

HOST COUNTRY RESEARCH SITE CHARACTERIZATIONS AQUAFISH CRSP

A. Site Selection Criteria

1. The crop, livestock, fishery, or other resources to be investigated are major sources of food and income, or the other factor(s) to be researched relate importantly to agricultural or fishery production in the primary country;
2. The primary country site is representative of the ecological zone, or geographic region of the commodity, fisheries, or other resources; the primary country site could serve as the activating nucleus of a scientific network for technology transfer and exchange, depending on the commodity or condition to be investigated; the zone or region may include a number of countries less advantageously equipped to support viable research programs;
3. The country government is interested in participating in the CRSP and is willing to make adequate commitments to support the research and assist the neighboring network countries;
4. There exists in the country the basic institutional research capacity needed to make collaborative research viable; this capacity would be found in the ministry, or other government agency responsible for research, and in the national research stations and research system for agriculture, fisheries, or other resources which the agency or ministry supervises; the institutional research capacity might also exist at an agricultural university where it has responsibility for research in areas related to the CRSP activities;
5. Government policies are supportive of research, extension, and production; and
6. There is reasonable assurance of political and economic stability and ability to sustain a viable research program.

B. Specific Criteria

1. Existing physical infrastructure – including ponds (or land with suitable soils for ponds), laboratory facilities, communications, housing, transportation, roads, and access.
2. Institutional collaboration – the existence of a Host Country university or agency willing to serve as Host Country collaborator and to provide the necessary personnel (Host Country PI). In addition, the specific site operators must be willing to collaborate and have a mechanism for collaboration.
3. USAID Mission support – the USAID Mission or local office goals and objectives must be compatible with Aquaculture & Fisheries CRSP operations and objectives.
4. Country political stability.
5. Safety, health considerations – adequate working conditions for the HC and US participants are a consideration.
6. Species available for research – Each potential research species should be permitted for use.
7. Economic considerations – operational costs, travel, and other costs should be considered.
8. Rural aquaculture development – evaluate presence of rural fish farms and Host Country extension apparatus and operations.
9. Language – official and rural languages.
10. National strategies for aquaculture development – Host Country policies and strategies may affect research conduct and extension of results.
11. USAID eligibility status – Host Country should have USAID program eligibility without a planned termination in the near future.
12. Possibilities for leveraging funds and attracting buy-ins.
13. Environmental/ecological significance – site represents an important environment and is useful within the CRSP global perspective.
14. Shipping/customs/clearance obstacles – evaluate potential constraints for shipping project supplies, or soil samples.

15. Potential for establishing a stable, long-term presence – prefer situations where the CRSP can enter as a significant part of a site operation rather than a peripheral position with low priority to site operators.
16. Potential for improving food security and the environment in targeted areas.

REQUIRED: Full Characterization of Each AquaFish Research Site

Assuming the aforementioned criteria (under “A” and “B” above) have been minimally met for approval of a proposal, PI’s were then asked to further characterize each of their AquaFish research sites. The general outline for site characterization for all sites within a country is as follows. For multiple countries, submit individual characterizations for each country. For multiple sites within a country, submit one characterization “Introduction” and any number of “Content” sections to describe specific detail for each site within that country.

Introduction (1 to 2 pages):

1. One paragraph summary of Site Selection criteria, describing salient points under Section A above.
2. Two to three paragraph summary of Specific Criteria, focusing on points #4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, and 13.

Content (4 to 20 pages):

Please refer to the website for the report on Site Descriptions and use the report as a model for your characterizations. http://pdacrsp.oregonstate.edu/pubs/featured_titles/

3. Country Map locating the Site(s)
4. Site Status
5. General Location: Geographical information: location, other general informative information.
6. Description of Area/Region:
Climate; Temperatures; Precipitation; Humidity; Seasonality; Topography; Geology and Soils
7. Soil and Water data. Secondary data are acceptable for meeting the “second allocation funding condition”, but these data must be updated with project-specific data by May 31, 2008.
8. Layout map of the site(s)
9. Site Description: Map Coordinates; Elevation; General background on each site describing facilities, and history of past uses (if known); water supply; Soils; Support facilities
10. Affiliations: addresses
11. Current Contacts at the site(s): addresses