



Fund

## **Fund Council**

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### ***WORKING DOCUMENT***

*CO Comments to CRPs regarding  
2015-2016 CRP Extension Proposals:  
CCAFS*

*Submitted by:  
Consortium Office*



## CO Comments to CRPs regarding 2015-2016 CRP Extension Proposals

### CRP Name: Climate Change, Agriculture & Food Security (CCAFS)

#### A. Overall Assessment

The Consortium Science Team considered this proposal as excellent, ranked as the best of the 15 extension proposals. It recommends its submission for approval as it stands, with no amendment required. We commend the CCAFS team on the very high quality of its work. CCAFS deals with an issue critical to the future of mankind, and has been doing so in a very effective manner, as demonstrated by its Annual Reports 2011, 2012 and 2013 and by its annual programmes of work and budget 2013, 2014.

This proposal is extremely clear, conceptually coherent and concise. It reflects rigorous and innovative thinking and drawing of lessons from its own experiences throughout its sections, and is thus particularly convincing. CCAFS's restructuring into flagship projects has increased the internal coherence of the programme activities and the alignment of outputs and outcomes with the IDOs selected by the CRP, and with the SLOs. In addition, CCAFS has a number of on-going collaborations with different CRPs and it has a very robust and effective partnership strategy.

The CRP focuses its work on five IDOs: food security, gender, adaptive capacity, mitigation and policies and institutions. Their theory of change articulates how working in partnership at different levels (local to global) is essential to generating evidence, influencing policy processes and rolling out climate smart agricultural practices. Their four flagship projects are: climate-smart agricultural practices, climate information services and climate-informed safety nets, low emission agricultural development, and policies and institutions for climate resilient food systems. Each flagship project has its own impact pathway and specific research areas that produce differentiated outputs and outcomes that contribute to the five IDOs. Three external evaluations have informed the extension proposal, and this indicates the strong learning dimension that CCAFS's leadership have built into the CRP from its inception.

Gender research has been effectively mainstreamed by CCAFS which satisfactorily fulfils all the detailed criteria designed by the CGIAR Gender Research Network for assessing the significance of gender research mainstreaming. In addition, CCAFS allocates around 12% of its budget to gender research across its flagships. CCAFS has been monitoring the number of female scientists and the diversity of its researchers, and the percentages are impressive.

CCAFS's partnerships are strategic and include the top climate change research actors globally (e.g. Future Earth), as well as extremely influential international policy-makers (e.g. Secretary General of the UN) and national and local decision-makers and NGOs. The different partnerships CCAFS has developed have clear and different purposes, including, central (e.g. Future Earth, Belmont Forum and FACCE-JPI), research (e.g. universities, NARES), capacity enhancement, policy and institutional changes and implementing climate smart agriculture (e.g. IFAD and FAO), open data and information



dissemination, and management and governance. At the regional level, CCAFS has strong collaborations with a number of CRPs (e.g. FTA, Grain Legumes, MAIZE, GRiSP, WLE, Dryland Systems, AAS and Humidtropics) and a range of regional actors. The percentage of funds that CCAFS allocates to partners outside of the CGIAR is one of the highest in the CRP portfolio (23-30% of the total budget), and is in addition to the non-financial partnerships with many of the non-CGIAR partners. Publications with co-authors from collaborating NARES constitute 26% of journal papers published by CCAFS in 2012; this is an indicator of the robustness of its partnerships, and a role model for other CRPs.

In closing, we request that CCAFS provides a response by August 25, 2014 under the form of a table indicating its proposed actions, to the following few comments.

### **B. Specific Points CCAFS needs to address**

1. We ask that CCAFS and FTA provide a description of the climate change activities they have agreed to undertake jointly and those they have agreed to undertake separately (in no more than 1 page).
2. We also recommend that CCAFS and Livestock and Fish discuss how they can collaborate on decreasing the climate change footprint of livestock (if this is not going on already) in order to show their joint activities.
3. Finally, we think that CCAFS can address the most substantive of the ISPC's comments in the same table, by providing links to the relevant publications.