Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET)  
Nutrition Advisor  

Scope of Work  

Introduction  

The Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET) is an integrated set of activities funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) intended to provide timely, accurate, evidence-based, and transparent food security early warning information and analysis. Created in 1985 in response to famines in East and West Africa, FEWS NET provides global coverage through a mix of presence and remote monitoring. FEWS NET’s work is implemented across several pillars by a team of partners that includes NASA, NOAA, USGS, Kimetrica, and Chemonics International (Chemonics). Chemonics implements FEWS NET’s integrated emergency food insecurity analysis through a Washington-based technical office and more than 20 field offices.

Based on in-depth understanding of local livelihoods, FEWS NET analysts monitor information and data on factors that affect food security, such as weather conditions and climate, crops, pasture, markets and trade, and nutrition. FEWS NET produces regular reports, including Food Security Outlooks and Outlook Updates, emergency alerts, market and price updates, and global weather hazards. FEWS NET makes reports available at www.fews.net and distributes them globally to governments, relief agencies, and other organizations engaged in humanitarian response and development programs.

The seventh phase of FEWS NET (FEWS NET 7) began in 2019 and relies on close collaboration with international, regional, and national partners on food security analysis and reinforcement of food security networks. Major activities include joint monitoring and assessments, data exchanges, collaborative analysis and report writing, and technical capacity strengthening. FEWS NET supports local and regional food security networks to contribute to achieving the global objective of food security for all.

Position Description  

The Nutrition Advisor will support the improved use of nutrition information and analysis in FEWS NET’s food security analysis and reporting. The Nutrition Advisor will directly supervise and support regional and national nutrition officers across the project.

Responsibilities  

The main responsibilities of the Nutrition Advisor include, but are not limited to:

- Provide technical guidance on the inclusion and use of health and nutrition information in food security monitoring, assessments, and analysis, including scenario building and integrated food security phase classification (IPC);
- Oversee the development and maintenance of a database of nutrition and health survey data for each of FEWS NET’s presence countries;
- Oversee the development of nutrition context documents for select FEWS NET countries;
- Conduct nutrition causal analysis (NCA) studies to understand the causes of undernutrition in different contexts;
- Provide technical guidance on the implementation of food security and nutrition (e.g. SMART) surveys and assessments;
- Actively contribute to the IPC nutrition technical working group;
- Facilitate nutrition trainings to FEWS NET staff and external partners;
• Manage, coordinate, and support two regional nutrition specialists and two national nutrition officers for the project;
• Promote and support collaboration with local, regional, and international partners in health and nutrition-related activities
• Propose innovative initiatives and tools that will contribute to early warning;
• Provide guidance to the development and refinement of the approach to health and nutrition related methods and products
• Promote and support collaboration with local, regional, and international partners in health and nutrition-related activities
• Provide input to and participation in the preparation and dissemination of decision-support products, including monthly reports, special reports, alerts, and briefings
• Collaborate with FEWS NET implementation partners in carrying out project activities
• Support the development and strengthening of global partners and food security systems
• Ensure that there is efficiency and effectiveness in the management and compliance of the contractual requirements

Qualifications
• Authorization to work in the United States required
• Fluency in English required and working knowledge of French is preferred
• Master’s degree in a discipline directly relevant to the position, preferably in nutrition or public health, required. Significant, directly related professional experience can substitute for education experience.
• Experience in the following areas required:
  o Analysis of complex survey data, particularly nutrition and health data;
  o Development and implementation of nutrition and health surveys, preferably in emergencies: experience with standardized monitoring and assessment of relief and transitions (SMART)
  o Provision of training to partners and staff
• Understanding of household food security concepts, terms, and analytical approaches and a strong interest in multi-sectoral, integrated analysis
• Significant experience implementing relevant programming or conducting research/analysis in developing countries
• Ability to work effectively with a diverse group of staff across 25 country and regional offices
• Ability to travel internationally, approximately 30 percent of the time
• Experience in people management and particularly with remote management
• Demonstrable skills in brokering, negotiating, networking, and coordinating with various stakeholders
• Experience in training and building capacity of partners and staff members
• Experience in the following areas desired:
  o Nutrition surveillance
  o Nutrition causal analysis
  o Early warning
• Demonstrated leadership, versatility, and integrity
• Strong presentation and representation skills

Location and Reporting
The Nutrition Advisor is will be based full-time at the FEWS NET home office in Washington, D.C., and will travel as required to provide in-country support to FEWS NET field staff and partners, security permitting. The Nutrition Advisor will work under the direct supervision of the Deputy Chief of Party—Analysis, and will closely collaborate and coordinate with regional, national, and home office (Washington, D.C.) technical advisors, analysts, and the Senior Management Team (SMT).