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- Boost employment
- Raise living standards
- Maintain financial stability
- Assist other countries' economic development
- Contribute to growth in world trade

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Objectives

The Co-operative Research Programme's main objective is to strengthen scientific knowledge and provide relevant scientific information and advice that will inform future policy decisions related to the sustainable use of natural resources, in the areas of food, agriculture, forests and fisheries.

The objective and work of the Programme are anchored in both a policy and scientific environment in the fields of food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries, which, more than ever, are developed in a multidisciplinary environment. This happens to so as to respond to the varied demands from a range of stakeholder groups with interests in these fields, and to take into account that the world is globalised and food production systems are interlinked.



Activities

The Programme achieves its objectives through two types of activities:

- **Research Fellowships:** sponsorship of scientists to conduct research projects in a different Member country with a view to strengthening the international exchange of ideas and increasing international mobility and co-operation.

The Programme pays transportation and subsistence costs to research scientists who have completed their postdoctoral training, have a permanent position, and are from Member countries to conduct research in a laboratory in another Member country. Fellowships may be from 6 to 26 weeks.

- **Conferences:** sponsorship or co-sponsorship of international conferences, workshops, symposia, congresses, (organised by, for example, research institutions, international associations), with a view to informing policy makers, industry and the academic world of current and future research, scientific developments and opportunities.

The sponsorship is in the form of funding certain invited speakers by paying for their transportation and subsistence costs.



[Biological Resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems](#)

Sponsorship Programme 2010-2014

www.oecd.org/agriculture/crp

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How the Programme is Organised

The Programme comprises:

- **The Governing Body**, composed of a representative from each Member country. It agrees the programme of work, the budget, the orientation of the Programme and the selection of applications for funding.
- **The Scientific Advisory Body**, composed of 6 eminent scientists with agricultural research administration experience, nominated by the Governing Body. It ensures the scientific quality of the applications for funding and recommends the fellowships and conferences to be funded to the Governing Body.
- **The Secretariat** is responsible for the day to day operation of the Programme and provides a central contact point.
- **The National Correspondents** (one for each Member country) are responsible for promoting the Programme to interested scientists and institutions in their country and distributing information.

Member Countries in 2012

Australia	Germany	Norway
Austria	Hungary	Poland
Belgium	Ireland	Slovak Republic
Canada	Italy	Spain
Czech Republic	Japan	Sweden
Denmark	Korea	Switzerland
Finland	Netherlands	United Kingdom
France	New Zealand	United States

Co-operative Research Programme Research Themes:

THEME 1: THE NATURAL RESOURCES CHALLENGE

Scientific Advisory Body members responsible for Theme 1:

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THEME 2: SUSTAINABILITY IN PRACTICE

Scientific Advisory Body members responsible for Theme 2:

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THEME 3: THE FOOD CHAIN

Scientific Advisory Body members responsible for Theme 3:

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Securing the availability and managing the quality of natural resources for sustainable agricultural production systems

Examples of topic areas might include:

- Monitoring and evaluating natural resource stewardship efforts
- Holistic economic and societal evaluations of systems where natural resources are used in the agri-food chain
- Planning and management of availability and efficient use of water, soil, air, biomass and energy
- Cross-discipline and technology evaluations to access sustainability, including models and databases

Developing and adapting food, fibre and bio-energy enterprises, both modern and traditional, to contribute to the sustainability of natural resources

Examples of topics might include:

- New tools for predicting, detecting and fighting pests from a sustainable perspective
- Risk assessment and management related to agricultural practices

Contributing to technical advances to sustain the global food and agriculture systems from input to final consumption, taking into account changing consumer and societal interests

Examples of topics might include:

- Impact of transgenic plants and animal cloning
- Genomic research relevant to agriculture and aquaculture
- New technologies for detection, diagnosis and treatment of old pathogens
- Emerging diseases and resistance to conventional treatment (new pathogens and strains)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Scientists who are nationals or permanent residents of a country participating in the Co-operative Research Programme may apply for a Research Fellowship.

Applications must be relevant to one of the Research Themes of the Programme.

The deadline for applications is 10 September of the year before the fellowships are to take place (for example: applicants applying for a fellowship to take place in 2013 must apply before 10 September 2012).

All applications must be submitted to the Secretariat through the online procedure. Full details, online application and Guidelines can be found on the Programme's website: <http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/crp> or by contacting the Secretariat at TAD.Prog@oecd.org

CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP

Conference Organisers wishing to apply for sponsorship of a conference should complete the application form which is available on the Programme's website, together with the Guidelines.

All applications must be submitted to the Secretariat and received by e-mail by 10 September of the year before the conference is to take place (*i.e.* applications for sponsorship of a conference to take place in 2013 must be submitted before 10 September 2012).

Programme website: www.oecd.org/agriculture/crp
Secretariat: TAD.Prog@oecd.org