The goal of the Trellis Fund is to link U.S. graduate students to non-governmental organizations and national research institutes in developing countries, and enable these organizations to extend new horticultural ideas to rural populations.

**Methodology:**
Organizations in Feed the Future focus countries identify a problem facing local farmers and the type of expertise they seek in a U.S. graduate student. The organization submits a proposal and the Trellis Fund matches awarded organizations to an individual graduate student and supports the organization's farmer outreach program.

**Achievements:**
- 124 training and extension meetings
- 1,492 female farmers trained
- 1,935 farmer participants
- 10 demonstration plots

For a total of $35,000, Horticulture CRSP funded 10 organizations and 10 students in 2011.

**Funding structure for 2012 projects:**
- $2,000 grants to the developing world organization for conducting extension and educational programs to local farmers and stakeholders. Low overhead costs and close ties to farmers allow for grants of this size to make significant impacts in Feed the Future focus countries.
- In 2012, fellowship packages for graduate students include $300 plus travel to the target country, where the students build relationships with their counterparts and gain a better understanding of the local situation. Upon return, graduate students continue to engage their partner organization by creating educational materials and supporting their outreach programs via email.

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Horticulture CRSP Trellis Fund
Engaging U.S. graduate students in international development

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Horticulture CRSP Trellis Fund Projects 2012-2013
14 projects in 7 countries, with 14 students from 4 universities

**Ukraine**
- Promoting organic pest management and control in vegetables
  Uganda Environmental Education Foundation (UEEF)
  Carrie Teiken, UC Davis
- Promoting orange-fleshed sweet potato for improved livelihoods in Hoima district
  Eco-Agric Uganda
  A.J. Campbell, UC Davis
- Adoption of cowpea as a horticultural crop
  National Semi Arid Resources Research Institute / National Agriculture Research Organisation (NaSARRI/NARO)
  Graham Savio, UC Davis
- Promoting organic mango and orange fruit farming
  Teso Women Development Enterprise
  Brian Flanagan, Cornell University
- Value addition and reduction of postharvest losses
  Uganda Network for Community Empowerment
  Ephrem Rukundo, UC Davis
- Developing tools for intra-household resource allocation in vegetable growing households
  Rural Agency for Sustainable Development (RASD)
  Sarah Sahlaney, UC Davis

**Kenya**
- Strengthening Irish Potato production through collaborative exchange research
  Eldoret Region Company-Christian Community Services
  Bob Johnson, UC Davis

**Tanzania**
- Improvement of indigenous African leafy vegetables (ALV) for food security in urban farmers
  Sapporo Mobi-Vet
  Whitney Brim-DeForest, UC Davis

**Nepal**
- Soil fertility improvement and increasing yield of organically grown tomatoes
  Sustainable Agriculture Development Program
  Arun Jani, North Carolina State University
- Improvement on vegetable cultivation practices through integrated pest management and farmers field school
  Ecological Services Centre (ECOSCENTRE)
  Rachel Suits, North Carolina State University

**Honduras**
- Promesa Patuca
  PROMESA
  Amanda McWhirt, North Carolina State University

**Nicaragua**
- Capacity building with women farmers in organic horticulture and family nutrition
  Caritas Parroquial Esquipulas
  Angel Cruz, North Carolina State University