



USAID
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DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

AMENDMENT NO. 1

Request for Application No.:72066024RFA00003.

USAID Espoir 2030, Haut-Katanga

DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT:

The purpose of this amendment is to:

1. Update Section D.4.(6) Management and Staffing
2. Update Section D.4.(10) Summary Budget.
3. Provide questions and answers to questions received within the deadline; and
4. Share information from the pre-application conference.

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1. **Update Section D.4.(6) Management and Staffing**, Pg. #32, under “1. Chief of Party” : add “The Chief of Party must be part of the prime applicant’s staffing arrangement, which is a local organization and must be based where the activity will be implemented.
2. **Update Section D.4.(10) Summary Budget**: add page #34 “Indirect Cost.” And provide accessible SF 424 forms, in addition to the link.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

- Can applicants have historical DATIM/PEPFAR granular data (by health zone, by health facility and by month) (period: 2022 to 2024) to help estimate the target (if necessary)?
USAID Response: *PEPFAR DRC Implementing partners are still in the data cleaning process for the period mentioned above. The Global Health Security and Diplomacy (GHSD)/PEPFAR will conduct a full blunt Data Quality exercise shortly. In this region, the implementing partner is still processing. So, it will be risky to share any data that could become obsolete. We encourage applicants to reach out to the health zone teams for detailed information. Also, please consider the fact that GHSD is the one leading annual target setting during the annual Country Operating Process (COP).*
- Will USAID share the AMELP plan model developed with PEPFAR?
USAID Response: *PEPFAR encourages applicants to develop the draft AMELP based on the instruction provided in the NOFO.*
- As far as the MEL plan is concerned, should applicants limit themselves to the model proposed in the NOFO or can the applicant develop their own plan?
USAID Response: *The applicants are required to follow the table while developing the draft AMELP per the instruction provided in the NOFO.*
- What fiscal year targets will be used?
USAID Response: *The NOFO provided year one targets based on COP23 year 2 (FY25). As stated above, annual targets for year 2 and 3 are subject to future COP planning. For any planning exercise, year 1 targets should be considered as baseline.*
- Are sub applicants of a consortium required to submit PPRs?
USAID Response: *Proposed subrecipients of a consortium should conform with the award requirements cascaded down by the prime partner which may include providing information for the PPRs submissions. The prime partner should determine these requirements in their agreements with any consortium/subrecipients.*

- Should applicants assume that these 3 areas outside Lubumbashi are Sakania, Kapolowe and Panda?
USAID Response: *The NOFO has provided the number of health zones in **Section A.1**, second paragraph (Pg 4).*
- Is there a minimum number of health zones to support?
USAID Response: *See Question #6' response.*
- Should applicants stay within the NOFO target or make a target projection (based on the NOFO target)?
USAID Response: *The response provided to question #4 is applicable to this question.*
- We want to know if the opportunity an organization can apply for Urban Health Zones and Rural Health Zones with two different Consortia.
SAID Response: *This NOFO applies for Espoir 2030 Haut-Katanga which will be implemented in 3 rural health zones (Sakania, Kapolowe and Panda) in Haut Katanga province. Depending on the organization capacity and approach, applicants are encouraged to better manage their resources to apply where better fit to their capacity.*
- Within the framework of this NOFO, what are the limits in program implementation of the work of local organizations in comparison to international NGOs as part of a consortium?
USAID Response: *As discussed during the pre-application conference, 50 percent of the cost of award performance incurred for personnel must be expended for employees of the prime/local entity as per ADS 303mab RAA27 (Limitation on subawards to non-local entities).*
- Can the recipient recruit an international/non-Congolese chief of party?
USAID Response: *The NOFO does not provide any guidance on the nationality of the Chief of Party. However, the Chief of Party must be part of the prime applicant's staffing arrangement, which is a local organization, and must be based where the activity will be implemented.*
- The NOFO does not specify whether a consultant can be hired. Can consultants be included in staff or other costs in the budget?
USAID Response: *under Section F.3(b) Implementation plan – in this paragraph, it's written the recipient is advised to Plan for short-term and long-term technical assistance (STTA / LTTA). The applicants should propose required consultants based on their technical approach and organizational policies.*
- Are there any acquisitions that the project is required to purchase from one of the USAID suppliers?

USAID Response: *No. The choice of suppliers must comply with the Authorized Geographic code 937 for the activity, which is defined under Section B.6, but there are no specific suppliers or vendors.*

- Do certificates and insurance have to be submitted by both the prime and the sub?

USAID Response: *For the initial submission phase, only the prime applicant will submit certificates and insurance.*

- Within the framework of the NOFO Espoir 2030 Haut Katanga, does USAID/PEPFAR allow for flexible budget realignments between expenditures in different categories? If so, to what percentage?

USAID Response: *USAID is planning for a Fixed Amount Award, in which the Recipient is reimbursed based on the achievement of milestones that will be negotiated in co-creation and detailed in the award. The Recipient will not have to report to USAID and manage a detailed budget, once the award is made; instead have flexibility to implement so long the milestones are achieved per the work plan.*

- In relation to the Espoir 2030 Haut Katanga project, what is the limit on indirect costs?

USAID Response: *USAID has not set an Indirect Cost limit or ceiling. However, the de minimus 10% indirect cost may be applicable for most of the applicants per 2 CFR 200.414.f.*

- Given that the first year of the project's implementation generally considers various expenses and installation costs that are not recurrent: "acquisition of fixed assets, goods, equipment and other expenses & purchases"; what proportion should not be exceeded?

USAID Response: *The cost details will be discussed with the apparently successful applicant. For the planning purposes and developing of the summary budget, the applicant must consider their approved and established policy to allocate reasonable costs for equipment and supplies. Please note that the Fixed Amount award does not allow the purchase of any real property. Please read the guidance from ADS 303.3.25.e.*

- What is the allocation key if it exists. If not, what are the best practices recommended by USAID?

USAID Response: *There is no mention of "allocation key" in the NOFO.*

- Is it possible for USAID to provide a list of these preferred suppliers to inform budgeting for input purchases?

USAID Response: *No. Please see response from question #13.*

- In the context of a response submitted as part of a consortium, are sub-recipients also required to submit a mandatory reference for chapter 303 of the ADS "Certifications, assurances, declarations and other statements by the beneficiary"?

USAID Response: *Please see the response from question #14*

- Regarding the page limitation, as for the two sections (Technical Approach/Proposal 15 pages and Performance Story 3 pages), can we go beyond, or should we only respect the required number of pages?

USAID Response: *Any pages beyond the set limit will not be reviewed. Please make sure you follow the instructions as indicated in Section D.4(a).*

- Can USAID be precise if it will be a fixed award amount or a cooperative agreement? Because page 21 talks about cooperative agreements, (with some substantial involvement expected) while the cover letter and on page 20, it speaks of a “fixed Award amount cooperative agreement”, and page 4 speaks of the standard provisions related to fixed award amount. Pages 40 and 41 also relate to fixed award amounts.

USAID Response: *A Cooperative Agreement means that USAID will be substantially involved and can also take the payment form of Fixed Amount Award (FAA) or cost reimbursement. This award is planned to be a Fixed Amount Award (FAA) Cooperative Agreement which means that payment will be made through the completion of milestones.*

3. Pre-application slides and notes are uploaded on www.grants.gov with this amendment.
4. All other terms and conditions on this Request for Applications shall remain unchanged and in full force and effect.

[END OF AMENDMENT 1]