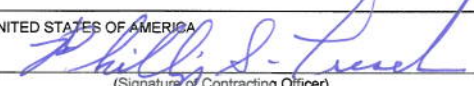


AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT				BPA NO.	1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE 1	OF PAGES 11
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. ONE		3. EFFECTIVE DATE SEE BLOCK 16C.	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.		5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)		
6. ISSUED BY CODE REGIONAL ACQUISITION AND ASSISTANCE OFFICE USAID/SENEGAL B.P. 49 DAKAR - SENEGAL		7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) CODE					
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code) ALL POTENTIAL APPLICANTS				(X)	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. RFA No. 685-10-A-12		
					9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) May 7, 2010		
					10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.		
				X	10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)		
CODE		FACILITY CODE					
11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS							
☐ The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers ☐ is extended, ☐ is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods: (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning _____ copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment of each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.							
12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)							
13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.							
(X)	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.						
	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).						
	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:						
	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)						
E. IMPORTANT: Contractor ☒ is not, ☐ is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.							
14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)							
(See Continuation Page)							
Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.							
15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print) N/A				16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) PHILLIP S. TRESCH REGIONAL ACQUISITION AND ASSISTANCE OFFICER			
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR (Signature of person authorized to sign)		15C. DATE SIGNED		16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BY  (Signature of Contracting Officer)		16C. DATE SIGNED 6/25/2010	

The purpose of this amendment is to provide answers to a few questions received.

Question # 1

Will there be just one or multiple awards?

Answer # 1

USAID anticipates making only one award under this solicitation.

Question # 2

It is mentioned (page 34) that the Projet Croissance Economique (PCE) will serve as the "Integrator" of all USAID Senegal's food security activities. Could USAID be more specific about the expected role of PCE in terms of collaboration and interaction with the Agricultural Development Program?

Answer # 2

USAID/Senegal is coordinating the Feed the Future activities, USAID/Projet Croissance Economique (PCE) is expected to act as the "lead integrator" for USAID/Senegal's activities under the initiative. PCE will assist in ensuring:

- cross-cutting issues and activities are well connected among different partners;
- common reporting occurs;
- improved synchronization of complimentary activities.
- Overall Feed the Future program coherence; and
- No duplication of implementing partner efforts.

Question # 3

It is mentioned (page 37) that the Recipient will manage a Special Support Fund to be implemented through a Sub-Grant-Making facility. A figure of \$250,000 per year will be set aside for USAID-awarded grants. Does this amount include the sum to be allocated to the possible voucher system (page 33)?

Answer # 3

The amount for a sub-grant making facility is funding set aside for grants that USAID/Senegal will identify and the Recipient will manage. The funds are separate from any other grant system or voucher system the applicant might develop.

Question # 4

It is expected that the communities in four regions of Senegal will sustainably manage their water resources (page 28). Does USAID expect the project to finance cost for water retention infrastructures such as artificial ponds, dams, etc? If yes, should the amount allocated to such infrastructures be included in the Sub-Grant-Making facility (\$250,000 plus-figure - ref: precedent question)?

Answer # 4

The recipient should help the local communities to improve and/or rehabilitate their irrigation systems. The amount allocated to improving irrigation systems is separate from the sub-grant making facility.

Question # 5

"Recipient must comply with host country environmental regulations unless otherwise directed in writing by USAID" (page 40 C.6.2). Could USAID be more specific about which regulations apply or add the link to ANNEX 1, page 60?

Answer 5

The reference to host country environmental regulations on page 40 concerns a general principle the Recipient will apply in environmental compliance. USAID has environmental compliance procedures to ensure that environmental factors and values are integrated into the Agency's decision-making process. These procedures also assign responsibility within the Agency for assessing the environmental effects of the Agency's actions. The recipient must comply with USAID and host country environmental regulations. In case of conflict between host country and USAID regulations, the latter shall govern.

Question # 6

Applicants are encouraged to seek to leverage additional resources from the private sector... (Page 61, Annex 2) but "Applicants should not approach Resource Partners..." Does this instruction only apply to potential local resource partners? If a recipient already has GDA potential with U.S. firms and organizations with potential for 1:1 match, can its proposal include this information in the technical and cost proposal?

Answer # 6

Applicants should not approach Resources Partners. However, applicants can include ideas for potential Global Development Alliance partners in the application. Applicants should not include "potential" funds in the cost proposal.

Question # 7

The creation of village level loan and savings program is an illustrative activity listed (page 29). Does USAID consent to use a part of the project funds for different financial mechanisms, such as a Credit Guarantee Facility?

Answer # 7

Yes, part of the project funds can be used for different financial mechanisms.

Question # 8

At one point the RFA says the Applicant will have to authorize a Country Representative to represent the organization in all day-to-day matters pertaining to the execution of this agreement and the achievement of results. In other parts, the RFA talks about a Chief of Party (COP). Are these two one in the same?

Answer # 8

Applicants will authorize someone to represent the organization in all day-to-day matters pertaining to the execution of this agreement and to achievement of results. The title of this person (ex. Chief of Party or Country Representative) is for the applicant to propose.

Question # 9

In Section C.6.2 on page 40, it says that an IEE of the Economic Growth Office was amended in Sept 2009 to include activities of this RFA. However, on pg. 44 under C.10, IEE is listed as something USAID must approve. Is the Recipient required to conduct an IEE as part of this project?

Answer # 9

Yes. For any activities during the life of the award that are not included in the approved IEE, the Economic Growth Office will require the Recipient to conduct and obtain USAID's approval for an IEE for that specific activity.

Question # 10

The types of past performance references requested changes slightly among different sections of the RFA. At one point it asks for relevant U.S. donor funded contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, etc. implemented within the last three years. At other points, it just asks for appropriate references, and does not state that they need to be USG awards or within the last three years. Does USAID definitively want USG awards within the last three years only?

Answer # 10

The primary past performance focus is on U.S. donor funded contracts, grants, and cooperative agreement during the last three years.

Question # 11

The RFA seems to focus on submission via email and hard copy. Should the submission also need to happen via Grants.gov?

Answer # 11

Submission via Grants gov is feasible but a hard copy submitted at the place and time specified on the cover letter of the solicitation is required.

Question # 12

Section A, Page 7: does the paragraph at the top of the page mean that the organizations that are part of a priming team have to print the amendment from the Grants.gov webpage, sign and send to USAID?

Answer # 12

Applicants receiving amendments can confirm receipt by email to the contact person specified in the RFA. No need to sign and sent the amendment.

Question # 13

Under what conditions will up to 10 projects be funded under this RFA?

Answer # 13

Please see answer No. 1 above.

Question # 14

Can multiple organizations apply for a grant under this RFA with one being the lead and fiduciary institution?

Answer # 14

As specified in the last paragraph of the cover letter, organizations and institutions can form partnerships or teams (prime and subs).

Question # 15

Regarding the submission of proposals, since the electronic application appears to be the primary submission, could you please clarify if it would be acceptable for the hard-copy to follow (i.e. arrive at USAID after the 22 July deadline) as long as the electronic application is submitted by the 22 July deadline?

Answer # 15

Hard copies must be received by the deadline specified on the cover letter.

Question # 16

Please provide or let us know how to access information regarding the FSN Schedule and Local Compensation Plan to assist us in determining reasonable compensation as required in accordance with OMB Circular A-122.

Answer # 16

If offerors individually write to USAID/Senegal, the Mission will provide only step 6 of the FSN pay scale as a "general" financial reference (i.e. salary market rates should not be based only on FSN pay rates).

Question # 17

Regarding past performance review, para A.3, Section C.8 (pg 10) requests up to 10 Past Performance Review, however, Section B (pg 18) requests applicants provide 5 - 8 PPRs. Please confirm maximum number of PPRs to be submitted.

Answer # 17

5 - 8 Past Performance Review will meet our requirements.

Question # 18

The hyper-link found in Section C, Component Area 2 (pg 32) on GFSR indicators does not appear to be functional; can USAID please confirm the current link for GFSR indicators?

Answer # 18

As the solicitation is in pdf format all hyper-link specified into the document will be shown as an image. Therefore to get the information, please use a web browser and the specific link.

Question # 19

On page 9 of the RFA, USAID mentions that only the winning firm need to develop a Branding and Marking Plan. Can you confirm this is the case?

Answer # 19

Branding and Marking plan will be requested only of the winning organization/team.

Question # 20

Will an Annex with Letters of Partnership and Support be viewed favorably?

Answer # 20

Yes, letters of partnership and key personnel commitments can be part of the annexes.

Question # 21

Since the program will be implemented in regions and communities, what is the means for calculating the number of "very poor" participants? Will they be calculated on a region- or community-wide basis or by some other measure?

Answer # 21

The Recipient will use multiple indicators to track and report on results and progress. The recipient is responsible for developing a performance monitoring plan for this award. Before submission for approval, the Recipient will consult with the USAID Assistance Officer Technical Representative (AOTR) in order to discuss definitions of indicators and highest priorities. Calculations of "very poor" may vary depending on the specific indicator.

Question # 22

On page 32 the RFA mentions that the applicants propose two regions for initial targeting, one of which it will be the Matam Region/Bakel Department. Is there a reason why Bakel (a part of Tabacounda) is mentioned and not the whole Tabacounda region?

Answer # 22

The Recipient's first areas of focus will include the region of Matam and the department of Bakel (in the region of Tambacounda) plus an additional region to be proposed by the Applicant. Two additional regions for the remaining years of the program will be identified in consultation with USAID and the government of Senegal. Bakel (rather than the whole region of Tambacounda) is specially targeted because of the demographics (such as poverty levels) of that department. This does not mean that the rest of Tambacounda cannot be chosen as an additional region of focus by the Applicant.

Question # 23

Is the "voucher system" discussed in the 3rd bullet on page 33 the same as or an aspect of the functions of the "sub-grant-making facility" discussed on page 37?

Answer # 23

Please see answer # 3 above.

Question # 24

Concerning the sub-grant mechanism, the RFA mentions at the bottom of page 37, point 2) *to manage smaller USAID awards that may be exercised through this activity. For grants selected through USAID, the Recipient will be required to track and monitor the implementation, results, and close-out of the awards.* Can USAID provide more clarification on what these grants will be used for? Will the USAID-granted awards be coordinated with the Recipient in terms of potential conflicts with program priorities or other issues? Will reporting on those USAID grant activities be the responsibility of the Recipient?

Answer # 24

Please see answer # 3. The Recipient will manage, coordinate, report on and perform other required functions related to these grants. For clarifications, it should be noted that these grants will first be proposed by the partner as part of this award, and then concurred with by the AOTR.

Question # 25

On the Grants.gov site the RFA states that 10 awards are expected for the Agricultural Development Program; however the detailed RFA language (pg 14) seems to state that 1 award *may* be granted; please clarify. Will the funding be divided by region and can an NGO/Consortium go after several regions? How much is USAID valuing for each region?

Answer # 25

Please see answer # 1, there is no need to divide the funding by region. All depends of the poverty rate and activities to be implemented in each region. However, in the application it should be illustrated how the grants program should work for each award component (i.e. generally who would implement, the grant recipients, end products and focuses; e.g. anti-poverty, gender support, etc.).

Question # 26

On page 7 it states that "Applicants shall confirm receipt of the RFA by written email notification to the contact person specific in the RFA cover letter." Does this mean that USAID would like a written confirmation that we have downloaded/received the Agricultural Development Program RFA? In the same paragraph it then states: "The Government must receive the acknowledgement by the time specified for receipt of applications." Does this mean that Applicants need to acknowledge receipt of the amendments to the local mission or the Grants.gov website?

Answer # 26

Please see answer # 12.

Question # 27

Page 10 states that "applicants should provide a complete staffing chart that identified the positions titles and position grades..." To what extent does this refer to only key staffing positions or all proposed positions and for both local implementing partners as well as international organizations?

Answer # 27

The organizational chart will show line of reporting, position function/title, geographical location for all staff working under the proposed activity in Senegal. Note: Can use "TBD" (to be determined) if person not selected.

Question # 28

Page 13 refers to the Cost Control Plan. Does USAID recommend that the plan be a part of the cost application as an annex or within the technical application as an annex?

Answer # 28

The cost control plan shall not be a separate document. In Section A.4(k) are provided notes that the applicant shall take into consideration while preparing the cost application in order to reduce and control costs. Note: If a part of this plan is the maximum use of local staff, the cost savings can be illustrated in the cost application while the increased number of technical assistance work days and improved sustainability could be stated in the technical application.

Question # 29

Page 17 states that "in continuation of the above, work activities should include a program of grants and/or Global Development Alliances (GDAs) in all components." Can you please provide an illustrative example of "Grants"?

Answer # 29

"Grants" are awards that will enable the Recipient to meet the objectives of the program, and the grant implementors, recipients and end products all directly interrelated with the award (i.e. do "not" want "old fashioned infrastructure only" grants given to unrelated NGOs or firms).

Question # 30

Page 19 states that \$40 million is the ceiling with possibility of increasing by \$16 million during the first 5 years, and an additional \$25 million possible for the 3 year extension totaling \$81 million. Does this mean therefore that the actual ceiling for the 5 year program is \$56 million?

Answer # 30

The actual ceiling for this RFA is \$40 millions over 5 years, but upon availability of funds the award agreement might be increased; accordingly applicants should use "up to \$40 Million" as the total estimated cost for their applications to this RFA.

Question # 31

The RFA targets first and foremost the Matam Region/Bakel Department. Should this area be treated as an ecological zone, but through different administrative boundaries?

Answer # 31

Please see answer # 22 above.

Question # 32

The Matam/Bakel area is a very large land area. Does USAID envision blanket coverage in Matam/Bakel or can USAID provide some specific program areas e.g. the Senegal River basin?

Answer # 32

Please see answer # 22 above. Applicant is free to propose which target populations will be addressed in their application.

Question # 33

The RFA declares the Matam/Bakel areas as the obligatory area of intervention. Is this the focus in year one or does USAID also anticipate that the second region selected by the successful applicant will also be of equal focus?

Answer # 33

Please see answer # 22 above.

Question # 34

On page 27 the RFA states that "one of the regions will be Matam Region including the Bakel Department in Tambacounda for the reasons explained in section 1.4 of this RFA." Where is section 1.4?

Answer # 34

The RFA section C.2.1 provides data on why the region of Matam and the region of Bakel were selected.

Question # 35

Page 28 and 37 refer to the "special support fund" is this the same as the voucher program for the most vulnerable/chronic poor?

Answer # 35

No, they are not the same. Please see answer # 3 above.

Question # 36

Should applicants budget the \$250,000/year for the special support fund in the cost application including administrative and indirect costs for monitoring purposes and support?

Answer # 36

Please see answer # 3 above.

Question # 37

At the end of page 30, the RFA states that standard indicators are marked by an asterisk on page 31. Please provide guidance on how to approach the identified standard indicators that are not relevant to the proposed project.

Answer # 37

Indicators marked by an asterisk are standard indicators that will be used to track progress of this program and should be included in the application. Also, applicants should propose additional indicators and targets for each of the components. Standard indicators that are not relevant to the project should not be included.

Question # 38

The cert package, which starts on page 50, does not reconcile with the standard USAID cert package found on the Automated Directive System (ADS). Please confirm that the standard cert package is acceptable in lieu of the RFA cert package.

Answer # 38

The cert package in the RFA is the same with the one on the Automated Directive System (ADS). The Assurance of Compliance with Laws and Regulations Governing Non-Discrimination in Federally Assisted Programs does not apply as the entire program will be undertaken in Senegal; and the Certification of Compliance with the Standard Provisions Entitled "Condoms" and "Prohibition on the Promotion or Advocacy of the Legalization or Practice of Prostitution or Sex Trafficking." is not applicable as we are not using FY04-FY08 HIV/AIDS funds

Question # 39

Regarding clause A.4 (k) (pg 13) Cost Control Plan discusses ways to enhance cost efficiency and sustainability of the award. Question: Is this plan a separate requirement of the cost/business application packet or should these considerations be incorporated in the budget notes?

Answer # 39

Please see answer # 28 above.

Question # 40

Clause A.4 (i) (pg 12) contains a budget summary table. Question: Should the applicants submit one summary table for the entire budget or one for each of the two components?

Answer # 40

The applicant should submit both a budget summary table and a detailed budget by components.

Question # 41

On page 27, the RFA states: "One of these two regions will be Matam Region including the Bakel Department in Tambacounda for the reasons explained in section 1.4 of this RFA." We are unable to locate Section 1.4. Kindly provide additional information that explains the Mission's reasoning on this matter.

Answer # 41

Please see answer # 22 and 34 above.

Question # 42

In selecting the second region, must applicants propose a second region that is defined by political subdivision boundaries only?

Answer # 42

Please see answer # 22 above. Applicants should identify the political subdivisions of the areas that are being proposed.

Question # 43

Please clarify the difference between the program performance monitoring plan (PMP) and Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Impact Analysis (MERA). Please also clarify if the Mission expects applicants to include both a PMP and a MERA in their proposals.

Answer # 43

A performance monitoring plan (PMP) is part of the larger Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Impact Analysis (MERA). Applications should include how they will develop a MERA as well as submit a preliminary PMP in their application. Note: As stated in the RFA sections C.5 and C.11, a final PMP needs to be submitted within 45 days of award and then concurred with by the AOTR.

Question # 44

Please clarify the requirements for applicants' past performance information. Page 10 of the RFA states that applicants should provide information for up to 10 programs similar to the program proposed in this application. Page 18 states that an assessment will be made based on 5-8 "team/firm" references submitted for the past three years. Please clarify the total number of references/examples of similar work, as well as how many should be submitted for the prime and how many for each sub-awardees.

Answer # 44

Please see answers # 10 and 17.

Question # 31

The RFA targets first and foremost the Matam Region/Bakel Department. Should this area be treated as an ecological zone, but through different administrative boundaries?

Answer # 31

Please see answer # 22 above.

Question # 32

The Matam/Bakel area is a very large land area. Does USAID envision blanket coverage in Matam/Bakel or can USAID provide some specific program areas e.g. the Senegal River basin?

Answer # 32

Please see answer # 22 above. Applicant is free to propose which target populations will be addressed in their proposal.

Note: Please see Certification of Compliance on the next page.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE
COST APPLICATION UNDER THE CERTIFICATIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS SECTION

END OF AMENDMENT # ONE

To:
Agreement Officer

I, _____, _____, as a legally authorized representative of
Name (Printed or Typed) Title
_____ do hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief,
Organization Name

this organization's management and other employees responsible for their implementation are aware of the requirements placed on the organization by OMB Circulars, and Federal and USAID regulations with respect to the management of, among other things, personnel policies (including salaries), travel and procurement under this agreement and I further certify that the organization is in compliance with those requirements.

I, we, understand that a false, or intentionally misleading, certification could be the cause for possible actions ranging from being found not responsible for this award to suspension or debarment of this organization in accordance with the provisions of USAID Regulation 8.

I, we, further agree to instruct the accounting firm that this organization retains to perform its annual audits, as required by OMB Circular A-133, to include in their review of our internal controls sufficient testing of the implementation of our personnel, travel and procurement policies to confirm compliance with Federal and USAID requirements. The conclusions of that compliance review will be included in the A-133 audit reports submitted to the government. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Signature

Type or Print Name

Position Title

Date of Execution