



Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), Number: 7200AA21RFA00008 - Amendment 01
Questions and Answers

Question 1: On page 23 of the RFA under iii.3 -- Management Plan, it reads “....implementation of pre-clinical and clinical research.” Does USAID expect pre-clinical or clinical research on HIV prevention products in the pipeline to be conducted under this award?

USAID Answer 1: No, USAID does not expect to fund pre-clinical or clinical research in this award. Demonstration projects may be included.

Question 2: On page 23 of the RFA under section v. Appendices, #2 reads “provide a plan for one or more products (no more than three pages).” Does that mean three pages for each illustrative product in the hypothetical plan?

USAID Answer 2: USAID expects one plan (no more than 3 pages) for all products included in the hypothetical plan.

Question 3: Could USAID please clarify what geographic locations this project will operate in? Are we correct to assume it will encompass all of the PEPFAR DREAMS countries? Will the focus be only on Africa?

USAID Answer 3: This is a global award and it is anticipated that a majority of activities will take place in Sub-Saharan Africa. However, it is possible to include activities and local partners wherever there is a great need within PEPFAR countries.

Question 4: The RFA focuses on AGYW. Beyond AGYW, should applicants focus on other key and priority populations like transgender women, female sex workers, amongst other key populations?

USAID Answer 4: Primary beneficiary populations for new prevention products under this Project are AGYW and other women, including transgender women, that have high likelihoods of acquiring HIV (page 11).

Question 5: Should applicants propose partners for the Product Access Advisory Committee (PAAC) in their response to this NOFO? Or will the seemingly successful applicant decide this together in consultation with USAID?

USAID Answer 5: The PAAC membership and terms of reference will be decided in consultation with USAID post award.

Question 6: Does USAID have minimum LOE requirements for proposed key personnel apart from the two positions defined on P. 22 of the RFA?

USAID Answer 6: Per page 22 of the RFA, it is recommended that the Project Director and Project Manager have at least 80% LOE. There are no other LOE requirements for the remaining Key Personnel.

Question 7: On page 23, under Management Plan, the RFA reads “include a detailed organogram in Appendix 6 with an explanation of the proposed staffing and management relationship required....”. Under the list of appendices further down on the page, it says “Staffing Matrix and Org Chart” are to be included in Appendix 5 (NTE 3 pages) and Appendix 6 is the Management Plan (NTE 3 Pages). Does USAID want Appendix 5 (staffing matrix and org chart) NTE 3 pages followed by Appendix 6 to address the Management Plan (NTE 3 pages)?

USAID Answer 7: The requirement for an organogram in Appendix 6 has been removed. Please note that the page limit for Appendix 5 has increased to a maximum of four pages.

Question 8: Does the organizational chart go in Appendix 5 or 6?

USAID Answer 8: The requirement for an organogram in Appendix 6 has been removed. Please note that the page limit for Appendix 5 has increased to a maximum of four pages.

Question 9: Does the organizational chart go in Appendix 5 or 6?

USAID Answer 9: The requirement for an organogram in Appendix 6 has been removed. Please note that the page limit for Appendix 5 has increased to a maximum of four pages.

Question 10: Is the management plan to be addressed in the technical narrative as part of the Overall Staffing and Management Plan (Section D.1.iii) as well as in the separate Appendix 6 (as described on P. 23 and 24)?

USAID Answer 10: Yes.

Question 11: Can USAID give an estimate of what proportion of the budget is expected to go towards research/implementation science?

USAID Answer 11: There is no expected budget allocation estimate. Offerors should provide applications that are responsive to what is outlined in the RFA.

Question 12: Should applicants budget for PrEP amongst other commodities – ie. for research and implementation – or is it expected that costs for commodities should be leveraged from other projects?

USAID Answer 12: Commodities may be included but are expected to be limited in budget or leveraged via PEPFAR programs and/or industry/private sector sources.

Question 13: Are we to include the cost of commodities (e.g. DPP, DVR, CAB-LA) that might be used for research studies in building the proposed budget under this CoAg?

USAID Answer 13: Yes, please include all costs to be charged to USAID, however, please also see the response to Question 12.

Question 14: On Page 23, is the entire illustrative product introduction and access plan to be no longer than 3 pages overall, regardless of number of products included in the plan?

USAID Answer 14: Yes, 3 pages total.

Question 15: Are optional appendices allowed?

USAID Answer 15: No, optional appendices are NOT allowed.

Question 16: Are hot links allowed?

USAID Answer 16: No, hot links are not allowed.

Question 17: Will USAID please provide the Summary Budget Template which was not attached to Annex 1 (p.40)?

USAID Answer 17: Our apologies, it is now attached.

Question 18: Annex 1- Summary Budget Template states “Please see attached.” Can you please provide the referenced attachment or clarify what attachment is being referenced.

USAID Answer 18: Our apologies, it is now attached.

Question 19: The forecast originally indicated a project called “Introduction to Access” would be released, and follow a multi-step co-creation process. Was the forecast for “Introduction to Access” referring to the “Microbicide 2021 Introduction and Access Project”? If yes, why did USAID decide not to pursue a co-creation?

USAID Answer 19: There was a typo in the initial forecast, a co-creation process was only intended to be in the USAID business forecast for the Microbicide Research & Development BAA. RFA:

https://www.usaid.gov/business-forecast/search/award/ead8b0dd07?search=&location=All&ouid=296§or_id=All&naics=&specialist=&page=8

BAA: (https://www.usaid.gov/business-forecast/search/award/a829d77204?search=&location=All&solicitation_date=&page=11)

Question 20: Does USAID intend to make multiple awards under the “Introduction and Access” umbrella? If USAID does intend to make multiple awards, how many?

USAID Answer 20: USAID intends to make one award.

Question 21: On page 21, it says 10 point font can be used for graphics and charts. Does that be 10 pt font can also be used for tables and/or text boxes?

USAID Answer 21: Yes, 10 point font can be used in tables and text boxes.