

Proj. 9311304 (2)
REL PD-AAF-164-B

ACTION MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR FOR DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

THRU: DS/PO, Robert Simpson
FROM: DS/AGR, Leon F. Hesser *lh*
SUBJECT: Approval of an Extension of Project Number 931-1304.11, Sorghum/Millet Research Program Planning, University of Missouri, Contract No. AID/AFR-C-1139, Work Order No. 4

12 p.

Problem: The University of Missouri has requested: (1) a 30 day extension of time for the subject project which will change the expiration date from February 22, 1978 to March 24, 1978; and (2) an additional \$10,120 for 44 work days at \$230.00 per day.

Discussion: The original Work Order provided \$101,950 for the University of Missouri (UMC) to plan a sorghum/millet collaborative research project under the Title XII program. The collaborative research project plans were to be completed within six months - or between August 22, 1977 and February 22, 1978. UMC has now indicated that an additional month is required to complete the final plans. In addition, at the time that the Planning Grant was executed, the number of days required by the professional staff at the University was not precisely identified. The University has now indicated that an additional 44 professional staff days are required to complete the final report. SER/CM has advised us that the daily rate for professionals at the University is \$230.00. Thus an additional \$10,120 is required.

UMC submitted the interim report to BIFAD/JRC on January 9, 1978 which indicated that the work is progressing satisfactorily and that the additional 30 day extension is required to produce the final report.

DS/AGR, AA/DS for Title XII, and BIFAD are all aware of the initiatives taken by UMC in implementing the plan of work negotiated under the contract. UMC has invested a considerable amount of its own time to accomplish the contract objectives and produce a high quality project plan. The interim report submitted to BIFAD/JRC on January 9, 1978 indicated that an additional 30 day extension is required to complete the final work. We recommend approval of both the 30 day extension of time and additional funds needed to compensate for the extra faculty time. The additional investment of time and funds will provide for the additional information needed by the Agency in preparing the documentation for the proposed sorghum and millet collaborative research grant under Title XII. This will result in a superior planning document with less investment of agency staff time. The original action memorandum, dated July 21, 1977 is attached for information.

Recommendation: That you approve this amendment in the allocation of funds and time which will increase the approved amount from \$102,000 to \$112,070 and funding period from six months to seven months.

APPROVED: R. Simpson

DISAPPROVED: _____

DATE: 2/14/78

Attachments:

1. Action Memo, 7/21/77
2. PIO/T

Clearances:

AA/DS:ELong (Draft) Date:2/6/78
DS/PO:CKassebaum ck Date: 2/4/78

DS/AGR/CP:JAWhite:bw 2/7/78 Ext:58859

July 21, 1977

ACTION MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BUREAU

FROM: TA/AGR, Leon F. Hesser *L.F.H.*

SUBJECT: Approval of Fund Allocation for Planning Contract, Collaborative Research Support Program, Sorghum/Pearl Millet

Problem: The Board for International Food and Agricultural Research (BIFAD) and its Joint Research Committee (JRC) have approved procedures for planning Collaborative Research Support Program proposals, and for selecting the recipients of grants to carry out such programs. These procedures require that a grantee or contractor be selected to conduct the planning process and to recommend the recipients of the Collaborative Research Grants. A.I.D. is ready to proceed with the selection of a contractor to conduct these operations for the highest priority research topic, namely, sorghum and pearl millet improvement. Your approval is necessary before the contract can be awarded.

Discussion: Since this will be the first planning contract for collaborative research, it will help set precedents and determine procedures to be followed for the planning process in developing these collaborative programs. The planning process will require several work months for literature review, research evaluation, identification and screening of possible participants, developing recommendations for selection of most appropriate participants, and presentation of a report and recommendations to BIFAD/JRC and A.I.D. The preliminary cost estimate of these activities is \$102,000 and the time required is estimated to be six months. The product of this planning process will be a report to A.I.D., BIFAD and the JRC which will:

1. outline the structure and scope of a proposed Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP) in sorghum/pearl millet,
2. make recommendations as to the initial participants in the CRSP, and the general research topics to be covered by each; this will include both the U.S. and developing country participants,
3. make a recommendation of the most suitable administrative entity to receive and administer the CRSP grant.

We recommend that the planning contract be awarded to the University of Missouri, under an existing Indefinite Quantity Contract (IQC). Missouri has extensive experience in overseas development work and high capabilities in agricultural research, but does not expect to participate, at least in initial years, in a collaborative program on sorghum or pearl millet.

A scope of work for the planning process (attached) has been prepared and has been approved by relevant offices within A.I.D./W and by

Dr. D. Woods Thomas of the BIFAD staff. It was revised and approved by the JRC at the July 20, 1977 meeting. A PIO/T has been prepared, based on this scope of work. The Contracts Office is prepared to initiate procurement procedures as soon as an approved PIO/T, indicating funds reservation, is forwarded to them.

Recommendation: That you approve the procedures outlined, the selection of the University of Missouri as contractor, and the allocation of not more than \$102,000 for this proposed contract.

APPROVED: C. J. Fanner

DISAPPROVED: _____

DATE: 7/28/77

ATTACHMENT:

Scope of Work

Clearance:

AA/TA, FRiggs (Draft) Date: 7/20/77

TA/PPU, RSimpson (Draft) Date: 7/20/77

BIFAD, DWThomas (Draft) Date: 7/20/77

Drafted: TA/AGR/CP: ^{cef}ERL eng: bw 7/21/77: X58859

Planning Collaborative Research Support Program
on
Grain Sorghum/Pearl Millet
Under Title XII
Of the International Development and Food Assistance Act of 1975

Introduction

With the approval of the International Development and Food Assistance Act of 1975, the Congress authorized the creation of a Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD). The Board of 7 members was appointed and will guide the use of a new category of agricultural research funds intended to improve food production and utilization throughout the world, but with particular importance to the developing countries.

In essence, the new programs are intended to link and support agricultural research institutions who share a common research interest in problems of major food crops in the developing world. The terminology of the bill is broad but is generally interpreted to promote collaboration among U. S. land grant universities, research institutions in developing countries, and the International Research Centers. The language does not, however, preclude participation by institutions in other developed countries, nor private agencies.

The members of the BIFAD were appointed in 1976. A Joint Research Committee has been appointed by the Board and is developing a priority listing of programs. One of the priority areas selected is Grain Sorghum/Pearl Millet.

As part of the planning function, agricultural experts from the U.S., the international scene, and the developing countries will be asked to assess the needs for research on sorghum and millet in the developing countries. Institutions here and abroad who are already concerned with research on these crops will be invited to join a single collaborative program to minimize the cultural, processing, or related constraints to improving the availability of these commodities in food deficit areas. The individual efforts (projects) of each participating institution will comprise the overall Research Program Proposal on Sorghum and Millet. This will be submitted to the BIFAD and A.I.D. who will consider the merits of the total collaborative proposal.

I. Executing A Planning Grant

BIFAD and the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.), under provisions of Title XII, Section 298(d) of the International Development and Food Assistance Act of 1975 and in accordance with recommendations made by the Joint Research Committee (JRC)^{1/}, have given high priority to grain sorghum/pearl millet for a Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP). It is now in order for A.I.D. to contract with a qualified organization to plan and submit a Collaborative Research Support Program Proposal. The outline presented in this document, together with the guidelines approved by BIFAD,

^{1/} Guidelines for the Conduct of Collaborative Research Support Activity Under Title XII of the International Development and Food Assistance Act of 1975, June 23, 1977.

will be followed by the contractor selected by A.I.D., on recommendation of BIFAD, to prepare and submit the proposal. Selection of the contractor will be made on the basis of high research qualifications on commodities closely related to grain sorghum/pearl millet but not necessarily with a primary interest in these commodities.

II. Scope of Work for Developing a Proposed CRSP on Grain Sorghum/Pearl Millet

1. Maintaining liaison with A.I.D., BIFAD and JRC .

Throughout the term of this work order, the contractor will maintain close liaison with A.I.D., BIFAD and JRC. To this end, appropriate representatives of A.I.D., the BIFAD staff and a member of JRC will be designated by A.I.D. as points of contact. The principal purpose of this close liaison will be to help the contractor develop an acceptable plan.

2. The Ad Hoc Planning Committee.

Within 15 days after contract effective date, contractor will establish an Ad Hoc Planning Committee (3-8 members) to assist in developing detailed procedural plans to be followed during the remainder of the assignment. The contractor may include in the membership of the committee persons from other institutions. It is important that LDC experience be represented, as well as the USDA's Agricultural Research Service, if possible. The representatives of A.I.D., BIFAD staff and JRC should be present during the Committee's deliberations. Upon completion of its assignment of helping to develop procedural plans, the committee will be discharged.

3. Statistical Summary on Grain Sorghum/Pearl Millet Production.

The contractor will prepare a list of all the countries in the world where grain sorghum and/or pearl millet for grain are grown on a reasonably important economic basis. Statistics consisting of hectarages and production over as recent a five-year period as possible will be included in the report.

4. Inventory of Research

The contractor will identify institutions in developing and developed countries with a manifest interest in research on these commodities. Such a list can be prepared with information collected through the information banks of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the FAO, as well as the USDA/CSRS, USAID missions, TA/AGR staff, the International Agricultural Research Centers, and others. AID/W shall assist by providing limited liaison services with these entities.

The contractor will utilize the above sources to develop a state-of-the-arts report on grain sorghum/pearl millet production and utilization, including an inventory of research underway, both in the United States and, to the fullest extent possible, in the rest of the world. To be useful, the inventory will have to be brief, i.e., in an abstracted form. The format followed by CRIS (the USDA's information bank) is recommended to the contractor in preparing this section of the report.

5. Summarizing problems and research needs.

Invitations for identification of problems and suggestions for research will be extended to all institutions having substantial interest in these crops, including those in developed countries, developing countries, and the international centers. Within the United States the contractor will contact and invite suggestions from universities which have been designated "eligible" by BIFAD; all "non-eligible" U. S. universities which are known to have a manifest interest in grain sorghum/pearl millet (for grain) research; the Agricultural Research Service, Cooperative State Research Service, and Economic Research Service of the USDA; research foundations; private seed organizations with ongoing programs on grain sorghum/pearl millet research with international implications; and other private organizations as well as individuals with such demonstrable research interests.

The contractor will identify the principal constraints in the production, marketing, transportation, storage, processing, nutritional value and utilization of these crops in the developing countries. The contractor will then prepare a summary of the most urgent research needs for sorghum/pearl millet in the developing countries and will include an estimate of the costs and potential benefits to be derived from the various individual research projects comprising the list. The report encompassing this summary must be organized into an integrated presentation which can be used as the basis for a Collaborative Research

Program on Sorghum and Millet. Copies of the report will be distributed to all LDC and developed country institutions which have been identified in 4. above, not later than 90 days after the effective date of the work order.

6. Invitation to Participate in CRSP.

With the distribution of this report, the receiving institutions will be invited to indicate interest in participation in the CRSP. Each will be provided by A.I.D. with a copy of the JRC/BIFAD "Guidelines". Institutions wishing to participate will be invited to submit their proposals in a concise form (not over 3 or 4 pages) along with budgetary requests. The contractor will set an appropriate deadline for his receipt of these proposals.

7. Selection Procedure.

The contractor will then evaluate the submitted proposals and the qualifications of the potential participants in the CRSP. To accomplish this, he is authorized to utilize appropriate outside experts; for example, if he so desires, he may convene a panel of 6 to 10 recognized authorities in agricultural research involving or closely related to sorghum and millet. There should be developing country representation and experience on such a panel. The contractor is authorized to make visitations to prospective participant institutions to assist in his evaluation of their capabilities.

After a detailed analysis of the state-of-the-arts information assembled in item 4. above, the researchable constraints in item 5., and a review of the research proposals submitted in response to item 6., the contractor will make recommendations on research and institutions which he believes should be supported by the CRSP, designating which organizations would be primary participants and which ones might carry a secondary role, for example, on a subcontract basis.

Secondly, the contractor will recommend to A.I.D., BIFAD, and the JRC, the choice of an administrative entity for carrying out this function. The expert panel may be used to evaluate choices and make recommendations to the contractor.

III. The Final Report.

1. Upon completion of the planning process, and in no case later than six months after the effective date of the contract, the contractor will submit to JRC/BIFAD and A.I.D. a final report encompassing (but not limited to) the following:

- a. A state-of-the-arts narrative upon which the CRSP is based.
- b. The Program proposed, with details of all contributing projects, including names of institutions and staff being recommended for participation and estimated budget; plans for disseminating the new knowledge generated; expected impact on developing country food production.
- c. The name of the administrative entity being recommended for implementation of the total CRSP and a description of the administrative organization.

- d. A summary of procedures which were followed in the planning process,
- e. Copies of all reports and summaries prepared in the course of the planning process,
- f. Minutes of all meetings and other conferences held,
- g. List of all institutions and individuals who were invited to contribute information on problems and research needs,
- h. List of all institutions and individuals who submitted requests for participation in the CRSP, together with a brief summarization of each such request.