Consent Statement

***INSTRUCTIONS**: Read the following Consent Statement to the farmer that will be interviewed.*

My name is _____. I am assisting Michigan State University in the U.S. to conduct a study on the dissemination of bean seeds of improved varieties produced through Community Seed Banks. I would like to ask you some questions related to your practice of storing, sharing, replanting and purchasing of bean seeds and experience with bean production.

The USAID-funded Dry Grain Pulses CRSP at Michigan State University, USA, is funding this study in Nicaragua and other Central American countries. NITLAPAN/UCA is the collaborator for data collection in Nicaragua.

The interview will take approximately one hour. Your participation is voluntary. Your refusal to participate or to withdraw from the study carries no penalty or loss of any benefits. You are free to not answer any of the questions I will ask. However, I hope that you will answer all my questions, as your answers will help me to assess the CSB model and to derive lessons for improving seed systems here in Nicaragua and elsewhere. Any personal information collected from you will be **kept private** and included in reports only in aggregate analysis without your name.

During the course of this study, if you have any questions/concerns, you may contact Dr. Mywish Maredia, at Michigan State University by phone: 517 353 6602 or with NITLAPAN/UCA at 2278-0627.

Do you have any questions about this study?

<***Pause and respond to any questions raised, then continue with the following statement***>

If you don't have any questions or if I have addressed your questions satisfactorily, I would like to start the interview. By answering my questions, you indicate your willingness to voluntarily participate in the study.