127) **Q. As a small organization, we have never received a formal audit. Can we propose copies of our financial statements and a signed certification from our accountant that they are accurate instead?**

A. All eligible Applicants must submit their most recent single audit as part of a complete application package. An application that does not include all documentation required by this notice of funding opportunity at the time of application will be deemed ineligible. Applicants should review page 13 and 29 of the NOFO regarding the single audit requirement.

128) **Q. The NOFO references a GS-15, Step 10 compensation cap of $162,672 annually, aligned with the OPM salary table. However, the corresponding daily and hourly rates, $623.60/day and $77.95/hour, do not reflect standard federal calculations (which would be $625.66/day and $78.21/hour, respectively). Could USDA clarify whether it intends to update these rates, or if a different formula or basis was used?**

A. USDA/FAS will use the rates indicated in the NOFO. Please refer to the following OPM link: https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/pay-administration/fact-sheets/how-to-compute-rates-of-pay/

129) **Q. Is this grant program a requirement to bid on commodity solicitations?**

A. Commodity Solicitations under active Food for Progress projects are advertised by USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS). AMS issues solicitations on an ongoing basis for over 200 different USDA Foods. Approved USDA Vendors are invited to submit offers via the Web-Based Supply Chain Management System (WBSCM). Additional information on becoming a USDA Food Vendor can be found here: https://www.ams.usda.gov/selling-food/becoming-approved.

130) **Q. Are there minimum cybersecurity protocols or standards that implementers must follow when deploying data systems under FFPr?**

A. Please refer to 2 CFR 200.303.

131) **Q. Can USDA please indicate an acceptable range for the proportion of monetization proceeds as part of the project operational costs?**

A. Please refer to the sections Funding Details on page 6, Commodity Management on pages 19-23, and Budget on page 23 of the NOFO.