



USAID
DEL PUEBLO DE LOS ESTADOS
UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA

COLOMBIA

Colombia Alliance Program (CAP)

APS-514-11-000001

Questions and Answers

2-04-11

- 1. We'd like to know if there's any other grant funding opportunity for working specifically with Afro-Colombians.**

Yes, there is a funding opportunity currently posted on www.grants.gov for the Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Program (ACIP).

- 2. We're willing to submit a conceptual paper for your grant's call. We are aware that there is a deadline to send it, the issue is that we haven't been able to find the exactly date in the document containing all the APC's information.**

The deadline for the submission of concept papers, as stated on the first page of the APS, is December 15, 2011.

- 3. I gather that concept papers could be written for each of the 5 priority areas, but that is not a requirement. In other words, one could choose to submit only one concept paper. Is that correct?**

Yes, concept papers can be written for each of the five areas, and it is not a requirement to submit one for each priority area. Each organization may choose to submit only one concept paper or however many your organization would like to. There is no limit on the amount of concept papers that an organization may submit.

- 4. Is the number of concept papers submitted a factor in the evaluation considerations? In other words, is a proposal with 5 concept papers considered better than a proposal with only one?**

No, the number of submissions is not an evaluation factor. Five concept papers would not present an advantage over those who submit only one. Each concept paper will be individually evaluated on a pass/fail basis, as stated in the APS.

5. Concept papers are due December 15, 2011, correct?

Concept Papers should be submitted during the following period, as mentioned in the APS: December 16, 2010 – December 15, 2011.

6. We are interested in applying to APS-514-11-000001. Would you happen to have a Spanish version of this funding opportunity?

Yes, a version in Spanish was posted as an attachment to the Funding Opportunity on 2-01-11 on www.grants.gov.

7. We understand that the closing date for this grant is December 15th, 2011, but we were wondering if there will be a first round of evaluations prior to this.

There is no first round of evaluations per se. That is, concept papers are evaluated as they are received against the evaluation criteria. As stated in the APS, this is a two stage process, whereas the concept papers will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis. Those that pass the concept paper evaluation will receive written instructions on how to submit a full application.

8. I came across your details in relation to the call for proposals for the Colombia Alliance Program and I was wondering whether you have any further information or guidelines.

All available information and guidelines are published on www.grants.gov.

9. We would like to know if Local Administrations are included on the eligibility criteria? Since they're not listed on the potential partners and manage public funds.

Yes, local administrations *are* eligible.

10. I saw the solicitation in grants.gov for the Colombia Alliance Program (APS-514-11-000001) and wanted to contact you to see whether my proposal would be responsive.

To find out if a proposal would be responsive, and as per instructions in the APS, entities must first submit a concept paper.

11. Is this APS included under CSDI ?

The CSDI priority zones are highlighted in the APS. We are certainly interested in concept papers that propose to work in CSDI regions, although the APS shouldn't be considered exclusive to CSDI.

12. Could a project funded under this APS be designed for less than 5 years, say 1-2 years?

Yes.

13. Will “Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation” (REDD) related activities be supported by this APS?

Yes, they could be if the concept paper and final application are approved.

14. Can funds leveraged with those provided by USAID under this APS be from other public international sources such as those from multilateral institutions or other targeted ODA?

Yes, we encourage the leveraging of resources when possible.

15. Would a REDD or sustainable landscape project require explicit biodiversity objectives (meeting Biodiversity Code criteria)?

No, REDD and/or sustainable landscapes activities are distinct from biodiversity and thus do not require explicit biodiversity objectives.

* Some individuals have sent résumés in response to the APS. Résumés will not be considered for this program. The instructions on how to apply are in the APS.

** Questions received after the posting date of this document will be posted with their respective answers in the March/April, 2011 timeframe, if any are received.



Adam Cox
Contracting Officer