OECD's CO-OPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAMME CRITERIA AND EVALUATION OF FELLOWSHIP AND CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP APPLICATIONS

The objectives of the OECD's Co-operative Research Programme for the period 2010-2014 are:

- to strengthen scientific knowledge in its field of competence and to 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 objectives are anchored in both a policy and scientific environment in the fields of food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries. For the OECD's Committee for Agriculture (and Committee for Fisheries) to be able to deliver on their respective mandates, they need to be informed about scientific developments that are likely to have a medium and longer term impact on policy settings.

Consequently, the CRP is expected:

- To contribute to a sound knowledge base for agricultural policy making
- To assist and inform the public debate on current and emerging agri-food and agri-environmental matters
- To contribute to scientific advances
- To promote international scientific understanding among OECD Member Countries and others (co-operating in its programmes)

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

- The promise of a relevant contribution to the achievement of the aims of the programme
- Relevance to the Theme objective – the extent to which the proposed project addresses the objectives of the work programme and its relevance to the theme objective
- Scientific excellence – the need for clearly defined and focussed objectives, and the promise of innovative outcomes which can be achieved within the planned study
- The feasibility of achieving the goals set in the proposed work
- The scientific record and achievements of the proposer – judged for example by contributions to science and the scientific literature published
- Crossing disciplines – the extent to which the proposed study involves interactions *between* scientific disciplines, and a readiness to engage with those beyond the research community to explore wider societal implications
- Dissemination – the project's plans for appropriate dissemination of the accomplishments to optimise the benefits to society
- Potential impact – the extent to which the proposal demonstrates the value of carrying out the work collaboratively and at international level
- Policy relevance – how and the degree to which the research proposal will inform policy makers in the development of their national and international agro-food, fisheries or forestry policies

SELECTION CRITERIA FOR SPONSORED CONFERENCES

- The promise of a relevant contribution to the achievement of the aims of the programme
- Relevance – the extent to which the proposal addresses the objectives of the work programme and its relevance to the theme objective
- The feasibility of achieving the goals set in the proposed work
- The scientific record of the applicant
- Scientific excellence – the need for defined and well focussed objectives and the promise provided for both innovation and for increasing the level of debate and understanding of the underlying issues
- Crossing disciplines – the plans for the engagement and interaction of a range of relevant scientific disciplines, and the extent to which the congress or workshop demonstrates a readiness to engage others beyond the research community in attempt to explore wider societal and policy-formation aspects
- Potential impact – the way in which the workshop and the dissemination of its results could contribute to public debate
- Organisation and planned participation – the need for the plans for the congress or workshop to illustrate how these will contribute to achieving the objectives of the programme
- Policy relevance – how and the degree to which the conference proposal will influence policy makers in the development of their national and international agro-food, fisheries or forestry policies

All Applicants are strongly encouraged to liaise directly with the relevant Scientific Advisory Body member (Theme Co-ordinator) prior to submitting an Application.

Candidates should address all the selection criteria in their applications to increase their chances of success.

The final decision of the Awarding of Fellowship and Conference Sponsorships is the responsibility of the Governing Body of the Co-operative Research Programme which meets every year in December. All applicants will be informed by the CRP's Secretariat by e-mail and post early in January following the decision of the Governing Body for that year's awards.