

**JAPAN PHRD TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS PROGRAM  
TO SUPPORT AFRICA RICE RESEARCH AND PRODUCTIVITY  
DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**

**FY10 OPERATING GUIDELINES<sup>1</sup>**

1. **Objective.** The main objective of this proposed PHRD TA program is to enhance rice productivity and production in Africa through supporting: (i) the development of improved rice varieties for Africa; and (ii) implementation of National Rice Development Strategies in selected countries<sup>2</sup>, including strengthening of institutional and human resource capacity in rice research, extension and dissemination, as well as investing in farmer adoption and application of improved and/or suitable rice growing technologies.

2. **Priority Areas.** The grants will support activities consistent with the framework and priorities as identified by the Coalition for African Rice Development (CARD) and the Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Program (CAADP) processes at every level – and at the national level the grants will support the implementation of National Rice Development Strategies. Working within these bounds, the grants will focus on supporting investments and activities in the following priority areas:

Priority Area A. Strengthening institutional and human resource capacity in rice production research, extension and policy-making (US\$40 million over five years)

- Strengthening of sub-regional Centers of Excellence for rice research within *existing* National Research Institutes (selected for their existing capacities for rice research) which would support their own and neighboring national rice programs (one each in West, East and Southern Africa). These Centers of Excellence would provide sub-regional leadership in rice programs, and would work closely

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<sup>1</sup> These Guidelines should be applied in conjunction with the FY10 Annual Policy Guidelines and Program Allocation for the PHRD TA Grants Program.

<sup>2</sup> Criteria for selection of the four to six participating countries to be determined, but will include readiness for scaling up rice production, institutional and human resource capacity for technology generation and dissemination and adoption, and conducive policy framework for successful investment.

with international centers and existing regional/sub regional networks and initiatives on rice R&D;

- Strengthening of national agricultural research institutes for rice production in selected countries.

Priority Area B. Scaling up and improving the effectiveness of extension on rice production techniques (US\$40 Million over 5 years)

- Development of extension/outreach programs for rice – supported by technology packages (improved seed and other inputs) for demonstration and early uptake in selected areas in each selected country. The Bank is expected to orchestrate programs based on a coherent strategy to achieve significant results including productivity enhancement, drawing lessons and increasing participants income in a sustainable manner;
- Strengthening of regional rice knowledge-management along the rice value chain, including understanding constraints and opportunities by small farmers for improving productivity and access to markets;
- Development of partnerships between farmers, processors, and distributors (and other actors in the rice value chain) to generate profitable growth in the rice sector;
- Training by centers including WARDA of farmer advisors from government, civil society organizations and private sector in selected countries for:
  - improved breeding technologies (high yield varieties with improved stress tolerance and insect resistance), seed production and agricultural equipment design and manufacturing;
  - effective crop management techniques and cropping calendars for sustainable rice production, including fertilizer use, where appropriate;
  - extension approaches for sustainable rainfed and irrigated rice production using improved rice varieties; and
  - post-harvest management, processing and marketing; and
- Engaging the CGIAR centers and experts from other partner organizations to provide technical and/or policy support to the implementation under the national or sub regional program frameworks.

3. **Country Eligibility.** All African countries are eligible.
4. **Maximum Grant Size.** No grant will exceed US\$15 Million.
5. **Eligible Expenditures.** Eligible expenditures would include: (i) consulting services, (ii) training, scholarships, workshops and seminars, (iii) operating costs essential to carry out the implementation of the grant, (iv) goods and small works, and (v) sub-grants. Incremental Bank costs of up to five percent of the total grant amount may be requested to cover administration, management and supervision of the grant.
  
6. **Ineligible Expenditures.** The following expenditures would be ineligible: (i) salaries of civil servants in recipient countries hired as consultants or otherwise; and (ii) purchase of motor vehicles.
  
7. **Grant Execution Arrangements.** All grants will be recipient-executed. Programs financed by the grants would be implemented by national research and development institutions. When developing or examining the programs, the Bank should give attention to identification of best practices to enhance productivity and income of farmers in a sustained manner, measuring outputs and evaluating impacts.
  
8. **Review of Grant Proposals.** The concerned managing unit in the Bank designates a Task Team Leader (TTL) for the proposed grant. Requests for grants are to be submitted to the PHRD Unit in the Program Management and Administration (CFPPM) unit of the Concessional Finance and Global Partnerships (CFP) Vice Presidency (VP) for review. The PHRD Unit will send the proposals to the review team designated by Agriculture and Rural Development (ARD) to carry out technical reviews of the proposals and prioritization in case the value of acceptable proposals exceeds the annual allocation. CFP VP will recommend the final proposals to the Ministry of Finance of the Government of Japan for approval.
  
9. **Monitoring and Evaluation.** Each grant proposal would build in a monitoring and evaluation component. Monitoring of the program outputs would be done at every level of implementation as indicated above. The program will be able to attribute these outputs by the source of financing (e.g. PHRD funds). The program implementing agencies would be responsible for the basic monitoring of physical outputs, based on overall project physical targets and annual targets. These will be agreed in advance between the implementing

agency and the World Bank. The Bank will be responsible for ensuring this information is collected through a management information system. The Bank will require that the grant recipients contract independent organizations to carry out impact evaluations at the mid-point and at the end of the project period. Impact evaluation will assess the achievement of the overall program objectives, economic impact to farmers and to the overall economy. The Bank will be responsible for preparing monitoring reports in the Grant Report Monitoring (GRM) system annually and a comprehensive Implementation Completion Report (ICM) at the end of the projects.

10. **Overall Guidelines for FY10 PHRD TA Program.** The above guidelines should be read in conjunction with the overall FY10 PHRD TA Annual Policy Document and Program Allocation which applies to all grants unless otherwise specified above.