

Australia unties aid for African food research

by Ashlee Betteridge and Robin Davies
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A new joint program of the Australian International Food Security Centre at the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) and Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC) is **calling** for proposals.

The CA\$15 million Cultivate Africa's Future (CultiAF) fund is a challenge program that aims to improve food security and promote agricultural development in sub-Saharan Africa. It will allocate funds competitively to research initiatives which are relevant for improving post-harvest management, nutrition and water use, and have clear pathways to application.

Announced at the **2013 Africa Agricultural Science Week**, the program will be managed by IDRC, with 50 per cent of its funding from ACIAR.

Research organisations from 10 countries – Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe – are eligible for grants of up to CA\$3 million dollars each. The application guidelines note that applicants “may work in partnership with Canadian or Australian organisations but this is not a requirement.”

Traditionally, ACIAR projects have mandated the participation of Australian researchers (something Devpolicy criticised in its **submission to the recent ACIAR review**), so this is a welcome development.

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Link:

<https://devpolicy.org/australia-unties-aid-for-join-forces-for-african-food-securityresearch-20130723-2/>