**Postdoctoral Scholar in Dietary Assessment Methods for Low-income countries**

The International Dietary Data Expansion Project (INDDEX) seeks a Postdoctoral Scholar with strong interest in using technology to improve the collection and analysis of dietary data and an interest in global nutrition science and policy. An outstanding candidate is sought to work on the International Dietary Data Expansion Project (Project Dates: Jan 2015-June 2019). Led by Dr. Jennifer Coates at the Friedman School of Nutrition in collaboration with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), and other international experts, the INDDEX Project aims to facilitate low to lower-middle income countries' increased acquisition and use of high-quality, timely food and nutrient consumption data, which is needed to create more effective evidence-based decisions about agriculture, food, and nutrition policies and programs.  The INDDEX Project has four overarching objectives:

1.  Develop technologies to standardize and streamline the collection and analysis of individual-level dietary data;
2.  Improve the design and use of the food consumption data collected in household consumption and expenditure surveys (HCES);
3.  Demonstrate how to use 'fit-for-purpose' indicators and analyses appropriately from dietary intake data, HCES, and food balance data (FBS);
4.  Develop guidance that will effectively communicate these scientific advancements and technological achievements to international stakeholders.

The INDDEX Project is implemented by Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy with funding from The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The Scholar will be an integral part of the INDDEX team and its partners.  The INDDEX Project will be partnering with two countries (Bangladesh and Burkina Faso).  The applicant will primarily be responsible for representing INDDEX in Burkina Faso. As INDDEX's in-country representative, the applicant will be responsible for advancing the project's research activities on the ground, maintaining excellent relationships with in-country collaborators, developing in-country capacity for better dietary data collection, analysis, and use, and  identifying opportunities to champion the scale-up of food consumption data at the country level as well as regionally and globally.  The research program and training will be directed by Dr. Jennifer Coates, Associate Professor at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy.  The Scholar will receive mentorship in grant writing and publications and will be afforded career development opportunities through Tufts University.

Based in Burkina Faso, the applicant will have the opportunity to work collaboratively with a range of experts in dietary assessment and survey research to conduct a feasibility assessment and cost-effectiveness study of the INDDEX24 platform that is being designed to collect and process dietary data in low-income countries. INDDEX24 will be comprised of a mobile application for conducting 24-hour

dietary recall surveys and a linked web database application that will house databases required for collection and processing of 24-hour recall data (e.g., food composition databases, recipe databases, etc.).  S/he may also work with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on a potential validation study of the application using doubly labelled water. The applicant will lead all field-level aspects of the feasibility and validations studies, including, but not limited to, pre- and post- study logistics, study protocols and IRB applications, working with local collaborators to identify field sites, training enumerators, and data collection, processing and analysis.   The applicant will also need to carefully track costs related to the dietary assessment application in order to inform the cost-effectiveness study.

The applicant will assist with convening and supporting an in-country technical advisory group of dietary assessment experts representing various cooperating Ministries in Burkina Faso and other key stakeholders from national and international organizations, who will oversee key aspects of the project. The applicant will work with the TAG and other stakeholders to offer input into the design of the dietary assessment application, assist in the compilation of databases needed to implement dietary surveys (food composition tables, standardized recipes, portion size conversions), strategize opportunities to integrate dietary-data into decision-making about food, nutrition, agriculture, and health programs and policies, assist with capacity-building activities, oversee the development and implementation of guidance materials, in-country technical workshops and support, and help to organize and participate in virtual working groups with representatives from other countries in the region.

**Required Education, Experience and Skills**
Qualified applicants should possess a PhD in nutrition science, policy, public health and/or another related field, at least 2 years of population-based research experience using skills in survey design and implementation, preferably in  low- or middle-income countries, and proficient in data analysis programs (such as SPSS, STATA, and/or Nvivo) and Microsoft Office Suite.  The applicant should have knowledge and experience using 24 hour recalls and be comfortable using mobile (tablet-based) software for implementing quantitative 24 hour dietary recalls.  Applicants should also have demonstrated leadership qualities, capacity to motivate others around a common agenda, excellent organizational and managerial ability, attention to detail, and ability to multitask; and an ability to work independently and meet deadlines with efficiency and accuracy.  The selected applicant will be someone who communicates with clarity, sensitivity, diplomacy and tact with a range of high-level stakeholders, including high level of interaction with scholars, scientists, technological experts, government officials, policymakers, and international agency officials, as well as with local staff and study participants. Finally, experience living/working within Sub-Sahara Africa or Asia, fluency in French, and excellent professional English, written and oral, and an ability to write clearly and effectively for scientific and policy audiences and to carefully edit detailed scientific documents.

The preferred applicant will also have experience managing research projects and/or programs in low-income countries in nutrition, health, or related technical sectors nutrition,  capacity to work on quantitative and qualitative analyses with minimal supervision; familiarity with procedures to collect and analyze doubly-labeled water for validation study, including administration of prepared solutions, collection of urine/stool samples, safe storage and transportation of biological samples for laboratory

analysis; and experience in an advocacy role, particularly advocating for nutrition-related goals to government actors.

The selected applicant is expected to play a role in developing and implementing study protocol, data analysis, and will be supported and encouraged to contribute to journal articles and research conference presentations.

**Additional Information**
The position is for 2.5 years and will be based in Burkina Faso with some travel back to Boston.  The anticipated start date is January 2017. Funding is available through June 2019.

The Gerald J. and Dorothy R. Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy, established in 1981, is the only self-governing graduate and professional school of nutrition in North America. Its mission is to improve the nutritional well-being of people worldwide through the creation of new knowledge; the application and dissemination of evidence-based information; and the education and training of future leaders in the field.

This mission is fulfilled by bringing together experts from the areas of clinical nutrition, social and public policy, and biomedicine. Faculty at the school include biomedical scientists, economists, epidemiologists, nutritionists, physicians, political scientists and psychologists who focus on a myriad of issues with the common thread of nutrition and its role in fostering the growth and development of human populations.

**Contact Information:**
Please send a cover letter and CV to the Project Manager, Cathleen Cissé, Cathleen.Cisse@tufts.edu.