Amendment 1

Issuance Date: April 20, 2022
Issuance Date of Amendment 1: **May 5, 2022**
Closing date for Questions: May 2, 2022, 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Standard Time Time
Closing date to receive Concept Paper: May 17, 2022, 5:00 PM U.S. Eastern Standard Time Time

Subject: Notice of Funding Opportunity Number: 72067022RFA00001

Program Title: Libya Economic Acceleration Project

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 98.001

Dear Prospective Applicants:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is seeking applications from qualified U.S. and Non-U.S. organizations for a cooperative agreement to fund a program entitled Libya Economic Acceleration Project (LEAP/Aqfuz). Eligibility for this award is not restricted. See Section C of this NOFO for eligibility requirements.

USAID intends to make an award to the applicant(s) who best meets the objectives of this funding opportunity based on the merit review criteria described in this NOFO subject to a risk assessment. Eligible parties interested in submitting an application are encouraged to read this NOFO thoroughly to understand the type of program sought, application submission requirements and selection process.

For the purposes of this NOFO the term "Grant" is synonymous with "Cooperative Agreement"; "Grantee" is synonymous with "Recipient"; and "Grant Officer" is synonymous with "Agreement Officer".

To be eligible for award, the applicant must provide all information as required in this NOFO and meet eligibility standards in Section C of this NOFO. This funding opportunity is posted on www.grants.gov, and may be amended. Potential applicants should regularly check the website to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to this notice of funding opportunity. Applicants will need to have available or download Adobe to their computers in order to view and save the Adobe forms properly. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the entire NOFO has been received from the internet in its entirety and USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion process. If you have difficulty registering on www.grants.gov or accessing the NOFO, please contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 or via email at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

USAID may not award to an applicant unless the applicant has complied with all applicable Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management (SAM) requirements detailed in Section D of this NOFO. The registration process may take many weeks to complete. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to begin registration early in the process.

USAID is giving an opportunity to potential applicants to send any questions pertaining to this NOFO before the deadline as shown above. Please send any questions to the point(s) of contact identified in

Section D. Responses to questions received prior to the deadline will be furnished to all potential applicants through an amendment to this notice posted to www.grants.gov. Questions submitted after the deadline will not receive responses.

Issuance of this NOFO does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the U.S. Government nor does it commit the U.S. Government to pay for any costs incurred in preparation or submission of comments/suggestions or an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Sincerely,

Digitally signed by David Arnett
Date: 2022.05.05 16:51:02
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David Arnett
Regional Agreement Officer
USAID/Middle East Regional Platform

SECTION A: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This funding opportunity is authorized under the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) of 1961, as amended. The resulting award will be subject to 2 CFR 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, and USAID's supplement, 2 CFR 700, as well as the additional requirements found in Section F.

A.1 SUMMARY

The Libya Economic Acceleration Project, LEAP or Aqfuz ("Aqfuz" means "jump" or "leap" in Arabic) will promote an inclusive, private sector led economic growth and increase employment opportunities and economic diversification for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations in different centers in **the Fezzan Region in** Libya's south~~ and specifically the Fezzan Region~~. The project will also enhance resilience among vulnerable and historically marginalized populations, including, but not limited to, women, youth, minorities, indigenous groups (such as Tebus, Amazigh, and Tuaregs), people with disabilities, and internally displaced populations (IDPs).

With the above in mind, the program will address some of the root causes of conflict in Libya's south, especially those that are economic in nature. Poverty, unemployment, and inequality in economic opportunities within the vulnerable and historically marginalized populations played a role in Libya's current conflict and fragility. LEAP will enhance economic opportunities for the target group in Libya's south by increasing their effectiveness through contributing to the following objectives 1) strengthen entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations; 2) improve the productivity of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs) among the target populations; 3) increase vocational and technical training with a focus on market demands, and 4) increase assistance to businesses in all phases of their life cycle, all which will help build economic resilience among the target population and promote stabilization, peacebuilding, and conflict prevention.

A.2 BACKGROUND

a) General Background Information and Country Context

The Libyan economy is highly dependent on the oil and gas sector and has a public sector that is large and inefficient. Oil accounts for around 80 percent of Libya's gross domestic product (GDP) and nearly all government revenue. In 2021, Libya earned $24.6 billion in oil revenues, and the recent conflict in Ukraine has increased oil prices. If the oil prices stay stable at over $100 per barrel, Libya's oil revenues in 2022 are expected to reach more than $37 billion. The non-hydrocarbon-related private sector share of Libya's GDP is very low and was struck by the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly the service sector (trade, transport), construction, and light manufacturing (agro-industries, handicrafts). Despite that, Libya's GDP could increase from about $30 billion in 2021 to $50 billion in 2022 due to the increase in global oil prices.

Despite heavy over-reliance on public sector employment, only about half of working-age Libyans are active in the labor force, and the country suffers from generally high unemployment rates. The World Bank estimated the 2019 overall unemployment rate to be 18.6 percent. As of 2017, there are an estimated 1.7 million Libyans on the public payroll, with salaries taking up more than the majority of the government budget. Public sector employment includes almost 400,000 employees of public enterprises, which dominate most economic sectors. Additionally, youth unemployment, which has consistently been elevated, reached an estimated 48 percent in 2015, and 20.3 percent of the labor force are seeking their first job. Libya is struggling to provide employment for youth due to public sector fiscal constraints and a shortage of jobs in the limited private sector. A recent USAID/Libya youth analysis highlighted the importance of targeting youth. The report noted that young men are at risk of recruitment into violent groups and/or illicit activities, due to un- or underemployment, poor quality education, youth exclusion on the one hand, and the attractions of militias in terms of income, power, and security on the other.

In the labor market, women are not allowed the same opportunities as men, which is reflected in their participation and employment levels. Estimates of the 2018 female labor force participation rate are at a low 25.8%, compared to 79.1 percent for males. Estimates of female unemployment are at 28%, while unemployment is lower at 19 percent for males. According to World Bank estimates, 59.6 percent of women held an account at a financial institution, not too far behind the 70.7% of men with an account. The Ministry of Education reports that 70 percent of staff are female, but less than one percent of these employees hold leadership positions.

Historically marginalized populations in southern Libya face particular challenges to increased economic inclusion. Southern Libya suffers from lack of viable economic opportunities, and trafficking and the illicit economy plays a key role in sustaining the livelihood of communities. A large portion of the country's minorities, including indigenous groups such as Tuareg, Tebu, and Amazigh, live in southern Libya and have faced systemic exclusion from the country's political and economic life. This situation creates openings for destabilizing elements to capitalize on conflict and community grievances. To promote longer-term peace and stability in Libya, it is critical to spur the formal economy in southern Libya to create new economic opportunities, including for marginalized groups.

The development of a dynamic private sector, in particular, Micro-, Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs), and an environment conducive to entrepreneurship will be essential for employment creation, productivity and a more balanced economic diversification, for all of Libya but mainly for the vulnerable and historically marginalized population in the south. Private sector development could be an integral part of broader peacebuilding and conflict management processes. Providing inclusive economic opportunities for the vulnerable and historically marginalized populations is essential for sustainable stabilization in Libya's south. Improved entrepreneurship and an expanded role for MSMEs are particularly important for economic recovery because of their potential to generate jobs generally, and mainly because they can employ vulnerable populations.

b) Development Challenge

The activity will support the goal of USAID/Libya Strategic Framework 2021-2024 "Strengthen the foundations of a more stable, inclusive, and self-reliant Libya." Specifically, LEAP will contribute to development objectives 2, "Libyans empowered to mitigate drivers of instability and conflict," through Area 2.2, "Strengthening Entrepreneurship", and Area 2.4, "Supporting conflict affected and vulnerable populations." Traditionally marginalized populations in Libya's south can be empowered through capacity building and human capital development, support to NGOs that represent vulnerable and historically marginalized Libyan interests, and support to private sector SMEs and entrepreneurs to diversify the economy in Libya's south. Furthermore, Libyans are also considered empowered if they receive services that improve their livelihoods and enable them to pursue their needs effectively.

Thus, the development challenge is to empower Libyans to mitigate drivers of instability and conflict by supporting conflict affected areas and vulnerable populations to achieve economic resilience by strengthening entrepreneurship, productivity, vocational training and increasing assistance to businesses.

Libya's Strategic Framework's Cross-cutting programming principles and operations related to inclusion, Libyan empowerment, flexibility/adaptation, and conflict sensitivity must be defined and integrated by the implementer throughout the Activity.

c) Complementary USAID and Donor Activities

USAID is supporting a number of ongoing activities that should be considered and which offer engagement opportunities as this activity is developed. USAID may also have new activities starting up that should be reviewed for coordination and collaboration opportunities. Collaboration and integration with the other USAID programming is expected to avoid overlap and duplication, including but not limited to:

- Libya Public Financial Management (LPFM): LPFM helps the Government of Libya strengthen macroeconomic and fiscal foundations for sustainable and inclusive growth by improving financial management technical assistance at the national and sub-national levels, making the business enabling environment more conducive to growth, and supporting energy sector reforms.

- Libya Local Governance and Civil Society Program (LGCS): LGCS, locally known as Taqarib, works toward a more unified Libyan state. The activity supports community-led activities that improve service delivery and accountable governance; and promotes stronger links between government institutions and citizens.

- Libya Elections and Legislative Strengthening Activity (LELSA): LELSA increases the capacity of Libya's election bodies to effectively and transparently manage electoral processes. It improves voter and civic education and supports civil society - particularly ethnic minorities, persons with disabilities, women, and youth - to take an active role in advocacy and political processes.

- Promoting Leadership and Activism of Youth for Peace in Libya (PLAY): PLAY is a Conflict and Management project that works towards reducing the likelihood of violence by promoting reconciliation through positive interactions and strengthening youth-to-youth relationships.

- Libya Transition Initiative (LTI): USAID/OTI supports Libya's resilience to fragmentation and spoilers by improving stability in strategic, conflict-affected areas, increasing citizens' confidence in the public institutions, and reducing the influence of extremist groups and values in strategic areas. Its activities frequently work at the local level with relevant governance authorities, including municipal councils and local offices of line ministries.

There are other donors that are supporting economic activities for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations in Libya's south. Donors may also have new activities starting up that USAID is unaware of. It is recommended to identify such efforts in order to coordinate and collaborate with existing programs to avoid duplication and competition. Examples of projects that are working in this sector are as follows:

- The European Union funds a project called Strengthening Local Capacities for Resilience and Recovery in Libya. It is implemented through UNDP Libya by Tatweer Research. Its goal is to help local authorities in Libya to improve access to essential services, create jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities, and increase community security and rule of law. Tatweer Research is in charge of identifying and supporting economic recovery strategies that will create sustainable jobs outside of the public sector. The European Union also funds Libya Enterprise, a business support organization.

- Expertise France works in the areas of entrepreneurship, training, youth employability and women's empowerment. Expertise France gives support to Libyan institutions (including the Ministries for Economy and Industry, Education and Local Governance) in order to help them deliver the best services for entrepreneurs. Throughout its projects, Expertise France strengthens the capacities of Business Support Organizations such as Chambers of Commerce, universities, young and vulnerable people, entrepreneurs or civil society organizations. It emphasizes the need to better train entrepreneurs by fostering the creation or development of an online business school (Libus.ly), creating coding schools and founding incubators in partnership with major Libyan companies. Expertise France works together with institutions and banks to inject more liquidity into Libyan markets through microcredit. It encourages the development of credit through supporting the reactivation of the Credit Guarantee Fund.

- STREAM is an integrated incubator, an accelerator and a fab lab funded by the UK Embassy and implemented by Expertise France in sponsorship with Libyana mobile company in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning.

- Deraz Corner is a co-working space that also serves as a business incubator for start-ups.

A.3 PROGRAM DESCRIPTION OBJECTIVES AND EXPECTED OUTCOMES

a) Objectives:

Understanding the basics of the economy in Libya's south is key to the success of this program. The program will provide interventions in several economic centers in Libya's south to address the historical nexus between vulnerable and historically marginalized populations and the lack of economic opportunities and economic resilience.

LEAP will address some of the root causes of conflict in Libya's south, especially those that are economic in nature. Poverty, unemployment, and inequality in economic opportunities within the vulnerable and historically marginalized populations played a role in Libya's current conflict and fragility. The activity aims at building economic resilience in Libya's south, specifically the Fezzan Region. By supporting LEAP's four main objectives below, the activity will help promote peace, conflict prevention, and stability in Libya's south: 1) to strengthen entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations; 2) improve productivity of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs) among the target populations; 3) increase vocational and technical training with a focus on market demands, and 4) increase assistance to businesses in all phases of their life cycle. The program will create economic opportunities to improve livelihoods among the target group to enhance their integration with the rest of Libya and contribute to collective efforts in stabilization and peaceful local reconciliation. The recipient needs to identify specific challenges for the target population and communities and propose a tailored approach to address those particular challenges.

Examples of vulnerable and traditionally marginalized populations for this activity include but are not limited to, youth, women, minorities, indigenous groups (such as Tebus, Amazigh, and Tuaregs), people with disabilities, and internally displaced people.

b) Expected outcomes and Indicators:

- MSMEs growing and creating employment.
- Potential entrepreneurs have improved business skills.
- Targeted groups are more employable and better employed as a result of vocational and technical training.
- Business incubators and accelerators better able to serve clients.
- Start-ups and micro-enterprises benefit from improved Business Development Services.

Illustrative indicators for this activity include:

- Number of firms receiving USG-funded technical assistance for improving business performance
- Number of small and medium-sized enterprises supported by USG assistance
- Number of days of USG-funded training provided to support microenterprise development
- Number of clients benefiting from financial services provided through USG-assisted financial intermediaries, including non-financial institutions or actors
- Average percent change in earnings following participation in USG-assisted workforce development programs
- Percent of individuals with new employment following participation in USG-assisted workforce development programs
- Percent of individuals with better employment following participation in USG-assisted workforce development programs

c) Development Hypothesis: If historically marginalized and vulnerable Libyans (i.e., women, youth, minorities, indigenous populations, people with disabilities, IDPs, etc.) are given better economic opportunities to reduce poverty, unemployment, and inequality in economic opportunities within their communities, they will be more empowered to prevent conflict and promote peace and stability in Libya's south and specifically the Fezzan Region.

d) Assumptions: USAID recognizes that the operating environment in Libya is challenging, particularly as it relates to security, reliable supply of electricity and internet coverage, as well as the business economic environment for promoting private business development. However, the LEAP activity assumes that the overall objectives can be achieved, in spite of these challenges. This assumption is based on the experiences of current projects funded by other donors in this sector as well as USAID's previous project Libya Economic Empowerment (LEE).

A.4 INTERVENTIONS

The Applicant will identify needs and tailored approaches for stabilization in target communities and target groups. Ultimately, this activity could promote private sector development by supporting MSMEs in order to increase employment opportunities and to diversify the economy in Libya's south to promote economic resilience which will contribute to stability, peace, and conflict prevention. In sum, the activity will strengthen entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for growth for the target population in Libya's south and provide entrepreneurship and MSME business development services through local organizations, such as incubators and accelerator programs. Other ideas and approaches, tailored to specific geographic areas or marginalized communities in Libya's south, that will improve economic resilience for the target population are also welcomed. The Applicant's proposed approaches must be informed by recent data and analysis. As applicable, the Applicant can propose additional analysis that will be conducted once the activity is on the ground to further inform the implementation approach.

A.5 MANAGEMENT PLATFORM

The interventions under this activity will take place in Libya's south and specifically the Fezzan Region and the program is expected to establish some presence in the south to better implement this activity. While USAID understands the possible need for some management/staffing/programs to be held regionally out of Tunis, this should be on a limited basis and with clear justification. The Recipient will have a clear management platform, including a startup plan that addresses both flexible management and a robust footprint within Libya's south and, as necessary, a small footprint in Tunisia or Tripoli.

A.6 CONSTRUCTION

USAID does not envision that construction work will be accomplished under this award.

A.7 GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE AND CRISIS PROVISION

The geographic focus of this activity will be Libya's South and specifically the Fezzan Region. We encourage the Applicant to consider areas where development agencies and programs don't usually work. However, allowing for a flexible implementation in unforeseen circumstances (such as but not limited to if political context or USG priorities change, in an event of a crisis or in an event of other emerging economic challenges during implementation of this program), the activities could be implemented in other regions of Libya including the East and West subject to USAID's review and approval during the activity implementation stage.

In the event of unforeseen circumstances, the Recipient will be allowed to propose program adjustments and solutions that will achieve the outlined objectives to the Agreement Officer. There is a probability of a crisis developing in the operating environment during the life of this activity. If a crisis develops or in an event of other unforeseen circumstances, it is imperative to use adaptive management principles to respond immediately, such as but not limited to moving implementation to other regions of Libya, as well as maintaining development gains achieved through activity implementation up until the crisis. When the USAID/Libya Country Representative has formally declared a crisis in writing, the Agreement Officer will, through oral or written communication, solicit a crisis response proposal for adjustment from the awardee to respond to the crisis and maintain gains. The awardee will submit the crisis response proposal for adjustment to the Agreement Officer in the time period specified by the Agreement Officer. If through negotiation the parties agree on a crisis response which increases or decreases the cost of, or time required for performing the work, the Agreement Officer shall make an equitable adjustment before the final payment under the Agreement. Failure to agree to any adjustments can be appealed by the awardee in accordance with USAID's ADS 303.3.23.2.

A.8 OPPORTUNITY RESPONSE MECHANISM (ORM)

An Opportunity Response Mechanism in the amount of $3,000,000 of the total award budget will be set aside to be able to respond to unanticipated related opportunities and challenges in Libya's fluid political environment within the scope of this Program Description. The ORM will give USAID the flexibility to quickly and efficiently respond to problems or to design activities to address unforeseen events or opportunities in contribution to attainment of the resulting Agreement objectives. The ORM, in the entire amount of $3,000,000, will be subject to available funding and identified opportunities and/or challenges. Both the Recipient and USAID may initiate an activity request under the ORM in the implementation stage.

All ORM requests must be submitted for Agreement Officer's approval and will be supported by the Recipient's separate budget and an activity description for the ORM activity(ies). All requests to utilize the ORM must contribute to attainment of objectives under the resulting Agreement. All activities under the ORM will be subject to substantial involvement provisions of the resulting Agreement and will require amendments to, included but not limited to, the Recipient's approved Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (AMELP) and annual Implementation Plan(s).

If the ORM, or a portion of the ORM, is not utilized prior to the final year of the resulting LEAP Agreement, the AOR or the Recipient may request that the ORM be realigned into the standard program funding partially or in full, subject to funding availability and with the final approval authority of the Agreement Officer. Not all of the ORM must be used at one time and multiple interventions can be considered. Overall, subject to funding and identified opportunities and/or challenges, it is possible that by the end of the resulting LEAP Agreement, the ORM set-aside: (1) will be utilized in full, (2) will be utilized in part, or (3) will not be utilized at all.

A.9 THE U.S. STRATEGY TO PREVENT CONFLICT AND PROMOTE STABILITY

The *U.S. Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability* (the "Strategy"), which was developed in response to the Global Fragility Act of 2020, charts a new way forward in how the U.S. government will engage on matters related to preventing conflict and promoting stability over a 10-year time horizon. In April 2022, the White House identified Libya among the primary countries for implementing this Strategy. LEAP is expected to contribute to the U.S. government's objectives under the Strategy and contribute relevant data and lessons learned. As such, LEAP will have distinctive monitoring, evaluation, and reporting requirements to show its contributions to advance the Strategy in Libya. These requirements will be codified in LEAP's Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (AMELP).

{END OF SECTION A}

SECTION B: FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

B.1 ESTIMATE OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AND NUMBER OF AWARDS CONTEMPLATED

USAID intends to award one (1) Cooperative Agreement pursuant to this notice of funding opportunity. USAID reserves the right to fund any one or none of the applications submitted. Subject to funding availability and at the discretion of the Agency, USAID intends to provide up to $15,000,000 in total USAID funding over a four (4) year period. The figure of $15,000,000 is inclusive of the $3,000,000 Opportunity Response Mechanism (ORM).

B.2 EXPECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS, TARGETS, BASELINE DATA, AND DATA COLLECTION

The Recipient will employ a comprehensive and effective approach to monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL), including evaluating the outcomes of program activities, documenting changes and achievements reasonably attributable to the program, learning and adapting from continual analysis and evaluation of data, and applying learning within the period of performance to increase the achievement of sustainable results. The Recipient will be required to work closely with USAID'S Monitoring and Evaluation Contractor and cooperate on data collection and verification.

The Recipient will be responsible for developing and implementing an Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (AMELP) aligned with expected outcomes of this program. In designing the AMELP, the Recipient is expected to (1) allocate sufficient human and financial resources within the program budget necessary for its successful implementation, (2) provide a clear description of methods to monitor and measure results, collect data and apply analysis and learning, and (3) ensure direct attribution of changes measured, as feasible. The AMELP is expected to facilitate flexibility in activity implementation to allow for course corrections and duplication of successful approaches. It must also address how the Recipient will monitor, evaluate and learn despite access and security challenges posed by the context. Examples of context indicators that the Recipient will be expected to monitor include number and nature of security incidents and freedom of movement in municipalities where the Recipient works. As part of its MEL efforts, the Recipient will be expected to contribute distinctive performance data, lessons learned, and respond to reporting requirements related to the Activity's contribution to advance the *U.S. Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability* in Libya. These requirements will be codified in LEAP's Activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan (AMELP) though requests for data to meet reporting requirements may also be ad hoc in nature.

B.3 START DATE AND PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE FOR FEDERAL AWARDS

The period of performance anticipated herein is four (4) years. The start date will be the signature date of the award, unless otherwise noted.

B.4 SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT

USAID will be substantially involved in this Cooperative Agreement to help the Recipient achieve the agreement objectives in the following manner:

A. **Approval of the Recipient's Implementation Plan:** The Agreement Officer Representative (AOR) will review and approve the annual implementation plan, and subsequent updates thereto. If changed contexts or new information require a pivot in the activity, USAID may consider changes to the implementation plan.

B. **Approval of Key Personnel:** USAID's policy limits this to a reasonable number of positions, generally no more than five (5) positions or five (5) percent of recipient employees working under the award, whichever is greater. The majority of Key Personnel position candidates must be identified at the time of award. New Key Personnel and replacement of Key Personnel identified after the award must be submitted for approval to the AO. Any replacement Key Personnel will meet or exceed requirements as finalized at the time of award.

C. **Agency and Recipient Collaboration or Joint Participation:**

- Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (AMELP): The AOR will review and approve the AMELP, and concur with all learning and analyses products to include questionnaires, scopes of work, and other tools.

- The Recipient will consult with USAID on individual information and/or learning products such as the format and type of content for products that are not included in the AMELP.

- Concurrence of the substantive provisions of sub-awards: The Agreement Officer will delegate authority to the AOR for review and approval of Subawards. Refer to 2 CFR 200.308(c)(6) for subaward (grants) approval requirements. Refer to 2 CFR 200.330 in determining whether a subaward or subcontract is appropriate. Any sub-awards proposed in the final application and budget are considered approved unless otherwise noted.

- The Recipient will communicate and collaborate with USAID on technical direction/redirection and efforts to develop synergies between USAID, USG and other donor programs within this same or similar field.

- Geographic selection: The AOR and Recipient will collaborate on the selection process to identify geographic coverage and targeted beneficiaries of the activity.

D. **Unforeseen Circumstances:** USAID has the ability to request, review and approve changes to the Agreement in unforeseen circumstances, such as but not limited to political context changes, in an event of a crisis or in an event of other emerging economic challenges during implementation of this program (see *A.7 GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE AND CRISIS PROVISION*).

E. **Reporting Requirements:** Due to safety concerns, fluid operating environment, the political context, and the Global Fragility Act requirements, USAID has the ability to change and update the distinctive reporting and communication requirements throughout implementation of the resulting Cooperative Agreement (see *A.7 GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE AND CRISIS PROVISION*, *A.9 THE U.S. STRATEGY TO PREVENT CONFLICT AND PROMOTE STABILITY* and *F.3 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS*). The Recipient will update and/or change its reporting and communications as requested by USAID in implementation of the award.

B.5 TITLE TO PROPERTY

Property title under the resultant agreement shall vest with the Recipient in accordance with the requirements of 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 700.

B.6 AUTHORIZED GEOGRAPHIC CODE

The geographic code for this program is 935. Code 935 is defined as a “Special Free World” which consists of all countries, including the recipient country, but excluding any country that is a prohibited source. Procurement of vehicles and other restricted commodities are subject to the limitations in 22 CFR 228, ADS 312, ADS 310, and may require a waiver or Agreement Officer’s approval.

B.7 NATURE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN USAID AND THE RECIPIENT

The principal purpose of the relationship with the Recipient and under the subject program is to transfer funds to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation of the Libya Economic Acceleration Project in Libya which is authorized by Federal statute.

The Recipient will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives and the efficient and effective administration of the award through the application of sound management practices and in line with USG foreign policy priorities. The Recipient will assume responsibility for administering Federal funds in a manner consistent with underlying agreements, program objectives, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The Recipient using its own unique combination of staff, facilities, and experience, has the primary responsibility for employing whatever form of sound organization and management techniques may be necessary in order to assure proper and efficient administration of the resulting award.

B.8 TRAVEL POLICY

As of August 6, 2020, the Department of State has issued a Travel Warning for U.S. Citizens regarding travel to Libya due to terrorism, civil unrest, crime, and armed conflict (see https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories/libya-travel-advisory.html. The Recipient should continuously verify the Travel Warning as it may be updated). The USG is unable to provide emergency or routine assistance to U.S. citizens in Libya, as the U.S. Embassy in Tripoli suspended its operations in July 2014.

The parties understand and agree that the Recipient, not USAID, is solely responsible for and assumes all risks associated with the implementation of the activities under this award, including but not limited to for any injury, incarceration or other harm or inconvenience that may be caused by the Government of Libya or third parties to individuals regardless of nationality traveling to and performing work in Libya.

The Recipient is solely responsible for maintaining the security of its personnel regardless of nationality, materials, and equipment. Considering the security situation in Libya, the Recipient is expected to have the proper procedures, resources, and staffing to operate in this environment prior to commencing work. This shall include but is not limited to a detailed security and risk mitigation plan which details: adequate procedures to advise its personnel of situations or changed conditions that could adversely affect their security; adequate security staff at office locations as needed; established security protocols and procedures; staff training on safety procedures; evacuation contingency plans; and situational analysis and awareness of the security environment. The security and risk mitigation plan shall be submitted to the USAID AOR and AO prior to any staff travel to Libya.”

{END OF SECTION B}

SECTION C: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

C.1 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

U.S. and non-US organizations may participate under this NOFO. For the purposes of this NOFO, Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) include any incorporated entity, either non-profit or for-profit, other than a governmental organization. **All applicants must be physically able to operate in Libya including successfully obtaining needed registrations, permits and access to work in Libya.**

To be eligible for award of a cooperative agreement, in addition to other conditions of this NOFO, organizations must be politically neutral and have a commitment to non-discrimination with respect to beneficiaries and adherence to equal opportunity employment practices. Non-discrimination includes equal treatment without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, gender, and political affiliation. Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.400(g), USAID policy is not to award profit under assistance instruments. However, all reasonable, allocable, and allowable expenses, both direct and indirect, which are related to the grant program and are in accordance with applicable cost standards (2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 700), may be paid under the Agreement.

In order for an award to be made, the AO must make a positive “risk assessment,” as discussed in ADS 303.3.9. This means that the applicant must possess, or have the ability to obtain, the necessary management and technical competence to conduct the proposed program. The applicant must agree to practice mutually agreed-upon methods of accountability for funds and other assets provided or funded by USAID. If notified by USAID that a pre-award survey is necessary, the applicant must prepare in advance the required information and documents. Prospective NGO applicants should refer to ADS Chapter 303.3.9.1 for additional information about pre-award surveys. A pre-award survey does not commit USAID to make an award to any entity. In the absence of a positive risk assessment, an award can ordinarily not be made. However, in rare cases, an award can be made with “Specific Conditions” (e.g., additional non-standard award requirements designed to minimize the risk presented to USAID of making an award to an NGO for which a positive risk assessment cannot be made), but only where it appears likely that the applicant can correct the deficiency in a reasonable period.

C.2 COST SHARING OR MATCHING

Cost sharing is encouraged but is not required. Cost share is defined by USAID as “contributions, both cash and in-kind, which are necessary and reasonable to achieve program objectives and which are verifiable from the Recipient’s records.” Cost sharing also refers to that portion of a program cost not borne by the USG. Such funds may be mobilized from the recipient; other multilateral, bilateral, and foundation donors; host governments; and local organizations, communities and private businesses that contribute financially and in-kind to implementation of activities at the country level. Examples of cost share for this program may include the provision of technical assistance, commodities, distribution networks, staff salaries, and other sources of support. Cost share must be verifiable from the Recipient’s records, is subject to the requirements of 2 CFR 200.306 and 2 CFR 700.1, and is subject to audit. A Recipient’s failure to meet its cost share requirement can result in disallowed costs.

Recipients must be aware that all cash contributions and non-Federal third-party in-kind contributions must meet all the criteria set forth in 2 CFR 200.306 and 2 CFR 700.1. Recipient cost share may be in any combination of in-kind support, staff salaries, waiver of overhead, etc. Applicants will not be graded favorable or unfavorably as a result of the cost share or leverage provided for in the applicant’s program. The Application will be graded purely on merit review in Section E of this NOFO.

{END OF SECTION C}

SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

D.1 AGENCY POINT OF CONTACT

Mr. David Arnett
Regional Agreement Officer
U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt
Giessener Str. 30, 60435 Frankfurt am Main
Federal Republic of Germany
Email: libyasolicitations@usaid.gov

D.2 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Any questions regarding this NOFO should be submitted in writing via email to libyasolicitations@usaid.gov no later than the date and time indicated on the cover letter of this NOFO, as amended. All amendments to this NOFO will be published on www.grants.gov.

Any information given to a prospective Applicant concerning this NOFO will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Applicants as an amendment to this NOFO if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective applicants.

D.3 GENERAL CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

It is recommended that Applicants review the full requirements in this Section before submitting a concept paper under this NOFO to ensure that you can meet all of the requirements listed therein. Reviewing these requirements will help you prepare for what must be done to increase the likelihood that your concept paper is successful. Applicants are expected to review, understand, and comply with all aspects of the NOFO.

There are two (2) phases to the application under this NOFO:

PHASE ONE (1) - CONCEPT PAPER: A concept paper is a short document where the Applicant provides an overview of how you would respond to the NOFO problem description. During Phase One (1), the Selection Committee (SC) will review and evaluate the concept papers. The concept paper should be specific, complete and presented concisely. The concept paper should concisely demonstrate the applicant's capabilities and expertise with respect to achieving the objectives of this activity. The Applicant should take into account the concept paper's submission requirements and evaluation criteria found in this NOFO. Applicants should only submit the information and materials specified in concept paper format.

The SC will review and evaluate the submitted concept papers based upon evaluation criteria provided in this NOFO. Not all Applicants will proceed to Phase Two (2).

Once the SC completes the merit review, USAID may conduct discussions with entities who submitted concept papers responsive to the NOFO. The purpose of discussion is to validate and clarify design assumptions and proposed technical approaches including activities, interventions and application of implementation principles. Discussions may take place in many forms including phone calls, emails and in-person communications. Based on the merit review and potential communication(s), USAID will further narrow the list of applications to move to Phase Two (2). **Do not submit a full application unless requested to do so by USAID.**

<u>PHASE TWO (2) - FULL TECHNICAL AND COST APPLICATION</u>: Successful applicant(s) from Phase One (1) will be notified in writing and will be requested to submit a full technical and cost application.

USAID will review the full technical and cost application. After the reviews are concluded and discussions held, the Agreement Officer will notify the apparently successful applicant in writing. At this time the successful applicant will be asked to submit additional documents including Branding and Marking Plan, Program Description (PD) that is in line with its technical application, and other documents as identified by the AO. The final PD will be included in the award as SECTION B - PROGRAM DESCRIPTION.

At this time vetting is not required, however, policies may change and vetting may be required prior to award. Although submission of a security plan is not required at this stage, the Recipient must have a security plan in place upon award and the plan must address how the Recipient will monitor and evaluate the security situation despite challenges posed by the Libyan context.The security and risk mitigation plan will have to be submitted to the USAID AOR and AO prior to any staff travel to Libya (see *B.8 TRAVEL POLICY*).

IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES

Implementation principles must be clearly articulated and integrated throughout the designed approach. USAID is seeking inclusion of the below key principles:

- Conflict Sensitive Programming: A conflict-sensitive or “do no harm” approach is critical in Libya. All activities will have a conflict sensitive lens at the forefront integrating ongoing conflict analysis to ensure continued appropriateness and that activities do not exacerbate conflict or divisions. Central to the conflict-sensitive approach is the question of how program activities impact conflict dynamics and vice versa. Inclusivity is a fundamental principle of conflict sensitivity. To the maximum extent possible, marginalized groups are incorporated into designed programs but not exclusively or at the risk of exacerbating conflict by excluding other groups, such as men and boys. Ongoing conflict analyses will be needed to inform project activities and must be incorporated into the learning agenda throughout the project.

- Coordination and Collaboration: There are numerous efforts planned and ongoing, to support improved entrepreneurship and vocational and technical training. While donors seek to ensure close coordination and division of labor, these efforts must continue as new programming comes on line. When identifying opportunities for synergies with other USAID and donor funded activities working in the same municipality/community, it is imperative that interventions do not duplicate but rather complement activities conducted under other initiatives.

- Social inclusion: Social inclusion is about achieving balance, fairness, representation, and diversity, especially for groups that are typically marginalized from opportunities such as women, ethnic/tribal/indigenous people, people with disabilities, internally displaced people, and youth. Designed initiatives must meaningfully promote social inclusion and measure social inclusion changes (e.g., empower women, girls, youth and other traditionally marginalized groups; propose activities that do not exacerbate or perpetuate gender and social disparities; hire women and other marginalized groups as project staff and advisors, seek opportunities for youth to be actively engaged in their communities, etc.).

- Strengthen Self-Reliance: USAID/Libya is committed to strengthening and measuring self-reliance. In Libya this means clearly incorporating sustainability into program activities and providing assistance that strengthens the ability of MSMEs to operate successfully beyond the life of this program. This includes ensuring beneficiaries are applying the skills and knowledge gained, and there is an effort to measure improvements in business performance.

- Geographic Focus: The geographic focus of this activity will be Libya's South and specifically the Fezzan Region. However, allowing for a flexible implementation in unforeseen circumstances (such as but not limited to, if the political context or USG priorities change, in an event of a crisis or in an event of other emerging economic challenges during implementation of this program), the activities could be implemented in other regions of Libya including East and West subject to USAID's review and approval during the activity implementation stage (See *A.7 GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE AND CRISIS PROVISION*).

- Expanding USAID's local partnership base: Use of partnerships, including with local organizations and the private sector to explicitly expand USAID/Libya's partnership base in line with the Agency's New Partnerships Initiative principles is encouraged.

- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning: The Recipient will employ a comprehensive and effective approach to monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL), including evaluating the outcomes of program activities, documenting changes and achievements reasonably attributable to the program, learning and adapting from continual analysis and evaluation of data, and applying learning within the period of performance to increase the achievement of sustainable results. The Recipient will be required to work closely with the USAID's Monitoring and Evaluation contractor on data collection and verification. The Recipient will be responsible for developing and implementing an AMELP aligned with expected outcomes of this program. In designing the AMELP, the Recipient is expected to (1) allocate sufficient human and financial resources within the program budget necessary for its successful implementation, (2) provide a clear description of methods to monitor and measure results, collect data and apply analysis and learning, and (3) ensure direct attribution of changes measured, as feasible. The AMELP is expected to facilitate flexibility in activity implementation to allow for course corrections and duplication of successful approaches. It will also address how the Applicant will monitor, evaluate and learn despite access and security challenges posed by the context. Examples of context indicators that the Recipient will be expected to monitor include the number and nature of security incidents and freedom of movement in municipalities where the Recipient works. The AMELP is also expected to include distinctive monitoring, evaluation, and learning information to ensure that USAID/Libya can describe the activity's contribution to advancing the *U.S. Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability* in Libya.

D.4 APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

Applications in response to this NOFO must be submitted to libyasolicitations@usaid.gov no later than the closing date and time indicated on the cover letter, as amended. Late applications will not be reviewed nor considered.

It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that all necessary documentation is complete and received on time. Only electronic (email) submission will be accepted. For an application sent by multiple emails, please indicate in the subject line of the email whether the email relates to the technical or cost application, and the desired sequence of multiple emails and of attachments (e.g. "No. 1 of 4", etc.). For example, if your cost application is being sent in two emails, the first email should have a subject line which says: "[organization name], Cost Application, Part 1 of 2".

USAID's preference is that the technical application be submitted as a single email attachment, e.g. that you consolidate the various parts of a technical application into a single document before sending them. If this is not possible, please provide instructions on how to collate the attachments. USAID will not be responsible for errors in compiling electronic applications if no instructions are provided or are unclear.

Applicants may upload applications to http://www.grants.gov. USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes associated with electronic submissions.

After you have sent your applications electronically, immediately check your own email to confirm that the attachments you intended to send were indeed sent. If you discover an error in your transmission, please send the material again and note in the subject line of the email or indicate in the file name if submitted via grants.gov that it is a "corrected" submission. Do not send the same email more than once unless there has been a change, and if so, please note that it is a "corrected" email.

PHASE ONE (1) CONCEPT PAPER

The concept paper should be specific, complete and presented concisely. The concept paper should demonstrate the applicant's capabilities and expertise with respect to achieving the goals of this activity, keeping in mind the Implementation Principles identified in Section D. The Applicant should take into account the requirements of the activity and evaluation criteria found in this NOFO. During the merit review process, USAID is likely to reject those concept papers that are vague or merely restate the NOFO language. The concept paper must not exceed seven (7) pages. The cover page is not included in the seven (7) page limit. **USAID will not review any pages in excess of the page limits**.

Phase One (1) - Concept Paper Format

A. **Cover Page** (1 page). A cover page is not included in the seven (7) page limit and must include the following information:

   - Program Name
   - Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Number: 72067021RFA00001
   - Total Program Amount (in USD)
   - Total Amount of Funding Requested from USAID
   - Name of the Organization Submitting the concept
   - Identification and signature of the primary contact person (by name, title, organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address) and the identification of the alternate contact person (by name, title organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address)
   - Type of Organization (e.g. US, non-US, multilateral, private, for-profit, non-profit)
   - Name(s) of any proposed sub-recipients or partnerships, if any (identify if any of the organizations are local organizations, per USAID's definition of "local entity" under ADS 303)

B. **Technical Approach**

   For the technical approach, the Applicant must describe the proposed activities/interventions that will be used to address the four objectives and how the implementing principles (see *"IMPLEMENTATION PRINCIPLES"* under Section D.3) will be integrated into the approach.

   - Approach to strengthening entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations.

- Approach to improve productivity of MSMEs among target populations.
- Approach to increase vocational and technical training with a focus on market demands.
- Approach to increase Business Development Services for MSMEs in all phases of their life cycle.

C. **Management Plan**

- Proposed management plan including office location(s) and key personnel positions.
- If relevant, proposed sub-awardees, partnerships, consortia, and a brief summary of roles and responsibilities of identified sub-awardees/partnerships/consortia, including local partners.
- Flexible Management and Risk Mitigation Planning: Flexibility and readiness to respond quickly at critical junctures and opportunities and/or shifts in the Libyan environment is essential. This may require programming/management adjustments in response to shocks and stressors such as changes in the political or security environment and/or U.S. government policy shifts. This also entails a flexible management platform that accounts for remote operations and management as well as operations in different locations in Libya. The Applicant must be prepared to shift, reduce and/or expand staffing based on challenges and opportunities. Applications must provide sufficient details on how programming and management adjustments could be made in the event of political and security environment changes and how potential risks will be mitigated.

D. **Institutional Capability**

I. Summary of past performance experience implementing similar type program(s) (size, technical nature and complexity) in Libya or in a conflict environment similar to that of Libya.

II. Summary of capacity to comply with USAID technical and financial reporting requirements.

Phase One (1) - Concept Paper must comply with the following

- Use standard 8 ½ x 11, single sided, single-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 inch margins, left justification and headers and/ or footers on each page including consecutive page numbers, date of submission, and Applicant's name. **10 point font can be used for graphs and charts. Tables however must comply with the 12 point Times New Roman requirement**.

- Submitted via Microsoft Word or PDF formats (or equivalent).

- The total size of each e-mail transmission should not exceed 10 MB per email.

- Applicants are reminded that email is NOT instantaneous, and in some cases delays of several hours occur from transmission to receipt. Therefore, applicants are requested to send the application in sufficient time ahead of the deadline. After submitting the concept paper, the applicants should immediately check their own email to confirm that the attachment was indeed sent. If an applicant discovers an error in transmission, please send the material again and note in the subject line of the email or indicate in the file name if submitted via grants.gov that it is a "corrected" submission. Do not send the same email more than once unless there has been a change, and if so, please note that it is a "corrected" email.

- A concept paper submitted in any other format will not be accepted or reviewed; this includes exceeding the maximum number of pages. Applicants cannot submit any alternative document or narrative as a substitute for a concept paper.

Do not submit a full application unless requested to do so by USAID. Successful applicant(s) will be notified in writing and will be requested to submit a full technical and cost application.

PHASE TWO (2) APPLICATION SUBMISSION PROCEDURES. If requested to submit a full application, please follow the instructions below:

Each applicant must furnish the complete information required by this NOFO. Applications must be submitted in English and two separate parts/two separate emails: (1) Technical application and (2) Cost/business application. The technical application must address technical aspects only while the Business Application must present the costs.

Any changes to the application must be initialed by the person signing the application. Applications signed by an agent on behalf of the Applicant shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the issuing office.

Applicants who include data that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose or used by the U.S. Government except for evaluation purpose, should mark the title page with the following legend:

"This application includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the U.S. Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed – in whole or in part – for any purpose other than to evaluate this application. If, however, a grant is awarded to this Applicant as a result of – or in connection with – the submission of this data, the U.S. Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting grant. This restriction does not limit the U.S. Government's right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in pages ___."

Mark each sheet of data to be restricted with the following legend:

"Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this application." Applicants should retain for their records one (1) copy of the application and all enclosures which accompany it.

Both the Technical and Business Application must include a **cover page** containing the following information:

- Program Name
- Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Number: 72067021RFA00002
- Total Program Amount (in USD)
- Total Amount of Funding Requested from USAID
- Name of the Organization Submitting the application
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number
- Applicant Contact Person (name, phone, email)
- Identification and signature of the primary contact person (by name, title, organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address) and the identification of the alternate contact person (by name, title organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address)
- Full Address of Applicant Organization

- Type of Organization (e.g. US, non-US, multilateral, private, for-profit, non-profit)
- Name(s) of any proposed sub-recipients or partnerships, if any (identify if any of the organizations are local organizations, per USAID's definition of "local entity" under ADS 303), and sub-recipients' or partnerships' Unique Entity Identifiers (UEIs)

Phase Two (2) - Full Technical and Cost Application must comply with the following

- USAID will not review any pages in excess of the page limits noted in the subsequent sections. Please ensure that applications comply with the page limitations.

- Use standard 8 ½ x 11, single sided, single-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, 1 margins, left justification and headers and/ or footers on each page including consecutive page numbers, date of submission, and Applicant's name. 10 point font can be used for graphs and charts. Tables however must comply with the 12 point Times New Roman requirement.

- Technical Application must be submitted via Microsoft Word or PDF formats (or equivalent). Zipped files are not allowed.

- The cost schedule must include an Excel spreadsheet (or equivalent) with all cells **unlocked** and no hidden formulas or sheets. A PDF Version of the Excel spreadsheet may be submitted in addition to the Excel version (or equivalent) at the Applicant's discretion, however, the official cost application submission is the unlocked Excel version (or equivalent).

- The total size of each e‑mail transmission should not exceed 10MBs. USAID will not be responsible for errors in compiling electronic applications if no instructions are provided or are unclear.

Phase Two (2) - Full Technical Application Format

The Applicant must organize the Technical Application to follow the technical evaluation criteria. The page length of the entire Technical Application **must not exceed 25 pages**, including cover page, executive summary, table of contents, Technical Approach, Institutional Capability, and Management Plan. Annexes, including the three plans, should not exceed an additional 10 pages in total. All pages of the Technical Application must be sequentially numbered. Failure to include all information or to organize the application in the manner prescribed immediately below will result in rejection of the application.

Technical application must be organized as follows:

A. **Cover Page** containing information listed on the previous page of this NOFO.

B. **Table of Contents** that follows the technical application format outlined herein.

C. **Executive Summary:** The Executive Summary must provide a high-level overview of key elements of the technical application.

D. **Technical Approach** describing the following:

   - Context and Background of Libya's south and specifically the Fezzan Region
   - Purpose, Objectives and Theory of Change
   - Details on proposed geographic focus within the Fezzan Region

- The proposed activities/interventions that will be used to strengthen entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations.
- The proposed activities/interventions that will be used to improve productivity of MSMEs among target populations.
- The proposed activities/interventions that will be used to increase vocational and technical training with a focus on market demands.
- The proposed activities/interventions that will be used to increase Business Development Services for MSMEs in all phases of their life cycle.
- Describe how the Implementation Principles as outlined earlier in Section D.3 are integrated into the technical approach, especially the approach to reaching the targeted population and the use of local partners.

E. **Institutional Capability:** The application must provide a summary of experience with similar size, technical nature and complexity and operating in a conflict environment similar to that of Libya, including details regarding the capacity to work in Libya's south and specifically the Fezzan region. Applications must include three (3) most relevant contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements for both Prime and Sub-grantee(s) combined, etc. received by your organization in the last three (3) years involving programs similar to the program proposed in your application. Include the following for each award listed:

- Name of awarding organization or agency;
- Address of awarding organization or agency;
- Place of performance of services or program;
- Award number;
- Amount of award;
- Term of award (start and end dates of services/program);
- Name, current telephone number, current fax number and e-mail address (if one is available) of a responsible technical representative of that organization or agency (please note that this information is required); and,
- Brief description of the program, including major performance results.

F. **Management Plan:** The application must provide the following for a proposed management plan:

- Summary of overall management plan and effective and flexible approach to operating in Libya's south, specifically the Fezzan region. Flexibility and readiness to respond quickly at critical junctures and opportunities and/or shifts in the Libyan environment is essential. The Applicant must be prepared to shift, reduce and/or expand staffing based on challenges and opportunities.
- Address rapid start-up plan that allows for fluctuations in management needs, such as reducing or expanding staffing levels based on challenges and opportunities.
- Partnerships: If relevant to the applicant, a summary of Organizational Roles and Responsibilities of each partner institution, organization and/or consortia, including local partners.
- Summary of Organizational Structure, Office Locations, Key Personnel positions including names of the proposed candidates and Key Personnel qualification details, and overall staffing strategy that is responsive to the NOFO guidance and will effectively support activity objectives. USAID reserves the right to discuss and in consultation with the applicant change/add proposed key personnel positions. The proposed Key Personnel qualification details (education, experience and other qualifications as proposed) as

evaluated by and agreed upon with USAID will be incorporated into the award as requirements for any replacement Key Personnel during award implementation.

G. **Annexes** (not to exceed a total of ten (10) pages). Annexes are not included in the 25 page limit:

- Summary of Start-up Plan;
- Risk Mitigation Plan; and
- Illustrative AMELP with indicators
- Resumes (key personnel) (not counted in the 10 page limit for annexes but each resume is limited to a maximum of 2 pages)

No other annexes shall be included in the application.

Phase Two (2) - Cost Application Format

The Cost Application must be submitted separately from the Technical Application. While no page limit exists for the full cost application, applicants are encouraged to be as concise as possible while still providing the necessary details. The cost application must be presented in US dollars, must provide the types of costs broken down by years using the budget format shown in the SF-424A.

Prior to award, applicants may be required to submit additional documentation deemed necessary for the Agreement Officer to assess the applicant's risk in accordance with 2 CFR 200.205. Applicants should not submit any additional information with their initial application.

An extensive cost analysis will be performed for the successful Applicant. In order for USAID to accomplish this cost analysis, the information provided by the Applicant in the detailed budget and budget narratives must be complete and have enough detail to determine whether the proposed costs for the Applicant's activity are reasonable and allowable under the applicable cost principles.

The Cost Application must contain the following sections:

Cover Page; See above for requirements.

SF 424 and SF 424A Form(s): The applicant must sign and submit the cost application standard forms. Standard Forms can be accessed electronically at www.grants.gov. Failure to accurately complete these forms could result in the rejection of the application.

Budget and Budget Narrative

The Budget must be submitted as one unprotected Excel file (MS Office 2000 or later versions) with visible formulas and references and must be broken out by project year, including itemization of the federal and non-federal (cost share) amount. Files must not contain any hidden or otherwise inaccessible cells. Budgets with hidden cells lengthen the cost analysis time required to make an award, and may result in a rejection of the cost application.

The budget narrative should provide information regarding the basis of estimate for each line item, including reference to sources used to substantiate the cost estimate (e.g. organization's policy, payroll document, and vendor quotes, etc.), as well as costs associated, if applicable, the headquarters, regional and/or country offices. The budget narrative must clearly identify the basis of all costs, such as market surveys, price quotations, current salaries, historical experience, etc. It must discuss any assumptions made by the Applicant in formulating its Cost/Business Application, indicating escalation rates, etc. A detailed budget narrative must also be provided for each proposed subaward.

The cost application must include the following worksheets or tabs, and contents, at a minimum:

- **Summary Budget**, inclusive of all program costs (federal and non-federal), broken out by major budget category and by year for activities implemented by the applicant and any potential sub-applicants for the entire period of the program. **The Applicant must include a $3,000,000 Opportunity Response Mechanism (ORM) line item as a part of its summary budget** (see *A.8 OPPORTUNITY RESPONSE MECHANISM*)**.**

- **Detailed Budget,** including a breakdown by year, sufficient to allow the USAID to determine that the costs represent a realistic and efficient use of funding to implement the applicant's program and are allowable in accordance with the cost principles found in 2 CFR 200 Subpart E. Detailed Budgets for each sub-recipient, for all federal funding and cost share, broken out by budget category and by year, for the entire implementation period of the project. **The Applicant will <u>not</u> provide a detailed budget for the reserved $3,000,000 Opportunity Response Mechanism. For example, if the entire activity amount proposed is $15,000,000, the applicant will provide a detailed budget for $12,000,000. The ORM line item will only be included in the Summary Budget as it is reserved to be budgeted and used during the implementation phase.**

The Detailed Budget must contain the following budget categories and information, at a minimum:

<u>Salary and Wages</u> - Must be proposed consistent with 2 CFR 200.430 in accordance with the applicant's personnel policies. Please provide a separate line item for each proposed individual and identify each by name, title and the level of effort and salary rate. Also, specify key personnel and all essential personnel under the program for all those individuals and salary history.

<u>Allowances,</u> when proposed, must be broken down by specific type and by position. Applicants must explain all assumptions in the Budget Narrative. The Budget Narrative must demonstrate that the proposed compensation is reasonable for the services rendered and consistent with what is paid for similar work in other activities of the applicant. Applicants must provide their established written policies on personnel compensation. If the applicant's written policies do not address a specific element of compensation that is being proposed, the Budget Narrative must describe the rationale used and supporting market research.

<u>Fringe Benefits</u> - If the applicant has a fringe benefit rate that has been approved by an agency of the U.S. Government, such rate will be used and evidence of its approval must be provided. If a fringe benefit rate has not been so approved, the applicant will propose a rate and explain how the rate was determined. If the latter is used, the narrative must include a detailed breakdown comprised of all items of fringe benefits (e.g., unemployment insurance, workers compensation, health and life insurance, retirement, etc.) and the costs of each, expressed in dollars and as a percentage of salaries.

<u>Travel and Transportation</u> - The application will indicate the number of trips, domestic and international, and the estimated costs. Specify the origin and destination for each proposed trip, duration of travel, and number of individuals traveling. Per Diem must be based on the applicant's normal travel policies (applicants may choose to refer to the Federal Standardized Travel Regulations for cost estimates). When appropriate please provide supporting documentation as an attachment, such as company travel policy, and explain assumptions in the Budget Narrative.

Procurement or Rental of Goods (Equipment & Supplies), Services, and Real Property – The application must include information on estimated types of equipment, models, supplies and the cost per unit and quantity. The Budget Narrative must include the purpose of the equipment and supplies and the basis for the estimates. The Budget Narrative must support the necessity of any rental costs and reasonableness in light of such factors as: rental costs of comparable property, if any; market conditions in the area; alternatives available; and the type, life expectancy, condition, and value of the property leased.

Subawards budget: Individual subawards budget for the (local and international) sub‐awardees (partners/consortia) identified in the application, if any, must include the same cost element breakdown in their budgets (as applicable) and must be accompanied by a budget narrative.

If the Applicant intends to utilize contractors or sub‐awardees should indicate the extent intended and a complete cost breakdown. A breakdown of all costs according to each partner organization, contract or sub‐awardee involved in the program should be provided

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200 Contract means a legal instrument by which the applicant purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a resulting award. The term does not include a legal instrument when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a Federal award or sub-award (see § 200.92 Subawards), even if the applicant considers it a contract. The applicant must describe the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting proposed by the contractor, and the quality of its record of past performance for similar work. For-profit contract organizations that work under the award and do not meet the above definition of a sub-awardee are eligible for profit/fee.

Other Direct Costs ‐ This includes communications, report preparation costs, passports and visas fees, medical exams and inoculations, insurance (other than insurance included in the applicant's fringe benefits), office rent abroad, as well as any other miscellaneous costs which directly benefit the program proposed by the applicant. The applicant should indicate the subject, venue and duration of any proposed conferences and seminars, and their relationship to the objectives of the program, along with estimates of costs.

Branding and Marking - The cost application must incorporate the estimated cost for Branding and Marking (see 2 CFR 700.16).

Seminars and Conferences ‐ The applicant will indicate the subject, venue and duration of proposed conferences and seminars, if any, and their relationship to the objectives of the program, along with estimates of costs.

Foreign Government Delegations to International Conferences - Funds may not be used to finance the travel, per diem, hotel expenses, meals, conference fees or other conference costs for any member of a foreign government's delegation to an international conference sponsored by a public international organization, except as provided in ADS Mandatory Reference "Guidance on Funding Foreign Government Delegations to International Conferences or as approved by the AOR [http://www.info.usaid.gov/pubs/ads/300/refindx3.htm].

Cost Share, if any - Please provide details on cost‐sharing contributions that will be leveraged or provided for this program, including the donors, a narrative explanation of the contributions and other information allowing us to evaluate cost‐efficiency of the proposed contributions, if any. The proposed budget must provide cost estimates for the management of the program (including program monitoring). The Applicant should minimize administrative and support costs for managing the project to maximize the funds available for project activities.

Indirect Costs - Applicants must indicate whether they are proposing indirect costs or will charge all costs directly. In order to better understand indirect costs please see Subpart E of 2 CFR 200.414. The application must identify which approach they are requesting and provide the applicable supporting information. Below are the most commonly used Indirect Cost Rate methods:

Any applicant with a NICRA issued by a U.S. Government Agency must use that NICRA Initial Application Requirements: If the applicant has a current NICRA, submit your approved NICRA and the associated disclosed practices. If your NICRA was issued by an Agency other than USAID, provide the contact information for the approving Agency. Additionally, at the Agency's discretion, a provisional rate may be set forth in the award subject to audit and finalization. See USAID's Indirect Cost Rate Guide for Non Profit Organizations for further guidance.

In case the applicant or its sub-recipient has no NICRA the applicant should submit the following:

De minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC): Costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs, but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. If chosen, this methodology once elected must be used consistently for all Federal awards until such time as a non-Federal entity chooses to negotiate an indirect rate, which the non-Federal entity may apply to do at any time. The applicant must describe which cost elements it charges indirectly vs. directly. See 2 CFR 200.414(f) for further information.

If the applicant does not have an approved NICRA and does not elect to utilize the 10% de minimis rate, the Agreement Officer will provide further instructions and may request additional supporting information, including financial statements and audits, should the application still be under consideration after the merit review. USAID is under no obligation to approve the applicant's requested method.

The cost application must also include:

A. Approval of Subawards

The applicant must submit information for all subawards that it wishes to have approved at the time of award. For each proposed subaward the applicant must provide the following:

- Name of organization
- Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number
- Confirmation that the subrecipient does not appear on the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) list
- Confirmation that the subrecipient does not have active exclusions in the System for Award Management (SAM)
- Confirmation that the subrecipient is not listed in the United Nations Security designation list
- Confirmation that the subrecipient is not suspended or debarred
- Confirmation that the applicant has completed a risk assessment of the subrecipient, in accordance with 2 CFR 200.331(b)
- Any negative findings as a result of the risk assessment and the applicant's plan for mitigation.

B. Prior Approvals in Accordance with 2 CFR 200.407

Inclusion of an item of cost in the detailed application budget does not satisfy any requirements for prior approval by the Agency. If the applicant would like the award to reflect approval of any cost elements for which prior written approval is specifically required for allowability, the applicant must specify and justify that cost. See 2 CFR 200.407 for information regarding which cost elements require prior written approval.

C. Required Assurances, Certifications and Representations

The applicant must submit all applicable required certifications, assurances, and other statements as prescribed by ADS 303mav Mandatory Reference: Certifications, Assurances, Other Statements of the Recipient and Solicitation Standard Provisions, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

The following certifications are required for full application submissions and can be found in this website: http://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303mav

D. Evidence of Responsibility the Agreement Officer can use to Determine the Applicant

- Has adequate financial resources or the ability to obtain such resources as required during the performance of the award;
- Has the ability to comply with the award conditions, taking into account all existing and currently prospective commitments of the Applicant;
- Has a satisfactory record of performance. Past relevant unsatisfactory performance is ordinarily sufficient to justify a finding of non-responsibility, unless there is clear evidence of subsequent satisfactory performance;
- Has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics; and
- Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a Cooperative Agreement under applicable laws and regulations (e.g. EEO).

E. Branding and Marking Plan

Under 2 CFR 700.16, USAID requires the submission of a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan from only the Apparently Successful Applicant (ASA); therefore, applicants do not need to submit a draft Branding Strategy and Marking Plan in the initial applications. The ASA must submit a Branding Strategy and a Marking Plan for evaluation and approval by the Agreement Officer. "Marking Plan" and "Marking of USAID-funded Assistance Awards" are contained in 2 CFR 700.16. Applicants should be prepared to plan and budget for fully marking and branding any and all initiatives carried out as part of this activity, for example, an annual success story video, which might be displayed by USAID on its public website. Please see ADS 320 https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/320 for Branding and Marking Plan Information.

F. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) in the System for Award Management (SAM)

USAID may not award to an applicant unless the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier requirements in the System for Award Management (SAM). Organizations who previously had a Dun and Bradstreet Universal Number System (DUNS) number should already have a UEI in SAM. Organizations without a previous DUNS number must apply for a UEI through SAM.gov.

Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal awarding agency that is exempted from requirements under 2 CFR 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal awarding agency under 2 CFR 25.110(d)) is required to:

1. Provide a valid UEI number for the applicant and all proposed sub-recipients.

2. Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. SAM is streamlining processes, eliminating the need to enter the same data multiple times, and consolidating hosting to make the process of doing business with the government more efficient (https://sam.gov/).
3. Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency.

The registration process may take many weeks to complete. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to begin the process early. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements above by the time USAID is ready to make an award, USAID may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

SAM registration: https://sam.gov/

G. History of Performance

Note: The applicant should not provide the information unless requested by the Agreement Officer.

The applicant must provide information regarding its recent history of performance for all its cost-reimbursement contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements involving similar or related programs, not to exceed 3 pages as follows:

- Name of the Awarding Organization;
- Award Number;
- Activity Title;
- A brief description of the activity;
- Period of Performance;
- Award Amount;
- Reports and findings from any audits performed in the last 5 years; and
- Name of at least two (2) updated professional contacts who most directly observed the work at the organization for which the service was performed with complete current contact information including telephone number, and e-mail address for each proposed individual.

If the applicant encountered problems on any of the referenced Awards, it may provide a short explanation and the corrective action taken. The applicant should not provide general information on its performance. USAID reserves the right to obtain relevant information concerning an applicant's history of performance from any sources and may consider such information in its review of the applicant's risk. The Agency may request additional information and conduct a pre-award survey if it determines that it is necessary to inform the risk assessment.

H. Funding Restrictions

Profit is not allowable for recipients or subrecipients under this award. See 2 CFR 200.331 for assistance in determining whether a sub-tier entity is a subrecipient or contractor.

USAID will not allow the reimbursement of pre-award costs under this award without the explicit written approval of the Agreement Officer.

Except as may be specifically approved in advance by the AO, all commodities and services that will be reimbursed by USAID under this award must be from the authorized geographic code specified in Section B.4 of this NOFO and must meet the source and nationality requirements set forth in 22 CFR 228.

I. Conflict of Interest Pre-Award Term (August 2018)

a. Personal Conflict of Interest

i. An actual or appearance of a conflict of interest exists when an applicant organization or an employee of the organization has a relationship with an Agency official involved in the competitive award decision-making process that could affect that Agency official's impartiality. The term "conflict of interest" includes situations in which financial or other personal considerations may compromise, or have the appearance of compromising, the obligations and duties of a USAID employee or recipient employee.

ii. The applicant must provide conflict of interest disclosures when it submits an SF-424. Should the applicant discover a previously undisclosed conflict of interest after submitting the application, the applicant must disclose the conflict of interest to the AO no later than ten (10) calendar days following discovery.

b. Organizational Conflict of Interest

The applicant must notify USAID of any actual or potential conflict of interest that they are aware of that may provide the applicant with an unfair competitive advantage in competing for this financial assistance award. Examples of an unfair competitive advantage include but are not limited to situations in which an applicant or the applicant's employee gained access to non-public information regarding a federal assistance funding opportunity, or an applicant or applicant's employee was substantially involved in the preparation of a federal assistance funding opportunity. USAID will promptly take appropriate action upon receiving any such notification from the applicant.

{END OF SECTION D}

SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

E.1 PHASE ONE (1) MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA FOR THE CONCEPT PAPER

Phase One (1) will be reviewed as follows:

A. Technical Approach

I. The application reflects a clear, direct relationship between the four objectives and the proposed activities/interventions.
II. The proposed use of the implementation principles is sound, feasible and clearly integrated into the proposed approach to all proposed interventions (including benefits for vulnerable and historically marginalized populations).
III. The proposed technical approach/methodologies for promoting inclusive entrepreneurship, MSMEs, and workforce development are feasible and effective for the Libya context with a focus on working in the South and specifically the Fezzan Region .

B. Management Plan

I. The proposed management platform including flexible management approach, the proposed location of offices, and key personnel positions are clear, feasible, flexible and will effectively achieve results.
II. If relevant, the described roles and responsibilities of partnerships and consortia are clear and present an effective management approach to proposed program design.

C. Institutional Capability

I. Institutional Capability demonstrates sufficient experience implementing similar types of programs in Libya or a country similar to Libya and capability to comply with USAID technical and financial reporting requirements.

E.2 PHASE TWO (2) MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA FOR FULL APPLICATIONS

The evaluation criteria are listed below. Technical Approach is significantly more important than the other elements. Management Plan and Institutional Capability are of equal importance. The sub-factors listed under each criterion below are intended to further explain the relevance of the evaluation factor and will not be scored individually. The sub-factors are not listed in order of importance.

A. Technical Approach

I. The extent to which the applicant demonstrates a clear understanding of the Libya context, the operating environment and the basics of the economy in Libya's south.
II. The extent to which the purpose and objectives are clear and feasible and there is a direct connection between the proposed purpose, objectives and proposed activities/interventions.
III. The extent to which the proposed approach to address the implementation principles is sound, feasible and clearly integrated into the proposed approach to all proposed activities. Extent to which the applicant is able to work with a concentration in the South and describes a clear approach to identifying and benefiting vulnerable and historically marginalized populations including, but not limited to, youth, women,

indigenous groups (such as Tebus, Amazigh, and Tuaregs), people with disabilities, and IDPs.

IV. The extent to which the approach/methodology to address the four (4) objectives is clear, feasible and effective, the proposed activities and methodologies will achieve the intended results/outcomes and the implementation principles are effectively integrated and addressed.

B. Management Plan

I. The overall management plan has a clear, flexible, feasible and effective approach in the Libya context, including addressing a rapid start up plan, and for fluctuations in management needs, i.e. to reduce and/or expand staffing based on challenges and opportunities. The organizational structure is clear and reflects an effective management approach.

II. If applicable to the application, the roles and responsibilities of identified partner institutions, organizations, consortia or sub-awardees involved in the program design, development, planning and/or implementation are clear, effective and feasible.

III. The proposed location of offices, key personnel and staffing is responsive to the NOFO guidance and will effectively support achieving the intended outcomes/results.

IV. Each proposed key personnel candidate:

  i. Demonstrates the appropriate experience and skills for the position for which they are proposed and the proposed technical approach; and

  ii. Demonstrates the appropriate experience in Libya and/or a similar operating environment.

V. Flexibility and Risk Mitigation Plan: the plan sufficiently details how programming and management adjustments could be made in the event of political, economic and security environment changes and how potential risks will be mitigated.

VI. Illustrative Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Plan: The overall notional AMELP is clear, feasible and effective and the provided notional indicators will effectively measure performance and the achievement of results. The AMELP demonstrates a thorough approach to incorporating analysis and learning throughout implementation. The AMELP must also demonstrate how the applicant will effectively monitor, evaluate and learn despite access and security challenges.

C. Institutional Capability

Institutional capability will be evaluated on the existing capacity of the Applicant and its major sub-recipients as demonstrated by its experience in implementing similar programs and activities in an environment similar to Libya. A major sub-recipient is defined as any partner that receives 25% or more of total project funds. Specifically, experience in the following areas will be considered:

- Managing a project of a similar size, technical nature and complexity, and operating in a conflict environment similar to that of Libya;
- Managing resources of this magnitude and having the ability to meet USAID's financial and technical reporting requirements; and
- Flexible programming and management, ability to scale up/down as a result of data analysis, assessments and/or pilot programming.

An Applicant's performance will not be evaluated favorably or unfavorably when:

- The Applicant lacks relevant performance history,
- Information on performance is not available, or
- The Applicant is a member of a class of Applicants where there is provision not to rate the class against a sub factor.

When this occurs, an Applicant lacking relevant performance history is assigned a "neutral" rating and will not be evaluated favorably or unfavorably on performance. Prior to assigning a "neutral" past performance rating, the Agreement Officer may take into account a broad range of information related to an applicant's performance.

E.3 PHASE TWO (2) BUSINESS REVIEW

The Agency will evaluate the cost application of the Applicant(s) under consideration for an award as a result of the merit criteria review to determine whether the costs are allowable in accordance with the cost principles found in 2 CFR 200 Subpart E.

The Agency will also consider (1) the extent of the Applicant's understanding of the financial aspects of the program and the applicant's ability to perform the activities within the amount requested; (2) whether the Applicant's plans will achieve the program objectives with reasonable economy and efficiency; and (3) whether any special conditions relating to costs should be included in the award.

Proposed cost share, if provided, will be reviewed for compliance with the standards set forth in 2 CFR 200.306, 2 CFR 700.10, and the Standard Provision "Cost Sharing (Matching)" for U.S. entities, or the Standard Provision "Cost Share" for non-U.S. entities.

The AO will perform a risk assessment (2 CFR 200.206). The AO may determine that a pre-award survey is required to inform the risk assessment in determining whether the prospective recipient has the necessary organizational, experience, accounting and operational controls, financial resources, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program and comply with the terms and conditions of the award. Depending on the result of the risk assessment, the AO will decide to execute the award, not execute the award, or award with “specific conditions” (2 CFR 200.208).

{END OF SECTION E}

SECTION F: FEDERAL AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

F.1 FEDERAL AWARD NOTICES

Award of the agreement contemplated by this NOFO cannot be made until funds have been appropriated, allocated and committed through internal USAID procedures. While USAID anticipates that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award.

Notification will also be made electronically to unsuccessful applicants pursuant to ADS 303.3.7.1. USAID will follow the procedures included in ADS 303.3.7.2 to receive and accept requests for debriefings from unsuccessful applicants.

F.2 ADMINISTRATION AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

The award will be administered as follows:

Administrative Agreement Office:

Office of Acquisition and Assistance
USAID/Middle East Regional Platform
U.S. Consulate General Frankfurt,
Giessener Str. 30, 60435 Frankfurt am Main,
Federal Republic of Germany

Technical Office:

USAID/Libya
Economic Growth Office

For US organizations, 2 CFR 200, 2 CFR 700, OMB Circulars, and USAID Standard Provisions for U.S. Nongovernmental recipients will be applicable. For non-U.S. organizations, the Standard Provisions for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental recipients and the applicable cost principles (OMB Circular A-122 for non-profit organizations and OMB Circular A-21 for universities) will apply.

While 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 700 do not apply directly to non-U.S. applicants, the Agreement Officer will use the standards of 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 700 in the administration of the award. Further information including the referenced documents may be obtained via our agency website http://www.usaid.gov directly or via links in USAID Automated Directive System (ADS) Chapter 303 at the following link: https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303. Copies may also be obtained from the listed agency points of contact for this NOFO.

No deviations are anticipated to the standard provisions for the cooperative agreement under this NOFO. All applicable standard provisions shall be incorporated into the resultant award. The standard provisions for U.S., Non-US Nongovernmental and Public International Organizations may be accessed at the following location:

- Standard Provisions for U.S. Nongovernmental recipients can be accessed through following URL: http://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303maa

- Standard Provisions for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental recipients can be accessed through the following URL: http://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303mab

- Standard Provisions for PIO recipients can be accessed through the following URL: http://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/308mab

F.3 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should note that all the reports listed below shall be submitted by the specified due dates for approval of the AOR unless otherwise agreed upon with the AOR. The Recipient will consult with the AOR on the format and content prior to submission. In addition to the reports below, the AOR may request additional information to contribute to the internal USAID project reviews. The Recipient will also be expected to contribute to any periodic, ad hoc additional reporting related to Libya's inclusion as a focus country under the *U.S. Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability.*

A. Financial Reporting

Quarterly Financial Reports

Financial reporting requirements will be in accordance with 2 CFR 200.327. The Recipient must submit the Federal Financial Form (SF-425) on a quarterly basis via electronic format to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (https://pms.psc.gov).

Reporting periods are based upon U.S. government (USG) fiscal calendar quarters. Quarterly reports are due not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal calendar quarter. The final report is due not later than 90 days after the estimated completion date of this Agreement (see Section B above). All quarters are based upon the USG's fiscal calendar (Quarter 1: Oct-Dec; Quarter 2 Jan-Mar; Quarter 3: Apr-Jun; and Quarter 4: July-Sep. The Recipient shall submit this form in the following manner:

Submission to AOR: One copy of all financial reports must be submitted to the AOR. The Recipient may omit Lines 10a-c of the SF-425 for the submission to the AO. Submission to USAID/M/CFO/CMP: One copy of the final financial report must be submitted to the USAID/Washington M/CFO/CMP-LOC Unit. The Recipient may omit Lines 10a-c of the SF-425 for the submission to the LOC Unit.

If the Letter of Credit is revoked pursuant to paragraph (d) of the Standard Provision set forth in Attachment 3 of this Agreement entitled "Payment (Letter of Credit)," the Recipient shall use the SF-270 to request reimbursement and report accrued expenditures (for the latter, the form will be marked in Block 1a to indicate that it is a request for reimbursement). With the exception of the final report, the SF-270 shall be submitted monthly, but not less frequently than 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter. The final financial report is due not later than 90 days after the estimated completion date of this Agreement. In addition to submission to the payment office specified in the award, the Recipient shall also submit one copy of all financial reports to the AOR.

Quarterly Accrual Reports

The Recipient shall submit an estimated accrual report including the following information: (i) agreement number; (ii) Recipient's name; (iii) total amount obligated; (iv) total amount invoiced for; (v) total amount expended but not yet invoiced for; (vi) remaining unexpended funds; (vii) estimated completion date; (viii) any pertinent information, including projections for the next quarter, and an explanation of costs increases or underestimation of original costs. The accruals report shall be presented in English to the AOR and other designated administrative staff, on a quarterly basis (15 days previous to the close of each USG fiscal year quarter) in the format to be provided to the Recipient upon award signature.

B. Performance Reporting

Mobilization Plan

The Recipient must act quickly to mobilize personnel and resources to implement this program. The Recipient must submit a Rapid Mobilization Plan to the AOR for approval within **30** ~~14~~ days of the award date.

Annual Implementation Plan (Work Plan)

The Recipient must submit the Annual Implementation Plan (Work Plan) to USAID within 45 calendar days of award date for Year One and no later than 45 days prior to the award anniversary date of the subsequent year. The Annual Implementation Plans should be organized in a manner that outlines the core activities and associated budget. USAID will approve implementation plans on an annual basis. However, considering the fluid nature of Libya and it being a non-presence country, any revisions to the approved implementation plan that entail a change or additional activities must be approved by the AOR in writing during the course of the year. USAID anticipates that annual implementation plans may require some level of review or conversation between the implementing partner and USAID on a quarterly basis.

The implementation plan must include a schedule of activities to be conducted. The implementation plan must be accompanied by a budget linked to the proposed activities. The implementation plan must also describe outcomes that the Recipient expects to achieve during the period, linked to the performance indicators set forth in the Activity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. The implementation plan will include the municipalities and geographic coverage plan as well as a training and events plan that will be updated on a monthly basis with the dates and locations and submitted to the AOR.

Quarterly Performance Reports

Within 30 days after each quarter of the USG fiscal year, the Recipient shall provide a quarterly performance report which will document overall progress towards objectives and targets, activities completed during the reporting period, any problems and challenges encountered during implementation (including financial issues) and how they were mitigated. The report will also include data on all indicators established in the AMELP, and specific activities planned for the next quarterly reporting period.

The Recipient will report performance progress for the program under the award on a quarterly basis within 30 calendar days after the end of each standard USG fiscal quarter (i.e. October 30, January 30, April 30, July 30) to the AOR. The report for the last quarter each year will be the annual report for the year, covering a full year of performance. The recipient must provide a justification for instances when annual targets are not met or are exceeded.

Gender Reporting

As part of its regular performance reports, the Recipient will collect, analyze and submit sex disaggregated data and propose actions that will address any gender-related challenges that might arise from that data. The Recipient is required to report on gender specific indicators (GNDR 1-10), if applicable, from the Master Indicator List. The Recipient will report any challenges to the AOR who, in turn, will work with the USAID Mission's gender specialist to find reasonable solutions.

Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (AMELP) and Annual MEL Reports

The Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (AMELP) including performance indicator reference sheets (PIRs) will be finalized 45 calendars days after the award date in consultation with USAID, and submitted to USAID for approval.

The Recipient will submit a comprehensive MEL Report each year by October 15. The first MEL report shall cover the period from the signature of the Award through the end of fiscal quarter 4 (September 30). Subsequent reports shall cover a full Federal fiscal year of implementation (October 1 to September 30).

The AMELP will include, at a minimum: brief Activity overview, the Activity theory of change, the Activity logic model, M&E goals and objectives, description of M&E systems and organization staff unit structure (major roles and responsibilities), calendar of performance management tasks, list of objectively verifiable performance indicators to track results, precise definitions for each indicator (as noted by Performance Indicator Reference Sheets (PIRS), and information on data sources and methodology for data collection, estimated values for baseline data and targets (including plan for baseline data collection if none is available). As part of its MEL efforts, the Recipient will be expected to contribute distinctive performance data, lessons learned, and respond to reporting requirements related to the Activity's contribution to advance the *U.S. Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability* in Libya.

The Recipient will include required indicators in the AMELP which the USAID AOR will provide.

Security and Risk Mitigation Plan

As stated in Provision B.8 TRAVEL REQUIREMENTS of this NOFO, the Recipient must submit the security and risk mitigation plan to the USAID AOR and AO prior to any staff travel to Libya. The Recipient is solely responsible for maintaining the security of its personnel regardless of nationality, materials, and equipment. Considering the security situation in Libya, the Recipient is expected to have the proper procedures, resources, and staffing to operate in this environment prior to commencing work. This shall include but is not limited to a detailed security and risk mitigation plan which details: adequate procedures to advise its personnel of situations or changed conditions that could adversely affect their security; adequate security staff at office locations as needed; established security protocols and procedures; staff training on safety procedures; evacuation contingency plans; and situational analysis and awareness of the security environment.

Other Ad-hoc Reports and periodic communication:

From time to time, the Recipient may be required to prepare and submit special reports to USAID on specific activities and topics. As required from time to time, the implementing partner must prepare and present data and other information needed for periodic portfolio reviews, the Libya External Office, for USAID/Libya Annual Report and Congressional Budget Justifications, scene setters, briefing packages, speeches, talking points, congressional delegation briefings, success stories, press releases, activity presentations, and public information/outreach documents. This information will address activities that highlight the impact of USAID/Libya activities. The reports will be on an ad-hoc basis, based on specified formats, USAID-required processes, within the scope of the agreement and at the request of the AOR.
Periodic communication may include weekly bullets on program activities that provide highlights of major events and summary of results. The update could identify, but not be limited to, current and upcoming consultations/visitors, key activities and events of the previous week, and upcoming activities and events. For example, the Recipient may be asked to provide a monthly report which would include a narrative of activity level updates. The Recipient will also be expected to contribute to any periodic, ad

hoc additional reporting related to Libya's inclusion as a focus country under the *U.S. Strategy to Prevent Conflict and Promote Stability.*

Final Report

A draft final report must be submitted 30 days before the award expires. The final report must be submitted no later than 90 days after the end of the award.

The final report will clearly describe major accomplishments and results achieved attributable to activities under this award, an account of the sustainability of these efforts and/or results, final data for indicators in the performance management plan, an account of any problems encountered during implementation (including financial issues), and lessons learned and/or best practices identified during implementation. As part of the final report the recipient will also provide an executive summary concisely addressing all of the factors described in the previous sentence. The executive summary should not exceed five (5) pages and may be shared as a standalone document.

The final report must be submitted to the Agreement Officer's Representative, to the Agreement Officer, and to USAID Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC).

Close-out Plan

No later than three (3) months prior to the completion date of the agreement, the Recipient will submit a close-out plan for the Agreement Officer (AO) approval. The close-out plan shall include:

- Draft property disposition plan
- Timetable for completing all required milestones and reports in the close-out plan, including submission date of the final property disposition plan to the AO.

Geographic Data Reporting Requirements

Activity Location Data (coordinates): The Recipient will submit Activity Location Data which indicates the geographic location or locations where an activity is implemented. The Recipient will be required to collect and provide spatial data and use Geographic Information System (GIS) for spatial data development and reporting. Geographic disaggregation is required to the first administrative level at a minimum. Further geographic disaggregation is encouraged. The Recipient will provide electronic primary data sets in a machine-ready format in accordance with the following geographic data formatting standards. Activity Location Data shall be submitted as part of the quarterly reports.

Geographic Data Formatting Standards:

- Geographic Data must be submitted in industry standard formats such as Shapefile (.shp) or at a minimum data must be provided in an MS Excel sheet with latitude and longitude locations in decimal degree format; and,
- Geographic Data must use the Geographic Coordinate System, World Geodetic System 1984 (GCS WGS 1984).

Development Experience Clearinghouse Requirements

a) Submissions to the Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC).

1) The Recipient will provide the AOR one copy of any Intellectual Work that is published, and a list of any Intellectual Work that is not published.
2) In addition, the Recipient will submit Intellectual Work, whether published or not, to the DEC, either on-line (preferred) or by mail. The Recipient will review the DEC Website for submission instructions, including document formatting and the types of documents to submit. Submission instructions can be found at: http://dec.usaid.gov.
3) For purposes of submissions to the DEC, Intellectual Work includes all works that document the implementation, evaluation, and results of international development assistance activities developed or acquired under this award, which may include program and communications materials, evaluations and assessments, information products, research and technical reports, progress and performance reports required under this award (excluding administrative financial information), and other reports, articles and papers prepared by the Recipient under the award, whether published or not. The term does not include the Recipient's information that is incidental to award administration, such as financial, administrative, cost or pricing, or management information.
4) Each document submitted will contain essential bibliographic information, such as (1) descriptive title; (2) author(s) name; (3) award number; (4) sponsoring USAID office; (5) development objective; and (6) date of publication.
5) The Recipient will not submit to the DEC any financially sensitive information or personally identifiable information, such as social security numbers, home addresses and dates of birth. Such information must be removed prior to submission. The recipient must not submit classified documents to the DEC.

b) In the event award funds are used to underwrite the cost of publishing, in lieu of the publisher assuming this cost as is the normal practice, any profits or royalties up to the amount of such cost must be credited to the award unless the schedule of the award has identified the profits or royalties as program income.

F.4 STANDARD PROVISIONS

The actual Standard Provisions included in the award will be dependent on the organization that is selected. The award will include the latest Mandatory Provisions for either U.S. or non-U.S. Nongovernmental organizations.

Note: The full text of these provisions may be found at:

https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303maa
https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303mab

F.5 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

1) The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, Section 117 requires that the impact of USAID's activities on the environment be considered and that USAID include environmental sustainability as a central consideration in designing and carrying out its development programs. This mandate is codified in Federal Regulations (22 CFR 216) and in USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS) Parts 201.5.10g and 204 (https://www.usaid.gov/who-we-are/agency-policy/series-200), which, in part, require that the

potential environmental impacts of USAID-financed activities are identified prior to a final decision to proceed and that appropriate environmental safeguards are adopted for all activities. Recipient environmental compliance obligations under these regulations and procedures are specified in the following paragraphs of this NOFO.

2) In addition, the Recipient must comply with host country environmental regulations unless otherwise directed in writing by USAID. In case of conflict between host country and USAID regulations, the latter shall govern.

3) No activity funded under the resulting Cooperative Agreement will be implemented unless an environmental threshold determination, as defined by 22 CFR 216, has been reached for that activity, as documented in a Request for Categorical Exclusion (RCE), Initial Environmental Examination (IEE), or Environmental Assessment (EA) duly signed by the Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO). (Hereinafter, such documents are described as “approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation.”)

4) A Deferred Environmental Determination [Number: ME 21-06] has been approved for the Project funding the resulting Cooperative Agreement. An IEE amendment must be prepared and be approved by the ME BEO to clear this deferral upon submission of the first workplan and prior to proceeding to implementation. It is anticipated that the IEE amendment will include Negative Determination with conditions to one or more of the proposed activities. This indicates that if these activities are implemented subject to the specified conditions, they are expected to have no significant adverse effect on the environment. The Recipient shall be responsible for implementing all IEE conditions (including for climate risks) pertaining to activities to be funded under the resulting Cooperative Agreement. A copy of IEE (ME 21-06) is included under Attachment A.

5) The Recipient shall perform social-environmental risk screening for all activities categorized as Negative Determinations with Conditions. The Recipient shall further develop an Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan(s) (EMMP), as appropriate, to identify all relevant social-environmental risks and associated mitigations measures, and submit the EMMP(s) to USAID for AOR and MEO approval prior to commencement of said activities. The Recipient shall screen the activities for climate risk and include mitigation measures in the EMMP.

6) As part of its initial Implementation Plan, and all Annual Implementation Plans thereafter, the Recipient, in collaboration with the USAID Cognizant Technical Officer and Mission Environmental Officer or Bureau Environmental Officer, as appropriate, shall review all ongoing and planned activities under the resulting Cooperative Agreement to determine if they are within the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation.

7) If the Recipient plans any new activities outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation, it shall prepare an amendment to the documentation for USAID review and approval. No such new activities shall be undertaken prior to receiving written USAID approval of environmental documentation amendments.

8) Any ongoing activities found to be outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation shall be halted until an amendment to the documentation is submitted and written approval is received from USAID.

{END OF SECTION F}

SECTION G: FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACTS

The Agreement Officer for this Award is:

Mr. David Arnett
Regional Agreement Officer, USAID/MERP

The AOR and Alternate AOR will be designated prior to award.

The contact email address is LibyaSolicitations@usaid.gov.

{END OF SECTION G}

SECTION H: OTHER INFORMATION

H.1 FUNDING APPLICANTS

Issuance of this NOFO does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government, nor does it commit the Government to pay for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. Further, USAID reserves the right to reject any or all applications received. In addition, final award of any resultant Cooperative Agreement(s) will not be made until funds have been fully appropriated, allocated, and committed through internal USAID procedures. While it is anticipated that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for award. All application preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's own expense.

H.2 AWARD

The Government will award one Cooperative Agreement resulting from this NOFO to the responsible applicant whose application best meets the requirements of this NOFO.

H.3 AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE THE GOVERNMENT

The Agreement Officer is the only individual authorized to commit the U.S. Government to the expenditure of public funds. No costs chargeable to the proposed Cooperative Agreement may be incurred before receipt of a fully executed Cooperative Agreement, without the consent and approval of the Agreement Officer.

H.4 LIST OF SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS TO THIS NOFO

Attachment A - Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)
Attachment B - Questions and Answers

{END OF SECTION H}

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

PROJECT/ACTIVITY DATA

Project/Activity Name:	**Libya Economic Acceleration Project (LEAP)**
Geographic Location(s) (Country/Region)**:**	Libya
Amendment (Yes/No), if Yes indicate # (1, 2...):	No
Implementation Start/End Date (FY or M/D/Y)**:**	05/15/2021 – 05/14/2024
If Amended, specify New End Date:	
Solicitation/Contract/Award Number(s):	
Implementing Partner(s):	
Bureau Tracking ID:	ME 21-06
Tracking ID of Related RCE/IEE (if any)**:**	
Tracking ID of Other, Related Analyses:	

ORGANIZATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Implementing Operating Unit(s): (e.g. Mission or Bureau or Office)	Libya
Other Affected Operating Unit(s):	
Lead BEO Bureau:	Middle East
Funding Account(s) (if available)**:**	
Original Funding Amount:	$15.0 Million
If Amended, specify funding amount:	
If Amended, specify new funding total:	
Prepared by:	Anan Masri/MEO
Date Prepared:	11/10/2020

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW DATA

Analysis Type:	☐Environmental Examination	☒Deferral
Environmental Determination(s):	☐Categorical Exclusion(s) ☐Negative ☐Positive ☒Deferred (per 22 CFR 216.3(a)(1)	
IEE Expiration Date (if applicable):	7/15/2021	
Additional Analyses/Reporting Required:		
Climate Risks Identified (#):	Low ___#___ Moderate ___#___ High ___#___	
Climate Risks Addressed (#):	Low ___#___ Moderate ___#___ High ___#___	

THRESHOLD DETERMINATION AND SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

PROJECT/ACTIVITY SUMMARY

The Libya Economic Acceleration Project (LEAP/Aqfuz) will promote an inclusive, private sector led economic growth for vulnerable communities in Libya. This project will ultimately result in increasing employment opportunities and increasing diversification in Libya's economy to promote resilience in general. LEAP is designed to be implemented throughout Libya, including the west, east and south. At the end of the project period, the following results are expected: strengthened entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for vulnerable groups including youth, women, people with disabilities and indigenous people; improved productivity of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs) among the targeted populations; increased vocational and technical training with a focus on employment demand, and increased assistance to businesses in all phases of their life cycle with support for financing, international trade, contracting, business management and assistance, and disaster recovery, among others.

DEFERRAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

USAID environmental procedures require environmental review of potential impacts of USAID programs, projects, and activities. The environmental review can be deferred under two situations:

1) When USAID does not have sufficient information for meaningful environmental analysis, and therefore a Threshold Decision cannot be reached at the time the Project Appraisal Document/Activity Approval Memo or similar approval document is prepared; and,
2) When USAID is not able to identify projects/activities or aspects of projects/activities prior to the authorization of financing.

This document, in accordance with §216.3(a)(1), provides the required information necessary to issue a deferral of the required environmental review, including why the environmental review cannot be completed and the timing for completion of the review. Further it stipulates the requirements that must be implemented. Once this deferral is approved, the conditions and requirements of this document become mandatory.

CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT

Based on available information at the time of this IEE, there is not sufficient information to conduct a reasonable climate risk analysis. Climate Risk screening must be conducted as early as possible after award once the SOW and the interventions are well defined. No implementation of activities shall occur prior resolving the deferral determination and obtaining the approval of the BEO on the IEE amendment.

BEO SPECIFIED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

1. USAID/Libya will ensure the required IEE Amendment is completed in conjunction with the development of the first workplan. No implementation of activities beyond those needed to create the workplan are authorized.
2. If the required environmental review cannot be completed in the designated timeframe (see IEE Expiration Date), an amendment will be prepared and approved with justification and with a revised timeframe.

3. USAID/Libya will ensure that appropriate language to carry out the requirements of this deferral is incorporated into relevant award documents, including requirements relating to development of the IEE or EA. Relevant award language shall ensure that implementation plans will be modified in accordance with the environmental review.
4. USAID/Libya will (i) ensure an irreversible commitment of resources will be avoided until the environmental review is completed, and (ii) ensure appropriate environmental reviews are completed for incremental funding actions as subprojects/sub activities or aspects of projects/activities are identified.
5. The CRM will be completed and incorporated into the IEE.
6. USAID/Libya will clear this deferral with the ME BEO as part of the IEE Amendment as required by this document.

IMPLEMENTATION

In accordance with 22 CFR 216 and Agency policy, the conditions and requirements of this document become mandatory upon approval. This includes the relevant limitations, conditions and requirements in this document as stated in Sections 3, 4, and 5 of the IEE and any BEO Specified Conditions of Approval.

USAID APPROVAL OF INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

PROJECT/ACTIVITY NAME: Libya Economic Acceleration Project (LEAP)

BUREAU TRACKING ID: ME 21-06

Approval:	Cleared by Email John Pennell, Director	11/23/2020 Date
Clearance:	Cleared Kail Padgitt, A/COR	11/18/2020 Date
Clearance:	Drafter Anan Masri, Mission Environmental Officer	11/10/2020 Date
Clearance:	Cleared by Email Christopher Frey, Regional Environmental Advisor	12-Nov-20 Date
Clearance:	Cleared by Email Christopher Krafchak, Regional Legal Officer	11/20/2020 Date
Concurrence:	Jeffrey Ploetz, Bureau Environmental Officer	11/24/2020 Date

DISTRIBUTION:

OAA, Solicitation, Award File, Environmental Compliance Database

INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

1.0 PROJECT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE IEE

USAID environmental procedures require environmental review of potential impacts of USAID programs, projects, and activities. The environmental review can be deferred under two situations:

1) When USAID does not have sufficient information for meaningful environmental analysis, and therefore a Threshold Decision cannot be reached at the time the Project Appraisal Document/Activity Approval Memo or similar approval document is prepared; and,
2) When USAID is not able to identify projects/activities or aspects of projects/activities prior to the authorization of financing.

This document, in accordance with §216.3(a)(1), provides the required information necessary to issue a deferral of the required environmental review, including why the environmental review cannot be completed and the timing for completion of the review. Further it stipulates the requirements that must be implemented. Once this deferral is approved, the conditions and requirements of this document become mandatory.

While there is insufficient information to make a threshold determination at this time, this IEE provides critical information relevant to the operating conditions for consideration by prospective implementing partners of LEAP.

1.2 PROJECT/ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

Libya has experienced a lengthy conflict in the last decade and it is taking a heavy toll on the Libyan economy and the well-being of the population. The Libyan economy is highly dependent on the oil and gas sector and has a public sector that is large and inefficient. Oil accounts for around 80% of Libya's gross domestic product (GDP) and nearly all government revenue. The non-hydrocarbon related private sector share of GDP is very low in Libya and is expected to be hard hit by COVID-19, particularly the service sector (trade, transport), construction, and light manufacturing (agro-industries, handicrafts).

Despite heavy over-reliance on public sector employment, only about half of working-age Libyans are active in the labor force, and the country suffers from generally high unemployment rates. As of 2017 there are an estimated 1.7 million Libyans on the public payroll, with salaries taking up more than the majority of the government budget. Youth and women unemployment, which has always been elevated, is particularly hard hit due to public sector fiscal constraints and a shortage of jobs in the limited private sector. This pattern is particularly troublesome because young men are at risk of recruitment into violent groups and/or illicit activities, due to un- or underemployment, poor quality education and youth exclusion on the one hand, and the attractions of militias in terms of income, power and security on the other.

In the labor market, women are not allowed the same opportunities as men, which is reflected in their participation and employment levels. 2018 estimates of the female labor force participation rate are at a low 25.8%, compared to 79.1% for males.

Adding to the challenges of having a more inclusive economy for youth and women, persons with disabilities (PWDs) and indigenous populations have also been marginalized, a situation that has been exploited by destabilizing forces. Indigenous populations, such as Tuaregs and Tebus, represent an important part of the southern Libyan population and they occupy fundamental territories for the entrance of weapons, immigrants, fighters and drugs. The Amazigh, another indigenous population, are based in the south as well as the northwest in areas such as the coastal town of Zuwara, towns in the Nafusa Mountains and areas around Ghadames.

Against this backdrop, USAID/Libya recognized that the development of a dynamic private sector, in particular of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs) and an environment conducive to entrepreneurship will be essential for employment creation, productivity and more balanced economic diversification, for all of Libya but particularly for the south. Private sector development could be an integral part of wider peacebuilding and conflict management processes. Providing inclusive economic opportunities for the marginalized and vulnerable populations such as youth, women, PWDs, and indigenous populations is essential for sustainable stabilization. Improved entrepreneurship and an expanded role for MSMEs are especially important for economic recovery because of their potential to generate jobs generally, and particularly because they can employ vulnerable populations.

LEAP builds upon the experience of the recent Libya Economic Empowerment activity (LEE). While LEE focused on women and youth entrepreneurship, LEAP will strengthen entrepreneurship skills for these groups plus indigenous populations and PWDs.

1.3 PROJECT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

The Libya Economic Acceleration Project (LEAP/Aqfuz) will promote an inclusive, private sector led economic growth for vulnerable communities in Libya. This project will ultimately result in increasing employment opportunities and increasing diversification in Libya's economy to promote resilience in general. LEAP is designed to be implemented throughout Libya, including the west, east and south. At the end of the project period, the following results are expected: strengthened entrepreneurship skills and opportunities for vulnerable groups including youth, women, people with disabilities and indigenous people; improved productivity of Micro-, Small- and Medium-Enterprises (MSMEs) among the targeted populations; increased vocational and technical training with a focus on employment demand, and increased assistance to businesses in all phases of their life cycle with support for financing, international trade, contracting, business management and assistance, and disaster recovery, among others.

TABLE 2: DEFINED OR ILLUSTRATIVE PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES AND SUB-ACTIVITIES

Project/Activity — At this stage of the activity development, interventions and sub-activities are not yet fully defined. The exact interventions and the SOW will be more defined after receiving applications from partners.

Will this project/activity involve construction[1] as defined by ADS 201 and 303? Yes ☐ No ☐

[1] **Construction, as defined by ADS 201 and 303,** includes: construction, alteration, or repair (including dredging and excavation) of buildings, structures, or other real property and includes, without limitation, improvements, renovation, alteration and refurbishment. The term includes, without limitation, roads, power plants, buildings, bridges, water

If yes, describe in the space below:
Based on available information at the time of this IEE, it is not known if interventions will include construction.

2.0 BASELINE ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

2.1 LOCATIONS AFFECTED AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT (ENVIRONMENT, PHYSICAL, CLIMATE, SOCIAL, THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES)

Geography: Libya is bounded by the Mediterranean Sea on the north, Egypt on the east, Sudan on the southeast, Niger and Chad on the south, and Tunisia and Algeria on the west. Libya falls into three main geographical regions—Tripolitania in the west, Fazzan in the southwest, and Cyrenaica in the east. With the land area that totals 1,759,540 square kilometers, Libya is the seventeenth largest country in the world and the fourth largest country of the African continent. Libya's Mediterranean open coastline that has no geographical barriers is 1,770 kilometers long with the island state of Malta located in a distance of about 355 kilometers from its shores. The Sahara Desert, which occupies 95% of the country, is the dominant geographical feature. Most of the country's terrain is barren and features flat to undulating plains, plateaus, and depressions. Several highlands dot the landscape, but there are almost no true mountain ranges, except for the Tibesti Massif along its border with Chad. The highest point of the country is Bikku Bitti at 2,267 m and the lowest point is Sabkhat Ghuzayyil at -47 m. There are no permanent rivers in Libya. There are numerous wadis or dry riverbeds that are intermittently filled up by water from occasional flash floods. The country has an extensive store of underground water that feeds the oases in the country.

Climate: At least five different climatic zones have been recognized in Libya but the dominant climatic influences are Mediterranean and Saharan. Libya is mostly characterized by arid climatic conditions, except the coastal strip and the northern hills toward the east and the west, while the rest of the country is located under the conditions of desert and semidesert because of its geographical location in terms of latitude. In most of the coastal lowland, the climate is Mediterranean, with warm summers and mild winters with scant rainfall. The weather is cooler in the highlands, and frosts occur at maximum elevations. In the desert interior the climate has very hot summers and extreme diurnal temperature ranges. Less than 2 percent of the national territory receives enough rainfall for settled agriculture, the heaviest precipitation occurring in the Jabal al Akhdar zone of Cyrenaica, where annual rainfall of 400 to 600 millimeters is recorded. All other areas of the country receive less than 400 millimeters, and in the Sahara 50 millimeters or less occurs. Rainfall is often erratic and can cause severe flooding, and a pronounced drought may extend over two seasons. Deficiency in rainfall is reflected in an absence of permanent rivers or streams, and the approximately twenty perennial lakes are brackish or salty. There are numerous springs occurring along the scarp faces of the Jabal Nafusah and the Jabal al Akhdar and the great subterranean aquifers of the desert.

treatment facilities, and vertical structures. In the box below, describe any construction planned for this project/activity. Refer to ADS 201maw for required Construction Risk Management procedures.

Biodiversity: Libya consists of three main local botanical habitats: the coastal, mountainous, and desert habitats with their crossing valleys from south to north and from west to east. The life form distribution among Libyan plants was characterized by a high proportion of herbs. The low number of woody species reflects the defensive capabilities of the vegetation in arid conditions. Several monitoring and research programs have been carried out in Libya, targeting; water birds, sea turtles, monk seals, fisheries, coastal habitats and alien species. Most of these programs are funded by national or international agencies, however, there are still some wide knowledge gaps especially regarding cartilaginous species conservation, habitats, hotspots, cetaceans and alien species.

Demographic & Economic Information: The population of Libya is estimated at 6,890,535 (July 2020 est.). Immigrants make up just over 12% of the total population, according to UN data (2017). While Libya is not an appealing destination for migrants, since 2014, transiting migrants – primarily from East and West Africa – continue to exploit its political instability and weak border controls and use it as a primary departure area to migrate across the central Mediterranean to Europe in growing numbers. In addition, more than 200,000 people were displaced internally as of August 2017 by fighting between armed groups in eastern and western Libya and, to a lesser extent, by inter-tribal clashes in the country's south. The majority ethnic group is Berber and Arab which are 97% of the population, the other 3% includes Egyptian, Greek, Indian, Italian, Maltese, Pakistani, Tunisian, and Turkish. Median age of the population is 29.4 years (2018 est.) Languages spoken are Arabic (official), Italian, English (all widely understood in the major cities); Berber (Nafusi, Ghadamis, Suknah, Awjilah, Tamasheq).

Libya has been in the grips of an internationalized civil conflict for more than half a decade. Its economy that is almost entirely dependent on oil and gas exports, has struggled since 2014 given security and political instability, disruptions in oil production, and decline in global oil prices. The country suffers from widespread power outages caused by shortages of fuel for power generation and living conditions, including access to clean drinking water, medical services, and safe housing have all declined since 2011. After the deep recession between 2013-2016, driven by limited oil production, the Libyan economy was able to substantially increase oil production over 2017-2019 with real GDP growth reaching an average of 21% during 2017-2018. However, this recovery has been short lived as the country has returned to a state of civil war in April 2019 and it GDP growth slowed down sharply to 2.5% in 2019 and is expected to be negative in 2020.

Sources: The CIA World Factbook; https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/ World Atlas: https://www.worldatlas.com/maps/libya; The Geography Site: http://www.geography-site.co.uk/pages/countries/climate/libya_climate.html; National Monitoring Programme for Biodiversity in Libya: https://www.rac-spa.org/sites/default/files/ecap/imap_libya/imap_libya.pdf; The World Bank: Libya Economic Update 2020:
https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/libya/publication/economic-update-april-2020#:~:text=a%20potential%20of%201.6%20million,to%20be%20negative%20in%202020

2.2 APPLICABLE AND APPROPRIATE PARTNER COUNTRY AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS (E.G. WHO), ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

Constitution:

- Transitional Constitution (2011): Does not directly address environmental issues.
- Draft Libyan Constitution (2016): The draft constitution, which is yet to be ratified, provides the following guidance on relevant issues:
    - Article 18 (Environment): Requires all people to protect and safeguard the environment and mandates the State to protect the environment from pollution, maintain biodiversity, manage an environmental sanitation fund, and ensure compensation for damages to the environment by those parties responsible.
    - Article 174 (Water): Establishes state's responsibility to safeguard water as a key natural resource and provide reparations to regions from which water is transferred.
    - Article 175 (Renewable Energy): Requires the State to support and encourage development of Renewable Energy.

Key Legislation:

- Law No. 426 establishing the Renewable Energy Authority of Libya (REAoL) (2007): Establishes the government agency responsible for regulating issues related to renewable energy
- Law No. 81 of 1970 on Maritime Ports (1971): Law regarding seaports, covers regulations for loading and unloading explosives, dangerous materials, and oil, as well as penalties and provisions for parties in breach of those regulations
- Law No. 7 on the protection of the environment (1982): Provides provisions on environmental protection of air, seas and marine resources, water resources, food and foodstuffs, protection of wildlife, offences and penalties, and the establishment of the Technical Centre for the Protection of the Environment.
- Health Law No. 106 (1973): Comprehensive law on environmental protection. Covers risks imposed by water pollution and procedures to manage those risks, as well as standards for treating and sampling water; provisions for the treatment and transport of food products; environmental safety in public baths, laundries, toilets, pools, swamps, and mosques; environmental standards for construction projects; drainage and treatment of wastewater; treatment of infectious disease and control of epidemics; as well as the related provisions and punishments for each of those subject areas.
- Law No. 15 on the protection of agricultural land (1992): law protecting viable agricultural land from being used for any non-agricultural development.
- Law No. 27 on the protection of plants (1968): Establishes a national Plant Protection Department and lays forth its mandate, which covers studies to define and classify plant diseases, epidemics, and their geographical distribution; research on fighting those diseases and epidemics; sanitary control of plants; managing campaigns to control disease or epidemics, and guidance for farmers on protecting their plants.
- Law No. 15 on the protection and improvement of the environment (2003): Covers protection of air; protection of seas and marine resources; protection of water resources;

protection of food and foodstuffs; environmental reclamation and clearing; protection against diseases; protection of soil and plants; protection of wildlife; protection of biodiversity; and offenses and penalties.

- Law No. 15 on animals and trees protection (1989): Covers laws regulating the culling of female animals, caring for disease among animals, cutting down trees, and penalties for violation of provisions.
- Law No. 14 on regulating the exploitation of marine resources (1989): sets forth the licensing procedures for fishing vessels and regulations around commercial fishing.
- Law No. 5 on the protection of grasslands and forests (1982): Makes General People's Committee for Agricultural Land Reclamation and Reconstruction responsible for the protection, development, and management of public forests and rangelands.
- Law No. 68 on the agreement on the conservation of cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean, and the Adjacent Atlantic Area (2001): ratifies the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, the Mediterranean, and the Adjacent Atlantic Area. Makes removal of cetaceans illegal and creates a network of specially protected areas for conservation of cetaceans.
- Law No. 3 to organize the utilization of water resources (1982): Makes all people responsible for safeguarding water resources (ground water and surface water), sets forth citizens' rights and responsibilities regarding water, sets forth penalties for degradation of water resources.

Applicable National Strategic Plans include:

- Libyan Transitional Government Ministry of Electricity and Renewable Energy Renewable Energy Authority of Libya (REAoL) National Plan for Developing Renewable Energy in Libya (2012): High level strategy for developing renewable energy in Libya. Lays forth the structure of the REAoL, and establishes high level short-term (2013-2015), medium-term (2015-2025), and long-term (2025-2050) strategies for increasing the adoption of renewable energy in Libya. Short-term strategy focuses on capacity building, knowledge transfer, creation of policy and laws, mining lessons learned from neighboring markets, and implementation of pilot projects. Medium-term strategy focuses on involving the private sector and creation of markets. Long-term strategy is focused on the development of utility-scale projects.
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change: Non-Annex Signatory. No NDC submitted.
- Convention On Biological Diversity: Signatory (ratified). No reports submitted.

2.3 COUNTRY/MINISTRY/MUNICIPALITY ENVIRONMENTAL CAPACITY ANALYSIS

Libya has been facing tremendous challenges of instability and insecurity reflecting and characterized by both a political impasse and a lack of legitimate state institutions. Ad-hoc and non-state formations grew outside the legitimate state boundary and became the real actors, polarizing politics and society while rendering any political dialogue ineffective, especially when confined to exclusionary power-sharing arrangements. Libya Environmental General Authority (EGA) and a variety of its environmental institutions responsible for environmental protection and conducting environmental research and its NGOs lack coordination and organization and have limited ability to address the environmental problems in a constructive manner.

Source: University of California Press: https://online.ucpress.edu/caa/article-abstract/13/1/46/109267/Gaddafi-s-Legacy-Institutional-Development-and?redirectedFrom=fulltext

3.0 ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL RISK

The Mission is planning to use the “Statement of Objectives” for the solicitation of this activity and, hence, the SOW and the anticipated interventions will only be well defined after partners submit their applications. At this stage, there is not sufficient information to conduct a reasonable environmental analysis. Therefore, a Deferral of a threshold determination for this activity is proposed to allow the mission to make the award and for the IP to conduct the mobilization activities (hiring and approval of staff, preparing offices, meetings and information gathering to prepare first annual work). No implementation of activities shall occur until amendment is prepared and approved by the BEO. The designated AOR shall work with the Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) to ensure that environmental compliance documentation is completed in a timely manner immediately after award.

PROJECT: LIBYA ECONOMIC ACCELERATION PROJECT (LEAP)

TABLE 3A. POTENTIAL IMPACTS – PROJECT/ACTIVITY 1

Project/Activity	**Potential environmental and social impacts**
Project/Activity**: Libya Economic Acceleration Project**	At this stage, sufficient information is not available to conduct a reasonable environmental analysis.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATIONS

4.1 DEFERRAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

USAID environmental procedures require environmental review of potential impacts of USAID programs, projects, and activities. The environmental review can be deferred under two situations:

1) When USAID does not have sufficient information for meaningful environmental analysis, and therefore a Threshold Decision cannot be reached at the time the Project Appraisal Document/Activity Approval Memo or similar approval document is prepared; and,
2) When USAID is not able to identify projects/activities or aspects of projects/activities prior to the authorization of financing.

This document, in accordance with §216.3(a)(1), provides the required information necessary to issue a deferral of the required environmental review, including why the environmental review cannot be completed and the timing for completion of the review. Further it stipulates the requirements that must be implemented. Once this deferral is approved, the conditions and requirements of this document become mandatory.

4.2 CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT

Libya is one of the driest countries in the world; less than 2 percent of the country receives enough rain to support agriculture, and only 5 percent of the country receives more than 100 mm of rainfall per year. Libya's climate ranges from a temperate Mediterranean climate in isolated areas on the Mediterranean coast to a tropical desert climate in the vast majority of the country's interior. Because Libya does not have any major inland bodies of water, the Mediterranean Sea and the Sahara Desert are the most important features of Libya's geography in determining climatic conditions, which include abrupt weather changes and sudden weather events across the country. The northern Mediterranean areas of Libya have dry summers and mild winters, with the majority of the precipitation falling in the winter. The highlands near Tripoli and Benghazi experience cooler temperatures and receive the most rain of any region in Libya. The interior desert experiences hot, scorching temperatures with extreme variation within a day. Rain is rare and irregular in these areas. The following summarizes the projected future climate data for Libya:

- Mean annual temperature increasing by 2°C by 2050, resulting in more frequent heat waves and fewer frost days.
- Increases in frequency of droughts, dust storms, sandstorms, and floods, along with increased desertification.
- An expected 7 percent decrease in mean annual precipitation by 2050, with an increase in intensity of rainfall events.

Agricultural will be most affected by climate change. Agricultural productivity is hindered by the limited renewable water resources, harsh climatic conditions, and poor soil quality. Only 3.8 million hectares, 1-2 percent of the country's area, can support crop growth. As a result of these constrained conditions, Libya imports around 75 percent of its food. Projected annual temperature increases of around 1.5-2°C are estimated to reduce crop yields by up to 30 percent by 2060. With an expected increase in both temperatures and number of drought days, agricultural draws from aquifers are likely to increase as well, and rain-fed agriculture and pastoralism may no longer be viable for the rural populations of semiarid Libya. Projected increases in the frequency of extreme weather events such as floods, sandstorms, and dust storms are likely to damage fields and irrigation infrastructure and further reduce crop yields. Salinization of soils due to sea level rise and floods is also expected to affect agricultural production.

Libya's water demand is far greater than its renewable supply. With only a narrow ribbon along the coast receiving more than 100 mm of rain per year, and frequent salt incursion into renewable aquifers, the renewable water supply is relatively small and of poor quality. The anticipated increase in annual drought days on the coast from the current 101 to as many as 224 within the next four decades is expected to also put significant stress on all water sources.

With the vast majority of the country living in coastal cities (86 percent of the population), many Libyans are vulnerable to even slight sea level rise. Benghazi, the country's second largest city, could face considerable damage with only 0.2 m of sea level rise.

It is extremely important that the Implementing Partner must consider and factor in climate change during the planning stage of the interventions. The sum total of sand and dust storms, droughts, floods, and desertification present a larger-scale threat to Libya's development and to its agricultural productivity. Although Libya is reliant on imports for much of its food, an increase in poverty due to damage to health and key infrastructure along the coast, combined with a collapse in domestic agriculture, could result in increased food insecurity and malnutrition.

Based on available information at the time of this IEE, there is insufficient information on the planned interventions to conduct a reasonable climate risk analysis. Climate Risk screening must be conducted as early as possible after award once the SOW and the interventions are more defined. No implementation of activities shall occur prior resolving the deferral determination and obtaining the approval of the BEO on the IEE amendment.

5.0 CONDITIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

5.1 CONDITIONS

The environmental determinations in this IEE are contingent upon full implementation of the following general implementation and monitoring requirements, as well as ADS 204 and other relevant requirements.

5.1.1 During Pre-Award:

5.1.1.1 Pre-Award Briefings: As feasible, the design team and/or the cognizant environmental officer(s) (e.g., MEO, REA, BEO) will provide a pre-award briefing for potential offerors on environmental compliance expectations/responsibilities at bidders' conferences.

5.1.1.2 Solicitations: The design team, in coordination with the A/CO, will ensure solicitations include environmental compliance requirements and evaluation criteria. A/CO will ensure technical and cost proposal requirements include approach, staffing, and budget sufficient for complying with the terms of this IEE.

5.1.1.3 Awards: The A/COR, in coordination with the A/CO, will ensure all awards and sub-awards, include environmental compliance requirements.

5.1.2 During Post-Award:

5.1.2.1 Post-Award Briefings: The A/COR and/or the cognizant environmental officer(s) (e.g., MEO, REA, BEO) will provide post-award briefings for the IP on environmental compliance responsibilities.

5.1.2.3 **Workplans and Budgeting: The A/COR/EG team must prepare an IEE amendment to be submitted for BEO approval immediately after award upon receipt of the activity workplan to address the deferred Threshold Determination. No implementation of any activity prior obtaining BEO approval of the IEE amendment is authorized.** Furthermore, the A/COR will ensure the IP integrates environmental compliance requirements in work plans and budgets to comply with requirements, including EMMP implementation and monitoring (if required).

5.1.2.4 Staffing: The A/COR, in coordination with the IP, will ensure all awards have staffing capacity to implement environmental compliance requirements.

5.1.2.5 Records Management: The A/COR will maintain environmental compliance documents in the official project/activity file and upload records to the designated USAID environmental compliance database system.

5.1.2.6 Host Country Environmental Compliance: The A/COR will ensure the IP complies with applicable and appropriate host country environmental requirements unless otherwise directed in writing by USAID. However, in the case of a conflict between the host country and USAID requirements, the more stringent shall govern.

5.1.2.7 Work Plan Review: The A/COR will ensure the IP verifies, at least annually or when activities are added or modified, that activities remain with the scope of the IEE. Activities outside of the scope of the IEE cannot be implemented until the IEE is amended.

5.1.2.8 IEE Amendment: If new activities are introduced or other changes to the scope of this IEE occur, an IEE Amendment will be required.

5.1.2.14 USAID Monitoring Oversight: The A/COR or designee, with the support of the cognizant environmental officer(s) (e.g., MEO, REA, BEO), will ensure monitoring of compliance with established requirements (e.g., by desktop reviews, site visits, etc.).

5.1.2.16 Environmental Compliance Mitigation and Monitoring Plan: If required, the A/COR will ensure the IP develops, obtains approval for, and implements Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plans (EMMPs) that are responsive to the stipulated environmental compliance requirements.

5.1.2.17 Environmental Compliance Reporting: The A/COR will ensure the IP includes environmental compliance in regular project/activity reports, using indicators as appropriate; develops and submits the Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Reports (EMMRs); and completes and submits a Record of Compliance (RoC) describing their implementation of EMMP requirements in conjunction with the final EMMR or at the close of sub activities (as applicable). And where required by Bureaus or Missions, ensure the IP prepares a closeout plan consistent with contract documentation for A/COR review and approval that outlines responsibilities for end-of-project operation, the transition of other operational responsibilities, and final EMMR with lessons learned.

5.1.2.18 Corrective Action: When noncompliance or unforeseen impacts are identified, IPs notify the A/COR, place a hold on activities, take corrective action, and report on the effectiveness of corrective actions. The A/COR initiates the corrective action process and ensures the IP completes and documents their activities. Where required by Bureaus or Missions, ensure Record of Compliance is completed.

5.2 AGENCY CONDITIONS

5.2.1 Sub-award Screening: The A/COR will ensure the IP uses an adequate environmental screening tool to screen any sub-award applications and to aid in the development of EMMPs.

5.2.2 Other Supplemental Analyses: The A/COR will ensure supplemental environmental analyses that are called for in the IEE are completed and documented.

5.2.3 **Resolution of Deferrals: If a deferral of the environmental threshold determination was issued, the A/COR will ensure that the appropriate 22CFR216 environmental analysis and documentation is completed and approved by the BEO before the subject activities are implemented.**

5.2.4 Positive Determination: If a Positive Determination threshold determination was made, the A/COR will ensure a Scoping Statement, and if required an Environmental Assessment (EA), is completed and approved by the BEO before the subject activities are implemented.

5.3 MITIGATION MEASURES

The Mission is planning to use the "Statement of Objectives" for the solicitation of this activity and, hence, the SOW and the anticipated interventions will only be well defined after partners submit their applications and an award is made. An IEE amendment must be prepared and approved by the BEO prior to implementation of any activity. Mitigation measures and conditions based on the accepted proposal shall be prepared and presented in the IEE amendment.

6.0 LIMITATIONS OF THIS INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

To be incorporated in the upcoming IEE Amendment.

7.0 REVISIONS

Per 22 CFR 216.3(a)(9), when ongoing programs are revised to incorporate a change in scope or nature, a determination will be made as to whether such change may have an environmental impact not previously assessed. If so, this IEE will be amended to cover the changes. Per ADS 204, it is the responsibility of the USAID A/COR to keep the MEO/REA and BEO informed of any new information or changes in the activity that might require revision of this environmental analysis and environmental determination