



USAID | CAMBODIA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Issue Date: December 16, 2019 (Phnom Penh Time)
Deadline for Question Clarifications: December 23, 2019 (11:00 am, Phnom Penh Time)
Closing Date: January 17, 2019 (09:00 am, Phnom Penh Time)

Subject: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Number: 72044220RFA00001

Program Title: **USAID Cambodia Integrated Early Childhood Development Activity**

Dear Prospective Applicants:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is seeking applications for a Cooperative Agreement from qualified entities to implement the “**USAID Cambodia Integrated Early Childhood Development Activity**”. Eligibility for this award is not restricted. The authority for the NOFO is found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

USAID intends to make an award to the responsible applicant whose application best meets the requirements of this NOFO and the Merit Review Criteria contained herein. While one award is anticipated as a result of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.

Applicants under consideration for an award that have never received funding from USAID may be subject to a pre-award audit to determine fiscal responsibility, ensure adequacy of financial controls, and establish an indirect cost rate.

For the purposes of this NOFO the term “Grant” is synonymous with “Cooperative Agreement”; “Grantee” is synonymous with “Recipient”; and “Grant Officer” is synonymous with “Agreement Officer”. Eligible organizations interested in submitting an application are encouraged to read this funding opportunity thoroughly to understand the type of program sought, application submission requirements and evaluation process.

To be eligible for award, the applicant must provide all information as required in this NOFO and meet eligibility standards in Section C of this NOFO. This funding opportunity is posted on www.grants.gov, and may be amended. Potential applicants should regularly check the website to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to this notice of funding opportunity. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the entire NOFO has been received from the internet in its entirety and USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes. If you have difficulty registering on www.grants.gov or accessing the NOFO, please contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 or via email at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

The successful applicant will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives. Please read each section of the NOFO to understand the type of program sought, application submission requirements and selection process.

Please send any questions to the point(s) of contact identified in Section D. The deadline for questions is shown above. Responses to questions received prior to the deadline will be furnished to all potential applicants through an amendment to this notice posted on www.grants.gov.

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 any costs incurred in preparation or submission of comments/suggestions or an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Sincerely,



Julie Ota
Agreement Officer
Office of Acquisition & Assistance
USAID/Cambodia

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SECTION A: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

USAID Cambodia Integrated Early Childhood Development Activity

A.1 AUTHORIZING STATUTES AND REGULATIONS

This funding opportunity is authorized in the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) of 1961, as amended. The applicable Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number is 98.001, USAID Foreign Assistance for Programs Overseas. The resulting award will be subject to 2 CFR 700 and 2 CFR 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and subject to the USAID standard provisions found in ADS 303.

A.2 PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

A.2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD)¹ activity is to support children to thrive and reach their full developmental potential by promoting nurturing care for the most vulnerable newborns and young children, starting from before birth. Early childhood development (ECD) is the outcome that nurturing care interventions aim to optimize. Nurturing care by parents and other caregivers ensures children's good health and nutrition, protects them from threats, and gives young children opportunities for early learning, through interactions that are emotionally supportive and responsive. The IECD activity will specifically address stunting² through a multi-sectoral approach that strengthens nutrition service delivery at health facilities and in communities; supports nutrition sensitive agriculture; improves water, sanitation and hygiene practices among caregivers; and promotes responsive caregiving to help children meet critical cognitive, linguistic, socio-emotional, and physical developmental milestones. Focus will be on the early childhood years, with an emphasis on the first 1,000 days for more intensive nutrition, psychosocial, and physical stimulation interventions. This IECD activity will support assessments of child development to enable the early identification of and interventions for children with developmental delays and/or at-risk for impairments and disabilities. It will address the limited access to programs and services for these individuals, as they may require more support.

A.2.2 Problem Statement

The main contributing factors causing the delay of child development for Cambodian children in vulnerable households include poor nutrition, lack of psychological and physical stimulations, and a safe environment from the prenatal period to the child's second birthday. The early childhood development (ECD) is defined as an orderly, predictable process along a continuous path in which a child learns progressively more complicated levels of moving, thinking, speaking, feeling, and relating to others. Physical growth, literacy and numeracy skills, socio-emotional development, and readiness to learn are vital domains of a child's development, which is a basis for overall human

¹ Early Childhood Development (ECD) is an interdisciplinary field that supports young children's holistic development.

² Stunting is the impaired growth and development that children experience from poor nutrition, repeated infection, and inadequate psychosocial stimulation.

development. Children grow best in a loving environment with nurturing care³, which includes safe and secure surroundings, responsive parenting/caregiving, adequate health care and nutrition, and opportunities for stimulation and early learning. A growing body of research demonstrating that investments in the ability of parents and other family caregivers to facilitate the development of young children, from before birth until they make the transition to pre-primary and primary school, are critical to put them and their countries on the path to greater stability, resilience, and prosperity.⁴

A.2.2.1 Nutrition

Globally, 250 million children under five years of age living in low- and middle-income countries are at risk of not achieving their development potential, with nearly one-third of all children around the world entering primary school without essential cognitive, social, and emotional skills.^{5,6} In addition, malnutrition is the underlying cause of death for at least 3.1 million children in the world, accounting for 45 percent of all deaths of children under 5 children.⁷ In Cambodia, more than 30 percent of children aged 36-59 months are behind in the domains of language, cognitive, physical, and socio-emotional development.⁸ Nutrition and nutrition-related factors are strongly associated with ECD outcomes, and children in Cambodia face significant nutritional deficiencies. Thirty-two percent of children under five are stunted, 10 percent are wasted, and 24 percent are underweight.⁹ Nearly one-third of overall mortality of children under five – an estimated 4,454 deaths annually – is linked to undernutrition of women and children.¹⁰ According to UNICEF, diarrhea is a major factor contributing to approximately 7.4 percent of deaths among children under five.¹¹ Access to improved sanitation is very low in rural Cambodia. Even though access to improved sanitation has increased from 20 percent to 40 percent of the population from 2010 to 2014, 50 percent of the population continue to practice open defecation. Additional contributing factors to the intergenerational cycle of malnutrition in Cambodia include low maternal education level, low Body Mass Index (BMI) of mothers, poor wealth quintile, and rural residency.^{12,13}

A.2.2.2 Early stimulation

Evidence shows that early childhood interventions that promote developmental stimulation in conjunction with nutrition and health services result in better outcomes for children than either alone.

³ For the purpose of this activity “nurturing care” is defined as encompassing safety and security, responsive parenting/caregiving, good health, adequate nutrition, and opportunities for stimulation and early learning.

⁴ Naudeau, S., et al. (2011). Investing in young children: An early childhood development guide for policy dialogue and project preparation. The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development/The World Bank, Washington, D.C.; Grantham-McGregor, S., et al. (1997).

⁵ Lu C, Black MM, Richter LM. Risk of poor development in young children in low-income and middle-income countries: an estimation and analysis at the global, regional, and country level. *Lancet Glob Health*, 2016; published online Oct 4. [http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X\(16\)30266-2](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/S2214-109X(16)30266-2)

⁶ McCoy DC, Peet ED, Ezzati M, et al. Early childhood developmental status in low-and middle-income countries: national, regional, and global prevalence estimates using predictive modeling. *PLoS Med* 2016; 13: e1002034

⁷ 2018 Cambodia Policy Brief on Nutrition, Word Vision.

⁸ 2014 CDHS

⁹ 2014 CDHS

¹⁰ Moench-Pfanner, R. S. (2016). The Economic Burden of Malnutrition in Pregnant Women and Children under 5 Year of Age in Cambodia. *Nutrients*, 8 (5).

¹¹ 2017 UNICEF

¹² Cambodia: Nutrition Profile. USAID.

¹³ Greffeuille, V., Sophonneary, P., Laillou, A., Gauthier, L., Hong, R., Hong, R., ... Berger, J. (2016). Persistent Inequalities in Child Undernutrition in Cambodia from 2000 until Today. *Nutrients*, 8(5), 297. doi:10.3390/nu8050297

Good maternal and child nutrition from the date of conception until a child reaches their second birthday (the first 1,000 days)¹⁴ is fundamental to ensuring that children can grow and develop fully. These first 1,000 days of life are recognized as establishing the building blocks for lifelong learning and development. Early experiences and the environments in which children develop have lasting impact on later success in school and life.¹⁵

Healthy brain development depends on psychosocial stimulation, protection from toxic stress, and the quality and frequency of interactions between young children and their parents and caregivers. The 2016 USAID/Cambodia Gender Assessment showed that to a considerable degree, traditional gender norms position men as breadwinners and women as homemakers and/or child caretakers.¹⁶ As a result of these gender norms, women face a disproportionate burden of unpaid household responsibilities, including child rearing, that limit their economic and educational opportunities and agency. Men may also face unique challenges due to their expected role as breadwinners which may limit their ability to participate in development and child-care activities. In addition to these challenges regarding gender norms, Cambodians also face challenges regarding high rates of gender-based violence, including domestic violence. According to the 2013 Cambodia Violence Against Children Survey (CVACS), approximately 60 percent of Cambodian children experience at least one form of violence (physical, emotional, and/or sexual) during their childhood.¹⁷ A majority of respondents to the CVACS reported that the perpetrator of the first incident of physical and emotional violence was a parent, more commonly mothers.¹⁸ The role of these gender dynamics are essential to understand and address given the critical role a child's environment and their relationship with their parents/caregivers play in their development and protection from adverse experiences.

A.2.2.3 Disability

Nurturing care is especially important for children with developmental delays and disabilities. Infants and young children with disabilities are at extremely high risk of not meeting their developmental potential and consequently, not being able to make the contributions of which they are capable to their communities and wider society. While the 2014 CDHS indicates that 10 percent of the Cambodian population age five and over have some form of disability,¹⁹ developmental monitoring to identify delays or other impairments and enable early intervention is regrettably carried out only in select locations. The sooner a disability is identified, the greater the chances of successful interventions and prevention of secondary disabilities. However, specialized services for families and children with developmental delays and disabilities are limited in Cambodia.

A.2.2.4 Food security

¹⁴ The Lancet. 2013. "Maternal and child undernutrition and overweight in low-income and middle-income countries."

([https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(13\)60937-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(13)60937-X/fulltext))

¹⁵ Grantham-McGregor, S., et al. (2007). The Lancet, 369(9555). pp. 60-70. See also Shonkoff, J.P., et al. (2012). Technical Report: The lifelong effects of early childhood adversity and toxic stress. Pediatrics, 129(1). pp. e232-e246.

<http://pediatrics.aappublications.org/content/129/1/e232.full.pdf+html>; Engle, P.L., et al. (2007). The Lancet, 369(9557). pp. 229-242.

¹⁶ 2016 USAID/Cambodia Gender Assessment

¹⁷ 2013 CVACS.

¹⁸ 2013 CVACS.

¹⁹ Per Cambodia's National Disability Strategic Plan 2014-2018, Persons with Disabilities refers to those who lack, lose or damage any physical or mental functions, which results in a disturbance to their daily life or activities, such as physical, visual, hearing, intellectual impairments, mental disorders and any other types of disabilities toward the insurmountable end of scale.

In addition to the quality of caregiver engagement and early stimulation, research indicates that chronic under-nutrition and poverty can also impair healthy development in young children. Global research shows physical stunting is associated with cognitive stunting. While stunting is not treatable, it can be prevented through continued breastfeeding practices and appropriate complementary feeding for children 6-24 months. In Cambodia, these preventative measures are not currently practiced in line with global or national recommendations, resulting in the continued prevalence of stunting. Over 60 percent of Cambodian children aged 12-24 months, and 80 percent aged 6-8-months old, especially in rural areas, are not receiving the minimum acceptable diet. This is largely attributable to a lack of dietary diversity and food availability.²⁰ Food safety and household food security are essential for adequate nutrition. Cambodia has achieved large increases in food availability (e.g. national rice self-sufficiency). However, these have been accompanied by only small improvements in food access. Most agricultural households can meet their staple food (rice) needs but rely on income and foraging to obtain nutrient dense foods. The affordability of nutrient dense foods poses a common challenge. Recent estimates suggest that only 21 percent of Cambodian households can afford a nutritious diet and that poor agricultural households are the most food insecure.²¹

A.2.2.5 Integrated Services

There is growing momentum for integrated ECD programming that engages multiple sectors, particularly platforms identified as part of health service and nutrition provision—but also social protection, education, and agriculture—to support young children and families. Compared to early childhood services that are planned and implemented through stand-alone vertical programs, integrated interventions result in better outcomes for children and their families. Many parents and caregivers lack adequate knowledge on how to stimulate their children’s development. To date, there has been an absence of early stimulation information in maternal and child health guidelines and parenting sessions. Reaching parents through various entry points and platforms is critical. Given the health sector’s direct interaction with children and families, their critical role in an integrated ECD program is recognized globally, but no one entry point will be adequate for serving all children. Indeed, the RGC has recognized the impact of positive parenting in creating nurturing home environments for children in both the Action Plan to Prevent and Respond to Violence Against Children 2017-2021 and Ministry of Women’s Affairs Positive Parenting Strategy 2017-2021.

A.2.3 **Theory of Change**

A comprehensive perspective of child development is essential to ensure the cognitive, emotional, physical, social, and educational growth of children from birth. To enable children to have the strongest foundation to reach their full potential in life requires a multi-pronged and multi-sectoral approach. As such, USAID posits that:

IF the enabling environment promotes nurturing care of young children with developmental monitoring and early identification of children with developmental delays; and,

IF service providers support families to provide nurturing care; and,

²⁰ Som SV, P. S. (2017). Diets and feeding practices during the first 1,000 days windows in the Phnom Penh and North Eastern districts of Cambodia. *Nutrients*.

²¹ World Bank 2019 Cambodia Economic Update

IF households have the resources to provide nurturing care, nutritious diets, and a hygienic environment;

THEN an increased percentage of Cambodian children will thrive and meet key growth and developmental milestones.

To achieve this theory of change, efforts will be needed to support both supply- and demand-side efforts including service delivery to children and home and family support.

A.2.4 Objectives and Key Results (subject to potential refinement during co-development phase)

Objective 1: Improved physical, cognitive, linguistic, socio-emotional development of young children.

- Result 1.1: Increased capacity of parents/families/primary caregivers to provide nurturing care for children with and without developmental delays and disabilities.
- Result 1.2: Increased capacity and improved attitudes, behaviors, knowledge, and practices of service providers at all levels (e.g. facility-based and community-based health workers) to effectively educate and support parents/families/primary caregivers with young children about providing nurturing care.
- Result 1.3: Strengthened enabling environment at the national and sub-national levels to promote the institutionalization of ECD activities into partner and government programming particularly for children aged 0-3 years.

Objective 2: Decreased stunting rates for children under five among target population

- Result 2.1: Communities and families increase crop diversification for home consumption and income-generation.
- Result 2.2: Increased consumption of nutritional and diverse diets meeting the needs of pregnant mothers, particularly targeting young and first-time mothers, and children under five.
- Result 2.3: Improved hygiene and sanitation-related behaviors in the household and community.

Objective 3: Children with developmental delays and disabilities receive appropriate care in target provinces.

- Result 3.1: Increased developmental monitoring and early identification of children with developmental delays and disabilities.
- Result 3.2: Increased referral to quality, sustainable services for children with developmental delays and disabilities.
- Result 3.3: Strengthened community-based rehabilitation, and support services for children and families with developmental delays and disabilities.

A.2.5 Proposed Geographic Targeting Criteria

Geographic targeting will be refined during co-development. The following criteria are recommended to be used as factors in discussions:

- Stunting rates
- Poverty rates
- Appropriate balance between urban and rural vulnerable populations
- Avoid duplication and maximize complementarity of similar donor interventions
- Align as much as possible with the Feed the Future Tonle Sap focus area
- Maximize and complement, where possible, other USAID investments, especially in education, child protection, and health
- Risk factors, including migration of one or both parents for work, single-parent families, adolescent parents, etc.
- Availability of services and support for children with developmental delays and disabilities and their families, including community and facility-based rehabilitation services
- Availability of early childhood education services and programming

A.2.6 Critical Assumptions

- Future budget allocations remain stable enough to meet the development objective and award ceiling.
- Coordination with local government institutions (health clinics, early childhood education services, schools, agricultural extension services, etc.) and local authorities will be necessary to achieve the activity's objectives.
- Continued approval (beyond FY 2018) of notwithstanding authority, or exemption from the restriction on supporting the Cambodian government, for health, education, agriculture, nutrition, and vulnerable children funding may be required.
- Continued ability to engage with the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC) and work with key line ministries and local institutions. Willingness of line ministries to collaborate on an integrated approach to early childhood development.

A.2.7 Link to Agency Priorities

To support Cambodia on the journey to self-reliance, the activity will work to collect evidence from actual implementation in the field to inform improved coordination and RGC policy development related to improving early childhood care and development. The activity will adopt integrated, multi-sectoral interventions.

The activity will support the USAID Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Strategy 2014-2025 that aims to reduce chronic malnutrition by 20 percent in target countries. The strategy will focus on the most critical period, the 1,000 days between pregnancy and a child's second birthday to ensure optimum physical and cognitive development.

This activity will support the Mission's implementation of *Advancing Protection and Care for Children in Adversity* (APCCA), a U.S. Government Strategy that envisions a world in which all children thrive within protective, loving families, free from deprivation, violence, and danger. This activity will directly address the three APCCA objectives. It will help to (1) Build Strong Beginnings by promoting nurturing care for the most vulnerable newborns and young children, starting before birth, by funding and supporting comprehensive and integrated programming in

early childhood development to provide for children's health, nutrition, safety and security, responsive caregiving for social and emotional well-being, and opportunities for early learning. It will include measures for early identification of infants and young children with disabilities and developmental delays and linking them and their families to needed services. It will (2) Put Family First by supporting those most vulnerable children who are, or are at risk of, living outside of family care by promoting, funding, and supporting nurturing, loving, protective, and permanent family care and preventing unnecessary separation. It will also help (3) Protect Children from Violence by promoting, funding, and supporting the protection of children from violence, exploitation, abuse, and neglect by investing in preventative and responsive programming.

This activity supports the 2018 USAID Education Policy to measurably improve learning outcomes and skill acquisition for all children and youth, from early childhood and primary education to secondary and higher education. The USAID Education Policy stresses the need for new approaches that foster collaboration and coordination across sectors for greater impact. It encourages USAID to examine opportunities to coordinate investments with health, nutrition, and other USAID sectors in areas such as early childhood development rather than to attempt to implement education measures in isolation.

This activity supports the U.S. government's global hunger and food security initiative, Feed the Future, that brings partners together to address the root causes of hunger and poverty by boosting agriculture-led growth, resilience, and nutrition in countries with great need and opportunity for improvement.

This activity will support U.S. government's Global Health initiative strategic vision that aims at reducing maternal mortality by 30 percent and under-five mortality rates by 35 percent across assisted countries.

The IECD activity will contribute to achieving the project purpose detailed under two Cambodia Project Appraisal Documents (PADs): the Health PAD 2017-2023, to achieve Development Objective (DO) 2: "Improved Health and Education with a focus on Vulnerable Populations" and the Food Security and Environment (FSE) PAD 2016-2021 to achieve USAID/Cambodia DO 3: "Sustainable and Resilient Pathways out of Poverty Strengthened."

A.2.8 Guiding Principles

APCCA: The IECD activity will align with APCCA's Guiding Principles where appropriate. This includes a commitment to adapt programs and policies to a child's age, life stage, and gender, with attention to disabilities. Systems strengthening, whereby the RGC will be assisted to build and strengthen their capacities to fully support, manage, and finance their early childhood development services, is expected. The generation and use of evidence-based information in the IECD activity will be prioritized, which may include rigorous implementation science, documentation and learning around a comprehensive intervention package that addresses the determinants of development, including nutrition and other aspects of nurturing care. Strategic partnerships will be promoted.

Private Sector engagement: In line with USAID's Private Sector Engagement Policy, USAID/Cambodia is considering a co-development design process that will enable flexibility,

creativity, and collaborative models to address the development challenges outlined above and will look to leverage, where possible, private-sector resources and action—including for-profit, philanthropy and Corporate Social Responsibility sources. The co-development process will enable USAID and key stakeholders to develop a common understanding and mutual agreement on the project description detailing how the partners will achieve the expected results. The co-development phase will allow the apparently successful applicant to work together with USAID to address issues and/or risks that were identified through stakeholder consultations. It will also allow the apparently successful applicant to interact and network to potentially form new partnerships that combine and/or expand approaches and strategies identified to meet USAID’s development objectives.

Collaboration and coordination: USAID and the applicant will finalize the teaming arrangement / consortium framework (if applicable) through the co-development process. The IECD activity will collaborate and engage with relevant host government ministries that lead and carry out similar interventions such as the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation, Ministry of Agriculture, and Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport. The activity will coordinate with current USAID-funded activities working in the same geographic areas. This activity will coordinate and leverage the work of other relevant actors and stakeholders to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication of efforts.

Gender: In alignment with USAID’s Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy, USAID Cambodia seeks to promote gender equality through its activities. The activities undertaken by the IECD activity must incorporate results of relevant data analyses and address gender-specific gaps and constraints and implement gender-sensitive and gender transformative programming. Mitigating actions should be taken to ensure that all children and members of households can benefit from the program, that activities do not exacerbate gender inequalities, and that interventions aim to reduce gender-based violence. The activity will contribute to these cross-cutting gender priorities by helping to strengthen an enabling environment in which women and men and boys and girls can equally access, contribute, and benefit from the services.

Sustainability: Where feasible, the applicant should increase RGC capacity to sustainably plan, coordinate, and finance multi-sectoral, integrated early childhood development interventions and access to rehabilitation services. The applicant may need to review and strengthen public policies, programs, and services creating the conditions for the provision of nurturing care, particularly for children aged 0-3 years.

Learning: A learning agenda and plan for dissemination of findings to public and private providers and policymakers will be critical to the success and sustainability of this activity. The complex, multi-sectoral nature of this activity provides key opportunities for learning what combination of interventions may be most effective. The applicant should include in its learning agenda evaluations or studies to assess and inform the roll out of interventions and incorporate reflection opportunities in order to better target and adapt activities.

Integration: The integration of interventions to promote early childhood development into the health and nutrition activities of the project is expected. The aim of the IECD activity is to engage parents and caregivers in nurturing care behaviors, specifically adequate nutrition, early stimulation, opportunities for early learning and responsive parenting, including early identification of and

interventions for children with developmental delays and/or at-risk for impairments and disabilities. USAID recognizes the benefits of engaging many cadres and platforms within and beyond the health sector given the multi-sectoral nature of ECD. Ultimately, the goal of the IECD activity is to meet families where they are, and to deliver information in a way that is accessible and maximizes uptake of behaviors to promote good growth and development. This is likely to require a reduction in stigma against persons with disabilities. The integration of ECD into daily routines in order to promote frequent, developmentally appropriate interactions between parents/caregivers and children enables parents/caregivers to respond to their children's physical and emotional needs throughout pregnancy and from birth onwards.

[END OF SECTION A]

SECTION B: FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

B.1 ESTIMATED AMOUNT OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AND NUMBER OF AWARDS CONTEMPLATED

Subject to funding availability, USAID intends to provide up to US \$15,000,000 in total USAID funding.

USAID intends to award one (1) Cooperative Agreement pursuant to this NOFO. USAID reserves the right to fund any one or none of the application submitted.

B.2 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance anticipated herein is five years. The anticipated start date of the award is 05/15/2020.

B.3 SUBSTANTIAL INVOLVEMENT

Consistent with ADS 303.3.11, USAID/Cambodia having substantial involvement throughout the implementation of this cooperative agreement in accordance with ADS 303.3.11. The specific areas of USAID involvement will include, but are not limited to:

1. Approval of the Recipient's Annual Implementation Plans by the AOR;
2. Approval of specified Key Personnel: Key Personnel positions will be identified and stated in the award. The Recipient shall request prior approval from the USAID Agreement Officer for the replacement of key personnel or changes in the key personnel positions;
3. Agency and Recipient Collaboration or Joint Participation: The Recipient must request prior written concurrence from the AOR and obtain approval from the AO before entering into any sub-awards under the performance of this agreement;
4. Approval of the Recipient's Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Plan by the AOR.

B.4 AUTHORIZED GEOGRAPHIC CODE

The geographic code for the procurement of commodities and services under this program is 937.

B.5 NATURE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN USAID AND THE RECIPIENT

The principal purpose of the relationship with the Recipient and under the subject program is to transfer funds to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation of the USAID Cambodia Integrated Early Childhood Development Activity which is authorized by Federal statute. The

successful Recipient will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives and the efficient and effective administration of the award through the application of sound management practices. The Recipient will assume responsibility for administering Federal funds in a manner consistent with underlying agreements, program objectives, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

[END OF SECTION B]

SECTION C: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

C.1 ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Eligibility for this NOFO is not restricted.

While for-profit firms may participate, pursuant to 2 CFR 200.400(g), it is USAID policy not to award profit to prime recipients and subrecipients under assistance instruments. However, while profit is not allowed for sub-awards, the prohibition does not apply when the recipient acquires goods and services in accordance with 2 CFR 200.317 -326, “Procurement Standards.” Forgone profit does not qualify as cost-share.

Each applicant must be found to be a responsible entity before receiving an award. The Agreement Officer (AO) may determine that a pre-award survey is required in accordance with ADS 303.3.9.1 to determine whether the applicant has the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program and comply with established U.S. Government standards, laws, and regulations. Applicants who do not currently meet all USAID requirements for systems and controls may still be eligible under special award considerations and should not be discouraged from applying. USAID welcomes applications from organizations that have not previously received financial assistance from USAID.

C.2 COST SHARING OR MATCHING

Cost share is not required for the applicant to be eligible. Applicants may propose cost share as part of their application. For guidance on cost sharing in grants and cooperative agreements, please see the ADS 303.3.10 and 2 CFR 200.306 for U.S. NGOs. For non-US NGOs, all cost sharing would be subject to the Required as Applicable Provision “Cost Sharing” in the Mandatory Reference for ADS Chapter 303, Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Nongovernmental Organizations.

C.3 LIMITATIONS ON SUBMISSIONS

Each applicant is limited to one summary application submission under this NOFO as the prime Applicant. There is no limitation on being included as a potential sub-awardee across multiple applications. The use of exclusive teaming arrangements is discouraged.

[END OF SECTION C]

SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

D.1 AGENCY POINT OF CONTACT

Only the Agreement Officer is authorized to make commitments on behalf of USAID. The Agreement Officer is listed below:

Ms. Julie Ota
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USAID/Cambodia
#1 Street 96, Sangkat Wat Phnom, Khan Daun Penh
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Email: jota@usaid.gov
(with a copy to phnompenhoaa@usaid.gov)

The point of contact for information about this NOFO is:

Ms. Honey Sokry
Acquisition and Assistance Specialist
USAID/Cambodia
#1 Street 96, Sangkat Wat Phnom, Khan Daun Penh
Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Email: hsokry@usaid.gov
(with a copy to phnompenhoaa@usaid.gov)

The above contact information is only for informational purposes. The NOFO itself and any subsequent amendments can be found at www.grants.gov. All applications must be submitted according to instructions contained in this NOFO.

In order to maintain a fair and transparent funding opportunity, USAID maintains strict guidelines on who within USAID may be contacted regarding applications or questions about the opportunity. Applicants may only contact USAID via the email address provided in this NOFO. Failure to comply with the USAID points of contact guidance mandated in the NOFO may disqualify the Applicant(s).

D.2 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Questions regarding this NOFO should be submitted via email to the Agency Points of Contact above with a copy to phnompenhoaa@usaid.gov no later than the due date and time provided on the cover page. Therefore, applicants should submit all questions prior to the deadline listed on the cover page.

Any information given to a prospective Applicant concerning this NOFO will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Applicants as an amendment to this NOFO on www.grants.gov, if

that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective Applicant. Please check www.grants.gov for any amendments.

D.3 SUBMISSION DATE AND TIME

Applications must be submitted by email to points of contact stated in Section D.1 before the respective due dates and times on the cover page. The Applicants must ensure that the applications are received at USAID/Cambodia in their entirety. No additions or modifications to submitted applications will be accepted after the closing date. Late applications will be considered only if the Agreement Officer determines it is in the Government's interest. Each email submission may not exceed 15 MB in size. If multiple emails are necessary, please indicate in the email subject as "Part x of x".

The subject of each email of application submission must read as follows:

[Organization Name] [Part 1 of x] NOFO No. 72044220RFA00001: USAID Cambodia Integrated Early Childhood Development Activity

Hard copies, whether hand delivered or by postal mail, will not be accepted.

D.4 APPLICANTS RESPONSIVENESS

All applications received by the closing date and time will be reviewed for responsiveness to the specifications outlined in these guidelines and the application format. SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION addresses technical evaluation application criteria. **Applicants must review, understand, and comply with all aspects of this NOFO. Failure to do so may lead to the disqualification of an application.** It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that all necessary documentation is complete and received on time.

D.5 APPLICATION PROCESS

This NOFO utilizes a three-phase process:

Phase 1: Summary Application submission

Applicants must submit summary applications in accordance with the instructions contained in this NOFO. USAID will conduct a Merit Review of all timely and compliant summary applications based on the Merit Review criteria provided in Section E: Application Review Information. Based on the review of the summary applications, USAID expects to issue an invitation to phase 2 co-development to the Applicant deemed most meritorious to meet USAID development objectives. Applicants with summary applications not advancing to Phase 2 will be notified.

Phase 2: Joint Program Description Development (Co-Development)

Only the apparently successful applicant, determined after the Phase 1 merit review will be invited to Phase 2. The competitive portion of the process is concluded and USAID and the apparently successful applicant may freely exchange information and collaborate to finalize the program description and award documentation.

The apparently successful Applicant will be invited to engage in a process of joint program description development with USAID and other stakeholders. The Joint Program Description Development / co-development process is an integral part of this procurement process to develop the most effective holistic approach across technical areas and sectors to achieve improved early childhood development. USAID expects the co-development to be a participatory approach that brings stakeholders together to develop a program description with an emphasis on a shared vision, responsibility, decision-making and ownership over the ultimate product. It will involve working with resource partners, potential implementing partners, end users or other stakeholders toward a range of outcomes, such as a richer understanding of the problem, a shared strategy for action, ideas or specific plans for solutions, or lessons and insights to guide learning and next steps. Final identification of geographic target areas will be determined during the co-development process. Through co-development, USAID goes beyond knowledge sharing or learning from various stakeholders and moves toward interactive and ongoing engagement with those who are affected by or hold influence over an issue.

USAID expects that the co-development process may include a workshop, stakeholder engagements and consultations, and other virtual meetings and consultation, as necessary. The Applicant will be required to assume some responsibility for the format and content of a workshop if determined to be needed as part of the co-development process. As noted under the technical approach, USAID wishes to maintain a high level of flexibility in terms of creating a coalition of partners due to potential changes in the Applicant's approach as a result of the joint program description development. **Consequently, only the prime Applicant will be engaged in the initial consultations.** These consultations will inform the following stages where any modifications in the teaming can be proposed by the Applicant as a result of the collaborative work with USAID and potential stakeholders. The Applicant will be provided time to make such shifts in approach and coalition arrangements and ensure any new partners can arrange for attendance for planned workshops, stakeholder engagements, and consultations as required (approximately 3 weeks).

The duration of the co-development process is expected to last approximately two months during which time the Applicant will be expected to provide an appropriate team for co-development. It is anticipated that the co-development process will include some in-person joint program description development in Phnom Penh, Cambodia or an alternative location identified by USAID. Any costs associated with the co-development process and incurred by the selected Applicant will not be reimbursed by USAID.

USAID will be responsible for arrangements such as meeting venue and invitations to stakeholders for joint program description meetings in Cambodia.

Further details on the co-development process will be shared with the apparently successful Applicant. USAID reserves the right to invite more than one Applicant, if deemed appropriate, or to not conduct a co-development meeting.

Phase 3: Full Application

A full application will be requested from the Applicant invited to Phase 2. Full application submission instructions are included in this NOFO. USAID reserves the right to make changes to the full application instructions. Applicants are encouraged to review these sections to ensure they are able to meet USAID's requirements for a full application if their summary application is selected.

Note: If during the course of Phase 2 or Phase 3, the Agreement Officer determines that the apparently successful Applicant is unable to provide satisfactory Technical and Business Applications, or did not meet deadlines for submissions, or the Applicant and USAID cannot come to agreement on the terms and conditions of the final award, then the Agreement Officer may designate the next highest-evaluated Applicant from Phase 1 as the apparently successful Applicant.

D.6 SUMMARY APPLICATION FORMAT AND CONTENT

Format and content instructions must be followed, or Applicant risks being found non-compliant and eliminated from the review.

D.6.1 Summary Application Format

D.6.1.1 Page Limitation

Summary applications are limited to twelve (12) pages total, excluding the cover page. USAID will not evaluate information submitted in excess of this page limit. Information not specifically required by this NOFO will not be accepted or evaluated.

D.6.1.2 Formatting

The following requirements apply for documents submitted in response to this NOFO:

- i. 8.5 inch by 11 inch (210mm by 297mm) paper, single-spaced pages with margins no less than one inch on each border.
- ii. Written in English.
- iii. 12 point Times New Roman font for all narrative.
- iv. Graphics/charts/tables may use a different font and size, so long as it is legible without magnification. Graphs, charts, and tables should be for illustrative purposes only and should not comprise the majority of the application text.
- v. Submitted via Microsoft Word or PDF formats.
- vi. All pages after the cover page must be consecutively numbered.

D.6.1.3 Cover Page

The summary application cover page must include the following information:

- i. Name of the organization(s) submitting the application;
- ii. Identification and signature of the primary contact person (by name, title, organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address) and the identification of the alternate contact person (by name, title, organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address);
- iii. Activity Title;
- iv. Notice of Funding Opportunity number;
- v. Name of any proposed sub-recipients or partnerships (identify if any of the organizations are local organizations, per USAID's definition of 'local entity' under ADS 303.3.6.5(b)(2)).

D.6.2 Summary Application Content

The criteria presented below have been tailored to the requirements of this particular NOFO. The Applicant should note that these criteria serve to (a) identify the significant matters which the Applicant should address in their summary application, and (b) set the standard against which all summary applications will be evaluated.

D.6.2.1 Technical Approach (Suggested: 10 pages)

In the summary application, the Applicant must describe in sufficient detail its conceptual approach, methodology, and techniques for the accomplishment of IECD objectives. The technical approach must demonstrate potential to achieve appropriate and relevant system-level change and respond to the Cambodian context.

The Applicant's summary application must also consider the Agency's priorities and guiding principles described in the program framework.

D.6.2.2 Organizational Experience and Capability (Suggested: 2 page)

The Applicant must demonstrate recent (within the past five years) and relevant experience and capability, including that of its proposed partners, in implementing integrated programming related to the goal and objectives in the program description. The experience must be similar in scope and complexity. The Applicant must also demonstrate experience and capability in the facilitation of partnerships across organizations, with emphasis on leveraging local partnerships, and with host-government counterparts. The Applicant must articulate how the described institutional experience and capability will enhance the likelihood of successful implementation of IECD objectives.

D.7 COST APPLICATION

USAID is not requesting cost information as part of the summary application submission. However, Applicants are encouraged to start preparing their initial budget assumptions to be able to complete

the full application budget in case they are successful in the initial phase. As a reference, detailed cost instructions are included for the full application stage in Attachment A.

D.8 UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT

As discussed in Section C: Eligibility Information, please be advised that each Applicant is required to:

- i. Be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) before submitting its application;
- ii. Provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and
- iii. Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency. The Federal awarding agency may not make a Federal award to an Applicant until the Applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements and, if an Applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award.

The registration process may take many weeks to complete. Therefore, Applicants are encouraged to register early to be eligible to apply for this NOFO.

DUNS number: <http://www.dnb.com/get-a-duns-number.html>

SAM registration: <http://www.sam.gov>

The complete NOFO, including all the attachments, can be found and downloaded from <http://www.grants.gov>. Select “Find Grant Opportunities”, then click on “Browse by Agency”, and select “U.S. Agency for International Development” and search for this NOFO. If there are problems downloading the NOFO, please contact Grants.gov Help Desk at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

Applicants must set forth full, accurate, and complete information as required by this NOFO. The penalty for making false statements to the U.S. Government is prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

D.9 CONSTRUCTION

Construction will not be authorized under this award.

D.10 PRE-AWARD COSTS

In accordance with 2 CFR 200.458 - Pre-award costs, Pre-award costs are those incurred prior to the effective date of the Federal award directly pursuant to the negotiation and in anticipation of the Federal award where such costs are necessary for efficient and timely performance of the scope of work. Such costs are allowable only to the extent that they would have been allowable if incurred

after the date of the Federal award and only with the written approval of the Federal awarding agency. Pre-Award costs may be authorized at the discretion of the Agreement Officer.

[END OF SECTION D]

SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

E.1 RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA

USAID will review summary applications on the basis of the below technical merit review criteria, listed in descending order of importance.

E.2 MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA

USAID will review the summary applications according to the following summary application merit review criteria.

E.2.1 Technical Approach

The extent to which the proposed technical approach convincingly demonstrates an understanding of the technical requirements and an ability to achieve IECD's goal and objectives.

E.2.2 Organizational Experience and Capability

The extent to which Applicant convincingly demonstrates its experience and capability, including that of its proposed partners, in implementing integrated programming related to the goal and objectives in the program description, addressing the requirements laid out in Section D.6.2.2.

E.3 PHASE 2 AND PHASE 3 EVALUATION CRITERIA

There are no technical evaluation criteria for Phases 2 or 3. Only the apparently successful Applicant will be invited to these phases.

E.4 BUSINESS REVIEW

USAID will evaluate the cost application of the apparently successful Applicant only. This review will determine whether the costs are allowable in accordance with the cost principles found in 2 CFR 200 Subpart E.

USAID will also consider (1) the extent of the Applicant's understanding of the financial aspects of the program and the Applicant's ability to perform the activities within the amount requested; (2) whether the Applicant's plans will achieve the program objectives with reasonable economy and efficiency; and (3) whether any special conditions relating to costs should be included in the award.

Proposed cost share, if provided, will be reviewed for compliance with the standards set forth in 2 CFR 200.306, 2 CFR 700.10, and the Standard Provision "Cost Sharing (Matching)" for U.S. entities, or the Standard Provision "Cost Share" for non-U.S. entities. The AO will perform a risk assessment (2 CFR 200.205). The AO may determine that a pre-award survey is required to inform the risk assessment in determining whether the prospective recipient has the necessary

organizational, experience, accounting and operational controls, financial resources, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program and comply with the terms and conditions of the award. Depending on the result of the risk assessment, the AO will decide to execute the award, not execute the award, or award with “specific conditions” (2 CFR 200.207)

E.5 DETERMINATION OF AWARD

At the end of Phase 1, the Agreement Officer will determine the apparently successful Applicant. During Phase 3, the apparently successful Applicant will submit the final technical and cost/business application. The Selection Committee will make a final review of the technical application to ensure it conforms to the mutual understanding of the parties established during the Phase 2 process. The cost/business application will be evaluated by the Agreement Officer/Agreement Specialist using a thorough cost effectiveness and realism analysis. Only after all these steps are completed will the Agreement Officer make an award determination.

If USAID and the apparently successful Applicant cannot come to a mutual understanding during the course of Phase 2 or 3, or if the apparently successful Applicant is unable to provide satisfactory Technical and Cost Applications, or did not meet deadlines for submissions, or presents an unacceptable risk as a result of the risk assessment, then the Agreement Officer may designate the next highest-evaluated Applicant from Phase 1 as the apparently successful Applicant. This decision is at the sole discretion of the Agreement Officer. The Agreement Officer’s decision regarding funding of an award is final and not subject to review. Any information that may impact the Agreement Officer’s decision shall be directed to the Agreement Officer.

[END OF SECTION E]

SECTION F: FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

F.1 FEDERAL AWARD NOTICES

Award of the agreement contemplated by this NOFO cannot be made until funds have been appropriated, allocated and committed through internal USAID procedures. While USAID anticipates that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential Applicant is hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award. The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. No costs chargeable to the proposed Agreement may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed Agreement or a specific, written authorization from the Agreement Officer.

F.2 ADMINISTRATION

Awards will be made under relevant federal regulations and agency policy. For U.S non-governmental organizations, awards must be administered according to 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 700, and USAID Standard Provisions will apply (<https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303maa>). For non U.S. non- governmental organizations, USAID provisions for non U.S. non-government organizations will apply (<https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303mab>).

F.3 REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

A summary of the expected reporting requirements under this award are found below. Full text of these requirements will be provided to and negotiated with the apparently successful Applicant.

In accordance with the CFR 2, parts 200.327 and 200.328, the Recipient must submit performance and financial reports on a quarterly basis (covering in detail all activities) to the designated Mission staff.

The Recipient will consult with USAID on the format and expected content of reports prior to submission. The following is a listing of the Reporting Requirements for Standard Assistance Awards:

1. Financial Reporting
2. Program Reporting
 - a. Work Plan/ Annual Implementation Plan
 - b. Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan
 - c. Quarterly Performance Reports
 - d. Annual Performance Reports
 - e. Close Out Plan
 - f. Final Report

F.4 PROGRAM INCOME

Program Income earned under the resultant award will be added to the Total Estimated Amount (exclusive of cost share) in accordance with 2 CFR 200.307(e)(2).

F.5 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Any resultant awards under this NOFO will be subject to the Environmental Compliance policy in 22 CFR 216. Please review the Initial Environmental Examination in this NOFO.

[END OF SECTION F]

ATTACHMENT A: FULL APPLICATION FORMAT AND CONTENT

NOTE: USAID IS NOT REQUESTING THIS INFORMATION AT THIS TIME. THE APPARENTLY SUCCESSFUL APPLICANT WILL BE REQUESTED BY USAID TO SUBMIT A FULL APPLICATION FOLLOWING THE EVALUATION OF SUMMARY APPLICATIONS AND THE CO-DEVELOPMENT PHASE.

1. FULL TECHNICAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The format and content of Full Applications will be informed by the unique summary application of the most highly-rated Applicant and the subsequent co-development process. It is expected that by the end of the co-development process there will be a finalized and mutually agreed-upon program description, which will be based on the Applicant's Full Application. The Full Application must be in alignment with the summary application submitted by the most highly-rated Applicant.

2. FULL COST APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Cost Application must contain the following sections:

- a) Cover Page
- b) SF 424 Forms
- c) Budget and Budget Narrative
- d) Prior Approvals in accordance with 2 CFR 200.407
- e) Dun and Bradstreet and SAM.gov Registration
- f) History of Performance
- g) Certifications, Assurances and Other Statements of the Recipient
- h) Branding Strategy & Marking Plan
- i) Funding Restrictions
- j) Environmental Compliance

Prior to award, Applicants may be required to submit additional documentation deemed necessary for the Agreement Officer to assess the Applicant's risk in accordance with 2 CFR 200.205. Applicants should not submit any additional information with their initial application.

Detailed instructions are as follows:

a) Cover Page

The Cost Application Cover Page must contain the same information as the Technical Application Cover Page.

b) SF 424 Forms

The applicant must submit the application using the SF-424 series:

- SF-424
- SF-424A
- SF-424B

Forms and instructions can be found at the following link: <https://www.grants.gov/forms/sf-424-family.html>.

Failure to accurately complete these forms could result in a non-funded application.

c) Budget and Budget Narrative

While there is no page limit for this portion, Applicants are encouraged to be as clear and concise as possible, but still provide the necessary detail to address the following:

- The Cost Schedule must include an Excel spreadsheet with all cells unlocked and no hidden formulas or sheets. A PDF version of the Excel spreadsheet may be submitted in addition to the Excel version at the Applicant's discretion, however, the official cost application submission is the unlocked Excel version.
- The breakdown of all costs associated with the Activity according to costs of, if applicable, headquarters, regional and/or country offices.
- The breakdown of all costs according to each partner organization involved in the activity.
- The costs associated with external, expatriate technical assistance and those associated with local in-country technical assistance.
- The breakdown of the financial and in-kind (cost share) contributions of all organizations involved in implementing this Activity.
- Potential cost-share and/or contributions of non-USAID donors or other entities to this Activity.

The Budget must include the following worksheets or tabs, and contents, at a minimum:

- i. Summary Budget, inclusive of all program costs (federal and non-federal), broken out by major budget category and by year for activities implemented by the Applicant and any potential sub-applicants for the entire period of the Activity.
- ii. Detailed Budget, including a breakdown by year, sufficient to allow the Agency to determine that the costs represent a realistic and efficient use of funding to implement the applicant's Activity and are allowable in accordance with the cost principles found in 2 CFR 200 Subpart E.
- iii. Detailed Budgets for each sub-recipient, for all federal funding and cost share, broken out by budget category and by year, for the entire implementation period of the Activity.

The Detailed Budget must contain the following budget categories and information, at a minimum:

- 1) Personnel – Must be proposed consistent with 2 CFR 200.430 Compensation - Personal Services. Direct salaries, wages and allowances must include position title, salary rate, level of

effort, and salary escalation factors. Allowances, when proposed, should be broken down by specific type and by person. Allowances should be in accordance with the applicant's policies and the applicable regulations and policies. Explain assumptions in the Budget Narrative. If the organization has standing policies across all projects for annual salary escalations that exceed current inflation rates, those policies and the effective date of those policies must be provided with the application. The Applicant must also confirm that the policy applies to all staff across all projects.

- 2) Fringe Benefits – (if applicable) If the Applicant has a fringe benefit rate approved by an agency of the U.S. Government, the Applicant must use such rate and provide evidence of its approval. If an Applicant does not have a fringe benefit rate approved, the Applicant must propose a rate and explain how the Applicant determined the rate. In this case, the Budget Narrative must include a detailed breakdown comprised of all items of fringe benefits (e.g., superannuation, gratuity, etc.) and the costs of each, expressed in U.S. dollars and as a percentage of salaries.
- 3) Travel and Transportation –Provide details to explain the purpose of the trips, the number of trips, the origin and destination, the number of individuals traveling, and the duration of the trips. Per Diem and associated travel costs must be based on the applicant's normal travel policies. When appropriate please provide supporting documentation as an attachment, such as company travel policy, and explain assumptions in the Budget Narrative.
- 4) Equipment – must include information on estimated types of equipment, models, supplies and the cost per unit and quantity. The Budget Narrative must include the purpose of the equipment and supplies and the basis for the estimates.
- 5) Supplies – must include information on estimated types of supplies and the cost per unit and quantity. The budget narrative must include the purpose of supplies and the basis for the estimates.
- 6) Contractual - refers to contract agreements the applicant anticipates having with other organizations to contract out portions of the activity (this does not apply to the acquisition of supplies, material, equipment, or general support services).
- 7) Other Direct Costs – This may include other costs not elsewhere specified, such as report preparation costs, passports and visas fees, medical exams and inoculations, as well as any other miscellaneous costs which directly benefit the Activity proposed by the applicant. The applicant should indicate the subject, venue and duration of any proposed conferences and seminars, and their relationship to the objectives of the Activity, along with estimates of costs. Otherwise, the narrative should be minimal.
- 8) Subawards – Specify the budget for the portion of the Activity to be passed through to any subrecipients. See 2 CFR 200.330 for assistance in determining whether the sub-tier entity is a sub-recipient or contractor. The subrecipient budgets must align with the same requirements as the Applicant's budget, including those related to fringe and indirect costs.

- 9) Indirect Charges – Applicants must indicate whether they are proposing indirect costs or will charge all costs directly. In order to better understand indirect costs, please see Subpart E of 2 CFR 200.414. The application must identify which approach they are requesting and provide the applicable supporting information.
- 10) Cost Sharing (if any) – The applicant should estimate the amount of cost-sharing resources to be provided over the life of the agreement and specify the sources of such resources, and the basis of calculation in the budget narrative. Applicants should also provide a breakdown of the cost share (financial and in-kind contributions) of all organizations involved in implementing the resulting award.

d) Prior Approvals in accordance with 2 CFR 200.407

Inclusion of an item of cost in the detailed application budget does not satisfy any requirements for prior approval by the Agency. If the applicant would like the award to reflect approval of any cost elements for which prior written approval is specifically required for allowability, the applicant must specify and justify that cost. See 2 CFR 200.407 for information regarding which cost elements require prior written approval.

e) Dun and Bradstreet and SAM.gov Registration

USAID may not award to an applicant unless the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier (DUNS number) and System for Award Management (SAM) requirements. Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal awarding agency that is exempted from requirements under 2 CFR 25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal awarding agency under 2 CFR 25.110(d)) is required to:

- (1) Provide a valid DUNS number for the applicant and all proposed sub-recipients;
- (2) Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. SAM is streamlining processes, eliminating the need to enter the same data multiple times, and consolidating hosting to make the process of doing business with the government more efficient (www.sam.gov).
- (3) Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal Awarding Agency.

The registration process may take many weeks to complete. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to begin the process early. If an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements above by the time USAID is ready to make an award, USAID may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive an award and use that determination as a basis for making an award to another applicant.

DUNS number: <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>

SAM registration: <http://www.sam.gov>

Non-U.S. applicants can find additional resources for registering in SAM, including a Quick Start Guide and a video on how to obtain an NCAGE code, on www.sam.gov, navigate to Help, then to International Registrants.

f) History of Performance

The apparently successful Applicant must provide information regarding its recent history of performance for all its cost-reimbursement contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements involving similar or related programs, not to exceed three years as follows:

- Name of the Awarding Organization;
- Award Number;
- Activity Title;
- A brief description of the activity;
- Period of Performance;
- Award Amount;
- Reports and findings from any audits performed in the last three years; and
- Name of at least two (2) updated professional contacts who most directly observed the work at the organization for which the service was performed with complete current contact information including telephone number, and e-mail address for each proposed individual.

If the Applicant encountered problems on any of the referenced Awards, it may provide a short explanation and the corrective action taken. The applicant should not provide general information on its performance. USAID reserves the right to obtain from any sources relevant information concerning an Applicant's history of performance and may consider such information in its review of the Applicant's risk. The Agency may request additional information and conduct a pre-award survey if it determines that it is necessary to inform the risk assessment.

Except as may be specifically approved in advance by the AO, all commodities and services that will be reimbursed by USAID under this award must be from the authorized geographic code specified in this NOFO and must meet the source and nationality requirements set forth in 22 CFR 228.

g) Certifications, Assurances and Other Statements of the Recipient

The applicant must complete the following documents and submit a signed copy with their application:

- (1) "Certifications, Assurances, Representations, and Other Statements of the Recipient" document found at <http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303mav.pdf>
- (2) Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B)
- (3) Certificate of Compliance: Please submit a copy of your Certificate of Compliance if your organization's systems have been certified by USAID/Washington's Office of Acquisition and Assistance (M/OAA).

h) Branding Strategy & Marking Plan

The apparently successful applicant will be asked to provide a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan to be evaluated and approved by the AO and incorporated into any resulting award.

i) Funding Restrictions

Profit is not allowable for recipients or subrecipients under this award. See 2 CFR 200.330 for assistance in determining whether a sub-tier entity is a subrecipient or contractor.

Construction will not be authorized under this award.

USAID will not allow the reimbursement of pre-award costs under this award without the explicit written approval of the AO.

j) Environmental Compliance

The environmental compliance requirements are outlined in the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) – see Attachment E.

3. PRE-AWARD RESPONSIBILITY DETERMINATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT

Upon consideration of award or during the discussions leading to an award, the Applicant may be required to submit additional documentation deemed necessary for the Agreement Officer (AO) to make an affirmative determination of responsibility.

IMPORTANT NOTE

The Applicant should not submit the information below with their summary application. The information in this section is provided so that the Applicant may become familiar with additional documentation that may be requested by the AO before award in order to make the responsibility determination:

These documents may include, but are not limited to:

1. Audited financial statements for the past three (3) years that have been audited by a certified public accountant or other auditor satisfactory to USAID;
2. Bylaws, constitution, and articles of incorporation, if applicable;
3. Copies of organizational travel, procurement, financial management, accounting manual and personnel policies and procedures, especially regarding salary, promotion, leave, differentials, etc., and indicate whether such policies and procedures have been reviewed and approved by any agency of the Federal Government. If so, provide the name, address, and phone number of the cognizant reviewing official;
4. Other documentation, as required by the Agreement Officer, to substantiate that the Applicant:
 - Has adequate financial resources or the ability to obtain such resources as required during the performance of the Cooperative Agreement;
 - Has the ability to comply with the award's terms and conditions, taking into account all existing and currently prospective commitments of the Applicant, nongovernmental and governmental;
 - Has a satisfactory record of performance. Past relevant unsatisfactory performance is ordinarily sufficient to justify a finding of non-responsibility, unless there is clear evidence of subsequent satisfactory performance;

- Has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;
- Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a Cooperative Agreement/Grant under applicable laws and regulations (e.g., Equal Employment Opportunity Laws).

An award may be made only by the Agreement Officer upon his/her signature only after she/he makes a positive responsibility determination that the Applicant possesses, or has the ability to obtain, the necessary management competence in planning and carrying out assistance programs, and specifically the proposed Activity, and that it will practice mutually agreed upon methods of accountability for funds and other assets provided by USAID.

For organizations that are new to working with USAID or for organizations with outstanding audit findings, or otherwise at USAID's discretion, USAID may perform a pre-award survey to assess the Applicant's management and financial capabilities. If notified by USAID that a pre-award survey is necessary, the Applicant must prepare, in advance, the required information and documents. See ADS

303.3.9.1 at <https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303.pdf> for more information on pre-award surveys. Please note that a pre-award survey does not commit USAID to make any award.

[END OF ATTACHMENT A]

ATTACHMENT B: REFERENCES

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS & REFERENCES

1. STANDARD PROVISIONS FOR U.S., NONGOVERNMENTAL RECIPIENTS
<http://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303maa>
2. MANDATORY STANDARD PROVISIONS FOR NON U.S NON-GOVERNMENTAL RECIPIENTS
<http://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303mab>
3. 2 CFR 700
<https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=2d1b5d9221b2dd0c0fe7ad5a5a9b98fd&mc=true&node=pt2.1.700&rgn=div5>
4. 2 CFR 200
http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl
5. ADS SERIES 300 ACQUISITION AND ASSISTANCE
<http://www.usaid.gov/pubs/ads/>
6. SF-424 DOWNLOADS
<http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/forms/sf-424-family.html>
7. <http://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/aapds-cibs/aapd-15-01>

[END OF ATTACHMENT B]

ATTACHMENT C: FULL APPLICATION BUDGET TEMPLATE

The budget is the financial expression of the Activity. The following template represents an example of what USAID anticipates receiving in an Activity budget with the Full Application submission.

NOFO No. 72044220RFA00001

USAID Cambodia Integrated Early Childhood Development Activity

Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total Amount (USD)
Personnel						
Fringe Benefits						
Travel and Transportation						
Equipment						
Supplies						
Contractual						
Other Direct Costs						
Subawards						
Total Direct Charges						
Indirect Charges						
Total Costs						
Cost Share (if any)						
Total Activity Costs plus Cost Share						

[END OF ATTACHMENT C]

ATTACHMENT D: PLANNED PRE-AWARD SCHEDULE

Pre-Award Milestone	Anticipated Date
NOFO Posted on Grants.gov	December 16, 2019
Due date for Receipt of Q&A	December 23, 2019
Amendment for Q&A posted	December 31, 2019
Due Date for Summary Applications	January 17, 2020
Notifications	Feb 28, 2020
Co-development Consultations	End of February through late March
Joint Program Description Development Workshop	Late March, 2020
Anticipated Award Date	May/June 2020

[END OF ATTACHMENT D]

ATTACHMENT E: ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

(SEE ATTACHMENT IN THE FOLLOWING PAGES)



INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

PROJECT/ACTIVITY DATA

Project/Activity Name:	Integrated Early Childhood Development
Geographic Location(s) (Country/Region):	Cambodia
Amendment (Yes/No), if Yes indicate # (1, 2...):	No
Implementation Start/End Dates (FY or M/D/Y):	FY 2020 - FY 2024
If Amended, specify New End Date:	
Solicitation/Contract/Award Number:	TBD
Implementing Partner(s):	TBD
Bureau Tracking ID:	Asia Bureau
Tracking ID of Related RCE/IEE (if any):	N/A
Tracking ID of Other, Related Analyses:	N/A

ORGANIZATIONAL/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

Implementing Operating Unit(s): (e.g. Mission or Bureau or Office)	USAID/Cambodia
Other Affected Operating Unit(s):	N/A
Lead BEO Bureau:	Asia
Funding Operating Unit(s): (e.g. Mission or Bureau or Office)	USAID/Cambodia
Funding Account(s) (if available):	
Original Funding Amount:	\$15 million
Prepared by:	Sopheanarith Sek
Date Prepared:	July 8, 2019

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE REVIEW DATA

Analysis Type:	X Environmental Examination	☒ Deferral
Environmental Determination(s):	X Categorical Exclusion(s) X Negative with Conditions	☒ Positive ☒ Deferred (per 22CFR216.3(a)(7)(iv))
IEE Expiration Date (if different from implementation end date):	December 31, 2024	
Additional Analyses/Reporting Required:	Determinations/Risk to be confirmed after co-design, and amended should the scope be changed.	
Climate Risks Identified (#):	Low <u>2</u>	Moderate <u>1</u> High
Climate Risks Addressed (#):	Low <u>2</u>	Moderate <u>1</u> High

THRESHOLD DETERMINATION AND SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

PROJECT/ACTIVITY SUMMARY

The Integrated Early Childhood Development promotes nurturing care for the most-vulnerable newborns and young children, starting before birth, through evidence-based integrated programming in early-childhood development to provide for children's health, nutrition, safety and security, responsive caregiving for social and emotional well-being, and opportunities for early learning. The activity will contribute to achieving the project purpose detailed under two Cambodia Project Appraisal Documents (PADs): the Health PAD 2017-2023, to achieve Development Objective (DO) 2: "Improved Health and Education with a focus on Vulnerable Populations", and the Food Security and Environment (FSE) PAD 2016-2021 to achieve USAID/Cambodia DO 3: "Sustainable and Resilient Pathways out of Poverty Strengthened."

USAID/Cambodia has development and program frameworks and will solicit applications to work with USAID to co-develop the program description detailing how the partners will achieve the expected results. The co-development phase will allow the selected applicant to work together with USAID to address issues and/or risks identified through stakeholder consultation.

The program framework is in summary below:

The activity has the following objectives:

- Objective 1: Improved cognitive skills of vulnerable and at-risk children
 - Result 1.1: Parents understand the importance of appropriate cognitive stimulation for early childhood development
 - Result 1.2: Families have access to quality childcare and/or resources for age appropriate cognitive stimulation
 - Result 1.3: Children receive age appropriate cognitive stimulation
- Objective 2: Decreased stunting rates for children under five
 - Result 2.1: Communities and families increase crop diversification
 - Result 2.2: Increased consumption of nutritional and diverse diets meeting the needs of pregnant mothers and children under five
- Objective 3: Increased number of vulnerable and at-risk children in caring and safe family environments
 - Result 3.1: Increased positive parenting techniques
 - Result 3.2: Reduced exposure to domestic violence
 - Result 3.3: Increased systematic early identification of children with disabilities with clear referral pathways for service provision and support
 - Result 3.4: Decreased number of children with disabilities entering unsuitable child care facilities

The USAID/Cambodia anticipates that the co-development process will lead to development of a full program description, when environmental determinations and climate risk for identified interventions can be reviewed and addressed by working with the implementing partner and other key stakeholders involved.

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATIONS

Based on the objectives and the expected result described above, the objective 1 and objective 3 will fall under Categorical Exclusions, pursuant to 22CFR216.2(c)(1), which do not require an Initial Environmental Examination, or an Environmental Assessment for proposed actions which do not affect the natural or physical environment. USAID/Cambodia does not anticipate any interventions that will affect the environment under either objective. Technical assistance is envisioned for relevant institutions/organizations and capacitation training to caregivers and service providers in target areas.

Further, the planned activities can be categorized into the following classes of actions, identified in §216.2(c)(2), and are not subject to an Initial Environmental Examination, as per §216.3(a)(1):

- (i) Education, technical assistance, and training programs;
- (iii) Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings;
- (v) Document and information transfers; and
- (viii) Programs involving nutrition, health care or population and family planning services except to the extent designed to include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, water supply systems, wastewater treatment, etc.)

The intervention under objective 2 will fall under negative determination with condition under 22CFR216.2(e). The activity will work caregivers to increase crop diversification by introducing home gardening to ensure that caregivers and mothers have enough micronutrient rich vegetables to feed their children as well as increase household incomes. This agriculture intervention is anticipated the use of some pesticides, especially when the natural method cannot control those pests.

Upon approval of this document, the determinations become affirmed, per Agency regulations (22CFR216). If after the co-development phase, the activity interventions and the scope of this have changed, further amendment must be made and will be re-submitted for re-approval prior to award.

CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT

Cambodia has been identified as highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change in regional and global indexes. The World Risk Report 2018, published by Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft, lists Cambodia as number 12 globally, with a vulnerability score of 59 percent, susceptibility of 41 percent, lack of coping capacity at 86 percent, and lack of adaptive capacity at 51 percent. The Germanwatch Global Climate Risk Index 2018 ranks Cambodia as number 15 globally in the Climate Risk Index for 1997–2016.

Cambodia is still largely reliant on the agriculture and natural resources sectors for livelihoods, food security, and economic growth. These are sectors with significant exposure to climate change. Other climate-sensitive development priorities are identified in the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP) 2014-2018 and Rectangular Strategy Phase III, such as rural infrastructure and water management.

Cambodia has two seasons, hot and dry (November-April) and wet/monsoon (May-October); temperature and precipitation vary considerably during and within those seasons. The timing of

events, such as the onset of the rainy season, varies from year to year. Natural extreme events such as droughts, floods, and storms occur periodically and can cause considerable damage; the severe floods of 2011, for instance, resulted in an estimated \$451 million in damages, affected more than 1.5 million people, and damaged about 400,000 hectares of rice paddy (ADB 2012; Diepart et al. 2015)¹

Cambodia is still largely reliant on the agriculture and natural resources sectors for livelihoods, food security and economic growth. These are sectors with significant exposure to climate change. Other development priorities identified in the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP), 2014-2018 and Rectangular Strategy Phase III, such as rural infrastructure and water management, are also climate-sensitive.

Climate change is already seen as a cross-cutting issue in such plans; and the recent Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP) and the line ministries' Sectoral Climate Change Strategies take a whole-of-government approach to mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation across development, declaring a need to “ensure that national development priorities can be achieved under a changing climate” (RGC 2013, p. 3).

Key vulnerabilities

Cambodia has been identified as highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change in regional and global indexes. According to the World Risk Report, Cambodia ranks eighth among the top 15 countries with the highest risk of impact from climate change (Alliance Development Works 2012). Cambodia was also ranked as highly vulnerable in an influential regional study of Southeast Asia, largely due to its low adaptive capacity (Yusuf and Francisco 2009).

There have been several efforts to assign relative vulnerability to the different provinces of Cambodia. Yusuf and Francisco (2009) ranked Mondulkiri among the most vulnerable due to expected changes in temperature and precipitation, as well as low adaptive capacity. USAID's Mekong ARCC project (2013) concurred and also identified Kampong Thom and Stung Treng as highly vulnerable.

Observed and projected climate change should be viewed against the context of existing climate variability. Traditionally, Cambodia has two seasons, hot and dry (November-April) and wet/monsoon (May-October); temperature and precipitation vary considerably during and within those seasons. The timing of events, such as the onset of the rainy season, varies from year to year. Natural extreme events such as droughts, floods, and storms occur periodically and can cause considerable damage; the severe floods of 2011, for instance, resulted in an estimated \$451 million in damages, affected more than 1.5 million people, and damaged about 400,000 hectares of rice paddy (ADB 2003; Diepart et al. 2015). Cambodia's climate has already been changing over the past few decades. Mean annual temperatures have increased by 0.8°C between 1960 and 2003. The frequency of hot days and nights has increased, and the frequency of cold days and

¹ ADB (2012) Flood Damage Emergency Reconstruction Project. <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/linked-documents/46009-001-cam-oth-01.pdf>, and Diepart, J.-C., ed. (2015) Learning for resilience: Insights from Cambodia's rural communities, Phnom Penh: The Learning Institute.

nights has decreased, especially during the dry season (World Bank et al 2011). Future climate change projections for Cambodia can be summarized briefly as follows²:

- Increased average temperatures of about 1.5°C by 2050
- Increased annual daily maximum temperatures of 2 to 4°C
- Further increases in the frequency of days and nights that are considered ‘hot’ in the current climate, with hot days increasing by 14 to 49% and hot nights increasing by 24 to 68% by 2060
- Further decrease in the frequency of days and nights that are considered ‘cold,’ with these events becoming exceedingly rare
- Increased annual precipitation of about 2.6% by 2050, with more frequent and intense precipitation events during the rainy season
- Seasonal changes in precipitation, e.g. projected rainfall increase of 11% during the wet season and projected decrease of 3 to 10% during the dry season around 3S Rivers Basin
- Expected increased annual flows along the mainstream Mekong River
- Modest increases in flood depth and duration in the central floodplain
- Increases in the frequency and intensity of droughts
- Average sea-level rise of 0.2 to 2 meters by 2100

These projections have likely implications for a number of sectors of interest to USAID. Drawing on the Cambodia National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA, 2006) and other sources, the most at-risk and potentially impacted sectors include: Agriculture, Water, Ecosystems, Inland fisheries, Infrastructure (urban and rural), Settlements, Human health, and Coastal. Recognizing that a shift toward a more sustainable and resilient development pathways is a medium-to-long-term endeavor, the project will build an evidence base of effective methodologies, practices, and results that contribute to better management of climate risks.

The project will implement a climate risk assessment to identify measures to integrate into activity design and to ensure that risks are adequately addressed. The table below summarizes several of the potential illustrative activities, climate risks and mitigation opportunities for the implementation phase. However, the implementing partners, in collaboration with line government agencies, will work together to identify and implement concrete climate risks and mitigation measures during the implementation. These will be submitted for approval in the work plan, and progress will be reported to the AOR in quarterly and annual reporting submissions.

According to the Cambodia Country Risk Profile 2019, climate risks to ecosystems include: loss of livelihoods, food insecurity, habitat and biodiversity loss. This Activity focuses on social accountability of local government, with outreach, education, training, workshops and development, and use of tech tools to promote local government accountability. Therefore, climate risk for this Activity is LOW and MODERATE. See 4.2 on Climate Risk Management .

² This information is drawn from preliminary SimCLIM analysis carried out on behalf of USAID by Stratus Consulting (2015); as well as from World Bank et al. 2011 and Mekong ARCC 2012. The SimCLIM analysis was based on an ensemble of 38 GCMs, CMIP5 data, mid-sensitivity, for RCP 8.5. Projections are changes in mean temperature and precipitation from baseline (1995).

IMPLEMENTATION

In accordance with 22CFR216 and Agency policy, the conditions and requirements of this document become mandatory upon approval. This includes the relevant limitations, conditions and requirements in this document as stated in Sections 3, 4, and 5 of the IEE and any BEO Specified Conditions of Approval.

1.0 PROJECT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

1.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF IEE

The purpose of this document, in accordance with Title 22, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 216 (22CFR216), is to provide a preliminary review of the reasonably foreseeable effects on the environment of the USAID intervention described herein and recommend determinations and, as appropriate, conditions, for these activities. Upon approval, these determinations become affirmed, per 22CFR216 and specified conditions become mandatory obligations of implementation. This IEE also documents the results of the project/activity level Climate Risk Management process in accordance with USAID policy (specifically, ADS 201mal).

This IEE is a critical element of USAID's mandatory environmental review and compliance process meant to achieve environmentally sound activity design and implementation. Potential environmental impacts should be addressed through formal environmental mitigation and monitoring plans (EMMPs) and/or Environmental Assessments (EAs), if needed.

1.2 PROJECT/ACTIVITY OVERVIEW

The Integrated Early Childhood Development (IECD) activity will be a new five year, \$15 million activity that will provide assistance to a non-governmental implementing partner to help Cambodia to address early childhood development, targeting vulnerable and at-risk children and their families. The activity will primarily work at the community level to address stunting through improving nutrition service delivery at public health facilities and community outreach, supporting nutrition-sensitive agriculture, and promoting safe and secure environments to help children meet critical developmental milestones for early child cognitive and social development. It will give particular attention to supporting the early identification of children with disabilities and timely action by families and the health and education sectors to promote their age-appropriate inclusion and development.

The activity will contribute to achieving the project purpose detailed under two Cambodia Project Appraisal Documents (PADs): the Health PAD 2017-2023, to achieve Development Objective (DO) 2: "Improved Health and Education with a focus on Vulnerable Populations" and the Food Security and Environment (FSE) PAD 2016-2021 to achieve USAID/Cambodia DO 3: "Sustainable and Resilient Pathways out of Poverty Strengthened." This activity is designed to build upon progress made in improving health and food security outcomes in Cambodia since 2000, by contributing toward addressing malnutrition, early childhood development, child protection and reducing stunting and cognitive development for children.

The purpose is to promote nurturing care for the most-vulnerable newborns and young children, starting before birth, through evidence-based integrated programming in early-childhood development to provide for children's health, nutrition, safety and security, responsive caregiving for social and emotional well-being, and opportunities for early learning. This activity

defines “early childhood” as prenatal to five years old, with an emphasis on the first 1,000 days for nutrition interventions. It will give particular attention to supporting the early identification of children with disabilities and timely action by families and the health, education and protection sectors to promote their age-appropriate inclusion and development.

1.3 PROJECT/ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

USAID/Cambodia is considering a co-development design process that will enable flexibility, creativity, and collaborative models to address these development challenges. The co-development phase will allow the apparently successful applicant to work together with USAID to address issues and/or risks that were identified through stakeholder consultations. It will also allow the apparently successful applicant to interact and network to potentially form new partnerships that combine and/or expand approaches and strategies identified to meet USAID’s development objectives.

To achieve the purpose of the activity, USAID/Cambodia propose the following theory of change, with drafted objectives and key expected results detailed as follows below:

Theory of Change:

If there are coordinated investments in a holistic approach for vulnerable and at-risk children and families that target key aspects of early childhood cognitive, socio-emotional, and physical development needs, then these children and families will meet key childhood developmental milestones that are correlated with giving children their best chance to fulfill their potential as Cambodian citizens.

Draft Objectives and Key Results (to be further refined prior to co-development phase)

- Objective 1: Improved cognitive skills of vulnerable and at-risk children
- Result 1.1: Parents increased their understanding of the importance of appropriate cognitive stimulation for early childhood development
- Result 1.2: Families have improved access to quality childcare and/or resources for age appropriate cognitive stimulation
- Result 1.3: Children received age appropriate cognitive stimulation
- Objective 2: Decreased stunting rates for children under five
- Result 2.1: Communities and families increased crop diversification
- Result 2.2: Increased consumption of nutritional and diverse diets meeting the needs of pregnant mothers and children under five
- Objective 3: Increased number of vulnerable and at-risk children in caring and safe family environments
- Result 3.1: Increased positive parenting techniques
- Result 3.2: Reduced exposure to domestic violence
- Result 3.3: Increased systematic early identification of children with disabilities with clear referral pathways for service provision and support
- Result 3.4: Decreased number of children with disabilities entering unsuitable child care facilities

2.0 BASELINE ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

Cambodia is located in Southeast Asia. It is 181,035 square kilometers in area, bordered by Thailand to the northwest, Laos to the northeast, Viet Nam to the east and the Gulf of Thailand to the southwest. The population of Cambodia is 16.25 million according to the country profile by USAID, 2018.

Cambodia is endowed with a rich natural resource base, essential for livelihoods and food security, and threatened by changing climatic conditions. Driven by strong performance in the garment and tourism sectors, Cambodia experienced sustained high Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rates from 1994 to 2015 (average of 7.5 percent), which in turn saw the poverty rate decline sharply from 2007 to 2014 (from 48 percent to 14 percent). Cambodia has a robust informal economy, which provides employment for nearly 60 percent of Cambodians. Still, changing climatic conditions present an ongoing threat to achievement of the country's sustainable development goals. In 2015, adverse climate impacts resulted in losses of approximately \$1.5 billion, equivalent to 10 percent of annual GDP. The country is particularly challenged given low adaptive capacity, still prevalent poverty, and its geographic location in the Mekong River and Tonle Sap Basins. These basins are characterized by a flood-pulse hydrology with significant fluctuations in water levels between wet and dry seasons. In the wet season, the Tonle Sap Lake's surface area increases from 2,500 square kilometers to 12,500 square kilometers. The flood-pulse system supports flooded forests, grasslands, and wetlands as well as one of the world's most diverse and productive inland fisheries. It also largely supplies the country's freshwater resources for agriculture. Agricultural and fishery activities comprise about 27 and 12 percent of GDP respectively and are essential for food security and livelihoods. Increased temperatures, drought, and changes in seasonal rainfall patterns, in combination with extensive damming for hydropower throughout the Mekong Basin, threaten to impact food security and human health through reduced freshwater availability and, in turn, agricultural and fishery production. Cambodia further experiences extreme weather events such as flash floods following particularly heavy rainfall during monsoon season (May to October), as well as tropical storms such as 2009's Typhoon Ketsana, which impacted 180,000 households and caused 43 deaths and many injuries (USAID, 2018).

2.1 LOCATIONS AFFECTED AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT (ENVIRONMENT, PHYSICAL, CLIMATE, SOCIAL)

Cambodia has a humid tropical climate, heavily influenced by the annual monsoon season that typically begins in mid-May and lasts through the end of October. The dry season stretches from November to April, with less rain, little wind, and much lower humidity. The monsoons deliver approximately three-fourths of the country's annual rainfall and are the primary contributor to the flood-pulse so essential to the region, especially along the central alluvial plains of the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers that comprise roughly 80 percent of the country's landmass. Temperatures are generally consistent across the country, averaging 25° to 27° Celsius throughout most of the year, though with average annual maximum of 38° Celsius in April and average annual minimum temperature of 17° Celsius in January. Rainfall varies more widely, with average annual rainfall as low as 1400 millimeters (mm) in the central lowlands, and as high as 4000 mm near the Cardamom mountains and nearby coastal areas in the southwest. Cambodia's Eastern plains receive approximately 2000 to 2600 mm of rainfall annually, though

they may exceed those amounts in mountainous areas in the Northeast within or around Virachey National Park.

Health

Higher temperatures, increased rainfall, and more extreme weather events such as tropical storms, droughts, and more frequent flooding threaten recent progress and may exacerbate ongoing health challenges in Cambodia. Health sector reforms focused on extending physical health infrastructure, expanding health financing and increasing access to services beginning in the 1990s helped strengthen the health sector and, in turn, health outcomes. Between 2000 and 2014, infant mortality in Cambodia decreased by 74 percent (from 95 deaths to 24.6 deaths per 1000 live births), while from 2005 to 2014 maternal mortality rates decreased by 64 percent, dropping from 472 deaths to 170 deaths per 100,000 live births. While Cambodia has made significant improvement in providing comprehensive health services, many challenges still exist and may worsen due to adverse climate impacts. Maternal, child and neonatal mortality rates remain high. Increased temperatures are projected to increase heat-related conditions for at-risk groups, such as the elderly, pregnant or expecting women, young children, and infants, and deforestation is likely to lead to higher temperatures in cleared areas. Health infrastructure, such as hospitals, clinics, and cold chain storage facilities, may also be impacted by the increasing temperatures, heavy rains, and subsequent flooding, thus impacting overall patient care. Additionally, the combination of climate stressors (e.g., shift in timing of the rainy season, increased rain during the wet season, and higher temperatures) and non-climate stressors (e.g., hydropower development throughout the Mekong Basin, deforestation driven by agricultural expansion, illegal logging, and charcoal production) are anticipated to lead to impacts such as changes to the annual flooding of the Tonle Sap and degradation of agricultural land. These impacts could drive increased internal migration from rural to urban areas, which may increase stress on and constrain efficacy of urban health infrastructure, municipal waste management systems, and water supply infrastructure, all of which could adversely impact health outcomes.

These impacts could also increase the incidence of water- and vector-borne diseases, such as malaria and dengue. Longer and drier dry seasons also significantly reduce safe drinking water availability, which is already a serious issue in Cambodia. The country faces elevated arsenic levels in groundwater and high rates of diarrheal disease, the latter of which causes nearly 10,000 deaths annually and could become even more serious as a result of deforestation and degradation of watersheds. At the same time, potential decreases in rice yields and fisheries production due to increasing temperatures, shifts in hydrological flow patterns, or decreases in water quality could adversely impact food security and nutrition in both the immediate and long-term, particularly for economically disenfranchised communities in both rural and urban areas. Cambodia is also experiencing more extreme weather events such as widespread flash flooding in both 2011 and 2013, and tropical storms, like Typhoon Ketsana in 2009. The 2013 flash floods affected 20 out of the 24 provinces, totaling 377,354 households, and resulting in 168 deaths, while in 2011, flash flooding affected 350,000 households and destroyed 267,000 hectares (ha) of rice fields. In addition to direct injury or death, such events further damage essential health services infrastructure, as well as result in the displacement of people, increased standing water, additional strains on food and water supply, and increased risk of the spread of vector- and waterborne diseases.

Agriculture

Human health impact of pesticide use

Synthetic pesticides are potent nerve toxins to all living organisms, including humans. Many pesticides, especially those available and used very heavily in the developing world, are not specific to the pest on which they are used, and are highly toxic to a broad array of living things.

Humans can have both acute and chronic exposures to pesticides. Acute exposure includes large doses of pesticides that are inhaled, ingested, or absorbed through the skin. Chronic exposure consists of smaller amounts taken into the body with cumulative effects on health over time.

Those at greatest risk are those who experience the greatest exposures—typically smaller-holder farmers, farm workers and their families. These populations are also often the poorest members of society. Larger-holders are more likely to have received training on pesticide risk avoidance; however, laborers hired by them may not. Acute effects vary from pesticide to pesticide and can include death, vomiting, severe headache, skin damage, temporary blindness, shortness of breath, and uncontrollable nervous tremors. Chronic exposure can result in cancer, mutations in unborn children, suppression of the immune system, reduced fertility and/or permanent damage to eyes, lungs, liver and other essential organs.

Environmental Impacts of Pesticide Use

Uncontrolled pesticide use can lead to several unintended and harmful environmental effects. These include contamination of soil and water, pesticide drift, intrinsic danger to all living creatures, effects on non-target organisms, disruption of natural pest controls leading to pest resurgence, and resistance.

2.2 APPLICABLE AND APPROPRIATE PARTNER COUNTRY AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS (E.G. WHO), ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL LAWS, POLICIES, AND REGULATIONS

1. The legal requirements for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in Cambodia are set out in the Law on Environmental Protection and Natural Resource Management, 1996 (Chapter III) (EPNRM Law) and the Sub-Decree on Environmental Impact Assessment, 1999 (EIA Sub-Decree). There are also a number of Prakas (regulations promulgated by a Ministry to implement a law) on the procedures implementing the EIA Sub-Decree 1999:
 - Prakas on Guidelines for Conducting EIA Report (49 Ministry of Environment, March 2000);
 - Prakas on Determination of Service Charge for Environmental Impact Assessment
 - Report Review and Follow-up and Monitoring of Project Implementation (No. 745, October 2000);
 - Prakas (Declaration) on General Guidelines for Conducting Initial and Full Environmental Impact Assessment Reports (No. 376 BRK.BST 2009);
 - Prakas on Registration of Consulting Firms for Studying and Preparing Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report (No. 215 Brk MoE 2014); and

- Prakas on Establishment of the Technical Working Group for Reviewing and Commenting on the EIA Report (No. 063 Pr.k MoE 2014).
2. There is also a Sub-Decree 146 on Economic Land Concessions (ELC), 2005, which requires environmental assessment of ELCs. Article 7, clause 5 of Sub-Decree 146 states that “if the initial environmental and social impact assessment indicates a medium or high degree of adverse impact, arrange for the conduct of a full environmental and social impact assessment.”
 3. The National Forestry Law, 2002, which includes a framework for management, harvesting, use, development and conservation of the forests in the Kingdom of Cambodia. This law can be accessed at the following website: http://www.cambodiainvestment.gov.kh/law-on-forestry_020930.html
 4. The National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan, 2016, which aims to enhance Cambodia’s biodiversity and its ecosystem services by 2050
 5. The National Forest Program (NFP) 2010-2030 identifies nine strategic objectives, which are to be achieved through the implementation of six programs, each divided into several subprograms
 6. Law on Nature Protection Area, February 2008 defines the framework of management, conservation and development of protected areas: http://www.cambodiainvestment.gov.kh/law-on-nature-protection-area-protected-areaslaw_080104_080104.html
 7. Cambodia is currently preparing an Environmental Code with an EIA component
 8. Tropical forests and the conservation of biodiversity play a fundamental role in sustainable development. As such The U.S. Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) of 1961, as amended by Sections 118 and 119, requires that all USAID Missions conduct a periodic country analysis of the conservation and sustainable use of tropical forests and biological diversity. These analyses can help inform project design and implementation. The USAID Cambodia Tropical Forestry and Biodiversity (118/119) Assessment can be accessed at the following website: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BysWR9zoLMD0eEIWalhCZGhBcU9qTVBqaVZ3cUlW5181d2tR/view?usp=sharing>

2.3 COUNTRY/MINISTRY/MUNICIPALITY ENVIRONMENTAL CAPACITY ANALYSIS (AS APPROPRIATE)

N/A. It is not a government to government activity.

3.0 ANALYSIS OF POTENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL RISK³

As mentioned in “ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATIONS” on page 2, the intervention under objective 2 will fall under negative determination with condition under 22CFR216.2(e). The activity will work caregivers to increase crop diversification by introducing home gardening to ensure that caregivers and mothers have enough micronutrient rich vegetables to feed their

³ Includes analysis of environmental and social

children as well as increase household incomes. This agriculture intervention anticipates the use of some pesticides, especially when the natural technique cannot control pests.

TABLE 1. RECOMMENDED DETERMINATION FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

Project/Activity	Potential environmental and social impacts
Objective 1,3 Objective 2, result 2.2	§§216.2(c)(2)(i) Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)
	§216.2(c)(2)(ii) Controlled experimentation exclusively for the purpose of research and field evaluation which are confined to small areas and carefully monitored
	§216.2(c)(2)(iii) Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings
	§216.2(c)(2)(v) Document and information transfers
	§216.2(c)(2)(xiv) Studies, projects or programs intended to develop the capability of recipient countries to engage in development planning, except to the extent designed to result in activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)

TABLE 2. RECOMMENDED DETERMINATION FOR NEGATIVE DETERMINATION WITH CONDITION

Project/Activity	Potential environmental and social impacts
Objective 2, result 2.1	§§216.2((e) Pesticides. The exemptions of §216.2(b)(l) and the categorical exclusions of §216.2(c)(2) are not applicable to assistance for the procurement or use of pesticides.

4.0 ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATIONS

4.1 RECOMMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATIONS

The following table summarizes the recommended determinations based on the environmental analysis conducted. Upon approval, these determinations become affirmed, per 22CFR216. Specified conditions, detailed in Section 5, become mandatory obligations of implementation, per ADS 204.

TABLE 3: ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATIONS

Projects/Activities	Categorical Exclusion Citation (if applicable)	Negative Determination
Objective 1		
Result 1.1	X	
Result 1.2	X	
Result 1.3	X	
Objective 2		
Result 2.1		X
Result 2.2	X	

Objective 3		
Result 3.1	X	
Result 3.2	X	
Result 3.3	X	

4.2 CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT

Cambodia has a humid tropical climate, heavily influenced by the annual monsoon season that typically begins in mid-May and lasts through the end of October. The dry season stretches from November to April, with less rain, little wind, and much lower humidity. The monsoons deliver approximately three-fourths of the country’s annual rainfall and are the primary contributor to the flood-pulse so essential to the region, especially along the central alluvial plains of the Mekong and Tonle Sap Rivers that comprise roughly 80 percent of the country’s landmass. Temperatures are generally consistent across the country, averaging 25° to 27° Celsius throughout most of the year, though with average annual maximum of 38° Celsius in April and average annual minimum temperature of 17° Celsius in January. Rainfall varies more widely, with average annual rainfall as low as 1400 millimeters (mm) in the central lowlands, and as high as 4000 mm near the Cardamom mountains and nearby coastal areas in the southwest. Cambodia’s Eastern plains receive approximately 2000 to 2600 mm of rainfall annually, though they may exceed those amounts in mountainous areas in the Northeast within or around Virachey National Park.

Cambodia is still largely reliant on the agriculture and natural resources sectors for livelihoods, food security and economic growth. These are sectors with significant exposure to climate change. Other development priorities identified in the National Strategic Development Plan (NSDP), 2014-2018 and Rectangular Strategy Phase III, such as rural infrastructure and water management, are also climate-sensitive.

Climate change is already seen as a cross-cutting issue in such plans; and the recent Cambodia Climate Change Strategic Plan (CCCSP) and the line ministries’ Sectoral Climate Change Strategies take a whole-of-government approach to mainstreaming climate change adaptation and mitigation across development, declaring a need to “ensure that national development priorities can be achieved under a changing climate” (RGC 2013, p. 3).

Key vulnerabilities

Cambodia has been identified as highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change in regional and global indexes. According to the World Risk Report, Cambodia ranks eighth among the top 15 countries with the highest risk of impact from climate change (Alliance Development Works 2012). Cambodia was also ranked as highly vulnerable in an influential regional study of Southeast Asia, largely due to its low adaptive capacity (Yusuf and Francisco 2009).

There have been several efforts to assign relative vulnerability to the different provinces of Cambodia. Yusuf and Francisco (2009) ranked Mondulhiri among the most vulnerable due to expected changes in temperature and precipitation, as well as low in adaptive capacity. USAID’s

Mekong ARCC project (2013) concurred and also identified Kampong Thom and Stung Treng as highly vulnerable.

Observed and projected climate change should be viewed against the context of existing climate variability. Traditionally, Cambodia has two seasons, hot and dry (November-April) and wet/monsoon (May-October); temperature and precipitation vary considerably during and within those seasons. The timing of events, such as the onset of the rainy season, varies from year to year. Natural extreme events such as droughts, floods, and storms occur periodically and can cause considerable damage; the severe floods of 2011, for instance, resulted in an estimated \$451 million in damages, affected more than 1.5 million people, and damaged about 400,000 hectares of rice paddy (ADB 2003; Diepart et al. 2015). Cambodia's climate has already been changing over the past few decades. Mean annual temperatures have increased by 0.8°C between 1960 and 2003. The frequency of hot days and nights has increased, and the frequency of cold days and nights has decreased, especially during the dry season (World Bank et al 2011). Future climate change projections for Cambodia can be summarized briefly as follows:

- Increased average temperatures of about 1.5°C by 2050
- Increased annual daily maximum temperatures of 2 to 4°C
- Further increases in the frequency of days and nights that are considered 'hot' in the current climate, with hot days increasing by 14 to 49% and hot nights increasing by 24 to 68% by 2060
- Further decrease in the frequency of days and nights that are considered 'cold,' with these events becoming exceedingly rare
- Increased annual precipitation of about 2.6% by 2050, with more frequent and intense precipitation events during the rainy season
- Seasonal changes in precipitation, e.g. projected rainfall increase of 11% during the wet season and projected decrease of 3 to 10% during the dry season around 3S Rivers Basin
- Expected increased annual flows along the mainstream Mekong River
- Modest increases in flood depth and duration in the central floodplain
- Increases in the frequency and intensity of droughts
- Average sea-level rise of 0.2 to 2 meters by 2100

These projections have likely implications for a number of sectors of interest to USAID. Drawing on Cambodia's NAPA (2006) and other sources, the most at-risk and potentially impacted sectors include: Agriculture, Water, Ecosystems, Inland fisheries, Infrastructure (urban and rural), Settlements, Human health, and Coastal. Recognizing that a shift toward a more sustainable and resilient development pathways is a medium-to-long-term endeavor, the project will build an evidence base of effective methodologies, practices, and results that contribute to better management of climate risks.

The project will implement a climate risk assessment to identify measures to integrate into activity design and to ensure that risks are adequately addressed. The table below summarizes several of the potential illustrative activities, climate risks and mitigation opportunities for the implementation phase. However, the implementing partners, in collaboration with line government agencies, will work together to identify and implement concrete climate risks and mitigation measures during the implementation. These will be submitted for approval in the work plan, and progress will be reported to the AOR in quarterly and annual reporting submissions.

TABLE 4. PROJECT CLIMATE RISK MANAGEMENT SUMMARY TABLE

Depending on the results of the co-development workshop, some of the defined objectives and interventions might be adjusted. In that case, this climate risk screening will be re-evaluated together with the new IEE amendment.

Defined or Anticipated Project Elements	Climate Risks	Risk Rating	How Risks are Addressed at Project Level	Further Analysis and Actions for Activity Design/ Implementation	Opportunities to Strengthen Climate Resilience
Objective 1: Improved cognitive skills of vulnerable and at-risk children	Frequent floods and hot temperature may affect the nature of the technical assistance as it relates to the objectives of these activities.	Low	Work with the implementing partners to fully assess the risks during the implementation phase and determine how to address climate risk in each of the activity objectives.	The solicitation for award includes a provision: The implementer must seek measures to be integrated into the Activity design and implementation to mitigate for potential negative consequences of Cambodia's changing climate, including additional analyses if necessary. This Activity has not yet been awarded.	Developing climate resilient planning and practices into all new interventions. Integrate gender perspectives throughout climate-resilient planning in order to effectively address both women's and men's needs and priorities, ensure the full and meaningful participation of women and achieve gender equitable outcomes. After development of specific mitigation measures, they will be proposed and approved through the Work Plan process, and progress will be reported back to the AOR in quarterly and annual reporting.

Objective 2: Decreased stunting rates for children under five.	Frequent floods and hot temperature may affect crops diversification	Moderate	Work with the implementing partners to fully assess the risks during the implementation phase and determine how to address climate risk in each of the activity objectives.	The solicitation for award includes a provision: The implementer must seek measures to be integrated into the Activity design and implementation to mitigate for potential negative consequences of Cambodia's changing climate, including additional analyses if necessary. This Activity has not yet been awarded.	Developing climate resilient planning and practices into all new interventions. Integrate gender perspectives throughout climate-resilient planning in order to effectively address both women's and men's needs and priorities, ensure the full and meaningful participation of women and achieve gender equitable outcomes. After development of specific mitigation measures, they will be proposed and approved through the Work Plan process, and progress will be reported back to the AOR in quarterly and annual reporting.
Objective 3: Increased number of vulnerable and at-risk children in caring and safe family environments	Frequent floods and hot temperature may affect the nature of the technical assistance as it relates to the objectives of these activities.	Low	Work with the implementing partners to fully assess the risks during the implementation phase and determine how to address climate risk in each of the activity objectives.	The solicitation for award includes a provision: The implementer must seek measures to be integrated into the Activity design and implementation to mitigate for potential negative consequences of Cambodia's changing climate, including additional analyses if necessary. This Activity has not yet been awarded.	Developing climate resilient planning and practices into all new interventions. Integrate gender perspectives throughout climate-resilient planning in order to effectively address both women's and men's needs and priorities, ensure the full and meaningful participation of women and achieve gender equitable outcomes.

					After development of specific mitigation measures, they will be proposed and approved through the Work Plan process, and progress will be reported back to the AOR in quarterly and annual reporting.
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5.0 CONDITIONS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

5.1 CONDITIONS

The environmental determinations in this IEE are contingent upon full implementation of the following general implementation and monitoring requirements, as well as ADS 204 and other relevant requirements.

5.1.1 During Pre-Award:

- 5.1.1.1 *Pre-Award Briefings:* *As feasible*, the design team and/or the cognizant Mission Environmental Officer (MEO) or Climate Integration Lead (CIL) will provide a pre-award briefing for potential offerors on environmental compliance expectations/responsibilities at bidders' conferences.
- 5.1.1.2 *Solicitations:* The design team, in coordination with the Agreement/Contracts Officer (A/CO), will ensure solicitations include environmental compliance requirements and evaluation criteria. A/CO will ensure technical and cost proposal requirements include approach, staffing, and budget sufficient for complying with the terms of this IEE.
- 5.1.1.3 *Awards:* The Agreement/Contracts Officer Representative (A/COR), in coordination with the A/CO, will ensure all awards and sub-awards, include environmental compliance requirements.

5.1.2 During Post-Award:

- 5.1.2.1 *Post-Award Briefings:* The A/COR and/or the cognizant environmental officer(s) (e.g., MEO, CIL) will provide post-award briefings for the implementing partner (IP) on environmental compliance responsibilities.
- 5.1.2.3 *Work Plans and Budgeting:* The IP will ensure the integration of environmental compliance requirements in work plans and budgets to comply with requirements, including EMMP implementation and monitoring, with the A/COR will approve.
- 5.1.2.4 *Staffing:* The IP, in coordination with the A/COR, will ensure staffing capacity to implement environmental compliance requirements.
- 5.1.2.5 *Records Management:* The A/COR will maintain environmental compliance documents in the official project/activity file and upload records to the designated USAID environmental compliance database (ECD) system.
- 5.1.2.6 *Host Country Environmental Compliance:* The IP will ensure compliance with applicable and appropriate host country environmental requirements unless otherwise directed in writing by USAID. However, in the case of a conflict between the host country and USAID requirements, the more stringent shall govern.
- 5.1.2.7 *Work Plan Review:* The IP will ensure compliance with the IEE at least annually to the A/COR, or when activities are added or modified. Activities outside of the scope of the IEE cannot be implemented until the IEE is amended.

- 5.1.2.8 IEE Amendment: If new activities are introduced or other changes to the scope of this IEE occur, an IEE Amendment will be required, prior to the commencement of the changed activities.
- 5.1.2.14 USAID Monitoring Oversight: The A/COR or designee, with the support of the cognizant environmental officer(s) (e.g., MEO, Regional Environmental Advisor (REA), Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO)), will ensure monitoring of compliance with established requirements (e.g., by desktop reviews, site visits, etc.).
- 5.1.2.16 Environmental Compliance Mitigation and Monitoring Plan: The A/COR will ensure the IP develops, obtains approval for, and implements Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plans (EMMPs) that are responsive to the stipulated environmental compliance requirements, with the support of the MEO, CIL, and REA, BEO, as needed.
- 5.1.2.17 Environmental Compliance Reporting: The IP will ensure inclusion of environmental compliance reporting in regular project/activity reports, using indicators as appropriate; development and submission of the Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Reports (EMMRs); and completion and submission of a Record of Compliance (RoC) describing the implementation of EMMP requirements in conjunction with the final EMMR or at the close of sub activities (as applicable) to the A/COR. And where required by Bureaus or Missions, the IP will prepare a closeout plan consistent with contract documentation for A/COR review and approval that outlines responsibilities for end-of-project operation, the transition of other operational responsibilities, and final EMMR with lessons learned.
- 5.1.2.18 Corrective Action: When noncompliance or unforeseen impacts are identified, IPs notify the A/COR, place a hold on activities, plan and take corrective action, and report on the effectiveness of corrective actions. The A/COR initiates the corrective action process and ensures the IP completes and documents their activities, and shares a Correction Action Plans (CAP) with the MEO, CIL, REA, and BEO for clearance. Upon approval the A/COR ensures the CAP and Record of Compliance is completed and uploaded to the ECD.

5.2 AGENCY CONDITIONS

- 5.2.1 Sub-contract Screening: The IP will use an Environmental Screening Tool to screen any sub-grant or sub-contracts to aid in the development of EMMPs and monitoring of potential impacts.
- 5.2.2 Other Supplemental Analyses: The A/COR will ensure supplemental environmental analyses that are called for in the IEE are completed and documented, prior to commencement of implementation.
- 5.2.3 Compliance with human subject research requirements: The IP shall assure the A/COR that the IP and sub-awardees, -grantees, and -contractors demonstrate completion of all requirements for ethics review and adequate medical monitoring of human subjects who participate in research trials carried out through this IEE and ensure appropriate records

are maintained. All documentation demonstrating completion of required review and approval of human subject trials must be in place prior to initiating any trials and cover the period of performance of the trial as described in the research protocol.

5.3 MITIGATION MEASURES

The mitigation measures presented in this section constitute the minimum required based on available information at the time of this IEE and the environmental analysis in Section 4. These measures shall provide general direction for completing the project/activity Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP) and PERSUAP.

USAID will ensure that the Implementing Partner further develops and completes the EMMP and/or a country- or activity-specific EMMP based on project work plans.

TABLE 5. SUMMARY OF MITIGATION MEASURES FOR PROJECT/ACTIVITY 1

Project/Activity	Mitigation Measures
Objective 2	Mission will use the PERSUAP for HARVEST II

As the locations of the interventions are unconfirmed, type of pesticides and pest treatments are not yet confirmed. The AOR/COR will ensure required amendments to this IEE and all approvals are in place before allowing the IP to conduct interventions that fall under this category.

6.0 LIMITATIONS OF THIS INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION

The determinations recommended in this document apply only to projects/activities and sub-activities described herein. Other projects/activities that may arise must be documented in either a separate IEE, or an IEE amendment if the interventions are within the same activity or other type of environmental compliance document, and shall be subject to an environmental analysis within the appropriate documents listed above.

Other than projects/activities determined to have a Positive Threshold Determination, it is confirmed that the projects/activities described herein do not involve actions normally having a significant effect on the environment, including those described in 22CFR216.2(d).

In addition, other than projects/activities determined to have a Positive Threshold Determination and/or a pesticide management plan (PERSUAP), it is confirmed that the projects/activities described herein do not involve any actions listed below. Any of the following actions would require additional environmental analyses and environmental determinations:

- Support project preparation, project feasibility studies, or engineering design for activities listed in §216.2(d)(1);
- Affect endangered and threatened species or their critical habitats per §216.5, FAA 118, FAA 119;
- Provide support to extractive industries (e.g. mining and quarrying) per FAA 117;
- Promote timber harvesting per FAA 117 and 118;
- Lead to new construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or renovation work per §216.2(b)(1);

- Support agro-processing or industrial enterprises per §216.1(b)(4);
- Provide support for regulatory permitting per §216.1(b)(2);
- Lead to privatization of industrial facilities or infrastructure with heavily polluted property per §216.1(b)(4);
- Procure or use genetically engineered organisms per §216.1(b)(1); and/or
- Assist the procurement (including payment in kind, donations, guarantees of credit) or use (including handling, transport, fuel for transport, storage, mixing, loading, application, clean-up of spray equipment, and disposal) of pesticides or activities involving procurement, transport, use, storage, or disposal of toxic materials. Pesticides cover all insecticides, fungicides, rodenticides, etc. covered under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act per §216.2(e) and §216.3(b).

7.0 REVISIONS

Per 22CFR216.3(a)(9), when ongoing programs are revised to incorporate a change in scope or nature, a determination will be made as to whether such change may have an environmental impact not previously assessed. If so, this IEE will be amended to cover the changes, as needed. Per ADS 204, it is the responsibility of the USAID A/COR to keep the MEO/REA and BEO informed of any new information or changes in the activity that might require revision of this environmental analysis and environmental determination.

ATTACHMENTS:

[HARVEST II PERSUAP](#) ([click here](#))

[END OF ATTACHMENT E]

[END OF THE NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY]