

Request for Proposals on Global Food Security Faculty Seed Grants for Innovative Approaches to Food Security in a Select Geography

Round 2 - Spring 2015

Center for Global Food Security
Purdue University, West Lafayette Campus
Proposals Due – May 15, 2015

Purpose

The Purdue Center for Global Food Security (PCGFS) requests Purdue faculty teams to submit research proposals for internal seed grants directed at innovative research approaches for resolving major global food and nutrition security challenges. These seed grants are to foster collaboration by interdisciplinary groups of faculty taking novel approaches for addressing key global challenges that impact food and nutrition security.

PCGFS seed grants are meant to encourage development of more integrated and holistic approaches to food security. Examples of themes include, but are not limited to, food security concerns around:

- The intersections between food, water, energy, climate, and the environment
- The food, nutrition and health nexus
- Agricultural ecosystems, natural resources management, and productivity increases
- Building resilience in farming and the ecosystem
- Connecting innovations to markets
- Socio-cultural issues in the intersection between science, economics and policy

Research Seed Grants

As in Round 1 Seed Grants in 2014, faculty may submit a proposal to carry out multidisciplinary research on a topic **directly related to food security in a developing country**. These seed grants are expected to assist faculty groups to generate new data for a new paradigm and/or perspective for developing an expanded proposal to be submitted to donor agencies for extramural funding.

Teams are highly encouraged to establish or strengthen national and international collaboration with scientists at other research and development institutions including universities, international research centers, private, non-profit, federal or global agencies for long-term team building. While the intent of these seed grants is global improvement, proposals that describe research on clearly defined food security challenges in specific geographic domains are encouraged. Applications need to indicate target potential donor sources for supporting such research and development activities beyond the seed grant award period.

Faculty seed grants for global security are intended to advance significant research or support critical data generation activities that would lead to submission in 2015-2016 of external grants from federal or non-federal sources of support. Therefore, the allocation of the budget for travel should be limited to a maximum of \$10,000. Faculty are encouraged to seek supplemental departmental support should their travel needs extend beyond this limit.

Proposals that have elements of training/engaging young professionals in interdisciplinary research are particularly encouraged. Up to \$75,000 is available per grant for research projects up to 1 year in duration. Projects typically will have a start date of June 1, 2015, for a period of one year, although other timing will be considered. **Please note that no-cost extensions will normally not be considered so teams should ensure that the proposed project can be completed within one year.** Quarterly technical and financial reports will be required, and the continued disbursement of funds will be contingent upon receiving the reports. A budget summary should be presented in the proposal and organized into quarterly disbursements.

Eligibility

The primary applicant must be a faculty member of Purdue, West Lafayette engaged in food security research and education, and approved by Sponsored Program Services to serve as a Principal Investigator to an outside agency. Proposals should demonstrate collaboration with faculty from diverse Purdue departments and colleges, as well as other institutions.

Application and Submission Process

Proposals: The deadline for receipt of all proposals is **5:00 p.m. Friday, May 15, 2015.** Proposals should be submitted as a single PDF file attachment to an e-mail message addressed to foodsecurity@purdue.edu.

Budget Requirements

Proposals must include a budget prepared by the investigator's pre-award office. A COEUS budget is to be included with the proposal. **Due to the source of funding, F&A will not be charged to the award and, therefore, should not be included in the COEUS budget.** Fringe benefits and graduate student remits should be included in the budget.

Cover Page

Proposals must be attached to a completed Proposal Submission Form (the pre-awards office will prepare this form) and should be organized as follows:

Page 1: Face page, including:

- Proposal Title
- Principal investigators
- Total budget
- Project period

Pages 2-6: Research plan, limited to 5 pages, single-spaced, one-inch margins, and no smaller than 11 point font. Proposals ***must*** address the technical and general review criteria listed below and include the following labeled sections:

- Problem Statement
- Objectives and Rationale
- Materials and Methods
- Summary and Conclusion, mentioning perspective donors for follow-on funding
- Metrics that will be used to measure success/impact
- Summary budget organized into quarterly disbursements

Attachments:

- References (one page or less)
- Two-page (max) biographical sketch for each PI or co-PI/investigator
- Two-page (max) current and pending support for each participant
- Budget, as prepared through COEUS by the college's pre-award office

Review Criteria

Technical:

- Explicit description of how the project aligns with CGFS goals, which are to 1) provide global leadership, 2) create global public good, 3) build human and institutional capacity, 4) strengthen and grow partnerships, and 5) develop entrepreneurial capacity. Additional information on CGFS can be found at www.purdue.edu/discoverypark/food
- High potential for submission to funding agencies, foundations, the private sector, and/or other sources of funding support in 2015-2016.
- Reasonable probability of project success.
- Clearly-defined, cross-campus/cross-disciplinary collaborative team.
- Explicit capacity building with international collaborators.

General:

- *Quality:* The proposed research must meet high standards of scientific merit and scholarship.
- *Leadership:* The investigators must have a strong research track record, and show initiative in addressing the proposed opportunity.
- *Interdisciplinary team approach:* Multiple investigators with the combined skills needed for a holistic approach, within the intent of the solicitation (including technical, social and economic factors where appropriate). **Projects focused on a single discipline will not be funded.**
- *Leverage:* Proposals will be judged on how well and creatively resources are leveraged (intellectually and internationally) to enhance research success and build research and education capacity among the participating institutions.

- *Partnerships:* Proposal teams are strongly encouraged that promote partnerships among centers and institutes engaged in the targeted regions/countries.
- *Continuation:* Potential means for sustaining the research project ***after*** the grant period with follow-on resources must be identified.
- *Deliverables:* Proposal teams are required to submit a final report 30 days after the end of the proposal. PCGFS will hold 10% of the grant amount until the final report is delivered. Publications and communications produced with the funding provided must acknowledge the CGFS. Electronic copies (or summaries, in the case of publications where copyright would otherwise prevent a full copy) must be delivered to CGFS for possible linking to the CGFS website.

Contact Information

Questions about proposal submission should be directed to Gary Burniske at grburniske@purdue.edu