Global Food Ventures is seeking **HIGH QUALITY, INNOVATIVE** pre-proposals for venture funding.

Global Food Ventures is a core MnDRIVE focus area, and is committed to answering the global imperative of safe, nutritious and affordable food, through the application of innovative discovery, and next generation workforce development.

Its objective is to leverage the extensive food-related expertise and capabilities of faculty at the University of Minnesota through focused initiatives in collaboration with Minnesota industries and external stakeholders who can advance the imperative of safe, nutritious and affordable food.

Funding for FY2016 venture proposals is coming from the University’s MnDRIVE (Minnesota Discovery, Research and InnoVation Economy) program, funded by the state legislature. Proposal funding is for a 1 year period beginning July 2015. Proposals must demonstrate alignment with the following MnDRIVE objectives:

- Advance Minnesota’s economy
- Seize opportunities to leverage Minnesota’s strengths and comparative advantages
- Improve Minnesotans’ health and quality of life
- Advance the capacity and competitiveness of Minnesota industries
- Position our state as a national leader

UMN faculty are invited to submit collaborative pre-proposals that leverage external partnerships and resources in the following three areas:

a) **Research** - new and innovative projects with limited expectations for short term or intermediate term payoff, but high expectations for long term advancements.

b) **Commercialization** – early to mid-stage projects with a high probability of being launched by the private sector

c) **Workforce** - education programs building professionals and leaders for careers in agricultural and food industries, educational institutions, international aid organizations and government

The due date for Global Food Ventures FY2016 pre-proposals is March 9, 2015, end of business day (5pm). Pre-proposals will be evaluated by the **Global Food Ventures Interdisciplinary Review Team** and selections will be made for full proposal submission by March 26, 2015. Details on full proposal submission will be included in pre-proposal award letters.

Please submit your FY2016 pre-proposals to the **Global Food Ventures Team** by completing the **FY2016 Global Food Ventures Pre-proposal Form**, and uploading it to the **online submission site**.

For questions on the pre-proposal submission process please contact Linda or any member of the GFV Team:

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Revised 02/16/2015