Board for International Food and Agricultural Development
179th Public Meeting (Virtual)

**U.S. University Feedback on Implementation of USAID**

**ADS 252** *(Visa Compliance for Exchange Visitors)*

**ADS 253** *(Participant Training and Exchanges for Capacity Development)*

April 9 2019 from 2:30 – 5:00 pm EDT

To join the meeting:
https://ac.usaid.gov/bifad/

**Background and Objectives**

The Board for International Food and Agricultural Development (BIFAD), an advisory committee to the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), will convene a virtual public meeting on April 9 2019 to solicit feedback from the U.S. university community on their experiences implementing the regulations that govern USAID funded Exchange Visitors (EVs) and Participant Training (PT), as per the Automated Directives System (ADS) 252 and ADS 253. The ADS contains the organization and functions of USAID, along with the policies and procedures that guide the Agency’s programs and operations.

**Agenda**

2:30 pm Welcome and introductions of BIFAD

*Mark Keenum, President, Mississippi State University and Chair of BIFAD*

2:35 pm Meeting background and purpose

*James Ash, BIFAD Member and Food and Agribusiness Group Head, Husch Blackwell, LLP*

2:45 pm Introduction of US Government guests

*LeAnna Marr, Director, Bureau for Economic Growth, Education, and Environment (E3), Office of Education (ED), USAID*

*Robert Burch, Deputy Director, E3/ED*
Grace Lang, Higher Education Division Chief, E3/ED, USAID


Jeffrey Shahan, Policy Adviser, E3/ED, USAID


Ruth Buckley, USAID Deputy Performance Improvement Officer and Deputy Director, Bureau for Management, Office of Policy, Budget, and Performance.

Eileen Simoes, Division Chief, Policy, Office of Management Policy, Budget, and Performance, Bureau for Management, USAID

Stephen Guice: Policy Director for the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA), Department of State

Jennifer Nupp: Supervisory Program Analyst, Office of Private Sector Exchange in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA/EC), Department of State

Linda Neilan Dus: Consular Officer, Advisory Opinions Division of the Visa Office of the Bureau of Consular Affairs (A/VO/L/A), Department of State

2:50 pm Key University Concerns: E3 overview and response to questions via chat

DeAndra Beck, Associate Dean for Research, International Studies and Programs, Michigan State University

Tim Dalton, Director, Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Collaborative Research on Sorghum and Millet, and Professor, Department of Agricultural Economics, Kansas State University

Grace Lang, Higher Education Division Chief, E3/ED

Jennifer Nupp: Supervisory Program Analyst, Office of Private Sector Exchange in the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA/EC), Department of State

Definitions
Exchange Visitor
Participant Training
USAID-sponsored J-1 Visa vs. university-sponsored J-1 visas

Structural and Operational issues
Health Insurance
Vehicle Ownership
Dependents
Allowance Rates
Work Authorization
Security Risk & Fraud Inquiry (SRFI)
Conditions of Sponsorship
Mission Orders
Transfer between visa types
Short-term Visitors
TraiNet
Tax Returns [for Exchange Visitors]
Stipends and Assistantships

Design and Implementation Issues
Gender equity and facilitating success of female students

Other issues

Discussion

4:05 pm Break

4:15 pm Public comment period

4:45 pm Closing remarks

Jim Ash, BIFAD
Robert Burch, E3 Bureau
Mark Keenum, Mississippi State University, BIFAD

5:00 pm Adjourn