Issuance Date:	April 16, 2014
Pre-Bid Conference	April 22 2014 See Section IV
Due Date for Written Questions:	April 21, 2014See Section IV
Anticipated Date for Response to Questions:	April 25, 2014
Closing Date for Submission of Applications:	Friday, May 16, 2014
Closing Time for Submission of Applications:	9:00a.m. Nairobi-Kenya Time

SUBJECT: Request for Applications (RFA) No. RFA-623-14-000013; Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership Project

Pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (FAA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) requests applications (proposals) from qualified and eligible organizations to manage and implement the Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership Project (CB-HIPP) as describe in section I of this RFA.

This is a full and open competition, under which any type of organization, large or small, commercial (for profit) firms, faith-based, and non-profit organizations in partnerships or consortia from geographical code 937, are eligible to compete. In accordance with the Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreement Act, USAID encourages competition in order to identify and fund the best possible applications to achieve its program objectives.

USAID anticipates making one Leader Award under a Leader with Associates (LWA) arrangement. An LWA arrangement involves the issuance of a grant or cooperative agreement (”Leader Award”) that covers a specified regional activity. The Leader Award includes language that allows a USAID Mission or other USAID bureau or office to award a separate grant or cooperative agreement to the recipient of the Leader Award without additional competition and which supports a distinct local or regional activity that fits within the terms and scope of the Leader Award. This is called an “Associate Award.” The competition under this RFA covers both the Leader Award and all subsequent Associate Awards, although applications submitted in response to this RFA are related to the regional activity to be supported under the Leader Award only. Separate applications specific to each Associate Award will be submitted after the Leader Award is in place, if and when a USAID Mission or other USAID operating unit decides to finance an Associate Award.

The estimated life-of-project budget for the CB-HIPP project is $74 million for the five-year period beginning not later than September 30, 2014, of which the Leader Award will be up to $12 million and the cumulative amount of Associate Awards issued during those five years will not exceed $62 million. The Associate Award figures are estimates, and there is no guarantee regarding the number of Associate Awards or the amount(s) thereof. Associate Awards may be for up to five years in duration and, while they must be awarded during the period of the Leader Award, may extend beyond the end of the Leader Award. The Leader Award is expected to be made between August and September 2014.

Cost-sharing (matching) of 10% is required under this RFA. USAID encourages cost-sharing to the maximum practicable extent, and any proposed cost-sharing (matching) will be assessed by USAID as part of determining which applications offer the greatest value. See Section III of the RFA for additional information on cost-sharing (matching).

Pursuant to 22 CFR 226.81, it is USAID policy not to award profit under assistance instruments. However, all reasonable, allocable, and allowable expenses, both direct and indirect, which are related to the grant program and are in accordance with applicable cost standards (22 CFR 226, OMB Circular A-122 for non-profit organizations, OMB Circular A-21 for universities, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31 for-profit organizations), may be paid under the award.

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

Award will be made to the responsible applicant whose application best meets the requirements of this RFA and the selection criteria contained herein. Issuance of this RFA does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government, nor does it commit the Government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. **In addition, final award of any resultant agreement cannot be made until funds have been fully appropriated, allocated, and committed through internal USAID procedures**. While it is anticipated that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for award.

The award resulting from this RFA will be administered in accordance with 22 CFR 226, Chapter 303 of USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS-303), relevant U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circulars, and the USAID standard provisions for U.S. Non- Governmental Organizations. Further details and internet links may be found in Section I of the RFA.

The required method of distribution of USAID RFA's is electronically via Grants.gov which provides a single source for Federal government-wide competitive grant opportunities. This RFA and any future amendments can be downloaded from this website. The World Wide Web Address is http://www.grants.gov. Select "Find Grant Opportunities," then click on "Browse by Agency," and select the "U.S. Agency for International Development" and search for the RFA. In order to use this method, an applicant must first register on-line with Grants.gov. If you have difficulty registering or accessing the RFA, please contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-472 or via e-mail at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

Any questions concerning this RFA should be submitted in writing to the Agreement Officer, Andrea Plucknett, via email at aplucknett@usaid.gov with a copy to the Regional Acquisition & Assistance Specialist, Ali M. Ali at alali@usaid.gov by the date stated above. Questions sent to any other e-mail address will not be responded to. The e-mail transmitting the questions must reference the RFA number and title on the subject line of the e-mail. The deadline for submitting questions is April 21, 2014 09:00

a.m. Nairobi-Kenya Time. Receipt time is when application is received by the USAID/East Africa Internet Server.

For the purposes of this RFA, the term "Grant" is synonymous with "Cooperative Agreement"; "Grantee" is synonymous with "Recipient"; and "Grant Officer" is synonymous with "Agreement Officer". In the event of an inconsistency between the documents comprising this RFA, it shall be resolved at the discretion of the Agreement Officer.

Applicants shall submit both Technical and Financial Applications of their submissions in separate volumes. Award will be made to the responsible applicant whose application offers the greatest value to the U.S. Government. Please note, however, that technical applications will be significantly more important than cost applications.

If you decide to submit an application, please note that electronic submission is required. Applications must be sent as e-mail attachments to aplucknett@usaid.gov and cc: alali@usaid.gov.

This RFA consists of this cover letter, list of acronyms and the following sections and attachments:

RFA Section	**Title**
SECTION I	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION
SECTION II	BASIC AWARD INFORMATION
SECTION III	ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION
SECTION IV	APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION
SECTION V	APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION
SECTION VI	AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION
SECTION VII	AGENCY CONTACTS
SECTION VIII	OTHER INFORMATION
SECTION IX	ANNEXES
SECTION X	ATTACHMENTS 1 THROUGH 8

If your organization decides to submit an application, it must be received no later than the time and date set forth above in accordance with the instructions set forth in Section IV of the RFA. Applications received after the closing date and time may not be considered, except as described in Section IV of this RFA. Applicants should retain a copy of their application, and any enclosures thereto, for their records.

An open and public question and answer session will be hosted by USAID as described in Section IV of the RFA. Questions must be submitted as described in Section IV.

Sincerely,
/s/

Sunil Xavier
Regional Agreement Officer.

Contents

List of Acronyms

A&A	Acquisition and Assistance
AA	Associate Award
AIDS	Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome
AIHD	African Institute for Health and Development
AO	Agreement Officer
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
CB-HIPP	Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership Project
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CSA	Child Sexual Abuse
EAC	East African Community
ECSA-HC	East, Central, and Southern African Health Community
FEAFFA	Federation of East African Freight Forwarders
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GFATM	Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GSLA	Group Savings and Loan Associations
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LPC	USAID Limited Presence Country
LWA	Leader with Associates Cooperative Agreement
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
MHO	Mutual Health Organization
NCD	Non-Communicable Disease
NICRA	Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement
NPC	USAID Non-Presence Country
PATA	Power Africa and Trade Africa
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission
PPD-6	Presidential Policy Directive (No. 6) on Development
PPP	Public-Private Partnership
PMP	Performance Monitoring Plan
PwHIV	People with HIV
QDDR	Quadrennial Diplomacy and Development Review
RDCS	Regional Development Cooperation Strategy
REC	Regional Economic Communities
RHAP	USAID/Southern Africa Regional HIV/AIDS Program
RHH	USAID/EA Regional Health and HIV Office
ROADS	USAID Regional Outreach Addressing AIDS and Development Strategies Project
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SGBV	Sexual and Gender-Based Violence
UNAIDS	United Nations Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USAID/EA	USAID East Africa Regional Mission

USG	United States Government
WARP	USAID West Africa Regional Program

SECTION I – FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

ADMINSISTRATION OF AWARD RESULTING FROM THIS RFA

The prime award and subsequent sub-awards resulting from this RFA will be administered in accordance with the following:

- Code of Federal Regulations, 22 CFR 226
- Chapter 303 of USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS-303).
- 2 CFR 220 Cost Principles for Educational Institutions (formerly OMB Circular A-21).
- Office of Management and Budget's Grants Management Circular, OMB Circular A-133.
- USAID Mandatory and Required-as-Applicable Standard Provisions for U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations found in ADS-303.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

Introduction:
Regional economic integration and trade are high on the political and development agendas of Eastern, Central and Southern African leaders. These leaders consider development of the transport corridors as paramount to the success of regional trade and economic growth.

Greater regional integration and increased trade create enhanced possibilities of generating more income, investment possibilities and employment resulting in increased production across borders. This will result in increased movement of people as they look for new and expanded opportunities in the region. As history has repeatedly shown, increased movement of humans, animals, and goods across nations leads to increased transmission of infectious diseases beyond borders, including HIV/AIDS. Infectious diseases respect no political boundaries, and unless specifically addressed in health programming, more HIV infections throughout the region and especially in cross-border communities may be an unintended consequence of this expansion. These infectious diseases have the potential to dampen trade and even reverse economic growth. For example, ill health affects peoples' ability to work, the type of work they can perform, and how long they can work leading to lower productivity, decreased trade, and stunted development.

To mitigate these risks, the current barriers of access to and the quality of health services (including infectious disease, family planning and Maternal and Child Health [MCH] services) need to be addressed through coherent, sustainable and regionally relevant means. Such an approach will ensure a healthier population, assure higher productivity and hence a broader participation in the economy.

The East African Community (EAC), in its 4th Development Strategy 2011/12 – 2015/16, acknowledged that the improvement in the quality of life and social well-being of the East African people depends on the provision, affordability and access to quality health services for the prevention and control of communicable and non-communicable diseases (NCDs), including HIV and AIDS. The key objectives for EAC and the region include strengthening regional cooperation and integration in the health sector through the harmonization of national policies, legislation, strategies, standards, guidelines, databases and regulatory systems. Among the policies to be harmonized are pharmaceutical policies; food safety and quality policies; disease surveillance; university medical and dental schools curricula; and sexual and reproductive health policies. These actions promote enhanced provision of health services in the region including cross-border disease prevention and control activities.

Furthermore, the EAC has committed to coordinating and harmonizing development policies and strategies in major intervention areas; promoting cross-border interventions for HIV prevention, care and support; undertaking impact studies to better understand the effect of HIV/AIDS on key sectors in the region; and advocating for the allocation of more resources at the regional level to HIV/AIDS programs (4th EAC Development Strategy 2011/12 to 2015/2016). As the EAC Common Market takes effect, there is a greater need to focus on health service quality along the transport corridors and accessibility of these services; while seeking to understand and address the key drivers and distal determinants of disease transmission (including HIV) affecting cross-border communities.

Addressing these groups and ensuring access to HIV/ AIDS services is in line with the commitments contained in the EAC HIV/ AIDS Prevention and Management Act 2012. This important framework seeks to ensure that countries develop common HIV prevention and management strategies that will lead to the establishment of minimum standards of care.

The goal of the new Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership Project (CB-HIPP) is to *catalyze and support sustainable and African-led regional health development partnerships to improve health outcomes among mobile populations and vulnerable communities residing along Eastern, Central and Southern African transport corridors*[1] *and cross-border sites*.

The three results USAID/EA's CB-HIPP aims to achieve are:

1) Increased access to and uptake of integrated health and HIV/AIDS services at strategic cross-border sites and a select few regionally recognized HIV transmission "hot spots" along Eastern, Central and Southern African transport corridors;

2) Alternative health financing models identified, implemented, and tested to strengthen the long-term sustainability of networked health and HIV/AIDS service delivery; and

3) Strengthened leadership and governance by intergovernmental institutions to improve the health of mobile and vulnerable populations.

It is expected that after five years of program implementation, CB-HIPP will have successfully supported regional leadership to establish a supportive regulatory environment for cross-border health programming; improved service delivery at key cross-border sites; and subsequently increased access and uptake of these services by vulnerable populations. Additionally, CB-HIPP will have catalyzed strategic Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and tested and promoted alternative health financing and

[1] For the purposes of this project, the transport corridors are defined as the transportation network (including road and water infrastructure) interconnecting the major ports and cities emanating from Eastern Africa and extending into Central, Southern, and the Horn of Africa.

service delivery models to effectively transition the majority of program implementation and scale-up to Eastern, Central and Southern African transnational partners.

BACKGROUND

Regional context and development problem:
Eastern and Southern Africa are the two regions most affected by the HIV/AIDS epidemic worldwide. East Africa alone is home to more than six million people living with HIV/AIDS. Although rates of HIV prevalence in the East Africa region have been relatively stable for years, between 5-7 percent in the region's most affected countries; recent data from Uganda is beginning to show worrisome upward trends of HIV infection rates.

In several Eastern, Central, and Southern African countries, HIV prevalence rates among young women are up to five times higher than those of young men within the same age cohort. Women have an increased biological vulnerability, but are also more vulnerable to infection due to social, economic, and cultural factors that limit their control over decisions related to their sexual and reproductive health.

The "youth bulge" resulting from high population growth rates across Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa also threatens to accelerate HIV infection rates as more young people become sexually active and begin to build their own families. Trends in sexual debut and condom use among youth are heterogeneous throughout the region.

Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV), including Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) is also highly prevalent in the region and is even used as a weapon of war in East and Central African nations plagued by conflict and instability—displaced persons and refugees are particularly vulnerable to SGBV and CSA. These vulnerable groups are also at increased risk of being trafficked for labor and sexual exploitation.

While Africa's transport corridors serve as its economic lifelines, they are also significant routes of HIV transmission. A recent study, for example, confirms quantitatively the influence of transport infrastructure on HIV-1 spread within Africa. Studies have documented high rates of HIV infection among truck drivers in Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa ranging from a low of 18% to a high of 56%. High-risk sexual behavior, including frequent unprotected sex with sex workers, alcohol abuse, GBV, and anal intercourse with both women and men, make these groups highly vulnerable to HIV infection.

Other studies show that marginalized communities and those along the transport corridor continue to lack access to adequate health services. The vulnerability of these communities to HIV has been associated with an increase in infections due to the formation of complex sexual networks along the transport corridors. These findings are consistent with a study commissioned by USAID/EA and undertaken by African Institute for Health and Development (AIHD). Fifty percent of the corridors' populations are transient, impoverished, and have poor health status.

Although highly mobile populations inhabit/pass through the cross-border towns, findings from the AIHD study also show that a large proportion of persons living in cross-border communities (52%) had lived in their current locations for more than 10 years. This illustrates the existence of permanent cross-border communities that mix significantly with mobile populations which pass through. Some of the cross-border towns are major administrative and business towns with potential for added growth. Unfortunately, corridor and cross-border towns are generally underserved by national health programs due to the reluctance of governments to provide services primarily to non-citizens. The study also found that discrimination and lack of access to health services was reported in many cross-border sites. In some sites higher costs were levied to 'outsiders' while in other sites language was a key barrier. Lack of clarity in practices and policies across countries in the region was also cited (e.g. fear of truck drivers to cross into Rwanda due to an understanding that they would be forced to test for HIV).

Unemployment levels along these corridors approach 70% and in some communities 78% of females turn to sex work to survive. Paid sex contributes to the current HIV epidemic in East Africa—specifically in hot spot communities along the major transport routes. An estimated 14% of new HIV infections in Kenya and 10% in Uganda are associated with sex work.

USAID must continue to focus technical and financial resources where new HIV/AIDS infections are most likely to occur in order to achieve an "AIDS-Free Generation." As such, CB-HIPP will deliberately strengthen African regional leadership for increased transnational collaboration and joint-action to effectively, efficiently and sustainably provide information and services that prevent new HIV infections and reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS on targeted populations in the region. The new program will also support increased linkages of basic public health and HIV/AIDS services across participating countries in the region.

Global development partners and Eastern, Central and Southern African leaders are increasingly looking for sustainable solutions to health care financing shortfalls and are keen to maximize both health and other development returns for their investments. International, regional and national dialogue between global partners, inter-governmental entities and national Ministries of Health, Ministries of Planning, and Finance Ministries are intensifying in post-Millennium Development Goal (MDG) technical and political planning forums. Increasingly African leaders are looking to sustainable financing models in order to assume increased responsibility for social services currently heavily subsidized by external stakeholders and donors.

Relationship to USAID/East Africa's Strategic Focus and Mandate:
USAID/EA is currently developing its new five year Regional Development Cooperation Strategy (RDCS) 2015-2019. This new strategy will build on USAID/EA's comparative advantage and mandate as a regional platform to further focus U.S. Government investments where they have the greatest chance of yielding large-scale, sustainable results. In the interim, while the RDCS is being developed, CB-HIPP will align with RHH's strategic framework, as well as the overall strategic focus and mandate of the East Africa Mission. RHH proposes to harness its collective human and financial resources to catalyze and accelerate the scale up of sustainable solutions to priority health systems challenges in East and Central Africa.

During 2012, the USAID/EA Regional Health and HIV (RHH) office undertook an intensive strategic planning exercise to reflect and refine its portfolio and to ensure alignment with the priorities of the Mission, the region, including inter-governmental bodies, such as EAC and the broader USAID policy environment. The overall results that RHH seeks are:

- Strengthened African technical and political leadership and coordinated regional response to prioritized health development challenges through health systems strengthening
- Strengthened and expanded capacity of African local, national and regional leaders and health systems networks to harness the power of innovation, science and technology to achieve transformational health sector development
- Expanded strategic partnerships to accelerate the development and scale up of African-led high-impact sustainable solutions to prioritized regional and national health systems bottlenecks
- Expanded African-led collaboration, learning and adapting (CLA) hubs and USAID-led USG and multi-lateral donor CLA hubs to drive evidence-based health sector development in the region

CB-HIPP will assist RHH to strengthen the leadership capacity of transnational entities and other partners, scale-up low cost/high impact interventions, test innovative models through the Learning Laboratory, and support the development and implementation of regional health policies to create an enabling environment.

<u>Relationship to other USG programs</u>
CB-HIPP will continue RHH's support of and collaboration with Bilateral and Limited Presence Country (LPC) Missions in Eastern, Central and Southern Africa on issues concerning vulnerable cross-border and transport corridor populations. Engagement of Bilateral Missions will be critical to the scale and performance of CB-HIPP and should be considered a principal audience for the evidence developed through the Learning Laboratory.

To facilitate south-to-south sharing of lessons learned and best practices, CB-HIPP will also focus on collaboration with the transport corridor projects of the other USAID regional platforms (e.g. USAID/West Africa Regional Program [WARP] and USAID/Regional HIV/AIDS Program [RHAP]). A trans-regional approach can maximize lessons learned from other regional platforms and Bilateral Missions that have strategically and successfully invested in HIV/AIDS programming in and around the transport corridor and at border sites. It can also help to establish a uniform environment for coherent, standardized and better-coordinated health policies and systems. Increased integration of the regional transport corridor programs of RHAP and East Africa, for instance, would benefit both interventions. Formalizing the ties between the two regional transport corridor programs would also benefit the health outcomes of the populations working and living along these routes.

In terms of other USAID sectors, USAID/EA supports the Power Africa and Trade Africa (PATA) Presidential Initiatives. PATA supports interventions at cross-border sites to improve trade and economic development. Since CB-HIPP will have a similar geographic mandate, it is imperative that these USAID/EA projects collaborate and coordinate, and integrate project activities where appropriate.

<u>Relationship to Intergovernmental Regional Organizations, Local Stakeholders and Other Donor Programs</u>
A large part of USAID/EA's mandate is to work with and through regional intergovernmental organizations to build capacity, form strong alliances and collaborate in a manner that ultimately supports sustainable African-led development with the aim of improving the lives of East Africans.

As stated earlier, regional economic integration and trade are high on both the political and development agendas of Eastern African leaders. Development of the transport corridors is considered paramount to the success of integration efforts and is a top priority of both national and regional governments. In recognition of the potential health implications of increased population movement across borders, inter-governmental entities such as the EAC, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and SADC have proposed joint action to mitigate detrimental effects, particularly as relates to HIV/AIDS. USAID/EA proposes to expand collaboration through CB-HIPP with one or more of these intergovernmental institutions, and potentially other transnational regional organizations, to fight the potential accelerated spread of HIV/AIDS and to expand access to basic public health services for mobile and vulnerable transport corridor communities.

The specific need for additional attention to cross-border areas is well documented in the ROADS II project evaluation which found that national governments are often reluctant to invest in such sites due to the high density of non-citizens residing therein. This need is also supported by the results of the AIHD Cross-border study. Regional intergovernmental entities such as those listed above recognize this as a significant shortcoming of national transport corridor programs. CB-HIPP will collaborate with and support key regional stakeholders and capitalize on their political capital among member states to foster a more coordinated and standardized approach to ensure adequate provision of services at these and other critical regional HIV transmission hot spots.

CB-HIPP will support prioritized regional inter-governmental organizations to accelerate member state cooperation and joint-action in transnational public health and HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support programming. African leadership, regional cooperation and integration of select HIV services within broader health and development programming targeting Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors represent key areas of focus for this project. Supporting the development of a regional policy and regulatory enabling environment and the design, application and testing of alternative health financing strategies/partnerships that expand access to and sustainability of key transnational health services will be critical to the successful execution of CB-HIPP. CB-HIPP will also establish a regional "Learning Laboratory" and knowledge management platform to effectively document and disseminate best practices in cross-border and regional transport corridor programming and support the use of this evidence for further transnational advocacy and joint-action for scale-up of low-cost and high-impact public health and HIV interventions.

Other important stakeholders and potential partners for CB-HIPP include: the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) on HIV/AIDS transport corridor programming in Southern Africa.

CB-HIPP PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Overview:
The goal of the new Cross-Border Health Integrated Partnership Project (CB-HIPP) is to *catalyze and support sustainable and African-led regional health development partnerships to improve health outcomes among mobile populations and vulnerable communities residing along Eastern, Central and Southern African transport corridors and cross-border sites*.

The three results USAID/EA’s CB-HIPP aims to achieve are:

1) Increased access to and uptake of integrated health and HIV/AIDS services at strategic cross-border sites and a select few regionally recognized HIV transmission “hot spots” along Eastern, Central and Southern African transport corridors;

2) Alternative health financing models identified, implemented, and tested to strengthen the long-term sustainability of networked health and HIV/AIDS service delivery; and

3) Strengthened leadership and governance by intergovernmental institutions to improve the health of mobile and vulnerable populations.

CB-HIPP will build on the many achievements of ROADS I and II and strengthen the capacity of a select few strategic intergovernmental partners to foster collaboration among member states and transnational public and private entities to work together to radically rethink transport corridor integrated health and HIV/AIDS programming. It is expected that after five years of program implementation, CB-HIPP will have successfully supported regional leadership to establish a supportive regulatory environment for cross-border health programming; improved service delivery at key cross-border sites; and subsequently increased access and uptake of these services by vulnerable populations. Additionally, CB-HIPP will have catalyzed strategic Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) and tested and promoted alternative health financing and service delivery models to effectively transition the majority of program implementation and scale-up to Eastern, Central and Southern African transnational partners.

Activity Description & Expected Results:
The Roads to a Healthy Future (ROADS) I and II projects developed a number of promising responses to meet the evolving needs of mobile and vulnerable populations traveling across and living along the Eastern, Central and Southern African transport corridors. However, a comprehensive approach to transport corridor HIV and Health programming has only been adopted by a few national governments (e.g. Rwanda, Kenya). Recently, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) such as EAC, COMESA, and SADC have come together to explore how regional cooperation, governance, and leadership could be harnessed to effectively address cross-border programming. As the ROADS II project comes to a close, it is time to radically rethink transport corridor integrated health and HIV/AIDS programming. This will require harnessing the collective political and financial capital of regional public and private sector leaders/stakeholders and technological advances of the 21st century to modernize efficiently and effectively coordinated health service delivery across the region.

The goal of CB-HIPP is to catalyze and support sustainable and African-led regional health development through Public-Private Partnerships to improve health outcomes among mobile populations and vulnerable communities residing along the Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors and cross-border sites. The new project will deliberately strengthen African regional leadership for increased transnational collaboration and joint-action to effectively, efficiently, and sustainably prevent new HIV infections, increase access to health and HIV/AIDS services, and reduce HIV/AIDS service delivery costs. CB-HIPP will also support increased linkages of basic public health and HIV/AIDS services across participating Eastern, Central and Southern African member states.

Expected Results and Illustrative Activities:

Result 1: Increased access to and uptake of integrated health and HIV/AIDS services at strategic cross-border sites and a select few regionally recognized HIV transmission "hot spots" along Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors.

CB-HIPP will support delivery of integrated health and HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support services at strategic cross-border sites and a select few regionally recognized HIV transmission "hot spots" along prioritized Eastern, Central and Southern African transport corridors. This will be accomplished through partnership and/or collaboration with local, national and regional stakeholders including but not limited to site-specific community groups, civil society, national governments, regional intergovernmental entities and the private sector. The exact configuration of regional, national and local partnerships will be developed to maximize specific geographic, political and governance contexts impacting service delivery at selected implementation sites.

CB-HIPP supported service delivery sites will be regionally networked and will be established in partnership with Eastern, Central and Southern African intergovernmental organizations and transnational public and/or private entities. To increase access to and utilization of HIV and broader health services, CB-HIPP will promote uptakes of services through multi-layered behavior change communication and support the networking of health facilities and service delivery sites through mapping, mobile, and electronic technologies and tools. Leveraging these sites as a base, CB-HIPP will reach out to vulnerable and key populations through outreach services. A core element of service delivery at these sites will be transnational commitment to joint-action, support and eventual absorption into government and/or private health service delivery systems.

At these sites, mobile populations and vulnerable community members will be able to get information on where public health and HIV prevention, care, and support services can be locally sourced if not provided directly by the site itself. The sites will ensure information and referral to HIV/AIDS treatment services as required. Mobile populations will be provided with information on where they can source additional services along their planned travel routes. Where feasible it is expected that CB-HIPP will test innovations in mobile patient records for ease of continuity of service and improved ARV adherence. Depending on availability of funding CB-HIPP may be able to expand ARV refill sites piloted by ROADS II.

While it is not expected that CB-HIPP will assume responsibility for ROADS II service delivery sites, it is expected that the new project will work in close collaboration with ROADS II Associate Awardees throughout the region to maximize opportunities for expanding regional service delivery networks, learning alliances and community coalitions as appropriate and feasible.

In addition to these new approaches, CB-HIPP will continue to support ROADS I and II best practices at these sites. ROADS I and II evaluations commend these projects for strong community based models integrating health and other development components such as economic strengthening and other social determinants of vulnerability including alcohol abuse, gender inequity and gender-based violence. The innovative cluster model was highly touted as empowering women and youth in particular to serve as positive change agents in often very challenging circumstances characteristic of transit and cross-border towns. The Group Savings and Loan Associations (GSLA) were highlighted as particularly effective in promoting economic resilience and buffering vulnerable communities from extreme health shocks such as those associated with prolonged illness and death of primary income earners due to HIV/AIDS.

Community models such as these will continue to play an important role in CB-HIPP. A critical component to the community cluster work, done through Associations and local civil society organizations, is the supportive capacity building, which will include tailored organizational and technical capacity building. The size and scope of support to the community clusters will depend on the funding available and the number of sites proposed. These community cluster groups are essential in efforts of advocacy, promotion of services, and to provide the regional bodies and policy makers with critical on the ground intelligence and lessons learned.

CB-HIPP service delivery target populations will be similar to ROADS I and II and include key, mobile, vulnerable populations such as truck drivers; trucker assistants; sex workers; low-income vulnerable women and youth; and People with HIV (PwHIV). As appropriate and feasible, CB-HIPP may consider other vulnerable groups (e.g., migrant laborers, fishing communities living and working across "wet borders", nomads).

The following illustrative activities provide - though notional and incomplete – potential strategies and approaches for achieving Result 1:

- Design, implement, and evaluate an integrated service delivery package at key cross-border sites for targeted mobile and vulnerable community populations.
- Foster close collaboration with community groups, private and public stakeholders for joint-action at service delivery sites and link these coalitions to strategic inter-governmental entities for regional networking and scale up of services.
- Develop, implement, and evaluate innovative approaches within regional private sector structures such as the universal health cards and/or mobile/electronic health records to facilitate access to timely, convenient and high-quality health and HIV prevention, care and support services.
- Create formal partnerships to identify, develop and implement Electronic and Mobile Health solutions to ensure a continuum of quality health care information and services that meets the distinct needs of mobile populations and vulnerable transport corridor communities.

Result 2: Alternative health financing models identified, implemented and tested to strengthen the long-term sustainability of networked health and HIV/AIDS service delivery.

To promote sustainable basic public health and HIV/AIDS service provision along transport corridors, efforts must focus on identifying new, creative ways to finance these services over the medium and long-term. Recognizing that financial sustainability is the lynch pin; the sustainability of partnerships and transnational action supported through CB-HIPP will therefore constitute an essential determinant of program success. CB-HIPP will deliberately pursue innovative and non-traditional health financing options for networked health and HIV/AIDS service delivery, with a particular focus on mobile and vulnerable transport corridor populations.

CB-HIPP will support key intergovernmental partners/collaborators and/or member states to identify shared regional health priorities and to engage the private sector and non-traditional partners in order to co-fund networked health service sites across the region. CB-HIPP will test and scale-up successful alternative health financing models at both macro- and micro-levels. At the macro-level, CB-HIPP may explore partnerships with regional private sector companies and/or professional associations in order to develop sustainable models of private contributions to health service delivery costs along Eastern, Central and Southern transport corridors. The AIHD Cross-Border Study found that the affordability of health care was a key hindrance to health care access for people in cross-border sites. Cost of health care could be spread out if the community members had access to health insurance. CB-HIPP may also explore opportunities to expand workforce health insurance and health saving plans for mobile laborers including truckers. The project might also investigate innovative regional policy and regulatory “fixes” such as private sector “taxation” or contribution to a regional social services trust fund. At the micro-level, CB-HIPP will build off successes and lessons learned through ROADS II in supporting local financing models such as community based health insurance schemes and/or Mutual Health Organizations (MHOs). Another important micro-level ROADS I and II best practice was the establishment of Group Savings and Loan Associations (GSLAs).

The following additional <u>illustrative activities</u> provide - though notional and incomplete – potential strategies and approaches for achieving Result 2:

- Develop, implement and test macro alternative health financing models such as trans-national social insurance schemes, regional “taxation” models, and regional transport corridor health services “trust funds.”
- Facilitate the formation of multi-country joint action and pooled procurement to effectively harness the collective regional market size.
- Build the capacity of intergovernmental and national partner(s) to establish co-funding arrangements with private sector companies whose business depend on expanded and safe regional transport corridors.
- Expand successful community health financing and savings schemes at CB-HIPP cross-border and other key transport corridor HIV transmission “hot spots” to increase access to needed services and to build the resiliency of vulnerable transport corridor communities to health shocks.

Result 3: Strengthened leadership and governance by intergovernmental institutions to improve the health of mobile and vulnerable populations.

A key component of CB-HIPP centers on building the capacity of select and strategic intergovernmental partners to work together to develop and implement regional policies and standardized approaches to basic public health and HIV/AIDS prevention, care and treatment services at prioritized cross-border sites and a select few regionally recognized HIV transmission “hot spots” along the Eastern, Central and Southern African transportation corridors. Emphasis will be placed on assisting African technical and political leaders to identify the main policy barriers that limit mobile communities’ access to such services and to work with them to strengthen the regional policy and regulatory enabling environment. The purpose of CB-HIPP policy and advocacy work will be to facilitate transnational action to increase access to and use of quality public health and HIV/AIDS services along Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors.

CB-HIPP will support key intergovernmental partners/collaborators and/or member states to identify shared regional health priorities and to engage the private sector and non-traditional partners in order to co-fund networked health service sites across the region. Examples of regional policy priority areas may include: standardized ARV regimens allowing mobile and cross-border populations to access appropriate treatment as they travel across nations; standardized taxation of regional private sector entities to promote sustainability of transit corridor health and HIV services; pooled procurements of pharmaceuticals and supplies to harness economies of scale; and networked health records and health information systems to support consistent quality care.

USAID/EA is uniquely positioned to harness its extensive Eastern, Central, and Southern African intergovernmental partnerships to strengthen transnational cooperation and coordination and to maximize the impact of shared learning and joint action among member states in transport corridor programming. CB-HIPP will build on the many achievements of ROADS I and II and strengthen the capacity of a select few strategic intergovernmental partners to foster collaboration among member states and transnational public and private entities to work together to radically rethink transport corridor integrated health and HIV/AIDS programming.

CB-HIPP will support these partners to harness the collective political and financial capital of regional public and private sector leaders/stakeholders and the technological advances of the 21st century, to modernize efficiently and effectively coordinated health service delivery across the region with a particular emphasis on serving the needs of mobile populations and vulnerable communities working and residing along the transport corridors.

The following additional <u>illustrative activities</u> provide - though notional and incomplete – potential strategies and approaches for achieving Result 3:

- Facilitate and develop country cooperation across Eastern, Central and Southern Africa for joint programming, financing, and policy development of sustainable transport corridor health systems
- Complete a policy barrier and gap analysis and engage strategic intergovernmental entities and transnational partners in the design of an enabling environment that facilitates transnational cooperation and joint action to increase access to and use of key public health and HIV/AIDS services
- Coordinate the formulation of transnational commitments that mitigate the potential negative impact of regional integration and trade.
- Build capacity of inter-governmental partner(s) to develop public and/or private partnerships that facilitate cost-effective essential health commodities and supply logistics for critically underserved HIV transmission “hot spot” sites along transport corridors.

Cross-Cutting Activity: Learning Laboratory
CB-HIPP will focus on helping the region move towards a new way of doing business – a rethinking of approaches to transnational health threats and solutions. A key priority of CB-HIPP is to increase regional stakeholders’ and actors’ understanding of what is required for successful regional

collaboration and joint action on shared health systems challenges. CB-HIPP will invest in a “learning laboratory” and test regional and local solutions to health systems bottlenecks and community barriers impeding the provision of quality services to mobile and vulnerable communities working and residing along Eastern, Central and Southern African transport corridors. Results from the “learning laboratory” will be disseminated through existing regional learning forums, communities of practice and technical alliances. CB-HIPP will use these and other lessons learned to stimulate transnational technical and political dialogue to support regional policy formulation and accelerate sustainable regional action and collaboration.

At the regional level, the Learning Laboratory will define, develop and implement a standard ‘minimum package of health services’ tailored for cross-border communities and test sustainable models for transnational planning, coordination, networking, joint action and joint financing. At the service delivery level, the Learning Laboratory will test sustainable models for networking service delivery sites to meet the unique needs of mobile populations traveling along the transport corridors. It will also build on and expand evaluation of community mobilization, service delivery, financing and resiliency models building on the successes of ROADS I and II. The Learning Laboratory will also document essential lessons learned to intergovernmental institutions and their member states about how to plan for and finance joint action tackling transnational health and HIV threats. It will also illuminate current policy and regulatory bottlenecks that member states can solve together on a regional basis. CB-HIPP will work with key intergovernmental institutions and regional partners to use the lessons learned from both regional and service delivery levels to inform the policy and regulatory work proposed to strengthen the regional enabling environment and facilitate the expansion of sustainable transnational health programming.

The Learning Laboratory will play a critical role in testing new and innovative approaches and in documenting lessons learned across all three CB-HIPP result areas. The Learning Laboratory will identify, implement and test: 1) innovations in regionally networked basic public health and HIV prevention, care and support service delivery; 2) alternative health financing models and partnerships to increase long-term sustainability of services targeting mobile and vulnerable transport corridor communities; and 3) policy and regulatory actions that facilitate enabling environments to improve access to and use of public health and HIV prevention, care and support services along Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors. CB-HIPP’s Learning Laboratory will also serve as a transport corridor development Learning and Adapting Hub. CB-HIPP will identify, document and disseminate lessons learned about how to successfully and sustainably expand access to a continuum of public health and related social services to meet the unique needs of populations that live and work across nations. These lessons learned will be drawn from the full complement of transport corridor stakeholders, including Bilateral Missions in the region and will be shared broadly through regional technical and political learning, planning and resource allocation forums. As shown in the project evaluations of ROADS I and ROADS II Bilateral Missions saw great value added to their overall program through collaboration and buy-in into ROADS. They were able to utilize technical resources, see best practices, and proof of concept from other countries participating in ROADS, and often choose to replicate and adopt these models in their own ROADS or other Bilateral programming efforts.

Implementation Arrangements and Participating Institutions:
A central pillar of USAID/EA’s mandate is to work in partnership with Eastern, Central, and Southern African intergovernmental organizations to achieve its goal of “Sustainable, African-Led Development

to Improve Lives of East and Central Africans". USAID/EA is uniquely positioned to harness its extensive intergovernmental and regional partnerships to strengthen transnational cooperation and maximize the impact of shared learning and joint action among member states in transport corridor programming.

CB-HIPP will work closely with RHH to build on existing relationships with intergovernmental organizations like the EAC, SADC and COMESA. RHH has strong collaborative relationships with RHAP and SADC that will facilitate south-to-south learning and networked between CB-HIPP and the Southern African transport corridor programs. Unlike previous ROADS projects, it is expected that CB-HIPP will deliberately coordinate and collaborate with other USAID funded projects, especially those relating to the transport corridor, such as PATA, also described above. It will be essential for CB-HIPP to work closely with RHH to maximize strategic cross-sectoral collaboration with these key USAID colleagues and programs. Examples of relevant PATA programs include its work with Trademark East Africa and the Federation of East African Freight Forwarders (FEAFFA).

USAID's current ROADS II Leader with Associate (LWA) project ends in early 2014. Several ROADS II Associate Awards (AAs) will continue to operate past the life of the Leader Award including AAs in Rwanda, Zambia, Mozambique, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Djibouti. It is expected that CB-HIPP will coordinate closely with ROADS II AAs. Possible areas of collaboration include networking CB-HIPP service delivery sites with AA sites and establishing an inclusive GIS map that locates all transport corridor service delivery sites in Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa. Other possibilities include strategic partnerships to scale-up innovative technological solutions and service delivery models and broadening the CB-HIPP learning laboratory to encompass pilot tests and lessons learned beyond its own sites. The Bilateral Missions will continue to have a great deal of influence and participation in how this regional project is implemented. It is critical to meet the needs of the Bilateral Missions within the region, to ensure the project's usefulness, relevance and overall impact.

It is expected that initially, CB-HIPP at the Leader level, will have a narrow service delivery coverage area that may be limited to ten key Eastern and Central African cross-border sites due to USAID/EA budget constraints. The exact location of these sites will be determined in close consultation with USAID/EA and key regional intergovernmental organizations and member states. The number of service delivery sites funded by CB-HIPP may grow over the life of project as more funds are leveraged by RHH and/or as USAID Bilateral Missions set-up Associate Awards under CB-HIPP.

It is important to note that CB-HIPP will work with local government and community organizations at these sites building on the successful community cluster model of ROADS I and II. Many of these grass-roots entities will need organizational and technical capacity support. While this can be resource intensive, ROADS I and II have demonstrated laudable success in low-cost, high impact community engagement strategies, in particular empowering women and youth to assume increased levels of responsibility within these community entities and beyond in community leadership and governance. These successes are directly in line with USAID/EA's priority development agendas of gender equity and youth empowerment.

Performance Monitoring and Evaluation:
The purpose of the CB-HIPP program is to harness the collective power of regional public and private sector leaders/stakeholders, and the technological advances of the 21st century, to modernize

coordinated regional health service delivery that meets the needs of mobile populations and vulnerable communities working and living along the Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors.

The goal of CB-HIPP is to catalyze and support sustainable and African-led regional health development partnerships to improve health outcomes among mobile populations and vulnerable communities residing along Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors. This goal will be accomplished using a three pronged approach involving: 1) Health and HIV prevention, care and support service delivery that meets the unique needs of mobile populations and vulnerable communities at key cross-border HIV transmission "hot spots" along priority regional transport corridors; 2) Alternative health financing models that promote and support sustainable transnational health service networks; and 3) Regional policy and advocacy work that facilitates transnational action to address current barriers to networked health service delivery across borders and that promotes public and private sector partnerships to increase the sustainability of such services across the region.

The primary results expected from CB-HIPP are:

- **Result 1**: Increased access to and uptake of integrated health and HIV/AIDS services at strategic cross-border sites and a select few regionally recognized HIV transmission "hot spots" along Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors;
    - Illustrative indicators: Number of the target population who completed a standardized HIV prevention intervention including the minimum components during the reporting period; Number of key populations reached with individual and/or small group level HIV preventive interventions that are based on evidence and/or meet the minimum standards required; Number of people completing an intervention pertaining to gender norms, that meets minimum criteria; Number of individuals who received Testing and Counseling (HTC) services for HIV and received their test results;
- **Result 2**: Alternative health financing models are identified, implemented and tested to strengthen the long-term sustainability of networked health and HIV/AIDS service delivery;
    - Illustrative indicator (s): Number of people benefitting from USG-supported Public-Private Partnerships (PPP); Number of organizations (for and not-for-profit, and government) that have applied new technologies and/or management practices due to USG-supported Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs)
- **Result 3**: Strengthened leadership and governance by intergovernmental institutions to improve the health of mobile and vulnerable populations.
    - Illustrative indicators: Number of laws, policies, or procedures drafted, proposed or adopted to promote gender equality at the regional, national or local level; Number of laws, policies or procedures drafted, proposed, or adopted with USG assistance designed to improve prevention of or response to sexual and gender based violence at the regional, national or local level; The number of anti-TIP policies, laws or international agreements strengthened and/or created with USG assistance

It is expected that by achieving these three results, CB-HIPP will contribute to goal of catalyzing and accelerating the scale up of sustainable solutions to priority health systems challenges in Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa. CB-HIPP will support this goal by: 1) promoting African leadership, regional cooperation and integration of select HIV services within broader health and development programming targeting Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors; 2) supporting the development of a regional policy and regulatory enabling environment and the design, application and testing of alternative health financing strategies/partnerships that expand access to and sustainability of key transnational health services; 3) investing in a robust "learning and adapting" approach to delivering sustainable health and HIV integrated services; and 4) deliberately targeting a few select African transnational partners to building strong technical capacity and institutional strength to ensure successful and sustainable transition of CB-HIPP programming to these leaders/stakeholders by 2018.

The Awardee with work closely with Regional Health and HIV Office to design a robust monitoring and evaluation plan. The Awardee will develop a program performance monitoring plan (PMP) within the first quarter of program implementation and RHH will technically approve this plan and ensure that it is in line with standard USAID Acquisition and Assistance (A&A) Policy Directive. The Awardee will also produce the requisite program technical, administrative and financial reports per the Policy Directive. RHH will review these reports and make regular field visits to monitor progress against the PMP and clearly defined and agreed sustainability and transition milestones throughout the life of the program. These milestones will be developed by the Awardee in close collaboration with RHH and USAID/EA's A&A Office within the first quarter after initiation of the program.

CB-HIPP will undertake a select number of studies that will evaluate how well new and innovative approaches and partnerships initiated by the program facilitate cost-effective networking of service delivery sites along the regional transport corridors; bolster the financial sustainability of basic public health and HIV prevention, care and support services; and strengthen the regional policy and regulatory enabling environment to improve access to and use of public health and HIV prevention, care and support services that meet the unique needs of mobile and vulnerable communities working and living along Eastern, Central, and Southern African transport corridors. USAID/EA will require the Awardee to conduct a baseline survey once the PMP has been finalized.

In accordance with USAID's new Evaluation Policy, USAID/EA will also require a mid-term evaluation by an independent evaluation firm during the last quarter of year three of the program and to adjust the program as necessary to achieve its three primary results. Results from the mid-term will also be used to strengthen the sustainability components of the program to ensure successful program transition by September 2018. A final program evaluation will also be required and will similarly be conducted by an independent evaluation firm.

[END OF SECTION I]

SECTION II – BASIC AWARD INFORMATION

1) ESTIMATED FUNDING: Subject to the availability of funds, USAID intends to provide approximately **74 Million** in total funding for the **CB-HIPP.** Approximately **$12 Million** of this funding will be resources from the USAID/EA Mission dedicated to the **Leader Award,** while the other **$62 Million** will be resources from Bilateral Missions through the procurement of Associate Awards. USAID may make one or more award(s) without discussions to responsible applicant(s) whose application(s) offer the greatest value to the U.S. Government. To the extent they are necessary, negotiations will be conducted with the Apparently Successful Applicant(s). Award(s) will be made to the responsible applicant(s) whose application(s) offers the greatest value, cost and other factors considered. **USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.**

2) PERFORMANCE PERIOD: The anticipated program start date is **September 1, 2014** for a five year period through **August 31, 2019.**

3) AWARD TYPE: USAID anticipates the award will be a **Cooperative Agreement. Substantial Involvement** under the award is expected to be as follows:

   a. Approval of Annual Work Plans. Any significant changes to the approved Work Plan shall require additional approval. The first Annual Work Plan shall be submitted to USAID for approval 60 days after the proposed Award is signed. Subsequent Annual Work Plans should be submitted 30 days prior to commencement of the next Annual Work Plan period. USAID will provide additional guidance on the Work Plan in a post-award conference.

   b. Approval of the following Key Personnel positions:
      - Chief of Party
      - Research & Learning Director
      - Senior Health Sector Financial Specialist
      - Senior Health Systems Policy Analyst
      - Senior Electronic and Mobile Health Specialist
      - Alternative position(s) as may be proposed by the Applicant or designated by USAID at time of award, generally no more than 5 individuals

   c. Approval of the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan as part of the first Annual Work Plan and any subsequent changes to the M&E Plan.

   d. Concurrence on selection of sub-award recipients (see 22 CFR226.25 for requirements)

e. Approval of all construction activities in advance and authority to immediately halt any construction activity.

4) AUTHORIZED GEOGRAPHIC CODE: The Authorized Geographic Code is 937 for the procurement of goods and services.

5) BRANDING STRATEGY AND MARKING PLAN: The successful applicant(s) will be required to submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan to be evaluated and approved by the Agreement Officer with concurrence from the Agreement Officer's Representative (AOR). A Branding Implementation Strategy and Marking Plan shall be in accordance with USAID Branding and Marking plan as required per ADS 320. Please refer to ADS 320, (**http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/**) specifically 320.3.3.3 for more information. The Recipient shall comply with the requirements of the USAID "Graphic Standards Manual" available at www.usaid.gov/branding, or any successor branding policy. Pending formal Mission guidance, activity with a government entity will be branded, as appropriate, for the program's stabilization goals (USAID Graphic Standards Manual 4.10).

[END OF SECTION II]

SECTION III – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1) USAID policy encourages competition in the award of Grants and Cooperative Agreements. In response to this RFA, any U.S. or non-U. S. organizations, non-profit, or for-profit entity is eligible to apply.

2) USAID encourages applications from potential new partners.

3) Cost-Sharing (Matching)

There is a mandatory level of cost-sharing (matching) of 10% for this program. USAID encourages cost-sharing to the maximum practicable extent, and any proposed cost-sharing will be assessed by USAID as part of determining which applications offer the greatest value. Cost- sharing or matching means that portion of project or program costs not borne by the U.S. Government. Cost-sharing includes cash and in-kind contributions, and is subject to 22 CFR 226.23 and the USAID standard provision for U.S. NGOs entitled "Cost-Sharing (Matching)" which, *inter alia*, requires that cost-sharing be verifiable from the Recipient's records. Cost- sharing or matching is normally associated with contributions from the same prime and sub- recipient sources that also receive USAID funds under an award, but can include contributions from third parties. Failure to meet a cost-sharing requirement can result in the Recipient having to make refunds to USAID or a reduction in future funding.

[END OF SECTION III]

SECTION IV - APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

SUBMISSION AND PREPARATION GUIDELINES

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

1. *Definitions*. As used herein:

"Discussions" are negotiations that occur that may, at the Agreement Officer's discretion, result in the applicant being allowed to revise its application.

"In writing," "writing," or "written" means any worded or numbered expression that can be read, reproduced, and later communicated, and includes electronically transmitted and stored information.

"Application modification" is a change made to an application before the RFA's closing date and time, or made in response to an RFA amendment, or made to correct a mistake at any time before award.

"Revised application/addendum" is a change to an application made after the RFA's closing date, at the request of or as allowed by the Agreement Officer as the result of negotiations.

"Time," if stated as a number of days, is calculated using calendar days, unless otherwise specified, and will include Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays. However, if the last day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, then the period shall include the next working day.

2. *Amendments to RFA.*

(a) If this RFA is amended, all terms and conditions that are not amended remain unchanged. Applicants shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation by the date and time specified in the amendment(s).

(b) As of November 1, 2005, the preferred method of distribution of USAID assistance solicitations (*i.e*., RFAs and Annual program Statements [APSs]) and amendments to such solicitations is electronically via http://www.grants.gov ("Grants.gov"), which provides a single source for USG-wide competitive grant opportunities. Any future amendments to this RFA can be downloaded from that website. In order to use this method, an applicant must first register on-line with Grants.gov. If the applicant has difficulty registering or accessing the RFA or related documents, the applicant should contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 or via e-mail at support@grants.gov for technical assistance. It is the responsibility of the recipient of this RFA and any related documentation to ensure that it has been received from Grants.gov in its entirety and USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes. It is important that interested organizations sign-up for e-mail updates with Grants.Gov so that as changes are posted to this and other USG (including USAID) assistance solicitations, alerts will be received.

3. *Submission, Modification, Revised Applications/Addenda, and Withdrawal of Applications*.

(a) All applicants must have a DUNS number and must be registered in the U.S. Government's System for Award Management (SAM). USAID cannot fund organizations that do not comply. A DUNS number may be obtained at http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform, and is required for registration in SAM.

(b) Applications, application modifications, and/or revised applications/addenda consist of a technical application and a cost/management application which must be submitted in two separate volumes, each of which must be organized by the headings set forth below and must include the information described below.

(c) Unless otherwise indicated, applications shall cover only the Leader Award. Separate applications will be submitted for Associate Awards when and if they arise.

(d) Applications, application modifications, and revised applications/addenda must be submitted electronically to the e-mail address noted in Section VII of this RFA, and may (but are not required to) be submitted through www.grants.gov. An applicant must first register on-line with www.grants.gov, and should allow sufficient time to do so. If the applicant has difficulty registering, the applicant should contact the www.grants.gov Help Desk at 1-800-518-4726 or via e-mail at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

(e) Applications, application modifications, and revised applications/addenda must include a cover letter which, at a minimum, includes: (A) the RFA number; (B) the name, address, and telephone and email address of the applicant; and (C) names, titles, and telephone and e-mail addresses of persons authorized to negotiate and sign on the applicant's behalf.

(f) Applications, application modifications, and revised applications/addenda in response to this RFA must be in English or with accompanying English translations, and in U.S. dollars.

(g) Applicants may submit application modifications at any time before the RFA closing date and time, and may submit application modifications in response to an RFA amendment, or to correct a mistake at any time before award.

(h) Applicants may submit revised applications/addenda only if requested or allowed by the Agreement Officer.

(i) Applications may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before award. Applications may be withdrawn in person by an applicant or an authorized representative, if the representative's identity is made known and the representative signs a receipt for the application before award. Withdrawals are effective upon receipt of notice by the Agreement Officer.

4. *Late Applications, Application Modifications, and Revised Applications/Addenda*.

(a) Applicants are responsible for submitting applications, and any application modifications or revised applications/addenda, so as to reach the Government office designated in this RFA by the following dates and times. If no time is specified, the time for receipt is 5:00p.m.

(i) Any application received at the office designated in the cover letter of this RFA after the exact date and time specified for receipt of applications is “late” and will not be considered unless: (A) it is received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of applications; (B) the Agreement Officer determines that accepting the late application would not unduly delay the award(s); and (C) it is received before award is made.

(ii) Any application modification is subject to the same conditions as described in paragraph (4)(a)(i) above, except that it will be considered “late” if it received after the dates and times specified in paragraph (3)(e) above.

(iii) Any revised application/addendum is also subject to the same conditions as described in paragraph (4)(a)(i) above, except that it will be considered “late” if it is received after the date and time specified in the Agreement Officer’s request for the revised application/addendum.

(b) Notwithstanding paragraphs (4)(a) above, a late application, application modification, or revised application/addendum of an otherwise successful application that makes its terms more favorable to USAID will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(c) If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that applications cannot be received at the office designated for receipt of applications by the exact time specified in cover letter of this RFA, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the RFA, the time specified for receipt of applications will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the cover letter of this RFA on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

5. *Application Expiration Date*.

Applications, application modifications, and revised applications/addenda in response to this RFA will be valid for 90 days unless a different period is proposed by the applicant.

6. *Restriction on Disclosure and Use of Data*.

(a) Applicants that include in their applications data that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose, or used by the Government except for evaluation purposes, shall:

(i) Mark the title page with the following legend:

> This application includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed—in whole or in part—for any purpose other than to evaluate this application. If, however, a grant or cooperative agreement is awarded to this applicant as a result of—or in connection with—the submission of this data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting award. This restriction does not limit the Government's right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets [*insert numbers or other identification of sheets*];

and

(ii) Mark each page containing restricted data with the following legend:

> Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this application.

(b) Applicants are advised that it is anticipated that the successful technical application, application modification, and/or revised application/addendum will become the Program Description of the grant awarded as a result of this RFA. Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act of 1981, the public is entitled to request information from Agency award files. As a general rule, information will be disclosed except:

(i) Information submitted in response to this RFA, prior to award of the grant, or modifications or revisions thereto.

(ii) Information properly classified or administratively controlled by USAID.

(iii) Information specifically exempted from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act.

(c) Upon award of the cooperative agreement resulting from this RFA, USAID will disclose, use, or duplicate any information submitted in response to this RFA to the extent provided in the award and as described in Section VI of this RFA, and as required by the Freedom of Information Act.

7. *Award*.

USAID intends to award a Leader Award under an LWA, as described in Section II of this RFA, to the responsible applicant whose application, application modification(s), and/or revised application(s)/addendum(a) is responsive to this RFA and represents the greatest value after evaluation in accordance with the evaluation criteria in Section V of this RFA. USAID may reject any or all applications and may accept more than one application if such action is in USAID's interest. USAID may waive informalities and minor irregularities in applications received. Award is expected to be made between August and September 2014.

8. *Responsiveness to RFA and False Statements*.

The applicant shall follow the instructions contained herein and supply all information as required. Failure to furnish all information requested, or to submit an application directly responsive to the terms, conditions, specifications, and provisions of this RFA may disqualify an application. Applicants must set forth full, accurate and complete information as required by this RFA. The penalty for making false statements to the Government is prescribed in 18 U.S.C.
1001.

9. *Pre-Award Audits/Surveys and Discussions*.

USAID reserves the right to perform a pre-award audit/survey which may include, but is not limited to: (1) interviews with individuals to establish their ability to perform award duties under project conditions; (2) a review of the applicant's financial condition, business and personnel policies and procedures, etc.; and (3) site visits to the applicant's institution. However, it must be understood that USAID undertakes no obligation to perform any of the foregoing elements.
Accordingly, applicants should submit their best and most complete application initially.

10. *Interviews/Discussions/Oral Presentations in Nairobi, Kenya*

While it is not anticipated, USAID nevertheless reserves the right to request the applicant and the applicant's key personnel to travel to Nairobi, Kenya for interviews, discussions, and/or oral presentations. USAID will not pay any travel costs associated therewith.

11. *Submission of Questions and Explanation to Prospective Applicants*.

(a) An open and public question and answer session will be hosted by USAID on TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2014 from 1:00am to 4:00pm Nairobi, Kenya time, at:
Tribe Hotel
Limuru Road
The Village Market, Gigiri
Nairobi, KENYA - 00621.

(b) Written Questions

Written questions concerning this RFA must be received no later than Monday, April 21, 2014, 9:00 am Nairobi-Kenya Time. Questions must be in writing and should be e-mailed only to the e-mail address specified in Section VII of this RFA. Please note that all questions, without attribution to the organization, and answers will be posted online at grants.gov as an amendment to this RFA. Sensitive or proprietary information should not be included in the questions.

(c) Contact with USAID Missions

In order to maintain the integrity of the competitive process, USAID Missions and other USAID operating units will be unable to advise or provide information to potential applicants that would be used in preparation of the application. Therefore, applicants are advised not to contact USAID Missions regarding this RFA. Information on Mission strategies and programs can be accessed from Mission websites (http://transition.usaid.gov/missions/).

12. *Unnecessarily Elaborate Applications*.

Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective response to this RFA are not desired and may be construed as an indication of the applicant's lack of cost consciousness. Elaborate art work, expensive paper and bindings, and expensive visual and other presentation aids are neither necessary nor wanted.

13. *Inconsistencies between this RFA and 22 CFR 226/ADS 300*.

In case of any disagreements or discrepancies between the terms and conditions of this RFA and 22 CFR 226 or ADS-303, the latter shall prevail unless any such conflicting terms and conditions of this RFA are expressly and specifically stated to be an approved deviation from 22 CFR 226 or ADS-303 .

14. *Failure to Conform*.

The USAID evaluation committee may consider any failure to conform to these instructions and rules, and any attempt to evade these specifications and rules on the basis of technicalities, as indications of the kind of behavior that it may expect from the applicant during award performance/implementation. The committee will take this into account when making its evaluation. If an applicant does not understand these instructions, it should follow the instructions in paragraph 11 above.

15. *USAID Obligation*.

USAID is not obligated to make an award or pay for any costs incurred by the applicant in preparation and submission of an application in response hereto.

16. *Authority to Commit USAID.*

The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit USAID to the expenditure of public funds. No costs allocable to the proposed award(s) will be reimbursed by USAID before receipt of either a fully executed grant or cooperative agreement, or a specific written authorization from the Agreement Officer.

17. *Pre-Award Costs*.

USAID will not reimburse any applicant for pre-award costs unless specifically authorized by the Agreement Officer, who may, at his/her sole discretion, authorize the selected applicant, at its own risk, to begin program implementation and the incurrence of costs prior to a signed award as of a specified date, with no commitment to reimburse costs in the event that the award is not subsequently signed.

18. ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS VIA E-MAIL IS REQUIRED.

Please submit your applications to all of the e-mail addresses below by **09:00 am, Nairobi, Kenya Time, May16, 2014.** Receipt by either one of these two addresses by the deadline for submission will constitute timely receipt of your application. **RECEIPT TIME IS WHEN THE APPLICATION IS RECEIVED BY THE USAID/EAST AFRICA INTERNET SERVER.** Paper copies of the applications are not required. The addresses for the receipt of applications are: Agreement Officer, Andrea Plucknett, via email at aplucknett@usaid.gov with a copy to the Regional Acquisition & Assistance Specialist, Ali M. Ali at alali@usaid.gov. Applications which are submitted late or do not follow the instructions contained herein run the risk of not being considered in the review process.

All applications received by the deadline will be reviewed for responsiveness to the specifications outlined in these guidelines and the application format. Applications should take into account the evaluation criteria provided in **Section V** and must include the **Representations and Certifications** provided at the USAID website http://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303mav.pdf which must be signed and dated by the applicant. In the event Representations and Certifications are not submitted with the application, they must be completed before final award is made. **Please note that technical and cost applications should be kept separate.**

Applications must be submitted electronically in MS Word and .Pdf (Adobe Acrobat) versions. In case of any conflicts between the MS Word and .Pdf versions of the application, the .Pdf version will govern as it will be the version presented to the Technical Evaluation Panel.

Applicants are advised that any pages exceeding any of the prescribed limits below will not be considered for evaluation.

Applications must be legible and must not require **magnification** (!). Please be kind to the evaluators and keep the technical application clear, concise, easy to follow, while also in complete compliance with the instructions herein.

Applications will be evaluated by a USAID Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC). Additional discussions with applicants may take place if the applications submitted do not adequately describe the activities to be funded and/or there are one or more points to be clarified or modified based on the recommendations of the TEC.

Technical applications are limited to 33 pages maximum for all information including cover page, table of contents, dividers, résumés/CVs, letters of commitment from proposed personnel, and past performance information. A page in the technical proposal which contains a table, chart, graph, etc., is counted as a page within the page limitation. Information beyond these limits will not be evaluated

Applicants should retain for their records one copy of the application and all enclosures which accompany their application. Erasures or other changes must be initialed by the person signing the application. To facilitate the competitive review of the applications, USAID will consider only applications conforming to the format prescribed below.

TECHNICAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

a. Technical Understanding and Approach – Program Description (21 pages)

For clarity, the description of the technical understanding and approach should be divided into at least three different sub-sections (LWA, Leader Award, and Associate Award Case Study). Under the relevant sub-section the application should describe what is to be achieved under the umbrella of the LWA, what specifically will be achieved under the Leader Award, and prepare an Associate Award proposal in response to a fictitious case study. The applicant should also describe how this activity will contribute to the overarching outcomes and be guided by the operational principles described in the USAID Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy.

LWA

The narrative should demonstrate the Applicant's understanding of the programming context, including how regional integration and economic growth impact, both positively and negatively, health outcomes of Eastern, Central, and Southern African mobile and vulnerable communities working and living along the regions' transport corridors. The narrative should also demonstrate the Applicant's understanding of relevant primary public and private sector actors, as well as opportunities for and challenges to transnational cooperation and partnership for networked health service delivery systems serving the unique needs of the program's primary target populations. The Applicant should demonstrate cutting edge understanding of innovative mobile and electronic health applications and clearly articulate the appropriate use of 21st century technology in successful and sustainable delivery of CB-HIPP results.

As sustainability of African-led transnational action constitutes an essential determinant of program success, the Applicant should propose a robust and technically sound transition/exit strategy that is initiated at the beginning of the program and adjusted throughout the life of the program to ensure achievement of CB-HIPP's ambitious goal. The application should articulate in detail the proposed approach to achieving each of CB-HIPP's three results. It should discuss what sustainable development theories the Applicant will build on and apply to CB-HIPP programming as well as any initial analyses or baseline studies the Applicants will conduct to build a robust monitoring and evaluation and learning strategy.

In addition, the Applicant should include how activity outcomes will be monitored and linked to program results, and how the Applicant will use monitoring data to inform adaptation of activities and of its transition/exit strategy. Proposed performance monitoring indicators with proposed targets for Years 1 and 2 should be included. It is the Applicant's responsibility to ensure that all costs associated with the implementation of the monitoring and learning plan are considered in the application.

Leader Award

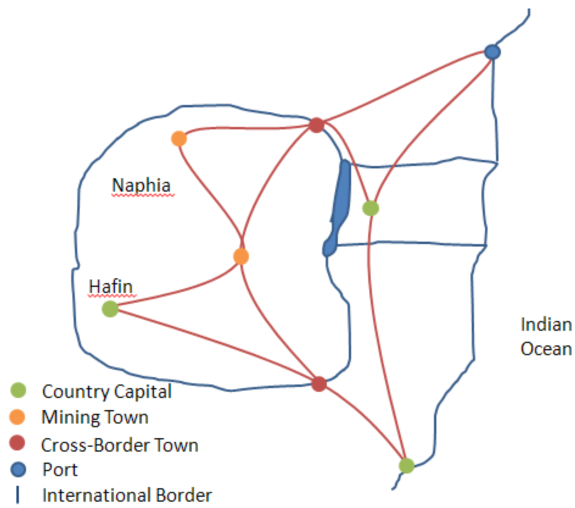
The narrative should demonstrate how the proposed approach under the Leader Award will contribute to the overall goal and results of CB-HIPP. The narrative should propose specific cross-border delivery sites along the transport corridors to contribute to Result 1. The narrative should clearly identify alternative health financing models to be implemented and tested at the regional level and, if applicable, propose Public Private Partnerships. The narrative should describe how the Applicant will engage regional intergovernmental and transnational actors; build partnerships with these key stakeholders; and create synergistic linkages with other transport corridor programs and other relevant cross-sector development programs such as USAID's Trade Africa.

The Applicant should also describe the proposed approach for creating a robust "learning and adapting" approach to delivering sustainable health and HIV integrated services to CB-HIPP primary target audience. The Applicant should describe how CB-HIPP will support the establishment of a regional "Learning Laboratory" and knowledge management platform to effectively test, document and disseminate best practices in cross-border and regional transport corridor programming. The Applicant should also describe how it will support the use of this evidence by key intergovernmental and regional stakeholders for further transnational advocacy and joint-action for scale-up of low-cost and high-impact public health and HIV interventions.

Associate Award Case Study

As part of the application, the applicant should prepare a short proposal in response to this case study. Described below is a fictitious country. The Bilateral USAID Mission in the country has requested that the Applicant propose activities to be implemented under an Associate Award. The proposal should include a detailed description of the activities and the personnel necessary to carry out the activities. The list of activities and personnel should be realistic given the resources available for the Associate Award. The case study sub-section should be limited to three pages and should therefore be limited to a description of the activities and personnel (the applicant should not propose candidates, but rather short position descriptions), the programmatic justification for these choices, and how the proposed activities contribute to the overall results of the LWA (The case study sub-section should not include a description of the background).

Naphia is a land-locked country in Eastern Africa with a population of 20 Million. Nearly 5 Million people live in the country's capital, Hafin. Other major settlements include mining towns in the country's interior and cross-border towns in the East. The major exports of the country are minerals, mainly gold and copper. The country is a net importer. Major imports include fuel and food. The road infrastructure links the capital and the mining towns to the Indian Ocean through two neighboring countries. The two towns at these cross-border sites are economically dependent on cross-border trade and services (e.g., food, money exchange, sex work) provided to mobile populations moving along the transport corridors. Naphia also shares a wet border along Lake Aphia with an additional country. The lakeside communities rely heavily on fishing and international trade.



In spite of its mineral wealth, Naphia is a low income country with approximately 70% of the population living below the international poverty line of $1.25 per day. The country is heavily reliant on donor funding (Official Development Assistance totals $1.5 Billion) which makes up 10% of the Gross National Income. Gender-Based Violence is widespread in the country with nearly 60% of women reporting being victims during their lifetime.

Life expectancy at birth is 50 years, which is highly affected by the high rates of maternal and child mortality linked to undernutrition and high rates of infectious disease such as HIV. Both Maternal and Under-Five Child Mortality are decreasing, but currently stand at 450 per 100,000 live births and 175 per 1,000 live births respectively. While participation in at least one antenatal visit has increased to more than 90% (due in part to a highly effective Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission program), attendance by a skilled birth attendant at delivery remains below 50%. The use of modern contraceptives continues to expand, but contraceptive prevalence remains low at 35%. 10% of babies are born with low birth weight. Between birth and five years of age 40% of children experience stunting and 5% experience wasting.

The HIV epidemic in Naphia is considered generalized with a 15-49 year old population prevalence of approximately 10%. There are more than one million People with HIV living in Naphia. The epidemic is very different throughout the country with the highest rates seen in the *mining towns, cross-border towns, and communities along the lake. General population surveys indicate a high rate of early sexual initiation (especially among girls), low condom use, and high rates of multiple partners. Over the past 10 years, treatment has rapidly scaled up to reach more than 75% of eligible adults and children, with more than 75,000 new patients entering treatment each year. Naphia has reached the PEPFAR programmatic "tipping point" as the number newly placed on treatment exceeds the 50,000 new HIV infections that are estimated each year.*

The national response in Naphia has largely focused on the general population, but recent evidence indicates that key populations are especially affected by the epidemic. Based off of the results of a recently conducted integrated bio-behavioral survey there are an estimated 200,000 women engaging in sex work—mostly along the transport corridors. The HIV prevalence among this population is 40%. The survey revealed low condom use, high rates of multiple partners, the emergence of drug use (including some injecting drug use) and continued high rates of alcohol use. The recently conducted Modes of Transmission Study indicates that nearly one third of new infections are occurring among key populations including more than 20% occurring among sex workers.

As discussed, the cross-border towns are highly affected by the HIV epidemic with program data indicating that the HIV prevalence in these communities is 2-3 times the general population. These communities also have disproportionately high rates of undernutrition, child mortality, and maternal mortality. Unfortunately, these same communities are largely ignored by the centralized government and lack access to health services. The communities living along the lake also suffer similar health challenges.

USAID/Naphia has requested support from CB-HIPP to address the health and HIV disparities among key populations, mobile populations, and vulnerable communities living along the transport corridor. USAID has approximately $5 Million per year ($4 Million HIV funding, $500,000 Maternal and Child Health, $300,000 Nutrition and $200,000 Family Planning and Reproductive Health) that it is willing to invest in CB-HIPP.

Gender Equality and Female Empowerment

The applicant should describe how this activity will contribute to the overarching outcomes and be guided by the operational principles described in the USAID Gender Equality and Female Empowerment Policy. Furthermore, the applicant should clearly describe how gender inequality negatively affects health in the context of this activity and how it will be addressed to achieve the expected results. The applicant should also explain how women and girls will be engaged and empowered through this activity and how this empowerment will contribute to the expected results. The applicant should also specifically discuss how the activity will support the U.S. Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally.

b. Management and Staffing Plan (5 pages)

The Technical Application shall include a management and staffing plan. The management plan for the program shall be explicitly stated. If the application is from a consortium, partnership with more than one organization, or includes significant implementation sub-grantees, the management plan must identify the formal relationships, roles, and responsibilities of each consortium member, partner organization, or implementing sub-grantee. The management plan shall also include the role of the home office(s) in providing technical assistance, management support, and/or implementation oversight during the life of the program. It should identify where the planned program office and any planned sub-offices would be located. The staffing plan shall state the roles and responsibilities of planned professional staff positions, their required educational qualifications and experience, and where they would be based.

c. Key Personnel (5 pages)

The Chief of Party (COP) shall be designated as Key Personnel. The Applicant may propose alternative positions as Key Personnel than those listed above however generally no more than 5 individuals should have this designation. Further, USAID may designate alternative positions as Key Personnel at the time of award should the management and staffing plans warrant this.

The application narrative shall clearly summarize the professional qualifications of proposed Key Personnel in light of the roles of responsibilities of each position. Key Personnel will be assessed on the appropriateness of their experience and qualifications given the role and responsibilities for which they are proposed, including their effectiveness and success in similar positions. Minimum COP qualifications are stated below. The Applicant may highlight additional position qualifications in keeping with a position's specific roles and responsibilities. Availability of Key Personnel is an important criterion and must be clearly stated and supported by letters of commitment, as noted below.

For each proposed Key Personnel, a complete and current résumé demonstrating the candidate's qualifications and experience shall be submitted. Résumés shall not exceed four pages in length and shall be in chronological order starting with most recent experience. Each résumé shall be accompanied by a signed letter of commitment from each candidate indicating his/her (a) availability to serve in the stated position and for the stated term of service; and (b) agreement to the compensation levels as set forth in the cost proposal. Applicants shall also submit three (3) references of professional contacts, with current contact information including email addresses and telephone numbers, for each proposed candidate. USAID may also check other sources to gather information on proposed personnel including, but not limited to, other USAID or US government persons who have knowledge of their previous work.

Note that the applicant need not identify non-Key Personnel in their proposal. In addition, USAID neither requests nor desires exclusivity agreements between the offeror and proposed personnel.

<u>Chief of Party</u>

- Advanced degree in international public health, health systems strengthening, health economics, social science, political science, or other related field
- Minimum fifteen (15) years of relevant professional experience managing and implementing health sector development projects with a minimum of seven (7) years of experience in sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Africa experience preferred
- Demonstrated ability to effectively manage staff working transnationally
- Demonstrated ability to negotiate and partner with government representatives, for-profit private sector entities, local community organizations, donors and other stakeholders

- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing

Research & Learning Director
- Advanced degree in international public health, health systems strengthening, health economics, social science, political science, or other related field
- Minimum seven (7) years of relevant professional experience managing and implementing health sector development research with a minimum of five (5) years' experience in sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Africa experience preferred
- Demonstrated ability to effectively manage staff working in multiple locations
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with communities, civil society, local government representatives and other stakeholders
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing

Senior Health Sector Financial Specialist
- Advanced degree in health financing, health economics, development economics or related field
- Minimum seven (7) years of relevant professional experience managing and implementing health financing programs with a minimum of (5) years' experience in sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Africa experience preferred
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with government representatives, for-profit private sector entities, local community organizations, donors and other stakeholders
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing

Senior Health Systems Policy and Regulatory Analyst
- Advanced degree in health policy and administration, health sector development, political science or related field
- Minimum seven (7) years of relevant professional experience managing and implementing health policy and advocacy programs with a minimum of (5) years' experience in sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Africa experience preferred
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with government representatives, for-profit private sector entities, local community organizations, donors and other stakeholders
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing

Senior Electronic and Mobile Health Specialist
- Advanced degree in information technology, engineering, business or related field preferred
- Minimum five (5) years of relevant professional experience managing and implementing information technology development programs with a minimum of (3) years' experience in sub-Saharan Africa, Eastern Africa experience preferred
- Demonstrated ability to work effectively with government representatives, for-profit private sector entities, local community organizations, donors and other stakeholders
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing

d. Organizational Capacity and Past Performance (2 pages)

The Applicant should describe its experience and institutional technical expertise in implementing health and HIV/AIDS projects similar to CB-HIPP in terms of approach, magnitude, and complexity. Lessons learned from this experience and how these would be applied to CB-HIPP should be addressed. Relevant information on the Applicant's ability to attract and retain high-quality Key Personnel for the duration of its programs shall also be provided.

The Applicant shall provide detailed past performance information, which should include all relevant Awards (Contracts, Grants and Cooperative Agreements) performed within the last five (5) years that are similar in size, scope and expected results to what is contained in the Program Description. At minimum, the list should include for each referenced Award:

- Name of the Organization;
- Award Number;
- Activity Title;
- A brief description of the activity;
- Period of Performance;
- Award Amount; 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, they may provide a short explanation and the corrective action taken. Applicant shall not provide general information on their performance.

USAID reserves the right to obtain from any sources relevant information concerning an Applicant's past performance and may consider such information in its evaluation.

COST APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS/FORMAT

The cost application is to be submitted via a separate e-mail from the technical application. This is due to the strict page limitations for the technical application. Certain documents are required to be submitted by an applicant in order for the Agreement Officer to make a determination of responsibility. However, it is USAID policy not to burden applicants with undue reporting requirements if that information is readily available through other sources. A cost application consists of:

- The **SF-424**, Application for Federal Assistance; **SF-424A**, Budget Information – Non-Construction Program; and **SF-424B**, Assurances – Non-Construction Programs. These forms may be downloaded from the following website: http://www.grants.gov/agencies/aapproved_standard_forms.jsp);
- a summary budget;
- a detailed/itemized budget;
- a budget narrative explaining costs to be incurred; and
- other administrative documentation as required.

The following sections describe the documentation that applicants for an Assistance award must submit to USAID prior to award. While there is no page limit for this portion, applicants are encouraged to be as concise as possible, but still provide the necessary detail to address the following:

The required budget format is attached to this RFA package (***Attachment 1-Budget Template***)

Figure 1 – RFA Illustrative Budget Template

Please be sure that the budget includes at least the following elements:

- the breakdown of all costs associated with the program according to costs of, if applicable, headquarters, regional and/or country offices;
- the breakdown of all costs in the program, in the same detail and format as the budget template;
- potential contributions of non-USAID or private commercial donors to this Agreement, including, the breakdown of the financial and in-kind contributions (cost sharing) of all organizations involved in implementing this Agreement.
- Summary of program vs. administrative costs.

Detailed budgets and supporting notes and justifications should also include the following:

(a) The name, annual salary, fringe benefits and expected level of effort of each person charged to the program.
(b) If not included in the indirect cost rate agreement negotiated with the U.S. Government, specify the applicable fringe benefit rates for each category of employee, and all benefits covered by the rate.
(c) The same information shall be provided for individual consultants as for regular personnel.
(d) Allowances should be broken down by specific type and by person and must in accordance with the applicant's policies. All salaries, benefits and allowances must be based on written compensation policies of the employer organization.
(e) Other direct costs such as visas, passports and other general costs should be separate cost line items.
(f) Travel, per diem and other transportation expenses should be detailed in the financial plan to include number of international trips, from where to where, number of per diem days and rates. Per Diem and other travel allowances must be based on written travel policies of the employer organization.
(g) Details of all home office support to be provided.
(h) Specific budget details and narrative information, in addition to the percentage and total dollar amount of the proposed cost-share contribution.
(i) Cost-share, once accepted, becomes a condition of payment of the federal share.
(j) No profit shall be included in the prime award

Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA): Applicants must provide a copy of the most recent NICRA negotiated with your organization's cognizant U.S. Government agency, if there is one.

NOTE: The award will not provide for the reimbursement of pre-award costs.

Also include:

a) Details of sub-award arrangements to the extent they are known at the time of application development. In case there are multiple organizations and partners, please explain as clearly as possible the management structure and how the parties are going to interact. If there are formal legal arrangements such as sub awards or sub contracts please clearly explain how these are to be structured and list past experience between the organizations.

   NOTE: If sub-awards are anticipated and not explained in the original application, the Agreement Officer's approval (after award) may be required before the sub agreement may be executed.

b) A copy of the self-certification for compliance with USAID policies and procedures for personnel, procurement, and travel.

c) A copy of the organization's U.S. Government Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), if applicable.

d) Applicants should submit additional evidence of responsibility they deem necessary for the Agreement Officer to make a determination of responsibility. The information submitted should substantiate that the Applicant:

   1. Has adequate financial resources or the ability to obtain such resources as required during the performance of the award.

   2. Has the ability to comply with the award conditions, taking into account all existing and currently prospective commitments of the applicant, non-governmental and governmental.

   3. 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.

   4. Has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics; and

   5. Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a cooperative agreement under applicable laws and regulations (e.g., EEO).

[END OF SECTION IV]

SECTION V – APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

Overview

The Technical Evaluation Criteria are tailored to the requirements of this particular RFA and are set forth below based on a **100 points** scale. Applicants should note that these criteria serve to: (a) identify the significant matters which applicants should address in their applications and (b) set the standard against which all applications will be evaluated. To facilitate the review of applications, applicants must organize the narrative sections of their applications with the same headings and in the same order as the selection criteria.

USAID East Africa intends to evaluate the applications and award an agreement without discussions with the applicants. However, USAID reserves the right to conduct discussions if the latter is determined by the Agreement Officer to be necessary. Therefore, the initial offer should contain the applicant's best terms from a technical and cost/price stand point.

Technical Evaluation Criteria

EVALUATION CRITERIA

I. TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA (100 Points)

The Technical Applications will be evaluated in accordance with the Technical Evaluation Criteria set forth below. The relative importance of each criterion is indicated by approximate weight by points, of which a total of 100 points are possible.

1. Technical Understanding and Approach (55 Points)

The extent to which the proposed technical approach demonstrates an understanding of the programming context. The extent to which the proposed technical approach is clear, logical, well-conceived, technically sound, suited to the program context, responsive to this RFA, and innovative, including gender considerations. The technical understanding and approach is further broken down into the following four sub-criteria:

- a) ***LWA (20 points)***
- b) ***Leader Award (15 points)***
- c) ***Associate Award (10 points)***
- d) ***Gender Equality and Female Empowerment (10 points)***

2. Management and Staffing Plan (15 Points)

The extent to which the management and staffing plans demonstrate the Applicant's ability to effectively implement proposed activities responsive to this RFA.

3. Key Personnel (20 Points)

The extent to which the proposed Key Personnel have the required qualifications and demonstrate the Applicant's ability to effectively implement proposed activities responsive to this RFA.

4. Organizational Capability and Past Performance (10 Points)

The extent to which the Applicant's corporate and institutional capability and experience demonstrates ability to effectively implement similar projects/programs, including project performance and management and client relations.

The extent to which the Applicant demonstrates successful implementation of projects/programs similar in magnitude and complexity. The extent to which the Applicant demonstrates the ability to deliver Key Personnel proposed and the retention of those individuals for the duration of the program.

Cost Evaluation

Cost has not been assigned a score but will be evaluated for cost reasonableness, allocability, allowability, cost effectiveness and realism, adequacy of budget detail and financial feasibility and cost sharing. While cost may be a determining factor in the final award(s) decision, especially between closely ranked applicants, the technical merit of applications is substantially more important under this RFA. The percentage of funds spent on programming versus administrative costs will be taken into consideration, i.e., the cost of staff salaries, equipment, and facilities vs. costs of field activities and interventions that directly impact the target beneficiaries.

Applications providing the best value to the U.S. Government will be more favorably considered for an award. Applications will be ranked in accordance with the selection criteria identified above. USAID reserves the right to determine the resulting level of funding for the agreement being selected for award.

[END OF SECTION V]

SECTION VI – AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

(1) USAID reserves the right to make awards without discussions. Successful applicants can expect to receive a notice of award signed by the Agreement Office which serves as the authorizing document. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified by letter sent electronically from the Agreement Officer. Notification will be sent electronically to the person indicated on the cover page of the application. Debriefings will be considered if requested in writing within 10 days of notification from the Agreement Officer.

(2) USAID does not anticipate any deviations from the Standard Provisions described in Section IX.

(3) Reporting Requirements - The resulting award will require the following reporting requirements:

a. Annual Work Plans

The Recipient will develop an annual work plan within 60 days of the effective date of the award. The plan will be reviewed and approved by the Agreement Officer's Representative (AOR) within thirty (30) days after receipt of the draft work plan. 60 days before the end of each USAID fiscal year, the Recipient will submit to the AOR an annual work plan for the following fiscal year. The work plans will include proposed activities for the given year, time frame for implementation of annual activities, detailed budget, review of previous year's accomplishments (if applicable), problems, and progress towards achieving award results and proposed annual accomplishments and progress towards achieving results.

b. Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP)

Within 90 days of award the Recipient will submit a Performance Monitoring Plan (PMP) for the life of the activity that derives from the activities outlined in the program description. The PMP will outline key program activities, indicators of achievement, and associated annual and life-of-project targets. This plan will be reviewed and approved by the AOR.

c. Quarterly Performance Reports

The Recipient will submit quarterly reports that give insight into the progress of planned activities. The narrative report will include qualitative and quantitative information describing activities carried out and specific results achieved during the quarter. In addition, the narrative report will indicate key implementation challenges encountered and how they were or are planned to be resolved. To the extent that the PMP includes quarterly targets, this should be reflected in the narrative report. Reporting periods will coincide with USAID fiscal year quarters, with reports due no later than thirty (30) days after the end of each quarter (e.g. February 1, May 1, August 1, November 1), or by any other schedule agreed upon with the USAID AOR. The report should also include budgeted versus actual expenditures (along with a brief analysis of any variance) and estimated accruals for the quarter.

d. Quarterly Financial Reporting

The Recipient will submit electronic copies of Financial Reports (quarterly SF 425 and final SF 425) in keeping with 22 CFR 226. The SF 425 must be submitted via electronic format to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (http://www.dpm.psc.gov). In addition, copies of all final financial reports shall be submitted to M/FM and the AOR.

e. Annual Reports

Within 90 days after the close of each USAID fiscal year, the Recipient will submit to the AOR a comprehensive annual report that reflects the progress of program activities over the last year. (This report would complement, not replace, the relevant quarterly reports.) The report, based on the approved PMP but not necessarily limited to such, should indicate the results and impact the program is having on the target beneficiaries.

f. Closeout Plan

Six months prior to the completion date of the agreement, the Recipient will submit a demobilization plan for Agreement Officer approval. The demobilization plan shall include a) draft property disposition plan, b) plan for the phase-out of in-country operations, c) delivery schedule for all reports or other deliverables required under the agreement, and d) timetable for completing all required actions in the demobilization plan, including the submission date of the final property disposition plan to the Agreement Officer

g. Final Report

The final performance report is a detailed report which summarizes the accomplishments and impact in relation to the expected results, in accordance with the approved PMP. It should contain a three-page executive summary, an index of all reports and information products produced under the agreement, and should discuss the elements listed in 22 CFR 226.51(d).

The report shall be submitted no later than 90 days after the end-date of the agreement to the Agreement Officer, and the AOR. In addition, an electronic copy must be submitted either:

a) Online: http://dec.usaid.gov
b) By mail (for pouch delivery):
DEXS Document Submissions
M/CIO/KM/DEC
RRB M.01-010
Washington, DC 20523-6100

For questions on DEC submissions, contact:
M/CIO/KM/DEC
Telephone: +1 202-712-0579 E-mail: DocSubmit@usaid.gov

[END SECTION VI]

SECTION VII – AGENCY CONTACTS

The point of contact for this RFA and for any questions during the RFA process is:

Andrea M. Plucknett
Regional Agreement Officer
U.S. Agency for International Development
East Africa Regional Mission
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
P.O. Box 629 Village market 00621
Nairobi, Kenya
Email: aplucknett@usaid.gov

and

Ali M. Ali
Regional Agreement Specialist
U.S. Agency for International Development
East Africa Regional Mission
United Nations Avenue, Gigiri
P.O. Box 629 Village market 00621
Nairobi, Kenya
Email: aali@usaid.gov

Any prospective applicant desiring an explanation or interpretation of this RFA must request it in writing by the date listed on the cover letter to allow a reply to reach all prospective applicants before the submission of their applications. Oral explanations or instructions given before award of a Cooperative Agreement will not be binding. Any information given to a prospective applicant concerning this RFA will be furnished promptly to all other prospective applicants as an amendment of this RFA, if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective applicants.

[END SECTION VII]

SECTION VIII – OTHER INFORMATION

Resulting awards to U.S. Non-government Organizations will be administered in accordance with Chapter 303 of USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS 303), 22 CFR 226, applicable OMB Circulars (i.e., A-21 for Universities or A-122 for Non-Profit Organizations, and A-133), and Standard Provisions for Non-Governmental Organizations.

ADS 303 is available at: http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303maa.pdf. 22 CFR 226 is available at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_06/22cfr226_06.html. Applicable OMB Circulars are available at: http://www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/circulars/index.html. Standard Provisions for U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations are available at: http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303maa.pdf.

Resulting award to Public International Organizations (PIOs, or IOs) will be administered in accordance with Chapter 308 of USAID's ADS including the Standard Provisions set forth in ADS-308.5.15.

Potential for-profit applicants should note that USAID policy prohibits the payment of fee/profit to the prime recipient under grants and cooperative agreements. However, if a prime recipient has a subcontract with a for-profit organization for the acquisition of goods or services (i.e., if a buyer-seller relationship is created), fee/profit for the subcontractor is authorized.

Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations are available at: http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303mab.pdf. ADS-308 is available at: http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/308mab.pdf.

The USAID Inspector-General's "Guidelines for Financial Audits Contracted by Foreign Recipients" is available at: http://www.usaid.gov/oig/legal/audauth/rcapguid.pdf.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

1a) Section 117 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, requires that the impact of USAID's activities on the environment be considered and that USAID include environmental sustainability as a central consideration in designing and carrying out its development programs. This mandate is codified in Federal Regulations (22 CFR 216) and in USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS) Parts 201.5.10g and 204 (http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/200/), which, in part, require that the potential environmental impacts of USAID-financed activities are identified prior to a final decision to proceed and that appropriate environmental safeguards are adopted for all activities.

1b) In addition, the Recipient must comply with host country environmental regulations unless otherwise directed in writing by USAID. In case of conflict between host country and USAID regulations, the latter shall govern.

2 USAID prepared and approved an Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) for the program funding this grant (***Attachment 2_USAID-EA Cross-Border Integrated Partnership Project ----------IEE***). The IEE covers activities expected to be implemented under this grant. USAID has determined that a Negative Determination with conditions applies to one or more of the proposed activities. This indicates that if these activities are implemented subject to the specified management conditions, they are expected to have no significant adverse effect on the environment. The Recipient shall be responsible for implementing all IEE conditions pertaining to activities to be funded under this award.

3a) The IEE contains one or more Negative Determinations with conditions relevant to this program pertaining to sub grants and sub awards. This requires the Recipient to: Complete an environmental mitigation and monitoring plan (EMMP) describing how the Recipient will, in specific terms, implement the management conditions that apply to the above proposed project activities within the scope of the award. The EMMP shall include monitoring the implementation of the required mitigation measures and their effectiveness. The attached IEE has a template EMMP

4a) A provision for sub-grants is included under this award. The Recipient will be required to use an Environmental Review Form (ERF) checklist found at http://www.encapafrica.org/documents/AFR-EnvReviewForm-20Dec2010.doc to screen grant proposals to ensure the funded proposals will result in no adverse environmental impact, to develop mitigation measures, as necessary, and to specify monitoring and reporting. The Recipient is responsible for ensuring that mitigation measures specified by the ERF checklist process are implemented.

5b) The Recipient will be responsible for periodic reporting to the USAID Agreement Officer's Representative, as specified in this Program Description of this award.

REPORTING OF FOREIGN TAXES

(a) Reports. The Contractor must annually submit a report by April 16 of the next year.

(b) Contents of Report. The reports must contain: (i) Contractor name. (ii) Contact name with phone, fax and email. (iii) Agreement number(s). (iv) Amount of foreign taxes assessed by a foreign government [each foreign government must be listed separately] on commodity purchase transactions valued at $500 or more financed with U.S. foreign assistance funds under this agreement during the prior U.S. fiscal year. (v) Only foreign taxes assessed by the foreign government in the country receiving U.S. assistance are to be reported. Foreign taxes by a third party foreign government are not to be reported. For example, if an assistance program for Lesotho involves the purchase of commodities in South Africa using foreign assistance funds, any taxes imposed by South Africa would not be reported in the report for Lesotho (or South Africa). (vi) Any reimbursements received by the Contractor during the period in (iv) regardless of when the foreign tax was assessed plus, for the interim report, any reimbursements on the taxes reported in (iv) received by the Contractor through October 31 and for the final report, any reimbursements on the taxes reported in (iv) received through March 31. (vii) The final report is an updated cumulative report of the interim report. (viii) Reports are required even if the Contractor/recipient did not pay any taxes during the report period. (ix) Cumulative reports may be provided if the Contractor/recipient is implementing more than one program in a foreign country.

(c) Definitions. For purposes of this clause: (i) "Agreement" includes USAID direct and country contracts, grants, cooperative agreements and interagency agreements. (ii) "Commodity" means any material, article, supply, goods, or equipment. (iii) "Foreign government" includes any foreign governmental entity. (iv) "Foreign taxes" means value-added taxes and custom duties assessed by a foreign government on a commodity. It does not include foreign sales taxes.

(d) Where. Submit the reports to USAID/EA/RFMS at nairobirfmspayments@usaid.gov

(e) Subagreements. The Contractor must include this reporting requirement in all applicable subcontracts, subgrants and other subagreements.

(f) For further information see http://www.state.gov/m/rm/c10443.htm.

[END SECTION VIII]

SECTION IX – ANNEXES

ANNEX A – STANDARD PROVISIONS

The following Standard Provisions are provided below in full text:

- Branding Strategy - Assistance (June 2012)
- Marking Plan – Assistance (June 2012)
- Conscience Clause Implementation (Assistance) – Solicitation Provision (February 2012)
- Central Contractor Registration and Universal Identifier (October 2010)
- Reporting Subawards And Executive Compensation (October 2010)

1. BRANDING STRATEGY - ASSISTANCE (JUNE 2012)

a. Applicants recommended for an assistance award must submit and negotiate a "Branding Strategy," describing how the program, project, or activity is named and positioned, and how it is promoted and communicated to beneficiaries and host country citizens.

b. The request for a Branding Strategy, by the Agreement Officer from the applicant, confers no rights to the applicant and constitutes no USAID commitment to an award.

c. Failure to submit and negotiate a Branding Strategy within the time frame specified by the Agreement Officer will make the applicant ineligible for an award.

d. The applicant must include all estimated costs associated with branding and marking USAID programs, such as plaques, stickers, banners, press events, materials, and so forth, in the budget portion of the application. These costs are subject to the revision and negotiation with the Agreement Officer and will be incorporated into the Total Estimated Amount of the grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance instrument.

e. The Branding Strategy must include, at a minimum, all of the following:

(1) All estimated costs associated with branding and marking USAID programs, such as plaques, stickers, banners, press events, materials, and so forth.

(2) The intended name of the program, project, or activity.

(i) USAID prefers to have the “USAID Identity,” comprised of the USAID logo and brandmark, with the tagline “from the American people” as found on the USAID Web site at transition.usaid.gov/branding, included as part of the program or project name.

(ii) USAID prefers local language translations of the phrase “made possible by (or with) the generous support of the American People” next to the USAID Identity when acknowledging contributions.

(iii) It is acceptable to cobrand the title with the USAID Identity and the applicant's identity.

(iv) If branding in the above manner is inappropriate or not possible, the applicant must explain how USAID's involvement will be showcased during publicity for the program or project.

(v) USAID prefers to fund projects that do not have a separate logo or identity that competes with the USAID Identity. If there is a plan to develop a separate logo to consistently identify this program, the applicant must attach a copy of the proposed logos.

(3) The intended primary and secondary audiences for this project or program, including direct beneficiaries and any special target segments.

(4) Planned communication or program materials used to explain or market the program to beneficiaries.

(i) Describe the main program message.

(ii) Provide plans for training materials, posters, pamphlets, public service announcement, billboards, Web sites, and so forth, as appropriate.

(iii) Provide any plans to announce and promote publicly this program or project to host country citizens, such as media releases, press conferences, public events, and so forth. Applicant must incorporate the USAID Identity and the message, “USAID is from the American People.”

(iv) Provide any additional ideas to increase awareness that the American people support this project or program.

(5) Information on any direct involvement from host-country government or ministry, including any planned acknowledgement of the host-country government.

(6) Any other groups whose logo or identity the applicant will use on program materials and related materials. Indicate if they are a donor or why they will be visibly acknowledged, and if they will receive the same prominence as USAID.

f. The Agreement Officer will consider the Branding Strategy's adequacy in the award criteria. The Branding Strategy will be reviewed to ensure the above information is adequately included and consistent with the stated objectives of the award, the applicant's cost data submissions, and the performance plan.

g. If the applicant receives an assistance award, the Branding Strategy will be included in and made part of the resulting grant or cooperative agreement

(END OF PROVISION)

2. MARKING PLAN – ASSISTANCE (JUNE 2012)

a. Applicants recommended for an assistance award must submit and negotiate a “Marking Plan,” detailing the public communications, commodities, and program materials, and other items that will visibly bear the "USAID Identity," which comprises of the USAID logo and brandmark, with the tagline "from the American people." The USAID Identity is the official marking for the Agency, and is found on the USAID Web site at http://transition.usaid.gov/branding.

b. The request for a Marking Plan, by the Agreement Officer from the applicant, confers no rights to the applicant and constitutes no USAID commitment to an award.

c. Failure to submit and negotiate a Marking Plan within the time frame specified by the Agreement Officer will make the applicant ineligible for an award.

d. The applicant must include all estimated costs associated with branding and marking USAID programs, such as plaques, stickers, banners, press events, materials, and so forth, in the budget portion of the application. These costs are subject to the revision and negotiation with the Agreement Officer and will be incorporated into the Total Estimated Amount of the grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance instrument.

e. The Marking Plan must include all of the following:

(1) A description of the public communications, commodities, and program materials that the applicant plans to produce and which will bear the USAID Identity as part of the award, including:

(i) Program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects or other sites physical in nature;

(ii) Technical assistance, studies, reports, papers, publications, audio-visual productions, public service announcements, Web sites/Internet activities, promotional, informational, media, or communications products funded by USAID;

(iii) Commodities, equipment, supplies, and other materials funded by USAID, including commodities or equipment provided under humanitarian assistance or disaster relief programs; and

(iv) It is acceptable to cobrand the title with the USAID Identity and the applicant's identity.

(v) Events financed by USAID, such as training courses, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, fairs, workshops, press conferences and other public activities. If the USAID Identity cannot be displayed, the recipient is encouraged to otherwise acknowledge USAID and the support of the American people.

(2) A table on the program deliverables with the following details:

(i) The program deliverables that the applicant plans to mark with the USAID Identity;

(ii) The type of marking and what materials the applicant will use to mark the program deliverables;

(iii) When in the performance period the applicant will mark the program deliverables, and where the applicant will place the marking;

(iv) What program deliverables the applicant does not plan to mark with the USAID Identity , and

(v) The rationale for not marking program deliverables.

(3) Any requests for an exemption from USAID marking requirements, and an explanation of why the exemption would apply. The applicant may request an exemption if USAID marking requirements would:

(i) Compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of a program or materials where independence or neutrality is an inherent aspect of the program and materials. The applicant must identify the USAID Strategic Objective, Interim Result, or program goal furthered by an appearance of neutrality, or state why an aspect of the award is presumptively neutral. Identify by category or deliverable item, examples of material for which an exemption is sought.

(ii) Diminish the credibility of audits, reports, analyses, studies, or policy recommendations whose data or findings must be seen as independent. The applicant must explain why each particular deliverable must be seen as credible.

(iii) Undercut host-country government "ownership" of constitutions, laws, regulations, policies, studies, assessments, reports, publications, surveys or audits, public service announcements, or other communications. The applicant must explain why each particular item or product is better positioned as host-country government item or product.

(iv) Impair the functionality of an item. The applicant must explain how marking the item or commodity would impair its functionality.

(v) Incur substantial costs or be impractical. The applicant must explain why marking would not be cost beneficial or practical.

(vi) Offend local cultural or social norms, or be considered inappropriate. The applicant must identify the relevant norm, and explain why marking would violate that norm or otherwise be inappropriate.

(vii) Conflict with international law. The applicant must identify the applicable international law violated by the marking.

f. The Agreement Officer will consider the Marking Plan's adequacy and reasonableness in the award criteria, and will approve and disapprove any exemption requests. The Marking Plan will be reviewed to ensure the above information is adequately included and consistent with the stated objectives of the award, the applicant's cost data submissions, and the performance plan.

g. If the applicant receives an assistance award, the Marking Plan, including any approved exemptions, will be included in and made part of the resulting grant or cooperative agreement, and will apply for the term of the award unless provided otherwise.

(END OF PROVISION)

3. CONSCIENCE CLAUSE IMPLEMENTATION (ASSISTANCE) – SOLICITATION PROVISION (FEBRUARY 2012)

a. An organization, including a faith-based organization, that is otherwise eligible to receive funds under this agreement for HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, or care—

(1) Must not be required, as a condition of receiving such assistance—

(i) to endorse or utilize a multisectoral or comprehensive approach to combating HIV/AIDS; or

(ii) to endorse, utilize, make a referral to, become integrated with, or otherwise participate in any program or activity to which the organization has a religious or moral objection; and

(2) Must not be discriminated against in the solicitation or issuance of grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements for refusing to meet any requirement described in paragraph (a)(1) above.

b. An applicant who believes that this solicitation contains provisions or requirements that would require it to endorse or use an approach or participate in an activity to which it has a religious or moral objection must so notify the cognizant Agreement Officer in accordance with the Standard Provision "Notices" as soon as possible, and in any event not later than 15 calendar days before the deadline for submission of applications under this solicitation. The applicant must advise which activity(ies) it could not implement and the nature of the religious or moral objection.

c. In responding to the solicitation, an applicant with a religious or moral objection may compete for any funding opportunity as a prime partner, or as a leader or member of a consortium that comes together to compete for an award. Alternatively, such applicant may limit its application to those activities it can undertake and must indicate in its submission the activity(ies) it has excluded based on religious or moral objection. The offeror's proposal will be evaluated based on the activities for which a proposal is submitted, and will not be evaluated favorably or unfavorably due to the absence of a proposal addressing the activity(ies) to which it objected and which it thus omitted. In addition to the notification in paragraph (b) above, the applicant must meet the submission date provided for in the solicitation.

(END OF PROVISION)

4. CENTRAL CONTRACTOR REGISTRATION AND UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER (OCTOBER 2010)

a. Requirement for Central Contractor Registration (CCR). Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain the currency of your information in the CCR until you submit the final financial report required under this award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. This requires that you review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently, if required by changes in your information or another award term.

b. Requirement for Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) numbers. If you are authorized to make subawards under this award, you:

(1) Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph c. of this award term) may receive a subaward from you unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.

(2) May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its DUNS number to you.

c. **Definitions.** For purposes of this award term:

(1) Central Contractor Registration (CCR) means the Federal repository into which an entity must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the CCR Internet site (currently at www.ccr.gov).

(2) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number means the nine-digit number established and assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. (D&B) to uniquely identify business entities. A DUNS number may be obtained from D&B by telephone (currently 866-705-5711) or the Internet (currently at **fedgov.dnb.com/webform**).

(3) Entity, as it is used in this award term, means all of the following, as defined at 2 CFR 25, subpart C:

(i) A governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;

(ii) A foreign public entity;

(iii) A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;

(iv) A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and

(v) A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.

(4) Subaward:

(i) This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.

(ii) The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see Sec. --.210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations").

(iii) A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you consider a contract.

(5) Subrecipient means an entity that:

(i) Receives a subaward from you under this award; and

(ii) Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.

ADDENDUM (JUNE 2012):

a. **Exceptions.** The requirements of this provision to obtain a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number and maintain a current registration in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) do not apply, at the prime award or subaward level, to:

(1) Awards to individuals

(2) Awards less than $25,000 to foreign recipients to be performed outside the United States (based on a USAID determination)

(3) Awards where the Agreement Officer determines, in writing, that these requirements would cause personal safety concerns.

b. This provision does not need to be included in subawards.

(END OF PROVISION)

5. REPORTING SUBAWARDS AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (OCTOBER 2010)

a. Reporting of first-tier subawards.

(1) Applicability. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that obligates $25,000 or more in Federal funds that does not include Recovery funds (as defined in section 1512(a)(2) of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Pub. L. 111-5) for a subaward to an entity (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).

(2) Where and when to report.

(i) You must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.(1) of this award term to www.fsrs.gov.

(ii) For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)

(3) What to report. You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at www.fsrs.gov specify.

b. Reporting Total Compensation of Recipient Executives.

(1) Applicability and what to report. You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if –

(i) The total Federal funding authorized to date under this award is $25,000 or more;

(ii) In the preceding fiscal year, you received—

(A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and

(B) $25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and

(iii) The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm.)

(2) Where and when to report. You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.(1) of this award term:

(i) As part of your registration profile at www.bpn.gov/ccr.

(ii) By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.

c. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.

(1) Applicability and what to report. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier subrecipient under this award, you must report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if–

(i) In the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—

(A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and

(B) $25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and

(ii) The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm.)

(2) Where and when to report. You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.(1) of this award term:

(i) To the recipient.

(ii) By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (for example, between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.

d. Exemptions.

If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under $300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:

(1) Subawards, and

(2) The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.

e. Definitions.

For purposes of this award term:

(1) Entity means all of the following, as defined in 2 CFR 25:

(i) A governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;

(ii) A foreign public entity;

(iii) A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization;

(iv) A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and

(v) A Federal agency, but only as a subrecipient under an award or subaward to a non-Federal entity.

(2) Executive means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.

(3) Subaward:

(i) This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.

(ii) The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see Sec. __.210 of the attachment to OMB Circular A-133, “Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non- Profit Organizations”).

(iii) A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.

(4) Subrecipient means an entity that:

(i) Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and

(ii) Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.

(5) Total compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient’s or subrecipient’s preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see 17 CFR 229.402(c)(2)):

(i) Salary and bonus.

(ii) Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights. Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.

(iii) Earnings for services under nonequity incentive plans. This does not include group life, health, hospitalization, or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives, and are available generally to all salaried employees.

(iv) Change in pension value. This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.

(v) Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified.

(vi) Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (for example, severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites or property) for the executive exceeds $10,000.

(END OF PROVISION)

[END OF SECTION IX]

SECTION X - Attachments

Attachment 1 **– Budget Template**

Attachment 2 **– IEE**

Attachment 3 **-The East Africa Cross-Border Health Study Report, Feb 11, 2014**

Attachment 4 **– East African Community First Meeting of Regional Task Force on Integrated Health and HIV and AIDS Programming along Transport Corridors in East Africa- 10-11 February 2014**

Attachment 5 - **East African Community 11th Meeting of the Technical Working Group on HIV & Aids, TB and Malaria**

Attachment 6 **– Final Evaluation Report on the Roads to a Healthy Future (ROADS II) Project in East, Central and Southern Africa**

Attachment 7 **– International Organization for Migration Meeting Briefing, Coordinated Scale-Up of Comprehensive Health Programming along Transport Corridors in East Africa, and in particular at One Stop Border Posts (OSBP) 30 September – 1 October 2013**

Attachment 8 **- Extending HIV and Broader Health Programming along Transport Corridors within the East African Community Practicum Report, Nairobi, Kenya, September 9-11, 2013**

[END OF SECTION X]