



Call for Competitive Small Grants Proposals:

Research project on gender, climate change, agriculture, and food security

BACKGROUND

CGIAR Program on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CAFS)

Climate change is an immediate and unprecedented threat to the food security of hundreds of millions of people who depend on small-scale agriculture for their livelihoods. CAFS' overall goal is to overcome the additional threats posed by a changing climate to achieving food security, enhancing livelihoods and improving environmental management. This entails promoting more adaptable and resilient agriculture and food systems; mainstreaming climate variability and climate change issues into development strategies and institutional agendas; enhancing peoples' understanding of climate change issues; and ensuring that decisions on policies and actions are based on the best information and data. In order to meet the overall goal, CAFS has established four research themes: Adaptation to Progressive Climate Change; Adaptation through Managing Climate Risk; Pro-poor Climate Change Mitigation; and Integration for Decision Making.

CAFS brings together the world's best researchers in agricultural science, development research, and climate science to identify and address the most important and complex interactions, synergies and tradeoffs between climate change, agriculture and food security through the CGIAR system and Earth System Science Partnership. CAFS also involves farmers, policy makers, donors and other stakeholders, to integrate their knowledge and needs into the tools and approaches that are developed. For more information go to www.cafs.cgiar.org

OBJECTIVE OF THE CALL

The complex and dynamic relationships among climate change, agriculture and food security and how they affect men and women differently are not well understood. Due to scarce gender-disaggregated data, there has been limited research on how men and women adapt to climate variability and change to maintain food security in agricultural systems, as well as the incentives, constraints and opportunities women farmers have to pursue farming practices that reduces emission of GHG's. How climate risk affects the livelihoods of men and women, and the type of climate information that will assist both men and women in making 'climate smart decisions' are also areas of research that have not received enough attention. Therefore, CAFS is searching for scientists who are interested in conducting research on gender issues related to the climate change, agriculture, and food security nexus.

Our main objectives are to work with institutions based in CAFS's initial priority geographic areas of East Africa, West Africa, and Indo-Gangetic Plains, and researchers who are citizens of Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Bangladesh, India, or Nepal to:

1. Demonstrate and contribute to understanding the linkages between climate change and gender more specifically, while developing policy-relevant findings on climate change, agriculture, and food security more generally.
2. Build research capacity of women scientists in partner institutions and increase their representation in agricultural research.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

I. SCOPE OF THE WORK

To design and conduct a research project on a key topic/issue related to gender, climate change, agriculture, and food security. Topics may include but are not limited to:

- Differences between men and women's access to, and use of, climate/agricultural information
- Institutional arrangements that provide incentives and deliver benefits for women to mitigate greenhouse gases through the adoption of soil, water, cropping, livestock or agroforestry management methods that reduce GHG emissions.
- Adaptation strategies, both technical and institutional, that help men and women cope with the impacts of a changing climate on agriculture and food security
- Differentiated impacts of climate change on food security and nutrition
- Risk management strategies through the use of institutional services (i.e. safety nets, technical advice, financial services) differentiated by gender.
- Relative vulnerability of men and women, and of female-headed versus male-headed households, to climate change impacts on agriculture and food security
- Roles of women and men in local food systems, such as small-scale trade and local food reserves, in adapting to a changing climate
- Gender-differentiated allocation of household labor and capital in agricultural adaptation and mitigation
- How national legislation and policy on mitigation and adaptation can best support gender equality

Research sponsored by CCAFS (www.ccafs.cgiar.org) is aimed at helping to inform policies and practices that reduce the negative impacts of climate change for people who depend on agriculture as a source of their livelihoods, without jeopardizing food security.

This call targets female PhD scientists and students enrolled in a PhD program based in CCAFS initial target countries (see below). Scientists awarded the grant will be partly supervised by a CGIAR scientist and will have full access to an electronic science library. The scientist should also be supervised by the institution she is affiliated with. Those awarded are required to submit financial and narrative progress reports every six months to the supervisor. The expected output of the research project will be a publishable paper and a presentation on the awarded research topic.

II. BUDGET AND TIMELINE

Six female scientists (two per region) will be awarded up to US\$35,000 each to cover the field, and other related costs of conducting the jointly agreed upon research topic and approach over a period of twelve months. This award will be provided to the institution and a portion of the funds will go to the scientist awarded as a stipend. The funds, however, will not be transferred in full. Transfer of funds will be dependent on successful submission of the financial and narrative progress reports every six months and the progress of the awarded scientists.

Grant application should be submitted by **1 May 2011** via email. The application should be sent to Ms. Josephine Njoroge (J.Njoroge@cgiar.org). Please indicate “**grant proposal on gender and climate change**” in the subject line. The proposal must be signed by the head of the applicant’s department or a senior manager and should be saved as a PDF document to be emailed along with the application form.

Only complete applications will be accepted. Late proposals will not be accepted. Awards will be given out **by 20 May 2011**. The awarded researcher must design, conduct research, and write a publishable paper within 12 months of the starting date. Fieldwork must be completed by 30 June 2012.

III. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Interested women scientists who are citizens of the countries where CCAFS conducts research (Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Bangladesh, India, and Nepal) and affiliated with institutions based in countries where CCAFS’s conducts research are encouraged to submit an application for this competitive small grant call. Fieldwork must be conducted in one of these countries listed. **The candidate must be either enrolled in a doctoral program in a CCAFS country, or have a PhD and be in a research or other institution located in a CCAFS country that supports this kind of research (and ideally contributes to their objectives).** She must also have a background that includes some experience in research related to climate change, agricultural or rural livelihoods, and/or food security.

An application form (including a curriculum vitae and references) and a proposal no more than ten pages long must be submitted by 20 May 2011. The proposal should include:

- (a) title of the project that summarizes the core subject of the proposal;
- (b) objectives and rationale that describes the goals and purpose of the project;
- (c) indication of how this research will be relevant to policy and/or practice;
- (d) methodology describing how the research will be conducted and what methods will be used;
- (e) description of how their proposal relates to their own institution’s objectives;
- (f) statement on who this research will impact and how the research results may be linked to ultimate users of the information;
- (g) timeline of the project;
- (h) budget in relation to travel for data collection; materials and supplies; and facilities & administrative costs (see form provided). The budget should also state the current available funds that the awarded scientist has been provided by her university she is enrolled in or institution she is affiliated with; and
- (i) references.

Proposals will be reviewed and evaluated by an advisory group made up of 3 CCAFS researchers. Key criteria considered will include the following:

1. The proposal focuses on research questions falling under the specified topics
2. Appropriate research methodology (ies) are proposed with a realistic workplan
3. Objectives, outputs and outcomes are clearly articulated
4. Evidence of support from the applicant’s home institution and that the topic will contribute to their mission/objectives

The proposal must be signed off by the head of the department of the applicant’s institution or by a senior manager acknowledging their support of the applicant applying for the small grants award. Only those applicants selected for the award will be contacted.