

COCHRAN FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

■ Over 20 years ago, U.S. Senator Thad Cochran of Mississippi envisioned providing training and support to help developing nations improve their agricultural systems and strengthen and enhance trade links with the United States.



■ Since 1984, the Cochran Program has provided training for more than 13,000 international participants from 103 countries worldwide.

Program Criteria

Country Eligibility

- A developing country, an emerging democracy and/or an emerging market.
- (Philippines, Vietnam, Laos, Indonesia, Thailand, etc.)

Training Focus

- The program offers short-term training opportunities, most ranging from two to four weeks, depending on the objectives of the program. Participants meet with professionals in their fields, participate in field observations and industry visits, experience on-the-job training, and attend university courses and seminars.
- FAS works closely with U.S. agricultural trade and market development associations to identify potential areas of training for countries participating in the program. Every effort is made to match U.S. agricultural interests with those of recipient countries.

Program Criteria

Program Design

- Each program reflects a philosophy that training should provide participants with sound technical knowledge and the opportunity to test and practice new skills in practical situations. Therefore, most programs offer a mixture of technical instruction, practical field observations, and "hands-on" experience. Programs are specially designed in accordance with the training objectives discussed during interviews with candidates and the recommendations of the respective FAS foreign agricultural affairs officer.

Applicant Eligibility

- Program participation is open to the staff of agribusinesses, government departments, universities, and other agricultural organizations. In their own countries, applicants may be managers, technicians, scientists, professors, administrators, or policy makers. Participants who are proficient in the oral and written usage of the English language are preferred.

Program Criteria

Selection Procedures

- Program announcement for each eligible country at the start of fiscal year.
- Completion of applications submitted to the country's FAS officer. The officer will conduct an initial screening of applications to determine whether the proposed study program is appropriate and fulfills program requirements. The application must include a detailed description of the training request.
- Interviews applicants during country visits or by telephone by the Cochran Office.
- Final approval of candidates and announcement.

Training Schedule

- Training will take place as soon as the appropriate training program can be arranged.

Program Criteria

International Travel

- The program does not fund international travel to and from the participating country.

Evaluation

- Program participants are expected to submit a written evaluation to their program officer upon completion of their training.

Follow-Up

- After the training program is completed, trainers and program participants correspond with one another to ensure the objectives of the training were met. This type of relationship is strongly encouraged to extend the training benefits to all involved.

Current Programs for the Philippines

- FSIS Meat and Poultry Inspection Training
- Strengthening of Quarantine, Inspection & Customs Services
- Study U.S. Food Regulations & Rule-Making Process
- Biotechnology Training and Exposure
- Study of U.S. Bio-fuels industry and regulations
- Human Nutrition and New Product Development Program
- Cold-Chain Training Program
- Culinary Chefs Training Program

Contact Information



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MARAMING SALAMAT !!!

