

## **Borlaug 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leadership Program**

Human and institutional capital is an essential building block for improved growth in the agricultural sector. Development of human skills in research, as well as strengthening those institutions that focus on educating the next generation of agricultural entrepreneurs, technicians, policymakers, managers, and researchers, are particularly critical capacities for promoting innovation within the agricultural sector.

Announced in June 2011, the five-year Borlaug 21st Century Leadership Program is a major new investment that will strengthen the human and institutional capital base needed to promote agricultural sector innovation. Through the Feed the Future Initiative, USAID's Bureau for Food Security has committed a total of \$13.5 million to the program in FY2011; opportunities for substantial Mission buy-in are available. The program includes elements to 1) support Mission and country initiatives for planning to strengthen universities, vocational schools, and technical institutes; 2) support strategic planning exercises in priority institutions and identify performance gaps that can be met through training interventions; 3) train and mentor agricultural researchers; 4) assemble best practices and testing innovative models in research capacity development; and 5) support strategic planning, donor coordination, and financing for higher education in the African region.

The Program comprises the following suite of existing capacity development activities focusing on the development of future generations of agricultural researchers:

- **Africa Leadership Training and Capacity Building (Africa Lead):** Support for strategic planning exercises in selected African institutions that play key roles in agricultural development, and leadership training of champions for African agriculture and food security growth and development. Please see <http://africleadftf.org> or contact Jennifer Maurer, [jmaurer@usaid.gov](mailto:jmaurer@usaid.gov) for more information.
- **Africa Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD):** Leadership training, scientific skills development, and mentorship for women agricultural researchers in Africa. Please see <http://awardfellowships.org/> or contact Meredith Soule, [msoule@usaid.gov](mailto:msoule@usaid.gov) for more information.
- **USDA Foreign Agricultural Service Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program:** Short-term collaborative research fellowships with mentoring for agricultural researchers in developing countries. Please see <http://www.fas.usda.gov/icd/borlaug/Borlaug.asp> or contact Karina Ramos [karina.ramos@fas.usda.gov](mailto:karina.ramos@fas.usda.gov) for more information.
- **Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP):** Support to developing country graduate students to conduct part of their research on food security-related topics in developing country or CGIAR settings. Program is managed by the University of California, at Davis. Please see <http://leap.ucdavis.edu/> or contact Eric Witte [ewitte@usaid.gov](mailto:ewitte@usaid.gov) for more information.

The following programs will be established in the near future. Please check back for updates.

- **US Borlaug Fellowship in Global Food Security:** Support to American graduate students doing food-security related research in developing countries. This program will be managed by Purdue University.
- **Modernizing Agricultural Education and Training Systems (MAETS):** Support to strengthening the capacity of agricultural education and training institutions, including universities and vocational schools.
- **Borlaug US University Partnership for Human and Institutional R&D Capacity Development:** The development and testing of new models for effectively developing the next generation of researchers working to achieve food security. This will include new models for MSc and Ph.D. training in the agricultural sciences. The program will be managed by a consortium of US universities.
- **USAID-World Bank Collaboration in Support of Tertiary Agricultural Education in Africa:** Support for an Africa-led framework to strengthen tertiary agricultural education in Africa, a region-wide strategic planning process, and the development of a framework for donor coordination and financing.

For more information, please email [borlaugleaders@usaid.gov](mailto:borlaugleaders@usaid.gov) or visit [www.feedthefuture.gov](http://www.feedthefuture.gov).