



The Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP)

Case Study S&L TRUST FUND

Message

The Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP) is establishing a Standards and Labeling Trust Fund, designed to allow rapid response to the myriad of opportunities that continuously arise to foster major advances in energy efficiency standards and labels (S&L). This fund will accelerate the adoption of S&L globally as well as enhance the effectiveness of the standards and labels that are adopted for the betterment of the planet. By enhancing the effectiveness of standards and labels, the S&L Trust Fund will dramatically transform markets, improve economic efficiency, and accelerate the pace of greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation due to S&L. The capacity to develop and implement this government policy enables emerging economies to apply the most cost-effective approach to market development.

While S&L fosters technology innovation by requiring product improvement and bringing consumer attention to enhanced efficiency, its most direct benefit in sustainable development terms is advancing sound energy policy in emerging nations. The S&L Trust Fund has the potential to dramatically accelerate the implementation of S&L worldwide and the resulting penetration of efficient technology into the global marketplace.

Project Story

Opportunities arise continually for advancing S&L. Some have no time urgency, and CLASP addresses these by securing long-lead-time funding from its sponsors. Others have short windows of opportunity that are sometimes only days or weeks. For example, CLASP recently was invited to co-fund a UNDP/GEF S&L project in Russia. It was also invited to host a collaborative meeting of experts from around the world striving to harmonize CFL specifications. Each of these ventures needed funding of only \$10,000 to \$20,000 and would have provided crucial momentum for large collaborative efforts. A Trust Fund would allow CLASP to accept such invitations.

Also, many opportunities have no time urgency but have little curb-side appeal (being somewhat akin to digging trenches for the foundation of a skyscraper in the building construction world). There are many chores involved in building S&L infrastructure that don't fit the standard criteria used by sponsors—it's not country-specific, it has no measurable energy or carbon savings, its payoff is too far in the future (sometimes over one year is too long). Yet this work provides an important foundation upon which to build quality S&L programs. Ultimately, these chores must be done for energy saving standards and labeling programs to succeed. The Trust Fund was conceived to bridge these essential gaps.

In FY06, the fund seeks to secure \$1,000,000 to allow CLASP and its partners to pursue short-term and foundational investments that otherwise would be foregone. These funds would be applied to relatively small projects, each of which would satisfy the following strict criteria:

- Would result in substantial long-term impact in advancing S&L;
- Would enable or stimulate major effort by others in the long-term; and
- Would establish key collaborations;
- Would be a lost opportunity without CLASP funding.

CLASP will undertake Trust Fund projects through its open and transparent implementing partner selection process. This process promises to deliver the world's best practices provided by the most highly competent project teams assembled from among the world's most accomplished S&L experts. The projects will all be conducted in keeping with the published CLASP principles.

CLASP will provide sponsors of the fund with quarterly reports on fund activity and accomplishments, case study reports on major successes, and accounting of each sponsor's relative contribution to the group effort. Through this mechanism, sponsors can participate in building a necessary infrastructure for S&L services and an institution able to provide the S&L programs they desire. Sponsors will serve as Trustees and participate in annual meetings conducted in order to focus on lessons learned and refine the Trust Fund's annual program strategy. Trust fund sponsors will receive special recognition as integral core funders on CLASP's website and in its outreach publications.

Partners

Funding Partners: the S&L Trust Fund has been recently announced and is still in search of its first donor.

Country Partners: CLASP has already received requests for support from the Fund from Vietnam, Bhutan and Chile.

Implementing Partners: CLASP will undertake Trust Fund projects through its open and transparent implementing partner selection process. This process promises to deliver the world's best practices provided by the most highly competent project teams assembled from among the world's most accomplished S&L experts. The projects will all be conducted in keeping with the published CLASP principles.