

Q1 We are interested in submitting a proposal for the recently released RFA. Would you please send us the complete document?

A.1 The RFA can be accessed at: www.Grants.gov.

Q.2 Is USAID/Haiti able to clarify whether it envisions awarding one or multiple awards under RFA No. 521-08-0006?

A.2 Please refer to Section A, Additional Instruction to the Applicant O-Grant Award. Multiple awards could be awarded based on complementarity of geographical intervention.

Q.3 I wrote you last week to request a copy of the Haiti RFA. Could you please email us the complete document? Our foundation is contemplating to submit if we are eligible?

A.3 Refer to A.1

Q.4 I am writing to inquire if this particular RFA is for a single award or multiple awards. Counterpart International is interested in working in the North Department (Cap Haitien) which is a priority area under this RFA, with a consortium of local and INGO's. In terms of geographical area, in your opinion, would that be sufficient to be considered?

A.4 Refer to A.2 Applicants are to propose an approach which they think is their best terms from a technical and cost standpoint.

Q.5 Would you be able to advise how many awards are expected to be given for this RFP, and the average amount?

A.5 There are no prior assumptions concerning the number of awards or the average amount of possible multiple awards to be made as a result of this RFA.

Q.6 Also, for a medium size NGOs that has been operating in Haiti for more than ten years, would you encourage formally partnering with one of the very large NGOs and entering into a cooperative agreement; or would you equally encourage a medium size NGO to apply independently (but obviously have working relationships and letters of support from other NGOs)?

A.6 Refer to A4

Q.7 The latter question is ideally more suited to a telephone conversation. Is there a possibility of that this week?

A.7. All questions must submitted in writing within the allowed time per Section A Additional Instructions to the Applicant paragraph N. Responses to all questions received within that time frame will be posted on the Grant.gov at www.Grants.gov

Q.8 We are a global team of consultants who have expertise and experience in health care and education sector. We would be very interested to assist you for the above project. We would appreciate if you can provide us further details about the project and participation requirement for assistance in to this project?

A.8 Please refer to Section C – PROGRAM DESCRIPTION of the RFA .

Q.9 I have received the announcement RFA 521-08-0006. On page 23 of the RFA, there is a link mentioned under item C.3. Additional Background Information.
<http://www.hausaid.info/index.jsp> This file in is not accessible. Could you please confirm that is the link?

A.9 Yes, this is the correct link, and is currently functional.

Q.10 The RFA major target is care and support of PLWHA, OVC, and their families (e.g., p. 21). Can prevention activities be funded by this project as well?

A.10 It is expected that very little to none of the HIV/AIDS funds for this project will be prevention funds. Nevertheless, education, awareness and “Prevention for positives” activities can be proposed as they fit into a comprehensive approach to Care and Support.

Q.11 Can procurement of commodities, such as lab equipment, be funded by this project?

A.11 The procurement of drugs, equipment and other essential commodities for all PEPFAR supported clinical and laboratory services are the responsibility of other PEPFAR/Haiti partner Organizations. No commodity procurement will be undertaken under this project.

Q.12 On page 6, under the technical application format, the description of proposed partner organizations and/or sub-recipients (IV. C.) falls under the Management Approach. However in the selection criteria (p.12) this section is evaluated with the Technical Approach and not the Management Approach. Should the description of proposed partner organizations and/or sub-recipients be included in the Program Approach (Section III.) and not the Management Approach (Section IV)? Or should the

description of proposed partner organizations and/or sub-recipients be evaluated within the Management Approach?

A.12 Section B-SELECTION CRITERIA – Technical Evaluation Criteria shall be corrected as follows: II. Technical approach remove bullet D. “proposed partner organizations and /or sub-recipients and place it under I. Management approach as follows: C. proposed partner organizations and /or sub-recipients.”

Q13-I am looking at an RFA for Integrated HIV/AIDS Community Care Program under RFA 521-08-006 for \$125M. I also understand there is an expected RFA out for Health related programming for \$60M. Can you let me know if that is true? I am trying to determine if these were combined or if there in fact will be two RFAs for Haiti?

A.13 The RFA is the only competitive granting opportunity for health-related programming that USAID/Haiti is considering at this time .

Q.14 I hope this message finds you well. I am writing in regards to RFA No. 521-08-0006 recently released by the USAID Haiti Mission, for an integrated HIV/AIDS Community Care Program?

I am writing from CCISD (Centre de coopération internationale en santé et développement), a Canadian organization currently working in Haiti (implementing PALIH 2 - Projet d'appui à la lutte contre les IST/VIH/SIDA en Haïti, in the Artibonite region) together in partnership with CECI, another Canadian organization. Both organizations are non-profits and are also registered locally in Haiti, this is why we are interested in clarifying whether we are eligible or not to present an application in response to the referenced RFA. We would be interested in receiving the "list of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Non procurement Programs" and any other guidance available on the eligibility of services under the above-referenced RFA, including eligibility as a potential sub-contractor to a US organization.

A.14 It is permitted to issue award to Non-US Organization.

Q.15 We have several questions related to the relationship between the prime and the USAID partners mentioned in the RFA that are expected to continue the work under this proposed program including:

a. How is the prime expected to ensure continuity of funding to those USAID partners identified in the RFA ?

b. Can these USAID partners be part of more than one consortium that submits a proposal?

c. Does joining a consortium prohibit these USAID partners from participating in the umbrella grants program if they are also part of the winning consortium?

A.15 a. The USG is seeking to ensure the continuity of services currently being delivered by NGOs with USAID funds. It is the responsibility of the applicant to propose an approach that will ensure the continuity of these services.

b. Partners could be part of more than one consortium.

c. This would depend on the applicant's proposed approach. If the partner were to manage the grant or have decision-making authority, then the answer would be no. If the partner were to be one of many members of a consortium winning a grant without any decision-making authority within the consortium, the partner would be eligible.

Q16 Will bids to the notice below be closed to US sources (code 000), to US and local sources within individual aid recipient countries only, or opened to bids from all sources (935)?

Why do we ask? Economic Analysis and Data Services is responsible, under the guidance of Mr. Bill McCormick of ODP/BMD, for collating the tying status of all USAID solicitations to the OECD in Paris. The reporting of tying status is a USG commitment to the OECD. Your response will enable us to complete the report on this planned procurement action. The sooner we know whether a solicitation will be tied to US sources or partially tied to US/local sources or untied to all sources, the sooner we are able to submit the USAID report.

A. 16 Refer to A.14

Q.17 We are planning to submit a proposal for RFA #521-08-0006 in collaboration with 9 institutions, most of them consortia of various organizations, entities and groups and each filling a specific function.

This approach covers all the aspects of program planning from the vision to evaluation and sustainability from a strength perspective.

Do you know of an existing USG partner in Haiti whose operations could be solidify by our network of resources?

We would appreciate as well any advice and directives you may be able to offer to guide us in this process

A.17 Refer to A.4

Q.18 I filled a grant for Intergrating Child Health, Maternal and Family Planning for island La Tortue. They said I have to contact you. Can you email me at johnny.pl@hotmail.com or can you call at 239-573-3686.

A.18. The current RFA is the only competitive granting opportunity for integrated health services that USAID/Haiti is considering at this time.

Q.19 Can USAID please confirms the anticipated start date for this project?

A. 19 USAID anticipates this project to be initiated in the 2009 calendar year.

Q.20 Assuming that this project will begin in FY09, can USAID please confirm the anticipated funding allocated for Year 1 of the project? Will this include the funds allocated for FY07, FY08 and FY09 in the “Illustrative Fiscal Year Funding” table on page 19 of the RFA?

A.20 As indicated on page 19 of the RFA, year one of this project will be funded with FY 07 and FY 08 funds. FY09 funds will be used for year two activities.

Q. 21 On page 6 of the RFA, item V, Attachment B requires an attachment for “geographic intervention areas.” Does USAID have any guidelines on how these intervention areas should be presented (e.g. as a map or a table)?

A.21 There is no required format for indicating the geographic intervention areas. Applicants should use whatever format provides the information in the clearest manner.

Q.22 Will supplies and commodities (vaccines, contraceptives, ARVs, etc) continue to be provided by UNICEF, UNFPA, Global Fund, and others, or should applicants plan for the procurement of these items?

A. 22 It is expected that the following commodities will be available from sources outside the scope of this project for the period of the project: anti-retroviral and other drugs, laboratory reagents and supplies for HIV/AIDS care and treatment services; contraceptives for family planning services, vaccines for child immunization, ors and vitamin a for child health services; drugs for TB treatment services.

Q23. Can USAID please clarify if partners currently funded by the large MSH-led bilateral (SDSH Pwoje Djanm) should be taken into consideration in the design of this UGM project, given the 2010 end date of the MSH project?

A. 23 This project is not intended to ensure the continuity of services currently being provided by the SDS PWOJE DJANM project, when the SDSH contract ends. Applicants should ensure that activities proposed in response to this RFA do not overlap with those being funded under the SDSH project.

Q.24 What is included in the "other" category on page 19 of the RFA in the illustrative fiscal year funding table?

A.24 The intention for of the “other” category is to allow flexibility for unforeseen programming

Q.25 How does USAID envision the USAID and CDC funding streams coming together?

A.25 The current mechanisms of coordination and collaboration between USAID and CDC in the joint implementation and management of PEPFAR funds will continue during the course of this project. USAID and CDC separately manage funds that are implemented by partners with whom they have agreements or contracts. Overall programmatic coherence and integration is achieved through joint planning and on-going supervision.

Q.26 How does USAID envision covering gaps in food security?

A.26 USAID’S FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM is funded and implemented under a separate set of agreements with cooperating sponsor NGOs under the Title II PL 480 Program.

Q.27 Can USAID please clarify if past performance references are required and, if so, the number of PPRs applicants are required to submit?

A.27 The concept of Past Performance is covered under Organizational Capability.

Q.28 The phrase “through a USG-supported program” appears in most of the indicators listed under Result #3 on page 22 of the RFA. Can USAID please clarify what the RFA means by the phrases “through a USG-supported program” vs. “through the USG supported program,” which appears under Result #4, indicators 2 through 4.

A.28 For the purposes of this project, ‘USG-supported program’ refers to the scope and intervention areas of the project itself. Data for these indicators will be reported to USAID and will be aggregated with data for identical indicators from other partner projects to make up the entire “USG-supported program’ data set.

Q.29 I am writing regarding rfa 521-08-0006 for the integrated hiv/aids community care program on behalf of the american bar association’s rule of law initiative as we are interested in pursuing an agreement with your organization. however, before we move forward with our application, we wanted to address a concern over whether our programming would fit into the scope of your funding. We would value your guidance as to whether or not we should pursue this grant.

As you are surely well aware, stigmatism and discrimination are some of the greatest barriers faced in fighting the HIV/AIDS epidemic, as such behavior alienates people living with HIV/AIDS from their communities, from receiving treatment, and often creates unequal access to health care, representation, and legal services. In Haiti, access to justice and equal rights for people living with HIV/AIDS is a supreme challenge with most victims and vulnerable persons unable to afford legal services or appropriate counseling. Our programming would be aimed at confronting this disparity in justice and would include projects to develop a legal aid program that would 1) Provide people living with HIV/AIDS access to justice while expanding their legal rights as recognized by the state, 2) Create a referral system for people living with HIV/AIDS that will ensure that individuals diagnosed with HIV will be provided with a prompt explanation of their rights under the law, 3) Develop a multi-disciplinary working group composed of legal professionals, health professionals, clergy, etc., dedicated to the eventual passage of robust anti-discrimination laws protecting people living with HIV/AIDS, 4) Trainings and development for local NGOs and governmental institutions to support long-term implementation of rights initiatives. We would be aiming for funding between 700,000-1,000,000 USD. We see this programming as a strong way to develop social sector assistance with lasting, sustainable benefits that would confront one of the greatest, under-addressed issues faced by the HIV/AIDS epidemic to date. We would greatly appreciate any guidance you could give us as to whether or not this type of programming would be consistent with the goals of your grant. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

A.29 Refer to A.8

Q.30 We have been trying to access the link referenced on page 23 of the RFA, (<http://www.hausaid.info/index.jsp>) is not working. As there are important documents referenced in that section which are of relevance as background to the development of this proposal, we request that you let us know how to access these documents.

A.30 Refer to A.9

Request for Application RFA 521-08-006
Amendment #1
Integrated HIV/AIDS Community Care Program
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS
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