

**Policy, Advocacy, and Communication Enhanced for Population and Reproductive Health
(PACE) Annual Program Statement (APS) - Revised Version Q&A
SOL-OAA-15-000054
January 3, 2020**

1. How many countries are we expected to cover?

This will depend on the Round document; per the revised APS, page 18:

“I. Benefiting Geographic Areas

USAID funds health activities in almost 60 countries. PRH prioritizes 24 high-need countries as well as the additional Ouagadougou Partnership countries.¹ *This does not, however, preclude activities in other USAID-supported countries.* If a Round of this APS has a specific geographic focus, it will clearly state this.”

2. Is there a priority region?

Please see the response to Question #1 above.

3. Is there a budget ceiling for each submission?

This will depend on the Round document; per the revised APS, page 15:

“The financial range for award(s) will be specified in each Round.”

4. What is the due date for submission of the concept note?

Per the revised APS, page 1: “Please see individual Round documents for each Round’s deadlines and submission instructions for concept papers.”

5. PED and PHE are called out in the award. To what extent is PHE prioritized within the PED umbrella -- and are there priority sectors the awardee would prioritize other than PHE, or would it be a balance of all the PED areas named in the award (environment, climate change, resilience, livelihoods, food security, water, economic growth, education, democracy, and governance)?

Much of this will depend on the funding received during any future award(s). Per the revised APS, page 15: “The funding for the Rounds under this APS may be provided through the GH Bureau, mainly through the Office of Population and Reproductive Health, but also possibly through the other GH offices and AID/W regional bureaus, as well as USAID mission field support.” The PED umbrella includes PHE, both of which will be pursued under any award focused on Result 2. The various development sectors cited in the APS (environment, climate change, resilience, livelihoods, food security, water, economic growth, education, democracy and governance) are all relevant for PHE and PED, and are important for fostering the Journey to Self-Reliance.

¹Appendix A of the revised PACE APS, dated December 11, 2019

- 6. Could USAID please clarify how different rounds under the APS will work together? Specifically, will forthcoming rounds work in collaboration with the current Round 1 project, or will forthcoming rounds replace the Round 1 mechanism?**

At this time, it is not anticipated that any forthcoming Round(s) of the APS will replace the current Round 1 project. Coordination is expected if the projects are working in the same country.

- 7. Will applicants be permitted to include partnerships at the concept paper stage?**

This will depend on the Round document; per the revised APS, page 21: “Concept papers will be accepted under issued Rounds of this APS. Please refer to the specific Round documents for detailed information on the concept paper submission guidance including concept paper requirements and review criteria for the specific Round.”

- 8. Within a given round, may an organization participate in one concept note as a prime, while also participating in a separate concept note as a sub-partner with another organization as prime?**

Please see the response to Question #7 above.

- 9. On page 22 of the APS instructions, under Section IV: Concept Paper Submission Information, it states that concept papers may be shared with other organizations as part of the co-creation process. At the concept note stage for each specific Round will USAID confirm whether it intends to share concept notes with other organizations as part of the co-creation process for that Round?**

As stated in the revised APS, page 22: “Concept papers should be free of any intellectual property that the applicant wishes to protect, as the concept papers may be shared with other organizations as part of the co-creation process.” If successful concept papers will be shared amongst those applicants, they will receive notice either via the Round document itself, or another method prior to the co-creation process beginning.

- 10. During a Round, will USAID provide an estimated time frame for when co-creation will take place and how soon after USAID expects to issue an RFA?**

Ideally, each Round document will include approximate timing for the co-creation process; timing for the RFA being shared is not possible to provide. However, each Round document will include the anticipated start date of the award(s) in Section II.B. Please note that all of these dates are anticipated/approximate and not guaranteed.