

Principal Associate/Food Security/Agriculture

Job ID:	2010-4146	Location:	US-MD-Bethesda
Posted Date:	2/5/2010	Category:	International Economic Growth
Division/Department:	International Economic Growth		

More information about this job:

Organization Overview:

The International Economic Growth Division conducts projects in agriculture, economic development, labor, privatization, environment, and trade. We work in developing countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Eastern Europe, and the Middle East. Our clients include the US Agency for International Development (USAID) and multilateral financial institutions such as the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank.

Minimum Qualifications :

MA/MBA with 15+ years of experience OR PhD with 10 - 15 years of experience OR the equivalent combination of education and experience.

Job Responsibilities:

The International Economic Growth Division is committed to the improvement of economic growth and private sector development around the world. Serving both the public and private sectors, our programs include agricultural and enabling environment technical assistance and analysis, agribusiness development, food security, environmental management, and workforce development. Our impact is felt in policies and technical assistance that provide support to economic growth, particularly in agriculture and agribusiness, in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. For this position, knowledge of and leadership in food security issues, particularly the practical intersects between economic growth, market-driven development, and access/availability for vulnerable populations, are key. (Food aid/PL 480 expertise is not the focus.)

The Principal Associate serves as a technical leader who brings to bear his/her substantive technical knowledge to address client needs. The successful candidate is regarded by clients as an industry expert in food security/agribusiness/agricultural trade or some combination. S/he represents Abt Associates as a thought-leader in the industry, takes the initiative to develop this role, the appropriate networks, and these initiatives, and engages in technical discussions with the clients and within the industry. S/he ensures quality implementation of project activities on assigned projects and provides technical assistance on specific project assignments. Serves as technical lead on relevant proposal efforts and client and business development activities on related programs. Serves as the architect of the technical approach on important winning proposals. May provide technical leadership on related projects as Project Technical Director. Frequently presents and speaks at client and professional meetings and develops and disseminates approaches, methodologies, lessons learned, leading to acknowledged Abt leadership in the industry. Contributes to the Division's technical knowledgebase through systematic dissemination of technical ideas, products and reports within IEG Division and the industry. Reports to the Division Vice President.

Skills Prerequisites:

This is a senior position and requires a solid academic foundation reinforced by a substantial record of relevant international technical and business development experience in international agricultural technical assistance programs.

- Masters Degree (minimum) or a PhD (desirable) in Ag-related program, Agricultural Economics, Agribusiness, or other relevant field
- 15+ years of relevant experience with a Master's degree, or 10+ years with a PhD.
- Demonstrated ability to lead a technical team.
- Strong English communication skills (written, verbal, listening, presentation) are essential.
- Second language of French or Spanish is required.
- Strong interpersonal skills required.
- Experience working in culturally diverse settings as well as managing culturally diverse staff.
- Sound computer based skills

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