



**USAID | JORDAN**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

September 29, 2016

**Subject: Notice of Funding Opportunity  
Request for Application (RFA) No. 278-16-000013  
Amendment No. 01**

**Title: USAID/Jordan Water Innovations Technologies (WIT)**

Dear Prospective Applicants:

The purpose of Amendment No. 01 to the subject Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is to:

1. Provide changes and/or clarifications to the NOFO. Please note, only the amendment to the NOFO contains the necessary changes to the solicitation document. See Attachment I.
2. Provide responses to the questions received from prospective Applicant without attribution to the requesting organization. See attachment II.

This amendment will be posted on [www.Grants.gov](http://www.Grants.gov) to provide all prospective applicants with the same information.

## ATTACHMENT I

### **Amendment No. 01 to USAID/Jordan Water Innovations Technologies (WIT) NOFO RFA No. 278-16-000013**

#### SECTION A - PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. Article 3 - Link to Mission Strategy, Government Priorities, and Work of Other Donors, a legible copy of “The DO3 Water Resources and Environment Results Framework” is provided as attachment III to this amendment.
2. Article 5 - Supporting Government of Jordan Priorities, footnote no. 13 on page 12 is provided in the following link: [www.mwi.gov.jo/sites/en-us/Hot%20Issues/Strategic%20Documents%20of%20%20The%20Water%20Sector/National%20Water%20Strategy\(%202016-2025\)-25.2.2016.pdf](http://www.mwi.gov.jo/sites/en-us/Hot%20Issues/Strategic%20Documents%20of%20%20The%20Water%20Sector/National%20Water%20Strategy(%202016-2025)-25.2.2016.pdf)
3. Article 8 - Development Challenges, page 15, the following sentence is DELETED in entirety: “Financing mechanisms may exist; however, the waiting period may be too long.”

#### SECTION C - ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Article 1 - Eligible Applicants, the first sentence is clarified as follows: “All qualified U.S. and non-U.S. organizations (from countries permitted under Geographic Code 937) are eligible to participate in this NOFO.” Waiver requests are required if the Applicant anticipates using services from countries outside of Geographic Code 937, and should be explicitly requested with the application. Approval of the waiver request will be considered, however, Applicants should not assume that it will be approved.

#### SECTION F - FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Article 3 – Reporting Requirements and Compliance is amended to remove any additional reporting requirements not required by 2 CFR 200. The changes will reflect in the final award document.

All other terms and conditions of the subject notice of funding opportunity remain unchanged.

## ATTACHMENT II

### Questions & Answers Regarding - USAID/Jordan Water Innovations Technologies (WIT) NOFO RFA No. 278-16-000013

#### I. TECHNICAL

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| Question No. 1: | <i>At page 38, section 4, third paragraph, there is a reference to legal relationships between partners; as far as we understood this part applies to the case in which an Applicant wishes to perform the activity in association with Partners, creating a consortium. Is a signed partnership agreement required at this stage of application?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Answer No. 1:   | Yes, evidence of partnership should be submitted at the application stage.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| Question No. 2: | <p><i>At page 37, paragraph (1) “Key Personnel”, there is an indication regarding the presence of a native speaker within the key personnel involved in the project: “The Applicant must include one native English speaker who will lead reporting and outreach activities; this function may be included in any key personnel proposed by the offeror”.</i></p> <p><i>Does this provision mean that we have to foresee a specific native speaker person within the people working on the project? Can we just explain within the proposal what will be the activities carried out by the person and the procedure in which the person will be recruited? The problem for us is that is not so easy to find a native speaking person working in our research teams. The solution could be to specifically recruit a native speaker for the functions indicated in the NOFO; however, being a public body, we are obliged to launch a public tender for the identification of this figure and we cannot decide before the submission of the project who this person will be.</i></p> <p><i>What do you suggest to solve the matter?</i></p> |
| Answer No. 2:   | Yes, each prospective Applicant must comply with the requirement for a native English speaker in the RFA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Question No. 3: | <i>May the Chief of Party be an employee of both the Applicant and a Sub-awardee?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Answer No. 3:   | No, as stated in Section C.3 of the NOFO, the Chief of Party must be an employee of the Applicant and not a sub-awardee. In other words, the Chief of Party must be an employee of the Prime Applicant.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

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| Question No. 4: | <i>Please define full time equivalent--is it full-time employee at the Applicant organization, with a percentage (50-75%) of time dedicated to the WIT program, or is it a full-time employee of the applicant with 100% of time dedicated to managing the WIT program?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Answer No. 4:   | A full time employee's time is dedicated 100% to WIT program implementation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Question No. 5: | <i>Is the Chief of Party also the Project Director/Principal Investigator (PD/PI) of the project?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                 | <i>Please define and differentiate Key Personnel (page 37) and home office support staff (page 40). Can some individuals act as PD/PI/Co-PI/Co-Investigator of the project but not be included as one of the five Key Personnel as defined on page 37?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Answer No. 5:   | Key Personnel as discussed in Section C.3 must be full- time personnel, key to implementation of WIT activities as described in the NOFO. The appropriate mix of the five key personnel will depend on the prospective Applicants' approach to WIT requirements. Other positions may be proposed accordingly but, the key personnel position should not exceed five. Home office staff usually provide short-term support to the activity as necessary. USAID expects minimal home office role and a fully empowered team in Jordan. |
|                 | Yes, the Chief of Party is equivalent to Project Director                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| Question No. 6: | <i>On page 51, under (6) Quarterly Performance Report, USAID states that each quarterly report should contain a "list of staff and consultants with dates in/out of country". This requirement is not listed under the monitoring and reporting program requirements listed in 2 CFR 200.328(b)(2). Can USAID clarify the intent of this requirement?</i>                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Answer No. 6:   | This section is revised to read as follows: "The Recipient is expected to maintain a list of staff and consultants with dates in/out of country but, need not share it unless a specific need arises and USAID requests it."                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Question No. 7: | <i>Page 9: At least three of the boxes in the figure have missing text from the boxes. Could the boxes be expanded to reveal the full text?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Answer No. 7:   | Please see the solicitation amendment No. 01 for the full text.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Question No. 8: | <i>Page 18 state, "WIT will work with existing local actors who provide or could training and advisory services to support and train</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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|                  | <i>groups, with special focus...”. Could USAID elaborate more on this sentence.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Answer No. 8:    | USAID is referring to public actors from the government who provide extension services, as well as non-governmental organizations, civil society and community based organizations; and private sector actors, such as input suppliers who may or could provide advisory and extension services to farmers and communities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| Question No. 9:  | <i>Could USAID please provide the footnote 13 on page 12.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Answer No. 9:    | Footnote No. 13 on page 12 is provided in the following link:<br><a href="http://www.mwi.gov.jo/sites/en-us/Hot%20Issues/Strategic%20Documents%20of%20%20The%20Water%20Sector/National%20Water%20Strategy(%202016-2025)-25.2.2016.pdf">www.mwi.gov.jo/sites/en-us/Hot%20Issues/Strategic%20Documents%20of%20%20The%20Water%20Sector/National%20Water%20Strategy(%202016-2025)-25.2.2016.pdf</a>                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| Question No. 10: | <i>On page 22 under cross cutting objectives, first indicator "Number of women and girls benefitting from new or improved USG-supported social services targeted at women and girls". Question: which activities of WIT do you envision will support this indicator especially since the scope of work does not include supporting the provision of social services targeted at women and girls?</i>                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Answer No. 10:   | As an Applicant, your expertise and perspective is requested in regards to what specific activities around water conservation would benefit women and girls. Applicant expertise, experience, and background in how to expand upon these areas are welcome, and USAID looks forward to reviewing ideas proposed by Applicants, taking into account both their experience and perspectives on how work around water conservation would benefit women and girls.                                                                                                             |
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| Question No. 11: | <i>Page 20 under OUTCOME 2: IMPROVED ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR WATER CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION Anticipated Results, bullet 3 “Scaling and adoption of water-saving technologies supported by revolving loans or other innovative financial products, considering socio-economic conditions of beneficiaries.”</i><br><br><i>Question: the result is focused on water saving technologies. Does USAID expect using the revolving loan mechanism for expanding the adoption of PV systems at community level, or for implementing integrated household interventions?</i> |

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| Answer No. 11:   | USAID is seeking a revolving loan mechanism that would support water conservation considering socio-economic conditions of beneficiaries.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Question No. 12: | <i>Page 20 under OUTCOME 2: IMPROVED ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR WATER CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION, the Anticipated Results are silent about providing farms and communities with grants to support water saving technologies for farming.<br/>Question: does USAID expect to implement these technologies through revolving loans that are paid by the final beneficiaries?</i>                                                                                                                                                               |
| Answer No. 12:   | It is up to the Applicant to propose the best format for how final beneficiaries would access credit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Question No. 13: | <i>Question: Can the program provide grants for water saving measures to the farmers directly?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Answer No. 13:   | The RFA is seeking to promote solutions that are sustainable and last beyond the life of the activity. It is up to the Applicant to propose the means to achieve this objective, and provide a convincing argument as to why the solution proposed is more than a one off action, but will actually lead to a sustainable solution that lasts well beyond the life of the activity. This said, grants for finance or subsidy should be based upon a clear and compelling justification for why existing financial options cannot be utilized. |
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| Question No. 14: | <i>Question: Can the program provide grants for businesses to support innovations in the value chain that will accelerate adoption of water saving technologies and practices?<br/><br/>Question: does USAID expect that community projects to be implemented through CBOs or directly through the WIT project?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Answer No. 14:   | The RFA is seeking to promote solutions that are sustainable and last beyond the life of the activity. It is up to the applicant to propose the means to achieve this and provide a convincing argument as to why the solution proposed is more than a one off action, but will actually lead to a sustainable solution that lasts well beyond the life of the activity.                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Question No. 15: | <i>Page 20 under OUTCOME 2: IMPROVED ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR WATER CONSERVATION TECHNOLOGY ADOPTION Anticipated Results, bullet 1 community grants.<br/><br/>Question: Do the community grants cover grants to local institutions, individual beneficiaries, and CBOs?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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| Answer No. 15:   | As stated in page 20 under OUTCOME 2: Prospective Applicants should describe the best approach in their application. (Instructions in Section D state: “It is critical that Applicants ensure that they select an optimum combination of interventions in preparing their applications). Grants should be based upon a clear and compelling justification for why existing financial options cannot be utilized.                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Question No. 16: | <i>Under Section 13, Sustainability, Paragraph 4 indicates that “the WIT approach seeks ways to resolve enabling environment issues, like the low cost of water through collaboration (with parallel programs in the USAID/Jordan Office of Water Resources and the Environment)”, however, under Section 8, Development Challenge, Paragraph 5 the NOFO indicates that “Policy in the water sector is a significant issue associated with water overuse; however, addressing policy directly is outside the scope of WIT.” Could you please clarify this seeming contradiction?</i> |
| Answer No. 16:   | While WIT will not be working directly on issues of enabling environment and policy, WIT will be expected to coordinate and work closely with other USAID partners who are working on this issue and provide them with ideas and actions relevant to promoting water conservation that would contribute to this end.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Question No. 17: | <i>There are legal restrictions around Syrians accessing loans from MFIs in Jordan. How does USAID anticipate these restrictions will influence the intended outcomes of the project?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Answer No. 17:   | USAID expects the prospective Applicants to comply with all local laws. In addition, they must be prepared to adapt to changes in local laws and policies which may present themselves during the period of performance. Applicants should propose innovative ways of supporting this community.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Question No. 18: | <i>(Page 15) USAID states financing may exist (that would benefit WIT); however, the waiting period is too long. Please clarify the statement ‘waiting too long.’ Does this relate to the financial institution’s time frame between loan approval and loan disbursement?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Answer No. 18    | This sentence has been removed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Question No. 19: | <i>(Page 17) USAID mentions a partnership with Del Monte. Can USAID provide details of this envisioned partnership?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Answer No. 19    | USAID has engaged in initial discussions with Del Monte, who have an operation in Northern Jordan, including greenhouses with hydroponic production for export of vegetables to the Gulf. No formal agreement has been signed and it is up to the Applicant to propose the potential parameters of such a partnership, with the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

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|                  | primary goal of the partnership contributing to the objectives laid out in the RFA.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Question No. 20: | <i>With regard to the first anticipated result on page 20 (Grants available to communities in the amount of at least \$2 million), if a portion of those grants is directed towards financing revolving loan funds, will this count towards meeting the minimum target of \$5 million in financing mobilized for targeted beneficiaries stated in the following anticipated result?</i>                                                                                                               |
| Answer No. 20    | Grants using USAID funds will not count toward this target, but lending stimulated by WIT through revolving funds would count.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| Question No. 21: | <i>With regard to the second anticipated result on page 20 (Finance mobilized for targeted beneficiaries (e.g., through microfinance institutions or CBOs), with a minimum target of \$5 million.), does USAID intend for the minimum target of \$5 million in financing to be capitalized from outside of the USAID contribution to the program of \$35 million or can a portion of USAID's contribution be directed towards the mobilization of financing through finance institutions or CBOs?</i> |
| Answer No. 21:   | Applicants should propose innovative approaches that maximize results within the stated objectives.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| Question No. 22: | <i>On page 25, under Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, &amp; Learning (MEL) Plan, USAID mentions a final external performance evaluation that will be conducted in Year 5. Can USAID please confirm whether or not Applicants should include the final external performance evaluation in their budgets?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                  | <i>Question: should the prime recipient allow budget for both the midterm and final evaluations?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Question No. 22: | WIT will be expected to cooperate with and support the evaluation as needed, but the amount for final external performance evaluation to be conducted in Year Five should not be included in the applicant's budget.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|                  | Budget for the midterm evaluation should be included in the proposed budget                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| Question No. 23  | <i>On page 37 of the NOFO it states that a logframe must be included with targets for key indicators, can the logframe be included as an annex within the M&amp;E Plan?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Answer No. 23:   | Section D.3 of the NOFO provides instructions regarding the Program Description. The Logframe should be included in the Program Description and must be within the 30 page limit.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Question No. 24: | <i>In the evaluation criteria on page 45, USAID states that “Demonstrated quality, experience and appropriateness of the Applicant’s proposed Key Personnel as related to the specific minimum qualifications for Key Personnel” will be evaluated. The NOFO provides little information on minimum qualifications by which key personnel will be evaluated. Can USAID provide more details on the required positions and qualifications?</i>                                                                                                                        |
| Answer No. 24:   | USAID defers to the prospective applicants to propose the list of key personnel and their qualifications based on the combination of interventions proposed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Question No. 25: | <i>According to ADS 303.3.6.2 relating to Merit Review Criteria, USAID must develop merit review criteria that include the programmatic factors or priorities that affect eligibility for selection and identify the relative importance of the criteria. The NOFO provides little detail about the individual criterion that will be used to evaluate applications. Could USAID provide further details on the criteria that will be used to evaluate each aspect of the application? In addition, can USAID provide weighting of each of the review criterion?</i> |
| Answer No. 25:   | The RFA has defined the merit criteria in order of importance from most to least important. Within the RFA, USAID has chosen to allow applicants to use their experience, knowledge, and innovation to propose a convincing approach to attain results that will achieve the objectives of the program.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Question No. 26: | <i>On page 48, under the Summary Table of Deliverables, Quarterly Financial Reports are listed with a due date of 15 days after the end of each quarter. However, ADS 636mab USAID SF-425 Federal Financial Report Process Guidestates that SF-425 due dates are 30 days after the end of each quarter. Can USAID clarify the intention behind the deviation from this standard?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                  | <i>On page 48, under the Summary Table of Deliverables, the Final Report is listed with a due date of at least 45 calendar days prior to the agreement’s completion. Can USAID clarify if the intention is that a draft Final Program Report is due at this time?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Answer No. 26:   | The Table of Deliverables is revised to reflect the Quarterly Financial Reports due date of 30 days after the end of each quarter.<br>The draft final report is due 30 days prior to the end of the award; and the final report is due 45 days after the end of the award.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Question No. 27: | <i>On page 58, under (22) Sovereign Relationships, USAID states that “the recipient will not enter into any agreements, memoranda of understanding or other arrangements, binding or non-binding, directly or indirectly, with the Government of Jordan, without the</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

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|                  | <i>express written consent of the Contracting Officer.” Can USAID clarify if this requirement only applies to activities under WIT and <u>not</u> with all activities the recipient conducts in Jordan?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Answer No. 27:   | This applies to activities under WIT or other USAID-funded activities in Jordan.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
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| Question No. 28: | <i>On page 58, under (25) Meetings with Government of Jordan Ministers, USAID states that “the recipient must advise the AOR in writing, no less than 72 hours in advance, of any meetings with Government of Jordan Ministers.” Can USAID clarify if this requirement only applies to meetings conducted in regards to the WIT activity and <u>not</u> with all meetings the recipient conducts in Jordan?</i> |
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| Answer No. 28:   | This applies to activities under WIT or other USAID-funded activities in Jordan. USAID hopes that the partnership and communication of a nature that these meetings would be discussed and planned together. USAID will arrange any meetings with Ministers.                                                                                                                                                    |

## II. COST AND GENERAL QUESTIONS

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| Question No.1: | <i>Page 41- under Section D, 4. COST APPLICATION FORMAT, viii. Indirect costs and later in page 59- under Section F, (26) Indirect cost for Non-U.S. organization, it says that indirect cost rate for non-U.S. organizations are not allowed under this cooperative agreement and all costs must be charged as direct costs.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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|                | <i>Question: some indirect cost categories can be charged as direct cost to the program. However, some types of cost categories are not easily allocated directly to projects such as the cost of Executive management, costs of developing business and preparing proposals, costs of professional development of internal staff and the management of practice areas of company’s operations, therefore, can USAID allow the provision of a percentage for fixed overhead rate to cover for these categories?</i> |
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|                | <i>In section F of the NOFO, point 26, page 59, there is a limitation for Non-U.S. organizations:</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                | <i>“Indirect cost rates for non-U.S. organizations are not allowed under this cooperative agreement. All costs for non-U.S. organizations must be</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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|                | <i>charged as direct costs.”</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|                | <i>So can you confirm that all the expenses related to use of infrastructures, ordinary consumables, energy supplies etc. will not be eligible under any circumstances within the project?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                | <i>Our doubt arises from the fact in other U.S. funded projects (DARPA Medifor) we have arranged a fixed percentage for indirect costs (25%).</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Answer No. 1:  | All costs for non-U.S. organizations must be charged as direct costs as much as possible. Overhead costs that cannot be charged directly may be included as part of a fixed pre-determined indirect rate. When a fixed pre-determined indirect rate applied, the Applicant must provide a breakdown and the basis for the proposed fixed rate.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| Question No.2: | <i>Question: Section G (Pages 3 &amp; 62): Could USAID please clarify what is meant by Section G titled “FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACTS”</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Answer No. 2:  | Section G – ‘FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACTS’ of this Notice of Funding Opportunity is providing prospective Applicants with contact information for sending questions or requests for clarification.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| Question No.3: | <p><i>Page 31- under Section C, 2. COST SHARING OR MATCHING, it says: “USAID has determined that cost sharing is not required however, it is encouraged (that is, voluntary). If a cost share is proposed, it must meet the standards set in 2 CFR 200.306 for U.S. organizations or the Standard Provision “Cost Share” for non-U.S. organizations.</i></p> <p><i>Question: Can USAID please show the alternative to 2CFR 200 references, the applicable provisions for non-US organizations, which is what a non-US organization will need to comply?</i></p>                                                                                                                            |
| Answer No. 3:  | <p>Refer to the NOFO Section F(2) – ‘Administrative and National Policy Requirements’ Cost share is discussed under ADS 303 and Cost Share Standard Provision. Here is the Link: ADS 303:</p> <p><a href="https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303.pdf">https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303maa.pdf">https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303maa.pdf</a> Non-US NGO:</p> <p><a href="https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303mab.pdf">https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303mab.pdf</a></p> |

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| Question No. 4: | <p><i>Within the required SF424 form (first one listed at page 39) do we have to include any attachment using the function “Attach” of the pdf? Are these the same attachments required for the submission of the proposal (resumes, letter of commitment, branding strategy and marking plan...)?</i></p> <p><i>Do we have to fill and send the SF 424 A as well even if the financial contribution required will be summarized within the excel budget file and within the budget narrative?</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Answer No. 4:   | Submit SF424 form as part of the cost application as instructed in Section D.4 of the NOFO.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Question No. 5: | <p><i>Page 40- under Section D, 4. COST APPLICATION FORMAT, i. personnel, it is required to provide rate verification documentation</i></p> <p><i>Question: Can USAID give examples on required rate verification documentation? Also is it required for all personnel?</i></p> <p><i>On page 40, under Cost Application Format (4)(c)(i) Personnel, USAID requests that the Applicants identify each personnel by title and name. For certain non-key personnel that have not yet been identified, is just the title sufficient? In addition, applicants are asked to provide rate verification documentation for all positions. As providing rate verification documentation for all positions is burdensome, and not available for positions which will be hired if successful, will USAID consider requiring rate verification documentation for key personnel only?</i></p> |
| Answer No. 5:   | <p>All position titles should be listed but, ONLY Key Personnel positions should be listed and also provide the title and name.</p> <p>The salary rate verification is limited to Key Personnel only.</p> <p>Regarding rate verification supporting documents; prospective Applicants are expected to apply their personnel policy and provide available relevant supporting documents.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| Question No. 6:  | <i>At page 39 there is a list of budget categories in which there is also the category “Funding Restrictions”, what do we have to include in this category?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Answer No. 6:    | See section D.4(h) – Funding restrictions, stating USAID’s policy not to award profit under assistance instruments..... For profit organizations may consider forfeiting the fee in order to remain competitive.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Question No. 7:  | <i>Will USAID allow smaller text size in tables, graphs, and figures?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Answer No. 7:    | Section D.3 – CONTENTS AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION, states that the font size is 12. While there are no restrictions regarding font size for the annexes, prospective Applicants are reminded that the documents must be legible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| Question No. 8:  | <i>Section D.4.c (Page 40): In “c. The Budget”, could USAID verify that item 10 in the table should be “Estimated Award Amount (sum line 1 to line). Please provide to which line.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Answer No. 8:    | Yes, the Estimated Award Amount is the sum of line 1 to 9 under ‘The Budget.’ The Estimated Program Amount is the sum of line 1 to 11; this would include the proposed cost share amount if any.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Question No. 9:  | <i>Are direct costs to conduct an audit compliant with 2 C.F.R. Part 200 Subpart F for foreign sub-awards who will receive \$750,000 or more annually from this award an allowable expense</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Answer No. 9:    | USAID-funded awards for foreign recipients (expending more than \$300,000 of USAID funding during the year (including subawardees) must be audited in accordance with the Office of Inspector General <i>OIG's Guidelines for Financial Audits Contracted by Foreign Recipients</i> . Audits must be performed by independent audit firms from the list of eligible audit firms maintained by the cognizant RIG, prior to execution of the audit services contract. |
| Question No. 10: | <i>On page 32, there is a blank table. Was there additional information USAID intended to provide in that table?</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

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| Answer No. 10:   | Please ignore the blank table on page 32, it is a format error and is not intended to provide any information.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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| Question No. 11: | <p>Page 29- under Section B, 4. <i>SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT</i>, it says: “USAID will approve sub-awards, transfer, or contracting out of any work under an award”.</p> <p>Question: Per Standard Provision M3. Amendment of Agreement and Budget Revision, approval of subawards is limited to those not described in the award and approved budget. Please confirm that if a subgrantee is described in the award and approved budget, that a subsequent approval is not needed?</p>                                          |
| Answer No. 11:   | Prior approval is only required in instances where the approval is not already provided in the award document. Any proposed changes to an approved award as described in Standard Provision M3 require pre-approval.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
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| Question No. 12: | <p>Page 29- under Section B, 5. <i>TITLE TO PROPERTY</i>, it says: “Property title under the resultant agreement shall vest with the recipient in accordance with the Requirements of 2 CFR 200.310 through CFR 200.316 regarding use, accountability and, disposition of such property.</p> <p>Question: Per Standard Provision M7. Title To and Use of Property applies to Non-US based organizations, can you please eliminate the reference to 2CFR200.310 through CFR200.316 which applies to US based organizations?</p> |
| Answer No. 12:   | The appropriate provision will be highlighted in the final award regarding ‘Title to Property’ that applies to the recipient.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| Question No. 13: | <p>Page 29- under Section B, 6. <i>AUTHORIZED GEOGRAPHIC CODE</i>, it says: “The authorized geographic code for procurement of goods and services under this WIT award is 937 (<a href="http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1876/310.pdf">http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1876/310.pdf</a>). Code 937 is defined as the United States, the cooperating/recipient country, and</p>                                                                                                            |

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|                  | <p><i>developing countries other than advanced developing countries, and excluding prohibited source.</i></p> <p><i>Question: This is different from information provided under section C for the eligible applicants. Please clarify</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|                  | <p><i>Section C – Eligibility Information: The section is clear about eligibility for US and non US organizations that can submit applications including pre award audits and systems requirements. However, the section does not discuss the size of groups and financial requirements for implementation.</i></p> <p><i>Question: would a non US group with experience with USAID on various programs as a sub, and financial capacity and financing arrangements to handle the WIT funding be eligible to bid on the project?</i></p> |
| Answer No. 13:   | <p>Refer to amended language for Section C, Eligibility information, listed on the second page.</p> <p>Prospective Applicants are expected to read, understand and propose a technical approach that address the requirements of the NOFO. Section B.6 of the NOFO provides additional information regarding Geographic Code 937.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
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| Question No. 14: | <p><i>Because of the national Eid holiday in Jordan during the first week of the release of the solicitation, will USAID be willing to extend the submission date by one week?</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Answer No. 14:   | <p>Sufficient time is provided for responses under this solicitation and therefore, USAID will not extend the application due date and time.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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| Question No. 15: | <p><i>USAID provides a PPI format, but does not stipulate the quantity of PPI they would like to see. Does it matter how many are presented?</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|                  | <p><i>Is the request for past performance only limited to the applicant? Will USAID allow for past performance of members within the applicant's consortium?</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Answer No. 15:   | <p>Past Performance Information (PPI) not included in the page limit. Applicants must include a list of the Applicant's (prime) and their</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

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|                  | <p>implementing partner's contracts, grants, or cooperative agreement involving similar or related programs over the past three years, to include the location (s) name and current telephone number and/or e-mail address of at least one person knowledgeable of the Applicant's work on each such program, award number for each program (if available), and a brief description of the work performed. Three PPI forms should be submitted for the prime and two PPI forms for each of the partners.</p> <p>It is recommended that the Applicant alert the contacts that their names have been submitted and that they are authorized to provide past performance information when requested. USAID reserves the right to obtain past performance information from other sources including those not named in the application. The selection committee will review all applications and may engage in the Applicant for clarifications or further information as needed.</p> <p>Note: A past award is not a prerequisite to apply. The application will not be affected, positively or negatively, simply by the fact that the Applicant has or has not been a prior Contractor/Recipient of an award.</p> |
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| Question No. 16: | <p><i>On page 39, under Cost Application Format (4), USAID mentions that the Applicant must describe the following for contracts under the activity: work to be performed, risk borne by the contractor, contractor's investment, amount of subcontracting proposed by the contractor, and quality of its record of past performance for similar work. In light of the fact that obtaining this information is not a listed requirement of a recipient under the Procurement Standards listed in 2 CFR 200.317-26, we request clarification whether the information is required as a part of the cost application, or is to be submitted at the time of negotiations of an award, and if it is required for all contracts anticipated under the award, or only for certain contracts, such as those over a certain threshold. Can USAID please clarify the intent of this requirement, provide more information on circumstances under which the applicant is required to obtain this information and whether this information is to be submitted with the cost application.</i></p>                                                                                                                           |

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| Answer No. 16:  | This language refers to sub-contracts where Applicants are requested to identify its subcontractors, and budget requirements. However, for this activity, USAID/Jordan does not anticipate utilizing sub-contracts.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| Question No. 17 | <i>On page 49, under (2) Financial Reporting, USAID states that the AOR may require additional information related to financial accruals and pipeline of funds. USAID also states that in addition, the recipient will submit accrual reports 15 days before the end of each quarter. However, 2 CFR 200.327 restricts the Federal awarding agency to only collecting only standard, OMB-approved government-wide data elements for financial information. Can USAID clarify its intent with the collection of this additional financial information?</i> |
| Answer No. 17:  | The accrual report is not required and is therefore removed from the solicitation.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |