

# USDA Borlaug Fellowship Program in Syria

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) is pleased to announce the 2011 *Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology Fellowship Program* (Borlaug Fellowship Program) for Syria.

The Borlaug Fellowship Program promotes food security and economic growth by increasing scientific knowledge and collaborative research to improve agricultural productivity. The Program offers training and collaborative opportunities in international agricultural economics, agricultural research, leadership and policy to researchers. Each Fellow will work one-on-one with a U.S. mentor who will coordinate the Fellow's training and visit the Fellow's home institution after completion of the training. USDA will select U.S. mentors and host institutions for each Fellow.

The 2011 Borlaug Fellowship Program is administered and funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS).

***The application deadline for the 2011 Borlaug Fellowship Program for Syria is January 31, 2011.***

## Objectives

- Provide entry-level agricultural economists, research scientists, faculty and policymakers with one-on-one training opportunities in the fields of agricultural policy research (see targeted areas below);
- Provide economists, scientists, faculty, and policymakers with practical experience and exposure to novel perspectives and/or new technologies that can be applied upon completion of the program in their home institutions;
- Foster increased 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(s):

- **Animal Health – Veterinary Science (Poultry and Sheep production)**

## Length of Fellowships

Fellowships are typically between 6 to 12 weeks and can be extended if merited by the research topic and funding availability

## Eligibility Requirements

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

- Citizen of Syria;
- Good working knowledge of the English language;
- Masters degree with at least 2 years of practical experience;
- Early to mid stage in their professional career;
- Experience and focus in issues related to **Animal Health – Veterinary Science (poultry and sheep production)**;
- Currently employed in a university, government, and/or other research institution with the intent to continue working in their home country for a minimum of two years following their return from the United States.

## Application Requirements

Eligible candidates are invited to submit their complete application including the following attachments no later than January 31, 2011.

- [Application form](#)
- Two page program proposal and action plan
- Signed approval from the applicant's home institution
- Two letters of recommendation. The letters should specifically address:
  - ✓ your aptitude for scientific research
  - ✓ your leadership skills and the likelihood that you will bring back new ideas and implement change at your institution
  - ✓ your proficiency in the English language
- Copy of **Official** transcripts or letter confirming receipt of college degree(s)
- Copy of passport identification page
- One passport sized photo

**For questions regarding the application process and to submit an application, please contact:**

Jaber Dalati  
Office of Agricultural Affairs  
American Embassy  
Al-Mansour Street No.2, Abu Rummaneh,  
Damascus, Syria

E-mail: [jaber.dalati@fas.usda.gov](mailto:jaber.dalati@fas.usda.gov)

Phone: (963-11) 3391-4127

Fax: (963-11) 3391-4100

**\*\*All electronic applications sent to this address must contain “2011 BFP Applicant” in the subject line, \*\***

**For additional information about the Borlaug Fellows Program, please contact:**

USDA/FAS Coordinators for the Borlaug Fellowship Program, Syria

**Karen Uetrecht:** [Karen.Uetrecht@fas.usda.gov](mailto:Karen.Uetrecht@fas.usda.gov)

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**Or visit our web site:** <http://damascus.usembassy.gov/trade-and-commerce.html>