



USAID | AFGHANISTAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

To All Applicants:

From: USAID/Afghanistan
Acquisition and Assistance Office
Great Masoud Road
Kabul, Afghanistan

Date: May 20, 2013

Subject: Amendment No. 1 to RFA 306-13-000004, Kandahar Food Zone (KFZ)

The purpose of this Amendment is to incorporate changes in the RFA and provide Questions and answers under the subject RFA. Accordingly, the changes are as follows:

1. Pg. 33 – Section IV.E.4 “Required Attachments to be submitted with the Application”, DELETE Attachment G – Branding Plan (See Section V)
2. Pg. 34 – Section IV.F “Cost/Business Application Format”, DELETE paragraph F.3 at its entirety and REPLACE it with the following:

3. The budget to be presented under the Cost/Business Application must be presented per cost category by year and with a summary total for all 2 years.
3. Pg. 41 – Section V.F “Branding Strategy and Marking Plan”, DELETE this section at its entirety and REPLACE It with the following:

It is a federal statutory and regulatory requirement that all USAID programs, projects, activities, public communications, and commodities that USAID partially or fully funds under a USAID grant or cooperative agreement or other assistance award or sub award, must be marked appropriately overseas with the USAID Identity. See Section 641, Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended; 22 CFR 226.91. Under the regulation, USAID requires the submission of a Branding Strategy and a Marking Plan, but only by the “Apparent Successful Applicant,” as defined in the regulation. The Apparent Successful Applicant’s proposed Branding and Marking Plan may include a request for approval of one or more exceptions to marking requirements established in 22 CFR 226.91. The Agreement Officer is responsible for evaluating and approving the Branding Strategy and a Marking Plan (including any request for exceptions) of the Apparently Successful Applicant, consistent with the provisions “Branding Strategy,” “Marking Plan,” and “Marking of USAID-funded Assistance Awards” contained in AAPD 05-11 and in 22 CFR 226.91. Please note that in contrast to “exceptions” to marking requirements, waivers based on circumstances in the host country must be approved by the Mission Director or other USAID Principal Officers, see 22 CFR 226.91(j).

Incorporate the following Questions and Answers:

No.	Questions	Answers
1	Are the For-profit U.S Companies in partnership with Afghan organizations eligible to submit their application for this RFA?	Yes, however they cannot charge profit under assistance awards.
2	Is this RFA open to for-profit businesses?	Yes, In accordance to RFA SECTION III- ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION (A) APPLICANTS <i>This is a full and open competition and all interested and qualified U.S Non-governmental Organizations and Non-U.S. Non-Governmental Organization are encouraged to apply.</i> <i>For more information see ADS 303.3.6.2</i>
3	Would USAID consider removing the requirement for the submission of audited financial statements for the past three years for applicants who have an approved NICRA?	Companies with approved Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) will not be required to submit audited financial statements for the past three years. Applicants who do not currently have a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) from their cognizant U.S Government agency shall submit copies of the applicant's financial reports for the previous 3-year period, which have been audited by a certified public accountant or other auditor satisfactory to USAID;
4	Are all applicants required to submit the Branding Strategy and Marking Plan at this stage of the application process?	No, In accordance to revised RFA SECTION V.F and in accordance to ADS 320.3.1.2 "Pre-Award Procedures" <i>The Apparently Successful Applicant for new awards prepares and submits the Branding Strategy (BS) that will be negotiated and finalized as part of the assistance award.</i>
5	Page 34, Section F.3 states that the KFZ budget "should relate to results while also showing the inputs (see item 10, below) for	Please see the revised RFA SECTION IV.F-3

	each result." Item 10 describes the requirements for demonstrating the bidder's financial status and management, not program inputs. Could USAID please clarify?	
6	Would USAID please describe to what results the budget should relate (page 34 Section F.3)? Is USAID referring to the program's components, i.e. Ministry of Counter Narcotics Strengthening Activities and Alternative Livelihoods Activities? matrix is most suitable." Does USAID want the budget to be presented in two different formats?	Please see the revised RFA SECTION IV.F-3

All other terms and conditions of the RFA remain unchanged

Sincerely,



Ousay Wahaj
Administrative Agreement Officer
Office of Acquisition & Assistance