

USAID/West Bank and Gaza Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM)
APS 294-15-000002
Questions and Answers II

Q1 If our University is the prime applicant, can we partner with an Arab Israeli institution?

Answer: Yes.

Q2 Is an activity focusing mainly on conflict mitigation between Israeli Arabs and West- Bank Palestinians eligible?

Answer: USAID requests Applicants to focus on issues of common interest between three categories of participants:

- 1) Israelis and Palestinians;
- 2) Israelis, Palestinians and Jordanians;
- 3) Israeli Arab and Jewish citizens.

Q3 If we involve Israeli Jews in their private capacity - i.e. not through an institution, would that be an eligible activity/partnership?

Answer: Yes, this will be an eligible activity. However; this will not be categorized as a partnership with an organization. It is worthwhile to note that prime applicant must be an organization and not an individual.

Q4 Can land be acquired? In which area (A, B, C) is there any guidance regarding this matter?

Answer: Should acquiring land be needed to implement the applicants proposed program, all required approvals and necessary permits will be the responsibility of the applicant and should be principally approved prior to the start of the program.

Q5 The requirement under the APS for “Proof of qualifying status as a local organization: if applicable” Is this proof applicable for a FAA under the CMM? If so, what kind of proof is needed?

Answer: Regardless of submission of application under Fixed Amount Award or Standard Assistance Award, each local organization must submit a proof of qualifying status as a local organization. This includes a document from the local authority proving

that the local organizations applying under the APS do indeed have the status of a local organization. (Referred to as מרשם העמותות)

Q6 Please confirm our understanding that the maximum 5 page limit for the Summary Applications does NOT include the following. Meaning a 5 page Summary plus the following:

- a. Standard Assistance Technical Application Cover Page (two page limit, see template in Attachment E or F)
- b. Résumés of up to three proposed key personnel (one page limit each);
- c. Standard Budget Forms (SF 424 & 424A) and 424B
- d. Detailed Budget and Budget Narrative (see templates in Attachments G and H)
- e. Proof of Qualifying Status as a Local Organization: If applicable.

Answer: Yes. The above documents should be submitted in addition to the five page summary application. Please note that the budget submission should be separated from the technical submission.

Q7 Please clarify the differences between Impacts and Results as requested in the Technical Applications Cover Page.

- Results are the direct effects of the outputs on the beneficiaries of the program.
- Impact is the higher level of outcome. It is the effect of the project in terms of conflict mitigation

Q8 Do the management plan table and summary of organization qualifications and past experience count towards the 5 page limit for the summary application?

Answer: Yes.

Q9 If we work with a local partner, should we include a letter of commitment as outlined on page 13 of the APS?

Answer: Yes.

Q10 Regarding partner involvement in proposed activities, will inclusion of a Teaming Agreement (TA) in line with industry norms and signed between the U.S. prime contractor and local partners, in addition to the detailed collaboration contained in the technical portion of the proposal, suffice as evidence of those collaborations? Additionally, shall a TA or other similar documents be included in the budget and budget narrative as evidence of active, substantial involvement of the local subcontractors?

Answer: At the summary application stage it will be sufficient to include a letter of commitment stating that the partner will be working under the program. In addition, costs associated with the partner must be included in the budget and clarified in the budget narrative.

Q11 In the event that there are local partners that do not have audited indirect costs and rates, but that do have audited financials, is it permissible to propose them as a fixed line item in the budget and budget narrative?

Answer: Applicants should include all costs associated with the implementation of the program. Specific cost discussion will be conducted with the successful applicants prior to award.

Q12 Given the dual phase approach of the grant review process, would USAID West Bank require a detailed budget for the fixed price subcontracting line item during the first phase of the grant proposal submission?

Answer: Yes. All costs associated with the program's implementation should be included in the budget of the summary application.

Q13 Can a US based non-profit apply for a Fixed Amount Award to support a call-in radio show based in Ramallah?

Answer: Yes, as long as the proposed program is responsive to the objectives the APS.

Q14 Will USAID consider media projects such as an interactive call-in radio show with an interactive social media component under this APS? Would USAID consider funding it through a US based NGO, or would it prefer to fund it through a Jordanian, Palestinian or Israeli based NGO?

Answer: USAID will consider and evaluate all proposed programs that meet the objectives of the APS in accordance with the set evaluation criteria. It is up to the organizations to decide who the prime applicant should be.

Q15 Is it possible to submit a project proposal that builds on a proposal submitted to a different donor agency?

Answer: Yes, provided that the application meets the objectives of this APS and is in line with its requirements.

Q16 Is it possible to solely submit applications by email? Or is it mandatory to also submit the application through <http://www.grants.gov>?

Answer:

- Yes applicants can solely submit their application by email. It is not required that

applicants submit their application through grants.gov. Should applicants choose to upload applications to <http://www.grants.gov> ; USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes associated with electronic submissions. USAID/West Bank and Gaza requires that all applications be submitted electronically (e-mailed) to WBG-APS-CMM2015@usaid.gov by June 21, 2015.

- Applicants are required to request a receipt confirmation to ensure that the application was received.

Q17 If we plan on developing a part of our programming for Israeli, Palestinian, Egyptian, and Jordanian participants, would USAID pay for Egyptians and Jordanians to travel to the conference or program? Can we include the cost of travel/lodging and programming? What are the constraints on international and third country trainings?

Answer:

- Yes USAID will be able to fund Egyptians and Jordanians travel costs to the conference or program.
- In recognition of the increased challenges of movement and access between Israel, WB, North African Countries and Jordan, meetings in third country venues are permissible if the neutrality of the meeting location or the security of participants is an issue and measures are taken to ensure the cost effectiveness of the endeavor. Sufficient technical justification should be provided for use of a third country venue. International and third country training may be approved on a case by case basis. If the applicant demonstrates that this training is essential to the implementation of the program and contributes to achieving the objectives of this APS, International and third country training will be considered.

Q18 Is East Jerusalem considered the West Bank or Israel? Should we check the box for Israel, West Bank and Gaza or Israel only?

Answer: Applicants should check the box they feel is most appropriate. Applicants will not be penalized by USAID for their geographic selection of their proposed activity.