



USAID | NEPAL

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

November 19, 2018

ISSUANCE DATE:

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

APPLICATION SUBMISSION CLOSING DATE:

Wednesday, December 05, 2018; 17:00 PM Nepal Time (by this amendment) (NPT; 5:45 hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC))

SUBJECT: Amendment No. 01 to USAID's Physical Rehabilitation Activity

REFERENCE: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) No. 72036719RFA00001

Dear Prospective Applicants,

The purpose of this Amendment No. 01 to NOFO No. 72036719RFA00001 is to:

- (a) Post the submitted questions and corresponding answers to the official U.S. government site for finding grants for non-profits (<https://www.grants.gov/>); and
- (b) Amend the following NOFO sections:
 - 1. NOFO Cover Page Application Submission deadline table;
 - 2. Section 4.5.1.1 TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMAT;
 - 3. Section 4.5.1.2(1) Cover Page;
 - 4. Section 4.5.1.2(2) Table of Contents and Acronym List; and
 - 5. Section 5.3 APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION.

Except as provided herein, all NOFO terms and conditions remain unchanged and in full force and effect. Please note the aforementioned amendments below. Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Yours truly,

Jack M. Adrien
Agreement Officer

I. SUBMITTED QUESTIONS AND CORRESPONDING ANSWERS

1. **Question:** On Page 19 of the NOFO [Section 1.3.4], it is mentioned that “USAID’s [Physical Rehabilitation Activity] PRA will mentor and strengthen the [Strengthening Rehabilitation in District Environs] STRIDE [Physical Rehabilitation Centers] PRCs in provinces 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7 and foster relationships between these PRCs and public sector PTUs to be set up by the GON in each of these provinces, plus province 6.” Can USAID clarify what “plus province 6” means as there is, at present, not any PRC? Does USAID mean mentor and strengthen relationships between STRIDE PRCs and public sector PTUs in Province 6?

USAID Answer: Yes, the PRA is expected to mentor, strengthen, *and* build relationships between existing STRIDE PRC(s) and the Physiotherapy Units (PTU(s)) expected to be established by the public sector in Province 6.

2. **Question:** On Page 19 of the NOFO [Section 1.3.6.1.1(b)], it is stated that, “[a] partnership is established between existing STRIDE PRCs and the corresponding new public PTUs, plus the existing PTUs in Province 3.” Can USAID please confirm if the “partnership” is a referral mechanism with STRIDE PRCs or a formal partnership agreement?

USAID Answer: No, USAID does not require a formal sub-partner agreement between the Applicant and Government of Nepal (GON) entities. The Recipient must establish a good referral mechanism between the STRIDE PRCs and the corresponding new public PTUs

3. **Question:** It is mentioned on page 19 of the NOFO [Section 1.3.6.1.1(d)], “Health workers provide respectful, quality care and the satisfaction of persons with disabilities increases/is maintained at a high level;” And on page 20 [NOFO Section 1.3.6.1.2(h)], “Survey persons with disabilities as to their “patient satisfaction” with health facility service provision;” In the above mentioned sentences, is patient with disability satisfaction survey related to the service provided by the health workers in the specific rehabilitation services (PRCs –PTUs) or, more generally, in health facilities?

USAID Response: The patient satisfaction survey suggested in Illustrative Activities 1.3.6.1.2 (h) refers to patients’ satisfaction with their engagement throughout the continuum of services, from their first instance of detection in public health facilities at the peripheral (local) level and referral to PTUs or PRCs, as well as to their experience of services at PTUs and PRCs.

4. **Question:** On Page 20 [NOFO Section 1.3.6.1.2(e)], it is mentioned, as an illustrative activity: “Support public health system PTUs to provide effective service, including considerations of equipment, physical space, and staff capacity.” Can USAID please confirm that it is possible to contract physiotherapists under PRA directly, in the PTUs, while the recruitment phase/process of Governmental staff take place?

USAID Answer: USAID funding cannot be used to contract staff for government positions under the PRA. Nevertheless, USAID has no objection to government contracting physiotherapist positions prior to permanent recruitment, if allowed by the GON.

5. **Question:** On Page 23 [NOFO Section 1.4.1], it is mentioned that “While this activity will not directly support a livelihood component, means to link persons with disabilities and caregivers to government or other livelihood programs is welcome.” Can USAID please confirm that Applicants may propose activities and HR to promote coordination and collaboration for linking PRA beneficiaries to government and other livelihood initiatives; but not for direct support to beneficiaries for livelihood activities?

USAID Answer: USAID funds cannot be used for any “activities and HR” that link PRA beneficiaries to governmental or other livelihood initiatives. Nevertheless, USAID has no objection if an Applicant proposes to leverage other streams of funding for such initiatives.

6. On Page 24, it is mentioned that “unlike STRIDE, PRA will not provide general operational support to the PRCs. However, support can be extended for: (a) equipment; and (b) inputs for fund-raising.”

- (a) **Question:** It is understood that ‘general operational support to the PRC’ does not include cost of [human resources] HR (technical/clinical staff) and consumables/raw materials for [Prosthetic and Orthotic] P&O and physiotherapy services at the PRC. If that is the case, can USAID please confirm that Applicants may propose a service contract model (PRA project purchasing rehabilitation services from the PRCs) to ensure provision of quality physical rehabilitation services (physiotherapy, P&O and basic or primary therapy services at the PRCs and in the communities plus mobile camps) to vulnerable people targeted by this call?

USAID Answer: PRA funds cannot be used to support the costs of Human Resources and consumables to the STRIDE PRCs. Therefore, the proposed service contract model does not align to project parameters outlined in the NOFO.

- (b) **Question:** With regards to the [NOFO Section 1.4.4(a)] “equipment” to PRCs, can USAID please confirm that the PRA program can support PRCs to replace damaged or old heavy machines or equipment at the PRCs and also to add required P&O and PT services related equipment to ensure quality PR services at the STRIDE PRCs?

USAID Answer: Yes, the PRA program can support PRCs to replace damaged or old heavy machines or equipment at the PRCs and also to add required P&O and PT services related equipment to ensure quality PR services at the STRIDE PRCs

- (c) **Question:** Under the mentioned clause [NOFO Section 1.4.4(b)] inputs for fund-raising, can Applicants propose cost for the PRCs’ staff related to fund raising and activities/initiatives for PRCs fundraising?

USAID Answer: As per Title 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 200.442 - Fund Raising and Investment Management Costs, “[f]und raising costs for the purposes of meeting the Federal program objectives are allowable with prior written approval from the Federal awarding agency.” Please refer to Title 2 CFR § 200.442 for further details.

- (d) **Question:** Are the costs of rehabilitation mobile camps included in General Operational support and thus CANNOT be provided to PRCs?

USAID Answer: The costs of holding rehabilitation mobile camps cannot be funded by the PRA. Nevertheless, USAID has no objection to local, provincial, *or* central government funding rehabilitation mobile camps.

- (e) **Question:** In case of a new PRC, in Province 6, would the restrictions in terms of “General Operational support” apply?

USAID Answer: Should an Applicant propose to support a new PRC in Province 6 through leveraging funding streams other than the funding referenced in the PRA, the restrictions in terms of the PRA not providing “General Operational support” to PRCs would still apply.

7. **Question:** On page 43, the page limitation is mentioned as 30 and 36. Could USAID clarify what the page limit for the Technical Application is, excluding the cover page, table of contents, acronym list, the executive summary, dividers, and annexes.

USAID Answer: The reference to the 36-page limitation is a typographical error. The correct page limitation is 30 pages. Please refer to the modifications to NOFO **Sections 4.5.1.2(1) and 4.5.1.2(2)** below.

8. **Question:** On page 45, the NOFO [Section 4.5.1.2(7)b] refers to the “Organisational Director.” Can USAID please confirm that this reference is synonymous to an organization's Country Director?

USAID Answer: No, the Organizational Director referenced in the NOFO Section 4.5.1.2(7)b is not synonymous to an organization's Country Director. However, an Applicant may propose its Country Director as Rehabilitation Program Manager, Sustainability Manager Position, *or* as a separate position, with a role in the PRA.

9. **Question:** On page 53 [NOFO Section 5.3] it is mentioned “Lastly, Institutional Capability is considered the least significant determinant, weighted less than either Strategic Approach or Institutional Capability”. Can USAID please clarify?

USAID Answer: The sentence in NOFO Section 5.3 Application Merit Review Criteria on page 53 is a typographical error. Please refer to the modification to NOFO **Section 5.3** below that now provides “Lastly, Institutional Capability is considered the least significant determinant, weighted less than either Strategic Approach or Management Approach.”

10. **Question:** (General) Can STRIDE partners be signed on an exclusivity basis by an applicant?

USAID Answer: Neither USAID nor the U.S. Government (USG) is a party to agreements between applicants and their proposed partners. Thus, USAID or the USG shall not be

responsible for or require an exclusive relationship between the parties to restrict on either party's ability to freely compete or to enter into partnering relationships with other entities.

11. **Question:** (General) Can government organisation or entity be sub-awardee or partner organisation of the Applicant for this PRA program?

USAID Answer: Whilst USAID does not explicitly prohibit government organizations or entities from serving as an Applicant's sub-awardee or partner organization, some restrictions apply. Further, it requires a separate and lengthy approval process per the Automated Directives System (ADS) 303.3.21.C.

12. **Question:** (General) Should all proposed sub-awardee or partner organisation of the Applicant be registered as [Data Universal Numbering System] DUNS at the time of submission of the concept paper?

USAID Answer: Yes, per ADS 303.3.5.3(d)(3), all proposed sub-awardee or partner organization must have a DUNS and register in the System for Award Management (SAM) at the time of submission of the concept paper. Further, 2 CFR § 25.100(a) provides "[t]he unique entity identifier as a universal identifier for Federal financial assistance applicants, as well as recipients and their direct subrecipients." Moreover, 2 CFR § 25.105 provides "[t]his part applies to an agency's grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and other types of Federal financial assistance included in the definition of "award" in §25.305." Lastly, 2 CFR §§ 25.110(a)(1) and 25.110(a)(2) provide, inter alia, "...this part applies to all entities...that...[a]pply for or receive agency awards; or...[r]eceive subawards directly from recipients of those agency awards." Please refer to Title 2 CFR § 25 for further details.

[END OF SECTION I]

II. NOFO COVER PAGE

- A. **Cover Page submission deadline table** is hereby DELETED in its entirety and REPLACED with the following:

ISSUANCE DATE:	Tuesday, October 30, 2018
DEADLINE FOR QUESTIONS <i>or</i> REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATIONS:	Monday, November 05, 2018; 12:00 PM Nepal Time (NPT; 5:45 hours ahead of Coordinated Universal Time (UTC))
CONCEPT PAPER SUBMISSION CLOSING DATE:	Wednesday, December 05, 2018; 17:00 PM NPT

[END OF NOFO Cover Page Deadline Table]

[END OF NOFO COVER PAGE]

III.NOFO SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- A. **NOFO Section 4.5.1.1 Technical Application Format** is hereby DELETED in its entirety and REPLACED with the following:

“ **4.5.1.1 TECHNICAL APPLICATION FORMAT**

- **Paper Size:** A4 (i.e., 210 by 297 millimetres *or* 8.27 in × 11.7 in) *or* Letter *or* American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Letter (i.e., 8.5 by 11.0 inches *or* 215.9 by 279.4 mm)
- **Type Size:** 12 point font
- **Font Style:** Times New Roman *or* similar serif typeface
- **Spacing:** Single spaced
- **Margins:** 1 inch (top, bottom, left, *and* right)
- **Page Limitation:** Not to exceed 30 pages, not including, cover page, table of contents, acronym list, the executive summary, dividers. Any pages of the application that exceed the page limitation will not be considered.
- **Page Limitation Annexes:** Past Performance not to exceed 3 references. Each résumé *or* curriculum vitae (CV) must not exceed 3 pages.
- **List of required Annexes:** Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation Plan; Sustainability Plan; Management and Staffing Plan; Implementation Plan; Institutional Capacity; Past Performance.

Documents must be in Microsoft Word or Portable Document Format (pdf). Do NOT send files in ZIP file format.

The application should take into account and be arranged in the order of the criteria specified in **Section E: Application Review Information.**”

[END OF NOFO SECTION 4.5.1.1]

- B. **NOFO Section 4.5.1.2(1) Cover Page** is hereby DELETED in its entirety and REPLACED with the following:

“ **(1) Cover Page**

The cover page does not count against the 30-page limitation. The cover page is a single page with the Project title and NOFO number, the names of the organizations/institutions involved, and the lead or primary Applicant clearly identified. In addition, the cover page must provide a contact person for the prime Applicant, including this individual's name (both typed and his *or* her signature), title or position within the Applicant's organization/institution, address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address. The cover page also states whether the contact person is the person with authority to contract for the Applicant, and if not, the person with authority should also be listed with the same required contact information. The USG Tax Identification Number and Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) of the Applicant's organization must be listed on the

cover page.”

[END OF NOFO SECTION 4.5.1.2(1)]

C. NOFO Section 4.5.1.2(2) Table of Contents and Acronym List is hereby DELETED in its entirety and REPLACED with the following:

“ (2) Table of Contents and Acronym List

The table of contents and acronym list do not count against the 30-page limitation. The table of contents lists all parts of the concept paper with page numbers and attachments. The acronyms list spells out all acronyms used in the application in alphabetic order.”

[END OF NOFO SECTION 4.5.1.2(2)]

[END OF NOFO SECTION D]

IV. NOFO SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

A. NOFO Section 5.3 APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION is hereby DELETED in its entirety and REPLACED with the following:

“ 5.3 APPLICATION MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA

USAID will conduct a merit review of all applications received that comply with the instructions in this NOFO. The Strategic Approach merit review criterion is considered the most significant determinant of the overall rating. Further, the Management System merit review criterion is the second most significant determinant, weighted less than Strategic Approach, but more than Institutional Capability. Lastly, Institutional Capability is considered the least significant determinant, weighted less than either Strategic Approach or [Management Approach](#). The subcriteria under each merit review criterion are considered of equal importance and equally weighted. Nevertheless, USAID will consider the extent to which an Applicant's approach incorporates and integrates GESI sensitivity and effectiveness for all subcriteria under the Strategic Approach and Management Approach merit review criteria.

USAID will review and evaluate all applications in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Strategic Approach

- (a) The application demonstrates the Applicant's sound and sensitive understanding of the local context in Nepal, capitalizes on existing STRIDE activity investments and incorporates principles presented in Conflict Sensitivity of this NOFO;
- (b) The application responds to USAID's purpose and Public and Private Sector Collaboration as elaborated in this NOFO;
- (c) The application demonstrates the feasibility, soundness (evidence-based), and creativeness of delivery of proposed interventions, applying inclusive development

and equitable service coverage principles, and collaboration with USAID's SSBH and R4A and other stakeholders; *and*

- (d) The Preliminary PRC Sustainability Plan convincingly demonstrates how to utilize the emergent federal system and any other inputs, for a unified but flexible approach to reach full PRC sustainability

2. Management Approach

- (a) An organizational structure that poses low risk in performing the project requirements, through the Applicant and any proposed sub-recipients. The application thoroughly describes the advantages of any sub-recipients, and the ability of the Applicant to successfully leverage the talents of all proposed organizations;
- (b) Experience and expertise of key personnel that meet or exceed minimum qualifications and an inclusive and well-articulated staffing structure that provides the requisite mix of technical and managerial skills and experience in relation to the proposed technical approach;
- (c) Clear management plan with proven processes and tools to ensure effective management of the people and project while minimizing overhead costs and maximizing participation of host country organizations and individuals and adaptive management principles, as presented in under **Section 1.4.6** Flexibility of this NOFO; *and*
- (d) The Abridged MEL Plan, with theory of change, illustrates the Applicant's approach with clear, measurable indicators, collaboration with Rehab 2030 (see Section 1.4.5 Evidence-based), and appropriate staffing and resources

3. Institutional Capability

- (a) The application demonstrates the Applicant's capability to plan, implement, and support complex programming at scale, including the formation and sustaining of collaborative governmental and external development institutional relationships and resources; *and*
- (b) Demonstrated experience with sustainably strengthening and building capacity in similar rehabilitation and host government health systems."

[END OF NOFO SECTION 5.3]

[END OF NOFO SECTION E]

[END OF AMENDMENT No. 01]