

Amendment 002: Answers to Questions

Request for Applications (RFA) Number RFA-OAA-15-000002 Improving Supply Chain Management Systems Project (ISCMS)

February 4, 2015

1. RFA scope includes coverage of central level as well as selected states, including the six states where USAID is the lead development partner for RMNCH+A interventions (Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Uttarakhand) and states with highest burden of child deaths such as Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan. It also talks about other states that maybe included under the TB programme and the NACP IV programme. It would be helpful if the exact number of states proposed to be covered under the RFA are communicated at this stage to enable estimation of budgets even if exact names of all states cannot be provided.

USAID/India Response: Supply Chain Management TA support to NACP – IV and RNTCP will be focused more at the national level to NACO and Central TB Division to improve supply chain management systems which will impact the states too.

However if there is a need for any specific support to be provided at the state level for HIV and TB, the number of states is no more than 10 states.

2. Submission requirements – We understand that a 3 pager program concept note is to be submitted at this stage and that:
 - CV's/Team profiles/Detailed credentials/Detailed Budgets are not required to be submitted at this stage;
 - Forms 424, 424a, 424b, DUNS Number etc. are also only to be submitted at the time of detailed application.
 - In case the above forms are to be filled up at the concept note stage, is there any guidance available to fill the same (in addition to the instructions mentioned towards end of the forms)?

Please confirm.

USAID/India Response: Confirmed. Only the items listed under a) Step One – Concept Paper Application Format on page 18 of the RFA must be submitted at this time.

3. The Concept paper requires a budget summary to be submitted i.e. the total funding requested by each year of activity and the cost share contribution (e.g. in cash, in-kind), if any, that may be contributed by the applicant from its own resources or other non-U.S. government sources.
 - At concept stage, it is understood that the budget estimates would be very broad. These budget estimates could differ at the Application stage based on detailed computation exercise on budgets that will be carried out at that stage.
 - How much detailing at the activity level is required at concept note stage is not very clear, would appreciate more clarity regarding level of detailing required at this stage.

USAID/India Response: The budget summary should be presented in the format shown below, containing all of the elements in the full cost/business application (see RFA pages 23-24), but only showing a summary of the costs rather than cost details. Note: While USAID/India understands that the budget summary in the concept phase may differ somewhat from the full cost/business application, it expects applicants to present a realistic and reasonable budget summary that will align closely with the full cost/business application. By doing so, applicants will have demonstrated a thoughtful, achievable approach for the concept paper within the available funding.

Cost Element	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Total
Total Direct Labor					
Salary					
Fringe Benefits					
Consultants					
Allowances					
Travel and Transportation					
Subcontracts					
Other Direct Costs					
Seminars and Conferences					
Training Costs					
Total Cost Contribution from USAID					
Cost Share					
Total Cost					

- On page 18 the RFA requests applicants include "Type of organization and cost share, **if any**" on the cover page of the concept note, on page 19 the RFA requests the applicant "Provide a budget summary which includes, at a minimum, the total funding requested by each year of activity and the cost share contribution (e.g. in cash, in-kind), **if any**, that may be contributed by the applicant from its own resources..." Please provide clarification on the final cost share requirement as the two references above conflict with the mandatory 10% cost share inclusion found elsewhere in the RFA.

USAID/India Response: "If any" should be deleted in both instances. USAID/India requires that all applicants provide a budget summary which includes at least 10% cost-share.

- Can USAID confirm that non-local Indian organizations are eligible to be a subrecipient to a local organization priming this cooperative agreement?

USAID/India Response: Yes, non-local Indian organizations are eligible to be sub-recipients.

- Are there any maximum amounts or percentage caps, of the overall budget or level of effort that can be subgranted or subcontracted to non-local organizations by the awarded local organization?

USAID/India Response: No. However, by restricting eligibility to the local Indian market, USAID/India has a strong preference to find local organizations capable of carrying out the majority of the activities. Additionally, per 2 CFR 200.332, Fixed amount subawards with prior written approval from the Federal awarding agency, a pass through entity may provide subawards based on fixed amounts up to the Simplified Acquisition Threshold, provided that the subawards meet the requirements for fixed amount awards in §200.201 use of grant agreements (including fixed amount awards), cooperative agreements, and contracts.

Addition to the Concept Paper Application Format: On the cover page of the concept paper submission, the applicant must list all organizations involved. In addition to noting the lead, applications must note the type of each organization (local-Indian organization, non-local Indian organization, U.S. NGO, etc.).

7. Since this is a last minute extension, after we had already submitted, any chance if we want to strengthen and re-submit, can we do it?

USAID/India Response: Organizations which had previously submitted a concept paper prior to the first deadline may submit an updated application, if they so desire. If an applicant is not re-submitting a concept paper previously submitted on January 30th, please send an email to IndiaRCO@usaid.gov indicating that its first concept paper remains valid.