



Solicitation open to:	All Interested Afghan Nationals
Position Title:	Project Management Specialist (Agribusiness)
Type of vacancy:	Single Position
Opening date:	December 3, 2013
Closing date:	December 17, 2013
Vacancy announcement #:	USAID/306/14/23/OAG
Work Hours:	40 hours (Full time)
Position Grade:	FSN-12

USAID/Afghanistan is seeking individual for the Single position as Project Management Specialist (Agribusiness) in the Office of Agriculture (OAG).

BASIC FUNCTION OF THE POSITION:

The position is a Senior FSN Agricultural Development Project Management Specialist in the Markets & Trade Team (M&T) of the Office of Agriculture (OAG). The incumbent reports to the Office Director and as the Team Leader for Markets & Trade team, s/he supervises a minimum of two local staff. The incumbent provides a broad spectrum of advisory, evaluative, analytical, strategic, programmatic and intellectual leadership in matters related to agribusiness value chains, credit and finance, enterprise development, and agriculture trade and marketing. S/he will serve as a senior agribusiness development expert and for the Markets & Trade Team. Serves as Activity Manager for OAG's Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) and Agriculture Credit Enhancement (ACE) programs and provides management oversight for Commercial Horticulture and Agriculture Marketing Project (CHAMP) and Incentives Driving Economic Alternatives for the North, East, & West.

Program Management

1. Review program/project details, strategic objectives, and intermediate results proposals and amendments for consistency with and relevance to approved Regional Bureau and Mission strategies and policies and make recommendations for further actions as required.
2. Work closely with members of the Markets & Trade Team and the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Team within USAID's Office of Agriculture to define and report on results from investments in agriculture activities.
3. Advise Mission and OAG management and technical staff on possible programmatic problems or concerns related to internal and external issues, public policies, and other significant factors that may adversely affect successful implementation of Markets & Trade programs and projects and recommend possible mitigating factors and/or potential solutions.
4. Ensure that all agribusiness and agricultural credit activities within the OAG portfolio are implemented in a technically sound, timely, and cost-effective manner in accordance with all Mission and Agency regulations.
5. On behalf of the Markets & Trade team, lead and facilitate information management and communications with internal and external constituencies and stakeholders; review Markets & Trade activities for compliance with USAID Mission Orders pertaining to program assistance, managing for results, and activity approval.
6. Oversee the Markets & Trade procurement planning and ensure results are achieved in a timely manner.

Strategic Leadership, Technical Advice and Policy Dialogue

1. Provide management oversight for all Markets & Trade programs. This involves fostering and supporting collaborative undertakings and coordinating and working closely with international development partners with significant investments in Afghanistan's agribusiness value chains, credit and trade, agricultural extension and capacity development. M&T programs are designed to provide credit to small commercial farmers and agribusinesses; to invest in high value perennial crops; to strengthen the efficiency and profitability of agricultural marketing efforts; and to increase and improve agricultural productivity through capacity-building (extension, training, and demonstrations), input supply (vouchers), and community-constructed infrastructure activities.

2. Coordinate closely and maintain regular consultation with counterparts at the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (MAIL), particularly for the management of ADF, OAG's flagship on-budget activity with MAIL. This requires high level and detail-oriented management regarding USAID and the Government of Islamic Republic Afghanistan GIRoA procedures and policies.
3. Develop agribusiness and agricultural credit strategies and programmatic approaches which fit within US Government and GIRoA strategies and plans and meet development objectives for Afghanistan.

QUALIFICATIONS/EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Education: The position requires a Master's degree in agricultural development, business administration, economics, international development or related social science fields.

Experience: Minimum of six years of progressively responsible experience in agriculture development; agricultural research, extension and education; rural development; administration; capacity development; business management; or humanitarian assistance to include at least 2 years of managerial experience. A strong understanding of the complex, detailed, and specialized information required to implement agricultural development programs in Afghanistan is required. The implementation of ACE/ADF includes capacity building at MAIL; experience leading capacity development programs is required. Strategic vision and understanding of how various data on agricultural development, agribusiness and agricultural credit impact programming is important. The ability to monitor PMPs and make evidence-based decisions and adjustments to implementation strategy is required.

Language: Level IV (Fluent) speaking/reading English and Level IV (Fluent) speaking/reading of Dari or Pashto is required.

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills: Leadership across a portfolio of agricultural development, agribusiness and agricultural credit programs is required. Ability to assume the initiative and work independently with minimum or no supervision and acuity in managing USAID-financed projects; ability to establish and maintain contacts and networks with USAID contractors, grantees, clients, counterparts in relevant host-government and private sector organizations to effectively lead and manage agriculture development programs; ability to analyze USAID agreements, communicate their terms and conditions, review and critique related work plans and deliverables to ensure conformance; ability to work under pressure and produce results quickly, being sensitive to USAID relationships with the Embassy, other donors, PVOs, GIRoA, and private and public organizations; technical and management capacity to direct and monitor quality of work and guide employees; and strong interpersonal skills for dealing with diverse professional and support staff. Proficiency in application of word processing, spreadsheet, project management, statistical packages, communication, and operating system software.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants are required to submit a complete application package which must include all required documents to afpakjobs@usaid.gov and AfUSAIDJobs@state.gov with a **Subject line: Project Management Specialist (OAG1423)**

ANY/ALL application submissions after the closing date of December 17, 2013 will not be considered.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

1. **Cover memo/email outlining your qualifications and experience against the selection criteria.**
2. **Universal Application for Employment (UAE) as a Locally Employed Staff (DS-174)**
http://kabul.usembassy.gov/job_opportunities2.html
<http://www.state.gov/documents/organization/136408.pdf> and/or
3. **A current resume or curriculum vitae that provides the same information found on the UAE;**

(We understand that not all applicants are able to download the application from the internet. Please state this in your cover memo/email if this is the case. For candidates who are short listed, a DS 174 will be required in order to advance in the process.

Note:

- Ø Only Short-listed candidates will be notified.
- Ø This vacancy is only open to Afghan Nationals.
- Ø Applications with insufficient information to make a determination will not be considered.
- Ø No in-person appointments or telephone calls will be entertained.
- Ø Women are encouraged to apply.

**USAID IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
ALL ETHNIC GROUPS AND BOTH GENDERS ARE URGED TO APPLY**