

MSAPP

Manitoba Sustainable Agriculture Practices Program – R&D Component

(Program to support research and development for adaptation and mitigation of climate change in Manitoba)

2009-2010 Program Guidelines and Information

The Manitoba Sustainable Agriculture Practices Program (*MSAPP*) is designed to achieve greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions in the agriculture sector as its primary goal; as well as secondary goals, such as improved water quality, enhanced profitability and greater energy efficiency. A three-pronged approach is proposed to help meet Manitoba's climate change objectives regarding agriculture: 1) a beneficial management practices (BMPs) component targeted to reduce GHG emissions in the agriculture sector by 2012, 2) a research component to build capacity for enhanced mitigation, sequestration and adaptation, before and beyond 2012, and finally, 3) extension activities to support and assist agriculture stakeholders in achieving these objectives.

Who can apply for funding?

MSAPP provides funding and technical assistance to carry out sustainable agriculture projects related to climate change. The research and development (R&D) component of the *MSAPP* will provide capacity for academia, governments and NGOs to answer important questions related to Manitoba's medium- and long-term climate change goals.

Proposal Guidelines

MSAPP will support applied investigation projects which aim to improve sustainable agriculture farming practices and transfer or sharing of technology and information such as demonstration of proven technologies, workshops and factsheets. Project activities must be conducted in Manitoba or be of direct benefit to Manitoba.

MSAPP will also support activities and projects that are built on partnerships, particularly between producers, government and industry; proposed by local producer bodies seeking local solutions to issues of local concern; and proposed by provincial industry bodies seeking sector-wide solutions. Projects with greatest potential for climate change mitigation and adaptation will receive highest ranking in the selection process.

2009-2010 Funding Areas (Strategic Themes)

- ✓ Fertilizers (nitrogen) and nutrient management
- ✓ Manure management and treatment
- ✓ Composting
- ✓ Feeding and grazing strategies
- ✓ Cropping systems
- ✓ Other (baseline, modeling, protocols...)

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Funding Guidelines

The MSAPP is now accepting applications for R&D projects occurring between **April 2009 and March 2010**. The initial closing date for proposal submission is: Friday **April 3rd**, 2009 at 4:30 pm, local time. Future intake deadlines are: **August 24th 2009 and December 14th 2009**. Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives (MAFRI) will assess the proposals and select the successful proposals within 10 business days. Only those proposals selected for approval will be contacted.

Multi-year projects will be considered, but will be subjected to an annual renewal process depending on progress reports as MSAPP's program budget is renewed on an annual basis.

MAFRI intends to award funding to the proponent whose proposal offers the best GHG mitigation opportunities. However, MAFRI is under no obligation to award any funding in whole or in part and MAFRI reserves the right in its sole discretion to cancel this Call for Proposals process at any time before or after closing without providing reasons for such cancellation.

Any funding grant made by MAFRI shall be made in writing and shall be subject to the availability of funding at the time of award (if any).

In the event of mathematical errors in the budget, MAFRI reserves the discretion on each project to review the error and determine a response.

In order to obtain the most advantageous GHG mitigation potential, MAFRI reserves the right in its sole discretion:

- (a) to waive irregularities and/or minor non-compliance by any proponents with the requirements of the Call for Proposals; and
- (b) to request clarification and/or further information from one or more proponents after closing without becoming obligated to offer the same opportunity to all proponents.

Proponents are advised to submit a complete proposal as soon as possible.

Eligible Costs

Costs may be recovered for labour, supplies, services, administration and communication with a cap of \$50,000 per project. Capital items and established operational budgets are not covered under this initiative. Projects where funding is more appropriately available from other provincial or federal sources may not be considered eligible. Costs claimed must not include GST.

MAFRI **shall not be responsible for** any expenses or charges incurred by a proponent in preparing or submitting a proposal nor in providing any additional information considered necessary by MAFRI for evaluation of proposals.

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Review of Applications

Applications are initially reviewed by the Program Management Committee of MAFRI for technical merit and program fit. Projects meeting the criteria are recommended for funding to the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives. Successful proponents are required to sign a contribution agreement prior to receiving funds. A staff representative is named in each contribution agreement to provide technical and administrative assistance to proponents where necessary.

Reporting

A progress report must be submitted at mid-project to present the work accomplished to date. Upon completion of the project, organizations are required to submit a final report to the Program Coordinator. This report should include both technical and financial details of the project. Information on completed projects will be posted on MAFRI's home page and used in local, regional and provincial publications. The financial component must show total deliverables, expenditures, the value of additional cash and/or in-kind contributions made to the project, and the balance owed.

The final 25% of the project funding will not be released until receipt of the final project report.

For more information please contact

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