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Issue Date:	October 18, 2015
Deadline to Register for Pre-Application Conference:	November 2, 2015 at 4:30 pm Jordan Time
Deadline for Question/ Clarification:	November 6, 2015 at 4:30 pm Jordan Time
Pre-Application Conference:	November 18, 2015
Anticipated Response/Amendment:	December 2, 2015
Closing Date:	December 18, 2015
Closing Time:	4:30 pm Jordan time
Subject:	**Notice of Funding Opportunity Number RFA-278-16-000002**
Program Title:	**USAID/Jordan Water Conservation Activity (WCA)**

Ladies/Gentlemen:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is seeking applications from qualified organizations to provide technical assistance and support to USAID/Jordan Water Conservation Activity (WCA). The applicable Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number is 98.001, USAID Foreign Assistance for Programs Overseas. Please refer to the Section C of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for eligibility requirements.

For the purposes of this NOFO the term "Grant" is synonymous with "Cooperative Agreement"; "Grantee" is synonymous with "Recipient"; and "Grant Officer" is synonymous with "Agreement Officer". Eligible organizations interested in submitting an application are encouraged to read this funding opportunity thoroughly to understand the type of program sought, application submission requirements and evaluation process.

To be eligible for the award, the applicant must provide all information as required in this NOFO and meet eligibility standards in Section C of this NOFO. This funding opportunity is posted on www.grants.gov, and may be amended. Potential applicants should regularly check the website to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to this notice of funding opportunity. Applicants will need to have available or download Adobe program to their computers in order to view and save the Adobe forms properly. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the entire NOFO has been received from the internet in its entirety and USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion process. If you have difficulty registering on www.grants.gov or accessing the NOFO, please contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 or via email at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

The successful Applicant will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives. Please read each section of the NOFO.

All questions related to this NOFO should be directed to the point(s) of contact identified in section D. The deadline for questions is shown above. Responses to questions received prior to the deadline will be furnished to all potential applicants through an amendment to this notice posted to www.grants.gov.

USAID/Jordan intends to host a Pre-Application Conference to provide information regarding this program and to address questions and requests for clarification. The conference will be held in Washington, D.C. on the date indicated above, and is open to all potential applicants. Detailed information is provided in Section D.

USAID/Jordan reserves the right to conduct an oral presentation with the apparent successful applicant(s), at the discretion of the Agreement Officer. As determined necessary, the apparent successful Applicant(s), will be notified accordingly and invited to present in person at USAID/Jordan.

Issuance of this notice of funding opportunity does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government nor does it commit the Government to pay for any costs incurred in preparation or submission of comments/suggestions or an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Sincerely,

Luis A. Rivera
Director, Acquisition and Assistance Office

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABREVIATIONS AND ACCROYNMS

ADS	Automated Directives System
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
AMEP	Activity Monitoring & Evaluation Plans
BRP	Badia Restoration Program (MoENV)
CBIWDM	Community Based Initiative for Water Demand Management (USAID/Jordan Project)
CBO	Community Based Organization
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
DCA	Development Credit Authority
DO	Development Objective
EDE	Office of Economic Development and Energy
ESCB	Energy Sector Capacity Building Project (USAID/Jordan Project)
GAP	Good Agricultural Practices
G2G	Government to Government (GOJ – USG)
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GIZ	*Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (Germany)
GOJ	Government of Jordan
Ha	Hectare
HWF	Highlands Water Forum
IAA	Inter-Agency Agreement
ICARDA	International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas
IR	Intermediate Result
ISSP	Institutional Support and Strengthening Project (USAID/Jordan Project)
JCP	Jordan Competitiveness Program (USAID/Jordan Project)
JLGF	Jordan Loan Guarantee Fund (USAID/Jordan Project)
JV	Jordan Valley
JVA	Jordan Valley Authority
JVWF	Jordan Valley Water Forum
LENS	Local Enterprise Support Project (USAID/Jordan Project)
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MCM	Million Cubic Meters
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MOA	Ministry of Agriculture
MoENV	Ministry of Environment
MOPIC	Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation
MoSD	Ministry of Social Development
MWI	Ministry of Water and Irrigation
MWSI	Middle East Water Security Initiative
NCARE	National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
NWC	Network of Water Centers of Excellence (USAID/Middle East Bureau Project)
RLCs	Rangeland Cooperatives
SC	Selection Committee
TVE	Technical and Vocational Education
UNCC	United Nations Compensation Commission
USAID	United States Agency for International Development

USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USG	United States Government
WCA	Water Conservation Activity
WLI	Water and Livelihoods Initiative (ICARDA)
WUA	Water User Association

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
Water Conservation Activity (WCA)

SECTION A – PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. INTRODUCTION

The objective of the Water Conservation Activity (WCA) is to save water in Jordan and create a national movement for water conservation. In the long-term, the WCA is expected to significantly decrease over-drafting of Highland aquifers; augment water availability in households; increase capture of rainwater currently lost through evaporation or run-off; and convince farmers to adopt high-value/water-efficient crops and practices.

Chronic water scarcity is expected to worsen in the years to come. Groundwater overexploitation has led to declining water tables, drying up of springs, and deteriorating water quality; threatening the economic prosperity and quality of life for millions of Jordanians. The situation has been exacerbated in recent years by a rapidly growing population and the influx of hundreds of thousands of refugees.

Costly desalination, deeper drilling of existing wells and the transport of water from remote non-renewable sources have all been implemented extensively in Jordan over the last ten years. Conservation needs to occur among the groups that use water most inefficiently and least profitably, on a scale that will meaningfully conserve the greatest volume of water.

The WCA implementation will be complemented by an Inter-Agency Agreement between USAID and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), funded independently from the Cooperative Agreement, to assist with shrub seedling and transplantation techniques. USFS will cooperate with a major effort on water conservation – the Government of Jordan's Badia Restoration Program (GOJ-BRP) – to help restore hydrological processes in the Badia.

Interventions will be progressively scaled up, sending a clear message to the public that solutions are available to better manage the scarce supply of water in Jordan. Water conservation is vital to enhancing efficiency and is much easier to achieve at a reasonable cost to the nation compared to solutions on the supply side. Unquestionably, the GOJ has done a good job in creating new supplies of water but further augmentation of supply will be difficult and expensive.

The WCA includes the following components inside the bold line (Figure 1):

(1) Implementing science and technology to enhance water use efficiency and availability (50-60% of WCA effort).

(2) Improving aquifer recharge and soil water storage: helping communities with revolving loans and grants to enhance water harvesting technologies and livelihood activities (10-20% of the WCA effort).

    Note that in the Badia, the revolving loans are expected to complement a separate implementation mechanism between the GOJ-BRP and USFS that is focused specifically on seedling production and transplantation by Rangeland Cooperatives (RLCs).

(3) Strengthening the capacity of institutions that support and sustain Components 1 and 2 (20-30% of the WCA effort).

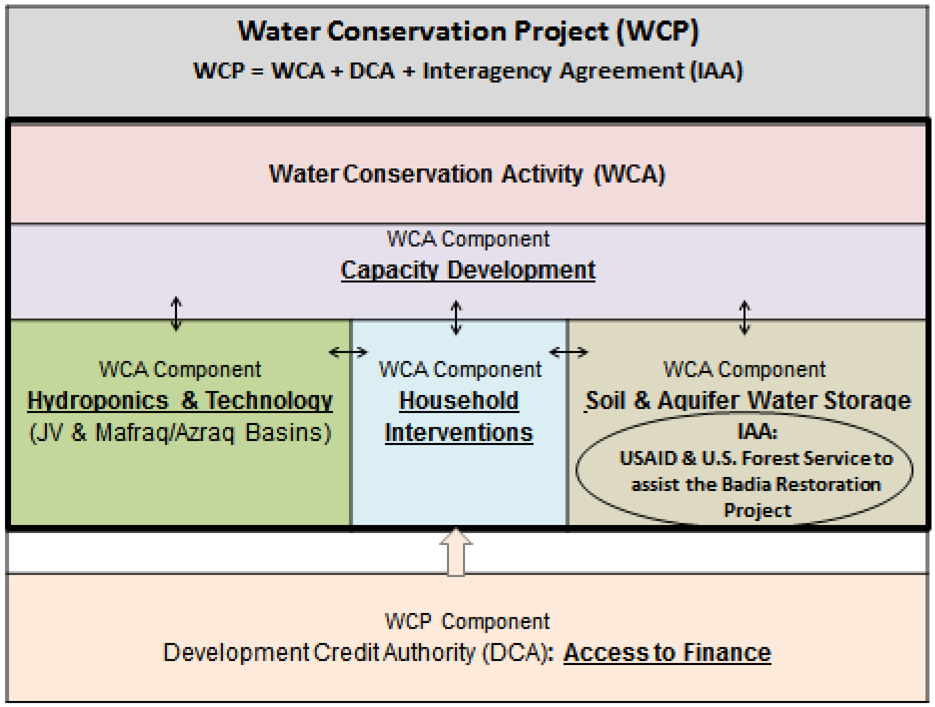

Figure 1. Structure of the WCP and WCA.

2. BACKGROUND

(1) Statement of Challenges and Opportunities

Jordan is the one of the five most water poor countries in the world[1] and is struggling to balance water supply and demand. On top of its 6,984,000 citizens[2] and 2.2 percent[3] population growth rate, there are approximately 630,000 registered Syrians[4] and 750,000 resident Syrians[5] who were in Jordan prior to the civil war, who also require water. To quench their thirst, Jordan absorbs and faces rapidly increasing costs to expand delivery – yet the new sources of supply are very expensive.

Groundwater is over-extracted for irrigation and drinking water at twice the rate of recharge, which will further reduce the availability of water in Jordan. In order to take steps to understand and better manage the problem, the Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MWI) commissioned a comprehensive socio-economic survey of groundwater wells across the Kingdom. USAID's Institutional Support and Strengthening Program (ISSP), collaborating with MWI, used existing studies and reliable data recently collected at the farm level. The key results from the eight most important basins in Jordan are as follows:[6]

1. Mafraq is the leading basin in the total estimated abstracted groundwater for agricultural uses followed by Azraq. Mafraq basin represents 28 percent of the total groundwater abstraction in all

[1] http://www.fao.org/nr/water/aquastat/maps/World-Map.TRWR.cap_eng.htm: Total Renewable Water Resources (TRWR) in m^3/person/year -- (1) UAE 18.5; (2) Yemen 82.13; (3) Saudi Arabia 83.61; (4) Libya 108.20; (5) Jordan 145.10; (6) Palestinian Authority 196.00; (7) Israel 231.30; (8) Algeria 319.80; (9) Tunisia 429.20; (10) Oman 482.10. View against TRWR in the USA at 9718 m3/person/year.

[2] http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.TOTL

[3] http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.POP.GROW

[4] http://data.unhcr.org/syrianrefugees/regional.php

[5] https://pangea.stanford.edu/researchgroups/jordan/sites/default/files/El-Naser%20Stanford%20presentation_0.pdf

[6] USAID (December, 2014 version). Socio-Economic Analysis Report of Groundwater Wells in Jordan, All Basins Report.180 pp. with 8 Appendices. See pp. 37-40 for data referenced. Prepared by USAID/Jordan Institutional Support & Strengthening Program (ISSP). http://isspjordan.org/files/upload/resources/0e74f727c0fddb580fb8b1c0070b8cf8.pdf

basins followed by Azraq basin at 23 percent.

2. Across all 8 basins surveyed, 55 percent of the volume of groundwater was used to irrigate olive trees, led by Mafraq and Azraq. In Azraq, 71 percent of the total abstracted water was used only for irrigation of olive trees.
3. Results show that 73 percent of the total abstracted groundwater was used by large farmers (380 farms with greater than 20 ha).
4. Based on crop water requirements, 333 of 1240 respondents are abstracting more than 150,000 m^3/year/farm of underground water with 7.2 percent of these farms producing only for export.
5. In two-thirds of the cases, regardless of farm size and across all basins, family members do not live on their farms. For small farmers, 67 percent do not live on their farms; and 37 percent earn less than 20 percent of their total income from farming. Both of these factors raise doubts about the social and economic significance of small farms. The majority of these small farmers (96 percent) pump less than 50,000 m3 of water per year but because the volume is less than 150,000 m3/year they are also not charged for water, which in some cases is being pumped and sold (which will be tackled by another USAID activity on policy matters).

The total irrigated areas increased from 66,603 ha in 1994 to 102,400 ha in 2010[7] with the main expansion in the Highlands. The summarized version of the same study gives the allocation of water consumed by irrigation (Table 1). Irrigated agriculture consumes 55.5 percent of the available surface, ground and treated waste water, while only contributing 3 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). More value per cubic meter of water can be achieved by improving the efficiency of water use by improving the technical and advisory services delivered to farmers. Such initiatives have the potential to create 15,000 new jobs in agriculture (2030 Water Resources Group Report[8]). New jobs are desperately needed in Jordan, as the data point to significant youth and female unemployment issues in Jordan.

Table 1. National Water Supply and Consumptive Use in Million Cubic Meters (MCM), (MWI data, 2010).

Source	Domestic	Industrial	Irrigation	Livestock	Total	Share
Surface water	120.0	6.6	154.5	7.0	288.1	31.9%
Ground water	231.7	33.9	245.0	0.3	510.9	56.6%
Treated wastewater	0.0	1.5	101.5	0.0	103.0	11.4%
Total water used	351.7	42.0	501.0	7.3	902.0	100.0%
Share	39.0%	4.7%	55.5%	0.8%		

There are four challenges associated with the over-use and insufficient water conservation in Jordan**:**

1. Policy Environment
2. Lack of Usage of Water-Saving Technologies
3. Insufficient Aquifer Recharge and Soil Water Storage
4. Lack of Institutions to Support Technology Adoption

Policy Environment. A large part of the lack of competitiveness for private sector companies in the water sector is undoubtedly due to the existing price of water being so low that there are few incentives to drive conservation efforts, encourage the purchase of water-saving technologies, or ultimately reduce water usage for those who have access to water. Policies and regulations are not working or are not being enforced to recover costs in the water sector sufficiently to incentivize the use of water-saving

[7] Source: USAID, 2012. Water Valuation Study, Oct 2012. USAID/Jordan Institutional Support and Strengthening Program (ISSP), p.52
[8] 2030 Water Resources Group (2011). Accelerating water sector transformation in Jordan. Final Report. 20 October 2011. p.7; and p.32 of a publically available document (http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF/WRG_Background_Impact_and_Way_Forward.pdf).

technologies. Compliance and enforcement are policy implementation issues and a management challenge. Theft of water is difficult to control. WCA will work with a complementary activity in USAID/Jordan that will tackle the policy issues; but *the main concentration of effort in WCA will be the following three challenges:*

Lack of Usage of Water-Saving Technologies. One notable wide-spread technology for water conservation is drip irrigation, which is presently used across the country; however, management of drip irrigation is very bad and there is very slow adoption of pipelines with durable plastics that last up to five years instead of 1-2 years. Many other technologies are not being purchased and used on a wide-scale basis although there is a demand for many of the interventions because they save money for electricity and for water. In addition to physical technologies, there are management and behavior best practices that are not being rigorously applied, such as deficit irrigation or supplementary irrigation. Interviews with water users reveal that they are not using these technologies and/or management practices because they need extension and advisory services, which are weak in Jordan.

Insufficient Aquifer Recharge and Soil Water Storage. Approximately 3 billion cubic meters of water fall in the Badia every year but only 90 MCM, or 3 percent, are harvested and utilized due to the lack of water harvesting systems that are needed to capture and store the water. Rainwater runoff catchment ponds, grazing management, vegetative cover on watersheds are all known and proven techniques to encourage aquifer recharge and soil water storage.

Lack of Institutions to Support Technology Adoption. One bottleneck to adopting water-conservation, storage and aquifer recharge technologies is the lack of local institutions to support adoption. Local institutions, especially Government of Jordan (GOJ) institutions, typically are able to fund the salaries of employees but are limited in their operational budgets and, therefore, have a weakened ability to provide services.

Cross-cutting access to finance issues. In many cases there is a demand for the new technologies at the household, community, and/or farm level but financing is not available and/or is unaffordable, preventing widespread purchase of the technology. Availing communities with revolving loans, commercial loans (where acceptable) and grants to enhance livelihoods and water saving technologies would assist all of the physical target areas of the WCA – in the Jordan Valley (JV), Highlands and Badia.

(2) Relationship to the USAID Strategy and US Foreign Policy Objectives in Jordan

The development hypothesis is that in order for water to be sustainably available, conservation and management of water by Jordan's end users at the household and agricultural levels is essential. This approach is aimed at reducing the amount of ground water, municipal water, and/or potable surface water needed for a given use and/or capturing rainwater to support a household and/or agricultural use (including aquifer recharge and soil water storage). Capturing rainwater is important especially in rural areas, where households are already using lower than average amounts of water. Captured rainwater will reduce either municipal and/or groundwater usage or it will at least reduce the need to drill deeper and deeper wells to access groundwater. Institutions are needed that can sustainably promote these technologies (and their financing) so they can be rolled out and utilized more widely.

Provision of water for household, commercial and livelihood needs is a critical service provided by GOJ institutions. It is equally important to match level of water quality with quality required for use, meaning that the best water quality need not be allocated for agriculture. This directly addresses:

- *Development Objective (DO) #3, of USAID/Jordan's Results Framework, which is "Quality of Social Services Improved."*
    - *This Activity focuses on Intermediate Result (IR) #3, "Accountable, sustainable management of water resources increased," which supports:*

- *Sub-IR 2 "Water Conserved,"* which targets water savings of at least 10-20 MCM in five years.

Activities leading to water conservation through the use of improved agriculture technologies to grow water-efficient, high-value crops will also have a secondary impact and contribute to:

- *DO#1 "Broad-based inclusive economic development accelerated," through:*
  - *IR#1, "Private sector competitiveness increased;"*
  - *IR#2, "Workforce development and opportunities for vulnerable groups increased, especially for the poor, women and youth"; and*
  - *IR#3, "Management of energy resources improved[9]."*

(3) Relationship to Government of Jordan and Other Jordanian Priorities

The GOJ is a close partner to USAID, with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, playing the major role under Development Objective #3, along with lesser roles played by the Ministry of Environment (MoENV) and the Ministry of Agriculture (MOA).

- MWI developed a national water strategy titled "Water for Life" for the period of 2008-2022. Water demand goals include capping irrigated agriculture in the Highlands and adjusting water tariffs and incentives to promote irrigation efficiency and higher value crops.
- The Minister, MOA, acknowledges that the agricultural industry is under pressure to better use Jordan's scarce water resources. MOA supports work to increase water efficiency and productivity in the agricultural sector; encouraging high value, low water-use crops; and potentially exploring other income-generating activities in rural areas.
- The GOJ-BRP in the MoENV is a program funded by the UN Compensation Commission (UNCC), working to rehabilitate and restore rangelands in the Badia that were damaged by the influx of Iraqi refugees and their livestock herds following the first Gulf War. The program plans to: (1) construct a network of earthen dams that create small reservoirs to function as livestock watering points, sources of irrigation water, and groundwater recharge areas, (2) conduct watershed-scale re-vegetation efforts using indigenous shrubs, and (3) encourage improved rangeland management practices. The WCA proposes to work in an overlapping set of communities to complement the GOJ-BRP support from the USAID Inter-Agency Agreement with USFS, focusing on shrub nurseries and plantation techniques with RLCs.

(4) Complementarity with Other Donor Efforts

USAID does not work in isolation and care should be taken to de-conflict, build upon or complement the efforts funded by other donors. Two primary stakeholder fora and the following list of successful donor projects have brought together farmers, governmental representatives, university researchers, and donor partners to advance issues of agricultural productivity, water management, and marketing in the JV and the Highlands.

- Germany's *Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) is the facilitator of the Highland Water Forum (HWF), which brings together stakeholders, including influential Highland farmers, and representatives from MWI, MOA, MoENV, NGOs, academia, and local groups in Azraq to discuss new agricultural techniques, approaches for transitioning to higher value, less water-intensive crops, and reforming policies for water use in the agricultural sector. The HWF was formed in 2010. One of its advantages is its legitimacy as a venue where Highland

[9] The Activity aims to make available both water- and energy-saving devices such as brackish water desalination units and photo-voltaic panels. In all cases, implementers will collect indicator data that we will share with the relevant projects and personnel at USAID who manage the efforts.

water users can speak about their concerns, which provides an important forum for WCA to intersect and show USAID's alignment with the HWF agreed-upon plan of work.

- The Jordan Valley Water Forum (JVWF) is not as well developed as the HWF, with representation from Water User Associations (WUA), agricultural investment companies and governmental entities i.e., Jordan Valley Authority (JVA), MWI, MOA, and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC).
- European projects in the JV are working on topics that all aim to improve infrastructure, conserve and better manage water that are complementary to WCA, including (a) Germany's *Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau* infrastructure loan of €20 million and €1.5 million grant for accompanying measures and, (b) a sequence of three European Union projects in the JV concerned with irrigated agriculture.

3. ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

(1) Activity Purpose, Sub-purposes and Approaches

The main programmatic goal of WCA is to conserve water. WCA will focus over the next five years on conserving water by utilizing proven, improved and cutting edge technologies. The Activity will focus on the Sub-Intermediate Result "Water Conserved." WCA will seek to save and/or conserve a minimum of 10-20 MCM of water during the five years of the activity.

The activity will adopt water-conserving practices, requiring educating the people on how the water-conservation works in order to increase their understanding and to embrace the personal benefit for adopting the plan. The WCA will seek to achieve its water saving goals by addressing three objectives:

1. **Water conserving technologies and behavior changes can be adopted** by introducing agriculture and household technologies; promoting interventions such as cisterns, roof top water tanks, durable new replacement drip irrigation networks; implementing wastewater treatment and reuse and using recirculating hydroponic systems and brackish water desalination across the country (Figure 2).
2. **Sustainable soil water storage and aquifer recharge can be improved** through incentives that save water and also improve livelihoods. The WCA will supply communities with revolving loans and grants to enhance livelihoods and use water saving technologies. This component will complement a G2G[10] effort between the USFS and GOJ-BRP that is focused specifically on water conservation through rangeland shrub seedling production and transplantation.
3. **Institutions should be strengthened to promote water saving technologies** to ensure widespread and sustainable adoption of technologies in the previous two components through resolving bottlenecks such as their access to technologies, demonstrations, vocational-technical education, and finance[11].

[10] G2G: Government to Government (GOJ – USG)

[11] WCA will coordinate with other efforts to promote technology and private sector participation in this process, especially the USAID/Washington Middle East Water Security Initiative regional program and the USAID/Jordan Competitiveness Program.

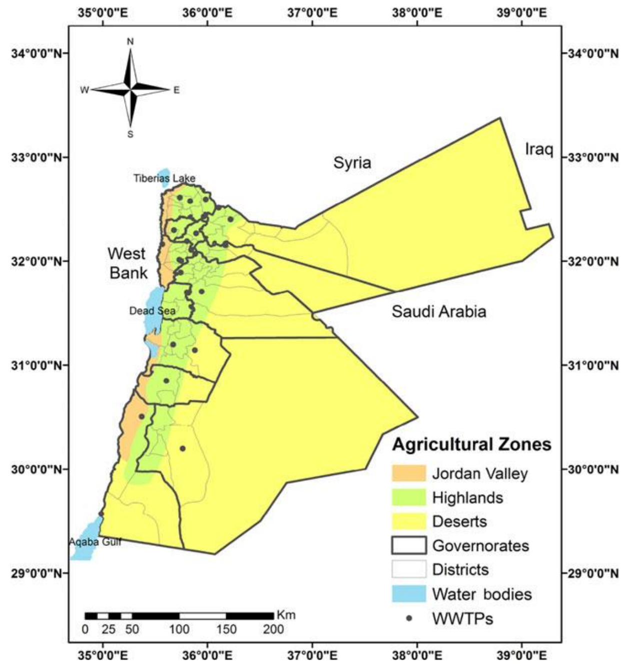

Figure 2: Map of Jordan showing the JV, Highlands and deserts (Badia).

During the 5-year Activity the WCA will seek to:

- Promote a variety of technologies including hydroponic production, construction of cisterns and water harvesting for water conservation in the JV, Highlands, and Badia with potential secondary impacts on creation of greater incomes, jobs for youth and women-run businesses in Jordan.
- Assist households and farms both save and harvest water; store and efficiently use water; and/or transform lower quality water for domestic and/or agricultural use.
- Support GOJ-BRP, through technical and financial assistance from the USFS, to successfully demonstrate proper seedling production and transplantation techniques with RLCs in the Badia.
- Initiate integrated watershed management and training in the WCA, leading to improved aquifer recharge and increased soil water storage, providing a model for replication in the GOJ-BRP.
- Strengthen local institutions that will continue to promote technology adoption after the end of the activity.

To have a large scale impact and due to the urgency of this effort, the activity will focus on the most wasteful existing uses of water and where the potential to save water is the greatest; therefore, the geographic focus should include:

- A focus on households, primarily in the refugee-affected areas, for establishment of cisterns and new activities of interest to Community Based Organizations (CBOs) and RLCs.
- A portion of the JV as far south as Fifa, where there is already a sizable investment in greenhouses that could be converted to closed, recirculating, hydroponic systems.
- Work with owners of irrigated olive plantations in Mafraq and Azraq basins[12] to adopt hydroponic production of high value, water-saving crops.

[12] The Jordanian Department of Statistics (Yearbook, 2013) reported total production as 128,200 tons grown on 62,300 ha. According to NCARE, the irrigated portion in the northeast of Jordan represents 24 percent of the national production which is further divided into 83 percent that is processed for olive oil and 17% for table olives (http://www.ncare.gov.jo/OliveProgram/index.htm). Thus, the Activity would attempt to convert olives grown by a relatively small group in two specific basins – Mafraq and Azraq – who are consuming a large portion of the country's groundwater.

(2) Activity Outcomes

1. Outcome 1: Water-saving technologies and behavior change adopted

WCA will promote technology alternatives that use much less water than the existing practices. Although these types of water conservation practices are needed across Jordan, the focus will be on improving, promoting, and adopting technologies where the impact on conserving water will be the greatest. WCA will encourage their roll-out across the country by collaborating with the GOJ, other donors, the private sector and community groups. The challenge for the implementer will be to fashion a parsimonious and focused application that chooses wisely from a large suite of possible interventions and approaches. *The applicants should select an optimum combination of interventions in their submission.*

WCA seeks water-saving technologies with the greatest potential for impact. To promote and share technologies, interventions could complement the new and existing technologies supported by USAID, such as the Community Based Initiatives for Water Demand Management (CBIWDM), implemented by Mercy Corps; the Water and Livelihoods Initiative (WLI), implemented by ICARDA

(http://www.icarda.org/wli/reports.html); the Hydroponic Green Farming Initiative (HGFI) implemented by ECO Consult; and the Middle East and North Africa Network for Water Centers of Excellence (MENA-NWC), implemented by DAI (http://menanwc.org). For the CBIWDM and HGFI, seminal documents can be located on the USAID/Jordan portal (https://usaidjordankmportal.com). Applicants may search for documents under "Collections" in a folder entitled "Water Conservation."

WCA will support household and community level water-savings and livelihood interventions. WCA expects to increase the number of highly trained women in community leadership positions in CBOs/WUAs/RLCs across the JV, Highlands and the Badia. The WCA will continue providing households with cisterns, rooftop water tanks, PV panels and plumbing fixtures using new WCA grants for interest-free revolving loans offered to members of CBOs/WUAs/RLCs (selected by the implementer).

For commercial loans, the implementer should also develop access to finance needed for interventions such as desalination units, warehouses and cold chain equipment by interacting with several "access to finance" projects that already exist in the USAID/Office of Economic Development and Energy (EDE).[13] Additionally, new partial credit guarantees could be made available through the Development Credit Authority (DCA) – if demand exists – through a separate but coordinated mechanism after the WCA is launched.

In the case of agricultural CBOs, WUAs, and RLCs, linkages to the USAID/EDE Work Force Development program could train youth, at first with grant assistance but eventually with fees paid to the CBOs by members for vocational-technical services. The youth could be taught how to decrease household water and energy bills (e.g. hydroponic nutrient and salinity monitoring, post-harvest management, and marketing) and help CBO/WUA/RLC members to switch from low water-value to high water-value crops. One plausible hypothesis is that by producing what both saves water and sells for a good price, agricultural members of CBOs/WUAs/RLCs could associate and aggregate their fruits/vegetables for sale through contracts made with exporters and domestic buyers; thus developing an increased cadre of people using water-saving, money-making hydroponic practices.

[13] Jordan Guaranteed Loan Fund (JGLF); Local Enterprise Support (LENS); Jordan Competitiveness Project (JCP); Energy Sector Capacity Building (ESCB). For example the WCA may participate in the "Deal-Flow" Unit (a working group among the aforementioned projects).

Under the WCA, it should be possible to double the number of cisterns from 5,000 to 10,000, should the implementer choose to implement this intervention in their proposed plan. The implementer should recommend whether to continue to work with the existing CBOs or modify the activity to be more effective under present conditions. For example, the implementer might develop commercial loans for CBO members who are willing to use them, possibly backed by partial loan guarantees through the DCA.

Illustrative Technical Interventions: The following are potential technologies and interventions that could be considered but are not mandatory:

- Implementers are encouraged to select an optimum suite of interventions and approaches to demonstrate and feasibly scale-out new water-saving technologies that to date have little penetration in Jordan, e.g. hydroponic production, which represents a viable method for producing more vegetables using far less water and inputs.
- Improved rain-fed farming techniques using water harvesting could shift the dependence away from fully irrigated to dryland production techniques that are complemented by limited amounts of irrigation to ensure a good harvest.
- Conservation agriculture in the arable Highlands (i.e. low- and no-till plowing) or a shift from full to supplementary irrigation in the Jordan Valley could be adopted to also save water.
- Improved irrigation efficiency resulting in water savings at the farm level and decreased exploitation of groundwater would save water through: (a) optimizing the efficiency and durability of the irrigation network and management practices; (b) use of higher quality filtration systems and emitters; (c) use of mulch under stone fruit and olive trees; (d) improved drainage systems; and (e) training.
- Improvement of treated wastewater reuse or integration of constructed wetlands into community effluent management could off-set the use of groundwater and protect water quality in Jordan.
- Low cost innovations for desalination of brackish water could enhance hydroponic production in Jordan and the Middle East.
- Promotion of packages of technologies to save water by households and other groups might be a good approach: CBOs, WUAs, RLCs, schools, hospitals, and government buildings -- using, for example, rooftop water tanks, backyard cisterns, grey water and wastewater systems.

2. Outcome 2: Sustainable aquifer recharge and soil water storage improved

Cooperation with GOJ-BRP is required: In order to feed water into the aquifers and soils, the GOJ-BRP calls for the construction of hundreds of dams and ponds in the Badia as well as thousands of hectares of shrubs planted in furrows plowed on contours to catch and hold water to sustain the shrubs. The MoENV coordinates this effort with support from MOA on the shrub transplantation, National Center for Agricultural Research and Extension (NCARE) on contour furrowing and JVA on dam and pond building. USAID will enhance and strengthen the program by developing a G2G agreement between GOJ-BRP and USAID to focus on shrubs seedling production and transplantation techniques by RLCs.

USAID will organize an Inter-Agency Agreement (IAA) with the USFS. The USFS will become part of the GOJ-BRP management and supervisory team that will oversee the work in the Badia. Through the USFS technical assistance, the RLCs will initiate shrub nursery production using modern USFS techniques so that they can cooperate to produce seedlings for the GOJ-BRP. The RLCs, again with financial and technical support from GOJ-BRP, will then transplant these shrubs into contour furrows. This will demonstrate that Badia restoration can be successfully scaled out over time. It is anticipated that the Applicant(s) will plan and coordinate WCA activities so as to produce a synergistic or complementary interaction with the GOJ-BRP supported RLCs.

Sustainable soil water storage and aquifer recharge can be improved through incentives that save water and also improve livelihoods. Local institutions and RLCs have very different institutional capabilities and may require institutional strengthening. The WCA implementer will complement the GOJ-BRP and the IAA effort by using community grants and revolving loans for individual households to enhance livelihoods, while also using water more efficiently.

Efforts outside the Badia: These same water harvesting techniques can be used anywhere in the country and may have more success because of the higher precipitation in zones receiving more rainfall than the Badia. For example, fruit tree and olive plantations in the area between the JV and Highlands, receiving 200-350 mm of annual rainfall, are potential high impact areas for these interventions. The implementer should outline their suggested level of effort, either in collaboration with GOJ-BRP in the Badia and/or independent of the GOJ-BRP in the JV and Highlands.

Illustrative activities: The following list of interventions may be considered but are not mandatory. These activities embrace successful project efforts and also reflect critical gaps and enhancements to implementation; complementing the GOJ-BRP, or even adding to their efforts to encourage scaling-out, if mutually agreed upon by the respective management teams.

- Construction of rainwater catchments, ponds, cisterns, and gray water recycling systems in areas where water recharge and storage is targeted (e.g. JV with WUAs; Highlands with CBOs; Badia with RLCs).
- Women-organized/grown/managed nurseries to supply plants for ornamental use and/or vegetable seedling “starts” for hydroponic greenhouses.
- Green fodder (e.g. barley grown hydroponically in trays) scaled out through use of revolving loans as a way to supply animal fodder; therefore, reducing open grazing on newly rehabilitated shrub plantings.
- Guard against siltation of ponds and reservoirs in the Badia using proven technologies to slow erosion and plant cover to increase filtration on the watershed.

3. Outcome 3: Institutions strengthened to promote water-saving technologies

The WCA implementer should consider interventions that will ensure that robust local institutional and private sector capacity is in place to support the communities after the project is completed.

Illustrative activities provided below are not mandatory, however the approaches may be considered for creation of access to finance, education, extension and advisory services that help conserve water used in agriculture:

- Support NGOs/CBOs/WUAs/RLCs and schools that are promoting water-conserving, storing, or desalinating technologies and give them technical assistance to help develop high quality materials.
- Facilitate community level dialogue and enhance stakeholders’ access to water conservation information, with special attention to vulnerable populations, especially women and youth.
- Assist private sector vendors to network with farmers, community groups, and international vendors of cutting edge technologies not yet available in Jordan and help distribute information on use of the technology.
- Enhance workforce capacity in collaboration with the Technical and Vocational Education (TVE) institutions to provide vocational and workforce training in water conservation.

- Build capacity at TVE institutions to prepare graduates for employment and to conduct research to support water conservation implementation.
- Develop university curricula, student internships, in-service practical training, and faculty development related to water conservation.
- Facilitate other types of assistance, such as business skills and logistics support for farmers who are marketing water-saving agricultural crops.
- Support for the existing public sector institutions to promote and market proven technologies and demonstrations that lead to the roll out of the technologies and measurable water savings.
- Give competitive grants focused on programmatic gaps or opportunities, with a bias toward maximizing water savings per USAID dollar contribution to the grant.

A. Local institutional strengthening

WCA will provide access to technologies, demonstrations, and financing using training, advisory services and extension to interested and committed partners. This outcome will primarily focus on coordinating and supporting groups willing to participate in achieving the results sought under Components 1 and 2.

WCA will collaborate with other partners to promote technology and private sector participation in this process, especially USAID/Jordan's EDE, where several projects[14] are under implementation related to access to finance, energy and workforce development across the country.

B. Grants

Institutional Support Grants: WCA will seek approaches that will train and support motivated farmers, employees and organizations who agree to utilize new technologies and measure the savings of water that their efforts produce. WCA will encourage water savings by supplying grants to groups willing to provide extension, advisory or vocational-technical services for converting to water-saving crops that have high market demand. WCA will not hire extension agents to substitute for the lack of extension workers in the country but will focus on providing training to groups of people already employed and/or working in the sector who are willing to update their practices to reduce water usage (NCARE, Royal NGOs, NGOs, CBOs, WUAs, RLCs, universities).

C. Non-Interest Revolving Loans and Commercial Loans

Consideration should be given to CBOs, WUAs and RLCs for revolving loans. There is a long waiting list for revolving loans because the loans are small with a long repayment period. Grant funding already in the community should continue to support revolving loans in CBOs but it is not necessary to work with all 177 CBOs from the former USAID project. The implementer will recommend whether to extend a similar revolving loan program to support CBOs, WUAs and RLCs for small-scale water conservation interventions. USAID has turned over long-term monitoring of the revolving loan program to the Ministry of Social Development (MoSD) (https://usaidjordankmportal.com). For USAID and the applicants, the revolving loan exit strategy and sustainability plan involves working with MoSD to monitor revolving loans so that they may reliably continue to serve the community.

WCA is seeking to expand access to finance, for example, by turning to commercial credit, for at least the segment of CBO/WUA/RLC members willing to take interest-bearing loans. It is the responsibility of the implementer to recommend acceptable terms for more loans and larger loans that will accommodate additional water-saving technologies under the revolving loan activity. Community grants

[14] Jordan Guaranteed Loan Fund (JGLF); Local Enterprise Support (LENS); Jordan Competitiveness Project (JCP); Energy Sector Capacity Building (ESCB), Workforce Development Project (WfD). If a partnership is created the program will collect indicator data of interest for AORs/CORs in EDE, e.g. number of PV panels purchased with commercial loans to decrease energy costs in pumping water or heating structures.

may be used to incentivize the program. Demonstrations and Cost/Benefit Analyses could be used to indicate a high probability of successful repayment for loans that provide access to water-saving technologies.

D. USAID Development Credit Authority (DCA)

If the implementer is able to organize sufficient private sector interest in water-saving technologies, they will have access to the USAID/EDE programs and the USAID/DCA partial loan guarantees. It would be the implementer's responsibility to coordinate and facilitate this access to finance, with AORs/CORs and COPs/DCOPs within USAID/Jordan.

USAID's/DCA uses risk-sharing agreements to mobilize local private capital to fill financing gaps. For example, promoting hydroponic farming and easing up-front system costs will allow implementers to identify a supplier or an entity to assemble an entire hydroponic system. Through this model, the supplier extends a system on credit to interested farmers, with USAID/DCA guaranteeing 50% of any default. Creditors thus reduce their risk when providing loans to farmers, who previously may not have had access to such lending mechanisms, due to lack of collateral.

E. Summary of Modules in the WCA

Table 2: USAID WCA Cooperative Agreement	Percent of Activity
Component 1: Implementation of science and technology to enhance water availability, including:	*50-60%*
Revolving loan funds to CBOs/WUAs/RLCs as grants	
Partial assistance for water conservation technologies, as grants	
Community grants to incentivize water conservation	
Component 2: Enhance aquifer recharge and soil water storage, including:	*10-20%*
Revolving loan funds for RLCs as grants	
Partial assistance for water recharge/storage, as grants	
Community grants to incentivize water conservation	
Component 3: Institutional strengthening, including:	*20-30%*
Vo-Tech training grants	
WCA Total	100%

4. CROSS-CUTTING STRATEGY

(1) All Mission Development Objectives Must Contribute to Several Cross-Cutting Results

1. Gender

USAID's commitment to advance gender equality should be fully reflected in this activity. USAID/Jordan seeks to ensure gender considerations are incorporated into all aspects of its planned programs.

Interventions with farmer organizations and CBOs will include women and also target women's increased participation; therefore, increase their ability to contribute to civic life in rural Jordan. In the course of developing value chain markets for new water-saving commodities, it is expected that women-led groups, women farmers, and women participants in farmer groups will play lead roles in these activities that not only save water but also increase their potential incomes. It is also anticipated that women will be the beneficiaries of training interventions aimed at promoting and rolling out of new technologies; therefore, linking the activity to:

- *DO#4, 'Gender equality and female empowerment enhanced," through:*
    - *IR#3, "Improved girl- and women-centered services."*

Applicants should demonstrate their understanding of the different roles that men and women play in their respective areas of intervention and the impact that societal challenges have on each gender. They will also be required to describe what actions they will take to help men and women play their roles and surmount gender challenges, including: defining the activity-relevant gender challenges and opportunities, describing their approach for addressing gender issues, and providing relevant performance indicators to measure their achievements. Appropriate gender indicators will be tracked throughout the life of the activity and progress will be measured by both the implementing partners of the activity mechanisms, with support from the USAID M&E Support Program. Applicants should pay attention to their proposed long-term personnel to include someone with expertise on gender issues. Gender principles must be adhered to within their own operating environment as well as in fielding additional short-term consultants. During activity implementation, the applicant should ensure robust participation of women as agricultural development professionals.

Gender disaggregated indicators will be collected and reported accordingly, including an indicator that tracks changes in income levels for women. Research and demonstration activities will be designed with gender roles in mind to ensure the inclusion of income-generating activities appropriate for women. Capacity building efforts will include targets for women's participation.

The following are potential approaches that could be considered, but are not mandatory:

- Provision of technical assistance to CBOs/WUAs/RLCs and stakeholder fora with female beneficiaries to expand ownership and management opportunities.
- Pilot youth re-vegetation activities may include women as members and/or managers of re-vegetation crews.
- The activity should ensure that women are included in the target audience for microcredit loans to facilitate alternative livelihood activities, such as hydroponics seedling "starter" plant production nurseries.
- Build up new women-run high-value, low-water use crop value chains using the training and experience of women-run CBOs to mentor younger organizations that are run by women.
- Support women to integrate agronomic practices, processing, aggregation of product, and marketing of high value crops. Part of this chain can be assembled by tapping into the highly trained, but underemployed, women from universities to partner with CBOs in the value chains. For example, women graduates with a background in marketing and agriculture could connect potential hydroponic vegetable and herb suppliers from CBOs/WUAs/RLCs with orders from agribusiness exporters.

2. Youth

Interventions to promote new technologies, especially with the private sector, will seek to include youth in training and job creation. The following are potential approaches that could be considered, but are not mandatory:

- Establishment of vocational-technical courses for male and female youths to prepare them for jobs in hydroponic production of high value herbs, fruits and vegetables.
- Formation of specialized planting brigades that may work in cooperation with the GOJ-BRP, USFS and RLCs to skillfully transplant high quality rangeland shrub species into contour furrows.
- Determine a method to measure day-to-day water volumes in cisterns and water tanks.

3. Stability and Conflict Prevention

Having a decreasing supply and/or not enough water creates dissatisfaction with government services. Creating new opportunities for work in activities related to the project will reduce the possibility of unrest and protests. Strengthening the capacity of CBOs/WUAs/RLCs to promote the conservation of water helps to mitigate insufficient access to water as a local-level driver of conflict.

Illustrative Activities: The following are potential activities that could be considered, but are not mandatory:

- The activities in north Jordan with CBOs, where there is less water available than in the past due to the needs of Amman, may demonstrate to other households and end users how to obtain more water from other sources like rainwater and water reuse.
- The activity may explore ways to offer revolving loans to beneficiaries and/or small and medium sized enterprises with less capacity to repay – for example, those located in poverty pockets who may have less access to finance.
- To address tensions and build cohesion in host communities, the activity may explore how refugees can benefit assistance and training.

5. ACTIVITY MONITORING & EVALUATION PLAN AND LEARNING APPROACHES

Activity Monitoring & Evaluation Plan (AMEP)

As per ADS 203.3.5, the Recipient is required to submit for AOR approval an Activity Monitoring & Evaluation Plan (AMEP) for the life of the Activity based on its proposed M&E strategy for collecting, evaluating, and validating data which will be used to measure overall progress towards Mission goals. The draft AMEP is due to the AOR within 90 days of the award. All aspects of the AMEP should be in line with USAID's ADS 203 on assessing and learning and incorporate the following:

The Recipient will develop performance indicators and establish baselines. The AOR will provide a list of Mission Performance Management Plan (PMP) indicators required for the activity. The AMEP must include the required Mission PMP indicators along with any others being proposed by the Recipienit that are deemed necessary or useful in measuring progress against the overall goal and project objective(s). Recipients should be strategic in their selection of additional indicators so as to avoid creating an additional burden in regards to M&E. The AMEP must include quarterly and/or yearly targets, as per the indicator requirements, necessary to reach the life of project targets identified by the Mission for required Mission indicators and identified by the Recipient for all other indicators. USAID criteria for selecting performance indicators is that they be direct, objective, practical, adequate, management useful and reflect progress toward achieving results, and, to the extent possible, be attributable to USAID. The Recipient and USAID will agree upon the final choice of performance indicators useful for timely management decisions and credibly reflecting the actual performance of the activity.

- The Recipient must collect, analyze, and submit to USAID sex-disaggregated data and proposed actions that will address any identified gender related issues. To ensure that USAID assistance makes the maximum optimal contribution to gender equality, performance management systems and evaluations must include gender-sensitive indicators and sex-disaggregated data when applicable and feasible. The recipient should also consider including other relevant disaggregations for indicators – for example, age and type of institution.

The AMEP should also present the activity's theory of change, Results Framework of the activity showing the causal and logical relationships between different levels of results and their associated indicators, and critical assumptions. The AMEP must also include an explanation of how data and information will be collected, analyzed, and used, and the cost effectiveness of such activities – e.g. M&E systems and processes to be used, methodology of establishing baselines and targets, management and resources for M&E functions, etc. AMEP data must meet reasonable quality criteria of validity, reliability, timeliness, precision and integrity.

The AMEP must also include, in consultation with USAID, key evaluation questions that will guide the understanding and interpretation of results in line with the USAID Evaluation Policy. The AMEP should demonstrate how these evaluation questions will: help clarify and focus activity objectives; serve as an early warning system, forecasting, and reporting tool; promote on-going discussions pertaining to activity scope and direction; and aid in effective management and decision making.

The AMEP should note the Recipient's plans for providing the required quarterly data for Performance Indicators. The AMEP should also discuss how the Recipient plans to obtain and report Geographic data when applicable. Reporting will be done through the Mission's performance management information system, which is currently DevResults.

AMEP and other related monitoring and evaluation templates may be available through the USAID/Jordan Program Office. Contact the designated AOR for more information.

The implementing partner may also provide suggested new custom indicators for WCA to track.
The WCA will develop approaches to measure water conservation and savings and will include the results in the reports. Late in Year 2, an internal mid-term project evaluation will be conducted to validate the key assumptions in the log frame and to inform implementation over the remaining three years of the project. The mid-term will review the following questions:

- How many cubic meters of water were saved and how many new technologies were adopted?
- Are the interventions distributed in a manner to maximize water saving?
- Are the demonstrations generating enthusiasm and are agribusinesses willing to take on commercial loans?
- Are agribusinesses sourcing vegetables from CBO/WUA /RLCs members?
- Have any Highland farmers abandoned their olives and converted to hydroponics?
- Are cross-cutting issues and results being adequately considered and impacted?
  Key findings from mid-term evaluation will be shared widely to encourage mutual learning and transparency across project participants. Regular meetings with implementing partners, CBOs/WUAs/RLCs, government partners, donors, GOJ-BRP, HWF, JVWF and other key stakeholders will be held to discuss the progress of individual activities and project outcomes to facilitate learning and identify ways to implement necessary mid-term adjustments.
- Has this USAID project had an impact on water conservation?

A final external performance evaluation will be considered in Year 5. However, it is likely that the mid-term evaluation will be used to determine whether to continue for another phase.

Through the evaluations and indicators, it should be possible at Year 5 to determine whether the assumptions made at the beginning of the project are valid, i.e. (1) the private sector is outsourcing to CBOs/WUAs/RLCs who aggregate high water-value products for export; (2) disease and insect issues that might jeopardize sustainability are better understood; (3) access to commercial credit is now assured, (4) shifting of olive farmers to hydroponics in the Highland basins (Mafraq and Azraq) is well underway.

6. SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability Analysis Overview

The primary objective of the WCA program is to improve the sustainability of the water sector; specifically the availability of water in Jordan. Therefore, the three components of the program focus on the critical and urgent result of conserving water, namely, (1) water conserving technologies adopted; (2) sustainable aquifer recharge and soil water storage improved; (3) capacity in all types of institutions, organizations and the private sector strengthened based on their willingness to promote water saving technologies.

Conservation of water needs to occur among groups that use the most water and/or on a scale that will be meaningful. For the purposes of integrating sustainability into USAID's project design process, sustainability is achieved when host country partners and beneficiaries are empowered to take ownership of development processes, including financing, and maintain project results and impacts beyond the life of the USAID project.

WCA tackles household water demand management and agricultural water use. An activity is considered successful when the intervention is replicable, scalable, and sustainable, measurably decreasing the allocation of water to agriculture. Our sustainability analyses have determined that there are many technologies that have already been proven in Jordan and other countries to save water, and these technologies will be promoted in the program. However, the analyses also reveal that there are 1) enabling environment and 2) institutional issues that are bottlenecks to widespread use of the water-saving technologies.

Promoting a technology alone will not resolve the sustainability issues. This is why the WCA approach seeks ways to resolve enabling environment issues, like the low cost of water and non-revenue water through collaboration (with parallel programs in the USAID/Jordan Office of Water Resources and the Environment) and the lack of finance through loan guarantees. The sustainability analyses also revealed that institutions are needed that can support the process over a long time without donor funding. Consequently, WCA will seek to support and partner with the private sector, which can sell the needed technologies and/or advance financing to those who receive services. The private sector has an interest in engaging with the communities, marketing their products and/or engaging in outsourcing schemes with agribusinesses.

At the government level, analyses show that the sustainability of improving agriculture technologies is affected by a shortage of personnel and insufficient incentives for employees. Training systems for the agriculture sector, as per the agriculture workforce assessment, are not robust.

The WCA will seek to support improved credit because financing is a bottleneck to the sustainability of promoting new technologies. Sustainability was achieved in a previous USAID project that built the capacity of 177 local CBOs. The project proved the effectiveness and demand for various water-saving technologies and the willingness of households to repay revolving loans: 5,000 cisterns were constructed and revolving loan funds increased from about $4.5 million to almost $9 million (owing to the revolving nature of the loans) with a 94 percent overall repayment[15].

To promote sustainability, WCA should explore how to develop new financial methods that can provide reasonable terms to those who want to access the technologies and build on demonstrations that show that loans can be paid back during a reasonable period of time. WCA will focus on the technologies for saving water that have proven to be commercially viable in other countries – like hydroponics. WCA will establish the payback periods for various technologies and use data to support the development of new commercial financing approaches. After economic viability of technologies is demonstrated the commercial banking sector will become comfortable with the new technology, especially in hydroponics, used for high value crops that will also save water.

It is important for the applicant(s) to review the experience of the CBIWDM to evaluate the revolving loan model used with CBOs under the CBIWDM (https://usaidjordankmportal.com). The project was designed with a central focus on sustainability of investments in recipient CBOs and their ability to successfully and efficiently manage their revolving funds. The activity is handing over the responsibilities of loans oversight to the MoSD. This measure is to ensure the sustainability and the continuity of the revolving loans program beyond USAID funding.

CBIWDM offers revolving loans to purchase household level energy and/or water technologies (solar panels and cisterns). However, the loan repayment period is long, which has necessitated creation of a waiting list for about 1,300 CBO members who want loans (an estimated 20 percent of whom are women). The introduction of new finance mechanisms targeted at activities managed by male or female audiences would allow for increased technology utilization at the community level.

7. AUTHORITY

The authority is found in the Foreign Affairs Act and the applicable sections of 2 CFR 700 and 2 CFR 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. While 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 700 do not directly apply to foreign organizations (non U.S. non-governmental organizations), however, USAID applies some of these regulations to non-U.S. non-governmental organizations through ADS Chapter 303 and the Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Non-governmental Organizations.

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[15] For the CBIWDM, seminal documents can be located on the USAID/Jordan portal (https://usaidjordankmportal.com). Applicants can either search for documents under "Collections" in a folder entitled "Water Conservation."

SECTION B: FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

1. ESTIMATE OF FUNDS AVAILABLE & NUMBER OF AWARDS CONTEMPLATED

Subject to funding availability, USAID intends to provide US$30 million, in total USAID funding over a five (5) year period. The ceiling for this Water Conservation Activity is US$30 million. Actual funding amounts are subject to availability of funds.

USAID intends to award a Cooperative Agreement pursuant to this NOFO. USAID reserves the right to fund any one or none of the applications submitted. The U.S. Government may make award on the basis of initial applications received, without discussions or negotiations. Therefore each application must contain the applicant's best terms from the cost and technical standpoint. The U.S. Government reserves the right (but is not under obligation to do so), however, to request one or more applicants for clarifications, additional detail or suggested refinements in the program description, budget, or other aspects of an application.

Furthermore, USAID/Jordan reserves the right (but is not under obligation to do so), to conduct oral presentation with apparent successful applicant(s), at the discretion of the Agreement Officer. As determined necessary, the apparent successful Applicant(s), will be notified accordingly and invited to present in person at USAID/Jordan.

2. START DATE AND PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

The period of performance anticipated herein is the date of Agreement Officer's signature of the award. The entire period of performance is anticipated to be five (5) years from the effective date of the award.

3. SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT

Consistent with ADS 303.3.11, USAID/Jordan will be substantially involved in the implementation of the Water Conservation Activity. The intended purpose of the Agreement Officer's Representative (AOR) involvement during the implementation of the program is to assist the recipient in achieving the supported objectives. It is expected that the Agreement Officer will delegate the following approvals to the AOR, except for changes to the Program Description or the approved budget, which may only be approved by the Agreement Officer. Substantial involvement may be inclusive of:

(1) Approval of the Recipient's Implementation Plans.
USAID will approve the Annual Budget, Activity Monitoring and Evaluation Plans, Annual Work Plans, sustainability plans and Branding Plan and Marking Plan.
(2) Approval of Specified Key Personnel.
USAID will designate as key personnel those positions that are essential to the successful implementation of the recipient's program.
(3) Agency and Recipient Collaboration or Joint Participation

The following collaboration or joint participation of USAID and the recipient on the WCA are authorized:

1. Collaborative involvement in selection of advisory committee members: USAID will be involved in the selection of advisory committee members if the program will establish an advisory committee that provides advice to the recipient. USAID may participate as a member of this committee.
2. USAID will approve sub-awards, transfer, or contracting out of any work under an award.
3. USAID will approve the Recipient's Monitoring and Evaluation Plans.
4. USAID will monitor to authorize specified kinds of direction or redirection because of interrelationships with other projects.

4. TITLE TO PROPERTY

Property title under the resultant agreement shall vest with the recipient in accordance with the Requirements of 2 CFR 200.310 through CRF 200.316 regarding use, accountability and, disposition of such property.

5. AUTHORIZED GEOGRAPHIC CODE

The authorized geographic code for procurement of goods and services under this WCA award is 937 (http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1876/310.pdf). Code 937 is defined as the United States, the cooperating/recipient country, and developing countries other than advanced developing countries, and excluding prohibited source. Procurement of agricultural commodities and related products, motor vehicles and pharmaceuticals is subject to the limitations in 22 CRF 228.19 and may require a waiver.

6. PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The principal purpose of the relationship with the Recipient under the subject activity is to transfer funds to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation of the Water Conservation Activity which is authorized by Federal statute.

The successful Recipient will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives and the efficient and effective administration of the award through the application of sound management practices. The Recipient will assume responsibility for administering Federal funds in a manner consistent with underlying agreements, activity objectives, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The Recipient using its own unique combination of staff, facilities, and experience, has the primary responsibility for employing whatever form of sound organization and management techniques may be necessary in order to assure proper and efficient administration of the resulting award.

7. SUB-GRANTS ANDPROGRAMMATIC CONTRACTS PROGRAM AND MANUAL

Applicants shall propose how they employ sub-grants and programmatic contracts to best meet the Project's objectives and expected results; and propose draft eligibility and selection criteria. Within 90 days of award, the successful applicant shall finalize the details of its sub-grant and/or sub-contract program, in conjunction with the AOR, in the form of a Grants and/or Contract Manual. While developing the manual, the applicant should reference ADS Chapter 303 Section 303.3.21(b) and other sections referenced therein.

8. TABLE OF DELIVERABLES

Deliverable	Due Date
Overall	
1. Annual Work Plan	60 calendar days after award
2. M&E Plan	180 calendar days after award
3. Communications and Outreach Plan	180 calendar days after award
4. Number of people receiving improved service quality from improved existing drinking water sources (disaggregated by number of people and households)	Annually/ Cumulative annually
5. Cumulative cubic meters of water saved annually from water-saving technologies	Annually/ Cumulative annually
6. *[Additional deliverables may be incorporated at time of award]*	
Objective 1: Water conserving technologies and behavior changes adopted	
7. Plan to promote water saving technologies influencing behavior change	90 calendar days after award
8. Plan to scale-up current Jordan hydroponics activities into commercialization	120 calendar days after award
9. Capacity improvement interventions of farmers through the production value chain	120 calendar days after award
10. Number of adoptions of new behavior changes	Annually/ Cumulative annually
11. Number of adoptions of new technologies	Annually/ Cumulative annually
12. Number of GOJ water entities, NGOs, community groups or beneficiaries promoting water conservation with USAID support	Annually/ Cumulative annually
13. Number of technologies, demonstrations, financing, etc. provided by WCA to select beneficiary groups	Annually/ Cumulative annually
14. *[Additional deliverables may be incorporated at time of award]*	
Objective 2: Sustainable aquifer recharge improved	Due Date
15. Number of adoptions of new technologies to promote aquifer recharge	Annually/ Cumulative annually
16. *[Additional deliverables may be incorporated at time of award]*	
Objective 3: Institutions strengthened to promote water saving technologies	
17. Plan to promote access to finance (GDA, DCA…etc.)	90 calendar days after award
18. New and existing interventions to promote water sector participation	120 calendar days after award
19. New and existing interventions to promote community-level dialogue and enhancing stakeholders' access to water conservation	120 calendar days after award

20. Number of organizations and/or individuals completing their yearly work plans	Annually/ Cumulative annually
21. Number of organizations and/or individuals achieving at least 80 percent of their yearly work plan targets	Annually/ Cumulative annually
22. Percent change in unit sales or usage of targeted water-saving technologies among participating organizations	Annually/ Cumulative annually
23. Amount of micro and/or commercial financing available to support roll out of technologies	Annually/ Cumulative annually
24. Emergence of VTE training to sustain the most popular and best water-conserving technologies as they are ready for scaling out	Annually/ Cumulative annually
25. *[Additional deliverables may be incorporated at time of award]*	
Cross-cutting	
26. Commercial financing available in total and subgroups reached (e.g. women's CBOs, youth), to support roll out of technologies	Annually/ Cumulative annually
27. Gender disaggregation of indicators – with intention to increase percent women over time such as adopting new technologies and obtaining financing for the technologies	Annually/ Cumulative annually
28. Number of women and youth employed in water conservation/value chain activities initiated by WCP	Annually/ Cumulative annually
29. Number of women CBOs engaged in water conservation/value activities promoted by WCP	Annually/ Cumulative annually
30. Percent of women in revolving loan management committees	Annually/ Cumulative annually
31. Percent of women in training events	Annually/ Cumulative annually
32. Number of CBOs/WUAs taking action to mitigate conflict (including the conservation of water)	Annually/ Cumulative annually
33. *[Additional deliverables may be incorporated at time of award]*	

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SECTION C: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

All qualified U.S. and non-U.S. organizations (other than those from foreign policy restricted countries) are eligible to apply. Pursuant to Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 200.400(g), it is USAID policy not to award profit under assistance instruments such as cooperative agreements, and as such, for-profit organizations must waive profits and/or fees to be eligible to submit an application. Forgone profit does not qualify as cost-share or leverage.

Application and submission requirement specified on Section D also determines the eligibility of applicants. USAID welcomes applications from organizations which have not previously received financial assistance from USAID.

Applicants must have established financial management, monitoring and evaluation processes, internal control systems, and policies and procedures that comply with established U.S. Government standards, laws, and regulations. The successful applicant(s) will be subject to a responsibility determination assessment (Pre-award Survey) by the Agreement Officer (AO).

The Recipient must be a responsible entity. The AO may determine a pre-award survey is required to conduct an examination that will determine whether the prospective recipient has the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program and comply with the terms and conditions of the award.

The applicant is reminded that U.S. Executive Orders and U.S. law prohibits transactions with, and the provision of resources and support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. It is the legal responsibility of the Recipient to ensure compliance with these Executive Orders and laws. This provision must be included in all sub-awards issued under this Cooperative Agreement.

Applications will not be accepted from individuals.

2. COST SHARING OR MATCHING

USAID has established that a cost share of at least 10% is required for the recipient of the award.

Cost Share refers to the resources a recipient contributes to the total cost of an agreement, the portion of project or program costs not borne by the U.S. Government. Cost Share becomes a condition of an award when it is part of the approved award budget.

Cost-sharing includes cash and in-kind contributions. Such contributions may be mobilized from the recipient; other multilateral, bilateral, and foundation donors; host governments; and local organizations, communities and private businesses that contribute financially and in-kind to implementation of activities at the country level, and is subject to 2 CFR 200.306 (http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl) and the USAID standard provision for U.S. NGOs entitled "Cost-Sharing (Matching)" which, inter alia, requires that cost-sharing be verifiable from the Recipient's records. Cost- sharing or matching is normally associated with contributions from the same prime and sub- recipient sources that also receive USAID funds under an award, but can include contributions from third parties. The cost share can be audited.

SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. AGENCY POINT OF CONTACT

Beatrice Diah
Senior Acquisition & Assistance Specialist
USAID/Amman
Amman, Jordan
E-mail: bdiah@usaid.gov

2. SUBMISSION OF QUESTIONS AND REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION:

All questions and requests for clarification regarding this NOFO should be submitted in writing to the email provided below no later than the date and time provided on the cover letter to provide sufficient time to address the questions and incorporate the questions and answers as an amendment to this solicitation. Any information given to a prospective Applicant concerning this NOFO will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Applicants as an amendment to this NOFO, if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective Applicant.

E-mail address: bdiah@usaid.gov with a copy to Wdaas@usaid.gov.

The e-mail transmitting the questions and requests for clarification must reference the solicitation number and title on the subject line of the e-mail as follows:

- Subject of the email: [Name of the Organization] USAID/Jordan WCA NOFO No. 278-16-000002 – Question

Also provide the following information in the email:

- Name of your organization
- Address
- Name and position of the contact person on behalf of organization
- Email and telephone

Questions will not be received after the due date reflected on the top of the cover letter for this NOFO and questions sent to any other e-mail address will not be responded to. Questions arising during the Pre-Application Conference must be submitted in writing prior to leaving the venue.

3. PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE

USAID will host a Pre-Application Conference to address important aspects of the Program Description and to address questions regarding this Funding Opportunity. The conference will take place in Washington, DC on the date indicated at the top of this Cover Letter. This conference is open to all potential applicants.

Interested prospective Applicants must register for the Pre-Application Conference by the due date on the cover letter by sending an email to: bdiah@usaid.gov with a copy to: Asawaked@usaid.gov.

Provide the following information to facilitate registration:

- Subject of the email: [Name of the Organization] USAID/Jordan WCA NOFO No. 278-16-000002 – Registration Pre-Application Conference
- Name of your organization and address
- Name and position of the individuals who will attend the meeting
- Email and telephone contact

Please note that attendance is limited to three persons per organization. Registration will automatically close when the maximum number of 60 individuals is reached.

While in-person attendance is highly encouraged, USAID will upload a transcript of the proceedings to the Grants.gov site as an amendment to the NOFO.

Additional information regarding time and venue for the Pre-Application Conference will be provided at a later date.

4. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

(1) Applicants are expected to review, understand, and comply with all aspects of the NOFO.

(2) Preparation of Applications:

Each Applicant shall furnish the information required by this NOFO. Applications shall be submitted in two separate parts: (a) Technical Application, and (b) Cost/Business Application.

Any erasures or other changes to the application must be initialed by the person signing the application. Applications signed by an agent on behalf of the Applicant shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the issuing office.

Applicants who include data that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose or used by the U.S. Government except for evaluation purpose, should mark the title page with the following legend:

"This application includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the U.S. Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed – in whole or in part – for any purpose other than to evaluate this application. If, however, a grant is awarded to this Applicant as a result of – or in connection with – the submission of this data, the U.S. Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting grant. This restriction does not limit the U.S. Government's right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets {insert sheet numbers} and, mark each sheet of data it wished to restrict with the following legend:

"Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this application."

Applicants should retain for their records one (1) copy of the application and all enclosures which accompany it.

(3) Application Submission Procedures

All applications must be submitted electronically. It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that all necessary documentation is complete and received on time. The Cost/Business Application must be submitted separately from the Technical Application.

Applications must be submitted to the following address: bdiah@usaid.gov with a copy to Wdaas@usaid.gov. If you experience any difficulties with submission, please email bdiah@usaid.gov.

For an application sent by multiple emails, please indicate in the subject line of the email whether the email relates to the technical or cost application, and the desired sequence of multiple emails and of attachments (e.g. "No. 1 of 4", etc.). For example, if your cost application is being sent in two emails, the first email should have a subject line which says: [Name of the Organization] USAID/Jordan WCA NOFO No. 278-16-000002, Cost Application, Part 1 of 2".

Each email should not exceed 20 MB. Electronic applications should be submitted in 'pdf' format. The Applicants are required to send their budgets in Microsoft Excel format as further discussed below under cost submission. All applications received by the submission deadline will be reviewed for responsiveness to the NOFO and the application format. No addition or modifications will be accepted after the submission date.

(4) Technical Application Format

The technical application will be the most important factor for consideration in selection for award of the proposed Cooperative Agreement. The technical application should be specific, complete and presented concisely. The application should demonstrate the Applicant's capabilities and expertise with respect to achieving the goals of this program. The application should take into account the requirements of the program and evaluation criteria found in this NOFO.

The aplication must be written in English and typed on standard 8 1/2" x 11" paper, single spaced, 12 characters per inch with each page numbered consecutively and with one-inch margins both right and left. The Technical application must **not exceed 30 pages**, excluding table of contents and annexes shown below. An application that exceeds this page limit will only be evaluated through page 30.

The following list shows sections of the application, the format and whether or not they are included as part of the page limitation:

- Cover Page (not included in the page limit)
- Acronyms (not included in the page limit)
- Table of Contents (not included in the page limit)
- Executive Summary
- Key Personnel
- Technical Approach
- Overall activity Management Plan and Integration of Cross-Cutting Themes
- Past experience in implementing projects in the Middle East Region
- Any tables, graphs, photos, etc.

Annexes: The following items are not subject to the page limitation:

- Resumes/Curriculum Vitae for Key Personnel and long-term professional staff
- Proposed position descriptions and signed letters of commitment from Key Personnel
- Partner Letters of Commitment
- Branding Strategy and Marking Plan (a two page summary only)
- Charts providing information on management structure, matrixes demonstrating staff skills, and organizational chart(s)
- Past Performance Short Forms
- Activity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan

DO NOT SUBMIT: Promotional literature and materials regarding the Applicant As part of the annexes. Do not submit unsolicited material.

Use small Roman numerals for Cover Page, Acronyms and Table of Contents, for example, i, ii, iii, iv. Please number pages as, for example, "Page 1 of 30."

Annexes should be numbered separately, formatted as, for example, "Annex 1: Page 1 of 10; Annex 2: Page 1 of 5", etc. Page number location should be at the bottom right.

Interested Applicants must provide a detailed technical application and demonstrate how it will achieve the overall goal, program objectives and results. It should choose and elaborate from illustrative interventions to accomplish the desired results for the WCA or propose alternative interventions and provide the rational for their selection. Applicants must demonstrate their understanding of the different roles that men and women play in their respective areas of intervention and the impact that the project and selected interventions will have on each gender.

NOTE: Pay particular attention to and consider the suggested percentage of efforts for activities provided in Table 2, summarized as follows:

- Component 1: Implementation of science and technology to enhance water availability (*50-60%)*
- Component 2: Enhance aquifer recharge and soil water storage (*10-20%)*
- Component 3: Institutional strengthening (*20-30%).*

NOTE also that the Applicant should include in their application a draft Summary Activity M&E Plan (AMEP) which summarizes the Applicants proposed M&E systems, including how their Activity-level results contribute to the Mission's Performance Management Plan (PMP). The draft Summary AMEP will offer creative approaches to measuring outputs and outcomes and reporting efficiently on the required indicators. It will also briefly describe how data will be collected, analyzed and used to assess progress and guide decision making as well as verify and substantiate data gathered. The draft Summary AMEP should include the following:

- An appropriate set of indicators and/or benchmarks that will allow USAID and the Applicant to measure progress toward achieving activity results.
    - Applicants are encouraged to propose indicators whose tracking will contribute to measuring the performance and the Recipient's success in implementing the program. Final indicators included in the contractual obligations will be finalized with the AOR following the award.
    - To the extent possible, the Applicants should establish baselines and quarterly/annual targets for each indicator. Percent targets can be used when baselines are not known that can be adjusted later when the baselines are known. In setting targets, the Applicants should consider the following: a) prospects for producing measurable results with clear relationships with the program's overall objectives; b) consistency with USG and/or

national government policies and priorities; c) if applicable to the approach, prospects for leveraging funds from regional and/or national governments, commercial banks, other donors, and the private sector, including use of Global Development Alliances (GDAs) and the Development Credit Authority (DCA).

- Describe the process that they will follow in coordination with USAID during the first four months of the award period to develop and finalize their AMEP.

(5) The Technical Application must be arranged in the order of the Merit Review criteria found in Section E for ease of reviewing by the Selection Committee (SC):

Cover Page: The Applicant must include the following basic information: name of organization(s) submitting the application; address of organization(s) submitting the application; point of contact (POC) at the organization; and POC's title, telephone number and e-mail address; proposed project title; notice of funding opportunity (NFO) number; the names of other the organizations/institutions involved, as in the case of a partnership, please clearly indicate the lead or Prime Applicant; followed by any proposed sub-grantees and/or contractors (hereafter referred to as "subs"). The Cover Page must be signed by an official from the Prime Applicant's organization who has the authority to negotiate the application that is submitted to USAID.

Table of Contents: The Table of Contents should list all sections of the technical application, including annexes, and provide the page number for each section.

Executive Summary: The Executive Summary shall summarize the key elements of the Applicant's technical application. A two page, brief description of proposed activities, goals, and anticipated results (both quantitative and qualitative). Briefly describe the technical and managerial resources of your organization. Describe how the overall program will be managed. State the funding request from USAID and the funding secured from other sources (state sources and amounts) for this proposed Activity.

Program Description: The Technical Application narrative, as revised after negotiations, will become the Program Description of the resulting Cooperative Agreement. It must include a clear description of the conceptual approach and the general strategy being proposed (i.e. methodology and techniques). It must outline specific, focused activities; identify how and where those activities will be implemented (e.g. geographic locations and/or at local, regional, or national levels, etc.). It must explain how the approach is expected to achieve the proposed objectives and describe a plan that will enable the effort to continue after the Activity has been completed.

1. Technical Approach:

Overview: This WCA activity has several distinct sub-modules, each of which may have more than one sub-implementer cooperating with the lead to carry out the work. The Applicant will describe how they will engage the necessary expertise to implement these technical activities.

The technical approach must address the following areas as described below.

1.1 Describe the implementation of technologies to enhance water availability and judicious water use. This will include descriptions using a successful combination of technologies (e.g. hydroponics, desalination in the Jordan Valley, wastewater treatment, wastewater reuse). Describe the level of effort required to convert drip irrigation systems in the Jordan Valley into hydroponic systems; describe the technical approach to encourage farmers to convert from irrigated olive plantations to hydroponic vegetable production in the Mafraq and Azraq basins.

1.2 Describe the approach which will be used to promote conservation under the following conditions: (a) household water- and energy-saving interventions (cisterns, roof-top water tanks, modernized plumbing, grey water reuse systems, durable drip irrigation systems, photo-voltaic panels, solar water heaters, etc.).

1.3 Revolving loans are associated to date with Community Based Organizations but could be expanded to Water User Associations in the Jordan Valley or Rangeland Cooperatives being established under the GOJ-BRP. The Applicants should be aware of the existing CBOs who have received revolving loans. The results for the USAID Community Based Initiatives for Water Demand Management are at the following website (https://usaidjordankmportal.com). Applicants should propose whether and how to modify or modernize the revolving loan program with interventions and finance that will strengthen community water security. For example, they can work with existing CBOs who already administer revolving loan funds for similar types of technologies; and/or work with new community groups (i.e. new CBOs, WUAs or RLCs through the WCA).

2. Key Personnel

Overview: Five key personnel should be proposed with their names, positions, and a brief description of their relevant education, skills, and experience to achieve the results of this activity. The illustrative key personnel are: Chief of Party (COP); Hydroponic Specialist; Outreach and Communication Specialist; Water Harvesting Specialist and Grants Officer. Each position will be a full-time equivalent. Below are illustrative job descriptions and qualifications for each of the key personnel positions.

2.1 Chief of Party (COP)

The COP is the orchestrator and communicator for the project, pulling together the components into an integrated whole and providing an interface with the GOJ and USAID. Owing to the importance placed on gender in the WCA, s/he will champion the increased role of women in management of enterprises related to water conservation in Jordan.

S/he will have the main responsibility for representation of the project to the U.S. Government and will have responsibility for the Annual Program Reports and Semi-Annual Program Reports, in collaboration with the M&E Specialist. S/he will also develop requests for supplemental funding.

Required Qualifications:

- A Master's degree and at least 15 years of experience at mid- to senior-level management in large and complex projects
- An energetic organizer, administrator and skillful politician, balancing the very different components of the project to highlight integrated outcomes
- Demonstrated strong leadership, communications and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated experience in working with host country government
- Fluency in English language skills is required

Preferred Qualifications:

- Strong skills and experience in all aspects of program cycle management – design and development, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation
- Proven coaching, facilitation, and communication skills
- Outstanding English-language skills, both spoken and written
- Excellent knowledge of donor community approaches and regulations
- An excellent team player with good skills in team work and a consultative approach to decision making
- Fluency in Arabic language skills is preferred
- Understanding of international donor development assistance mission, values, and principles
- Ability to maintain constructive relationships with a diverse set of key stakeholders

2.2 Hydroponic Specialist

A champion for hydroponic and irrigation technology with vision for outreach to the Jordanian public and private sector and communities to identify the type of hydroponic system that will be accepted in Jordan and replicated in the region.

Required Qualifications:
- A Master's degree or higher in water resources, agriculture, or other technical fields, and at least 5 years of demonstrated experience in agribusiness development
- OR a Bachelor's degree in water resources, agriculture, or other technical fields, with at least 7 years' experience in agribusiness development
- Must demonstrate experience in the Middle East with technical capabilities in the public and/or private sector and agribusiness

Preferred Qualifications:
- Solid experience in the management of people and systems in high-pressure environments
- Experience in working with the donor community in a developing country context;
- Demonstrated experience working with local governments, multi-donor agencies and or developmental partners.
- Knowledge of international donor community financial management rules and regulations

2.3 Water Harvesting Specialist

The Water Harvesting Specialist will have the capacity to make contact with community organizations (CBOs/WUAs/RLCs) to maintain or initiate new revolving loans for cisterns and rooftop water tanks and other household water saving interventions.

Required Qualifications:
- Bachelor degree in natural sciences or a related technical field
- Minimum 5 years of experience in the sector, including in rural/community development initiatives with focus on water and soil protection
- Demonstrate competence in understanding, analyzing, designing and implementing rainwater harvesting systems
- Native Arabic speaker with fluency in English

3. Overall Activity Management Plan and Integration of Cross-cutting Themes

3.1 Provide a clear description of the overarching management and administrative system. The prime grantee is required to provide a standard reporting and financial budgeting system. The prime will strengthen the local partners and supply critical needs for each component as gaps are identified, to insure long-term sustainability and activities that encourage interaction and synergies among the components.

3.2 Clearly describe the coordination among participants. It is anticipated that the Applicant will manage and coordinate the efforts of local organizations that will be engaged in the activities. These local institutions have very different institutional capacities and may require institutional strengthening.

The applicant should cooperate with the existing Government of Jordan - Badia Restoration Program. The GOJ-BRP is coordinated by the Ministry of Environment. Applicants may refer to the GOJ-BRP website (http://www.badiarp.gov.jo/en/node/106) to understand progress to date and determine potential complementary or synergistic work.

The GOJ-BRP and the U.S. Forest Service are partnering on shrub seedling production and transplantation techniques with RLCs in the Badia. Technical assistance from the USFS will be organized through an Inter-Agency Agreement and they will become part of the GOJ-BRP/USFS/USAID management and supervisory team that will oversee the work in the Badia. Please contact GOJ-BRP Director, Dr. Marwan Sufian (marwansufian@yahoo.com) and USFS International Programs, Natasha Marwah (natashamarwah@fs.fed.us).

3.3 Outline the approach for inclusion of Jordanian organizations, institutions and individuals with particular emphasis on how small and medium farmers, especially women and youth, can be linked to commercial growers. Applicants will elaborate outsourcing schemes targeted within the Jordan Valley and/or the Mafraq and Azraq basins, to aggregate quality production and deliver the produce to domestic and export markets.

3.4 Define how the application will organize a gender-specific vocational-technical education program, business development training, Global Good Agriculture Practices (Global GAP) certification program, and public awareness for water conservation.

4. Experience in Implementing Projects in the Middle East Region

Overview: Jordan has fragile ecosystems, scarce natural resources and a difficult political environment. USAID/Jordan has an interest in applications for a Cooperative Agreement for the Water Conservation Activity. Due to the focus on water conservation in Jordan, and the unique social circumstances, Applicants with experience in Middle East countries, having ecosystems similar to Jordan's, will be favorably considered.

4.1 Hydroponic techniques represent a significant opportunity for Jordan to reduce water use from agriculture, while maintaining the economic contribution of agriculture to the country. It is a requirement to have experience with this technology.

4.2 Under one of USAID's interventions, more than 5,000 cisterns were established in the past 10 years; focused in the north, where the presence of refugees put additional stress on the water utilities. These cisterns have provided excellent water security for households. Because all of the community member needs have not been met, USAID requires installation of additional cisterns, rooftop water tanks and other water-saving interventions in this follow-on activity.

5. COST APPLICATION FORMAT

The Cost or Business application is to be submitted under a separate cover from the Technical application. The Cost/Business application is also to be submitted electronically in an *unprotected* Microsoft Excel 2000or Excel 2003. The Applicant is requested to submit a budget broken down by program years with an accompanying detailed budget narrative (in Word 2000 or Word 2003 text accessible) which provides in detail the total costs for implementation of the program as further detailed below.

Certain documents are required to be submitted by an Applicant in order for the Agreement Officer to make a determination of responsibility. However, it is USAID policy not to burden Applicants with undue reporting requirements if that information is readily available through other sources. There is no page limit on the Cost Application. However, unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective application in response to this NFO is not desired. Elaborate art work, expensive paper and bindings, and expensive visual and other presentation aids are neither necessary nor wanted.

If the Applicant has established a consortium or another legal relationship among its partners, the Cost/Business application must include a copy of the legal relationship between the parties. The agreement should include a full discussion of the relationship between the Applicant and Sub-Applicant(s) including identification of the Applicant with whom USAID will work with for purposes of Agreement administration, identity of the Applicant which will have accounting responsibility, how Agreement effort will be allocated and the express agreement of the principals thereto to be held jointly and severely liable for the acts or omissions of the other.

(1) The budget must have an accompanying detailed budget narrative and justification that provides in detail the total program amount for implementation of the program your organization is proposing. The budget narrative should provide information regarding the basis of estimate for each line item, including reference to sources used to substantiate the cost estimate (e.g. organization's policy, payroll document, and vendor quotes, etc.).

(2) A budget for each program year with an accompanying detailed budget narrative which provides in detail the total costs for implementation of the program. The budget must be submitted using Standard Form 424 which can be downloaded from the following web site at: http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/FormLinks?family=15

(3) A breakdown of all costs associated with the program according to the costs of, if applicable, headquarters, regional and/or country offices.

(4) Applicants who intend to utilize contractors or sub-awardees should indicate the extent intended and a complete cost breakdown. Extensive contracts/agreement financial plans should follow the same cost format as submitted by the primary Applicant. A breakdown of all costs according to each partner organization, contract or sub-awardee involved in the program should be provided.

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200 Contract means a legal instrument by which the Applicant purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a resulting award. The term does not include a legal instrument when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a Federal award or sub-award (see § 200.92 Sub-award), even if the Applicant considers it a contract. The Applicant must describe the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting proposed by the contractor, and the quality of its record of past performance for similar work. For-profit contract organizations that work under the award and do not meet the above definition of a sub-awardee are eligible for profit/fee.

The cost/business application should contain the budget categories consistent with SF-424A in the following format:

- Cover Page
- Standard Forms (SF 424 Forms)
- Budget
- Budget Narrative
- DUNS and System for Award Management (SAM)
- Certification, Assurances, Statements and Other Required Forms
- Funding Restrictions

a. Cover Page

The Cost Application Cover Page must contain the same information as the Technical Application Cover Page.

b. Standard Forms (SF424 Forms)

The Applicant must sign and submit the Cost Application using the SF-424 series. Standard Forms can be accessed electronically at www.grants.gov and can be downloaded from USAID's web site:

Instructions for SF-424	http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/form-instructions/sf-424-instructions.html
SF424	http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SF424_2_1-V2.1.pdf
Instructions for SF-424A	http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/form-instructions/sf-424a-instructions.html
SF 424A	http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SF424A-V1.0.pdf
Instructions for SF-424B	http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/form-instructions/sf-424b-instructions.html
SF 424B	http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/forms/sample/SF424B-V1.1.pdf

c. The Budget: Applicants must submit a summary budget and a detailed budget in the following format:

Summary Budget						
Cost Elements	**Year 1**	**Year 2**	**Year 3**	**Year 4**	**Year 5**	**Total**
1. Salaries and Wages						
2. Fringe Benefits						
3.Travel, Transportation,						
4.Equipment						
5. Supplies						
6. Contractual						

7. Other Direct Costs						
8.Total Direct Costs (sum line 1 to Line 7)						
9. Indirect Costs						
10.Estimated Award Amount (sum line 1to line						
11. Cost Share						
TOTAL ACTIVITY BUDGET						

The Applicant must propose activities for up to US$30 million over a five-year period ensuring rapid start-up within one month of award. Cost Share is established at 10% of the Award's projected value of ($3 Million).

i. Personnel

Direct salaries and wages should be proposed in accordance with the Applicant's personnel policies. Identify each personnel by title and name and specify each position to be supported under the proposed award. For home office support staff, identify who shall be compensated by USAID, the percentage of time and briefly specify related duties.

State the amounts of time, such as months and percent of time that shall be expended by each position, their base pay rate and total direct compensation under this program, (e.g., Position/Person Time XX Rate = $XXXX.) and provide rate verification documentation.

ii. Fringe Benefits

If the Applicant has a fringe benefit rate that has been approved by an agency of the U.S. Government, such rate should be used and evidence of its approval should be provided. If a fringe benefit rate has not been so approved, the Application should propose a rate and explain how the rate was determined. If the latter is used, the narrative should include a detailed breakdown comprised of all items of fringe benefits (e.g. unemployment insurance, workers compensation, health and life insurance, retirement, Federal Insurance Contributions Act tax (FICA), etc.) and the costs of each, expressed in dollars and as a percentage of salaries.

iii. Travel and Per Diem

The Application should indicate the number of trips, domestic and international, the number of days per trip, and the estimated costs. Specify the purpose of travel, the origin and destination for each proposed trip, duration of travel, and number of individuals traveling and the position held by the travelers. Estimated travel and transportation costs, including airfare and per diem.

Estimated lodging and subsistence costs must be in accordance with the Applicant's established policies and practices which are consistently applied (the USG's per diem rates shall be available on the internet at http://aoprals.state.gov/web920/per_diem.asp (however, the USG's per diem rates shall be used as the test of reasonableness and, if the Applicant does not have established policies and practices, the USG per diem rates shall be used), and should specify, for each traveler and for each trip, the location(s) (departure point and destination), the number of days in each location, the daily rate for each location, and the total lodging and subsistence costs. The lodging and subsistence costs must be consistent with the travel itinerary and the level of effort.

iv. Equipment

The Applicant must itemize the equipment i.e. vehicle, capital equipment and briefly justify the need for the items to be purchased as they apply to the Activity. Indicate the estimated unit cost and number of units for each item to be purchased. Provide the basis for the cost estimates, e.g., pro forma invoice, published price lists, etc.

v. Supplies

The Applicant must itemize the materials and supplies and briefly justify the need for the items to be purchased as they apply to the Activity. Per item, indicate the estimated unit cost and number of units for each item to be purchased. The Applicant must provide the basis for the cost estimates, e.g., pro forma invoice, published price lists, etc. There are statutory constraints relating to the purchase of agricultural commodities, motor vehicles, pharmaceuticals, pesticides, rubber compounding chemicals and plasticizers, used equipment and fertilizer with USAID Activity funds.

vi. Contractual: Grants/Sub-Awards/Contracts

The Applicant's budget shall include a breakdown of all costs for each sub-agreement and/or sub-contract, and identify the proposed Sub-Recipient and/or Sub-Contractor, if known. The lump sum must be consistent with the detailed Sub-Recipient and/or Sub- Contractor budgets. The Cost/Business Application must indicate whether the instrument will be a sub-contract or sub-agreement.

vii. Other Direct Costs

The Applicant must identify other costs and briefly justify the need for each cost item proposed relative to the WCA activities. The Applicant shall indicate the estimated unit cost and number of units for each item proposed. The Cost Application must provide the basis for cost estimates, e.g., market rate, vendor quotes, pro-forma invoice, etc.

viii. Indirect Costs

The Applicant must submit a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement NICRA if the organization has such an agreement with an agency or department of the U.S. Government. The Applicant should support the proposed indirect cost rate with a letter from a cognizant U.S. Government audit agency, a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), or with sufficient information for USAID to determine the reasonableness of the rates. (e.g. a breakdown of labor bases and overhead pools, the method of determining the rate, etc.), stating the percentages and amounts used for the calculation of indirect costs and detailed data to support each cost element (object class categories).

If no NICRA the Applicant should submit the following:

Reviewed Financial Statements Report: a report issued by a Certified Public Account (CPA) documenting the review of the financial statements was performed in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services; that management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework and for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation. The account must also state the he or she is not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements; or

Audited Financial Statements Report: An auditor issues a report documenting the audit was conducted in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS), the financial statements are the responsibility of management, provides an opinion that the financial statements present fairly in all material respects the financial position of the company and the results of operations are in conformity with the applicable financial reporting framework (or issues a qualified opinion if the financial statements are not in conformity with the applicable financial reporting framework. The auditor may also issue a disclaimer of opinion or an adverse opinion if appropriate.

d. Cost Sharing: The Applicants should estimate the amount of cost-sharing resources to be mobilized over the life of the agreement and specify the sources of such resources, and the basis of calculation in the budget narrative. Applicants should also provide a breakdown of the cost share (financial and in-kind contributions) of all organizations involved in implementing the resulting Cooperative Agreement.

e. Budget Narrative: The cost elements provided in the Detailed Budget must also be provided in the Budget Narrative, but with text that explains the rationale for the choices and costs. As noted throughout the cost elements above, the Budget Narrative must contain sufficient detail so that USAID can read the document while reviewing the Detailed Budget and understand the proposed costs to support the activity. The Budget Narrative must be thorough, including sources for costs to more quickly enable USAID to determine the cost as fair and reasonable.

f. Dun and Bradstreet and SAM.gov Requirements

USAID may not award to an applicant unless the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and System for Award Management (SAM) requirements. Each applicant is required to:

- Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. SAM is streamlining processes, eliminating the need to enter the same data multiple times, and consolidating hosting to make the process of doing business with the government more efficient (www.sam.gov);
- Provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and
- Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency.

g. Certifications, Assurances and Other Statements of the Applicant

The business section of the cost/business application should include:

(1) Applicants must complete and sign the **Certifications, Assurances, and Representations included in the following link**: https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303mav.pdf.

(2) The cost/business application should also include **evidence of responsibility** that the Agreement Officer can use to determine that the Applicant:

a. Has adequate financial resources or the ability to obtain such resources as require during the performance of the award;
b. Has the ability to comply with the award conditions, taking into account all existing and currently prospective commitments of the Applicant;
c. Has a satisfactory record of performance. Past relevant unsatisfactory performance is ordinarily sufficient to justify a finding of non-responsibility, unless there is clear evidence of subsequent satisfactory performance;

d. Has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics; and
e. Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a Cooperative Agreement under applicable laws and regulations (e.g., Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO)).

(3) **Certificate of Compliance:** Please submit a copy of your Certificate of Compliance if your organization's systems have been certified by USAID/Washington's Office of Acquisition and Assistance (M/OAA).

(4) **Potential Request for Additional Documentation:** Upon consideration of award or during the negotiations leading to an award, Applicants may be required to submit additional documentation deemed necessary for the Agreement Officer to make an affirmative determination of responsibility. Applicants should not submit the information below with their applications. The information in this section is provided so that Applicants may become familiar with additional documentation that may be requested by the Agreement Officer:

The information submitted should substantiate:

a. Bylaws, constitution, and articles of incorporation, if applicable.

b. Whether the organizational travel, procurement, financial management, accounting manual and personnel policies and procedures, especially regarding salary, promotion, leave, differentials, etc., submitted under this section have been reviewed and approved by any agency of the Federal Government, and if so, provide the name, address, and phone number of the cognizant reviewing official. The Applicant should provide copies of the same.

c. Branding Strategy and Marking Plan: In accordance with ADS 303.3.6.2(f), the apparently successful applicant must submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan which is subject to approval prior to award.

h. Funding Restrictions

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.400, it is USAID policy not to award profit under assistance instruments. However, all reasonable, allocable, and allowable expenses, both direct and indirect, which are related to the grant program and are in accordance with applicable cost standards (2 CFR 200/700, OMB Circular A-122 for non-profit organization, OMB Circular A-21 for universities, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31 for-profit organizations), may be paid under the grant.

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SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. Review and Selection Process

A Selection Committee (SC) comprised of USAID employees shall review the applications according to the criteria described below. The merit review factors are presented in descending order of importance.

After evaluation of applications, USAID expects to select the apparently successful Applicant. In the event of more than one competitive applications, USAID reserves the right to conduct oral presentation to better select the winning application. Thereafter, USAID may engage in discussions or negotiations with the successful Applicant regarding any matter to be covered in the final technical and cost application. USAID may also award without discussions with the selected Applicant.

A. Technical Review Criteria:

The technical applications will be reviewed in accordance with the review criteria set forth below.

1. Technical approach: The extent to which the proposed technical approach and Activity monitoring Plan demonstrate a clear understanding of the objectives of the program and a convincing approach to achieve them of the identified activity components.

1.1 The extent to which the Applicant adequately identifies and describes the approach that will be deployed in the Jordan Valley and/or in the Azraq and Mafraq basins to save water by implementing hydroponic systems, and other related technologies during the life cycle of the program. Estimate the volume of water which these interventions are expected to save and how it will be calculated.

1.2 The degree to which the Applicant adequately identifies and describes the approach that will be used to: (a) successfully engage communities to adopt household water- and energy-savings (cisterns, roof-top water tanks, modernized plumbing, grey water reuse systems, photo-voltaic panels, solar water heaters, etc.); (b) the extent to which the Applicant meticulously identifies and describes the support to the existing CBOs, which already administer revolving loan funds for similar types of technologies; and/or (c) the extent to which the Applicant thoroughly identifies and describes the devices that can be implemented for households under new community groups (new CBOs, WUAs or RLCs).

1.3 Degree to which the Applicant proposes a strong and sound management plan for revolving loan programs in rural communities and whether/how to modify the revolving loan program with interventions and finance that will strengthen water security.

2. Key Personnel

Quality, experience and appropriateness of the Applicant’s proposed Key Personnel as related to the specific minimum qualification for Key Personnel, professional competence, academic background, interpersonal skills, management capacity, political astuteness, and demonstrated knowledge and ability to successfully and effectively implement the proposed activity.

3. Overall Activity Management Plan and Integration of Cross-Cutting Themes.

3.1 Extent to which the applicant adequately describes the overarching management and administrative system whereby the prime works to strengthen local partners and supply critical needs as gaps are identified, to insure long-term sustainability and feasible activities that encourage interaction and synergy.

3.2 Extent to which the applicant describes the coordination among participants, including the quality of the communication plan with GOJ-BRP and USFS to insure a complementary fit with activities that will be implemented by WCA.

3.3 Demonstrated strength of the proposed plan for inclusion of Jordanians, especially women and youth. Elucidate how Jordanians will benefit from hydroponic production on small holdings that are linked with commercial farmers in the Jordan Valley and/or the Mafraq and Azraq basins, to aggregate the production and deliver the produce to domestic and export markets.

3.4 Demonstrated strong evidence of a successful engagement effort such as gender-specific, vocational-technical education; business development training; Global Good Agricultural Practices certification; and public awareness for water conservation and the approach to create opportunities for women or youth groups in Jordan.

4. Experience in Implementing Activities in the Middle East Region.

4.1 Demonstrated experience implementing hydroponics in an environment similar to Jordan's. Please list the specifics of your interventions.

4.2 Experience in the Middle East installing cisterns, rooftop water tanks and other water saving interventions with community organizations. Please list the specifics of your interventions.

- If applicants have other water conserving technologies they wish to report, please make a separate list for each intervention.

B. Cost Evaluation

Technical merit review are significantly more important than cost. While Cost is less important than technical and is not weighted, the cost applications of the apparently successful technical applications will be evaluated for cost effectiveness, including the level of proposed cost share. Other considerations are the completeness of the application, adequacy of budget detail and consistency with elements of the technical application. In addition, the organization must demonstrate adequate financial management capability, to be measured for a responsibility determination.

The application with the lowest estimated cost may not be selected if award to a higher priced technical application offers a greater overall benefit for the program. All evaluation factors other than cost or price, when combined, are significantly more important than cost. However, estimated cost is an important factor and the estimated cost to the Government increases in importance as competing applications approach equivalence and may become the deciding factor when technical applications are approximately equivalent in merit.

Cost estimates will be analyzed as part of the application evaluation process. Proposed costs may be adjusted, for purposes of evaluation, based on results of the cost analysis and its assessment of reasonableness, completeness, and credibility.

The cost application of the apparently successful technical application will be evaluated for credibility, completeness and for:

1. Allowability of Costs (2 CFR 200.403)
2. Reasonable Costs (2 CFR 200.404)
3. Allocable Costs (2 CFR 200.405)
4. Demonstration of management capability to meet a responsibility determination.

(1) Cost Sharing

USAID has established a suggested cost share of 10% of the Award's projected value of ($3 million) for the recipient of the award. Leveraged non-USAID resources from private firms and institutions (such as equipment, training, level of effort and any in-kind contributions) may be considered part of cost share. Cost sharing may be also demonstrated either through direct funding, beneficiary contributions, in-kind assistance, or a combination thereof. USAID shall make the final determination and assess whether or not the Applicants cost share contributions (e.g. categories or items) meet the standards set in 2CFR 200

(2) Anticipated Announcement and Federal Award Dates

An award shall be made to the responsible Applicant whose application offers the best value, cost and other factors considered. Considering the recommendations of the SC, the final award decision is made by the Agreement Officer. The Agreement Officer's decision about the funding of an award is final and not subject to review. Any information that may impact the Agreement Officer's decision shall be directed to the Agreement Officer.

Authority to obligate the U.S. Government: the Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the U.S. Government to the expenditure of public funds.

SECTION F: FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. FEDERAL AWARD NOTICES

Award of the agreement contemplated by this NOFO cannot be made until funds have been appropriated, allocated and committed through internal USAID procedures. While USAID anticipates that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award. The Agreement officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. No costs chargeable to the proposed Agreement may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed Agreement or a specific, written authorization from the Agreement Officer.

Following selection for award and successful negotiations, a successful applicant will receive an electronic copy of the notice of the award signed by the Agreement Officer which serves as the authorizing document. The Agreement Officer will only do so after making a positive responsibility determination that the applicant possesses, or has the ability to obtain, the necessary management competence in planning and carrying out assistance programs and that it will practice mutually agreed upon methods of accountability for funds and other assets provided by USAID.

The award will be issued to the contact as specified in the application as the Authorized Individual in accordance with the requirements in the Representations and Certifications.

For organizations that are new to working with USAID or for organizations with outstanding audit findings, USAID may perform a pre-award survey to assess the applicant's management and financial capabilities. If notified by USAID that a pre-award survey is necessary, applicants must prepare, in advance, the required information and documents. Please note that a pre-award survey does not commit USAID to make any award.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

Relevant policies and federal regulations are available at the following web sites: ADS-

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

2 CFR 200: http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=1b472774f0a1e84d725c7ca14618e8ac&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5

Mandatory Standard Provisions for U.S. Nongovernmental Recipients can be accessed through USAID's website http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/refindx3.htm.

Mandatory Standard Provisions for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental Recipients can be accessed through USAID's website http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/refindx3.htm.

Resulting awards to non-U.S. non-governmental organizations will be administered in accordance with Chapter 303 of USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS-303), 2 CFR 200, and Standard

Provisions for non-U.S. Nongovernmental Organizations. Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Nongovernmental organizations are available at: http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303mab.pdf

3. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(1) Quarterly Report

Fifteen (15) days after the end of each quarter, the Contractor will provide quarterly performance reports to describe activities undertaken; report on progress made toward achieving results, and make necessary adjustments for activities that will be undertaken in the next quarter. The report should contain an executive summary and the following, at a minimum:

- Summary of the results for the reporting period and key achievements.
- Quarterly data for the required Performance Indicators, as determined in the AMEP. Reporting will be done through the Mission's online performance management information system, which is currently DevResults. The Contractor will work with the COR and the Program Office to obtain access to the DevResults system and ensure proper structure of the system as necessary for their activity.
- Any implementation problems as well as proposed corrective actions and the costs associated with the delay.
- Cross-cutting issues considerations in implementation and performance during the quarter should be specified and included as annexes. At a minimum, cross-cutting issues should include: gender; youth; disabilities; institutional strengthening and local capacity building; policy reforms; science, technology and innovation.
- Documentation of lessons learned and best practices that can be taken to scale.
- Each quarterly report will include confirmation that the Contractor has complied with ADS Chapter 253 and other USAID/Jordan specific policies and procures (i.e., Mission Order 253) and requirements by providing a copy of a report generated by *TraiNet*.
- List of completed assessments and evaluations and plans for utilizing findings and recommendations.
- List of upcoming events (national and sub-national meetings, seminars, training sessions, conferences, and others; international consultant visits; evaluations and assessments; and meetings with key GOJ officials and decision-makers), with dates.
- Environmental Status Report (ESR) section based on the approved Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) and Environmental Monitoring and Mitigation Plan (EMMP); and
- List of staff and consultants with dates in/out of country.
- At a minimum, two new success stories must be included in each quarterly report. A template is available from the USAID/Jordan Mission via your COR.

Quarterly reports will not exceed 30 pages. Annexes may be included if they support findings, conclusions, and recommendations of the core document.

The Contractor should check with the Program Office through their AOR/COR for applicable templates.

(2) Annual Performance Report

The fourth quarterly report shall also serve as the Annual Performance Report and shall be submitted within fifteen (15) calendar days after the end of the first full USAID fiscal year and annually thereafter for each authorized year of performance. The Annual Performance Report shall follow the same format as the quarterly report, but with additional focus on cumulative accomplishments, progress and problems toward achievement of results, performance measures, indicators and benchmarks tied to the Annual Work Plan and the AMEP targets, for the quarter and the entire previous fiscal year, which runs from October 1-September 30. In addition, the Annual Performance Report must include an analysis of the performance indicators data and proposed revisions of annual target projections as needed. The report should contain an executive summary and the following, at a minimum, in addition to the quarterly report components:

- Qualitative and quantitative data required by USAID for the annual Performance Plan and Report (PPR) purposes, a brief listing of the project's major activities and successes during the year; knowledge sharing and learning activities; information on training activities; listing of sub-grants during the fiscal year; and, contributions to crosscutting issues as specified by the Mission.
- List (and links) of all final and approved reports and data that were submitted during the fiscal year to the Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) [https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/home/Default.aspx], USAID's Development Data Library (DDL) website [http://www.usaid.gov/data], and/or the USAID/Jordan Knowledge Management Portal [https://usaidjordankmportal.com/] as applicable. These reports include: assessments, evaluations, studies, development experience documents, technical and consultant reports, quarterly and annual reports, media products, training manuals, databases and datasets, geo-coded data or other GIS related data (i.e. shape files and mapping files), computer software programs, videos and other intellectual deliverable materials required under the Contract Schedule.
- Documentation of best practices that can be taken to scale; and
- ESR section based on the approved IEE and EMMP.

The Recipient should check with the Program Office through their designated AOR for applicable templates or methodology of submitting reports and data to the DEC, DDL website or USAID/Jordan online sharing portal.

(3) Final Program Completion Report

At least 45 calendar days prior to the agreement's completion, the Recipient shall prepare and submit one electronic version (as a single MS Word file) of the Agreement Completion Report to the AOR which summarizes the accomplishments of this agreement, methods of work used, recommendations regarding unfinished work and/or activity continuation, and the financial status of the agreement.

The Program Completion Report shall also contain an index of all reports and information products produced under this agreement. Along with the Completion Report, a CD- ROM depository shall be submitted, containing all written documents, reports and presentations. The depository shall be organized in a user-friendly system. Once approved by the AOR, the recipient shall submit the final report to the AOR, the Controller's Office and the Agreement Officer. Another copy shall be sent in electronic (preferred) or paper form (with all final documents) to one of the following address:
Online: http://dec.usaid.gov

By mail (for pouch delivery): DEC
Document Submissions
M/CIO/KM/DEC

RRB M.01-010

Washington, DC 20523-6100

(4) Closeout Plan

The recipient shall develop and submit to the AOR and AO for approval a closeout plan (administration, information, finance, procurement and management) that will include, but will not be limited to, the following:

- Dates for final delivery of all goods and services for sub-grants or contracts;
- A property disposition plan for the recipient and sub-grantees or sub-contractors in accordance with agreement requirements, which must be approved by the agreement officer;
- Review of agreement files for audit purposes and final billing to USAID;
- A schedule to address office leases, bank accounts, utilities, cell phones, personnel notification, outstanding travel and social payments, household shipments, vehicle; phone subscriptions, etc.;
- Receipt of all final invoices and agreement performance reports;
- Report on the estimated amount of funds not required for the completion of the agreement;
- Report on compliance with all local labor laws, tax clearances, and other appropriate compliance matters.

The format and outline of contents of this closeout plan shall be proposed by the recipient no later than 180 calendar days prior to the agreement completion date, and approved by the AOR no later than 150 calendar days prior to the agreement completion date.

(5) Short-Term Consultant Reports, Technical Briefs/Reports, Special and External Reports

Upon completion of the services of each short-term consultant, the recipient shall submit a report to the AOR summarizing the activities, accomplishments and recommendations of the consultant. This can be either in written or verbal form as determined by the AOR. In addition, the recipient shall provide copies of all technical reports including analyses, policy recommendations, comparative studies, etc. to the AOR as these are developed.

The Recipient shall fulfill all requests from the AOR regarding Agency, congressional, or presidential inquiries. As necessary, programs will illustrate the outcome result of any/all activities. As applicable, any special reporting requirements will be communicated to the Recipient well in advance or as soon as the request is received in the case of late notices. As requested, the Recipient will regularly report progress and metrics to key stakeholders, implementing partners, media houses, private sector, civil society, and communities. External reports that USAID may request from the Recipient include:

- Annual work plans with key activity activities and substantive performance indicators
- Program performance reports (quarterly and annual)
- Financial management and audit reports as applicable
- Performance management system strategy and M&E plans
- Long-term activity implementation strategy

(6) Annual Work Plans

The program will be guided by the Program Description, which will provide an overall activity 'map' that indicates broad activities, expected outcomes, and budget along the five year timeline. Annual Work Plans (AWP) are developed yearly and include proposed activities for the given year, time-frame, implementation of activities, an itemized and detailed budget, review of the previous year's accomplishments (if applicable), problems and challenges encountered in achieving specified results, proposed annual outputs, and progress towards achieving results.

The AWPs must also describe a plan and timeline for internal monitoring and evaluation that takes into account the AMP. The AWPs will be developed in country by the Recipient and in cooperation with the AOR. Annual Work Plans must not deviate from the Cooperative Agreement requirements. All activities planned through this process must be in accordance with the Cooperative Agreement Program Description and consistent with the approved budget for the agreement.

(7) Success Stories

Each fiscal quarter, the Recipient will provide at least one success story from its program. Success stories can either be in written format or media. Please attach as an Annex to the Quarterly Performance Progress Reports. Success stories should be no more than one page. The Recipient will obtain USAID guidance from the designated AOR.

(8) Communications Plan

The Recipient shall submit a Communications Plan, which complies with the Branding and Marking Regulations (See ADS Chapter 320, Branding and Marking) and meets this solicitation specifications of USAID/Jordan Water Conservation Activity:

a. Dissemination of identified activity messages to targeted audiences in Jordan routinely and consistently; and
b. Use of selected outreach tools and opportunities – for example, program launches, media events, telling our Story database – to communicate new or noteworthy program success.

(9) Development Experience Clearinghouse Requirements

The Recipient shall be required to submit any technical reports produced under this program, in English, to USAID's Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) according to the instructions found at https://dec.usaid.gov/dec/content/submit.aspx ;

(10) Foreign Tax Reports

Standard report will be issued for each Fiscal Year and delivered prior to April 16th of each year.

(11) USAID Implementing Partner Notices Portal for Assistance (July 2014)

1. Definitions

"USAID Implementing Partner Notices (IPN) Portal for Assistance (IPN Portal)" means the single point where USAID posts proposed universal bilateral amendments for USAID awards, which can be accessed electronically by registered USAID recipients. The IPN Portal is located at https://sites.google.com/site/usaidipnforassistance/. "IPN Portal Administrator" means the USAID official designated by the Director, M/OAA, who has overall responsibility for managing

the USAID Implementing Partner Notices Portal for Assistance. "Universal bilateral amendment" means those amendments with revisions or new requirements or provisions that affect all awards or a designated class of awards, as specified in the Agency notification of such revisions or new requirements.

2. IPN Portal

By submission of an application and execution of an award, the Applicant acknowledges the requirement to:(1) Register with the IPN Portal if awarded an assistance award resulting from this solicitation, and (2) Receive universal bilateral amendments to this award and general notices via the IPN Portal.

3. Procedure to Register for Notifications.

Go to https://sites.google.com/site/usaidipnforassistance/ and click the "Register" button at the top of the page. Recipient representatives must use their official organization email address when subscribing, not personal email addresses.

4. Processing of IPN Portal Amendments

The Recipient may access the IPN Portal at any time to review all IPN Portal amendments; however, the system shall also notify the Recipient by email when the USAID IPN Portal Administrator posts a universal bilateral amendment for Recipient's review and signature. Proposed USAID IPN Portal amendments distributed via the IPN Portal are applicable to all awards, unless otherwise noted in the proposed amendment.

a. Within 15 calendar days from receipt of the notification email from the IPN Portal, the Recipient must do one of the following:
   i. Verify applicability of the proposed amendment for their award(s) per the instructions provided with each amendment;
   ii. Download the amendment and incorporate the following information on the amendment form: award number, organization name, and organization mailing address as it appears in the basic award;
   iii. Sign the hardcopy version; and
   iv. Send the signed amendment (by email or hardcopy) to the AO for signature.

The Recipient must not incorporate any other changes to the IPN Portal amendment. Bilateral amendments provided through the IPN Portal are not effective until the both the Recipient and the AO sign the amendment;

b. Notify the AO in writing if the amendment requires negotiation of additional changes to terms and conditions of the award; or

c. Notify the AO that the Recipient declines to sign the amendment. Within 30 calendar days of receipt of a signed amendment from the Recipient, the AO must provide the fully executed amendment to the Recipient or initiate discussions with the Recipient.

(12) USAID Disability Policy (June 2012)

The Recipient must not discriminate against people with disabilities in the implementation of USAID funded programs and should demonstrate a comprehensive and consistent approach for including men, women, and children with disabilities. The text of the USAID Disability Policy can be found at the following Web site: http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PDABQ631.pdf.

(13) Branding Strategy and Marking Plan

The apparently successful applicant(s) will be required to submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan to be evaluated and approved by the Agreement Officer. A Branding Implementation Strategy and Marking Plan must be in accordance with USAID Branding and Marking Plan as required per ADS 320 at the following link: http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/. See **2 CFR 700.16** or, for non-U.S. organizations, see the provision entitled "Marking and Public Communications Under USAID-Funded Assistance".

The Recipient must comply with the requirements of the USAID "Graphic Standards Manual" available at www.usaid.gov/branding, or any successor branding policy.

(14) Program Income

Any program income generated under the award will be used to reduce the Federal award and non-Federal entity contributions rather than to increase the funds committed to the activity in accordance with 2 CFR 200.307.

4. ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, Section 117, requires that the impact of USAID's activities on the environment be considered and that USAID include environmental sustainability as a central consideration in designing and carrying out its development programs. This mandate is codified in Federal Regulations (22 CFR 216) and in USAID's ADS 204, which require that any potential environmental impacts of USAID-financed activities be identified prior to a final decision to proceed and that appropriate environmental safeguards are adopted for all activities. In case of a conflict between host country and USAID regulations, the latter shall govern. The Recipient's environmental compliance obligations under these regulations and procedures are specified in the following paragraphs of this NOFO.

In addition, the Recipient must comply with host country environmental regulations unless otherwise directed in writing by USAID. No activity funded under this Cooperative Agreement shall be implemented unless an environmental threshold determination, as defined by 22 CFR 216, has been reached for that activity, as documented in a Request for Categorical Exclusion, Initial Environmental Examination (IEE), or Environmental Assessment duly cleared by USAID/Jordan.

The Initial Environmental Examination (IEE), in accordance with 22 CFR 216, was conducted in order to provide a first review of the overall activities planned under the umbrella Water Conservation Program (WCP), with respect to the reasonably foreseeable effects on the natural and physical environment, and on human health, as well as to provide recommended threshold decisions for the activities planned under WCA. The details of many of the interventions remain to be elaborated, such as sub-grants that would be awarded under the WCA.

This IEE also provides statements of the factual basis for a threshold decision as to the nature of the environmental review and mitigation called for, to the extent known to date, and whether an Environmental Assessment is required for the activities managed under this initiative, to minimize negative environmental and social impacts.

Recommended determinations: The following table provides overviews of the recommended categorical exclusions for WCA, per the program components established by the PAD, as well as key intervention mechanisms. The WCA components are adopted by this IEE for purposes of environmental review.

Activity	Categorical Exclusion, 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)
Introduction of new water saving technologies under the auspices of local environmental regulation, best practices, and data analysis.	(i) Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly and indirectly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.). (ii) Controlled experimentation exclusively for the purpose of research and field evaluation, which are confined to small areas and carefully monitored. (iii) Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings. (v) Document and information transfers.

A Negative Determination with Conditions is recommended for any program activities that have the potential for negative impact on the environment including the following categories:

- Water efficiency and reuse implementation or field experimentation activities that involve alterations to water flows that return to the environment or produce contaminants
- Groundwater and surface water alterations
- Bio-solids

Additionally, some activities within the WCP may fall into categories that typically require preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and/or Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safer Use Action Plan (PERSUAP). Under 22 CFR 216.2(d)(1), the following activities typically require an EA or EIS;

- Programs of river basin development
- Irrigation or water management projects, including dams and impoundment
- Agricultural land leveling
- Drainage projects
- Potable water and sewerage projects other than those that are small-scale

22 CFR 216.3(b) specifies procedures and requirements that apply to all USAID-funded or USAID-managed activities involving assistance for the procurement or use of pesticides. As such, these procedures require that the 22 CFR 216 documentation (i.e., the PERSUAP) for the project shall include a separate section assessing requested pesticides and their uses against 12 analysis factors (a-l) enumerated in §216.3(b)(1)(i).

USAID environmental compliance and review procedures also apply to activities under USAID's programs to leverage public-private partnerships and project financing such as Development Credit Authority (DCA), Global Development Alliances (GDA), Development Innovation Ventures (DIV), and any other future WCP mechanisms.

Negative Determinations (22 CFR 216.3(a)(2)(iii)) with Conditions: The Operating Unit shall ensure that the private party or parties have environmental due diligence processes sufficient to demonstrate compliance with host government environmental laws and to enable USAID to make an assessment of the environmental impact of such activities and shall submit to USAID their proposed policies and procedures to assure that the projects financed are environmentally sound and comply with applicable laws and procedures.

Corporate Environmental & Social Responsibility (CESR): Given the public/private partnership cooperation to be emphasized under WCA, it is expected that private sector Corporate Environmental and Social Responsibility (CESR) will be promoted proactively, and investors expected to support appropriate measures. A good example is the principles of Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI).

Upon final approval of this IEE, the recommended determination is affirmed as a 22 CFR 216 Threshold Decision and conditions become mandatory elements of project implementation.

Note: Pursuant to 22 CFR 216.3(a)(9), if new information becomes available that indicates that any of the proposed actions to be funded by this activity might be "major" and their results "significant," the Bureau Environment Officer will review and revise the threshold decision for those actions listed above, and prepare an environmental assessment as appropriate.

If, during implementation, activities are considered other than those described in the environmental conditions and the approved Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP), supplemental IEEs will be prepared for new activities.

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SECTION G: FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTANT(S)

Point of Contact Information:

All questions relating to this Notice of Funding Opportunity should be addressed to bdiah@usaid.gov with a copy to wdaas@usaid.gov.

Registration for the Pre-Application Conference should be submitted to:
bdiah@usaid.gov with a copy to asawaked@usaid.gov.

Please note: Only the Agreement Officer is authorized to make commitment on behalf of USAID. The Agreement Officer is Luis A. Rivera: Lrivera@usaid.gov.

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SECTION H: OTHER INFORMATION

USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.

PAST PERFORMANCE INFORMATION (PPI)

This appendix is included in order to evaluate PPI as part of the Pre-Award Risk Assessment.

(To be completed by the Applicant)

1.	Award Number:
2.	Contractor/Recipient (Name and Address):
3.	Type of Award:
4.	Complexity of Work: Difficult ____Routine ______
5.	Description, location, and relevancy of work:
6.	Dollar Value of Work : ___________________ Status: Active ___Completed ____
7.	Date of Award: ____________ Award Completion Date (including extensions): ______________
8.	Type and Extent of Subawards:
9.	Name, Address, Telephone Number, and E-mail Address of the Awarding Contracting/Agreement Officer and/or the Contracting/Agreement Officer 's Representative (and other references as applicable):

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE LEFT BLANK INTENTIONALLY.