POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

Position: Director for the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for the Reduction of Post-Harvest Loss; full-time faculty appointment in the respective department based on candidate’s qualifications is possible.

Location: College of Agriculture, Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas.

Position Description: In January 2014, Kansas State University was selected by the USAID to serve as the management entity (ME) for the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for the Reduction of Post-Harvest Loss (http://www.reducephl.org). The K-State ME conducts research in four Feed the Future focus countries of Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Ghana and Guatemala through a strategic and applied research and education programs aimed at providing global leadership in food security by reducing post-harvest loss and food waste of durable staple crops (grains, oilseeds, legumes, root crops, seeds) and their processed value-added products. This program addresses constraints in integrating smallholder farmers (male and female), producer cooperatives and agribusiness enterprises with market-based value chains from seed to end-user.

Responsibilities: Director will be to assure that the ME remains mission-focused and achieves the program's intended research and engagement outcomes. The Director will set and lead the overall direction for the program in consultation with the Internal Steering and Evaluation Committee, and the External Advisory Council. The Director, with the assistance from the Program Coordinator, will be responsible for the overall coordination of projects, and for developing and maintaining collaboration and communication among all program experts and partners in the U.S. and abroad. A substantial travel commitment is expected from the Director. The Director will be responsible for maintaining regular communication with the USAID staff, ensuring ongoing monitoring of research project outputs, overseeing all reporting requirements, and assuring that all cross-cutting and capacity building issues (i.e., gender, nutrition, environment, engagement, and economics) are addressed in an integrated manner. The Director will be responsible for the continuous monitoring of project reporting against agreed upon deliverables. The Director will pursue Associate Awards and other extramural funding to expand the scope and impact of the Innovation Lab. The Director will interface with the respective administrative entities of contracted U.S. and international institutions.

Required Qualifications: Advanced degree (Ph.D.) in grain science, food science, agricultural engineering, agricultural economics, horticulture or related field. Excellent organizational, project monitoring and evaluation and data management experience and skills. Excellent oral and written communication skills, the ability to speak clear English, and demonstrated ability to review reports, research and technical papers. Proficiency in computer programs including MS Office. Ability to be proactive and productive in a fast-paced, research and outreach environment and be able to identify innovative solutions to problems. Strong commitment to expanding and fostering diversity and team work. Proven ability and commitment to work across multiple cultural environments. Applicants must be currently authorized to work in the United States.

Preferred Qualifications: Experience in writing grant proposals; ten or more years of relevant leadership, experience in managing post-harvest loss assessment and mitigation programs.

Salary and Benefits: Commensurate with experience and qualifications. Kansas State University has an attractive benefit package that includes a retirement plan, group medical, dental, and life insurance plans, worker compensation, vacation leave, sick leave, and other benefits.

Application Procedure and Contact: Please send a letter of interest, current resume, and names and contact information for three references to Ms. Dorothy Doan ddoan@ksu.edu (tel. 1-785-532-6147).

Application deadline: Screening for the applications will begin October 23, 2015.

Kansas State University is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer and actively seeks diversity among its employees. Background check is required.