

**The Department of Agriculture (USDA) – Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS)
Office of Capacity Building and Development**

**Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Cochran Fellowship Program**

A. Program Description

Program Overview, Objectives, and Priorities

The Cochran Fellowship Program is requesting the design and delivery of training programs for Multiple Topics and Multiple Regions during **Fiscal Year 2018**.

BACKGROUND

Since 1984, the U.S. Congress has made funds available to the Cochran Fellowship Program for training agriculturalists from middle-income countries, emerging markets, and emerging democracies. Training opportunities are for senior and mid-level specialists and administrators working in agricultural trade and policy, agribusiness development, management, animal, plant, and food sciences, extension services, agricultural marketing, and many other areas. Individuals selected for Cochran trainings come from both the public and private sectors. All training occurs in the United States. Training programs are designed and organized in conjunction with U.S. universities, USDA and other government agencies, agribusinesses, and consultants. The Cochran Fellowship Program is part of the United States Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service. Since its start in 1984, the Cochran Fellowship Program has provided U.S.-based training for over 18,000 international participants from 126 countries worldwide.

Objectives

Support the agricultural extension goals of the Cochran Fellowship Program to assist eligible countries to develop agricultural systems necessary to meet the food and fiber needs of their domestic populations and/or strengthen and enhance trade linkages between eligible countries and agricultural interests in the United States by providing fellowships to individuals from eligible countries who specialize in agriculture for study in the United States.

In general, USDA will identify fellows based on country-specific topics of importance to the international agricultural trading system, and place them with U.S. institutions for 2-3 week intensive programs. These programs are expected to contribute to the strategic goals and objectives of the institutions through a hands-on experience in a “real-world” international trade scenario, providing an opportunity for application of research and teaching agendas. Host institutions will be able to share the knowledge gained through the program in their classroom and extension work with their faculty, students, extension officers, and constituents; and they will be able to continue to maintain professional contacts with the fellows after their departure from the United States.

Below is a list of topics included in this Notice of Funding Opportunity:

1. [U.S. Beef Exports](#) - Latin America and the Caribbean Region
2. [Agriculture Extension](#) - Latin America and the Caribbean Region
3. [U.S. Organized Retail & E-Retail](#) - Latin America and the Caribbean Region

4. [Trade Policy](#) - Latin America and the Caribbean Region
5. [Microscopic Analysis of Rendered Products](#) - Latin America and the Caribbean Region
6. [Biotechnology Policy and Communication](#) - Eastern Europe and Eurasia Region
7. [Overview of U.S. Biotechnology: Policy and Risk Communication](#) - Africa and Middle East Region
8. [Agricultural Cooperative Development for Trainers of Agricultural Farm Institutes](#) - Africa and Middle East Region
9. [Agricultural Biotechnology: Basic Concepts and Principles for Tutors of Agricultural Training Colleges](#) - Africa and Middle East Region
10. [Overview of U.S. Cooperatives](#) - Africa and Middle East Region
11. [Post-Harvest Loss Management](#) - Africa and Middle East Region
12. [Meat and Poultry Inspection for Government Officials](#) - Africa and Middle East Region
13. [Trade Facilitation, WTO Commitments: SPS and Trade Agreements and Evidence-Based Risk Analysis](#) - Africa and Middle East Region
14. [U.S. Food Safety Regulations](#) – Africa and Middle East Region
15. [Food Safety Standards and Practices](#) – Africa and Middle East Region

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

Training will be from 1-3 consecutive weeks on the discretion of the applicant. Ideally the program would be implemented before or on September 30, 2018 depending on the type of program and availability of Fellows and applicant.

PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

- The host institution shall propose the place(s) of performance in their Technical Proposal, which must be in the United States.
- The host institution will be reimbursed for travel and subsistence expenses.

EXPECTATIONS:

- Provide a thumb drive of the training highlights to each Fellow and the Cochran Fellowship Program;
- Ensure that each Fellow completes the Cochran Training Program Evaluation (which will be provided);
- Development of an Action Plan by each Fellow, in accordance with the Action Plan template. The Action Plan identifies goals and outlines specific steps or activities which each Fellow will perform upon return to home country. An Action Plan generally includes steps, milestones, measures of progress, responsibilities, assignments, and a timeline. The applicant shall provide a copy of each Fellow's Action Plan to the Cochran Fellowship Program.
- A brief final report (format at the discretion of the applicant).
- A pre-training questionnaire to determine Fellows baseline knowledge of the learning objectives. (a template will be provided upon request)
- A post-training questionnaire to determine the knowledge gained in each of the learning objectives. (A template will be provided upon request)
- Analysis of the pre and post training questionnaire.
- Deliverables are due two weeks after the completion of each training.

Government furnished items:

- Emergency Medical Insurance
- Certificates of Eligibility for J-1 visas

Issued By

Foreign Agricultural Service, Office of Capacity Building & Development, Trade & Scientific Exchanges Division, Cochran Fellowship Program

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number and Title

10.962

Cochran Fellowship Program – International Training – Foreign Participant

Notice of Funding Opportunity Title

Cochran Fellowship Program

NOFO Number

Below is a list of topics included in this Notice of Funding Opportunity:

- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0024 - U.S. Beef Exports
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0039 - Agriculture Extension
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0041 - U.S. Organized Retail & E-Retail
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0040 - Trade Policy
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0035 - Microscopic Analysis of Rendered Products
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0025 - Biotechnology Policy and Communication
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0027 - Overview of U.S. Biotechnology: Policy and Risk Communication
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0028 - Agricultural Cooperative Development for Trainers of Agricultural Farm Institutes
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0029 - Agricultural Biotechnology: Basic Concepts and Principles for Tutors of Agricultural Training Colleges
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0031 - Overview of U.S. Cooperatives
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0032 - Post-Harvest Loss Management
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0030 - Meat and Poultry Inspection for Government Officials
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0033 - Trade Facilitation, WTO Commitments: SPS and Trade Agreements and Evidence-Based Risk Analysis
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0034 – U.S. Food Safety Regulations
- USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0026 – Food Safety Standards and Practices

Authorizing Authority for Program

The legislative authority for the Cochran Fellowship Program is provided in Section 1543 of the Agriculture Development and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S. Code 3293) as amended in 1996 and supported by the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977, as amended.

Appropriation Authority for Program

Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (PL 115-31)

Program Type

New

B. Federal Award Information

Award Amounts, Important Dates, and Extensions

Available Funding for the NOFO: Each award will be funded at \$6,000 - \$9,000 per Fellow depending on program type and agenda. Please note, Fellow numbers vary from one team to another.

Projected number of Awards: 15

Number of Project Budget Periods: 1

Period of Performance: 3 months

Projected Period of Performance Start Date(s): Subject to the availability of implementer and Fellows.

Projected Period of Performance End Date(s): 3 months from start of agreement.

Extensions are allowable, please see Section H. Additional Information to see how to request one should the need arise.

Pre-Award costs: Not Allowable

Cost Share or Match requirements: A cost match or cost share is not required.

Funding Instrument

USDA will enter into a cost reimbursable agreement under 7 USC 3319a with selected universities. Program staff will maintain involvement in the administration of the Cochran Fellowship Program.

C. Eligibility Information

Eligible Applicants

Proposals may be received from U.S. State Cooperative Institutions or other colleges and universities and minority serving institutions (MSIs).

A single Principal Investigator (PI) may not host two groups of Fellows simultaneously. The PI must hold a position at an eligible U.S. institution.

Eligibility Criteria

All applicants must have an active registration in the SAM database at www.sam.gov – pending or expired registrants are not eligible. This requirement must be met by the closing date of the announcement and will not be waived. Please contact the program officer listed if you have questions about this requirement.

In addition to obtaining a DUNS number and registering in SAM, you must also obtain Level 2 eAuthentication to apply for this funding opportunity in ezFedGrants (eFG). You must submit an online form requesting access. Normally you will receive an email within 24 hours of your submission, if your request is approved. After this occurs, you will need to schedule an appointment with an LRA. Once you meet with the LRA, your

Level 2 eAuthentication should be granted within 2 to 3 days after that meeting. See Section D of this NOFO for detailed information.

Maintenance of Effort (MOE)

MOE is not allowable.

D. Application and Submission Information

Key Dates and Times

Application Start Date:	6/1/2018
NOFO Posted Date:	6/1/2018
Application Submission Deadline:	6/29/2018 at 11:59 PM EDT
Anticipated Funding Selection Date:	Approximately 3-4 weeks after selection
Anticipated Award Date:	Approximately 3-4 weeks after selection

Address to Request Application Package

This NOFO represents the full application information.

Applications will be processed through the ezFedGrants portal at <https://grants.fms.usda.gov> – prospective applicants are encouraged to register for this portal. Applicants that are unable to access the ezFedGrants portal should contact the program manager for alternative submission instructions. Note that if selected, registration is a requirement of performance.

Content and Form of Application Submission

Institutions must be able to host multiple groups over the period of performance and should submit a proposal following the guidelines below:

- Required forms and certifications, including:
 - [SF-424 version 2.1](#), with an OMB Expiration Date of 10/31/2019
 - [SF-424A version 1.0](#), revised July 1997. This should be accompanied by a detailed budget worksheet and a detailed budget narrative (NOTE: A budget narrative must be provided). All line items should be described in sufficient detail that would enable FAS to determine that the costs are reasonable and allowable for the project per federal regulations. An example budget narrative is included in the appendix, but is not required.
 - [SF-LLL](#), revised February 1997, if the projected budget exceeds \$100,000.
 - [AD-3030](#), revised February 2016
 - [AD-3031](#), revised February 2016
- Indicate the name of the institution applying to host the groups;
- Indicate the training topic;

- Provide a tentative training plan based on the training interests listed in the statement of work, including topics to be covered, possible field visits and other activities;
- Please include a narrative description of the proposed training, how it will be administered and the role of the university faculty and support staff;
- Provide a summary of relevant institutional capabilities for hosting international Fellows in;
- Briefly describe the expertise and international experience of the trainer in the group's field of interest and various countries;
- Demonstrate understanding of cultural context and needs of the trainees;
- Identify the expected skills or knowledge to be acquired by the Fellows at the end of the program;
- Briefly demonstrate flexibility in training plan to account for potential program changes and the ability to respond to unforeseen circumstances;
- Include a quality assurance plan. This should include information on how unforeseen problems that can arise will be addressed;
- Complete a budget using Standard Form 424A, Budget Information Non Construction Programs, along with a detailed budget and budget narrative. All line items should be described in sufficient detail that would enable FAS to determine that the costs are reasonable and allowable for the project per federal regulations

The SF-424 and SF-424A can be completed within the ezFedGrants platform. However, the other required forms must be downloaded from the Forms sections on Grants.gov. The Certification regarding Lobbying and the Grants and Agreement Coversheet will be sent to you along with this NOFO.

Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM)

The link below provides information on 2 CFR §25.110. Please read.

<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/retrieveECFR?gp=1&SID=7a45f973880240465cd255471f1380ef&ty=HTML&h=L&mc=true&n=pt2.1.25&r=PART>

FAS is using ezFedGrants to post NOFO's and issue agreements, which is an electronic grants management system. Applicant(s) with electronic access are to submit their applications electronically through:

<https://grants.fms.usda.gov>

Before you can apply, you must have a DUNS number, be registered in SAM, and have access to the ezFedGrants website).

Applicants are encouraged to register early. Due to recent changes in the SAM platform, the registration process can take 6-8 weeks to be completed. Therefore, registration should be done in sufficient time to ensure it does not impact your ability to meet required submission deadlines.

DUNS number. Instructions for obtaining a DUNS number can be found at the following website: <http://www.dnb.com/duns-number.html>

The DUNS number must be included in the data entry field labeled "Organizational DUNS" on the Standard Forms (SF)-424 forms submitted as part of this application.

System for Award Management. In addition to having a DUNS number, applicants applying electronically through ezFedGrants must register with SAM. Step-by-step instructions for registering with SAM can be found here:

www.sam.gov

Failure to register with SAM will result in your application being rejected during the submissions process.

ezFedGrants System Access and Electronic Signature

Level 2 eAuthentication. The next step in the registration process is to obtain a Level 2 eAuthentication account that will allow access to the ezFedGrants system. Instructions for getting a Level 2 eAuthentication account can be obtained by emailing ezFedGrants@cfo.usda.gov.

You may also request Level 2 eAuthentication online at:

<https://www.eauth.usda.gov/MainPages/index.aspx>

If you experience any issues with self-registration or have eAuthentication-related questions, please contact the eAuthenticationHelpDesk for assistance:

By email to eAuthHelpDesk@ftc.usda.gov

Requesting a role in ezFedGrants.

After obtaining eAuthentication, users will need a role in the system. Descriptions of the roles available and instructions on how to request a role can be obtained by emailing ezFedGrants@cfo.usda.gov

You may also go into the link below for instructions on requesting eFG access. The document is called "External Portal Access Request Submission".

https://www2.nfc.usda.gov/FSS/Training/Online/ezFedGrants/access_user_roles.php

Electronic Signature. Applications submitted through ezFedGrants constitute a submission as electronically signed applications. When you submit the application through ezFedGrants, the name of your Signatory Official on file will be inserted into the signature line of the application.

If you experience difficulties accessing information or have any questions please email the Helpdesk at ezFedGrants@cfo.usda.gov.

The Federal awarding agency may not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.

Intergovernmental Review

An intergovernmental review may be required. Applicant(s) must contact their State's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to comply with the State's process under Executive Order 12372 (see <http://www.fws.gov/policy/library/rgeo12372.pdf>). Name and addresses of the SPOCs are maintained at the Office of Management and Budget's home page at:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/SPOC-Feb.-2018.pdf>

Funding Restrictions

This will be a cost reimbursable agreement issued under 7 U.S.C. 3319a. University indirect costs for cost reimbursable agreements are limited to 10% of direct costs.

Allowable Costs:

To help in this review, and expedite the award process, budgets must include a detailed budget narrative explaining all line item costs. The categories listed below are examples of some of the more common items found in project budgets. All items should be described in sufficient detail that would enable FAS to determine that costs are reasonable and allowable for the project per federal regulations.

1. Salaries and Fringe Benefits:

Requested funds may be allocated toward salaries, fringe benefits, or the combination thereof. Only individuals that hold positions at eligible U.S. institutions should be listed in this category.

2. Travel:

For domestic travel, provide the purpose of the travel and information used in calculating the estimated cost, such as the destination, number of travelers, and estimated cost per trip. There are several restrictions associated with traveling on federal funds. In most cases, airfare must be purchased in economy class from a U.S. carrier. Travelers must also adhere to federally mandated domestic per diem guidelines. Additional information may be found in the "Legislative Authority" section of this announcement.

3. Supplies:

All personal property excluding equipment, intangible property, and debt instruments as defined in this section.

4. Other Direct Costs:

Other Direct Costs are those anticipated charges not included in other budget categories, including materials and supplies, lab fees, publication costs, reasonable consultant fees, computer services, sub-awards (the level of detail required for the sub-award budget is the same as the recipient organization), equipment rental, facility rental, conferences and meetings, speaker fees, or honorariums.

5. Indirect Costs:

Indirect Costs may not exceed 10% of direct costs (7 USC 3319a).

Unallowable Costs:

General purpose equipment (no particular scientific, technical, or programmatic purpose) and scientific equipment exceeding \$5,000 or more; entertainment; capital improvements; thank you gifts, and other expenses not directly related to the project are not allowed. “Please note, Cochran Fellows (as trainees, not students) are considered EXEMPT INDIVIDUALS under the IRS Substantial Presence Test for tax purposes. The exemption falls under one or both of the following categories: either the Foreign Government-Related Individuals standard or the Closer Connection Exception. The only requirement is to complete IRS Form 8843 (Sections 1 and 2). These funds are for federal financial assistance, as such no taxes should be withheld from Cochran Fellows since they are exempt.”

Management and Administration (M&A) Costs:

M&A costs are not allowable.

Indirect Facilities & Administrative (F&A) Costs.

By statute, indirect costs for cost reimbursable agreements cannot exceed 10% of direct costs.

Other Submission Requirements

All applications must be submitted electronically as indicated above.

E. Application Review Information

Application Evaluation Criteria

Prior to making a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency is required by 31 U.S.C. 3321 and 41 U.S.C. 2313 to review information available through any OMB-designated repositories of government-wide eligibility qualification or financial integrity information. Therefore application evaluation criteria may include the following risk based considerations of the applicant: (1) financial stability; (2) quality of management systems and ability to meet management standards; (3) history of performance in managing federal award; (4) reports and findings from audits; and (5) ability to effectively implement statutory, regulatory, or other requirements.

Technical Expertise and Experience (45 points)

Trainer must have appropriate technical background to provide the desired training. If necessary, other appropriate collaborating scientists should be identified to meet any of the objectives which the primary trainer cannot address. Trainer’s experience and knowledge of relevant agricultural conditions within the Fellows’ country(ies) or a similar location will be considered as appropriate. Also taken into account is the trainer’s experience with international training and adult-education.

Overall Program (50 points)

The overall program plan and design should be relevant to the specified training objectives and Fellows' backgrounds. The program plan should be thorough, well thought out, and will achieve the desired post-program deliverables. Relevant agricultural practices within the region of the university will be considered as appropriate. Relevant University resources should be identified. Additional resources/organizations should be identified as appropriate. Site visits and meetings should be meaningful to the content of the program. Overall Program will also be reviewed based on host institutions ability to demonstrate flexibility and their quality assurance plan.

Budget (25 points)

The proposed budget should be appropriate for the number of Fellows and length of the program. The budget should include appropriate cost savings where available and narrative should accompany each line item.

Quality (5 points)

The overall proposal will be reviewed for overall quality, ensuring that proposal is comprehensive, well thought-out and contains correct spelling and grammar.

Review and Selection Process

In all cases, the Program Manager will ensure application is submitted on time as specified in this announcement. Also, the Program Manager will ensure the organization is capable of delivering the program/activities as described in the announcement based on the applicant's project narrative.

Qualified applications will be referred to a panel of 2-3 program staff and/or technical experts, and adjudicated among the criteria described above. In general, the highest-rated proposal will be selected, however, FAS may occasionally select out of score order for policy reasons, such as geographic distribution, incorporation of minority-serving institutions, past experience, etc.

- i. Prior to making a Federal award with a total amount of Federal share greater than the simplified acquisition threshold as defined by 48 CFR § 2.101, is required to review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently FAPIIS).
- ii. An applicant, at its option, may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through SAM and comment on any information about itself that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM.
- iii. will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by

applicants as described in 2 CFR §200.205 Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants.

Confidentiality and Conflict of Interest

Technical and cost proposals submitted under this funding opportunity will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. FAS may use one or more support contractors in the logistical processing of proposals. However, funding recommendations and final award decisions are solely the responsibility of FAS personnel.

FAS screens all technical reviewers for potential conflicts of interest. To determine possible conflicts of interest, FAS requires potential reviewers to complete and sign conflicts of interest and nondisclosure forms. FAS will keep the names of submitting institutions and individuals as well as the substance of the applications confidential except to reviewers and FAS staff involved in the award process. FAS will destroy any unsuccessful applications after three years following the funding decision.

F. Federal Award Administration Information

Notice of Award

Notice of award will be given to the institution via email. This email is not an authorization to begin performance. The notice of Federal award signed by the grants officer (or equivalent) is the authorizing document through electronic means. It should also indicate if there are any pass-through obligations that successful applicants are required to meet upon receiving award funds, including specific timeline requirements.

Administrative and National Policy Requirements

All successful applicants for all grant and cooperative agreements are required to comply with Standard Administrative Terms and Conditions, which are available online at:

https://www.fas.usda.gov/grants/general_terms_and_conditions/default.asp

The applicable Standard Administrative Terms and Conditions will be for the last year specified at that URL, unless the application is to continue an award first awarded in an earlier year. In that event, the terms and conditions that apply will be those in effect for the year in which the award was originally made.

Before accepting the award the Recipient should carefully read the award package for instructions on administering the grant award and the terms and conditions associated with responsibilities under Federal Awards. Recipients must accept all conditions in this NOFO as well as any Special Terms and Conditions in the Notice of Award to receive an award under this program.

Reporting

Federal Financial Reporting Requirements. The Federal Financial Reporting Form (FFR), as known as the SF-425, must be submitted within 90 days of the end of the agreement. The required form is available online at:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/post-award-reporting-forms.html#sortBy=1>

At the top of the website select **FORMS**, and from the drop down box select **POST AWARD REPORTING FORMS**.

Program Performance Reporting Requirements.

Performance Progress Reporting must be submitted within 90 days of the end of the agreement, and should include details the activities undertaken and progress made during the reporting period.

Program Performance Requirements.

- Ensure that each Fellow completes the Cochran Training Program Evaluation; and
- Development of an Action Plan by each Fellow, in accordance with the Action Plan template. The Action Plan identifies goals and outlines specific steps or activities which each Fellow will perform upon return to their home country. An Action Plan generally includes steps, milestones, measures of progress, responsibilities, assignments, and timeline. The recipient shall provide a copy of each fellow’s Action Plan to the Cochran Fellowship Program.
- A brief final report (format at the discretion of the recipient).
- A pre-training questionnaire to determine Fellows baseline knowledge of the learning objectives. (Template will be provided)
- A post-training questionnaire to determine the knowledge gained in each of the learning objectives. (Template will be provided)
- Analysis of the pre and post training questionnaire. (Template will be provided)

Close Out Reporting Requirements.

Within 90 days after the end of the period of performance, or after an amendment has been issued to close out a grant, whichever comes first, recipients must submit a final FFR and final progress report detailing all accomplishments and a qualitative summary of the impact of those accomplishments throughout the period of performance.

After these reports have been reviewed and approved by OCB, a close-out notice will be completed to close out the grant. The notice will indicate the period of performance as closed, list any remaining funds that will be de-obligated, and address the requirement of maintaining the grant records for three years from the date of the final FFR.

The recipient is responsible for returning any funds that have been drawn down but remain as unliquidated on recipient financial records.

G. Awarding Agency Contact Information

Contact and Resource Information

For all general questions, contact:

Desiree Thomas; Cochran Fellowship Program Branch Chief

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

Telephone: (202) 690-0947
E-mail address: Desiree.Thomas@fas.usda.gov
1400 Independence Ave, SW, Room 3239; Stop 1031
Washington, DC 20250-1031

H. Additional Information

1. Extensions

Extensions to this program are allowed.

Applicants may request a no-cost extension in order to complete all project activities. The request must be submitted 60 days prior to the expiration of the performance period. Requests for extensions are subject to approval by FAS.

2. Prior Approval

The Recipient shall not, without the prior written approval of the FAS Program Manager, request reimbursement, incur costs or obligate funds for any purpose pertaining to the operation of the project, program, or activities prior to the approved Budget Period/Performance Period.

3. Budget Revisions

a. Transfers of funds between direct cost categories in the approved budget when such cumulative transfers among those direct cost categories exceed ten percent of the total budget approved in this Award require prior written approval by the FAS Program Manager.

b. The Recipient shall obtain prior written approval from the FAS Program Manager for any budget revision that would result in the need for additional resources/funds.

c. The Recipient is not authorized at any time to transfer amounts budgeted for direct costs to the indirect costs line item or vice versa, without prior written approval of the FAS Program Manager.

Appendix A

Statement of Work Cochran Program for Brazil – U.S. Beef Exports Latin America and the Caribbean

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0024

SCOPE OF WORK

This team consists of eight Brazilian Fellows, accompanied by an FAS Agricultural Specialist, from Brazil, and has expressed interest in learning about U.S. Beef Exports.

This training should provide an overview of U.S. beef characteristics, production and distribution, regulation, marketing, and consumption. The program should include visits to beef processing plants, supermarkets, wholesalers, beef cattle ranches, feed lots, slaughterhouses, beef grade certifiers, butchers, and steakhouses. The objective of this program is to increase the Fellows knowledge of the production, processing, nutrition, and trade market characteristics of U.S. beef so that they understand why U.S. beef is highly valued around the world.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- U.S. beef consumption
 - History of consumption
 - Demographics of beef demand
 - Current culinary trends
- Overview of U.S. beef industry
 - Major U.S. beef producing states and companies
 - U.S. beef production practices, including sustainability and environmental impacts
 - Supply chain from farm to fork
 - Processing, packaging, storage, and transportation
 - Relationship between retailers and producers
 - Import and export process
- Government regulation of U.S. beef industry
 - Food safety regulation
 - Inspection, grading, and certification process
- U.S. beef product characteristics
 - Product identity: cuts, marbling, and USDA quality grades
 - Beef cattle breeds and their meat characteristics
 - Traceability from farm to table
 - Health aspects of U.S. beef
- Marketing U.S. beef
 - Tools for marketing U.S. beef as a premium product
 - Strategies for competing with other protein sources
 - Retail campaigns for increasing beef consumption
 - Beef in the food service industry

Contact and Resource Information

For all questions, contact:

Adam Scheinkman, International Program Specialist

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

Telephone: (202) 205-9824

E-mail address: Adam.Scheinkman@fas.usda.gov

1400 Independence Ave, SW, Room 3234; Stop 1031

Washington, DC 20250-1031

OR

Adam Carruthers, International Program Specialist

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

Telephone: (202) 690-4310

E-mail address: Adam.Carruthers@fas.usda.gov

1400 Independence Ave, SW, Room 3234; Stop 1031

Washington, DC 20250-1031

OR

Ammara Bokhari, International Program Specialist

Hours of operation: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

Telephone: (202) 690-1339

E-mail address: Ammara.Bokhari@fas.usda.gov

1400 Independence Ave, SW, Room 3238; Stop 1031

Washington, DC 20250-1031

Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Caribbean Basin and Jamaica – Agriculture Extension
Latin America and the Caribbean

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0039

SCOPE OF WORK

This team consists of six Fellows from Jamaica, two Fellows from St. Lucia, and one Fellow from Dominica and has expressed interest in learning about the U.S. Agricultural Extension System.

Agriculture Extension is one of the highlights of the partnership between the United States Department of Agriculture and the Land Grant University system and heralded throughout the world as a model to disseminate information to farmers and land owners. The purpose of this training is to train extension agents on the United States extension system as well as practices they can use in order to increase effectiveness in reaching their constituents. The Fellows specifically want to learn about post-harvest loss best practices, using farming as entrepreneurship, project management, communication best practices, production scheduling, and training tools for farmers. This training will allow the host institution to learn how extension services work in several Caribbean countries through an exchange of ideas and methodologies. The goal of the training is to provide a more effective extension service to the U.S. farmers and land owners as well as to the Fellows' home countries.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- Post-Harvest practices and how to disseminate information to producers.
- Farming as entrepreneurship.
- How to communicate best practices to producers.
- Production scheduling in order to have a consistent flow of products to the market.
- Project management.
- Training tools for farmers; such as pest management, propagation, grafting, and micro-budding.
- Seed production, treatment, storage, and seed bank management.

Contact and Resource Information

For all questions, contact:

Adam Carruthers, International Program Specialist
Hours of operation: 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM Eastern Standard Time
Telephone: (202) 690-4310
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Statement of Work
Cochran Fellowship Program on U.S. Organized Retail & E-Retail
Latin America and the Caribbean

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0041

SCOPE OF WORK

This team consists of two Costa Rican fellows and four Panamanian fellows for a total of six fellows, accompanied by an FAS Agricultural Specialist from Panama. The fellows are representatives of supermarket retail stores and food businesses, and have expressed interest in learning about U.S. organized retail and e-retail.

This training should expose fellows to the strategies, techniques, and fundamentals of U.S. organized retail and e-retail. The fellows should learn about distribution, marketing, and promotion techniques for various food retail products, and should also obtain knowledge of new trends and innovations in organized retail and e-retail, incorporating artificial intelligence into business operations, and pricing and management strategies. The training should include visits with major U.S. grocery chains, e-commerce companies, and include meetings with food and beverage distributors and importers interested in exporting to Costa Rica and Panama. This training should also include attendance at the Natural Food Products Expo East and All Things Organic in Baltimore, MD from September 12-15, 2018.

The objective of this program is to enhance the Fellows' knowledge and understanding on principles of organized retail and e-retail in order to grow business operations, expand product lines, and understand why U.S. food products are highly valued around the world.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that Fellows develop competencies in the following areas:

- Organized Retail
 - Supply chain management and product handling
 - Processing, transportation, sales, and customer relations
 - New trends and innovations in the food retail business
 - Healthy food marketing techniques for health conscious consumers
 - Supermarket growth and expansion strategies
 - Management strategies; how to be an effective manager
- E-Retail
 - Strategies, techniques, and principles of e-commerce
 - Promoting and selling products through e-commerce platforms
 - Digital marketing trends
 - Inventory management
 - Supply chain management, pricing strategies, shelf life, and quality
- Incorporating artificial intelligence into business operations
- Meetings with exporters and distributors willing to export to Panama and Costa Rica
- Visits with various grocery chains and e-commerce companies
 - Ex: Trader Joe's, Mom's Organic Market, Kroger, Whole Foods, Amazon, Wal-Mart, Costco
- Attendance at the Natural Products Expo East and All Things Organic (co-located with Natural Products East) on September 12-15 in Baltimore, MD

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**Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Dominican Republic – Trade Policy
Latin America and the Caribbean**

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0040

SCOPE OF WORK

This team consists of seven Fellows from the Dominican Republic who have expressed an interest in learning about U.S. Domestic and International Trade Policy.

Trade Policy has become an important topic as the world becomes more integrated and income levels around the world increase which allows for purchasing of imported goods. The purpose of this training is to educate and share experiences regarding the United States' domestic policy to support producers within the World Trade Organization (WTO) regulations as well as other Free Trade Agreements (FTA), specifically in regards to the efforts made to ensure market access of U.S. products and increase agricultural exports throughout the world. This training will help United States farmers and producers by showing Dominican Republic government officials how they are supported by the government through compliance with WTO and FTAs regulations. This will help to decrease any issues U.S. products may have entering the Dominican Republic. The training should also give the Dominican officials an in-depth look at how the U.S. supports its producers in order to create new policy and support systems for their producers and assist them to export their products around the world. The host institution will benefit by gaining a deeper knowledge of international agriculture and trade through class room and extension education of the Fellows. The host institution will be able to share the knowledge gained through the program in their class room and extension work with their professors, extension officers, and constituents.

This training should focus on U.S. domestic support to producers and farmers in regards to WTO and FTA regulations. There should be visits to farms who receive assistance from the government in regards to trade regulations and government offices who deal with trade regulations and domestic support.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- WTO and FTA regulations
- Domestic support and information dissemination regarding WTO and FTA regulations
- U.S. Farm Bill
- Risk management practices
- U.S. Trade Policy and commercial diplomacy implementation

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Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Mexico – Microscopic Analysis of Rendered Products
Latin America and the Caribbean

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0035

SCOPE OF WORK

This team consists of six Fellows from Mexico who have expressed an interest in learning about Microscopic Analysis of Rendered Products.

Since the 2004 outbreak of BSE (Mad Cow Disease), market access for U.S. bovine rendered products has been closed in Mexico. For livestock feed and pet food, Mexico imports porcine and poultry meal to the U.S. However, the supply cannot meet Mexico's demand. In 2013, the United States was classified as low risk for BSE, but Mexico still does not allow imports of U.S. bovine meal. Mexico is the biggest potential market in Latin America for U.S. bovine meal. The program will expose representatives from the country's National Center for Animal Inspection Services and livestock feed and pet food industries to the rigorous prevention programs that the United States has in place to control the risk of BSE and will instruct them in laboratory techniques for detecting unwanted material in rendered products. Training should include visits to grain farms, cattle ranches, rendering facilities, and laboratories that analyze rendered products. The program's objective is to provide the Fellows with the knowledge and analysis tools to be confident in the safety of U.S. rendered products.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer should ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- Microscopic analysis of livestock feed and pet food
 - Diagnostic techniques for ingredient identification
 - Required equipment, including types of microscopes
 - Sample preparation
 - Feed separation techniques and quantification of animal and marine origin ingredients
 - Detection of adulterations in raw materials, especially for prohibited protein sources and contaminants
 - Qualitative evaluation and chemical analysis of products
 - Laboratory certification
 - Good laboratory practices and waste management
- Value-addition of rendered products to livestock feed and pet food
 - Innovations and technical advances in rendered products
 - Nutritional value of rendered products in balanced animal feeds
- Safety in feed and pet food production with rendered products
 - Biosecurity practices for preventing BSE contamination
 - HACCP / safety in feed production
- Production and use of livestock feed
 - Feed processing technology, including pelleting process
 - Processes for combining animal and plant-based ingredients

- Preparation and extrusion processes in feed production
- Preservation of feeds and feed ingredients, including fumigation and aeration
- Alternative ingredients in feed production
- Advantages and disadvantages of different feed ingredients

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Statement of Work
2018 Cochran Program for Turkey – Biotechnology Policy and Communication
Eastern Europe and Eurasia

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0025

Scope of Work

This team consists of six Turkish Fellows, accompanied by an FAS Agricultural Specialist, from Turkey, and has expressed interest in learning about biotechnology policy and communication.

In Turkey, there is a general lack of understanding regarding agricultural biotechnology, and widespread misinformation. As a result, the public has formed a negative opinion on the topic. The program should be designed to help the Fellows better understand the benefits of agricultural biotechnology for farmers and consumers, with specific attention given to food ingredients and animal feeds. In addition, the program should help the Fellows improve their knowledge of agricultural biotechnology so they can assist with the overall acceptance of biotech products, creating a critical group of knowledgeable Fellows, who upon their return to Turkey can educate the public and other policy makers on the importance of biotechnology in food and feed production.

Biotechnology is the number one agricultural trade barrier in Turkey. This barrier presents itself in the form of any low level presence (LLP) of unapproved genetically engineered (GE) content in a non-biotech product (to include feed), extensive testing, and a ban on any GE presence in food, and a very slow approval process for import of GE crops. The program should provide critical information to public and private sector Fellows listed above, enabling them effectively and confidently advocate for a science-based regulatory system for biosafety in their country.

The training should include visits to: Washington, D.C. area to meet with the U.S. agencies that regulate GE products (FDA, EPA, and USDA); at least one major biotechnology company; a feed production company; farms cultivating GE crops; livestock farms feeding GE feeds (especially poultry and dairy), GE field trials, research facilities (private, public), and a University.

The program should explain the importance of biotechnology for food and feed production. It should also explain how GE crops are researched and deregulated as safe for food and feed use. Besides the site visits and presentations from the regulatory agencies, programing should include an introduction to genetic engineering; policy development and regulation; biotech production, supply and demand; GE research and development; training on risk communication; and biotech feed use and production. The program objective is to help Turkey develop a science-based and transparent approach to the GE products and improve the Turkish Biosafety Law.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge regarding agricultural biotechnology in the following areas:

- U.S. and global policies for biotech regulation (biotech review/approval approaches/procedures):

- Organizational structure of U.S. government agencies regulating biotech (FDA, EPA, USDA/APHIS)
 - Current legislations and policies
 - Recent policy developments
 - Approval procedures by U.S., what is approach in EU, and other countries
 - Risk management/risk assessment for food and feed: Food safety, environmental, and plant pest
 - Official controls
 - How non-governmental organizations work in cooperation with U.S. government agencies, including how they provide input on regulations
 - How the U.S. government manages communication on biotech products and scientific issues
 - The import/export controls/inspections
 - How to conduct official import controls of GE products (traceability)
- Biotech production, supply and demand:
 - United States' consumption, export and import statistics of GE products
 - Biotech cultivation situation in the United States and globally
 - The reasons for farmers cultivating and using GE products Economics of biotech production (cost/benefit)
 - Economic impact on consumers (cost/benefit)
- Research and development:
 - Progress in GE product development
 - How do technology companies develop GE crops and how do they collect the data used for the dossiers
 - Scientific information/evidence that GE products are not causing cancer or any other health problems for humans and animals in feeding systems
- Risk communication in agricultural biotechnology:
 - Communication tools: how to deliver effective messages
 - U.S. consumers' perceptions of biotech products
 - Safety communication in mass media to the public/consumers
 - How agricultural associations handle negative consumer perceptions
 - How does the USG convey science and risk information effectively to consumers
- Animal feeding and feed production:
 - Biotech feed in broiler production
 - Importance of soybean for animal nutrition
 - Recent developments in animal nutrition in the U.S.

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Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Burkina Faso and Mali – Overview of U.S. Biotechnology: Policy and Risk
Communication
Africa & Middle East Region

NOFO = XXXX

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program’s Africa and Middle East Region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for four Fellows: two from Burkina Faso and two from Mali.

The program should provide an in-depth overview of the U.S. biotechnology regulation system including the implementation of laws and practices, U.S. biotechnology standards, and food safety. The program should focus on the U.S. approval process for biotechnology products, intellectual property rights, risk communication, and labeling. The training should involve formal lectures, group discussions, field visits to agricultural biotechnology and commodity industry, and agencies of the U.S. federal government.

The objective of the program is to introduce the Fellows to U.S. biotechnology regulations and standards and the benefits of genetically modified organisms in agriculture.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- U.S. biotechnology regulatory system – implementation of laws and practices
- Concepts and principles of biotechnology
- Benefits of biotechnology in agriculture
- Benefits of biotechnology in crop production and cell modification; how crop production can be improved and the benefit to farmers
- Benefits of biotechnology in animal production - use of genetically modified crops for animal feed
- Genetically modified identification – how are products labeled for consumer awareness
- Genetically modified laboratory testing - latest techniques
- Organization of laboratories in the U.S.; testing of materials of plant origin and how they are inspected
- The testing of imported seeds in laboratories, the risk of uncontrolled entry
- Communicating the benefits of biotechnology to the public
- Safety and how to address common misinformation and concerns

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Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Ghana – Agricultural Cooperative Development for Trainers of Agricultural
Farm Institutes
Africa & Middle East Region

NOFO = XXXX

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program’s Africa and Middle East Region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for five Fellows from Ghana.

The program should provide an in-depth overview of U.S. cooperative management systems and the development of supportive policies and funding by the government for cooperative management. The training should assist the Fellows to better understand how the principles of independent cooperative management and effective governance develop financially profitable cooperatives. The training should also focus on how the cooperatives can improve their support for the farmers through effective management, marketing, training and mentoring. The program should include meetings and visits with U.S. extension agents, U.S. cooperative experts, local cooperatives, state/national cooperatives, farm managers, and organizations such as the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives.

The objective of the program is to illustrate an enabling legal environment for cooperative management through the U.S. example and the value of having strong cooperatives to improve farmers’ livelihoods.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- U.S. agricultural cooperative systems
- Cooperative management; oversight and board of managers
- How to grow and strengthen membership
- Agricultural entrepreneurship – development of business plans
- Agribusiness models; development of business plans and market development for Cooperative Products through improved trade linkages
- Overview of investment and financial support of cooperatives; supportive government policies
- Marketing practices and pricing; profit sharing; value chain system
- Improved production technology and communication tools
- Implementing training and mentoring
- Farm management, production, processing, and storage
- Increasing productivity of fragmented farm lands

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Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Ghana – Agricultural Biotechnology: Basic Concepts and Principles for
Tutors of Agricultural Training Colleges
Africa & Middle East Region

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0029

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program’s Africa and Middle East Region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for five Fellows from Ghana.

The program should provide an in-depth overview of U.S. biotechnology concepts and principles and safety standards. The program should address the economic impact of biotechnology, environmental risk assessments including the modification of biotechnology in animal production, disease control for animals, food safety, technology transfer, product stewardship, and risk communication. The training should impart skills and knowledge about the safe deployment of genetically engineered (GE) products in the future of Ghana’s agriculture. The training should involve formal lectures, group discussions, field visits to agricultural biotechnology and commodity industry, and agencies of the U.S. federal government.

The objective of the program is to introduce the Fellows to U.S. biotechnology standards and the benefits of genetic engineering in agriculture in the U.S.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- Concepts and principles of biotechnology
- Benefits of biotechnology in agriculture
- Benefits of biotechnology in crop production and cell modification; how crop production can be improved and the benefit to farmers
- Benefits of biotechnology in animal production - use of genetically modified crops for animal feed; how can animal disease be addressed through the use of biotechnology
- Communication the benefits of biotechnology to the public
- Quality assurance and monitoring
- Technology transfer and product stewardship, including resistance management planning
- Biotechnology education and extension to farmers

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Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Jordan – Overview of U.S. Cooperatives
Africa & Middle East Region

NOFO = XXXX

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program’s Africa and Middle East Region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for six Fellows from Jordan.

The program should provide an in-depth overview of U.S. cooperative management systems and the development strong leadership and sustainable funding mechanisms that ensure the longevity and profitability of independent cooperatives. The training should assist the cooperative managers and relevant stakeholders to better understand how the principles of independent cooperative management and effective governance help to strengthen the economic livelihood of farmers and the overall agricultural sector. The training should also focus on how cooperatives can improve their support for farmers through practical management, marketing, training and mentoring. The program should include meetings and visits with U.S. extension agents, U.S. cooperative experts, local and community cooperatives, state/national cooperatives, family farm managers, and non-governmental organizations that support the development and sustainability of cooperatives.

The objective of the program is to illustrate U.S. models for cooperative management so that they understand how independent cooperatives can be used to reduce poverty and strengthen food security.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- U.S. agricultural cooperative systems and independent management
- How to grow and strengthen membership
- Agricultural entrepreneurship – development of business plans
- Agribusiness models; development of business plans and market development for Cooperative Products through improved trade linkages
- Overview of investment and financial support of cooperatives; supportive government policies
- Marketing practices and pricing; profit sharing; value chain system
- Improved production technology and communication tools
- Implementation of training and mentoring
- Farm management, production, processing, and storage
- Increasing productivity of fragmented farm lands
- Extension support for farmers in dry, arid climates with limited water resources
- Water scarcity and adaptable production methods such as hydroponics

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Statement of Work
Cochran Program for Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Malawi, and Nigeria – Post-Harvest Loss
Management
Africa & Middle East Region

NOFO = XXXX

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program’s Africa and Middle East Region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for twelve Fellows: six from Nigeria, three from Kenya, one from Tanzania, one from Rwanda, and one from Malawi.

The program should demonstrate the various aspects of U.S. post-harvest management, including storage (on-farm storage) and transportation practices, quality standards and grading, and pest mitigation and contamination control. The Fellows are interested in storage structures (on-farm storage) and practices, equipment for small-scale operations, crop quality management, post-harvest management of fresh produce for small-scale operations (particularly grains, fruits, and vegetables), processing and preservation techniques to reduce loss and enhance value, post-harvest inventory management systems, transportation and logistics, and farmer outreach and post-harvest management training. The Fellows are primarily interested in grains and horticultural crops. The program should involve site visits to U.S. farms (small-scale) and agribusinesses, including storage and processing facilities relevant to small-scale operations.

The objective of the program is to increase the Fellows knowledge of methods for minimizing post-harvest loss so that they understand improved post-harvest loss practices strengthens food security and expands market opportunities.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer will ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- Post-harvest handling of grains, fruits, and vegetables (horticultural crops) for small-scale operations
- Processing and preservation techniques to prevent post-harvest loss and enhance market value
- Storage practices (incl. cold storage), storage structures, and transportation logistics
- Grading and quality standards of grains, fruits, and vegetables and how standards are determined
- Quality management through pest mitigation and contamination control
- U.S. agricultural commodity marketing systems, methods and procedures involved
- Farmer outreach and post-harvest management training – use of technology to reach producers (i.e. webinars, podcasts, remote conferencing, radio, etc)
- Information management systems for inventory and quality control

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**Statement of Work Cochran Program
South Africa - Meat and Poultry Inspection for Government Officials
Africa and the Middle East**

NOFO = XXXX

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program's Africa and Middle East Region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for six Fellows from South Africa.

The training program should provide an in-depth overview of the U.S. Meat and Poultry Inspection system to South African government officials. The program should cover the U.S. recall system for all meat and meat products, its structure, and enforcement. Site visits to slaughterhouses and production facilities, including poultry and beef production facilities, to review U.S. meat and poultry inspection procedures should be included. Poultry production facilities visited should demonstrate hatchery production, handling and sorting of chicks, slaughterhouse operations, poultry vaccination and cold chain management.

Meetings and/or site visits should be arranged with the USA Poultry and Egg Export Council (USAPEEC) and U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) to demonstrate the importance of the private sector/producer groups. Additionally, meetings with representatives from the Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM) and Foreign Agriculture Service (FAS) should also be included and shall be arranged by the Cochran Fellowship Program.

The objective of this program is to increase Fellows knowledge related to current barriers to U.S. meat and poultry exports to South Africa by familiarizing officials with U.S. meat inspection and food safety systems and procedures so that they understand why U.S. poultry is so highly valued around the world.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer shall ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

1. Global Food Safety
2. Overview of Codex Alimentarius Principles and WTO Agreements (SPS and TBT)
3. Introduction to U.S. Government
 - a. Role/Structure of U.S. Regulatory Agencies
 - b. Communication between agencies
 - c. FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (CFSAN) & Center for Veterinary Medicine (CVM)
 - d. Product Recall/ Recall Plans and Effectiveness Checks
4. Interagency Collaboration
 - a. Risk Assessment and Risk Analysis
 - b. APHIS and FDA
 - c. APHIS Veterinarian Services & Voluntary National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP)
 - d. Labeling and Ingredients Approval Process
5. FSIS Equivalence Process
 - a. What is equivalence?
 - b. Equivalence Background
 - c. Overview of the equivalence process for FSIS's various equivalence determinations (including initial, reinstatement, individual sanitary measure and on-going)
6. Food Safety Procedures and Requirements for Exports

- a. Process for Certifying Establishments Approved for Export
 - b. Procedures and processes for slaughtering and packaging meat and meat products
 - c. Procedures for recall of all meat and meat products
 - d. FSIS Inspections at U.S. Facilities
 - e. Sealing Process for Consignments for Export
 - f. Import Inspection at Port of Entry
7. Poultry-New Poultry Inspection System
- a. Egg products

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**Cochran Program for South Africa and Kenya-
Trade Facilitation, WTO Commitments: SPS and Trade Agreements and Evidence-Based Risk
Analysis
Africa and the Middle East**

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0033

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program's Africa and Middle East Region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for 13 fellows; 6 South Africans and 7 Kenyans.

The training program on Trade Facilitation, WTO Commitments: Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Trade Agreements should focus on international protocols and procedures for SPS regulation, evidence-based risk analysis, technical barriers to trade and trade facilitation. To assist in meeting their commitments, the program should focus on specific issues and provisions included in the agreements and gain a better understanding of valid country SPS measures according to international standards and mechanisms to address those measures. The program objective is to provide technical knowledge to encourage greater participation at international meetings, increased WTO notifications, and adherence to international standards to enhance trade both regionally and internationally.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer shall ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

1. SPS and TBT agreements
 - a. General overview of SPS and TBT Agreements
 - b. Experience applying the agreements; dissemination to smallholder farmers
 - c. Drafting and enforcing technical barriers to trade
 - d. Coordination of SPS notifications
 - e. SPS risk assessment
2. Overview of FDA, APHIS, FSIS, AMS and EPA
 - o APHIS regulations for wood packaging materials
 - o U.S. food safety surveillance, procedures, systems and product recalls.
3. Overview of the International Standard Setting Bodies
 - a. International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) and the benefits of compliance
 - a. International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures (ISPM)
 - b. World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
 - c. Codex Alimentarius (Codex)
 - d. Interpretation
4. Overview of U.S. SPS surveillance, food safety, risk management and pest risk analysis
 - a. Including regulate pest list, admissibility and quarantine protocols
 - b. Analytical techniques for SPS risk assessment
5. Regulations for import/export
 - a. how international trade measures are applied and methods/measure for regulating food imports to protect domestic agriculture while adhering to WTO commitments

- b. U.S. customs enforcement of trade facilitation; expediting perishable cargo, percentage of total inspected cargo and cold chain maintenance
- c. Process for Certifying Establishments Approved for Export
- d. Sealing Process for Consignments for Export
- e. Sampling and inspection of imports and exports

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**Cochran Program for Tunisia-
U.S. Food Safety Regulations
Africa and the Middle East**

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0034

SCOPE OF WORK

The Cochran Fellowship Program's Africa and Middle East region is requesting the design and delivery of a training program for 8 Fellows from Tunisia.

The Food Safety and International Standards Program should provide the Fellows with an in-depth understanding of food systems and food safety; international food trade; regulatory and policy issues; microbial and chemical hazards; risk analysis, assessment, management, evaluation and communication; food preservation; Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) implementation; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Principles (HACCP), hazard detection systems; Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP); Good Agricultural Practices (GAPS); and food processing. Fellows are particularly interested in standards related to produce safety and grain processing. This program should address food security challenges by building food and market systems that expand trade and economic growth. The training objective is to provide technical knowledge of food safety. The goal of this training is to facilitate trade between sectors and enhance efforts to increase trade with the United States.

The training should cover the regulatory standards settings aspects including CODEX alimentarius, APHIS, FSIS, EPA and FDA. Field visits to food processing sites and laboratories should also be included.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer shall ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- Understanding the U.S. food safety regulations
 - Standards (Codex, SPS regulations, ISO 17025)
 - Traceability requirements
 - Risk analysis/management
 - Regulatory offices, roles of (FDA, APHIS, EPA, FSIS)
 - Regulatory measures on biosafety/biotechnology
 - Residue programs
 - FSMA implementation, with emphasis in the Preventive Controls & Produce Safety rule
- Understanding food safety and implementation
 - Food controls, HACCP (design and implementation), microbiology
 - Traceability
 - Distribution chain; Food safety during transport and storage
 - Qualitative and quantitative methods to assess risk
 - Food quality and handling
 - Monitoring, evaluation, and dissemination
 - Certification and equivalence of SPS
 - Good manufacturing practices, good agricultural practices & good laboratory practices
 - Microbiological, chemical analysis
 - Food safety audits
 - Consumer Protection Agency
- Understanding food safety in relationship to import and export procedures

- Pre-registration and post-registration
- U.S. requirements
 - *Discussion about how Morocco and Tunisia can meet U.S. food safety requirements
 - *Participant overview of current food safety requirement and conditions in Morocco and Tunisia

Contact and Resource Information

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**Cochran Program for Ethiopia-
Food Safety Standards and Practices
Africa and the Middle East**

NOFO = USDA-FAS-10962-0700-10.-18-0026

SCOPE OF WORK

This team consists of 6 Fellows from the Ethiopia. The Food Safety and International Standards Program should provide the Fellows with an in-depth understanding of food systems and food safety; international food trade; regulatory and policy issues; microbial and chemical hazards; risk analysis, assessment, management, evaluation and communication; food preservation; Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) implementation; Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Principles (HACCP), hazard detection systems; Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP); Good Agricultural Practices (GAPS); and food processing. Fellows are particularly interested in standards related to produce safety and grain processing. This program should address food security challenges by building food and market systems that expand trade and economic growth. The training objective is to provide technical knowledge of food safety. The goal of this training is to facilitate trade between sectors and enhance efforts to increase trade with the United States.

The training should cover the regulatory standards settings aspects including CODEX alimentarius, APHIS, FSIS, EPA and FDA. Field visits to food processing sites and laboratories should also be included.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The trainer shall ensure that the Fellows increase their knowledge in the following areas:

- Understanding the U.S. food safety regulations
 - Standards (Codex, SPS regulations, ISO 17025)
 - Traceability requirements
 - Risk analysis/management
 - Regulatory offices, roles of (FDA, APHIS, EPA, FSIS)
 - Regulatory measures on biosafety/biotechnology
 - Residue programs
 - FSMA implementation, with emphasis in the Preventive Controls & Produce Safety rule

- Understanding food safety and implementation
 - Food controls, HACCP (design and implementation), microbiology
 - Traceability
 - Distribution chain; Food safety during transport and storage
 - Qualitative and quantitative methods to assess risk
 - Food quality and handling
 - Monitoring, evaluation, and dissemination
 - Certification and equivalence of SPS
 - Good manufacturing practices, good agricultural practices & good laboratory practices
 - Microbiological, chemical analysis
 - Food safety audits
 - Consumer Protection Agency

- Understanding food safety in relationship to import and export procedures
 - Pre-registration and post-registration
 - U.S. requirements

*Discussion about how Ethiopia can meet U.S. food safety requirements

*Participant overview of current food safety requirement and conditions in Ethiopia

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