

Public Briefing Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) Resilience Food Security Activity (RFSA)

January 18, 2023

Solicitation Number
720BHA23RFA00001

Logistics

- Wifi
- Bathrooms
- Water

Agenda

- Opening
- Overview of USAID/DRC Programming
- DRC Background and Country Context
- Geographic Targeting
- RFA Overview
- RFA Evaluation Process
- Q&A

Solicitation Briefing Ground Rules

- Please...
 - Remain muted for the entire call
 - Do not turn on your camera to preserve bandwidth
 - Please silence cell phones
 - If you must take call, please step out of the room
- Submit questions using the Chat Box feature, and USAID will respond to as many as possible at the end of the presentation

Overview for DRC RFSA

- Comment period: Closes February 2, 2023
- Email Questions to:
BHA.RFA.720BHA23RFA00001@usaid.gov
- Revised Final RFA is TBD
- Anticipated Award Date: August 2023

DRC CDCS

The USAID/DRC Country Development Cooperation Strategy is guided by three principles and targets specific geographies, including the Resilience Focus Zone (RFZ).

Partnerships

Engaging partners in new ways—through opportunities such as USAID’s New Partnership Initiative (NPI)—and centering programs around anchor institutions.

Integration

Pursuing an integrated multi-sectoral approach to development programs.

Adaptation

Employing an adaptive management approach that focuses on the end results of assistance, while keeping implementation flexible and responsive to contextual changes.

Geographic Focus

Ituri, South Kivu, North Kivu, Tanganyika, Haut-Uele, Maniema, Haut-Katanga, Lualaba, and the Kasais.

Results Framework

- **Goal:** A more peaceful and prosperous Democratic Republic of the Congo, with improved opportunities for communities and individuals to thrive.
 - **Development Objective 1:** Responsiveness of Public Institutions to Citizens' Needs Improved
 - **Development Objective 2:** Community Resilience Increased
 - **Development Objective 3:** Inclusive, Broad-Based and Sustainable Economic Growth Increased

Overview of DRC RFSA

Country	Selected Provinces	Total Funding Amount (2023 - 2027)	Total Amount Per Year (2023 - 2027)	Type of Funds	Total Number of Awards
DRC	Tanganyika Kasai Kasai Central	\$317 million	\$63.5 million	Title II non-emergency • 25% Commodity procurement, transportation, handling, and storage • 75% Section 202(e)	Up to four awards

Background and Context

- The DRC ranks 179 out of 191 countries on the Human Development Index
- An estimated 72 percent of the population lives in poverty.
- According to the most recent Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) Chronic Food Insecurity analysis:
 - Kasai Province was at level 4 (severe chronic food insecurity)
 - Kasai Central and Tanganyika were at level 3 (food insecurity)

Background and Context

- A lack of good agricultural (crop, livestock, aquaculture, etc.) practices and extension services
- A lack of access to inputs and services
- Poor soil quality
- Deforestation
- Cultural norms impacting gender roles and responsibilities in agriculture
- A lack of appropriate equipment and technologies
- Negative effects of climate change
- Crop and animal diseases

Background and Context

Indicator	Kasai	Kasai Central	Tanganyika
Stunting levels among children under five	47.4 percent	53.7 percent	18.7 percent
Exclusive Breastfeeding for children 0 - 5 months	30.1 percent	47.6 percent	55.3 percent

Background and Context

Indicator	Kasai	Kasai Central	Tanganyika
Access basic water services within 30 minutes of their home.	11.2 percent	8.5 percent	40.9 percent
Access to improved sanitation facilities	6.2 percent	10.4 percent	19.2 percent

Geographic Targeting



Kasai



Kasai Central



Tanganyika

Territories and Health Zones Not Included

Province	Territories and Health Zones Not Included
Tanganyika	• Territories — Nyunzu and Kongolo • Health zones – Kalemie, Nyemba, Moba, and Kansimba
Kasai	• No restrictions
Kasai Central	• Dimbelenge territory

GOAL: Food, nutrition and economic security (FNES) is sustainably improved among vulnerable households

Purpose 1: Strengthened livelihoods and increased incomes

Purpose 2: Improved utilization of food among vulnerable people

Sub-Purpose 1.1:
Improved usage to credit and capital

Sub-Purpose 1.2:
Increased profitable, diverse small and medium enterprises and income-generating activities (IGAs)

Sub-Purpose 1.3:
Increased sustainable agricultural production

Sub-Purpose 2.1:
Improved maternal infant and young child nutrition behaviors

Sub-Purpose 2.2:
Improved WASH behaviors

Risk Reduction and Resilience

Power Dynamics, Gender, and Social Inclusion

Governance

Climate Adaptation

Purpose 1: Strengthened Livelihoods and Increased Incomes

- Improve usage of fair and equitable credit and capital to increase profitable enterprises and agricultural production.
- Include on-farm, off-farm, and/or non-farm livelihoods, from self-employment to small business creation
- Prioritize the interests of women, youth, and vulnerable groups.

Purpose 2: Improved utilization of food among vulnerable people

- USAID encourages applicants to select three to five key maternal, infant, and young child nutrition behaviors.
- Equitable and affordable access to sustainable WASH infrastructure is a precondition to improving WASH behaviors

Integration Across Purposes

Throughout the design and implementation, partners will be expected, to the extent possible, to integrate Purpose 1 and 2 activities across the same participant population.

Cross-cutting Themes

- Risk Reduction and Resilience
- Governance
- Gender, Youth, Social Inclusion, and Patterns of Power
- Climate Adaptation

Key Personnel

- Chief of Party
- Strategic Learning Advisor
- Gender, Youth, and Social Inclusion Lead
- Monitoring and Evaluation Lead
- Commodity Manager
- Purpose 1 Lead
- Purpose 2 Lead

Management

- Staffing plan should demonstrate the ability to recruit highly qualified, technical, managerial, M&E, commodity management, and program learning staff.
- Management structure that ensures:
 - The efficient use of resources
 - Effective and adaptive management
 - Strong technical implementation
 - Logistical, operational, financial, and administrative support

Title II Commodities

- Demonstrate how Title II commodities will contribute to the stated purposes, sub-purposes, and cross cutting themes
- Avoid disincentivizing engagement in Purpose 1 activities
- Provide a description of the ration including the amount of each commodity being proposed
- Demonstrate experience managing the transportation, storage, and distribution of significant volumes of food commodities in challenging environments.

Sustainability

- Applicants must consider sustainability throughout all aspects of the design.
- Applicants should integrate the sustainability strategy within each technical sector and intervention.
- Four factors for sustainability: resources, capacities, motivation, and linkages

Theory of Change

- The applicant must develop a TOC that maps out the hypothesized series of changes expected to occur within a specific target population in a given context as the result of specific interventions.
- BHA requires a TOC diagram accompanied by complementary TOC documentation submitted with application.

LogFrame

- All applicants must submit a brief Logical Framework (LogFrame) in their application and a detailed LogFrame matrix as an annex.
- The LogFrame should include at least one indicator for each result and may include qualitative inquiries (i.e., qualitative monitoring or qualitative studies), if relevant at the application stage.

M&E Plan

- Monitoring interventions, outcomes, and resilience
- Staffing: M&E personnel
- Strengthening M&E capacity of activity monitoring staff
- Demonstrate ability and interest to collaborate in the design of an external impact evaluation

Refine and Implement

- Applicants must describe how they will effectively use the refinement period to better understand the:
 - Needs, priorities, opportunities, aspirations, norms, and behaviors at the household and community levels.
 - Location-specific root causes of food, nutrition, and economic insecurity including relevant shocks and stressors.
 - Capacities and gaps in local formal and informal institutions, and the power dynamics surrounding them.
 - Viability of proposed approaches in the specific geographic areas.

Merit Review Criteria

Merit Review Criteria	Maximum Possible Points
a) Activity Design	75
<i>Context Analysis, Targeting, and Conceptual Framework</i>	15
<i>Appropriate Design of Interventions</i>	30
<i>Community and Public and Private Sector Engagement</i>	10
<i>Sustainability</i>	10
<i>Gender, Youth, and Social Inclusion</i>	10
b) Management & Staffing	25
<i>Logistics and Operations</i>	15
<i>Staffing</i>	10
<u>Total Possible Points</u>	100

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Q&A Ground Rules

- Start with questions from those attending in person and on-line, then move to the chat
- Please raise your hand
- If all in-person questions are addressed we will move to the chat
- If we do not get to all questions, they will all be saved and taking into consideration as the RFA is revised.