

USAID's Tibet Education Project (TEP)
RFA-386-12-000005, Amendment # 1

The RFA is amended to incorporate the following:

I. Change in closing Time and Date

The closing time & date for the RFA is hereby extended to 1000 Hours on August 1, 2012 (New Delhi Time). Both, the Electronic and Hard copies of Technical and Cost applications must reach the address(es) stated in the RFA by 1000 Hours on August 1, 2012 (New Delhi Time).

II. Questions & Answers

Question 1: Are the illustrative activities specified with few “intended results” to be devised once the contract is awarded or with the response to RFA?

Answer 1: Applicants should propose specific activities to achieve the intended results as part of the response to the RFA. The illustrative activities presented are just that – illustrative. Applicants should feel free to propose different and additional activities as part of their technical approach to achieving program results.

Question 2: With respect to Technical Application, do we have to submit the implementation plans & strategy specifically targeting to every aspect of Project Description (like Teacher Development, improving education management etc.) or broad framework of implementation strategies are to be proposed?

Answer 2: Applicants should propose specific approaches and activities for achieving the intended results under each of the six program objectives outlined in the RFA.

Question 3: Under the Project Objective “*Intensify Teacher Development and training*”, one of the major points highlighted is problem of attraction and retention of quality teachers in Tibetan Schools. However the intended results w.r.t this issue states “**Improved teacher capabilities, teaching methodologies and learning approaches**”. Apart from this, should we not propose the measure to combat attrition in teaching sector and suggest ways to develop more conducive environment for teachers?

Answer 3: Applicants should propose approaches and activities to both achieve the intended results as well as the address the development challenges presented in the RFA for each of the program’s six objectives.

Question 4: Under the subject “Key personnel”, we plan to propose maximum use of Tibet, Indians and Nepali Staff for the execution of this programme” However can we make the provision for recruitment of these Tibet & Nepali Staff, after the award of the Contract and for the time being do away with the submission of resumes of such staff members?

Answer 4: If the proposed Tibetan, Indian, and Nepali staff are Key Personnel, then resumes for these individuals should be included as part of the Application in an Annex.

Question 5: We are planning to propose Information & Computer Technology as a cross-cutting strategy to support and enhance all objectives. Because this would be an integrated strategy, it may be best presented as a separate objective. However, if USAID prefers, we could break it out across all six existing objectives. Please advise.

Answer 5: Applicants should propose strategies, approaches, and activities, as part of the technical approach; in a manner that they feel is most appropriate for achieving the program results.

Question 6: With prior experience in application for USAID grant for Nicaragua, we discovered that successful applicant needed to be a large international organization already performing other work for USAID and on an approved USAID list. Does a consortium led by community colleges qualify as a “potential new implementing partners”?

Answer 6: Any legally established organization or consortia, conforming to the Authorized Geographic Code 937 requirement, can apply.

Question 7: As outlined on page 23 of the RFA, part 6 of the Technical Application should be “Past Performance” but part 7.c. also requests “Relevant Past Performance Information.” Could you please clarify the difference between these two sections?

Answer 7: Applicants should provide a summary of their past performance under Part 6; and the substantive past performance information including list of reference contacts with contact details in part 7 as an Annex.