



USAID | EAST AFRICA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

August 28, 2009

Reference: Request for Applications (RFA) No. SOL-623-09-000017; Djibouti Elections and Political Processes (DEPP)

Subject: RFA Amendment Number One

Dear Potential Applicant:

The purpose of this RFA amendment number one is to:

1. Provide questions with answers; and
2. Extend the closing date to October 8, 2009

Answers to the questions are as follows:

1. On page 9, section A.2.4 "Institutional Capacity, Management Approach and Past Performance", calls for an organigram and roles and responsibilities of key personnel. On the same page, section A.2.7 "Program Management and Key Personnel", calls for an overview of how the proposed program will be managed and position descriptions (including roles and responsibilities) for all key personnel. To avoid repetition of information, could the applicant include information on roles / responsibilities and management structure in section A.2.7 only? Also, are CVs the only supporting documentation needed for the proposed key personnel?

ANSWER: Yes, CVs are the only documentation needed for the proposed key proposal. To avoid repetition of information, the applicant can either answer to 2.4 or 2.7 but should just reference where it can be found.

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2. The 'Credible Election Management' section on page 19 does not indicate the breadth of the training that the implementing organization is expected to provide to the Ministry of Interior. For budgeting purposes, can you clarify if this training is anticipated only at the central level or if the implementing organization will also be training those in the *Prefets*?

ANSWER: Applicants should propose the breadth of training for the Ministry of Interior. It should include electoral administrators (through Ministry of Interior) and *Prefets*, but the majority of the training should take place at the *Prefet* level.

3. The RFA makes no mention of electoral management training for the CENI. Can you please clarify whether or not this would be considered an allowable activity under this RFA?

ANSWER: In supporting the regional and national commissions (CENIs), applicants should lay out how they will manage to achieve F level indicator "Number of Elections Officials Trained with USG Assistance."

4. While the term used in the RFA, "meaningful cost sharing, is understood, could the applicant instead propose meaningful "resource leveraging" (which is not subject to the cost sharing requirements in 22 CFR 226)? This would allow a much broader basis for maximizing layers of resources targeted towards the project's objectives and sustainability.

ANSWER: Yes you can propose "resource leveraging" however, cost share is more advantageous to U.S. Government.

5. The request for applications includes the following in Introduction II:
Meaningful Cost-Sharing by the Applicant is expected in order to extend the Program. The successful Applicant will be required to report on their expended cost share -USAID will monitor. While the proposed Cost-Sharing is not the application evaluation/selection factor it will be assessed in the context of the overall cost-effectiveness.

What does USAID consider to be meaningful cost-sharing for this grant? What is USAID's goal for cost-sharing on this project?

ANSWER: A level of percentage which is reasonable. USAID expects maximum cost share that an applicant can afford.

6. The request for applications includes the following in Program Description section, titled "Effective Oversight of Electoral Process":

The National and Regional Election Commission is composed of GORD employees, civil society and political parties members who oversee the elections, identify shortfalls in electoral processes, evaluate the electoral framework and serve as a watchdog. Support will be given for the establishment of these Commissions in the run up to the 2011 elections.

The F Level Indicator for this element of the project is "Number of Domestic Election Observers Trained with USG Assistance." Does USAID require the grantee to train other domestic observers in addition to supporting national and regional electoral commissions?

ANSWER: It is anticipated that under the Elections and Political Processes Program Element, election observers from the CENI will be trained. Under the Political Party Program Element, polling agents will be trained.

The length of this amendment is 3 pages.

Sincerely,



Tadeusz Findeisen
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USAID/EA/RAAO