



October 25, 2019

**Notice of Funding Opportunity No: 72068520RFA00001**  
**Program Title: Niger Markets and Nutrition Activity**

**AMENDMENT NO.: 1**

The purpose of this amendment is to modify the subject NOFO and provide answers to questions received.

The subject NOFO is hereby amended as follows:

**A. The dates on the cover page of Original NOFO are amended to read:**

Issue Date: October 09, 2019

Deadline for Questions: October 18, 2019

Original NOFO Closing Date: November 11, 2019 at 17:30 Dakar Time

Revised NOFO Closing Date: November 15, 2019 at 17:30 Dakar Time

**B. Responses to Questions Received:**

**GENERAL**

1. In light of the Burkina Faso RFA and the extended deadline, will USAID consider extending the deadline for the Niger Markets and Nutrition opportunity to help ensure a quality and responsive application?

USAID Response: Yes. Application submission deadline is hereby extended from November 11, 2019 to November 15, 2019 at 16:30PM (GMT) Local Dakar, Senegal Time.

2. According to the solicitation applications are due on November 11, 2019, which is a federal holiday, (Veterans Day). We respectfully request that USAID extend the due from November 11th to November 13, 2019.

USAID Response: see answer to question #1 above.

**SECTION A: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

3. Page 17, Section A, Section 2 Collaborative implementation approach to improve economic well-being and nutrition, TerresEauVie (TEV) Per the information provided regarding the TEV activity. The Applicant respectfully requests USAID confirm what, if any, small-scale and drip irrigation systems are being performed under the TEV Activity in the M&N ZOI.

USAID Response: Currently, the TEV activity is not installing irrigation systems. It is not determined if it will do so in the future.

4. Page 22, Section A, Conflict Sensitivity/Do No Harm/Atrocity Prevention, states, “In addition, M&N will need to mainstream atrocity prevention approaches and actions into its regular programming – actions such as promoting community cohesion and tolerance of others, reduction of conflict, respect for human rights, support to victims, and promoting psychological safety in the groups with which it works.” The Applicant respectfully requests USAID to confirm if the Mission will coordinate the implementation and scale-up of an atrocity prevention system with Niger stakeholders and the nature of the activities it envisions.

USAID Response: USAID and the State Department will coordinate any systematic responses to potential or actual atrocities. We only expect M&N implementers to incorporate the types of activities mentioned in the NOFO, and quoted in the question. M&N Implementer should propose and implement atrocity prevention interventions and approaches to the extent they are consistent with and easily incorporated into its core markets interventions.

5. RFA Reference: A.2, Gender, youth, and inclusive development, Page Number: 22 Relevant RFA Language: “Applicants will be expected to use a Positive Youth Development approach that engages youth, demonstrate compliance with USAID Policy ADS 205 and the USAID Youth in Development Policy...Key references include: USAID’s Sahel Youth Analysis prepared for RISE II”. The USAID Youth in Development Policy defines youth as individuals aged 10-29 years, USAID’s Sahel Youth Analysis notes that Niger’s National Youth Policy defines youth as 15-35. Could USAID clarify the age range for youth the Niger Markets and Nutrition Activity?

USAID Response: USAID prefers that youth targeting focus on USAID’s age range of 10-29. It will be important that the monitoring system is able to report on the number of youth engaged according to USAID’s definition. However, during implementation, USAID’s opinion is that it may not be helpful to be overly restrictive and therefore, the M&N implementer may work with a wide range of ages. Applicants may consider it useful to track ages according to ranges (i.e. 10-14, 15-19, etc.). USAID will work with the Awardee post-award to agree on the best way to monitor and report youth engagement.

6. RFA Reference: Section A.9, First six-month refinement period  
Page Number: 33, Relevant RFA Language: “Three months after award, the applicant must submit its full initial AMELP to USAID. No later than five months after award the Implementer will submit a revised life-of-project design, the complete first year annual work plan, the Shock Response Contingency Plan, and a revised final AMELP to USAID for approval.” The RFA notes that the final version of the AMELP should be submitted five months post-award. In order to allow sufficient time to coordinate with M&N stakeholders and other RISE activities, would USAID consider extending this date to six months, until the end of the six-month refinement period?

USAID Response: The AMELP is a living document, and can be revised later as needed. However, USAID prefers that it be submitted in draft form at the 5 month point so that it can

be considered together with the rest of the documents.

## **SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

7. We have noted the compliance guidance provided on page 42 of the NOFO regarding text boxes and overall application formatting. Specifically for graphics and images included in the proposal however, are there any formatting guidelines or restrictions?

**USAID Response:** They must be in no less than 10-point font easily readable if printed or photocopied.

8. RFA Reference: D.3, Page Number: 42

Relevant RFA Language: “The Cover Page, Table of Contents, Acronym list, Executive Summary, and Attachment/Annexes do not count against the 25-page limitation.”

RFA Reference: Section D.5. Technical Application Format

Page Number: 44, Relevant RFA Language: “Format for presentation of technical approach is as follows:

Cover Page (does not count toward 25-page limit)

Table of Contents (does not count toward 25-page limit)

Executive Summary (does not count toward 25-page limit)”

Page 42 of the RFA mentions inclusion of an Acronym list which would not count towards the 25-page limit, but page 44 of the RFA makes no mention of an Acronym list when listing out the format for presentation of technical approach. Can USAID confirm that offerors should include an Acronym list after the Table of Contents and before the Executive Summary, and that it does not count toward the 25-page limit?

**USAID Response:** Yes, Applicants should include an Acronym list, and it will not count toward the 25-page limit.

9. RFA Reference: Section D.3, Page Number: 42

Relevant RFA Language: “Technical applications may not exceed 25 pages, excluding attachments/annexes, and must be on 8.5 by 11 inch or A4 size paper, single spaced, 12-point Times New Roman font with one-inch margins on all sides, including consecutive page numbers, date of submission, and Applicant’s name on header or footer.” Given that Section A of the RFA devotes 17 pages to describing the other projects that M&N must collaborate with, the technical considerations that must be incorporated into the proposed approach, the results and illustrative outcomes, and the target populations, would USAID consider increasing the technical application page limit to 30 pages rather than 25, so as to provide more space to respond to all of the items in the RFA?

**USAID Response:** No. Please limit applications to 25 pages.

10. RFA Reference: A.8, Page Number: 31

Relevant RFA Language: “Application must include annual and life-of-project targets for

performance indicators.”

RFA Reference: D.5, Page Number: 44, Relevant RFA Language: “Annex 1: Draft Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (AMELP) (must not exceed 6 pages)”. In order to have sufficient space to present the MEL system and a full indicator list with targets, would USAID kindly increase the page limit for Annex 1: Draft AMELP to 10 pages?

[USAID Response: No. Please limit draft AMELP to 10 pages.](#)

11. RFA Reference: D.6, Page Number: 48-53. Are sub-awardees required to submit their personnel policies, NICRA, and all other supporting documentation as required from the prime offeror?

[USAID Response: Applicants should refer to Section D.6.g\) on page 53 of the NOFO for a list of requirements to be provided by prime recipients for approval of subawards.](#)

12. RFA Reference: D.6.c, Page Number: 49

Relevant RFA Language: “The applicant must complete the following documents and submit a signed copy with their application.” Are sub-awardees required to complete and submit a signed copy of their certifications and assurances?

[USAID Response: Signed certifications and assurances are required from Prime recipients only. Please see \*\*ADS 303.3.21 Subawards\*\* for guidance on subaward risk assessment to be conducted by Primes for their subrecipients.](#)

<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1868/303.pdf>