

RFA-OAA-11-000009: The Technologies for Health Program

***Pre-Application Questions and Answers submitted before closing
time of June 15, 2011 2:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (EST)***

Question #1: My team is working on the grant proposal for the Technologies for Health program. In the section of the instructions dealing with various certifications, there is a reference to a provision entitled 'Condoms' (page 68). However, I could not locate any text relating to this provision.

Could you please clarify what this refers to? Can you also confirm that these certifications need to be signed and included in the application -- the instructions were not clear about whether these should be included.

Government Response: In the current RFA the reference to condoms is on p. 71. The Applicant is requested to certify compliance with the standard provisions that are listed in annex C via web link on pages 51-52-- Mandatory Standard Provisions:

<http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303maa.pdf>

Question #2: Pursuant to Amendment 02 for the subject RFA, Question/Answer #20 (copied below), aren't we also allowed to provide a staffing matrix and short bios for each proposed person?

Question #20: Section IV.B. Item #8 of the RFA states, "Applicants may only submit documents to be included in the Annex as requested in the RFA directions below."

Please confirm that the technical application annex can contain only the following: key personnel resumes, key personnel references, key personnel letters of commitment, 3 past performance reports – short form.

Prior Government Response: Yes.

Government Response: Applicants may submit both a staffing matrix and short bios.

Question #3: Be a U.S. and Non-U.S. non-governmental institution, for-profit, non-profit or private voluntary organization or consortium of such organizations registered with USAID, including research organizations, universities, developing countries institutions and partners, and relevant special interest associations. Must be able to meet the eligibility criteria in 22 CFR 228 sub-part D.

I would like to clarify that the phrase "Be a U.S. and Non-U.S. non-governmental institution... is correct. Should this be "or"?

Government Response: Yes, this should read "OR".

Question #4: Is USAID interested in longitudinal databases?

Government Response: Yes, only if the database is relevant to advancing the objectives of the RFA.

Question #5: Please confirm whether any part of this application is submitted via grants.gov? The Q&As and the RFP contain some conflicting information.

Could you please confirm whether this is an entirely paper based submission (with soft copy of CD-ROM) with no online submission.

Government Response: As indicated in the response in a previous Q&A response, for the Technologies for Health RFA USAID requires paper and soft copy submission.

Question #6: As indicated in Annex A, mobile health technology is one of USAID's priority technology areas for this RFA. Some of the stated qualifications of Director of Research Utilization and Research Technical Director--particularly the emphasis on a public health background and public health research--are necessary for generation of clinical and treatment technologies found in Annex A, but far less necessary for successful development, testing and scaling of mobile health technologies. Mobile health technologies require a different type of research and development expertise. Would USAID adapt the minimum qualification criteria for these positions in order to accommodate the mobile health technology area?

Government Response: Mobile health technology is one of several potential priority technology areas. As such a successful applicant should propose staff with appropriate backgrounds to accomplish the work.

Question #7: Pursuant to Amendment 02 for the subject RFA, Question/Answer #24, pg 12, require the applicant to submit separate budget for the 75-85% that will be Washington funded and the 15-25% that will be mission funded. Can USAID provide further guidance

how the Mission budget will be developed? What are the assumptions for the Mission funded activities?

Government Response: The assumptions for the Mission and Washington funded activities are similar and are illustrative of a potential applicant's budgeting and capabilities. In general, mission funded activities are anticipated to be more related to technology introduction.

Question #8: Is the Closing Date for applications going to be pushed back from June 27, 2011?

Government Response: Yes, The Closing Date of the RFA has been extended from Monday, June 27, 2011 (11:00 AM EST) to Wednesday June 29, 2011 (11:00 AM EST).

Question #9: I'm assuming you are expecting us to lay out our proposed plan for the use of funds, is that correct? We are already implementing EMR and HIE systems in Nepal and China, and were thinking that a larger version of that (i.e. country and providence-wide) is what USAID is looking for.

Government Response: The Technologies for Health first year work plan will be determined post award. The discussion of a proposed plan for use of funds in the response to the request for applications is to help applicants demonstrate their potential capabilities.

Question #10: Is there any other helpful information for me to know that does not fall within the RFA?

Government Response: The RFA and responses to questions provides sufficient information for potential applicants to respond to this request for applications.

Question #11: We have already submitted our application. Granted the extension(s), should we re-submit?

Government Response: The new Closing Date of the RFA is Wednesday June 29, 2011 (11:00 AM EST). Applicants who have already submitted applications are free to revise/update their applications as they deem appropriate. Final applications must be received by the Closing Date of Wednesday June 29, 2011 (11:00 AM EST).