

## The Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP)

## **CLASP S&L TRUST FUND**



The Collaborative Labeling and Appliance Standards Program (CLASP) announces the establishment of its Standards and Labeling (S&L) Trust Fund. This fund will accelerate the adoption of S&L globally as well as enhance the efficacy of the standards and labels that are adopted for the betterment of the planet. In the countries to which funds are applied, it will allow its sponsors to:

- Reduce national utility bills and thus enhance socio-economic development, improve economic efficiency and alleviate poverty;
- \* Reduce global greenhouse gas emissions as well as local pollutants;
- ❖ Stimulate global trade and enhance local competitiveness; and
- ❖ Expand the delivery of S&L technical assistance based upon international best practice.

CLASP has successfully attracted funding for big projects in what are generally considered to be key countries including: China, India, and Brazil. With the Trust Fund, CLASP can also **bridge gaps in the basic S&L infrastructure**, develop new country relationships, and contribute vital support to small nations. There are many steps involved in building S&L infrastructure that sometimes don't fit the



standard criteria used by sponsors—work is 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 often provides the critical foundation upon which quality S&L programs are built.

CLASP has secured a central place in the S&L world and, in that position must balance varied and numerous opportunities. CLASP seeks to secure \$1,000,000 in 2006 to allow it and its partners to pursue short-term and foundational investments that otherwise would be foregone. These funds would be applied to projects that 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;
- ❖ Would establish key collaborations; and
- ❖ Would be a lost opportunity without CLASP funding.



Trust Fund projects will 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. Sponsors will serve as Trustees, receive reports on the use of the funds and its impact, 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 in CLASP's outreach materials.

For more information on becoming a donor or beneficiary of the Trust Fund, please contact Christine Egan, CLASP Executive Director at 1-202-543-8515 or cegan@clasponline.org.