



Issue Date:

November 25, 2019

Application Submission Closing Date:

December 11, 2019 [3:00 pm Lusaka Time]

Subject:

Amendment 01 to Notice of Funding Opportunity Number (NOFO):
72061120RFA00001;

Program Title:

**Service Delivery for Vulnerable Children and Adolescents
(SDVCA) under existing New Partnerships Initiative Global
Health Annual Program Statement (NPI GH APS) No.:
7200AA19APS00013**

The purpose of this letter is to amend Notice of Funding Opportunity Number 72061120RFA00001, in order to extend the application submission date from December 03, 2019 to December 11, 2019 and notify interested applicants of the responses to the questions received which are attached hereto and provide an updated NOFO.

Please note that based on the nature of questions received on the Round 3 NOFO, **USAID has decided to pursue Modality I only** at this time. Further, a request for concept papers on Modality 3 may be considered at a later stage depending on the outcome of the solicitation.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mohib Ahmed
Supervisory Agreement Officer
Director, Office of Acquisition and Assistance

ATTACHMENT I – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ROUND 3 CALL FOR CONCEPT PAPERS NOFO# 72061120RFA00001 on

**LOCALLY SOURCED SOLUTIONS FOR “SERVICE DELIVERY FOR
VULNERABLE CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS (SDVCA)”**

UNDER EXISTING
NEW PARTNERSHIPS INITIATIVE GLOBAL HEALTH ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT
(NPI GH APS) No.: 7200AA19APS00013

PLEASE NOTE: This is a Round to an existing United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Annual Program Statement (APS). All interested organizations should carefully review both this Round AND APS No. 7200AA19APS00013, which can be found here:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=NPI%20Global%20Health>.

Important information contained in the full worldwide APS is not repeated in this Round’s documentation.

In Round 3 entitled “Service Delivery for Vulnerable Children and Adolescents (SDVCA)”, of the New Partnership Initiative (NPI) Global Health (GH) Annual Program Statement (APS) No. 7200AA19APS00013, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is making a special call for the submission of Concept Papers focused on promoting new and under-utilized¹ partnerships to accelerate and sustain HIV epidemic control in Zambia through the delivery of high impact HIV prevention, care and support services to vulnerable children and adolescents (VCA) and their caregivers affected or infected by HIV. Consistent with U.S. policy on assistance to Zambia, awards issued under Round 3: SDVCA will focus on mitigating and preventing HIV and supporting the resilience of vulnerable populations.

Round 3: SDVCA is also intended to diversify and broaden USAID’s partner base, as described in the NPI GH APS. This Round 3: SDVCA will be utilizing **modality one (I)** of the NPI GH APS.

All terms and conditions of Round 3 and the NPI GH APS apply
(<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=NPI%20Global%20Health>).

Issuance Date of Round 3: SDVCA: October 10, 2019

Deadline for Questions before the Submission of Round 3: SDVCA Concept

¹ An under-utilized partner is defined by the Agency as an organization that has received less than \$25 million in direct or indirect awards from USAID over the past five years. The five years is relative to when the organization is applying to a USAID procurement/funding opportunity.

Papers: October 23, 2019 at 3:00 pm [Lusaka Time]

Deadline for Submission of Concept Papers for Round 3: SDVCA: December 11, 2019 at 3:00 pm [Lusaka Time]

SECTION I: OVERVIEW OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The U. S. Agency for International Development's Bureau for Global Health (USAID/GH) is pleased to have issued Rounds 1 and 2 under the New Partnerships Initiative Global Health (NPI GH) Annual Program Statement (APS). Under Round 3 entitled Service Delivery for Vulnerable Children and Adolescents (SDVCA), USAID/GH is seeking Concept Papers focused on promoting new and underutilized partnerships to accelerate and sustain HIV epidemic control in Zambia through the delivery of high impact HIV prevention, care and support services to vulnerable children, adolescents and care givers affected or infected by HIV.

USAID is seeking to support applicants as defined in the NPI GH APS **as modality one (1)** (In Round 3, the host country is Zambia). Please see Section III for additional details about the definition of a local entity in this Round.

The program seeks to improve the resilience and health outcomes of vulnerable households in the four provinces of Zambia with the highest HIV burdens, (Central, Copperbelt, Lusaka and Southern), while strengthening the Government of the Republic of Zambia's (GRZ) social protection platform so that the GRZ eventually provides the majority of services to VCA. By developing and strengthening community-level case management standards and processes and building the capacity of district level GRZ officials and community-based volunteers, the program will strengthen the GRZ child and welfare system. Through government and community-led activities, the program will support a broad range of services that fall within the PEPFAR mandates across USAID/Zambia's broader health and development agenda and expected PEPFAR results. The program will seek to foster community participation and volunteerism, and support innovative approaches to engaging a broad range of stakeholders and service providers, to support sustainable activities for VCA in the targeted provinces. USAID envisages that the program will play a key role in the Determined Resilient Empowered AIDS-Free Mentored and Safe (DREAMS) program (and future "DREAMS-like" initiatives), which targets adolescent girls and young women (AGYW), through supportive bi-directional referrals and linkages to layered evidence-based interventions.

Activities under Round 3: SDVCA should aim to ensure that children are healthy by improving access to health/HIV services; safe by improving child protection and prevention of GBV (with particular focus on preventing sexual violence for boys and girls aged 9-14); stable by improving household economic security and linkage to social protection; and schooled by improving school access, retention and progression and early childhood development. These activities should be entrenched in a family-centered, child-focused HIV-inclusive case management system. Additionally, activities will conduct capacity building of child-support structures such as family, community, non-governmental organizations, and the GRZ, in line with USAID's Journey to Self-Reliance policy objectives.

Applicants that demonstrate an evidence-based approach that targets specific sub-populations with age and developmentally-appropriate interventions will be preferred. Sub-populations may include: children living with HIV (CLHIV), HIV-exposed infants, children with an HIV-positive caregiver, double and single orphans, adolescent girls and young women at-risk for HIV, children who are survivors of gender-based violence, and children whose caregiver is a female

sex worker.

USAID is seeking to work and invest directly with local Zambian organizations whose applications demonstrate an intimate knowledge of PEPFAR objectives for VCA in the context of the HIV epidemic as well as an understanding of community and government structures in target districts.

The program is intended to provide evidence-based services that will deliver measurable results for VCA and their caregivers. USAID is seeking applications that demonstrate approaches to fulfill these objectives through any of the following activities:

1. **Health:** Improve children and adolescents' access to health services with a focus on high impact HIV services (e.g. HIV Testing Services (HTS); HIV care and support; Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission (PMTCT); ART adherence support; Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision (VMMC); Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) screening and treatment; condoms; Tuberculosis screening, diagnosis, and treatment; post-violence care and Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)); Strengthen and support of linkages and referral systems between community and clinic-based programs;
2. **Education support:** Increase school access, attendance, and progression of VCA. Education activities will be aligned with ongoing USAID Education programs where practical;
3. **Psychosocial Care and Support:** Structured, evidence-based interventions that support VCA to build self-efficacy and enable them to navigate the social and psychological vulnerabilities of adolescence, especially those focused on sexual and reproductive health and prevention of HIV and sexual violence;
4. **Household Economic Strengthening (HES):** Structured, evidence-based interventions that reduce the economic vulnerability of families, strengthen their resilience, and empower them to provide for the essential needs of the household;
5. **Child Protection:** Prevent and respond to child abuse, neglect, and exploitation, with particular focus on prevention of sexual violence for 9-14 year-old adolescents;
6. **Capacity Building:** Capacity-building and systems strengthening interventions: (e.g. trainings in case management; data collection, use and analysis; service quality assurance and improvement; and financial management).

SECTION II: AWARD INFORMATION

A. Funding

Subject to the availability of funds, USAID intends to provide up to \$50 million in total USAID funding to be allocated over five years. USAID reserves the right to make or not to make awards through this APS Round 3. The actual number and type of assistance awards, if any, under Round 3: SDVCA is subject to the availability of funds, the interests and requirements of USAID, and the viability of applications received. There is no pre-defined minimum or maximum number of partners or partnerships USAID will support through Round 3. USAID will not provide funds under this APS for products and services that it would otherwise purchase through a contract.

B. Period of Performance

For Round 3: SDVCA, the anticipated start date for the award(s) is on or about 150 days after the issuance of this Round.

SECTION III: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Through Round 3: SDVCA, the resulting award(s) will work with new and underutilized partners as described in this document (see below), based on the belief that a larger and more diverse partner base will expand the available ideas, capabilities and networks needed to sustainably address shared development challenges. This opportunity directly responds to the PEPFAR goal of transitioning to local organizations and the USAID Administrator's vision of a Journey to Self-Reliance by creating sustainable local capacity.

Please see Section III of the NPI GH APS for eligibility information. Under Round 3: SDVCA of the APS, the organization must align with **modality one (1)** to be considered eligible.

Modality 1: Direct awards are given to new and underutilized organizations that are local entities in the host country(ies) in which the applicant is applying. New and underutilized partners that are local entities in Zambia may apply for direct funding in Round 3: SDVCA issued under the NPI GH APS. An underutilized partner is defined by the Agency as an organization that has received less than \$25 million in direct or indirect awards from USAID over the past five years. The five years is relative to when the organization is applying to a USAID procurement/funding opportunity.

Round 3: SDVCA uses the PEPFAR definition of a Local Partner. Under PEPFAR, a local partner may be an individual, a sole proprietorship, or an entity. However, under this phase, for the applicant to be considered a local partner, the applicant must self-certify and submit supporting documentation demonstrating their organization meets the criteria listed below.

(2) An entity (e.g., a corporation or partnership):

- a) Must be incorporated or legally organized under the laws of, and have its principal place of business in the country served by the PEPFAR program with which the entity is or may become involved;*
- b) Must be at least 75% beneficially owned by individuals who are citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per sub-paragraph (2)(a);*
- c) At least 75% of the entity's staff (senior, mid-level, support) must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per subparagraph (2)(a), and at least 75% of the entity's senior staff (i.e., managerial and professional personnel) must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of such country; and*
- d) Where an entity has a Board of Directors, at least 51% of the members of the Board must also be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of such country.*

SECTION IV: INFORMATION ON APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION

A. Agency Point of Contact

All correspondence must be directed to Mohib Ahmed and Alfred Kapambwe at aaa-solicit-lusaka@usaid.gov.

B. Concept Paper Instructions

Applicants are required to follow the Submission Information instructions set forth in Section IV of the NPI GH APS and submit Concept Papers using the Concept Paper Template in Annex A of this Round 3 document.

For Round 3: SDVCA, interested applicants should submit a Concept Paper via email to the POC listed in Section IV.A above. Under 5 CFR 1320, the Paperwork Reduction Action, only electronic copies of Concept Papers will be accepted. The Concept Papers must be received by the deadline on the cover page of this document for Round 3 (demonstrated by the timestamp on the email when received by USAID).

When emailing a Concept Paper, each applicant must include the APS number and Round name in the subject line of the email and attachment/file name(s). USAID's email server cannot handle more than 25 MBs of attachments per email. If the applicant must divide the submission into more than one email, please number the emails in the subject line and indicate in the email's subject line the desired sequence of emails (i.e. 7200AA19APS00013, Round 3: SDVCA, Email 1 of 3). It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all necessary documentation is complete and received on time. In the event of technical difficulties, please contact USAID at the email address above.

All Concept Papers received by the submission deadline on the Cover Page will be reviewed for responsiveness to the APS and specific to the Round and the required format. Section IV. E below addresses the technical review procedures for the Concept Papers. No additions or modifications will be accepted after the submission date. Concept papers that are submitted late or are incomplete may not be considered for the co-creation process. Additional information in the Concept Paper not requested by the APS and this Round may adversely affect an applicant's evaluation/review.

Clarity and specificity are important; during the merit review process, USAID may reject those Concept Papers that are vague or merely restate language found in the APS and Round 3.

If USAID identifies opportunities to strengthen or fund a Concept Paper or application by connecting it with other USAID mechanisms, other potential funders, and/or external partners, USAID may make that Concept Paper or application available, internally or externally, for appropriate consideration.

C. Round 3: SDVCA Concept Paper Content and Format

From the NPI GH APS: NOTE -- To be considered as a potential prime on a full

application, an organization must submit a Concept Paper to the relevant Round. Please note that a single organization may not submit more than one Concept Paper to Round 3: SDVCA. If an organization submits more than one Concept Paper, only the first one received by timestamp at USAID will be evaluated.

This section presents guidance for the structure of the Concept Paper for Round 3: SDVCA. To facilitate the competitive review of the Concept Papers, USAID will only consider Concept Papers conforming to the format prescribed below.

Concept Papers must be written in English and submitted electronically via e-mail in Word 2000 or Word 2003 text accessible or Adobe PDF. The Concept Paper must be written in Times New Roman 12-point font, on standard 8.5" x 11" paper, and be single spaced with one-inch margins and consecutively numbered pages. The Concept Paper must not exceed five (5) pages, excluding responses to Section A of the template (Cover Page). Concept Papers with more than five (5) pages will not be evaluated. Figures, graphics, and tables may have less than Times New Roman 12-point font. The Concept Paper must adhere to the template in Annex A of this document (it has been revised from the template in the NPI GH APS). Any Concept Paper not adhering to this format below will not be evaluated. Any additional reference material pages will be removed prior to evaluation.

D. Application Process

PHASE I: SUBMISSION OF CONCEPT PAPERS

A Concept Paper is a short document, not to exceed five (5) pages, in which the Applicant provides an overview of its idea. USAID has provided a template in Annex A.

Applicants may submit a Concept Paper in response to an active Round to the NPI GH APS at any time. USAID will acknowledge the submission of Concept Papers within three (3) business days. USAID will review Concept Papers against the merit review criteria detailed in the NPI GH APS and Round 3.

USAID will provide individual results to each applicant within 20 working days following the meeting of the Selection Committee or Technical Evaluation Committee. USAID will notify potential Applicants of significant changes in the review process timeline through a written amendment to Round 3. USAID, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to review Concept Papers out of cycle.

USAID anticipates two (2) possible results from the Concept Paper merit review process:

- **Conditional Acceptance** - Invited for Co-Creation: The Concept Paper generally meets the objectives of the Round 3: SDVCA, and receives strong ratings against the merit review criteria in the NPI GH APS and Round 3: SDVCA. Additional clarity is needed. USAID invites the Applicant to engage in Co-Creation to address the weaknesses identified. If the applicant concludes the Co-Creation process successfully, USAID will follow with a request for the submission of a full application.

- **Rejection:** Concept Paper does not meet the objectives of Round 3: SDVCA, and receives inadequate ratings against the merit review criteria in the NPI GH APS and this Round. The USAID Mission or Bureau/Independent Office (B/IO) rejects the Concept Paper.

Evergreening

If USAID identifies opportunities to strengthen or fund a Concept Note or application by connecting it with other USAID mechanisms, other potential funders, and/or external partners, USAID may make that Concept Note or application available, internally or externally, for appropriate consideration.

PHASE 2: CO-CREATION

USAID will determine the need and extent of co-creation required with the successful concept paper applicants (those whose concept papers receive “Conditional Acceptance”). All “Conditionally Accepted” Applicants will be notified with instructions under separate letter on the co-creation process after the submission of the concept notes. Those Applicants who are not “Conditionally Accepted” will be promptly notified. USAID also reserves the right to not conduct a co-creation phase at all and request full applications from successful concept paper applicants.

PHASE 3: FULL APPLICATION.

If an Applicant successfully completes Co-Creation, USAID will request a full application based on the consensus reached during Phase 2. At this point, USAID will issue a Request for Application (RFA) to the Applicant. The RFA will provide complete instructions for the submission of a full application. The full application will detail, and expand upon, the concept developed through Co-Creation. The full application also requires the Applicant to complete specific U.S. Government forms, and to provide some additional information that USAID will need to move forward with an appropriate implementing instrument.

There are reasons why an Applicant could be unsuccessful at the full application phase. For example:

- The detailed program does not satisfy the criteria and definitions provided in the Concept Paper;
- The Applicant cannot provide evidence that it is a legal entity in the Republic of Zambia; or
- USAID has other concerns after conducting due diligence or pre-award surveys.
- Does not meet the definition of “Local Partner” as outlined in Round 3: SDVCA.

USAID reserves the right to make no award under Round 3 at any stage of the process.

E. Merit Review Criteria

USAID will review for merit all Concept Paper applications that comply with the instructions in this Round 3: SDVCA to the NPI GH APS. Concept papers for Round 3: SDVCA will be reviewed by a Merit Review Committee according to the criteria described below. The purpose of this review is to ensure that prospective partners bring appropriate capabilities, experiences and potential contributions to the co-creation process and ultimately the implementation of activities. A Concept Paper is determined to be successful if it receives a Conditional Acceptance overall based on the **four (4)** criteria below, which are listed in descending order of importance. [Note: The criteria below are for the Concept Paper only. Additional criteria will be circulated as a part of a full request for applications for selected successful Concept Paper applicants at a future date.]

The merit based review of Concept papers under this Round 3: SDVCA must include the following criteria:

Merit Review Criteria	
Merit Review Element	Definition
Advancing NPI Principles	The extent to which the Concept Paper advances the principles of the New Partnerships Initiative for expanding and diversifying USAID's partner base so that USAID helps to equip and fund more new and underutilized local and locally established partners to support country-level progress.
Technical Approach	The extent to which the Concept Paper's proposed approach is technically sound, innovative, feasible, and focuses on solutions for VCAs (by sub-population), their households and communities in the context of social protection and the HIV epidemic in Lusaka, Central, Copperbelt, and Southern provinces.
Sustainability	The extent to which the Concept Paper's proposed approach is sustainable and increases the likelihood that the affected communities and the Zambian government will be able to continue the program's activities and/or maintain its achievements.
Institutional Capacity	The extent to which the proposed Concept Paper demonstrates the organization's technical depth and breadth of expertise and experience to implement the proposed technical approach. The organization can show work that has already been done in the area, demonstrate the organizations expertise through existing activities, and/or prior successes.

The government will assess its level of confidence that the applicant will successfully perform all

requirements in regards to the merit criteria listed above. In doing so, the government will utilize the following confidence approach:

High Confidence	The Government has high confidence that the applicant understands the requirement, proposes a sound approach, and will be successful in performing with little or no Government intervention.
Some Confidence	The Government has some confidence that the applicant understands the requirement, proposes a sound approach, and will be successful in performing with some Government intervention.
Low Confidence	The Government has low confidence that the applicant understands the requirement, proposes a sound approach, or will be successful in performing even with Government intervention.

ANNEX A. TEMPLATE

U.S.AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID)

LOCALLY SOURCED SOLUTIONS FOR SERVICE DELIVERY FOR VULNERABLE CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS CONCEPT PAPER

A. Concept Paper Cover Page – (please complete the following questions below:)

- 1. Proposed Activity Name/Title:** _____
- 2. Proposed Period of Performance** (i.e., start date and end date): _____
- 3. Total Program Amount** (in USDs and cite the exchange rate utilized): _____
- 4. Total Amount of Funding Requested from USAID:** _____
- 5. Applicant Organization Name:** _____
- 6. Applicant Contact Person** (name, phone, e-mail): _____
- 7. Full Address for Applicant Organization:** _____
- 8. Type of Organization** (e.g., for-profit, non-profit): _____
- 9. DUNS Number:** (NOTE it is not required for an organization to have a DUNS number prior to submission of Concept Note; however, if an apparently successful applicant is notified, they must register within www.sam.gov prior to award) _____

B. Concept Introduction (approximately half [$\frac{1}{2}$] page): Describe why there is a strategic need for your organization's concept to address health and social priorities for VCA in Zambia, how it differs from alternatives, and any relevant partner-specific considerations for the problem or solution. Explain how the proposed technical approach will advance the principles of the New Partnerships Initiative for expanding and diversifying USAID's partner base and advancing countries' Journeys to Self-Reliance.

C. Beneficiaries (approximately one [1] page): Describe the types of benefits your work will produce and the types and range of people that will benefit from this work. Was the concept designed with beneficiary input? Has it been, or can it be adapted to reach priority sub-populations?

D. Geographic Location (approximately half [$\frac{1}{2}$] page): In what location(s) (e.g., Provinces, Districts) are you proposing to operate?

E. Intervention Approach (approximately one and a half [$1\frac{1}{2}$] pages): Building on the introduction, explain how this intervention will produce the desired impact. Briefly describe critical barrier(s) or problem(s), related to your focus area(s) that your concept addresses.

F. Intervention Results (approximately one [1] page): As specifically as possible, describe the anticipated results and/or impact of your activity.

G. Capacity of the Applicant(s) (approximately half [$\frac{1}{2}$] page): Describe your organization's technical, financial, and managerial capacity to carry out the proposed work and that of any consortium partners. Have you previously done similar work, or worked in the same location(s)?

H. Local Partner Self Certification (Does not count against page limit)

The applicant must self-certify that it meets the PEPFAR definition of a local partner as described in Section III, if applicable under each Modality. **Note:** All applicants under Modality I must provide the self-certification.

Self-Certification: The Applicant must submit the following:

We are responding to this APS Round 3 as an entity.

As an entity, I [INSERT NAME AND TITLE] certify that as of [DATE] [INSERT ORGANIZATION NAME] meets all of the following requirements:

___ Incorporated or legally organized under the laws of, and has its principal place of business in, Zambia;

___ Is at least 75% beneficially owned by individuals who are citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of Zambia;

___ At least 75% of its overall staff (senior, mid-level, support) are Zambian citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of Zambia;

___ At least 75% of its senior staff (i.e., managerial and professional personnel) are
Zambian citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of Zambia; and

___ We [___] do [___] do not have a Board of Directors

___ (only applicable to an organization with a Board of Directors) At least 51% of
the members of the Board are citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of
Zambia.

*[Provide a list of all documents that will support the certification: Only the self-certification is required at
application stage. Documents for verification will be required at a later stage if the application is
successful.]*

*I [Name and Title] of [Name of Organization], further certify that the information provided is accurate,
current and complete as of the date hereof. I also understand that any falsification of information could
lead to suspension and/or debarment from future business with USAID and I am aware of the penalty
prescribed in 18 U.S.C. 1001 for making false statements in this solicitation.*

Solicitation No. _____

Application No. _____

Date of Application _____

Name of Applicant _____

Typed Name and Title _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature of individual with authority to obligate your organization