UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (USDA): OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT AND RESEARCH COOPERATION
Programs of the Foreign Agricultural Service
## Borlaug International Science and Technology Fellowship Program

The program matches Fellows with experts in their field at U.S. host institutions. Mentors visit fellows at home institutions to continue research collaboration.

| Partners and Mentors include: | U.S. Universities, government research facilities, and non-profit institutions. |
| Fellowship duration: | 10-12 weeks |
| Mentor follow-up visit: | 1-2 weeks, about 1 year after the fellowship |
| Examples of FY17 priority topics: | Agricultural Extension, Animal & Plant Health, Biotechnology, Food Safety, Rangeland Management |
| Borlaug Special Initiatives in FY17: | Borlaug Cocoa, Borlaug CGIAR, Global Research Alliance |
Borlaug International Science and Technology Fellowship Program

- University designs and serves as research training provider
- Mentor works with Fellow to develop an appropriate work plan, site visits, and other arrangements to enhance the fellowship. Communication begins prior to arrival of the Fellow.
- University provides logistical support for the fellowship, including arranging roundtrip flights, securing lodging with cooking facilities, etc.
- Mentor commits a significant amount of time each week for one-on-one work with the Fellow for the duration of the program. Mentor may assign other faculty members to assist with Fellow’s training and research activities.
- Mentor plans and coordinates with the Fellow a follow-up visit to the Fellow’s home country and institution.
- Typical program cost: $40,000
- Benefits of participating in the program for U.S. host institutions:
  - Increase international collaboration
  - Complementary activities
  - Further exchange opportunities
  - Joint publications
Borlaug International Science and Technology Fellowship Program

Global Research Alliance Fellowship
• Reduce greenhouse gas emissions intensity in crop and livestock production systems
• Manage greenhouse gas emissions and carbon sequestration in agricultural systems
• Focus countries: Egypt, Ghana, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Colombia, Costa Rica, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, and Peru

Cocoa Borlaug Fellowship
• Help countries become more competitive in cocoa and cocoa products
• Focus countries: Cameroon, Cote d’Ivoire, Ghana, Liberia, Nigeria, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Vietnam, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, and Trinidad & Tobago

CGIAR (formerly, Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research)
• Collaborating with the CGIAR to promote science and increase food security worldwide by addressing food insecurity and malnutrition in developing countries or in value chains outside of traditional U.S. expertise.
• FAS partners with four CGIAR centers in Colombia, Mexico, Peru, and Jordan and WorldFish in Malaysia
Borlaug Fellowship Advances Women in Science

In 2017, FAS granted fellowships to 25 women; representing a diverse group of countries from across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

So far in 2018, FAS has awarded fellowships to four female scientists.

**Caption:** Dr. Brant Schumaker supervises Stella Atim in tissue trimming and DNA extraction from field tissue samples for brucellosis diagnostic test development.
U.S.-China Scientific Cooperation Exchange Program (SCEP)

SCEP is a short-term research and exchange program between the United States and China, representing a vital component of our agricultural relationship with China.

USDA and China’s Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) are both responsible for recruiting six teams of six participants from their countries. Six U.S. teams travel to China and are hosted by MOA. Six Chinese teams travel to the United States and are hosted by USDA.

**Participating partners:** U.S. universities, government agencies, international research centers, nonprofit institutions, and the private sector.

**Exchange Duration:** up to 14 days

**2018 U.S. Topics:** Agricultural Water Use Efficiency, Risk Analysis, Emerging Diseases, Plant Variety Protection, Dairy Food Processing and Value Chain, Range and Land Conservation.

**2018 Chinese Topics:** Sustainable Agriculture, Agricultural Trade and Investment, Risk Assessment and Product Safety, Improving Farmer Management, Germplasm Resources Conservation, Crop Germplasm Conservation and Development.
U.S.-China Scientific Cooperation Exchange Program (SCEP)

U.S. Organizations Organize Training Programs

- Design and schedule program itinerary for six Chinese participants
- Coordinate travel and transportation, meals and incidentals (M&IE), emergency health insurance, lodging, cultural activities, and communication
- Program Cost: Between $42,000 and $50,000

U.S. Participants’ Exchange Opportunities To China

- For the 2018 exchanges, USDA will cover international airfare to and from China
- China’s MOA will cover local travel and transportation, meals, and lodging

Caption: Oakland port tour for Chinese team on public-private partnership.

U.S. team on rangeland management viewing simulated landscapes restoration.
Scientific Cooperation Research Program

SCRP addresses agricultural challenges of small holder farmers by transferring scientific knowledge and technology to develop practical solutions.

SCRP funds grants to U.S. Land Grant Universities partnering with a host country university to collaborate on research, extension, and education projects.

- Period of Performance: not to exceed two years
- Grant Amount: Maximum $40,000
- Eligible Countries: Bangladesh, Central America Region, East Africa Region, Ghana, and Kenya
Faculty Exchange Program

• Improve course content and teaching in agricultural economics and agricultural science

• 375 plus participants to date in groups of 4-6 at each host university

• Past Participating Countries: Afghanistan, Armenia, Bulgaria, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Iraq, Botswana, Ethiopia, Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, Uganda Peru and Honduras

• Current funding for –
  • agricultural economics in Ukraine
  • veterinary medicine in Africa

• One semester program with U.S mentor follow-on visits

Caption: Kenyan veterinarian Jesse Thuo in the lab at Iowa State University with his U.S. mentor Dr. Yuko Sato.
Cochran Fellowship Program

- The Cochran Fellowship Program offers short-term trainings that:
  - Assist eligible countries to develop their agricultural systems to meet the food and fiber needs of their domestic populations
  - Establish and Strengthen trade linkages between overseas partners and agricultural interests in the United States

- All training must take place in the United States and must relate to agriculture, fisheries, and/or forestry

- Majority of the training priorities are recommended by FAS Offices overseas in order to support USDA-US government trade and capacity building activities and initiatives

- The Cochran Fellowship Program covers all expenses for Fellows upon arrival at the training site. The Program covers only international airfare for Fellows from the Eurasia region and those funded under special funding sources


Fellowship Duration: 2-3 Weeks

Examples of FY18 Training Topics: Overview of Agricultural Biotechnology and Biosafety, Food Safety and International Standards, Fruit and Vegetable Post Harvest Loss Prevention
Cochran Fellowship Program

- Universities serve as training providers and submit proposals for 2-3 week long training programs, which are based on specific training needs of participating fellows.

- Trainings are typically comprised of field observations, industry visits, hands on practicums, university courses and seminars, meetings with U.S. government agencies, and trade shows.

- After implementation, universities report out on fellows evaluation, learning metrics, and outcomes.

- Program Cost: Between $35,000 - $50,000 (Depending on the Statement of Work)

What we look for in a training provider:
- Demonstrate experience in topic area and associated objective areas
- Well connected within the agricultural community
- Experience with region’s and/or country’s agricultural sectors
- Experience training international professionals
Cochran Fellowship Program

From November 4-17, 2017, North Carolina State University provided Improved Adaptation to Drought and Dry Cereal Cropping training to four Fellows from Mali and one Fellow from Burkina Faso. The training program focused on developing new models for crop resilience, pesticide and irrigation practices, and building resilient food systems.

Reasons for Approval and Selection of North Carolina State University:

- North Carolina State University has unique and specific expertise in climate-smart agriculture
- North Carolina State University’s proposal met specific needs of the Fellows
- The budget was fair, reasonable, and comprehensive
- North Carolina State University demonstrated its ability to carry out the requirements outlined in the Statement of Work
EMP – Emerging Markets Program

- $10,000,000 annually
- EMP can fund 1) market assessments, 2) travel to and from the emerging market, and 3) technical assistance activities
- High Income countries are excluded (World Bank)
- Projects should have a focus on increasing or maintaining U.S. exports in the emerging market
- Universities should partner with agricultural exporting industries
- A contribution is required
- Applications accepted on a rolling basis for FY 18 funds. FY 19 funding announcement expected soon
EMP, continued

Project example:
Texas A&M University, AgriLife Extension Service was awarded $288,000 to complete an assessment study - Brazil 2040: Identification and 25-Year Outlook for U.S. Export Opportunities, Food Distribution Systems and Infrastructure in Brazil
TASC – Technical Assistance for Specialty Crops

- $9,000,000 annually
- TASC funds projects to address trade barriers that prohibit or threaten exports of specialty crops. Types of projects may include pest and disease research, pre-clearance export protocol, study tours, labeling, quality and grading issues
- University proposals should demonstrate support from the specialty crop industry
- A contribution is recommended
- Applications accepted on a rolling basis for FY 18 funds. FY 19 funding announcement expected soon
TASC, continued

Project example:
• Washington State University (WSU) was granted $179,713 in TASC funds to develop a standardized export work plan training for apple and stone fruit pre-packing evaluators to ensure access of U.S. fruit for exports to Taiwan, Mexico and Canada.

• Rutgers University (RU) was granted $356,559 in TASC funds to conduct field residue trials, collect additional samples from field trials, and analyze additional metabolites.

• Michigan State University (MSU) was granted $265,775 in TASC funds to avoid Maximum Residue Level (MRL) exceedance in overseas markets. MSU and the apple and cherry industries carried out MRL studies in both SW and NW Michigan using appropriate insecticides.
A University’s Perspective: International Collaborative Linkages and Benefits to Study Abroad Programs

Purpose of Study Abroad

- Broaden perspective to global citizenship
- Increase minority participants from Agriculture & Related Sciences
- Strengthen international awareness of undergraduates
- Global collaboration & partnership & zonal knowledge
Conceptual Framework of Program

(past) Trends and Drivers (future)

- Ready for cultural shift/enabling policy
- Global perspective
- Global competency
- Collaborative mindset
- Cultural knowledge
Specific Objectives

Build international educational, research and extension partnerships

Develop international scholarly enrichment & faculty exchange

Link program to strengthen capacity for student training/faculty linkages
Multidisciplinary team approach

Supporters
USDA/NIFA
USDA-FAS
USDA-APHIS
ARD Foundation
USAID

Participants
• DSU/CATIE
• UMES/FAMU
• Tuskegee U
• Alabama A&M
• International partners/CATIE/EARTH/KNUST
• General Electric

Coordination
• Student recruitment
• Mission preparation
• Host institution agreement
West Africa ASSESS

• Provides program evaluation, capacity development in M&E, information dissemination and knowledge sharing for the USAID/West Africa’s Regional Economic Growth Office (REGO) portfolio of foreign assistance.
Universities
Ministries
Private enterprise
Cultural Centers
Farmers
Community leaders

Public & Private Sector Partners
Range of topics covered

- USAID West Africa Regional Office, Accra
- Universities Ag. Research (CATIE/EARTH)
- Model Village/Community site
- Cocoa/Coffee Research Centers
- Historic Culture Sites
Experience & Accomplishments

No. of students trend

- Projection

Study abroad

DSU Strategy for student global experience
Lessons Learned & Impact

• Culture orientation enriching
• Broaden horizon/Personal Development
• Learning multidimensional perspectives
• Ideas for future plans
• NIFA selected project as an exemplary model
• USDA-FAS & APHIS in collaboration with ARD Foundation scaling up
Improvement ideas

• More hands-on activity
• Extend the time
• Incorporate policy discussions
• Shadowing professors/ students based on research interest
Thank you
National Institute of Food and Agriculture, Center for International Programs

Otto Gonzalez
Director, Center for International Programs, USDA/NIFA

Patty Fulton
National Program Leader, Center for International Programs, USDA/NIFA
USDA/NIFA’s mission –
Invest in and advance agricultural research, education and extension to solve societal challenges

Focus is domestic, but some opportunities for global engagement; must advance domestic mission
Why should USDA/NIFA be globally engaged?

To efficiently solve problems here we may need information and cooperation from beyond our borders

*And in an increasingly interconnected world –*

Solutions we develop for problems in the United States could benefit other parts of the world
3 Steps toward including an International activity:

Step 1 - See If it fits within a NIFA grant program

Step 2 – Determine how it helps you accomplish your research, education or extension objective

Step 3 – Identify potential collaborators, institutions, or locations
There are opportunities to include international activities in your

- NIFA Capacity grants (mainly land grant institutions)
- NIFA Competitive grants (all eligible institutions)

Note:
Any international activity must advance U.S. agricultural goals
Only U.S. institutions are eligible to apply for NIFA awards
NIFA’s largest competitive grant program – Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

Global Engagement language for RFAs

“NIFA supports global engagement that advances U.S. agricultural goals. To attain the agency’s goals for U.S. agriculture, promotion of global competence of our nation’s future agricultural workforce, and safe and nutritious food security in a growing world, NIFA recognizes that collaboration with international partners can contribute to advances for U.S. agriculture

Thus, applications in response to this program’s RFA may include collaborations with international partners, but may only be submitted by eligible U.S. institutions. Such applications may include subcontracts to international partners or other institutions. Applications must clearly demonstrate benefits to the United States”
Grant Opportunities for Global Engagement

Over the years, the Center for International Programs has provided guidance to others within NIFA to include global engagement opportunities for U.S. institutions in NIFA’s grant programs. The table below provides a comprehensive list of RFAs and their associated international offerings in a simple format for potential applicants to peruse. The list of opportunities within RFAs has grown and will continue to grow as we strive to bring awareness of international issues to the agency.

NIFA RFAS OFFERING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RFAs</th>
<th>What's Offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Foundational Program</td>
<td>International Partnerships or Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Childhood Obesity Prevention Challenge Area</td>
<td>International Partnerships or Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Agriculture and Natural Resources Science for Climate Variability and Change Challenge Area</td>
<td>International Partnerships or Engagement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Program</td>
<td>Type of Collaboration</td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - NSF/NIFA</td>
<td>International Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plant Biotic Interactions Program</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biotechnology Risk Assessment Research Grants Program (BRAG)</td>
<td>International Collaboration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus Disease Research and Extension (CDRE)</td>
<td>International Partnerships, Linkages, and Exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Develop Breakthrough Ideas and Enabling Technologies to Advance Crop Breeding</td>
<td>International Partnerships or Engagement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890 Institution Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants (CBG) Program</td>
<td>International Partnerships, Exchanges, Student International Experiences, Sabbaticals, Training, Travel, Research Opportunities, Extension, and Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Graduate and Postgraduate Fellowship (NNF) Grants Program</td>
<td>International Experiential Learning, Special International Study, or Thesis/Dissertation Research Travel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Challenge (HEC) Grants Program</td>
<td>International Education and Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (MSP)</td>
<td>International Partnerships or Engagement, Research, Study Abroad, Exchanges, Training, Trips, Faculty International Experiences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants Program (HI)</td>
<td>Student Experiential Learning, Expanding Domestic and International Markets, and International Experiential Learning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative</td>
<td>Exploring international Trade Opportunities and International Partnerships, Linkages, and Exchanges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Species Distribution Funding Program</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program Name</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>Secondary Education, Two-Year Postsecondary Education, and Agriculture in</td>
<td><em>International Education/Research (enhancement of US</em></td>
</tr>
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<td>the K-12 Classroom Challenge Grants Program (SPECA)</td>
<td><em>programs)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Business Innovation Research Program - Phase I</td>
<td><em>Developing New Market Strategies</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Business Innovation Research Program - Phase II</td>
<td><em>Potential Global Commercial Outcome</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Research Grants Program - Aquaculture Research</td>
<td><em>International Partnerships and Engagement</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI)</td>
<td><em>International Partnerships, Linkages, and Exchanges</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women and Minorities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics</td>
<td><em>International Experiential Learning</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fields Program (WAMS)</td>
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- Collecting crop data twice a year rather than once by including southern hemisphere sites
- Testing root stock in a wider range of climatic and ecological site conditions
- Acquisition of genetic material from diverse crop cultivars or foreign livestock
- Developing or learning new techniques at a foreign laboratory
- Researching emerging and re-emerging plant and animal diseases in their origin countries
- Testing new technologies in a wider variety of settings
- Comparing the effectiveness of extension and technology transfer methods in different populations
- Addressing food safety issues in international trade
- Improving U.S. producer ability to compete in foreign markets
- Providing experiential learning opportunities to U.S. students
- Collaborating with researchers and foreign institutions with strong complementary expertise, or international recognition in a particular area
Advancing U.S. Agriculture through Global Engagement

National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grantees are including international activities as an effective way to help achieve research, education, and extension objectives important to U.S. agriculture. Only U.S. institutions can receive NIFA grants, and any international activities must advance U.S. agriculture. The NIFA-funded projects described here are examples of how U.S. researchers and faculty through international collaborations and activities are achieving results valuable to the U.S. and the world. These projects help promote U.S. agriculture, advance trade, serve U.S. food security and food safety needs, and foster collaboration to address mutual interests within the global agricultural science community.

Entomological Studies of Zika Virus Transmission in Haiti

Zika Virus (ZIKV) has emerged in the Americas, where susceptible populations of new vectors of transmission may arise and the disease may spread more rapidly. To fully understand the range of mosquito species capable of transmitting ZIKV in the Americas, University of Florida researchers studied ZIKV transmission in Haiti, with the objective to determine the frequency of Zika infection in wild-caught mosquitoes, and in mosquitoes stored from previous collections. What was learned in Haiti could be applicable to Florida and other southern states of the U.S. due to the similarity of mosquito species.

Expanding US Market Access in China’s Evolving Agricultural and Trade Policy Environment

To gain an understanding of China’s agricultural trade policies and promote U.S. market access to the United States, Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech) researchers studied market access under China’s evolving agricultural and trade policies. Working with Chinese collaborators, they traveled to China to interview both Chinese and U.S. leaders in agriculture, government agencies, and universities to determine trade constraints, regulations, and other impediments to U.S. agricultural exports. This research will provide U.S. agriculturalists and agricultural exporters with knowledge to evaluate potential risks and opportunities for increased agricultural and trade policies and help U.S. agriculturalists expand market access into China.

Broadening Students Experiences and Expanding their Career Competencies through International Experiential Learning Opportunities

Faculty at Texas A&M University (TAMU) and Prairie View A&M University (PVAMU) learned to broaden their students’ academic experiences and career competencies through a faculty-led study abroad program in Namibia, partnering with the University of Namibia and Namibia-based research centers. Recruiting students traditionally underrepresented in study abroad programs was an important objective. Faculty included Namibians’ knowledge of community-based care for student management strategies, and how to use these strategies to address food security issues. TAMU and PVAMU faculty collaborated with their Namibia colleagues to develop course materials, and aimed to integrate learning from the study abroad experience into courses back at their universities.

Development of Woody Landscape Cultivars

People love ornamental plants that exhibit drought tolerance, provide environmental and ecological benefits, and have low maintenance requirements. Asian countries, especially China, have rich resources of ornamental plants. Plant breeders at the University of Georgia have been developing new woody ornamental plant cultivars that thrive in drought and other environmental conditions. Their research includes collecting germplasm from plant species growing wild in drought- and flooding conditions and using them for breeding lines.

Developing the Tools and Germplasm for Hybrid Wheat

Wheat yields will need to increase to feed a larger global population with increasing dietary needs. To improve wheat production, faculty at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, with collaboration from the International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT) in Mexico, Texas A&M University, the University of Hohenheim (Germany), Kansas State University, and Genetics and Crop Plant Research – IPK (Germany), conducted research to develop the necessary knowledge-base, germplasm, and heterotic pools to support the development of hybrid wheat. This project, a part of the NIFA’s participation in the International Wheat Yield Partnership (IWYP), is expected to help create the scientific and germplasm foundations for successfully launching the hybrid wheat industry in the United States.

Strengthening U.S. Agriculture with Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research and Extension Experiences

The University of Tennessee is bringing together 14 undergraduate students and 10 mentors in a 2-year research and extension project to investigate smallholder farms practicing conservation adjacent to the Yaca Forest Reserve in Belize. They will conduct projects on crop production and soils: social and economic systems; and wildlife, forestry, and ecosystems. An agro-ecological approach will be used to foster systems-level thinking and develop transdisciplinary skills. Their goal is to develop leaders in agriculture and natural resources research and extension who can synthesize the complexity of agricultural systems to keep U.S. agriculture at the forefront of addressing sustainable global food security.

U.S.-U.K. Collaborative Research: Host Resistance to Avian Pathogenic E. coli

Avian colibacillosis, a disease caused by the bacterium Escherichia coli strain Pathogenic E. coli – APEC is responsible for much mortality in poultry flocks. Scientists from Iowa State University and the Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh (United Kingdom) formed a collaborative research team, leveraging their respective expertise in poultry immunology, genomics, and microbiology. The goal was to reduce the impact of APEC on the poultry industry in the United States and the United Kingdom through development of comprehensive veterinary and breeding control strategies based on a thorough understanding of host functional response to E. coli infection.

Learn More About NIFA’s Opportunities for Global Engagement

NIFA Center for International Programs conducts collaborations between NIFA, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and other organizations. The NIFA Center for International Programs conducts international programs and activities aimed at expanding NIFA’s research and development work in the United States and abroad. This initiative is intended to foster meaningful collaborations between NIFA and the institutions it serves to advance the importance of U.S. agriculture. To find out more about NIFA’s international collaborations and opportunities for the next NIFA grant programs visit on the website.

Learn More About NIFA’s Opportunities for Global Engagement

Contact: Otto Gonzalez, Director, Center for International Programs, otto.gonzalez@nifa.usda.gov

USDA/NIFA is currently partnering with –

- Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council of the United Kingdom (BBSRC)

- International Wheat Yield Partnership (IWYP)

- U.S.-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (BARD)

- Food and Agriculture Research Initiative with Ireland & Northern Ireland

- USAID Partnerships for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER)

- CATIE - Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (Centro Agronomico Tropical de Investigacion y Ensenanza)

- CGIAR Collaboration
BARD
• Water
• Food Safety
Israeli scientists seek funding from BARD to collaborate with interested U.S. scientists funded through NIFA/AFRI
(U.S. scientists participate through regular NIFA RFAs).

PEER
Variety of research topics in USAID assisted countries in Africa, Asia, Middle East, and Latin America
(Developing country scientists apply to USAID to work with U.S. scientists who already have U.S. gov’t. grants)

Ireland and Northern Ireland
• Pests and Beneficial Species in Agricultural Production Systems
• Animal Nutrition, Growth, and Lactation
• Animal Health and Disease
• Animal Breeding, Genetics and Genomics
• Animal Well-Being
• Understanding Antimicrobial Resistance
• Food Manufacturing Technologies

(U.S. scientists participate through regular NIFA RFAs)
CATIE (Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza – Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center) with residential campus in Costa Rica, is interested in hosting

• faculty-led student study/research abroad
• collaborative research with visiting faculty
• post-docs and doctoral students
• sabbaticals

and other activities consistent with USDA’s MOU with CATIE.
(U.S. researchers/educators can propose to include in their USDA/NIFA grants)

CGIAR Collaboration
USDA/NIFA and the CGIAR global system of 15 research centers are exploring:

• Opportunities for USDA/NIFA-supported researchers to spend time undertaking research at CGIAR centers; and

• Opportunities to share information and propose and participate in collaborative research that can improve food and nutritional security, improve resources and ecosystem services.
(U.S. researchers/educators can propose to include in their USDA/NIFA grants)
Collaborations being developed with European Joint Programming Initiatives – “JPIs”
**NIFA’s GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

NIFA is committed to strengthening American agriculture through global engagement. NIFA continues to develop international partnerships and activities, including trade, science, research, and extension, to advance food security and U.S. food safety, and foster collaboration to address mutual interests within the global agricultural science community.

Applicants to NIFA programs have opportunities to include international collaborations or activities within their proposals. Applications must be from U.S. institutions, and the proposed international collaborations or activities must advance U.S. agricultural goals.

**Step 1: See if your interest fits within a NIFA Competitive or Capacity grant program**

**Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), NIFA’s flagship program**

AFRI supports global engagement that advances U.S. agricultural goals. Applicants to AFRI Requests for Applications (RFAs) may include collaborations with international partners, but applications may only be submitted by eligible U.S. institutions. Such applications may include subcontracts to international partners or other institutions and must clearly demonstrate benefits to the United States. Additional information is provided on the AFRI International Partnerships webpage: [https://nifa.usda.gov/resources/afri-international-partnerships](https://nifa.usda.gov/resources/afri-international-partnerships)

**Other competitive grant programs with opportunities for international activities include:**

- 1890 Institution
- Teaching, Research, and Extension Capacity Grants
- Higher Education Challenge Grants (HEC)
- Biotechnology Risk Assessment Grants (BARG)
- Citrus Disease Research and Extension (CDREPE)
- Food and Agricultural Sciences National Needs Fellowships (NNSF)
- Higher Education Multicultural Scholars Program (HEMSP)
- Hispanic-Serving Institutions Grants (HSG): Innovations at the Nexus of Food, Energy, and Water Systems (INFEWS)
- Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI)
- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)
- Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI)
- Women and Minorities in STEM (WAMS)

For more information visit [https://nifa.usda.gov/programs/global-engagement-program](https://nifa.usda.gov/programs/global-engagement-program)

For Capacity programs (primarily land-grant institutions), talk with your State Experiment Station Director or Extension Director. Many NIFA awards have included international collaborations or activities in their capacity grants.

**Step 2: Determine how an international collaboration or activity is important in helping you to accomplish your research, education, or extension objectives**

Some examples from past NIFA awards include:

- Collecting crop data twice a year rather than once by including southern hemisphere sites testing root stock in a wider range of climate and ecological site conditions
- Acquisition of genetic material from diverse crop cultivars or foreign feedstock developing or learning new techniques at a foreign laboratory
- Researching emerging and re-emerging plant and animal diseases in their origin countries testing new technologies in a wider variety of settings
- Comparing the effectiveness of extension and technology transfer methods in different populations addressing food safety issues in international trade improving U.S. producer ability to compete in foreign markets providing experiential learning opportunities to U.S. students and collaborating with researchers and foreign institutions with strong complementary expertise, or international recognition in a particular area.

**Step 3: Identify potential collaborators, institutions, or locations**

To identify potential collaborators or foreign universities, research centers, or foreign nonprofit institutions in your NIFA proposal as appropriate. You may also collaborate with NIFA’s international partners. NIFA has developed with foreign countries, and international organizations with whom NIFA has areas of mutual interest. These partnerships enable you to collaborate with foreign researchers that have their own organizations. Identify NIFA-awardee foreign collaborators you may want to write into your proposal.

**International Partnerships**

NIFA currently partners with the U.S.-Israel Binational Agricultural Research and Development Fund (BSF) to jointly fund water and food security projects. United Kingdom’s Department for International Development (DFID) support animal disease research in Ireland and Northern Ireland, address agricultural pests and beneficial species, water and food security, and animal and plant disease; and tropical agricultural research and teaching center with campus in Costa Rica, interested in hosting faculty led early research abroad, collaborative research with JRC, post-doctoral and doctoral students, and others as identified in CAFE’s Memorandum of Understanding. USDA (US scientists could propose to support each with CAFE match) and other NIFA awards.

For more information please visit our website at [https://nifa.usda.gov](https://nifa.usda.gov)

**Examples of NIFA Projects that include Global Engagement**

Using competitive and capacity funding, NIFA is providing support for global engagement in many projects. Examples include:

- Scientists at the University of California-Riverside collaborating with colleagues in Israel to develop a regional water resource design support model that can evaluate the impacts of using treated agricultural drainage waters and treated wastewater on agricultural sustainability and water supply reliability.

- Faculty at the University of Arkansas, Texas A&M University, and Texas Tech University are collaborating on a project that teaches graduate students in food and agricultural sciences by globalizing the curriculum in the areas of Global Horticulture, Sustainable International Development, and Human and Health Nutrition.

Researchers at Kansas State University collaborating with researchers at the University of Giessen in Scotland to help them better understand resistance to Asian Pathogenic C. coli in poultry.

Researchers at Kansas State University working with the University of Giessen in Scotland on a project that seeks to improve the ability of scientists to collaborate and share knowledge by developing a pre-proposal to PEER.
USDA/NIFA’s Center for International Programs works to:

- Enhance global engagement of NIFA and the institutions it serves
- Develop global partnerships
- Build capacity at home and abroad

Sign up for our NIFA International Programs listserv – get announcements of USDA/FAS opportunities and info on USDA/NIFA opportunities

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For info on NIFA global engagement opportunities
https://nifa.usda.gov/program/global-engagement-programs
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