

**Second Set of Questions and Answers to Notice of Funding Opportunity
No. SOL-523-15-000005 Human Rights Public Policy Activity**

#	Question	Answer
1	Section C.1 encourages for-profit applicants to submit concept papers. Would USAID clarify the difference between an application and a concept paper, if any?	In the context of Section C.1, “concept paper” should be replaced with “application”, that is, a detailed activity document with a full budget and narrative. On Section D.4 of this NFO, it may be as long as 35 pages exclusive of Annexes.
2	Grants take on an important role in the NFO for the accomplishment of project results. Would USAID further clarify the scope and direction of the grants program?	As described in first Q&A document already posted, question 4, sub-grants should be used to provide specific technical support and enhance sustainability. The scope includes, but is not limited to, participating in the design of policy-ready tools addressing a specific human rights issue based on the sub-grantees’ expertise, to incorporate field or local knowledge to address specific topics in the public policy development, and participate in the design of mechanisms to assess and evaluate the implementation of the Government of Mexico’s National Human Rights Plan. USAID expects to contribute to build the sub-grantees’ capacity, as they join efforts with the prime, to boost prospects for sustainability beyond the life of the activity.
3	Knowing the role of Mexican police in interactions with vulnerable communities, what is USAID’s position on engaging with police at federal, state and local levels?	As described in the NFO’s Section B.13.3, USAID anticipates that the recipient will engage with police. In order to increase individual technical capacity of public officials including on human rights standards, USAID envisions providing training on human rights to federal and state security personnel and investigative authorities on international human rights standards, including those pertaining to the prevention of torture. Requirements to train or assist the Mexican federal police will follow USG legal framework (including Leahy vetting, a process through which the U.S. government vets U.S. assistance to foreign security forces to ensure that individuals/security units have not committed gross human rights abuses).



4	If the offeror has a previously existing Letter of Credit (LOC), could USAID please confirm that the sub-account will be used to fund this RFA?	An applicant may use a previously existing Letter of Credit to receive funds for this NFO. In addition, applicants should note that USAID policy prohibits the payment of fee/profit to the prime recipient under assistance instruments. Forgone profit does not qualify as cost-sharing.
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