

Agricultural Economist

Official Position Title: Agricultural Economics Officer, Backstop 10, FSL-0110-02

Functional Title: Agricultural Economist

Location of Position: U.S. Agency for International Development, Bureau for Food Security, Office of Market and Partnership Innovations, Inclusive Markets Division

Position Grade: FSL-02

Salary Range: US\$103,783-\$152,409

Position Closing Date: December 27, 2016, 11:59 PM EST

Description of the Bureau: The USAID Bureau for Food Security (BFS) leads coordination and implementation of Feed the Future, the U.S. Government's global hunger and food security initiative. BFS brings together programmatic, technical, and regional expertise from throughout USAID to assist 19 Feed the Future focus countries and additional aligned countries and regional programs with strategic design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation. BFS coordinates Feed the Future's 10 additional U.S. Government partner agencies and departments, most recently on development and implementation of the new U.S. Government [Global Food Security Strategy](#). This strategy, delivered to Congress as a requirement of the Global Food Security Act of 2016, charts how U.S. Government partners will support developing countries over the next five years to achieve lasting progress in food security and nutrition.

Description of Office or Team: The Market and Partnership Innovations Office (BFS/MPI) strives to reduce poverty, fight hunger and improve nutrition by increasing the productivity and profitability of smallholder farmers around the world through a diverse portfolio that combines market-led innovation and dissemination of technology; partnerships and private sector engagement; and activities that enable and accelerate private investment, improve access to finance and enhance risk management. The Inclusive Market Development Division (BFS/MPI/IMD), one of two divisions in the office, promotes an enabling environment for growth, facilitates private sector investment, and fosters innovation in market-led approaches to catalyze and accelerate agricultural development and improved nutrition.

Description of Position: The Agricultural Economist will manage programs and multi-donor activities that address factors related to strengthening agricultural systems and expanding agricultural markets and trade. S/he will provide expert technical assistance on agricultural economic topics, including the agribusiness enabling environment, to the Bureau for Food Security and Feed the Future overseas Missions in support of strategic programming and assessing impact of programs on U.S. Government's Global Food Security Strategy objectives. This position will be part of the Inclusive Markets Division of BFS/MPI and the incumbent will report directly to the Division Chief.

Description of Key Duties: Major duties will include planning, organizing, managing, and evaluating technically complex projects related to agricultural economic topics. In addition, the incumbent will provide direct technical assistance to Feed the Future field missions on topics

related to agricultural market systems development, including agricultural trade, grades and standards, market information systems, agricultural technology commercialization, and the agribusiness enabling environment. S/he will identify economic issues and participate in design, researchable question development, data collection and analysis, message development, and report writing in support of the Global Food Security Strategy implementation.

The incumbent will also Facilitate collaboration between partners and work collaboratively with representatives of different types of institutions, including government, universities, and the private sector. S/he will coordinate among interagency technical experts and donor counterparts to align resources and agendas around the U.S. Government's Global Food Security Strategy objectives, and will be expected to Interact and speak authoritatively at Agency and technical levels with a wide range of senior technical experts in public and private meetings.

Qualifications Required:

Educational Requirement:

- A. **Degree:** economics, that included at least 21 semester hours in economics and 3 semester hours in statistics, accounting, or calculus; OR
- B. **Combination of education and experience:** courses equivalent to a major in economics, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

This position requires mastery knowledge of the complex linkages in agricultural and rural development policy and programs, including the impacts of expanded agricultural technology development, trade, financial services and rural infrastructure on rural and urban employment, and economic growth. In addition, the incumbent should have advanced experience in managing and dissemination of the knowledge of agricultural economics in developing country contexts. As well, s/he must be able to develop recommendations and prepare technical products that provide factual and analytical information in a clear format that meets the needs of diverse audiences.

The incumbent should also have experience as a proven communicator, motivator, and team player to enhance coordination efforts with USAID and U.S. interagency colleagues, other bilateral and multilateral agencies, academic organizations, and private sector actors. Preference for candidate with excellent communication skills in order to convey technically complex and controversial information to multi-cultural, non-technical and technical audiences with diverse views.

Eligibility: Only U.S. Citizens may apply.

Veteran's Preference: BFS will consider veteran's preference eligibility as a positive factor in making FSL selections. Applicants eligible for veteran's preference must include that information in their cover letter and should attach supporting documentation (e.g., the DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty and other supporting documentation) to their submissions.

Application Instructions: Please send detailed CV, cover letter and any supporting documentation to bfsjobs@usaid.gov with the position's official and functional titles in the e-mail subject line, by the position closing date listed above.

In your cover letter, please also:

1. indicate your U.S. citizenship status
2. indicate your veteran's status, if any, and
3. include contact information (name, title, e-mail and telephone) for three references, one of which must be a current or former supervisor.

For more information: <https://feedthefuture.gov/lp/opportunities-join-feed-future-team>