



CALL FOR PROPOSALS IN CROP IMPROVEMENT AND VARIETY PROMOTION

Organizational Overview

The Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) is a partnership of The Rockefeller Foundation, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the United Kingdom's Department For International Development working with African governments, other donors, NGOs, the private sector and African farmers to significantly and sustainably improve the productivity and incomes of poor, small-scale farmers in Africa. AGRA is headquartered in Nairobi, Kenya, and maintains offices in Accra, Ghana, Maputo, Mozambique, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Bamako, Mali. AGRA also undertakes policy advocacy and resource mobilization.

The Program for Africa's Seeds Systems (PASS) is an AGRA initiative to improve food security and reduce poverty in Africa by promoting the development of seed delivery systems that allow small-scale farmers to gain access to improved, adapted crop varieties in an equitable and sustainable manner.

Proposals Invited

AGRA, through PASS, will support local crop improvement programs on a crop by crop basis. AGRA invites proposals from plant breeders through their institutions for funding of a maximum of \$150,000 over three years for the development and release of improved crop varieties, as well as the creation of farmer awareness of the improved varieties. The proposal should address clear links with private, public, farmer or non-governmental seed enterprises that will result in a competitive and sustainable commercialization and access to seed by small scale farmers. Priority will be given to proposals which focus on rapid development, release and successful commercialization of a large number of varieties in a short period of time.

Focus crops include maize, rice, sorghum, millet, bananas, cassava, sweet potato, beans, cowpeas, pigeon pea, groundnuts and soybeans. Eligible countries include Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Rwanda, Malawi, Zambia, Mozambique, Ghana, Nigeria, Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso.

Further funding opportunities may exist after successful completion of the three years project.

Procedure for application

Interested parties are requested to send proposals to email address:
skeino@agra-alliance.org, before **December 31, 2011**.