

Orphans and Vulnerable Children II (OVC II)

NOFO: 72052118R00016

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question 1: Section A, p. 8: The NOFO states that the local transitions partner will begin receiving direct funding in Year 3 from USAID. Does that imply that the local partner should become the prime awardee for the project, or that the initial/original prime will also maintain a direct award? Or, should the original prime become a sub-awardee of the local transitions partner?

Answer 1: As per the USAID ADS 303 transition requirements, the local partner(s) will transition as prime recipient of funding. The original prime implementing partner will continue to provide ongoing technical assistance and oversight to the graduated local partner(s) throughout the remainder of the award.

Question 2: Section A, p. 26: Following the transition of the local partner to receive direct funding, please confirm that the original prime bears no contractual responsibility for their performance since they are no longer the prime organization (though the original prime will continue to provide technical assistance and support).

Answer 2: After transition to the local partner(s), the original prime implementing partner will continue to provide ongoing technical assistance and oversight to the graduated local partner(s) throughout the remainder of the award period.

Question 3: Section A, p. 26-27: Can applicants include additional budgetary allocations (personnel, activities, etc.) to support the strengthening of the local solutions partner in order to meet all USAID requirements?

Answer 3: All envisioned work should be justified to meet the activity's objectives, as well as reflected in the budget and budget narrative. USAID welcomes creative applications which respond to the needs reflected in the NOFO.

Question 4: Section A, p. 26: Can USAID please clarify the definition/criteria to be considered a local solutions partner?

Answer 4: Per the draft PEPFAR definition, a "local partner" may be an individual or sole proprietorship, an entity, or a joint venture or other arrangement. However, to be considered a local partner in a given country served by PEPFAR, the partner must meet the criteria under paragraph (1) and (2) below:

(1) an individual must be a citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident of and have his/her principal place of business in the country served by the PEPFAR program with which the individual is or may become involved, and a sole proprietorship must be owned by such an individual; or

(2) an entity (e.g., a corporation or partnership):

a) must be incorporated or legally organized under the laws of, and have its principal place of business in, the country served by the PEPFAR program with which the entity is or may become involved;

b) must be at 75% for FY 2018 beneficially owned by individuals who are citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per sub-paragraph (2)(a), or by other corporations, partnerships or other arrangements that are local partners under this paragraph;

c) at least 75% for FY 2018 of the entity's staff (senior, mid-level, support) must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per sub-paragraph (2)(a), and at least 75% for FY 2018 of the entity's senior staff (i.e. managerial and professional personnel) and must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residence of such country; and

d) where an entity has a Board of Directors, at least 51% of the members of the board must also be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of such country.

Question 5: Section A, p. 26-27: How should the applicant present the Y3 and Y4 budgets for the local solutions partners? Should offerors submit one budget for Y1 and Y2 with the first prime and a separate budget for Y3 and Y4 with the new direct awardee?

Answer 5: Applicants are expected to submit a budget reflective of their activities for years 1-2, and for technical assistance for years 3-4. For the local solutions partner(s), USAID will request a separate budget(s) for the new grants awarded directly to them.

Question 6: Section A, p. 27: Would USAID please elaborate/define Upper Management Commitment as a core capacity to build among the local transition partner? Does this refer to strategic planning and overall organizational leadership, or another set of qualities?

Answer 6: This has been deleted.

Question 7: Section A, p.28: Will the local partner phasing into the Prime role be required to take on all operations research and the learning agenda?

Answer 7: It is up to the applicant to propose their plan for supporting operations research and the learning agenda.

Question 8: Section D, p. 36: We respectfully request an additional two pages for the summary staffing plan and organizational chart annex to reflect changes in transitioning to the local solutions partner. Is this possible?

Answer 8: If a local solutions partner(s) has been identified at the time of the application submission, then this can be included as part of the Draft Local Partner Capacity Building Plan annex.

Question 9: Section D, p. 38: Will USAID please confirm whether key personnel candidates are required to commit exclusively or unexclusively?

Answer 9: Key personnel candidates are required to commit exclusively to the OVC II Activity. Details on what USAID expects the Commitment Letters to contain are included in answer 57c.

Question 10: Regarding the Key Personnel – Must the COP have at least 10 years of experience managing donor funded projects in developing countries or should 5 years of implementing a PEPFAR funded OVC project in Haiti suffice?

Answer 10: It is within the purview of the applicant to propose a COP with the stated minimum qualification. However, USAID will consider 5 years OVC program management experience with an additional 5 years of relevant work experience to meet the 10 year experience requirement.

Question 11: Regarding the capacity building of the local solutions partner:

i) Could you please clearly define ‘local partner’ in terms of registration status?

Answer 11i): Could you please clearly define ‘local partner’ in terms of registration status?

The draft PEPFAR definition states that a “local partner” may be an individual or sole proprietorship, an entity, or a joint venture or other arrangement. However, to be considered a local partner in a given country served by PEPFAR, the partner must meet the criteria under paragraph (1) and (2) below:

(1) an individual must be a citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident of and have his/her principal place of business in the country served by the PEPFAR program with which the individual is or may become involved, and a sole proprietorship must be owned by such an individual; or

(2) an entity (e.g., a corporation or partnership):

a) must be incorporated or legally organized under the laws of, and have its principal place of business in, the country served by the PEPFAR program with which the entity is or may become involved;

b) must be at 75% for FY 2018 beneficially owned by individuals who are citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per sub-paragraph (2)(a), or by other corporations, partnerships or other arrangements that are local partners under this paragraph;

c) at least 75% for FY 2018 of the entity’s staff (senior, mid-level, support) must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per sub-paragraph (2)(a), and at least 75% for FY 2018 of the entity’s senior staff (i.e. managerial and professional personnel) and must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residence of such country; and

d) where an entity has a Board of Directors, at least 51% of the members of the board must also be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of such country.

ii) Is a locally registered branch of an international NGO accepted as a 'local partner'?

Answer 11ii): A locally registered branch of an international NGO may be considered if it meets the above stated definition.

iii) Would the option of a newly formed local organization taking over the staff of the Prime organization at the end of year 2 be an acceptable method of 'building the capacity of a local solutions partner and preparing them to transition to direct funding at the end of Year Two'?

Answer 11iii): It may be considered if it meets the above stated definition.

iv) Does the local partner have to be a sub awardee of the Prime within the first two years of the project in order to qualify as the local partner for transition of the project?

Answer 11iv): Yes.

v) Does the local partner selected for the transition to direct award have to have previous OVC activities before the start of OVC II in December 2018?

Answer 11v): USAID expects the local partner(s) to have some related experience in the activities set forth in the NOFO.

Question 12: This answer is a correction to previous question 62 in amendment 2. Is the \$9.975 million cap for the direct award for Years 3-4 mentioned on pg 27 included in the \$19.5 million envelope?

Answer 12: This answer is a correction to previous question 62 in amendment 2. Yes. USAID estimates the prime award to be \$10,000,000, and one (1) or more separate award(s) will be made by USAID directly with the identified local solutions partner(s) in the estimated amount of \$9,950,000.

Question 13: This answer is a correction to previous question 50 in amendment 2. To demonstrate technical staff capacity on the Haiti-based team, would USAID permit applicants to propose additional technical staff and, if so, could brief CVs or bios for these be included in the annexes?

Answer 13: Yes, USAID will accept the submission of additional technical staff.

Question 14: This answer is a correction to previous question 16 in amendment 2. On page 7 SECTION A PROGRAM DESCRIPTION; NEW OVC ACTIVITY, the RFA states "OVC II Activity will target communities, families and children living in catchment areas where Project

Santé is present and provides PMTCT, EID and pediatric HIV programs and areas supported under the extended PEPFAR network.” Can USAID please specify the target communities in these catchment areas?

Answer 14: A list of Project Sante sites and map of the PEPFAR network is attached. Please delete the PEPFAR Network Map forwarded via Amendment 2 and replace with the Treatment Current Map (TX-Curr Q2 FY18 map.png) attached.