



NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

This Funding Announcement is not a request for applications. This announcement is to provide public notice of the U.S. Geological Survey's intention to fund the following project activities without full and open competition.

ABSTRACT	
Funding Announcement	USGS-17-FA-0078
Project Title	Accelerating Aquifer Storage and Recovery Study
Recipient	National Centre for Research and Development/Higher Council for Science and Technology (NCRD/HCST)
Anticipated Federal Amount	\$120,000
Cost Share	N/A
Total Anticipated Award Amount	\$120,000
New Award or Continuation?	New Award
Anticipated Period of Performance	3 Years
Award Instrument	Cooperative Agreement
CFDA # and Title	15.808
USGS Point of Contact	Jack Eggleston (jeggleson@usgs.gov)

OVERVIEW

The USGS and the National Centre for Research and Development/Higher Council for Science and Technology (NCRD/HCST) will work together to improve water security in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region by accelerating aquifer storage and recovery (ASR). This cooperative work is part of the Accelerating Aquifer Storage and Recovery study that will demonstrate and apply new methods for identifying high potential ASR sites based on remote sensing and geospatial hydrologic analysis. The study aims to build the capacity of MENA national institutions to develop non-conventional water resources.

The overall goal of the study is to increase available water supplies in the MENA region by accelerating use of ASR technology. To meet this goal, national water agencies within the

region will be engaged from the outset so that technology is developed with the involvement of the officials and engineers who will apply it to program management and field applications. This agreement allows for the USGS and NCRD/HCST to work cooperatively during the study to improve water security and increase water supplies within the MENA region by acceleration of ASR.

RECIPIENT INVOLVEMENT

NCRD/HCST is a governmental organization located in Amman, Jordan. NCRD/HCST performs and supports scientific research and development, builds the capacity of Jordanian researchers in their areas of expertise and other relevant areas, and, through its affiliations with universities and research centers, contributes to knowledge building in the water field. NCRD/HCST will be responsible for organizing and performing project activities in Jordan, facilitating visits to Jordan by project partners, contributing to joint scientific publications, attending project meetings and workshops, and preparing required reports.

USGS INVOLVEMENT

Substantial involvement on the part USGS is anticipated for the successful completion of the objectives to be funded by this award. USGS will:

- Assist with remote sensing analysis, geospatial hydrologic analysis, algorithm development, written reports and online data dissemination;
- Coordinate NCRD/HCST study activities with other study partners and USAID;
- Provide input to NCRD/HCST regarding planning of travel and workshops, reporting requirements, and specifications and deadlines for deliverables; and
- Monitor performance by NCRD/HCST

SINGLE-SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR SINGLE SOURCE POLICY REQUIREMENTS
Department of the Interior Policy (505 DM 2) requires a written justification which explains why competition is not practicable for each single-source award. The justification must address one or more of the following criteria as well as discussion of the program legislative history, unique capabilities of the proposed recipient, and cost-sharing contribution offered by the proposed recipient, as applicable.
In order for an assistance award to be made without competition, the award must satisfy one or more of the following criteria: (1) Unsolicited Proposal – The proposed award is the result of an unsolicited assistance application which represents a unique or innovative idea, method, or approach which is not the subject of a current or planned contract or assistance award, but which is deemed advantageous to the program objectives;

- (2) Continuation – The activity to be funded is necessary to the satisfactory completion of, or is a continuation of an activity presently being funded, and for which competition would have a significant adverse effect on the continuity or completion of the activity;
- (3) Legislative intent – The language in the applicable authorizing legislation or legislative history clearly indicates Congress’ intent to restrict the award to a particular recipient of purpose;
- (4) Unique Qualifications – The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based upon a variety of demonstrable factors such as location, property ownership, voluntary support capacity, cost-sharing ability if applicable, technical expertise, or other such unique qualifications;
- (5) Emergencies – Program/award where there is insufficient time available (due to a compelling and unusual urgency, or substantial danger to health or safety) for adequate competitive procedures to be followed.
- (6) Cooperative Agreements - USGS Unique Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 36d (Federal, State, and academic partners) or DOI Authority cited at 43 U.S.C. 1457b (not-for-profit organizations).

USGS did not solicit full and open competition for this award based the following criteria:

- (4) Unique Qualifications – The applicant is uniquely qualified to perform the activity based upon a variety of demonstrable factors such as location, property ownership, voluntary support capacity, cost-sharing ability if applicable, technical expertise, or other such unique qualifications.

Single Source Justification Description:

This cooperative agreement allows for the USGS and NCRD/HCST to work cooperatively during the study to improve water security and increase water supplies within the MENA region by acceleration of ASR. NCRD/HCST has the unique ability to provide the services required in Jordan for this project. NCRD is the designated independent research organization in Jordan that works with the Jordan Ministry of Water and Irrigation. There is no other organization in Jordan that has the cooperation of the government, access to government sponsored research sites, and ability to perform the required services.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Cooperative Agreements - 43 USC Section 36d and Section 129 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (P.L. 87-195)