



April 20, 2012

M/OAA/GRO/LMA-12-00317 APS
Initiative for Conservation of the Andean Amazon Phase II
Amendment #1

The purpose of this amendment to the Annual Program Statement is to 1) revise language regarding the Mission Order, and 2) answer questions that have been received.

1) Strike Language

Section 1.5 PROGRAM APPROACH – 1.5.1 PRIORITY LANDSCAPE AREAS – section b.
Priority Landscapes for this APS – Section 1 – Colombia-specific landscape considerations –
section b – The language is revised as below:

“b. Safety and Security Coordination: USAID advises applicants proposing activities in Colombia of a new USAID/Colombia Mission Order entitled “Adequate Safety and Security Conditions and Required Coordination for USAID Programs in Colombia”. This Mission Order establishes mandatory policies and monitoring criteria that apply to all USAID-funded activities in Colombia. Any applications selected under this APS would have to comply with this new policy and practice under which the **that mission policy is that no programs or personnel shall operate in highly insecure areas and** verification of security and safety in the activity areas will be continually assessed. These assessments will help USAID-funded partners comply with the criteria listed below and/or help USAID to inform implementing partners of changes in the activity area (i.e. ICAA II landscapes). For the purposes of submitting a concept paper under this APS, applicants should be aware of the **security** criteria listed below and should recognize that, if their concept is developed into a full application that proceeds to an award, they will be responsible for working with USAID/Colombia’s technical office in order to ensure compliance with these criteria.

These are the current criteria, but subject to change:

- o That there must not be a high risk that our assistance will put USAID clients (beneficiaries) at risk.
- o That there must not be high risk to the safety and security of USAID implementers taking into account the type, location, and scope of the activity.
- o That there must not be a high risk that USAID assistance can be co-opted by a non-state actor (i.e. FARC, BACRIM, illegal armed groups or paramilitaries)

- o That there must be the ability to adequately monitor and evaluate programs to ensure that USAID's investment is achieving the appropriate returns.
- o That GPS coordinates are taken at each of the project locations (or shape files developed) using the World Geodetic System (WGS 84) cartography standard and reported to USAID.
- o That **grantees and** beneficiaries agree that ~~in writing~~ **project beneficiaries** are not to engage in illicit crop cultivation/processing (coca, opium poppy, marijuana) as condition of USAID's assistance.
- o That all activities that occur or will occur in USAID sponsored Consolidation zones will be actively coordinated with the Regional Management **for Consolidation (GRCs)**, Contract Technical Representatives, and Chief of Party(s) of USAID Consolidation projects.
- o Other factors as deemed appropriate by the Inter-Agency coordinator to minimize the risk of undermining state efforts, endangering the lives of implementers or beneficiaries, or loss of the USG (U.S. Government) investment.

2) Questions & Answers

1. Could USAID provide a recommendation or target on the proportion of cost share to direct costs to be used to finance the Small Grants Program? In other words, how much of the cost share should be dedicated the Small Grants Program?

Response: As stated in the APS, USAID will assess concept papers based, in part, on the robust nature of the proposed small grant program, how it contributes to the overall strategy and how its impact will be measured. It is up to the applicant to design the small grants program and determine its size (\$ and number of grants).

2. We have a clarification request for the referenced APS. Are Public International Organizations (PIOs) eligible to submit a concept paper? If not, are PIOs eligible to be members of a consortium if the prime is a US-based PVO?

Response: The first paragraph of the cover letter states that USAID "is seeking concept papers and later, applications, from Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), education institutions, partnerships and consortia". Section 3.1 "Eligibility Requirements" (p.22) states the same: "USAID welcomes concept papers from U.S. and non-U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations

(NGOs), education institutions, partnerships and consortia." Therefore PIOs are not eligible to submit a concept paper as a prime; however they may do as a 'sub' or otherwise consortia member under a US, international or local NGO/PVO.

3. Under Section 4 (Application & Submission Information), the list of information goes from #1 (Contact Information) to #4 (Application Format), and skips parts #2 and #3. Was this simply a numerical typo? Or are there two other steps (step #2 and step #3) which were mistakenly omitted from the APS? If you could clarify this for us, that would be very helpful. We don't want to leave anything out!

Yes, this is a numerical typo.