

# Horticulture Collaborative Research Support Program

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## Horticulture CRSP

Three billion people live on less than two U.S. dollars per day. Funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in 2009, the UC Davis based Horticulture Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP) is a joint effort among universities and their international partners to improve incomes and health of the rural poor through fruits, vegetables, herbs, spices, and ornamentals

## Impact

- Horticultural crops are higher in value than grains and other staple crops; with proper postharvest handling and marketing, these crops can increase farmer incomes.
- Horticultural crops contribute to year-round cropping systems, more diverse crops, and improved food security.
- Diets rich in fruits and vegetables are healthier and more nutritious.
- The horticulture value chain creates employment.

Utilizing GIS, and transferring GIS skills to Malawians, to identify horticultural production and market opportunities  
Photo: Darcy Boellstorff



## Projects

15 completed projects. 15 ongoing projects with 9 U.S. university leads in 26 countries.

## Countries

**Africa** – Benin, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zimbabwe  
**South and Southeast Asia** – Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Vietnam  
**Central and South America** – Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Peru

## Technology Innovation

- Evaluating low cost pest exclusion and microclimate modification technologies for smallscale vegetable growers in Africa
- Establishing a cell-phone enabled extension center for horticultural farmers in India, Sri Lanka and Nepal



Using engendered leadership training to improve agricultural production in Kenya  
Photo: Peter Mutua

## Gender Equity & Nutrition

- Strengthening women's indigenous informal seed systems in Southeast Asia by building linkages between Northern Thailand hilltribe farmers, their neighbors and a local seed bank
- Training women urban and peri-urban horticultural growers in cropping systems, pre and postharvest handling and marketing techniques in Thailand, Cambodia and Vietnam

## Information Accessibility

- Developing a Postharvest Training and Services Center in Rwanda to extend postharvest technology throughout Sub-Saharan Africa
- Improving outreach methods by evaluating extension systems in Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Honduras and Guatemala
- Evaluating postharvest capacity and selecting postharvest leaders in Cambodia and Vietnam



Educating smallholder vegetable farmers in grafting and microclimate management techniques in Kenya  
Photo: Matthew Kleinhenz



Creating a niche market for vegetables grown to reduce food safety risks in Southeast Asia  
Photo: Cary Trexler

## Improved Market Access

- Increasing the Capacity of Smallholder Farmers to Produce and Market Vegetable Crops in Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo
- Overcoming seed supply limitations for improved vegetable seeds in Central America
- Establishing a South Asia Consortium on Food Safety in Bangladesh and India that will improve public health, encourage export opportunities and increase smallholder profits
- Assessing Zimbabwe farmers' potential for producing and marketing fruits and vegetables



Up-to-date information on these projects can be found at the interactive Horticulture CRSP website, <http://hortcrsp.ucdavis.edu>

## Management Team

- Ron Voss, Director
- Beth Mitcham, Associate Director
- Michael Reid, Leader - Innovative Technology & Special Projects
- Mark Bell, Leader - Communication & Information Transfer
- Heather Kawakami & Sabrina Morgan, Budget Analysts
- Amanda Crump, Evaluation & Gender Equity
- Diana Puccetti, Office & Event Planning
- Peter Shapland, Innovation Centers
- Elana Peach-Fine, Graduate Assistant