



## **Job Description**

**Name:** *VACANT*

**Title:** Agricultural Development Officer/Tree Fruit Sector Lead

**Location:** Belgrade or TBD

**Terms:** Full Time Position; Employment Agreement through September 30, 2009 (renewable)

### **General Description**

Under the program guidance provided by Gene Neill, USAID Agribusiness Project Chief of Party, and the general guidance of Slavenko Djokic, a designated IRD HQ person responsible for USAID Agribusiness Project, the Agricultural Development Officer will on a daily operational basis be working on the implementation of the USAID Agribusiness Project work plan. The incumbent will communicate all Human Resources issues with the designated IRD HQ person, Slavenko Djokic.

The USAID Agribusiness Project is aimed at achieving the projects overall and specific objectives of a competitive agriculture sector and producer organizations meeting the needs of the local, regional and international markets. The Agricultural Development Officer will provide technical support and advice to the target beneficiaries (producer organizations, SME, agribusiness entities and the agribusiness support services providers) field team in all aspects of producer organization development, management and support to the achieving of Project objectives as outlined in the USAID Agribusiness Project work plan. He/she will work closely with the senior technical staff on the USAID Agribusiness Project team, providing them technical support and building capacity at the beneficiary level. In addition, his work will include working with producer associations, Serbian agribusiness support service providers, relevant stakeholders and possible government and local authority entities and international markets in compliance with international standards.

### **Main Responsibilities:**

- Carry out tree fruit sector analysis and monitor changes in sub sector over LOP , field surveys of producer organizations in accordance with the project work plan and in particular with regard to commodities assigned by the senior team.
- Contribute to and support market analysis and develop commodity action plans and see them through implementation with the various producer organizations in accordance with your specific sub sector commodity analysis and annual work plans.
- Support relevant producer organizations activities in conjunction with designated local field staff and agricultural development advisers achieve their commodity action plans.
- Support in strengthening the capacity of produce organizations in all aspects, from production through to marketing and service delivery in the specific commodities you are responsible for.
- In conjunction with senior staff, update these commodity assessments on an annual basis, which will support modification and changes to future work plans.
- Examine and introduce appropriate technologies and seek opportunities for support to producer organizations, including identification suitable projects/organizations that may avail of the projects Grants support component and or other sources.
- Ensure that producer organizations are aligning themselves with EU requirements; support and examine legal status and possible restructuring of the producer organizations in the tree fruit

sector to meet needs of modern market economy and achieve comparative advantage in the market place.

- Support the dissemination of new production technologies in tree fruit production, best farming practices in arable and forage crop production, improved marketing, access to finance, post harvest storage and quality, product certification and new product development.
- Provide support to cross cutting issues, particularly in the areas of rural business support service providers; provide capacity building to such providers and their ability to deliver an effective and sustainable service complementing and contributing to the USAID Agribusiness Project's objectives of a more competitive sector.
- Support the development of the agriculture business support services providers to deliver a sustainable, cost effective and marketable service in conjunction with the field advisers.
- Support of the field advisers and also provide support to information and policy strategies to those producers emanating from the donor and government institutions.
- Provide support to development and implementation at field level quality control and standards program including GlobalGAP, ISO and HACCP among the USAID Agribusiness Project target groups.
- Assist in the registry of producer organizations and the entity farmers in accordance with Serbian Ministry of agriculture law.
- Support the advocacy function of national farm groups that can influence policy and promote change at the national level, particularly as it relates to cooperative law and the needs of PO to meet EU requirements.
- Deliver relevant aspects of the USAID Agribusiness Project program at the field level and be the interface between USAID Agribusiness Project and the beneficiaries.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the designated IRD HQ person responsible for IRD/ USAID Agribusiness Project program management and implementation, and the Chief of Party.
- Make recommendations to senior management and as to profile of short term technical assistance hires require in support of sub sector and contribute to drafting of sow for such STTA inputs.

### **Qualifications:**

1. *University degree or comparable experience in tree fruit, agriculture, economics, or a related field;*
2. *A minimum of 3 years of agribusiness experience;*
3. *Previous experience with USAID business, finance, or similar experience preferred;*
4. *Good project concept and design abilities;*
5. *Demonstrated ability to work well with persons of different background;*
6. *Must work well individually and as part of a team;*
7. *Ability to work effectively in a fast-paced, stressful environment. Must be flexible, willing to work long hours and work late often;*
8. *Highly Proficient: Computer Skills and Spoken and Written English Language.*