

## **Agricultural Productivity Advisor**

**Official Position Title:** Agricultural Development Officer, Backstop 10, FSL-0401-02

**Functional Title:** Agricultural Productivity Advisor

**Location of Position:** U.S. Agency for International Development, Bureau for Food Security, Country Strategy and Implementation Office, Technical Division

**Position Grade:** FSL-02

**Salary Range:** US\$103,783 - US\$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 Country Strategy and Implementation Office (BFS/CSI), in coordination with Regional and Pillar Bureaus, provides leadership on country strategic planning related to Feed the Future. BFS/CSI also oversees design and implementation of region-wide food security agendas and strategies. BFS/CSI is the Bureau's central point of contact on food security technical issues, and manages consultations with partners and stakeholders on Feed the Future country programs. The Technical Division (BFS/CSI/T), in coordination with the regional divisions, provides technical guidance and support to Bureaus, USAID Missions and focus countries in the design and implementation of food security programs.

**Description of Position:** The Agricultural Productivity Advisor will work with local and international organizations, USAID field posts, and technical staff from the USAID Bureau for Food Security, regional bureaus, the Bureau for Economic Growth, Education and Environment (E3), and other bureaus and offices to promote the development, design, and implementation of projects, programs, policies and strategies to support sustainable agricultural intensification and productivity—particularly among smallholder farmers. The Agricultural Productivity Advisor will report directly to the BFS/CSI Technical Division Chief. The advisor will work within the Climate Smart Agriculture and Natural Resource Management Team in the Technical Division, as increased, sustainable productivity will come through climate-smart approaches. S/he will also work closely with other BFS units as directed by the supervisor.

**Description of Key Duties:** The Project Development (Agricultural Productivity Advisor) Officer will serve as BFS/CSI's senior technical expert providing technical guidance to USAID posts

and supporting the design, implementation and evaluation of agricultural productivity initiatives and activities targeting a variety of staple and high value field and vegetable crops. Major duties and responsibilities involve technical leadership, institutionalization and project delivery, and stakeholder engagement. This includes the following: providing expert technical advice on cropping systems productivity, climate-resilient agriculture, seed systems, strengthening farmer groups, input supply systems, and sustainable crop production; secondarily, the advisor will assist in the areas of post-harvest handling, storage, processing, quality standards, access to finance, and market linkages; prepare or oversee preparation of relevant periodic status reports, technical guidance materials or trainings, progress reports, and other reports and documents as required by the USAID, Congressional Committees, and other official USG bodies; and establish, maintain and manage strong relationships with partner government entities, multilateral and bilateral donors, international organizations, private sector partners, and non-governmental partners to promote shared learning and use of best practice in all aspects of agricultural productivity.

### **Qualifications Required:**

Educational requirement:

- A. **Degree:** biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position; OR
- B. **Combination of education and experience:** Courses equivalent to a major, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

The position requires the level of expert analyst who has mastered the application of a wide range support in food security for the design, implementation and evaluation of agricultural productivity initiatives and activities targeting a variety of staple and high value field and vegetable crops in developing country settings, including the: (1) Ability to provide expert technical support to the design, implementation and evaluation of agricultural productivity initiatives and activities targeting a variety of staple and high value field and vegetable crops and provide expert technical advice on cropping systems productivity, climate-resilient agriculture, seed systems, strengthening farmer groups, input supply systems, and sustainable crop production; (2) Mastery of a wide range of qualitative and/or quantitative methods for the assessment and improvement of program effectiveness or the improvement of complex management processes and systems in the area of food security; (3) Ability to identify and provide guidance in eliminating context-specific constraints to effective commercial input systems, including policy and institutional issues and infrastructure in a developing country setting; plan and design activities to facilitate expanded private sector engagement and competitiveness in rural input systems; and ensure that results and impacts are captured; (4) Thorough knowledge of the relevant policies, regulations, and precedents applicable to the administration of food security programs; (5) Knowledge of agency program goals and objectives, the sequence and timing of key program events and milestones, and methods of evaluating the worth of program accomplishments; (6) Mastery of skills needed to establish, maintain and manage strong relationships with partner government entities, multilateral and bilateral donors, international organizations, private sector partners, and non-governmental partners to promote shared learning and use of best practice in all aspects of agricultural

productivity; and (7) Ability to collaborate with other Offices within BFS to develop mutually reinforcing policies, practices and activities that contribute to increased efficiency in achieving the overall strategic goal of the Feed the Future initiative.

**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](mailto: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>*