

## **USDA Borlaug Fellowship Program for Colombia**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is pleased to announce the 2017 *Norman E. Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program* (Borlaug Fellowship Program) for Colombia.

The Borlaug Fellowship Program promotes agricultural productivity, food security, and economic growth through collaborative research. The program offers training for agricultural research, international agricultural economics, leadership, and agricultural policy to researchers and faculty in Colombia. Competitively selected Fellows will work one-on-one with a U.S. mentor who will coordinate the training program. After completion of the 10-12 week fellowship, the mentor will visit the Fellow's home institution to continue collaboration on the research topic. USDA will select U.S. host institutions and mentors for each fellow.

The 2017 Borlaug Fellowship Program is administered by the United States Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

***The application deadline for the 2017 Borlaug Fellowship Program for Colombia is November 30, 2016.***

### **Objectives**

- Provide early to mid-career agricultural economists, research scientists, faculty, and policymakers with one-on-one training opportunities in the fields of agricultural policy and research (see targeted research areas below).
- Provide agricultural economists, research scientists, faculty, and policymakers with practical experience and exposure to novel perspectives and/or new technologies that can be applied in their home institutions.
- Foster collaboration and networking to improve agricultural productivity and trade.
- Facilitate the transfer of new economic, scientific, and agricultural technologies to strengthen agricultural practices.
- Address obstacles to the adoption of technology such as ineffectual policies and regulations.

### **Targeted Research Area**

**Risk Analysis:** Risk assessment, risk management, risk communication, and qualitative and quantitative modeling and data management, including an overview of food regulatory framework in the U.S. and the collaboration among food safety agencies at the national and local levels

**Food Safety:** Food safety practices including risk analysis, quantitative and qualitative analysis, coordination among national and state level authorities on food safety prevention and action plans, including food law overview, production and inspection facilities, port visits

**Plant Health (Cocoa Breeding):** Develop breeding activities to generate new cacao varieties with improved traits such as high productivity, disease resistance, and new rootstocks that limit cadmium uptake

## **Length of Fellowships**

Fellowships last between 10-12 weeks. All program proposals must include goals that are achievable within that timeframe. Fellowships can begin as early as August 2017 or as late as the summer of 2018. After completing the U.S.-based portion of the fellowship, the mentor will visit the Fellow's home institution approximately one year after the U.S. portion of the training.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

Candidates will be evaluated, interviewed, and selected based on the following criteria:

- Citizen of Colombia
- Good reading, writing, and speaking skills in English language
- Master's degree with at least two years' of practical experience (minimum)
- Currently employed by a university, government ministry, research institution, or other scientific institution
- Intention to continue working in the home country for a minimum of two years following the return from the United States
- Early/mid-stage of professional career (2-10 years of experience preferred)
- Experience and focus in one of the targeted research areas

## **Application Requirements**

Eligible candidates must submit an application using the Fluid Review application website no later than **November 30, 2016**: <https://borlaug.fluidreview.com>. Applicants must submit the following documents to complete an application:

- Application form (using Fluid Review website). Proposals submitted by email will not be considered.
- Program proposal and research action plan
- Signed approval from applicant's home institution
- Two letters of recommendation (academic and professional preferred)
- Transcripts for college/university degree(s) received or copy of diploma(s)
- Copy of passport identification page

## **Contact Information**

For questions related to the application process please contact:

USDA-FAS Bogota  
United States Embassy  
AgBogota@fas.usda.gov

**Borlaug Fellowship Program**  
[BorlaugFellowships@fas.usda.gov](mailto:BorlaugFellowships@fas.usda.gov).

**Additional information is available on the website:**  
<http://www.fas.usda.gov/programs/borlaug-fellowship-program>