

Innovative Research for Development through Partnership: A Competitive Grants Program

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION

Creating an Additional Avenue for Collaboration between Civil Society and the CGIAR: a new Competitive Grants Program

The CGIAR and the Centers it supports have many effective partnerships with civil society organizations, governmental agencies and the private sector which are critical for sharing knowledge and fostering development impact.

As one additional avenue for expanding collaboration and sharing knowledge for impact, the CGIAR plans to pilot a **competitive grants initiative to fund CSO-CGIAR project partnerships in agricultural research for development**. This initiative would be one of the building blocks for further expanding engagement with CSOs, and a continuation of the learning and ideas that emerged during the “Virtual Conversation” and the CSO Forum. The input and experience of civil society will be important in developing this program, and we look forward to your suggestions on potential focus areas that the grants initiative could address.

About **US\$ 1 million** will be made available to provide funds **for up to four partnership projects, receiving up to US\$ 250,000 each**.

DFID, Norway, USAID and the World Bank have indicated their readiness to support this initiative.

What are the goals of this new competitive grants initiative?

- To support successful ongoing partnerships and new CSO-CGIAR initiatives to further develop innovative partnership models in agricultural research for development.
- To provide an opportunity to put new ideas and insights emerging from the CSO-CGIAR Forum into practice.
- To explore new project partnership mechanisms, which, if successful, can be applied in future projects.

Open Call for Applications

CSOs, together with their CGIAR partners, will be invited to jointly submit brief project **concept notes**. Based on a review by an external panel selected applicants will be invited to develop **full project proposals** (for this purpose, a small proposal development grant may be made available).

Please check the CGIAR website www.cgiar.org for detailed information on this new initiative on, or after, **January 30, 2007**.

Please contact cgiar@cgiar.org for further information