Foreign Service Limited Position Opportunity - Supervisory Agricultural Development Officer (Supervisory Agriculture Development), FL-040-01, PD# 31607

- Agency: U.S. Agency for International Development
- Organization: Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, Center for Agriculture (CA)
- Location of Position: Washington, DC
- Open Period: June 11th to July 10, 2020
- Appointment Type: This is an excepted service, time-limited appointment that is not-to-exceed five (5) years
- (USD) $142,701 - (USD) $170,800 (annually)
- Number of Vacancies: 1

Description of Organization: This position is in the Center for Agriculture-led Growth (CA) of USAID's Bureau for Resilience and Food Security (RFS). RFS's mission is to partner to advance inclusive agriculture-led growth, resilience, nutrition, and access to water and sanitation to accelerate and protect progress on the Journey to Self-Reliance. RFS oversees four high-level, integrated efforts in support of this mission: (1) Feed the Future, guided by the Global Food Security Strategy (GFSS), (2) the USAID Multi-Sector Nutrition Strategy, (3) the U.S. Global Water Strategy, and (4) efforts to increase resilience in areas of recurrent humanitarian crisis. To deliver on this work, RFS partners with other Federal Departments and Agencies, USAID Bureaus and Missions, universities, civil society, and other public- and private-sector actors. The Center for Agriculture-Led Growth (CA) leads the Agency’s agriculture work. Through technical assistance, training, and curated learning products, the Center supports USAID Missions’ programming, policy, and partnership work in agriculture input systems, production systems, market systems, and finance. The Center manages global research and analysis investments to generate agriculture innovations and evidence for wide application. Through strategic engagement and partnership, the Center influences global agriculture investments and agendas.

Description of Position:

The Supervisory Agricultural Development Officer will undertake the following duties and responsibilities:

PROGRAM LEADERSHIP 35%

Leads the Agency's programming in agricultural led growth research as the RFS Senior Advisor, contributing to the development of a cohesive and coordinated program of agricultural research and development with partners in U.S. universities, USDA, IARCs, national agricultural research systems (NARSs), host country universities, NGOs, and the private sector. Leads a team of project managers to ensure that activities within the RFS agricultural led growth program area contributes to GFSS goals of decreasing poverty and improving household nutrition, while also increasing farm productivity and resilience; directs research prioritization and impact assessment activities aimed at informing the development of a comprehensive portfolio of research activities focused on sustainable agricultural led growth of smallholder farms including contributions to crop and livestock productivity, horticultural production, pest management, environmental goods and services, economic profitability, and human and social capital. Establishes relationships with research leaders in U.S. and host country universities, USDA, NARSs, and the private sector to leverage emerging science in support of USAID's programmatic goals and contribute to global coordination of research for development
activities in sustainable intensification and natural resource management. Provides technical leadership to RFS in the area of agricultural research and development related to agricultural led growth by, for example, generating new hypotheses, theories, concepts, principles, standards and methods; monitoring research publications; engaging with USAID staff and the scientific community to stay abreast of research progress, issues and opportunities relevant to USAID research programs, particularly those involving collaborations between GFSS countries and U.S. scientists. Identifies, analyzes, and evaluates the relevance and value of research programs in the area of agricultural led growth, including, and as related to, improving crop and livestock production, household decision making and behavior change, nutrition-sensitive agricultural activities, soil and water conservation, biodiversity conservation and agricultural economics. These activities will extend to prioritizing research geographies and themes and resource allocation. Provides technical expertise to the AC, RFS and the Agency at large, and other U.S. Government agencies and organizations related to sustainable agricultural practices and opportunities; and works with other U.S, Government counterparts on development and implementation of technology dissemination projects related to agricultural led growth, resilience, and nutrition.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT 15%
Collaborates on research and development projects focused on agricultural led growth; ensures alignment of research activities with the goals of food security, poverty reduction, and improved resilience and nutrition; and ensures the appropriate monitoring and assessment of long-term research projects. Ensures the development of technically and legally sound agreements and manages technical, fiscal, and policy aspects of programs and projects to ensure success. Establishes priorities, set goals, delegates tasks, and coordinates the flow of work toward the finished product. Ensures the development of budgets and manages program funds in a cost-effective manner to support the program goals. Oversees the management, review and monitoring of agricultural and natural research management bilateral projects with the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) and U.S. Universities in a manner consistent with Agency annual reporting requirements.

OUTREACH AND COMMUNICATIONS 25% Conducts outreach to the domestic and international agricultural research community to leverage the best resources and partners to accomplish RFS goals. This includes those interested in receiving USAID support, other collaborators, and constituencies of U.S. Government programs in the U.S. and developing countries, including U.S. and host-country universities, private companies, agricultural producers and industry organizations, Congress, NGOs, IARCS, NARS, professional scientific organizations, and public citizens. Ensures clear communication and conducts informational activities in the context of the GFSS and RFS. Authors analytical documents including multilateral research reports, summaries of program status, briefing materials, and other program related documents.

SUPERVISORY AND / OR MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES 25% Supervises a group of employees at the GS 12-GS 15 levels, communicating performance expectations; providing regular coaching, mentoring, and informal feedback; and performing formal performance management and administrative functions relative to staff supervised.
Recruits, trains, and develops a cadre of diverse and adaptive staff; assesses needed and existing staff competencies; create and encourage professional growth opportunities to further develop competencies.

Plans and manages the work of the unit; sets clear unit objectives, coordinates resources, people, and processes, and adjusts approaches as necessary; ensures staff understand objectives and priorities and delegated tasks; recognizes achievement and lessons learned; (if Division Chief or Office Director) plans and executes budget to achieve objectives. Demonstrates and promotes RFS and Agency values and USAID Leadership Philosophy, fostering a team culture of respect, learning, and accountability.

Qualifications:

- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Must have one year of specialized experience pertaining to the key duties described above and equivalent to the next lower grade level of FSL02/ GS-14.
- Minimum Education Requirements:
  - Must possess a degree in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position, or
  - A combination of education and experience (courses equivalent to a major as described above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.)
- Must be eligible to obtain and maintain a Secret level security clearance.

Interested candidates should submit a:

- Resume/CV;
- A short written statement of interest; and
- Official or unofficial transcripts, if education is noted as a requirement above.

Please submit your application package to RFSjobs@usaid.gov. Please use the subject line “FSL APPLICATION PACKAGE: Supervisory Agricultural Development Officer (Supervisory Agriculture Development), FL-040-01, PD# 31607.” Application submissions are required by 11:59 pm (EST), July 10th. Packages not submitted by the deadline with the specified subject line—or incomplete packages—will not receive consideration.

This notice may be used to fill additional vacancies, as the workforce needs of the Bureau may change.