



U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ADDENDUM NO. 7200AA20APS00016 – AMENDMENT NO. 1

**UNDER EXISTING NEW PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (NPI): CONFLICT
PREVENTION AND RECOVERY PROGRAM ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT
(CPRP) No. 7200AA19APS00012**

**CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP CONCEPT PAPERS FOR RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC
FREEDOM AND INCLUSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA**

Issue Date: July 29, 2020

**New Closing Date and Time for Submissions of Concept Notes: November 4, 2020, 4:00 pm
(Eastern Time)**

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The purposes of this Amendment No. 1 are to extend the closing date and time for submissions of concept notes to November 4, 2020 at 4:00 pm (Eastern Time); provide answers to all questions received from potential applicants attached to this amendment; revise SECTION D - APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION; Attached two documents that will help you in the preparation of the concept notes (1) Responding to a Funding Opportunity, (2) Five “Ps” for Successful Partnership; and to include an invitation to a Virtual Webinar for all potential applicants to be held on September 2, 2020 at 9:00 am (Eastern Time). Information and instructions to participate in the Webinar will be shared widely before the date of the webinar. We strongly recommend that all interested applicants register to Grants.gov, to receive notification of any Addendum updates.

Therefore this Addendum is modified as follows:

At the end of SECTION D - APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION, insert the following paragraph:

“ All applicants that their concept note were not accepted will have 10 days from the date of the date notice to request a debriefing.”

Except as clarified herein, all requirements of the subject APS Addendum “Call for Partnership Concept Papers for Religious and Ethnic Freedom and Inclusion in the Middle East and North Africa” issued on July 14, 2020 remain unchanged.

Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Sincerely

MARGARET R
BENAVENTE (affiliate)

Digitally signed by MARGARET R
BENAVENTE (affiliate)
Date: 2020.07.29 13:53:43 -04'00'

Margaret Benavente
Agreement Officer

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS DOCUMENT

1. I like to know if I have to speak Arabic, to apply to the grant of the opportunity number.

RESPONSE: There are no language requirements to apply. Please refer to the APS and the Addendum, particularly SECTION C-Eligibility Information and SECTION D-Application and Submission Information.

2. I speak French and many countries of Africa and Middle East speak French! I work in "Sciences Researches" in religious history but around all the world since twelve years ago. I have created a very beautiful Collection of books, notebooks, DVD, CD AUDIO with my researches, but in my Collection are, all the countries around the world: Middle East, Africa, Europe, Asia and Latin America. Do you think that can I apply to this grant?

RESPONSE: All applications must qualify under at least one of the categories under SECTION C – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION of the relevant Addendum and APS.

3. Do you fund activities in refugee or IDP camps? We are interested pursuing a project in an IDP camp in Dohuk, Iraq.

RESPONSE: There is no restriction on working in refugee or IDP camps, however activities will be evaluated based on the Merit Review Criteria requirements set in the APS and its Addendum.

4. Our organization is a non-profit registered in the U.S. and we have worked overseas for more than 20 years through our local partners to build their capacity. For this project, we would be partnering with a local Iraqi organization. We have never received USAID funding and are currently not registered in Iraq, the country where we would like to propose our project. Are we eligible to apply and if so, which partnership category is the most appropriate one for us to apply under?

RESPONSE: Please review SECTION C – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION in the Addendum and APS to determine the most appropriate category for the submission.

5. We are a local NGO based in Iraq we would like to send our expression of Interest in the above call however we are having difficulty accessing the full announcement electronically hence we are requesting your office to send us the application package.

RESPONSE: You will find all the information in Grants.gov. Please follow this instructions: Enter grants.gov in your browser, once you have enter the site, please select tab “SEARCH GRANTS” then under “BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA” by the subtitle “Opportunity number” insert the number for the APS (7200AA19APS00012), if you would like to see the APS or insert the number for the Addendum (7200AA20APS00016), if you would like to see the Addendum. Once you enter the solicitation, please select the TAB “RELATED DOCUMENTS” and you will find the documents to download. For the addendum select “Complete Notice”.

6. We have a project in Fiji that we are assisting to complete the building of a College school Building Project. The Phase 1 has been completed where 400 students have started classes for the new year school year of 2018. We are now on the second phase of the project.

Please I would really appreciate your assistance on how we can apply for fund to help this project to come into completion. As for the time being majority of this fund coming from within the non-profit organization to support low income earners in this community where we building the school.

RESPONSE: Please review SECTION C – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION in the Addendum and APS to determine the most appropriate category for the submission. To note, the Concept Papers should focus on programs that support religious freedom and ethnic inclusion in the Middle East and North Africa.

7. We would like to ask if there is a limit on the number of concept note submissions per organization. Can we submit more than one concept paper as a prime applicant? Alternatively, could the organization submit one concept paper as a prime applicant and join another consortium as a sub-applicant?

RESPONSE: There is no limit on the number of concept notes per organization.

8. What documents would the local partner need to provide to USAID?

RESPONSE: Applicants are required to follow the Application and Submission Information instructions set forth in Section IV of the NPI; CPRP APS and submit Concept Papers using the Concept Paper Template found in the Addendum. Information provided in the Concept Paper should address the objectives and criteria presented in the APS and addendum.

9. Are there detailed guidelines on what constitutes mentorship of a local partner?

RESPONSE: There are no set criteria for mentorship under NPI, as each operating context is different. However, the goal of mentorship under NPI is to develop the capacity of the sub-recipients so that the sub-recipients would be eligible to receive a direct award from USAID or other donors in the future. This could include, but not limited to, the local organization registered in all applicable USG systems; demonstrated technical and management experience; ability to use relevant IT systems; demonstrated ability to maintain relationships with stakeholders; well-defined indicators of success and ability to monitor its own program performance in a cost-effective and efficient manner; knowledge, skills, and abilities of staff; proficiency of financial management systems and internal controls; and other general areas that would indicate potential success in managing specific technical programmatic areas.

10. The local partner supports multiple Christian denominations – they do not work with one specific group but rather across many – is this eligible?

RESPONSE: Religious affiliation is not an eligibility criteria.

11. The local partner delivers a program which is multi-sectoral – can a combination of multiple sectors be eligible?

RESPONSE: Yes, as long as the approach addresses the objectives cited in the APS and its Addendum.

12. Are cross border actors operational in North and East Syria eligible to apply?

RESPONSE: Yes.

13. Concerning the health section, can medical supplies be funded by USAID or are there any constraints? Can personal protective equipment be funded in times of Covid-19?

RESPONSE: Please refer to the guidance on the COVID-19 Guidance for Implementing Partners for relevant guidance:

<https://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/resources-for-partners/covid-19-guidance-implementing-partners>

14. The link to the APS is not working. I would be grateful if you could provide me with the APS via email.

RESPONSE: Please see response in question #5.

15. Are multiple submissions allowed per organization for the upcoming "CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP CONCEPT PAPERS FOR RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC FREEDOM AND INCLUSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA"?

RESPONSE: Yes, multiple submissions are allowed per organization.

16. Can an organization submit more than one concept paper?

RESPONSE: Yes, an organization can submit more than one concept paper.

17. Our firm is interested in submitting concept papers for the NPI opportunity. We would like to know, if we submit more than one concept paper, is it possible to receive multiple awards? Also, could the combined total exceed the \$800k individual program limit (e.g. 2 concepts budgeted at \$600K)?

RESPONSE: Yes, multiple submissions are allowed per organization.

18. For this APS is USAID seeking only single-country projects or also equally open to multi-country projects? It is not clear to us from the APS. Thank you.

RESPONSE: USAID is seeking only single-country projects.

19. Are we correct in understanding that USAID is open to single sector (conflict prevention) projects and also open to multi-sector projects via this call for concept notes? It is unclear to us from the APS whether multi-sectoral projects vs. singles sector projects are preferred/required. Thank you for any clarification.

RESPONSE: Yes, USAID is open to multi-sector projects that respond to the criteria in the addendum. USAID is seeking single-country projects.

20. We note that there are no food security or agriculture activities listed as examples among the illustrative activities section. Are agriculture or other food security activities targeting eligible religious groups eligible activities for a multi-sectoral project under this call?

RESPONSE: Yes.

21. We also observed that in the Addendum document the opportunity for consultation with the USAID/Bureau for the Middle East was listed. We would be interested in scheduling a consultation (via zoom or other communication venue) with the USAID/Bureau for Middle East to discuss this APS and the current CPRP addendum (ADDENDUM NO. 7200AA20APS00016 CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP CONCEPT PAPERS FOR RELIGIOUS AND ETHNIC FREEDOM AND INCLUSION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA) if such consultations are being offered. Please advise us if there is an opportunity for this.

RESPONSE: A Virtual Webinar for all potential applicants to be held on September 2, 2020 at 9:00 am (Eastern Time). Information and instructions to participate in the Webinar will be shared widely before the date of the webinar.

22. Can we apply for Grants for other countries like Pakistan?

RESPONSE: The Concept Papers should focus on programs that support religious freedom and ethnic inclusion in the Middle East and North Africa.

23. I wanted to clarify whether we are eligible to apply for this. We aim to apply for a project that has research that informs, and includes, dialogue between religious minorities in Nineveh, Iraq. We would partner with a local NGO. My question is, does this make us 2 or 3a of your eligibility criteria?

RESPONSE: Please review the eligibility criteria and make the determination that best suits your organization.

24. I was also wondering when the projects are expected to start by?

RESPONSE: Projects can start anytime o/a December 2020, and thereafter.