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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative

USAID/Uganda Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity

**Local Partners' Policy
Engagement Activity
Interested Parties
Conference**

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Today's Agenda

- Introduce the Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity (EEA) and talk about how EEA relates to the Local Partners' Policy Engagement Activity
- Provide you with practical advice on how to develop successful Concept Paper applications
- Discuss the support you can expect from EEA as part of this funding opportunity



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Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity Goal:

To improve the enabling environment for agriculture development, trade and adaptation to climate change in agriculture

Local Partners' Policy Engagement Activity Goal:

To enhance or improve the enabling environment for agriculture growth, trade and adaptation to climate change in agriculture

- ❖ Shared parentage
- ❖ Shared goals
- ❖ Shared foundation

Shared Foundation – shared ‘reason for being’:

The Activities recognized the importance of agriculture to Uganda’s economy, prosperity, and food security.

...recognize the linkage between climate change and agriculture, and the need to adapt to CC

...recognize that agricultural growth does not only depend upon production and marketing; also on the enabling environment (EE).

...recognize that the EE is not only the realm of Government or policy makers; private sector and civil society have important roles

Support the GOU’s commitment to private sector lead (citizen lead) development in the agricultural sector as expressed in the DSIP.

How the Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity Links to Local Partners' Policy Engagement Activity:

- Both activities focus on “policy engagement” to enhance agricultural development and growth; the focus is not directly on production, processing, or marketing. (EEA Result 1)
- Both activities support increased adaptation to the effects of climate change on agriculture (EEA Result 3)
- EEA has an explicit and active capacity building component; working with PSOs and CSOs to build capacity, including to successfully apply for USAID funding (EEA Result 4)

Opportunities for coordination, collaboration, and information sharing during implementation

What is a Concept Paper?

- A concept paper is a very clear and well articulated summary of the idea for which you are requesting funding
- Proposed concept should intersect with USAID's development objectives
 - Policy engagement in the agriculture sector
 - Climate change adaptation



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Begin at the Beginning

- Read the APS...then read it again
- Be precise in your response
- Develop an outline

Required Elements of the Concept Note

- Technical Information (page 12-13)
 - Objective
 - Methodology
 - Results
 - Capacity Building
 - Organizational and Team Capabilities
- Required Appendices (page 13)
 - Eligibility Checklist
 - Notional Summary Budget
 - Budget Narrative



Objective: Developing a Strategy

- Define the development challenge and the activity's expected, measurable contribution to addressing that challenge
- Link the objective to your organizational mission, NSP, DSIP, Feed the Future strategy for Uganda, USAID/Uganda's climate change adaptation priorities
- Sell your idea to USAID!

Methodology: Developing a Plan

- Describe the proposed approach and activities
- Think about and explain timeline and sequencing of activities to achieve objectives
- Include any innovative tools, methods, techniques
- Remember to address:
 - Feasibility
 - Sustainability
 - Innovation
 - Gender/youth

Expected Results

- What is a result?
 - A significant, intended, and measurable change in the condition of a customer or a change in the host country, institutions, or other entities that affect the customer/beneficiary directly or indirectly
- Outcome vs. Output
 - Outcome: Events, occurrences, or conditions, as a result or impact of outputs and other program activities.
 - Output: Tangible, immediate, and intended product or consequence of an activity within your manageable interest
- Make language clean and clear—keep it simple!

Capacity Building

- Honest self-assessment of professional development needs encouraged
- How will development funds be utilized to strengthen the applicant's organizational capacity?
- Keep your mission and areas for improvement in mind and how they align with USAID's priorities

Organizational and Team Capabilities

- Describe your organization's history to demonstrate ability to successfully implement proposed program



Organizational and Team Capabilities (con't)

- If you are a nascent organization—think twice and be realistic
- Can your organization adhere to your own internal financial and technical reporting requirements if your organization were a successful applicant?
- Discuss/highlight strategic partnerships or relationships relevant to the proposed program



Required Appendices

- Eligibility checklist
- Budget including:
 - Total cost of program
 - Length of program
 - Line item break down
 - Identify cost shares
- Budget narrative: Explain your budget, line item by line item. Include details on rates, quantities proposed, assumptions, and cost sharing

Helpful Hints

- Always keep the evaluation criteria and submission information in mind at all times
- All roads lead to submission instructions (especially date and time!)
- Organization is key—create tools to ensure your organization stays on track
 - Calendar
 - Delegate roles and responsibilities
 - Checklist
 - Administrative outline

More Tips and Tricks

- Re-read the APS at the halfway mark
- Consider an internal review or read-through of application
- USAID and USG rules and regulations—use Google!
- Periodically check www.grants.gov for amendments to APS

Reminder

- Concept papers are due **17 February 2014, 4:00PM**
 - Submission after the deadline will not be accepted
- Electronic file(s) inclusive of allowed appendices must be emailed to KampalaUSAIDAPS@usaid.gov
- Hard copies and facsimile (fax) submissions will not be accepted

Future Support from EEA:

- Advise concept applicants: until concepts are due
- Organize a proposal development workshop for successful concept applicants
- Advise full technical & cost proposal applicants
- Advise on grant start-up for successful applicants, i.e. work planning, monitoring & evaluation, reporting, etc.



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Thank you!

We look forward to questions during the Q&A session

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