

## Horticulture CRSP Immediate Impact Projects Quickly Address Needs in Developing Countries

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### Introduction

The Horticulture Collaborative Research Support Program (Hort CRSP), funded by USAID, awarded nearly \$2 million to support 15 one-year projects to improve the production and marketing of horticultural crops and products developing countries. The collaborative research effort will be responsible for a broad range of activities demonstrating how horticulture can reduce hunger and malnutrition and raise the incomes of the rural poor.

### Information Accessibility

- Identifying food and plant safety problems in Nigeria and developing a Good Agricultural Practices education system.
- Training bell pepper farmers in current and best management practices to improve production and postharvest quality in Central America.



Using solar power and improved cooling to create storage coolrooms (left) and transport where electricity and infrastructure are limited in India, Uganda, and Honduras.

Photo: Michael Reid

### Participants

Ten U.S. universities collaborating with 51 international organizations, agencies and institutions conduct projects in 20 countries.

Expanding nursery facilities, creating demonstration gardens, and developing Farmer Field Schools to promote fruit and vegetable production in Uganda.

Photo: Kate Scow



### Technology Innovation

- Improving techniques to dry and store seeds where temperatures and average relative humidity are problematic in India, Nepal, and Thailand.
- Determining the effectiveness of different coatings and essential oils in controlling postharvest disease of mango and papaya and maintaining fruit quality in Sri Lanka.
- Deploying rapid diagnostic tools to detect Phytophthora disease on horticultural crops in Central America.

### Gender Equity & Nutrition

- Increasing consumer awareness of the nutritional and cultural importance of orange-fleshed Sweetpotato to increase Ghanaian food security and nutrient intake.
- Improving production and use of indigenous vegetables to provide a long-term source of food for economic security and improved nutrition for Kenyans.

Developing a concentrated solar drying unit for mango and tomato in Tanzania.

Photo: Diane Barrett



### Countries

**Africa** – Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia

**South and Southeast Asia** – India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand

**Central and South America** – Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama



Increasing access to fair trade and other markets for Rooibos tea farmers in South Africa.

Photo: Sandra Kruger

### Improved Market Access

- Exploring potential to export cut flowers from Honduras using existing fruit exporters and improved storage technology.
- Increasing Ghanaian export production of important indigenous spices, medicinal plants and horticultural crops and providing employment and income to farmers.
- Helping Zambian farmers develop market consistent vegetable products for hotels and other tourist industries.

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



### Management Team

The management team at University of California, Davis includes Ron Voss, Emeritus Extension Vegetable Specialist; Beth Mitcham (pictured), Postharvest Extension Specialist, Michael Reid, Postharvest Extension Specialist, and Mark Bell, Director of the International Learning Center.



Introducing and evaluating appropriate and disease resistant vegetable varieties in Central America as a way to increase family incomes.

Photo: James Nienhuis