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Re: **Midwest Consortium for Climate Assessment (MiCCA)**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Iowa Farm Bureau Federation is pleased to offer its support and cooperation for the Midwest Consortium for Climate Assessment (MiCCA). Farm Bureau believes that the team of scientists, social scientists and analytical experts assembled by the consortium is well designed to carry out the functions and objectives of the project.

Iowa Farm Bureau supports the activities that are planned by the consortium and commits to collaborate with the consortium in carrying out these activities, some of which are:

1. Producing a synthesis of existing knowledge regarding crop failure frequency, loss estimates, and the multitude of factors -- including changing frequency of drought and technological advancements -- that potentially contribute to or mitigate crop failure.
2. Applying participatory methods to develop a consensus for developing drought scenarios from climate projections which can be used in conjunction with crop production and land/water management scenarios to identify long-range potential for crop failure, associated economic losses, and mitigation actions.
3. Engaging stakeholders in evaluation of emerging technologies for seasonal forecasts (NOAA drought outlooks; 30-km gridded seasonal forecasts) for the potential for influencing within-season crop production decisions to reduce risk of crop failure.
4. Leading formal and informal educational activities to inform our partners of approaches for developing climate projections, climate projection data sets already in existence, and uncertainties expressed by climate projections.
5. Identifying information delivery mechanisms that enable integration of climate change information (recent or projected future) into decision systems. And,
6. Developing outreach materials for stakeholders that places climate information within relevant decision contexts.



Iowa Farm Bureau is willing to cooperate and collaborate with this project as it seeks to accomplish these tasks, with emphasis on facilitating participation of producers in the stakeholder forums and workshops. We recommend that you favorably consider this project for funding and look forward to participating in the successful completion of this project.

Sincerely,

David Miller

Director, Research and Commodity Services, Iowa Farm Bureau