REPORT OF THE SEPARATE BIFAD COMMITTEE FOR CRSP ISSUES
February 27 2008
Committee members:

- **David Sammons**, Director of International Programs, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida
- **Sue Schram**, Vice President, Outreach and Cooperative Programs, ACDI/VOCA, member of SPARE
- **John Rifenbark**, Team Leader EGAT/AID
- **Harry Rea**, CTO, EGAT/AID
- **Raymond Miller**, Director of International Programs in Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland, member of SPARE, committee chair
SPARE ISSUES;
SPARE Business Practices

- SPARE Business Practices
- SPARE Membership
- SPARE Responsibilities.

**RECOMMENDATION 1:**
That BIFAD review the composition and responsibilities of SPARE and, if appropriate, revise its charter to clarify its responsibilities and operational procedures. This review should include a review of its structure, with the goal of making SPARE more functional as a resource for BIFAD.
Lack of CRSP guidelines.

RECOMMENDATION 2:
The Guidelines should be revised taking into account these changes. This should be done with AID’s concurrence and assistance. The revised guidelines should be ready for consideration by BIFAD at its October meeting.
CRSP/AID ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL ISSUES:

- Not following ADS 216.

RECOMMENDATION 3:

BIFAD should determine the status of ADS 216. If ADS 216 is in the process of or if it is to be revised, it should be in consultation with the TITLE XII universities.
CRSP/AID ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL ISSUES

• RFA Release and ME Overlap.

RECOMMENDATION 4:
That the agreed upon procedures be followed for new or continuing CRSPs and that if there is not adequate time for a proper process for continuing CRSPs that an extension be implemented.
CRSP/AID ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL ISSUES

• Review of RFAs and SOWs for CRSPs.

RECOMMENDATION 5:
RFAs and SOWs should be reviewed by BIFAD or SPARE in all future CRSP activities and EGAT should explain and justify to BIFAD why this has not happened for CRSP activities over the past three years.
CRSP/AID ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL ISSUES

- Evaluation of Leader with Associate Cooperative Agreement

RECOMMENDATION 6:
That the use of the LWA be evaluated to determine the advantages or disadvantages to CRSPs and their operations.
CRSP/AID ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL ISSUES

• Competition for MEs.

RECOMMENDATION 7:
That all CRSPs, either continuing or new be bid as a two step process.
CRSP/AID ADMINISTRATIVE AND OPERATIONAL ISSUES

• Response to management report.

RECOMMENDATION 8:
Because this report was based on AID sponsored reviews and the report was commissioned by AID, AID should take action on the other recommendations or give justification to BIFAD as to why the suggested actions have not been followed.
RECOMMENDATION 9:
Reviews should be available and posted on www.DEC.ord (Development Experience Clearinghouse). BIFAD and SPARE documents should also be readily available.
• Document availability.

RECOMMENDATION 10:
That Title XII reports be published and released in a timely manner.
OVERALL RECOMMENDATION:

• BIFAD should bring these issues to the attention of the AID administrator and determine why agreed upon procedures and BIFAD recommendations are not being followed and how these deficiencies can be corrected. The role of BIFAD in these issues should be clarified.
OVERALL RECOMMENDATION:

- It is urgent that this be done as soon as possible. EGAT is entering into processes different than agreed to with BIFAD or recommended by BIFAD that could do serious damage to the CRSPs and their future success.