



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

May 15, 2023

Reference: NOFO No.7200AA23RFA00007: Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Climate Resilient
Cereals
Subject: Amendment 01

Dear Interested Applicants:

The following Amendment 01 to Notice of Funding Opportunity Number 7200AA23RFA00007 provides responses to questions received. This Amendment does not revise the Notice of Funding Opportunity. Please note that the Application closing date has not been extended.

Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant; all preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense. Issuance of this Notice of Funding Opportunity does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government, nor does it commit the Government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application.

Sincerely,

Rachel Baltes
Agreement Officer
M/OAA/RFS

A. Questions and Answers

- 1. Is there an open webinar for the potential applicants to learn more about this program? If not, can we make an appointment for a phone call or to visit you in office?**

USAID Response #1: There will be no webinar or opportunities for appointments to learn more about this program. All information for this NOFO will be available on www.grants.gov.

- 2. I noticed this project will focus on rice, wheat, millets, and sorghum. Can you indicate what target countries or regions (Asia and/or Africa) aimed for this call? Should the proposal include all four crops?**

USAID Response #2: Prioritization and country selection from among Feed the Future (FTF) target and aligned countries will be determined by applicants. Please refer to Section A.IV.d.9 of the NOFO.

The four cereal crops (rice, wheat, sorghum and millet) must be included in the application. Please refer to Section A.IV.b.i of the NOFO.

- 3. Does the External Advisory Committee need to be composed of members that are NOT part of partner institutions of the CRCIL, or does “external” simply mean that it is external to the Prime Institution?**

USAID Response #3: External Advisory Committee members must not be active employees of the prime as well as partner institutions to avoid conflict of interest. The prime may appoint an observer member to the external advisory committee as appropriate to support information sharing.

- 4. Is there a limit regarding the number of “commissioned research activities”?**

USAID Response #4: USAID and the apparently successful applicant will determine an appropriate maximum funding amount that can be utilized to support commissioned activities over the life of the Climate Resilient Cereals Innovation Lab. The successful applicant must provide a compelling justification for commissioned research activities after review and recommendation by the advisory committee and final approval by the Agreement Officer (AO). Please refer to Section A.IV.c.3.iii of the NOFO.

- 5. Is the “private sector engagement” required to include local private sector and/or can it include international private sector actors?**

USAID Response #5: Applicants will propose private sector partnerships that support program objectives, and can include local or international private sector actors.

*Please refer to Section **A.IV.d.8.** of the NOFO.*

6. Does USAID expect implementers to work in every country listed in the RFA?

USAID Response #6: Please see the response in #2 above.

7. Does USAID intend climate mitigation to be a focus area in addition to climate adaptation?

*USAID Response #7: As stated in Section **A.IV** of the NOFO, the Climate Resilient Cereals Innovation Lab is expected to work on traits critical in climate adaptation.*

End of Amendment 01