cb.html>

NEW USAID (U.S. Agency for International Development) – Grants for Horticulture:

18 May for applications. USAID's Horticulture CRSP (Collaborative Research Support Program) will fund research, training, and technical assistance to enable small and medium-sized enterprises to participate in horticulture markets. The work will support the aims of the Global Horticulture Initiative. Applicants are U.S. nonprofit organizations, especially agricultural universities, in

collaboration with research institutions in the developing countries.

<http://www.grants.gov> (browse by agency, US Agency for International Development)

NEW USAID (U.S. Agency for International Development) – Research grants in Bio-Engineered Rice and Wheat, India: 20 May 2009 for applications. Grants to enhance resistance of rice and wheat to drought, salinity, heat, and soil nutrient deficiencies. USAID encourages public-private partnerships for the research, with up to US\$1 million available per grant.

<http://www.grants.gov> (browse by agency, US Agency for International Development)

NEW USAID (U.S. Agency for International Development) – Global Food Security, Africa Action Plan: 31 October is deadline for applications. Grants for agricultural productivity and marketing in West Africa.

<http://www.grants.gov> (browse by agency, US Agency for International Development)

Applications with No Closing Dates

Partial Listing (additional grant makers to be added in future newsletters)

Common Fund for Commodities (CFC): CFC's grants favor commodity producers in the least-developed countries, but grants are awarded to recipient organizations anywhere in the world. Recipients of past CFC grants include agricultural research organizations, among others. Grant seekers should consult CFC's Project Manual of guidelines and procedures that must be met in order for the Common Fund to consider proposals for project funding.

<http://www.common-fund.org/>

Israel's Center for International Agricultural Development Cooperation (CINADCO):

CINADCO is the main operational unit within Israel's development assistance agency. The Center aims to transfer professional, technological, and practical know-how in agriculture to the developing countries. Program areas in CINADCO are training courses and seminars in Israel; training courses and seminars in developing countries; long-term missions; short-term advisory services; joint applied research relevant to developing countries; and agricultural programs and project planning. CINADCO's website offers contact information and supporting details.

<http://www.cinadco.moag.gov.il/cinadco/>

Updates in Funding Programs

New and Changed Grant Making

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation with USA's National Science Foundation: The Gates Foundation will partner with the USA's National Science Foundation to fund research on making crops more resistant to drought, diseases, insects, and other factors that limit agricultural productivity in Africa and elsewhere. Each partner will contribute US\$24 million over five years. NSF will limit its funding to U.S. scientists, but the Gates Foundation will bring in researchers internationally, particularly from developing countries. The initiative is called BREAD -- Basic Research to Enable Agricultural Development. BREAD will announce a call for grant applications in June. The first grants will be awarded in early 2010.

<http://www.ishs.org/news/?p=622>

Global Crop Diversity Trust: At the end of March 2009, the Trust reported that its pledged financial commitments had reached US\$152 million. Main financial contributors are the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the governments of UK, USA, Australia, Sweden, and Germany (to date, each of these donors has committed over US\$10 million). The Trust's grant-funded projects, mainly in crop genetics research, are posted on its website. It does not accept unsolicited proposals.

<http://www.croptrust.org/main/funds.php>

Leverhulme - Royal Society Africa Awards: Grants will fund research collaboration between scientists in Ghana, Tanzania, and the UK. The priority areas for funding are agriculture (including animal health), biodiversity (including medicinal plants), energy (including renewables), water and sanitation, and basic human health. Grant awards will provide up to £150 thousand over three years. There will be three consecutive annual calls, typically opening in October of each year. Leverhulme is providing £3.5 million to the Royal Society to support this program. <http://royalsociety.org/page.asp?id=8079>

Guidance for Grant Seekers

Sources, Links, Tips, and Advice

In this section, we explore special topics inspired by the old proverb: *“Give a family a fish, and you feed them for a day. Teach them how to fish, and they will never go hungry.”*

In 2009, we identify information sources on the internet where agricultural researchers can search for grant opportunities. We do not intend to cover all possibilities so much as to identify essential sites not to be missed. You may want to bookmark the addresses on your computer.

This newsletter will recommend the best websites for spotting funding opportunities from sources in the Asia-Pacific Region. In two previous newsletters, we focused on where to search for funding from sources in Europe and North America, respectively.

Future newsletters will focus on where to look for funding from international organizations, prizes and awards, and other sources. Thereafter, we will post ideas on how to set up efficient internet searches for grants using Google or other global search engines.

Information Sources for Grants in Agricultural Research No. 3: Funding from the Asia-Pacific Region

ASEAN Foundation: The Foundation is funded by its ASEAN member countries, and by partner countries who contribute supplementary resources. ASEAN’s projects include research, education, and training in natural resources, biotechnology, rural development, and agriculture – among various other themes. The website describes how to submit proposals. <http://www.aseanfoundation.org/index.php>

Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions: APAARI is a platform for information sharing, technology transfer, policy advocacy, and capacity building of agricultural researchers. APAARI’s newsletters include occasional information about grants and network opportunities. http://www.apaari.org/new/index.php?option=com_frontpage&Itemid=1

Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research: The APN is an inter-governmental research network of Asian countries plus Russia and the USA. The program makes grants for research and capacity building through calls for proposals. Projects include many related to land cover and vegetation (i.e., agriculture is an important theme). APN posts announcements that sometimes include funding opportunities. <http://www.apn-gcr.org/en/indexe.html>

Australian Aid: AusAID is the Australian government’s principal provider of bilateral development assistance. Although ACIAR is the focal point for agricultural research (see below), AusAID financially supports research in natural resources, climate change, and rural development (see “AusAID Development Research Strategy 2008-2010”). Moreover, AusAID’s “Funding

Schemes” include some that provide research grants and fellowships.

<http://www.usaid.gov.au/research/default.cfm>

http://www.usaid.gov.au/business/other_opps/default.cfm

Australian Center for International Agricultural Research: The ACIAR is Australia’s specialized agency for supporting agricultural research in an international context. ACIAR’s Annual Operational Plan (posted online) identifies its research priorities by program and by region/country. Country profiles include contact information for ACIAR’s offices and liaison persons at the national level. ACIAR offers the John Dillon Fellowship for young agricultural scientists in partner countries (applications close 31 August).

<http://www.aciar.gov.au/home>

Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade: The DFAT funds several bilateral programs, some of which feature grant-making programs relevant to aspects of agricultural research. Each program has its own funding priorities and requirements.

- Australia-China Council <http://www.dfat.gov.au/acc/>
- Australia-India Strategic Research Fund <https://grants.innovation.gov.au/AISRF>
- Indo-Australian Biotechnology Fund <https://grants.innovation.gov.au/AISRF>
- Australia-Malaysia Institute http://www.dfat.gov.au/ami/programs_ami.html#1
- Australia-Thailand Institute <http://www.dfat.gov.au/ati/>

Australian Tropical Expertise Consortium: The ATEC network of Australian consultants offers technical and advisory services across the tropics of Australia and the Asia-Pacific region. ATEC’s website features a media center of news and notices, including information about contracts (tenders) and grants funded by Australian and some international sources.

<http://www.australiantropicalexpertise.com.au/media-centre.html>

Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences: The CAAS has a significant international outreach, engaging in over 100 international collaborative projects in any given year. The Academy receives 500 international visitors per year, many in conferences, and it accepts about 60 foreign students in its graduate programs. *[Editor’s note: Interested persons should also explore the Chinese Academy of Sciences, which offers an extensive profile in English.]*

<http://www.caas.net.cn/engforcaas/>

<http://english.cas.ac.cn/eng2003/page/T51.asp>

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization: The CSIRO is Australia’s national science agency. It works with science partners in the Asia-Pacific region and elsewhere on joint research that includes many projects in agriculture and natural resources. CSIRO coordinates its international activities with other Australian agencies, and it participates in the Global Research Alliance. CSIRO provides an international liaison (in the link below).

<http://www.csiro.au/org/CSIROInternational.html#1>

Indian Council of Agricultural Research: ICAR’s website is a large information resource that includes summaries of the Council’s current and planned collaboration with other countries (“International Cooperation”).

http://www.dare.gov.in/int_coop.htm

Japan International Cooperation Agency: JICA’s many program areas include agriculture and rural development, environment, and natural resources. Although JIRCAS is the specialized agency for agricultural research (see below), JICA is important for the grants it makes in education and training, including in fields related to agricultural science and technology. Many of these opportunities are offered through the Japan Center in JICA’s partner countries (primarily in Asia).

<http://www.jica.go.jp/english/operations/schemes/tech/>

Japan International Research Center for Agricultural Sciences: JIRCAS funds fellowships

for visiting agricultural researchers to Japan, and for Japanese agricultural researchers to participate in projects internationally. Since 2007, JIRCAS has made an annual Japan Award for Young Agricultural Researchers to agricultural scientists in developing countries.

<http://www.jircas.affrc.go.jp/index.html>

New Zealand AID: NZAID is New Zealand's agency for international development assistance, with focus on the Asia-Pacific region. The website pages "Where Do We Work?" is a guide to the agency's country and regional programming. NZAID provides the International Development Research Fund for NZ-based researchers working with partners in developing countries (*although the IDRF is not specific to agriculture*).

<http://www.nzaid.govt.nz/what-we-do/funding-opportunities.html>

Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture:

SEARCA strengthens research and educational capacity in agriculture and rural development for the 11 countries of Southeast Asia. The website posts events, news, and publications. "Grants" identifies funding for research, professional and student exchanges, and training.

<http://www.searca.org/web/index.html>

Editor's Note: Please send us information sources about funding from the Asia-Pacific Region that we may have overlooked. We will be pleased to post them in future newsletters.

Contact Us at TVG-YPARD

Questions, Comments, Suggestions

We seek your feedback on TVG-YPARD Funding News. How can the service be improved and expanded? Can you suggest new concepts to produce and distribute funding news? We welcome innovative thinking "out of the box" to take this joint venture forward.

Also, we invite you to contribute items for posting in TVG-YPARD Funding News. We will consider including calls for proposals, updated changes in funding programs, profiles of grant makers, and tips for getting grants in agricultural research. We are mainly interested in items that have international or broad regional significance.

Please communicate with Dr. Jan Laarman, newsletter editor, at the following email address for the newsletter: tvgy.pard@gmail.com

Find more information on grants at Terra Viva Grants at <http://www.terravivagrants.org>

Thank you!