



Research Awards: Agriculture and Food Security program

Deadline: 12 September 2012

Please note that all applications must be sent electronically.

IDRC's Research Awards are a unique opportunity for master's and doctoral-level students, as well as recent graduates to enhance their research skills and gain a fresh perspective on crucial development issues. This one-year, paid in-house program of training and mentorship in research, research management, and grant administration allows awardees to pursue their research goals in a dynamic team environment in one of the world's leaders in generating new knowledge to meet global challenges.

The Agriculture and Food Security (AFS) program supports research that generates new options for equitable and productive agriculture to improve food and income security for poor women and men in developing countries. Research has shown that appropriate food security interventions have the potential to achieve sustained improvements in household food security as well as the nutritional well-being of vulnerable members of the population. The AFS program works with organizations to intensify and diversify small-scale agriculture, improve nutritional quality and income by developing, disseminating, and using innovations (technological, institutional, political, economic, and social) without adverse consequences to societies and the environment.

Research Award candidates are encouraged to submit applications that will further the AFS program's multi-regional programming through a research activity focusing on agriculture and food security, specifically on the economics of agriculture, food production, distribution or consumption. This may include research on the economics of household production, value chain analysis, benefit-cost analysis of post-harvest technologies, etc. Other relevant topics are also welcome.

You should have an interest in agriculture, food security, nutrition, rural livelihoods, and sustainable development along with solid technical understanding of agricultural science and first-hand knowledge of the rural sector. You must have, or be currently enrolled in, a postgraduate degree with: a strong emphasis on agricultural economics, economics, business or commerce, or related field; and an interest/minor in farming systems research, rural development, sustainable development, or international development.

Knowledge of research for development, field experience in a developing country (preferably Asia or Africa), and experience with publishing/communications are highly desirable. The position will operate primarily in English, but knowledge of French and/or another language is an asset.

Your research proposal should demonstrate the intention to explore the linkages between agriculture, nutrition, and food security, have a clear commitment to the AFS methodological building blocks (e.g., multistakeholder participation, transdisciplinarity, and social and gender equity), and recognize the dual nature of the position—applied research activity and general program support.

[Learn more about AFS and its activities](#)