



USAID
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—

Pre-Application Conference
USAID Community Justice
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO):
72036723RFA00009
September 26 & 28, 2023,
Janakpur and Bhairahawa

Agenda

Welcome Remarks	Ajaya Parajuli
Introductions	In three words-(First Name, Organization and, Location)
Presentation on the USAID Community Justice activity Overview/Development Objective/Activity Concept/GESI/Geographic focus and Target stakeholders/People-centered justice approach	Reshma Thapa Democracy, Rights and Governance Specialist
Summary/Eligibility, Application Process/Instructions for Concept Papers/ Evaluation of the Concept Papers/Phase 2 Oral Presentation and Phase 3 Full Application	Ajaya Parajuli, Acquisition and Assistance Specialist
Lun  USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE	All Participants

Overview - USAID Community Justice

What is the purpose of the activity?

To improve access to justice and service delivery for Women, Youth, and Marginalized (WYM) groups.

What is expected?

Making justice pathways more user-friendly, people-centered, and efficient.

What is CDCS Contribution?

CDCS goal- “a more self-reliant, prosperous and inclusive Nepal that delivers improved democratic governance, health, and education outcomes”.

What is cross cutting theme of CDCS?

- Federalism
- Inclusion, and
- Resilience

Development Objective (DO 1): More Effective, Participatory & Equitable, Democratic Ecosystem

IR 1.1: Integrity Of
Democratic Systems
Strengthened

IR 1.2:
Equality Under
The Law For
Women,
Youth And
Marginalized
(WYM)
Communities
Improved

IR 1.3: Citizen
Demand For
Democracy
Strengthened



Activity Concept



Objective 1



Strengthen local institutional capacity and justice sector coordination to improve access to justice, justice delivery, and oversight for WYM



Objective 2



Strengthen civil society capacity to improve community legal literacy, local justice sector accountability, and access to legal aid for WYM



Gender, Equality, and Social Inclusion (GESI)

- Local Justice institutions remove key barriers of accessing justice to WYM and key fundamental rights established;
 - Improved CSO understanding of GESI and its implications in the federal system of governance, and embed GESI as a priority public interest in CSOs actions;
 - Reduced GESI barriers on marginalized groups on both the supply and demand sides;
 - Elevated or increased leadership role of women and girls, youth, Dalit and other marginalized groups in CSO advocacy and oversight activities; and
 - Demonstration of addressing the GESI intersections in other key cross-cutting themes.
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Geographic Focus

- Madhesh Province
- Lumbini Province

- No limitation to districts/ Local Government

(key part of Phase 3)

Target Stakeholders

- Justice Sector Actors: Formal and Informal
 - Federal Government and sub-national government
- As long as it meets the NOFO criteria*

People-Centered Justice Approach

- **Prioritizing Local Voices:** Engaging those whom the law and its institutions are mandated to serve: communities and the people (the most marginalized groups)
- **Transformation of Institutions:** Making more responsive to people's justice needs and legal problems
- **Closing Justice Gaps:** Engaging and addressing gender and other social inequalities, needs, and barriers, including discrimination.



Contd...

- **Generating Evidence:** Investing the capacity to collect, share, and analyze data to understand what people need when they seek justice.
- **Unlock Monopolies:** Supporting alternative service providers and strengthening informal and customary justice systems.

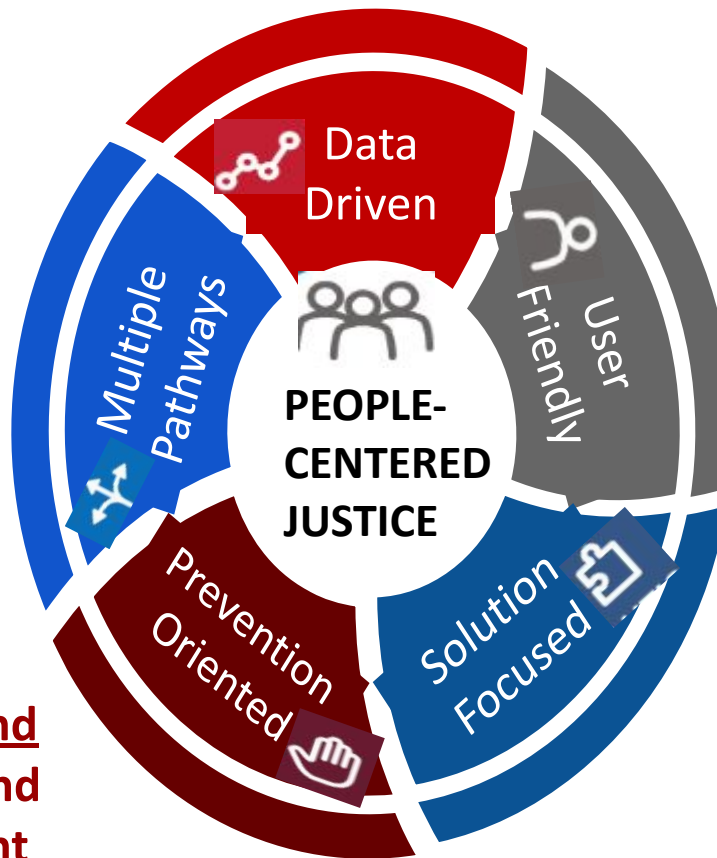


Respond to unmet legal problems by using innovative methods (high-and-low tech) to accumulate and use data, evidence, and learning

Improve accessibility by offering justice seekers (formal as well as informal) that meet their needs and by removing legal, administrative, and practical barriers

Provide justice seekers with greater flexibility and broader range of means and mechanisms for resolving disputes, remedying rights violations, and addressing other legal problems

Address the underlying causes of legal problems and their harm in a proactive and systemic manner to prevent both escalation and recurrence



Enhance users' sense that the justice system works for and with them by matching needs to procedures that provide timely resolutions and fair outcomes

Application Process and Selection

- Brief Summary and Eligibility
- Application Process
- Instructions for Concept Paper
- Evaluation of Concept Papers
- Selection of Applicants to Phase 2
- Phase 3 Full Application

Cover Page

Issue Date: September 5, 2023 (Grants.gov)

Deadline for Questions: September 15, 2023 at 5:00 PM
Nepal Time

Registration Deadline for Pre-Application Conference:
September 15, 2023 at 5:00 PM Nepal Time

Pre-Application Conference:
September 26, 2023 in Janakpur and September 28, 2023 in
Bhairahawa

Submission Date and Time for Phase I Application:
November 3, 2023 at 5:00 PM Nepal Time

Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

Number:72036723RFA00009

Brief Summary

Section B-Federal Award Information

Award Type: **Cooperative Agreement**

An instrument used where the principal purpose is the transfer of money, property, services or anything of value to the recipient in order to accomplish a public purpose of support where substantial involvement by USAID is anticipated.

Substantial Involvement:

- Needs to be programmatically reasonable and necessary.
 - A shared responsibility for the performance of the project.
1. implementation or work plan;
 2. key personnel;
 3. collaboration or joint participation in specific program areas;
 4. halting of construction activity.

Brief Summary

Section B-Federal Award Information

Period of Performance: 5 Years

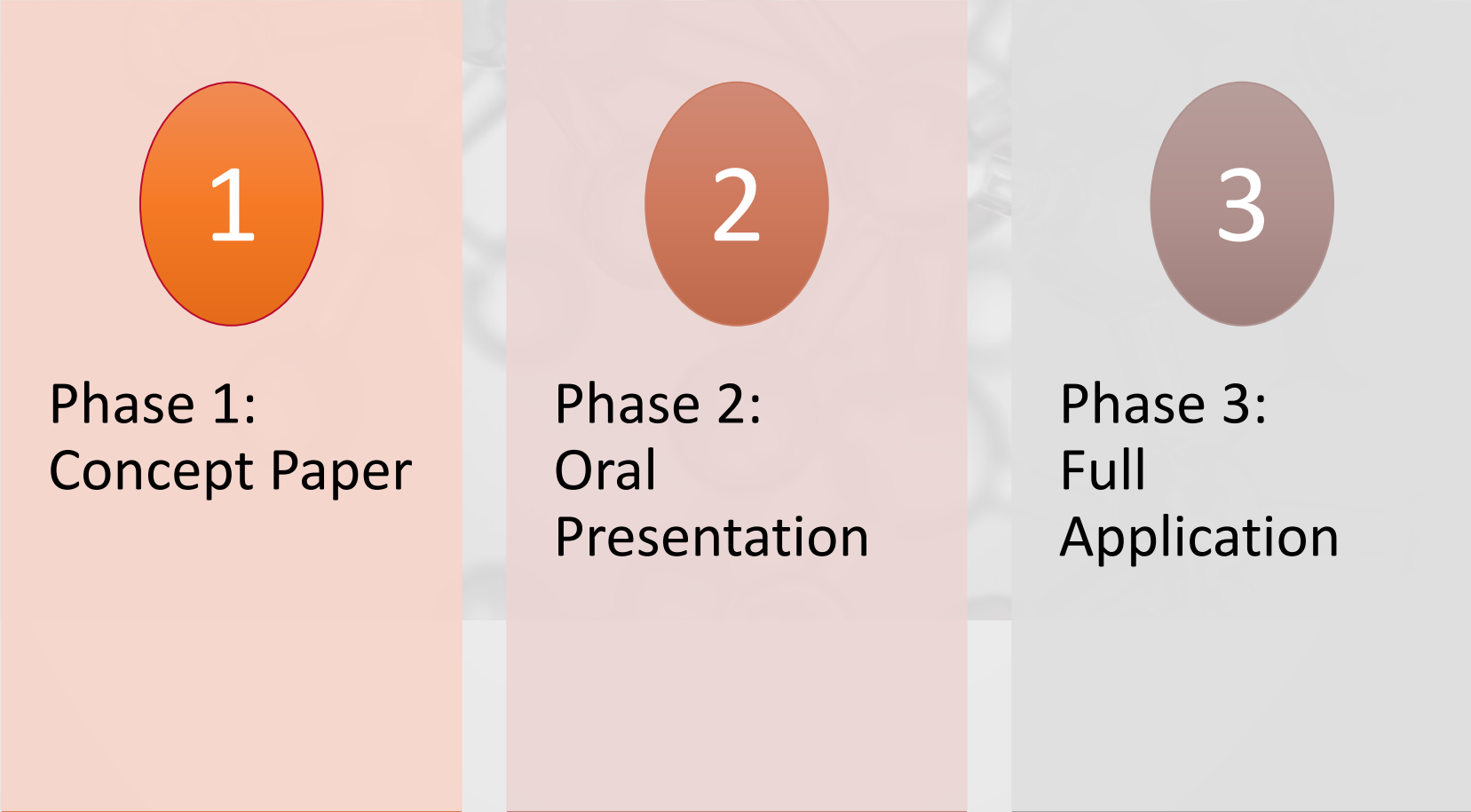
Total Estimated Amount: \$5 Million

Section C-Eligibility Information

Eligibility: Restricted to Local Organizations/Entities of Nepal-
Prime Recipient only not for subs

Limitations on Submissions: One application for each applicant.

Application Process



1

Phase 1:
Concept Paper

2

Phase 2:
Oral
Presentation

3

Phase 3:
Full
Application

Phase I - Concept Paper

Section D: Application and Submission Information

Submit 10 pages of Concept Paper inclusive of cover page

The concept paper should address how the application intends to achieve the objectives mentioned in the Program Description (Section A). It should be specific, complete, and concise following the instructions (Section D).

USAID will conduct a thorough merit review of all concept papers received which will be evaluated in accordance with the merit review criteria by the Merit Review Committee (Section E).

Merit Review Criteria:

1. Technical approach and Understanding
2. Institutional Capacity and Past Experience

Phase 1-Concept Paper

After the merit review committee completes the review of all concept papers it will recommend a list of applicants to the Agreement Officer (AO) to go to Phase 2.

The AO will make the final decision and send notification letters to the applicants who did not get selected and at the same time send letters with instructions to the selected applicants who will be invited for Phase 2 oral presentation.

Phase 2-Oral Presentation

Only applicants who submitted the best technically acceptable concept papers in Phase 1 will be invited to present their oral presentation, in person or virtually to USAID/Nepal.

The selected applicants will receive a notification letter via email with instructions for Phase 2 oral presentation.

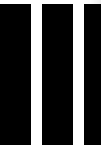
Phase 3-Full Application

Phase 3-Full Application Co-Design

Co-creation: The Apparently Successful Applicant will co-create the full technical and cost application with USAID and other relevant stakeholders.

Program Description (PD): There are no technical evaluation criteria for Phase 3. The apparently successful applicant selected from Phase 2 will work collaboratively with USAID/Nepal to co-design the PD to be incorporated into the resulting Cooperative Agreement.

Cost Application: Develop full cost/budget at this stage such as summary budget, detailed breakdown of costs and a budget narrative to support the proposed detailed cost for the entire five years. The detailed cost application instructions will be provided to the apparently successful applicant at the start of Phase 3.



Subawards:

Subaward means an award provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity. Eligibility for this award is restricted to local Nepali entities in accordance with ADS 303.3.6.5.c (1). The applicants however can propose international organizations to be subawardees/subpartners.

System for Award Management (SAM)

Unique Entity Identifier (UEI): UEI is a number used across the U.S. Government to identify organizations. It is a 12-character alphanumeric identification that is assigned to an organization as part of its registration process on SAM.gov.

Example: **D7UXWXR6JSK7**

Applicants who already have the UEI should submit during Phase I.

System for Award Management (SAM): SAM is a searchable database into which a firm or organization must provide information required for the conduct of business with the U.S. Government. SAM provides USAID a comprehensive list of organizations that are NOT eligible to receive U.S.G. funds.

Apparently Successful Applicant who will reach Phase 3 must register in SAM: www.sam.gov in order to be eligible to receive federal assistance, such as grants and cooperative agreements. For guidance, please refer to Quick Start Guide and a Video in the above site.

Branding Strategy and Marking Plan:

Only the Apparently Successful Applicant in Phase 3 will be asked to provide a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan in accordance with Section D.9 of the NOFO.

Pre-Award Survey

Accounting system - a major component- to determine

- necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls in order to achieve the objectives
- whether specific conditions are needed for the accounting systems to be in compliance with applicable regulations and accounting and cost principles.

If notified by USAID that a pre-award survey is necessary, applicants must prepare in advance the required information and documents.

Note: a pre-award survey does not commit USAID to make an award to any organization.

Other Information

Section H-Other Information

USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the concept papers submitted. The AO is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. Any award will be subject to the availability of funds and continued relevance to Agency programming.

Applications with Proprietary Data.

Annexes:

- 1. Standard Provisions*
- 2. **Acronyms***
- 3. IEE*

Official Response to Questions Received

A written Amendment to the NOFO, containing questions received at the Pre-Application Conference is forthcoming and will be posted on Grants.gov for all interested parties.

The written amendment is the Agreement Officer's official and final response to all questions received.

Any Questions





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