

Amendment #01 Issuance Date: December 22, 2015

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO) Number: RFA-685-16-000003

NFO Title: Health Systems Strengthening (HSS)

NFO Clarification Questions Due: December 14, 2015

Closing Date and Time for Application Submission: January 19, 2016 at 16:00 Senegal Time

Subject: Amendment #1 to RFA-685-16-000003

A. Background and Purpose

The subject Notice of Funding Opportunity was issued on December 4, 2015 to www.grants.gov. The purpose of this document is to provide responses to questions received by the due date and time specified in the NFO and to change the Closing Date for Application submissions.

B. Specific Changes to the NFO

As a result of this amendment, the following changes are made:

Page 1, Closing Date, DELETE in its entirety and REPLACE with the following: “January 19, 2016”

C. Questions and Answers

The below questions were received by the due date and time specified in the NFO. Only those questions, without attribution to the organization, have been included with USAID’s response below. The responses that follow are intended to supplement the full announcement and supporting documents that are available for download from www.grants.gov.

1. Will it be possible to get more information as to the nature of the project ...is it training/implementing or will there also be medical products involved?
A: All the information on the nature of the project is described in the solicitation.
2. Page 39 requires Applicants submit a French translation of the technical application. Would USAID consider allowing for the translated version of the technical application to be submitted 3 days after the official proposal submission?
A: No.
3. Could USAID provide more information on how locations for the regional offices were selected? How does USAID anticipate implementing partners will logistically support activities in the consolidated regions and in the concentrated regions without a regional office?
A: The Integrated Service Delivery and Healthy Behaviors (ISD-HB) Mechanism will establish three regional bureaus in Saint-Louis, Tambacounda, and Kolda to serve as a base for staff from all USAID-supported Health Program mechanisms in concentrated regions.

The Saint-Louis bureau will cover Saint-Louis and Matam. The Tambacounda bureau will cover Tambacounda and Kedougou. The Kolda bureau will cover Kolda and Sedhiou. The concentrated region of Diourbel will be covered by staff based in Dakar. In consolidated regions the preference is for HSS staff to be co-located in the Medical Regional Offices.

4. Pages 77-78 states that ISD-HB will be fully responsible for acquiring space and paying all operational costs for three co-located regional offices. Will USAID expand on the anticipated arrangement for the co-located offices? Please confirm that the HSS budget should not include any expenses related to rent, operating expenses (e.g., utilities, offices supplies, etc.) and support staff in the regional offices. Will the ISD-HB mechanism be funded and commence before the HSS project and have offices established by HSS start up?

A: The ISD-HB mechanism will fully cover rent, office repairs, support staff, and equipment purchases for regional bureaus. HSS should budget for regional technical staff, and a portion of Supplies and Other Direct Costs (e.g. fuel, utilities, vehicle maintenance, insurance and internet communication) not fully covered by ISD-HB. The ISD-HB mechanism will commence an estimated 4 months after the start of HSS. The HSS advisor can sit at the medical regional Office for the HSS advisor and at the regional bureau of the CMU for the Health finance advisor during this time period.

5. If HSS consortium partners have established offices in other regions than those offices established by ISD-HB, for example in consolidation regions, will HSS be allowed to use those offices for project purposes?

A: The preference is to co-locate staff in Medical Regional Offices in consolidated regions and within the three regional bureaus established by ISD-HB in concentrated regions.

6. Could USAID please clarify if the TAP mechanism referenced in the RFA is the recently announced TASC IV task order focused on G2G programming and data driven decision making, or will they be separate mechanisms?

A: The TAP mechanism referenced in the RFA is the recently announced TASC IV task order.

7. In two places, the RFA references a target enrollment rates in mutuelles of 75%. On page 18 "By 2021, it is expected that HSS will contribute to achieving results to support the GOS to... Improve management of mutuelles to support achievement of an enrollment rate of 75%." On page 22 "HSS, along with other partners, will support the GOS to achieve the President Sall's goal of functioning mutuelles in all of Senegal's 45 Departments, covering 75% of the population by 2017." It is our understanding that President Sall's target of 75% enrollment is for all elements of UHC, not specifically for mutuelles (policy vision referred to on Page 70). Could USAID please clarify HSS's expected contribution to mutuelle enrollment rates?

A: The target of 75% enrollment is for all elements of UHC.

8. Would USAID confirm that PBF activities incentive payments will continue to be supported by the World Bank throughout the duration of the HSS project?

A: USAID confirms that PBF activities incentive payments will continue to be supported by the World Bank throughout the duration of the HSS project.

9. Will USAID be available to confirm receipt of proposals on January 18, given that it is a US holiday?

A: USAID has extended the deadline for applications by one business day, to January 19, 2016.

10. Page 46 states that the Past Performance References in Annex F. must be submitted in Microsoft Word format. Would USAID allow for submission of the PPRs in PDF format so that the annex would be part of single file containing the full technical volume?

A: Yes.

11. Does Appendix A, B, C, etc. correspond to Appendix 1, 2, 3, etc.?

A: Yes. Appendix A corresponds to Appendix 1, Appendix B corresponds to Appendix 2, etc.

12. I would like to provide IOP services in the west palm beach/West boca raton region. Are grants available for this type of treatment?

A: While this funding opportunity does not provide for services in the location identified, USAID recommends your continued surveillance of grants.gov for other funding opportunities.

13. I would like to seek fund for construction of a Community Health Clinic at Yaramanda Village, Ambum LLG, Enga Province of Papua New Guinea.

A: This funding opportunity does not provide opportunities for construction services and work in Papua New Guinea is not authorized in this NFO.

14. I would like to seek Funder's Fund ID: RFA-685-16-000003 for construction of a Kirelan Community Health Clinic at Yaramanda Village, Ambum LLG, Enga Province of Papua New Guinea.

A: This funding opportunity does not provide opportunities for construction services and work in Papua New Guinea is not authorized in this NFO.

15. In Section E. Cost/Business Application Format, under Contract/Subawards, second paragraph, page 49 states that the budget for subaward administration will be up to \$2.1 million per year and that this amount is inclusive of the funds to be managed by the GOS and the cost to the implementing partner for its administration and technical assistance. Would USAID please clarify whether the \$2.1 million per year cap is just for subawards to GOS and associated administration or whether this cap also includes subawards to Applicant's consortium partners? If this cap does include Applicant's partners, what portion of the amount does USAID anticipate being awarded to the GOS?

A: The \$2.1 million per year cap is just for subawards to GOS and associated administration.

16. Will there be any government furnished property that will be transferred to the awarded cooperative agreement?

A: Although there may be some government furnished property transferred to the awarded cooperative agreement, that information is still unknown. Therefore, Applicants are required to submit a full budget for all services and equipment required in this NFO.

Thank you for your interest in USAID Programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Beyola Belizaire', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Beyola Belizaire
Regional Agreement Officer