



3 regional training workshops on Project proposal design and writing

22-27 May 2005 in Cotonou, Benin

19-24 June 2005 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

4-9 September 2005 in Quito, Ecuador

Sponsored by
The Generation Challenge Program

Organized by
The International Plant Genetic Resources Institute

With the participation of

INIAP, Instituto Nacional Autónomo de Investigaciones Agropecuarias

CAS, the Central Advisory Service on Intellectual Property

WARDA, the Africa Rice Centre

INRAB, the Benin National Institute for Agricultural Research

MARDI the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute



Rationale

- The GCP realizes that universities and partners from the North submit more successful proposals than the South because they have the capacity to submit well-written and well-presented excellent scientific proposals that incorporate stakeholder input and well-defined impact pathways.
- Since National Agricultural Research Systems (NARS) have an important role to play in planning and implementing the research agenda of the GCP, one objective of the 'capacity building strategy of the GCP' is to empower NARS from Africa, Latin America and Asia, as well as less experienced GCP consortium member scientists, in writing and submitting quality research proposals to the GCP and to other donors.

Project purpose:

- **Project purpose:**

The aim of this project is to increase the capacity of the Generation Challenge Program (GCP) African, Latin American and Asian partners (NARS) in proposal development that leads to more effective distribution of research outputs and results and an increased fund raising ability. **This will enable them to become stronger partners in alliances with the GCP consortium members in implementation of our common agenda.**

- At the end of the training programs, the knowledge of the participants enables them to:
 - plan and write successful quality project proposals
 - ensure the maximum participation of stakeholders and users
 - optimize impact and
 - convince the GCP and other donors to support their future efforts

The agenda of the training programme

I Planning for delivery

- 1- Welcome and introductions
- 2- Expectations and Outcome of the workshop
- 3- Introduction to the Generation Challenge Program
- 4- NARS in the GCP consortium
- **5- Participatory planning approaches and motivation**
- 6- Process of proposal development
- 7- Timetable for proposal development
- **8- Problem analysis and problem tree**
- **9- Stakeholders analysis**
- **10- Developing a logframe**
- **11- Planning for product use**

Philosophy behind participatory planning in ARD projects

- Motivation starts when you set objectives
- Everything takes place in the mind of the person setting the objectives, or in the mind of the group of stakeholders (users or beneficiaries included) setting the objectives
- Motivation takes self identification
- Unless a person can identify oneself with a goal, there is no motivation
- Involving the users at the planning stage = ownership = motivation = sustainable action and change
 - ▶ successful delivery

Agenda, part 2

II Writing the concept note

- 12- Donors' criteria
- 13- Writing tips
- 14- Concept notes versus proposals
- 15- Formats, donor differences and similarities
- 16- Goal, Purpose, Objective
- 17- Outputs
- 18- Beneficiaries, target groups
- 19- Rationale/problem statement
- 20- Title
- 21- Approach, methodology
- 22- Activities
- 23- Work plan
- 24- Project Management/reporting/evaluation/monitoring
- 25- Partners, collaborators
- 26- Budget
- 27- Annexes

Agenda, part 3

III Fund Raising

- 28- Cover letter
- 29- Fund raising and its objectives & your role in fund raising
- 30- Cofinancing
- 31- Funding opportunities

- 32- Going Forward in the GCP: Areas of Research and Linking with the Consortium

To make the learning more effective...

‘Participatory questioning’ approaches & Coaching

E.g.:

- Sessions start with brainstorming to build the confidence of the participants (there is always something they know already and they learn from each others)
 - in fund raising, what are you good at ?
 - according to you, what is the difference between goal and purpose?
- Donor role playing

Objectives

- to keep learners active in the learning process
- to build participant’s self confidence (also to train them as trainers)
- to facilitate communication and group work
- to develop a high sense of responsibility and ownership
- to show how different can donors be, and how different participants will analyze one given problem; to highlight that we all see the world with a different map and that we should accept it and not judge but work together.

Methodology

Tools

- Brainstorming, appreciative questions, group work
- Role playing
- Positive feedback / negative feedback
- Tracking and listening skills
- Evaluations
- Volunteers
- Donors
- Euro chocolates

Criteria or questions donors ask themselves when reviewing your proposals

Scientific value

- Is the science of good quality?
- Is the scientific method valid ?
- Is the research of scientific interest ?
- Is the topic important ?
- **Is the project contributing to comparative biology for addressing complex traits and historically intractable constraints ? Relevance to the GCP objectives ?**
- **Is there creation of novel products, tools or approaches ?**
- **Is the capacity building element well planned ?**
- **Is the proposal of scientific merit and originality ?**

Risk management and budget feasibility

- Do I know this Institute ?
- Why should I finance this Institute ?
- Have they submitted timely and quality technical reports and financial reports in the past ?
- Where are they hiding the overheads or cost recovery ?
- Did other donors already commit to the project ?
- Will the project be monitored ? How ?
- Is the budget adequate to achieve the objectives ?

Other criteria

Appropriateness of proposed staff, institutional capacity and experience ?

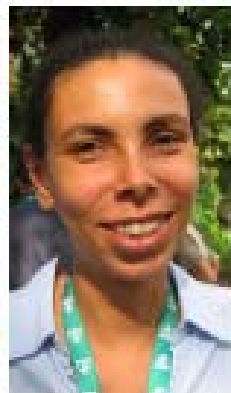
- What is the rationale and the strengths of the proposed partnerships ?
- How many NARS / partners are involved ?
- Is the proposed project management going to be adequate ?
- Do I know one of the proposed scientists?
- Why should this organization be the leading partner ?
- How strong is the existing capacity of the proponent IARC or NARS and collaborators to perform the required R&D ?
- Is the research team competent?
- Do they have experience in similar geographic regions and with similar problems ?
- How has the applicant performed during implementation of previous 'donor' project?

Work program and methods

- is the R&D method and work program well described ? This includes project sequencing and timing of activities, degree of ownership by NARS?
- appropriate level of collaboration between researchers and potential target groups ? users ? beneficiaries ?
- is there a strategy for extending project outputs ?
- is the strategy for intellectual property management well documented?

24 Participants in Cotonou





Oscar
Eyog-Matig

Hana
Chair

Emmanuel
Okogbenin

James Gichuru
Gethi

Elizabeth
Okai

Ousmane
Boukar

James Aketch
Okeno



Toussaint
Mikpon

Daniel
Fonceka

Fredrick
Atieno

Altus
Viljoen

Paul Kayode
Baiyeri

Elias Otien
Obudho

Rachel
Chikwamba



Jonathan
Mkumbira



Alexandre
Dansi Anagonou



Emmrold
Mnene



Chabane
Kamel



Mabel Jandeka
Mahasi



Koffi Simplicite
Kouassi



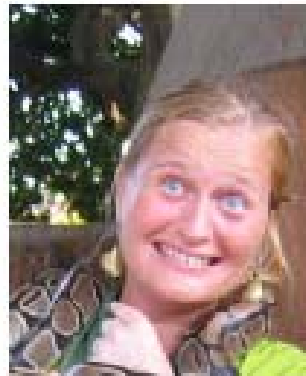
Marie Noelle
Ndjiondjop



Eklou
Attiogbevi Somado



Mahalakshmi
Visvanathan



Karine
Malgrand



Jennifer
Nelson



Theo
Hintum



Justin
Kouka

Participating African institutions

- Benin Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Abomey-Calavi (UAC) Cotonou
- Benin WARDA (Africa Rice Center) Cotonou
- Benin CIRAD-UAC Cotonou
- Benin IPGRI Cotonou
- Benin INRAB Cotonou
- Cameroon IRAD Maroua
- Cote d'Ivoire Projet Bourses du Vivrier (PROBOVI) Abidjan
- Ghana Crops Research Institute - Accra & Kumasi
- Kenya IPGRI Nairobi
- Kenya KARI-Katumani
- Kenya KARI Njoro.
- Kenya University of Nairobi
- Kenya Moi University- Eldoret
- Nigeria Dept of crop science, University of Nigeria Nsukka
- Nigeria IITA Ibadan
- Nigeria National Root Crops Research Institute(NRCRI) Umuahia
- Senegal CERAAS Thies, Senegal
- South Africa FABI, University of Pretoria- South Africa
- Syria ICARDA Aleppo
- Tanzania Mikocheni Agricultural Research Institute (MARI) Dar Es Salaam

24 Participants in Kuala Lumpur

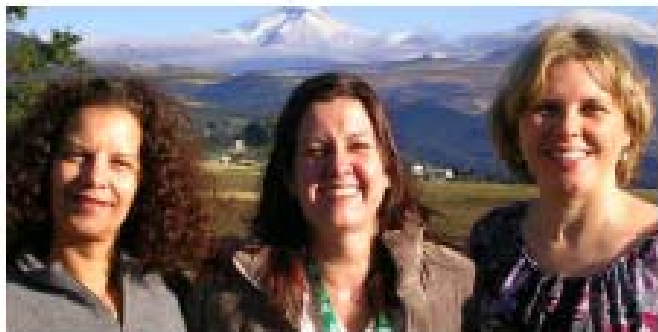


NARS, members or not of the GCP, partners in year 1 or not to the GCP and CGIAR centres involved in these trainings

- Australia Centre for Legumes in Mediterranean Agriculture (CLIMA)
University of Western Australia (UWA) – Australia
- China Department of International Cooperation, Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences - Beijing
- China Biotech Research Institute, Beijing
- India Tamil Nadu Agricultural University - Department of Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology- Coimbatore
- India Indian Institute of Pulse Research- Kalyanpur, KANPUR
- India ICAR, India- Division of Biotechnology, IIHR, Hessaraghatta Lake Post, Bangalore
- India Centre for Plant Breeding & Genetics - Tamil Nadu Agricultural University- Coimbatore
- India Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad- Karnataka
- India Vivekananda Institute of Hill Agricultural Research, Indian Council of Agricultural Research- VPKAS (ICAR), ALMORA
- Indonesia Indonesian Center for Agricultural Biotechnology and Genetic Resources Research and Development- Bogor
- Iran Nuclear Research Center for Agriculture and Medicine of IRAN
- Korea National Institution Agriculture Biotechnology- Rep. of Korea
- Malaysia Institute of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science- University of Malaya
- Malaysia School of Environmental and Natural Resource Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology, University Kebangsaan Malaysia
- Malaysia MARDI
- Pakistan Institute of Agri. Biotechnology and Genetic Resources
- Sri Lanka Genetics and Plant Breeding Division, Coconut Research Institute, Lunuwila
- Thailand Department of Horticulture, Kasetsart University
- Vietnam Institute of Tropical Biology - Vietnamese academy of science and technology (VAST)
- Vietnam National Maize Research Institute of Vietnam
- Vietnam Vietnam Agricultural Science Institute

25 Participants in Quito





Karine Malgrand

Rosangela Bevitori

Flavia Franca Teixeira

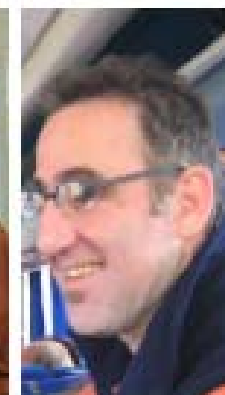
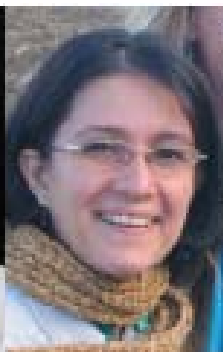
Rosa Lia Barbieri

Lucia Atehortua

Wilson Castelblanco

Ricardo Delgado

Andreas Ebert



Alexandra Narváz

Bernardo Ospina Patiño

Paula Hurtado

Yolanda Guzmán

Elisabeth Arnaud

Francisco Vilaro

Diogenes Infante

Sergio Feingold



Paulo De Melo

Gisella Orjeda

Griselda Arrieta-Espinoza

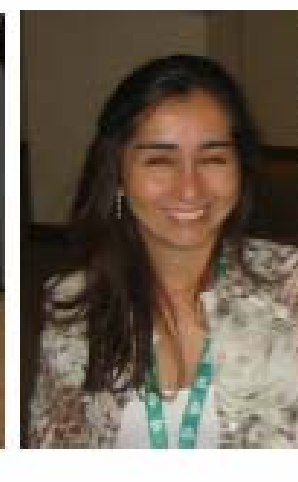
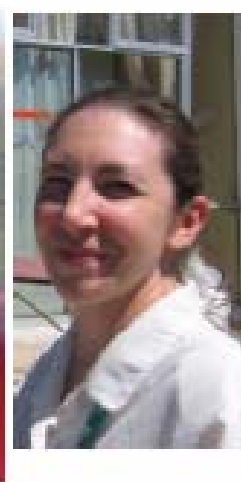
Peter Seemann

Berardo Escalante

Victor Cardoso

Mario Coca Morante

Ximena Cadima Fuentes



Alvaro Monteros

Theresa Fulton

Monica Macias

Adriana Sanchez

Antony Collins

Meike Andersson

Wilson Vazquez

Participating Latin American institutions

- Argentina Instituto Nacional de Tecnologia Agropecuaria (INTA)
- Bolivia Facultad de Agronomía, Universidad Mayor de San Andres
- Bolivia Fundación PROINPA
- Brazil EMBRAPA Milho e Sorgo
- Brazil EMBRAPA Vegetables
- Brazil EMBRAPA Clima Temperado
- Brazil EMBRAPA Rice and Beans
- Chile Universidad Austral de Chile, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
- Columbia Consorcio Latinoamericano y del Caribe de Apoyo a la Investigacion y Desarrollo de la Yuca CLAYUCA
- Columbia IPGRI Americas
- Columbia CIAT
- Columbia Instituto de Biologia, Universidad de Antioquia
- Costa Rica CATIE
- Costa Rica Centro de Investigacion en Biologia y Molecular, Universidad de Costa Rica
- Ecuador INIAP
- Ecuador Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador
- Ecuador CORPOINIAP
- France INIBAP
- Peru National University of Cajamarca (UNC)
- Peru Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia
- Peru Resource Institute of the Peruvian Amazon (IIAP)
- Uruguay INIA
- Venezuela Instituto de Estudios Avanzados (IDEA)

Learnings' highlights

1- Selection process

- Africa - 145 applications from scientists – selection made of actual partners to the GCP, or very high potential
- Asia – 41 applications of Senior scientists / ADGs, from institutions already partners to the GCP - auto selection
- Latin America – 36 applications -Call resent 10 times to make a relevant selection

2- Success stories of the course

- **Networking**

Paco, Lia, Paulo and Sergio are developing a collaborative proposal

- **Successful proposals:**

Paulo got a proposal approved from his National Research Council

- **Developed proposals :**

- Molecular breeding for traits associated with drought in chickpea
- Nutritional empowerment of rice through genetic improvement



Learnings' highlights

2- Success stories of the course...

- **Peer review**

Bernardo :“I felt very confident and skillful (I thought) detecting failures, inconsistencies” in reviewing my colleague's proposals.

- **Sharing knowledge**

Chandra (50 scientists) , Yunus, Lia, Donxsin Quynn, Shiv Kumar, Paulo, Norowi and Sahilah, Elisabeth, Sergio, Paula, Wilson, Meike, Rachid, Saiprasad (100 scientists) have organized seminars and they, together with Emmanuel distribute copies of the CD and the print material. Depending on the demand (which has been expressed already)

- **University curriculum**

Ororat to her post grad class and Paulo at the M.Sc. Level are both exploring the possibility to develop a course on Writing Successful Research Proposals

- **Use of logframes**

- **Translation in Spanish**

- **Hope to present 2 proposals for the next GCP call in January...**

Needs assessment's highlights

● How could the GCP support the aims of your organization, support you in your individual aims and ambitions?

- By distributing information on GCP outputs (articles, databases, newsletters)
- By allowing us to compete for the GCP in the capacity of PI (become a Consortium member)
- By allocating travel grants to attend international meetings / visiting partners
- By offering networking opportunities and fair partnerships opportunities
- By training scientists in molecular breeding tools, bioinformatics and IPR
- By giving the NARS a chance to organize and host a workshop
- By supporting **national** trainings on GCP related subjects
- By inviting resource person from the South
- By awarding fellowships
- By upgrading biotechnology lab facilities & funding consumables &
- By developing and deploying draught tolerant and disease resistant varieties
- By assessing our potential and strengths and recognize us as full time partners
- By facilitating the creation of African/and sub regional centers of excellence on draught phenotype

Needs assessment Cont'

- Would you advise the GCP to renew this kind of workshop or to link it to another subject ?
 - “Yes, this is a unique opportunity for us to understand how international funding systems work and how to apply to international calls for proposals”
 - “If this workshop can't be funded again this year, yes, develop a short version to link it to other courses”
 - We reproduced and distributed the CD, organized internal seminars and shared our knowledge. Better if this programme can be inserted in Mc degrees.

What is next?

- How many national partners have joined the GCP Consortium?
- Should we add more specific selection criteria (delivery, involvement of users) in the next call for proposals?
- Can we expand our list of partners and share with them our outputs?
- Can we monitor GCP projects? And help project coordinators in involving national partners?

Thank you,
Karine Malgrand
PI of this activity
Poster 69
IPGRI

