

FANTA III

Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance (FANTA) III

Request for Applications (RFA)

Solicitation number: RFA-OAA-11-000018

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September 19, 2011

Questions Due Date/Time: September 23, 2011 12:00pm Washington DC time

Pre-Application Conference: September 26, 2011 10:00am Washington DC time

Application Closing Date/Time: October 14, 2011 5:00pm Washington DC time

Subject: Request for Application (RFA) # RFA-OAA-11-000018

Dear Prospective Applicant:

The United States Government, represented by the Agency for International Development (USAID), Global Health Bureau (GH), Office of Health, Infectious Diseases, and Nutrition (HIDN), proposes to enter into a Cooperative Agreement for the implementation of the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance (FANTA III) activity specifically described in Section I of the RFA. USAID is seeking applications from eligible institutions as described in Section III of the RFA. The authority for the RFA is found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

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 agreement program and are in accordance with applicable cost standards (22 CFR 226, OMB Circular A-122 for non-profit organization, OMB Circular A-21 for universities, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31 for profit organizations), may be paid under the agreement.

USAID expects the level of funding to support the Cooperative Agreement issued under this RFA will total \$200 million over the 5-year implementation period (2011 – 2016). A cost share minimum amount of 5% of the cooperative agreement is required.

For the purposes of this RFA, the term “Recipient” refers to the prime recipient of the award, “Sub-recipient” or “Partner” refer to any sub-awardee or partner listed by the applicant as a partner or sub-awardee in the application, “Grant” refers to grants awarded by the recipient and “Grantee” refers to organizations awarded such grants.

This RFA and any future amendments can be downloaded from <http://www.grants.gov>.

DUE DATE: Applications shall be received no later than due date above. Applications submitted via fax or email will not be accepted. Applicants should retain a copy of their application and accompanying enclosures for their records.

QUESTIONS: Prospective Applicants who have questions concerning the contents of this RFA shall submit them in writing no later than date above to Amy Wire (awire@usaid.gov) and Shanon Krause (skrause@usaid.gov) by email ONLY. No questions will be answered over the telephone or prior to question closing date. Question answers will be posted via amendment through grants.gov. No questions after the closing date or pre-application conference will be accepted.

PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE: USAID will be holding a pre-application conference for prospective applicants.

Location: National Press Building
529 14th St NW, Suite 650
Washington DC 20045

Date/Time: September 26, 2011 10:00 am Washington DC time

For prospective applicants that cannot attend call the following numbers:

Toll free dial in (US and Canada): 800-516-9896 International dial in: 816-650-0725 Participant code: 7879941937

Please register with Newal Sherif at nsherif@usaid.gov by September 22, 2011 5pm Washington DC time.

Applications must submit two separate: (a) technical and (b) cost or business application. Applications must contain name and address of the applicant and RFA # (referenced above). Applications that omit required submission information as specified in Section IV will be deemed non-responsive and will not be reviewed by the technical panel.

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 applications. Further, the Government reserves the right to reject any or all applications received.

In addition, award of the agreement contemplated by this RFA cannot be made until funds have been appropriated, allocated and committed through internal USAID procedures. While USAID anticipates that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential Applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award. The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds.

No costs chargeable to the proposed Agreement may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed Agreement or a specific, written authorization from the Agreement Officer.

Thank you for your consideration of this USAID initiative. We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

Shanon Krause

Agreement Officer

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADS	Automated Directives System
AFR	Africa Bureau
AME	Asia and Middle East Bureau
AOTR	Agreement Officer Technical Representative
ART	Antiretroviral drugs
BFS	Bureau of Food Security
CGIAR	Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research Institutes
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
CRSP	Collaborative Research Support Program
DOD	Department of Defense
EGAT	Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (USAID)
EMMP	Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
EST	Eastern Standard Time
FAF	Foreign Assistance Framework
FANTA	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project
FFP	Office of Food for Peace (USAID)
FTF	Feed the Future
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GH	Global Health Bureau (USAID)
GHI	Global Health Initiative
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IR	Intermediate Result
IYCN	Infant and Young Child Nutrition
LIFT	Livelihood and Food Security Technical Assistance Project
LNS	Lipid-based nutrient supplements
LQAS	lot quality assurance sampling
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
M&M	Mitigation and Monitoring plan
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MCHIP	Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program
MCHN	Maternal and Child Health Nutrition
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MOH	Ministry of Health
MUAC	Mid upper arm circumference
MYAP	Multi-year assistance program
NACS	Nutrition Assessment, Counseling and Support
NFNC	National Food and Nutrition Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NICRA	Negotiated Indirect Cost Agreement

NTD	Neglected Tropical Diseases
OAA	Office of Acquisition and Assistance
OFDA	Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
OGAC	Office of the Global Aids Coordinator
OHA	Office of HIV/AIDS
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief
PLHIV	Persons Living with HIV
PM2A	Preventing Malnutrition in Children under Two years of Age Approach
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS
RFA	Request for Application
RUTF	Ready to use Therapeutic Foods
S/CRS	State/Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization
S/GHFSI	State/Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SBCC	Social and Behavior Change Communication
SO	Strategic Objective
SPRING	Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovations in Nutrition Globally
TEC	Technical Evaluation Committee
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

SECTION I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Introduction

Nutrition is a critical component of USAID food security¹ and health investments both in the context of two US Government (USG) Initiatives, Feed the Future (FTF) and the Global Health Initiative (GHI), and humanitarian assistance in both emergency and non-emergency settings. In support of this heightened commitment to nutrition, the USAID Bureau of Global Health (GH) seeks to award a five year, \$200 million Cooperative Agreement entitled the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA III).

Guided by the principles of FTF, GHI and USAID Forward, FANTA III will provide technical assistance that contributes to its Project Objective (PO) of *Food Security and Health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened*. FANTA III will provide technical assistance based on the following two Intermediate Results (IR) to achieve this objective: *IR1: Global Evidence and Capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened* and *IR2: Country driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened*.

The authorizing legislation for this Cooperative Agreement is the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as Amended, and the award is subject to 22 CFR 226 – Administration of Assistance Awards to U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations. The following are applicable for the administration of this award: 22 CFR 226, OMB Circulars and the Standard Provisions for U.S. Non-governmental Recipients. USAID anticipates that Applicants may indicate formal arrangements with partner organizations or with sub-awardees for implementing this activity in their application.

B. Background

a. Global Nutrition Context

Undernutrition robs the developing world of critical human capital and capacity and undermines other development investments in health, education, and economic growth. Nearly 200 million children suffer from undernutrition, and one in three women of reproductive age is anemic. Undernutrition contributes to 35 percent of the burden of under-five child mortality and to 20 percent of the burden of maternal mortality.² With the increase of evidence around the causes and impacts of undernutrition, global consensus has been made concerning the types of interventions to be prioritized during the critical window of opportunity, from conception to two years of life (the first 1,000 days). Recent global efforts have brought a variety of stakeholders to the table to discuss moving the nutrition agenda forward and have identified two major approaches to reducing undernutrition: 1) direct nutrition interventions and 2) a multisectoral approach.³ FANTA III will be a primary mechanism to provide high

¹ Food security can be defined as “When all people at all times have both physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet their dietary needs for a productive and healthy life”. PD-19; April 13, 1992.

² Black RE, et al. Maternal and child undernutrition: global and regional exposures and health consequences. *Lancet* 2008; 371: 243-60.

³ Scaling up Nutrition: A Global Framework for Action. 2010. Direct nutrition interventions include: complementary feeding for infants after the age of six months, improved hygiene practices including handwashing, periodic Vitamin A supplements, therapeutic zinc supplements for diarrhea management, multiple micronutrient powders, de-worming drugs for children (to reduce losses of nutrients), iron-folic acid supplements for pregnant women to prevent and treat anaemia, iodized oil capsules where iodized salt is unavailable, salt iodization, iron fortification of staple foods, prevention or treatment for moderate undernutrition, treatment of severe undernutrition (“severe acute

quality, efficient, and effective technical assistance that furthers USAID’s efforts to scale up evidence based nutrition interventions and that expands and builds the evidence base for multisectoral approaches that strengthen food security and health programs.

b. Alignment of FANTA III activities with other USG Priorities

i. *FANTA III and the Foreign Assistance Framework*

The Foreign Assistance Framework (FAF) consists of five priority objectives: peace and security, governing justly and democratically, investing in people, economic growth, and humanitarian assistance. The FAF also has five country categories: rebuilding, developing, transforming, sustaining partner, and restrictive countries, as well as a global or regional program area. Within each of these categories, all foreign assistance is organized to achieve the overarching USG foreign assistance goal: “To help build and sustain democratic, well governed states that respond to the needs of their people, reduce widespread poverty and conduct themselves responsibly in the international system.”

FANTA III is expected to build on previous experience in bringing together the FAF objectives of Investing in People, Economic Growth, and Humanitarian Assistance through work on the different components of food security and health that aim to improve nutrition outcomes. The multi-sectoral nature of nutrition requires the same knowledge, skills and approaches across sectors as diverse as health, agriculture, education, poverty alleviation, HIV/AIDS and humanitarian assistance. It is envisioned that food security and health programming will be strengthened and better coordinated and harmonized in countries within an overarching mechanism to address priority nutrition issues across multiple FAF objectives⁴.

ii. *FANTA III and its relationship to the Global Health Initiative and Feed the Future*

Guided by the Paris principles on Aid Effectiveness and the US President’s pledge for Food Security in l’Aquila⁵, FTF and GHI have been developed to increase country owned efforts, strengthen coordination among donors and partners and lend to sustainable and measurable results in food security and health. Nutrition is the critical link between GHI and FTF, which have a shared goal of reducing undernutrition by 20-30% in selected areas of priority countries. Both initiatives acknowledge the multifaceted causes of undernutrition and highlight the need for a multisectoral approach to reducing undernutrition.

Improved nutrition, especially for women and children, is a high level goal of FTF (see Annex A) with particular attention to how to leverage agriculture and health programming to impact nutrition. Country level strategies have been developed for the potential FTF focus countries and will be developed for all GHI countries. Each of the strategies builds on of existing food security and health experience in country and works to increase agriculture productivity; expand markets and trade;

malnutrition”) with ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF). Multisectoral approach: integrating nutrition—in other words by including specific pro-nutrition actions—in programmes in other sectors.

⁴ The FANTA III will not provide support in the following areas of Title II, PEPFAR and emergency programming: procurement of commodities, commodity sales arrangements, and market analyses that are not a direct component of interventions aimed at the promotion of household consumption and nutrition.

⁵ G8 Summit Statement on Food Security, “L’Aquila” Joint Statement on Global Food Security – L’Aquila Food Security Initiative (July 10, 2009), found at http://www.g8italia2009.it/static/G8_Allegato/FINAL_DECLARATION%5b1%5d,2.pdf

increase investment in agriculture and nutrition-related areas; increase employment opportunities in targeted value chains; improve access to diverse and quality food; improve nutrition related behaviors; improve utilization of maternal and child health and nutrition services; and increase resilience of vulnerable households.

iii. FANTA III and its relationship to Humanitarian Assistance, Disaster Relief and HIV/AIDS agency priorities

Food for Peace

Public Law 480, the Agricultural Trade, Development and Assistance Act of 1954, renamed the Food for Peace Act in 2008, authorizes the USAID Administrator to establish programs to provide agricultural commodities to foreign countries on behalf of the people of the United States and to provide assistance to address famine and food crises; combat malnutrition, especially in children and mothers; carry out activities that attempt to alleviate the causes of hunger, mortality and morbidity; promote economic and community development; promote food security and support sound environmental practices; carry out feeding programs; and promote economic and nutritional security by increasing educational, training, and other productive activities.

Since its inception, USG international food assistance programs have evolved to address multiple objectives. The most recent changes came with the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, commonly known as the 2008 Farm Bill. This legislation restated the objectives that guide U.S. food assistance programs:

- Combat world hunger and malnutrition and their causes;
- Promote broad-based, equitable and sustainable development, including agricultural development;
- Expand international trade;
- Foster and encourage the development of private enterprise and democratic participation in developing countries; and
- Prevent conflicts

The Office of Food for Peace (FFP), in USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), is the U.S. Government leader in international food assistance. Through FFP, USAID provides development food aid as part of Title II multi-year, non-emergency programs integrated with USAID strategies to address the underlying causes of chronic food insecurity. FFP's goal for multi-year, non-emergency programming is to reduce risks and vulnerabilities to food insecurity and increase food availability, access, stability and utilization/consumption. USAID also provides emergency food aid to address needs arising from natural disasters, such as floods or droughts, and complex emergencies often characterized by insecurity and population displacement. With a hard-earmark for non-emergency funding, and limited availability of resources for emergency funding, continued technical assistance is needed in a timely and efficient manner to ensure effective use of Title II funding.

FANTA III will be expected to provide high quality technical assistance to DCHA/FFP, USAID missions, and Title II awardees to strengthen Title II programs throughout the program cycle of assessment, strategy, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief

As the lead U.S. Government (USG) office for responding to natural and human-caused disasters in foreign countries, USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) also has primary responsibility for meeting the needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in these emergency situations. Belonging to the DCHA Bureau, USAID/OFDA's mandate is to save lives, alleviate human suffering, and reduce the economic impact of disasters. To fulfill its mandate, USAID/OFDA provides rapid, appropriate responses to requests for assistance; strengthens the capacity of local, national, regional, and international entities on early warning of natural hazards; and fosters self-sufficiency among disaster-prone nations by helping them achieve some measure of preparedness.

USAID/OFDA supports a variety of emergency and preventive nutrition interventions worldwide. Their nutrition programs include treatment for severe and moderate acute malnutrition, infant and young child feeding, nutrition education, support for nutrition systems, and operational research to advance best practices and build capacity within local systems and the humanitarian community. FANTA III will provide technical assistance to USAID/OFDA in a way that enables USAID emergency programming to respond quickly and effectively. The program will support rapid roll-out of emergency-related nutrition programming and nutrition capacity strengthening to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the risks associated with disasters.

HIV/AIDS

The US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), initiated in 2003 and reauthorized in 2008, is the cornerstone and largest component of the President's Global Health Initiative. In 2006, the USG outlined its approach to addressing the food and nutrition needs of people infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS in the Report on Food and Nutrition for People Living with HIV/AIDS. Policy guidance to operationalize this approach was issued by the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC) the same year, setting guidance targets for food support to priority groups, including: orphans and vulnerable children born to an HIV infected parent (regardless of the child's HIV and nutritional status); HIV-positive pregnant and lactating women in programs to prevent the transmission of HIV to their children (PMTCT); and adult patients in care and treatment. As part of the overall PEPFAR strategy, particular emphasis is given to the Nutrition Assessment, Counseling and Support (NACS) approach which was developed to address the nutritional needs of populations infected and affected by HIV. NACS provides a framework for strengthening nutrition support within all health programs at the facility and community levels. NACS is an essential component of a comprehensive response to HIV care and treatment strengthening links between community and facility based care and support.

The introduction, roll-out and quality improvement of NACS activities and connections to other health and food security efforts in priority countries will require additional support to improve program performance and impact. USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS has already initiated this type of support for global and country programs through such mechanisms as LIFT, IYCN, and FANTA 2. FANTA III is expected to provide this support through technical assistance on nutrition-related policies and systems to improve overall HIV programming.

C. USAID Nutrition Priorities and Activities

a. USAID Priority nutrition areas and investments

Prevention of Undernutrition

MCHN programs play a key role in integrating approaches to prevent food insecurity by addressing constraints to optimal food consumption/utilization in populations to improve their health and nutritional status. USAID has supported work to expand the evidence base in this field as well as conduct research and evaluations to build more effective programming. An evidence-based package of interventions exists to prevent undernutrition: this package targets the window of opportunity from pregnancy to two years of age with preventive interventions to improve maternal nutrition; early and exclusive breastfeeding through six months; use of appropriate, diverse foods beginning at six months of age; nutrient supplementation; and improve hygiene and sanitation. These interventions can be effectively promoted through community-based social and behavior change communication (SBCC) that empower communities—and especially women—with increased knowledge, access to assets, and protective measures. Successful SBCC efforts are tailored to community contexts and harmonized with national strategies and guidelines.

In resource poor settings, low quality, monotonous diets are the norm. Poor diet quality and diversification means that populations suffer from high levels of macronutrient and micronutrient deficiencies, particularly women and children. Reducing poverty, improving agriculture-led growth, and reducing undernutrition are synergistic, yet each requires a concerted effort. Integrating nutrition into agriculture-focused programs can be achieved through a variety of different pathways, including:

- Increasing community and household production of staples and quality foods like fruits, green and yellow vegetables, and animal source foods
- Ensuring equity by targeting programs to support enabling environment including both empowering women and men, so that new food production and processing skills, access to inputs and services, and increases in income translate into improved health and wellbeing of themselves and their children
- Maximizing the use of food produced through improved post-harvest techniques including food preservation and processing techniques
- Providing technical assistance to the design and implementation of food fortification programs, either at national or local scale
- Incorporating nutrition outreach and behavior change activities to ensure both increases in household production and income lead to the purchase and consumption of diverse foods and appropriate feeding of infants and young children
- Ensure analyses of agriculture and food security policies and programs includes their effect on nutritional status of mothers and children

Nutrition Service Delivery

In some communities, preventing undernutrition through food-based approaches and SBCC is not always enough. Where necessary, prevention programs should be accompanied by nutrition service delivery through strong systems. These services include: vitamin A supplementation for children 6-59 months, iron folic acid supplementation for pregnant women and children as part of anemia reduction

packages (that include malaria prevention and treatment and deworming), or other micronutrients or macronutrients. These services should be delivered based on sound analyses of existing deficiencies, targeted appropriately, and incorporated into existing community platforms.

Severe acute malnutrition (SAM) remains a major killer of children under five years of age in developing countries, with mortality rates in untreated SAM ranging from approximately 10-25% (depending on the concurrent HIV rates)⁶. Even in some countries not classified as being in an emergency state, global acute malnutrition rates can be high as 15% during lean seasons (e.g., Burkina Faso, Niger, and Malawi). Emergencies, however, can exacerbate the conditions leading to even higher levels of acute malnutrition. In some areas affected by climactic anomalies or conflict, these rates have moved well beyond emergency levels and even to the level of famine⁷ as seen in the Horn of Africa in 2011.

The community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) approach involves timely detection and referral of cases with acute malnutrition, outpatient treatment of those without medical complications, and inpatient treatment of those with medical complications. CMAM is intended to provide services that are closer to communities and less disruptive for families by making services available at decentralized treatment points and through community outreach and mobilization. Provision of therapeutic products, particularly ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), is a critical component enabling decentralized care and improved recovery. Moreover, CMAM programs can promote education and behavior change for long-term solutions to inadequate care and feeding practices, food insecurity, and other threats to public health.

With USAID support, the evidence base for the nutritional and health impacts of the CMAM methodology has been well established in programs run by relief agencies during emergencies, and these findings have allowed for CMAM programs to be scaled up nationally in some countries (e.g. Ethiopia, Malawi.). FANTA III is expected to continue to collaborate with USAID, UNICEF, WFP and WHO to support the introduction of CMAM services into the basic package of health services in developing countries coping with high levels of acute malnutrition. This includes the development and dissemination of program manager and policy maker tools that enable CMAM programs to be more cost-effective and efficient.

HIV/AIDS Nutrition and Food Security

Food and nutrition support is a critical component of HIV/AIDS care and treatment. HIV and malnutrition interact in a vicious cycle. For many people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV), the infection causes or aggravates malnutrition through reduced food intake, increased energy needs, impaired nutrient absorption and nutrient losses associated with frequent and persistent diarrhea. Malnutrition can hasten the progression of HIV, further weakening the immune system, increasing susceptibility to opportunistic infections and reducing the effectiveness of both ART and treatment of opportunistic infections. Food insecurity and malnutrition remain highly prevalent in most countries where PEPFAR

⁶ COMMUNITY-BASED MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION: A Joint Statement by the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition and the United Nations Children's Fund. May, 2007.

⁷ Famine is declared when acute malnutrition rates among children exceed 30 per cent; more than 2 people per 10,000 die per day; and people are not able to access food and other basic necessities

supports programs, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. Thus, nutrition support is a critical component of a comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS.

According to the PEPFAR guidelines the key priority intervention areas for targeting HIV and nutrition support include nutrition care and support for the aforementioned populations as well as linking NACS programs to livelihoods and food security programs, ensuring country ownership and sustainable programs. As part of the overall PEPFAR strategy, the Nutrition Assessment, Counseling and Support (NACS) approach was developed to address the nutritional needs of populations infected and affected by HIV. Nutrition assessment, counseling, and support (NACS) is an essential component of a comprehensive response to HIV care and treatment. Ensuring that basic nutrition assessments and effective nutrition counseling occur consistently and accurately creates a foundation on which all other nutrition activities are based. Therapeutic and supplementary feeding is a critical component of HIV care and support and is most effectively utilized when provision is based on anthropometric criteria. Provision of therapeutic and supplementary feeding support, particularly in resource-poor settings, should be prioritized to assist the most vulnerable populations.

Over the past several years, USAID has provided technical assistance to NACS activities, both at the global and national levels. USAID has funded targeted evaluations and provided technical assistance at the global, regional, and national program levels to strengthen the evidence base on the role food and nutrition plays in HIV care. USAID supported projects have offered technical assistance to MOH's and the NFNC for integration of food and nutrition interventions into HIV/AIDS services for malnourished PLHIV and OVCs, and contributed to the development and review of the national nutrition guidelines, identifying specialized food products, designing monitoring and evaluation systems for nutrition care and support of PLHIV and in training of clinical officers and community volunteers. USAID is considered a global leader in food and nutritional care of PLHIV. To the extent possible FANTA III should build on the guidance and materials already created and provided continued technical assistance.

Enabling Environment for Nutrition Programming

Policy, Advocacy and Capacity Strengthening

USAID has worked closely with country partners to develop advocacy tools and policies that support increased engagement on nutrition. PROFILES, an advocacy tool, facilitates discussion around the costs and implications of the current nutrition context in a specific country. This tool has been used in over 30 countries since 1995 and USAID revisited a number of countries (Bangladesh, Ghana, Guatemala, South Sudan and Uganda) to revitalize and update this process. FANTA III will continue to provide technical assistance to these countries and others depending as needed.

Nutrition national policies and guidelines are also a focus of USAID investments. For example, USAID is currently supporting the new Government of South Sudan to develop a national nutrition policy and in Mozambique, USAID is providing technical assistance for the development of nutrition treatment guidelines on acute malnutrition. Additional efforts to support capacity development among ministry staff on nutrition, including HIV and nutrition, are on-going and will continue to be an integral component of FANTA III.

Nutrition Research to Use

USAID supports research to improve the assessment, design, delivery, and impact evaluation of food and nutrition programs that target the most vulnerable populations during the critical 1000 day window of development from pregnancy until two years of age. Recent successes in USAID research activities have led to shifts in programming such as the targeting of interventions in the first two years of life and the development of tools for evaluation of dietary diversity and quality. The Agency continues to align research activities with emerging evidence to advance and expand knowledge.

Product research and development relating to the prevention of maternal and child malnutrition is also a critical area of interest. The development of innovative ready-to-use specialized food products, such as lipid-based nutrient supplements (LNS), is an important area of future focus for the prevention of malnutrition, especially among children under the age of two.

Clinical assessment and use of RUTFs are integral components of the CMAM approach. USAID has invested in multiple studies evaluating entry/exit criteria for CMAM using mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) compared to other anthropometric measures and have also invested in the different formulations and durations of RUTFs for acute malnutrition. FANTA III will continue to support this type of research which aims to inform global and country level policies as well as strengthen USAID emergency and non-emergency programs.

The Preventing Malnutrition in Children under Two years of Age (PM2A) approach is a food-assisted, preventive program developed by USAID/FFP. The PM2A approach targets a package of health and nutrition interventions to women and children during the critical 1,000 days⁸. Results from a study in Haiti showed that this preventive model is more effective in reducing malnutrition, with the prevalence of stunting, underweight and wasting significantly lower in the preventive compared to the recuperative program communities after 3 years of program implementation. Now, USAID is undertaking additional studies in Burundi and Guatemala to determine most successful and cost-effective interventions and delivery approaches to strengthen Title II MCHN programs and maximize their impact on nutrition. The results will assist USAID/FFP and its Awardees to design better Multi Year Assistance Programs (MYAPs) in the future. The study's various foci (the potential role of specialized foods in support of preventive program; the most cost effective size of the family ration; and the duration of the benefits) will allow Title II Awardees to design programs that have the maximum impact on the prevention of child malnutrition in developing country settings, at the lowest cost possible.

Innovations in Program Assessment and Monitoring

USAID has supported the development and validation of various measurement tools to better monitor and evaluate dietary diversity and quality among women (Women's Dietary Diversity), infants and young children (Indicators for assessing Infant and young Child Feeding Practices) as well as household hunger (Household Hunger Scale). All three innovative and simplified measurement tools have been adopted

⁸ Preventive food rations to women and children; incentive rations to families; preventive and curative health services for children and women; and a Social and Behavior Change and Communication strategy) to prevent malnutrition may further boost PM2A's cost efficiency.

by the Global Health Initiative and Feed the Future and will improve the planning, design, and monitoring systems of USAID-supported nutrition activities.

To meet expressed needs of USAID's partners, USAID invested in the development of innovative tools for problem assessment and improved oversight and management of programs. For example, in using Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) methodologies, a simple, cost-effective and reliable method, LAYERS, for monitoring performance of USAID-funded Title II field operations was developed. LAYERS is a software application that uses a hand-held computer to collect and analyze data based on principles of LQAS. Other innovative solutions to improve assessment and monitoring including the development of alternative sampling for rapid assessment of the prevalence of SAM; and LQAS-based applications for annual monitoring of USAID Mission's bilateral population, health and nutrition programs. It is expected that FANTA III will continue to expand the use and quality of assessment and monitoring activities for nutrition oriented food security and health programming.

b. Relationship to other USAID programs

USAID has invested in nutrition for over 30 years. Synergies and integration are necessary with a diverse set of health programs under GHI, including: newborn health, maternal health, child health, family planning, water and sanitation, and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, neglected tropical diseases, and malaria. Within FTF, nutrition programming will be designed and implemented alongside agriculture-focused efforts, which requires improved linkages between agriculture and nutrition outcomes. Lastly, nutrition is a fundamental component of both emergency and non-emergency assistance. FANTA III will be expected to interact and collaborate with these and other USAID food security and health programs.

Many of these programs are mission-funded bilaterals that are implementing activities as part of FTF and GHI in line with these initiatives' results frameworks. In addition, USAID/Washington supports a diverse set of mechanisms intended to provide global technical leadership and support to the field. The projects with which FANTA III will be expected to work are:

- Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovation on Nutrition Globally (SPRING)—Aims to improve policies and programs to scale up effective nutrition services, with a concerted effort on country-specific social and behavior change communication, dietary diversity and micronutrient adequacy (through locally available as well as fortified foods).
- The Nutrition Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP)—Supports a research agenda to determine what kinds of investments in agriculture-based strategies, human and institutional capacity, agricultural and food system policies, and human health and nutrition can be used to achieve impact on nutrition.
- Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP)— MCHIP's vision is to accelerate the reduction of maternal, newborn and child mortality in the 30 USAID priority countries facing the highest disease burden.
- Livelihood and Food Security Technical Assistance Project (LIFT)—Aims to directly support the improvement of food security of HIV-affected families through livelihood assistance and economic strengthening activities.

- Technical and Operational Performance Support program (TOPS)— TOPS, funded by USAID/Food for Peace (FFP), strengthens the capacity of FFP Title II grantees to improve the quality and effectiveness of food aid implementation through fostering collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing. TOPS and FANTA III activities will be complementary and will require strong collaboration and coordination.

c. Contribution to global agenda and partnerships

Effective partnership is one of the principles behind both FTF and GHI. USAID is heavily engaged in numerous partnerships with bilateral donors, multilaterals, the United Nations, the private sector, and civil society that focus on nutrition. FANTA III will be a vehicle through which USAID's commitment to effective partnerships is realized.

One such partnership is the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. This movement is a multi-stakeholder global effort to improve nutrition. The SUN framework has been endorsed by more than 100 entities from national governments, the UN system, civil society organizations, development agencies, academia, philanthropic bodies, and the private sector. SUN encourages a focus on nutrition within development programs and identifies investments that have been shown to work if implemented within the context of nutrition-focused development policies. The 1,000 days partnership is intended to serve as a platform to encourage investment and strengthen policies to improve early nutrition in the developing world in alignment with SUN. FANTA III will be one of USAID's key programs contributing to the country-driven SUN movement.

In addition to SUN, FANTA III will be expected to work with important global partners such as PEPFAR Technical Working Groups; the Global Fund; NUGAG; MERG; LNS Research Network; CSHGP; Core Group; Emergency Nutrition Network; WHO, WFP, and UNICEF; universities; the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition; CGIAR, NIH, and others.

D. Problem Statement

Undernutrition continues to be one of the gravest global health epidemics in the world. More than one billion people – nearly one-sixth of the world's population – suffer from chronic hunger. Nearly one-third of children in the developing world are either underweight or stunted, and more than 30 percent of the developing world's population suffers from micronutrient deficiencies. Not only are the ramifications of undernutrition immediate, it also diminishes future economic productivity, education attainment, and long-term health status.

Many Asian countries have made substantial progress in reducing undernutrition, but considerable problems persist in India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Nepal, where undernutrition plagues roughly half of all children. In Sub-Saharan Africa, the number of underweight children has almost doubled since 1980 and is projected to be 25% higher in 2015 than in 1990 due to population growth, stagnant agriculture production, and volatile food prices. Further exacerbating the global nutrition crisis is the increase in natural disasters, humanitarian emergencies, and conflicts, which often increase the nutritional vulnerability of affected populations by causing displacement; food insecurity; reduced

access to health and sanitation infrastructure; and weakened purchasing power. Unless significant advances are made in improving policies and strategies and scaling-up promising program approaches, the magnitude of the malnutrition problem will prevent many countries from achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)—especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, where malnutrition is increasing, and in South Asia, where malnutrition is widespread and improving only slowly.

Food insecurity in particular has devastating and far-reaching causes and impacts. Food insecurity is often rooted in poverty and has long-term impacts on the ability of families, communities, and countries to develop. However, improving food security alone does not guarantee an improvement in nutritional outcomes. Non-food factors such as burden of disease, sanitation conditions, quality of water and availability of primary health care also play a role in nutritional status. A comprehensive integrated approach addresses all aspects of food insecurity including addressing the basic level of an individual's well-being to result in good nutritional and health status. Additionally, gender inequality and the specific barriers women face in achieving their full potential in the societies and the communities in which they live have long been recognized as both underlying and direct causes of food insecurity and undernutrition. Overcoming gender inequality is a key element of reducing global hunger.

Undernutrition hampers the control of infectious diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. In particular, more than 40 million people are living with HIV throughout the world. Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean are home to approximately 30 million people living with HIV/AIDS. In these regions, HIV/AIDS has deepened poverty, exacerbated food insecurity, and diverted state resources. There is a complex, bi-directional relationship between food security and HIV. Illness and death resulting from the disease have an immediate impact on food security by limiting household income and food production. At the same time, food insecurity and poverty fuel the spread of HIV when people are driven to adopt immediate survival strategies that make them more vulnerable to HIV infection. Food security is also compromised by HIV because of the specific nutritional requirements of those infected by the disease. Not only do people living with HIV (PLHIV) require greater energy intake from foods, they often experience difficulty in digesting it. Access to adequate nutrition is critical to the health of infected individuals, including those receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART). As PLHIV life expectancies are now extended by decades w/ ART, NACS will be critical to manage the increased risks of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and other chronic health conditions associated with HIV infection and long-term ART. Finally, the combined impacts of food insecurity and HIV place further strain on already limited household resources as affected family members struggle to meet household.

E. Results Framework

a. Overall Focus

FANTA III aims to provide technical assistance to partner countries, USAID, and implementing partners to improve overall nutrition capacity and program effectiveness. With a particular emphasis on food security and health programming, FANTA III will work closely with the Bureau for Global Health (GH) and other USAID bureaus and offices (i.e. GH/OHA, BFS, EGAT, DCHA/FFP, DCHA/OFDA, AFR, AME) to strengthen the nutrition components of food security and health programming as a mechanism to improve the nutritional status of its target populations.

The pillars of food security are availability, access, utilization/consumption and stability⁹. FANTA III will focus on the pillars of improving utilization/consumption and access to food with a focus on improving nutritional status. In line with FTF and GHI, this work will aim to strengthen overall utilization of maternal and child health and nutrition services, increase access to diverse and quality foods, improve nutrition related behaviors and increase the resiliency of vulnerable communities and households.

FANTA III supports the three major objectives of the Global Health Bureau: to provide global leadership on innovative and evidence based approaches to improve overall health outcomes; to conduct state of the art research that advances the global health field; and to provide technical support to USAID missions, programs and country partners. Building upon previous USAID experiences in nutrition oriented programming, FANTA III will continue to strengthen food security and health policies, programs and systems which contribute to improved nutritional status.

FANTA III Project Objective: Food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

FANTA III is expected to provide technical assistance to partner countries and USAID staff and partners to strengthen the nutrition components of food security and health programs as part of GHI and FTF. With a mandate to assume global technical leadership on nutrition-oriented food security and health programs, particular attention will be given to building the evidence base for introduction or expansion of effective program approaches; developing effective monitoring and evaluation systems and tools; and strengthening the capacity of food security and health staff to implement effective program approaches to improve nutrition policies and programs.

In order to strengthen food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition, FANTA III will work on two intermediate results:

- b. **Intermediate Result 1:** Global evidence and capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

USAID supports the development of evidence based and innovative approaches to improve nutrition as outlined in GHI and FTF and in line with USAID Forward. Both past and on-going USAID activities have expanded the nutrition-related evidence base by looking at a variety of food security and health areas including dietary diversity and quality, anemia in women and children, community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) in HIV and non-HIV settings and program effectiveness for activities targeting chronic undernutrition in children. This evidence base has led to the development of global guidelines (e.g. CMAM guidelines), USAID oriented programming guidance (e.g. Title II non-emergency programming) and changes in approaches to HIV care and support (e.g. NACS). FANTA III is expected to build upon completed research activities and ensure the continuity of on-going research related to nutrition oriented food security and health programming.

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) are also critical components to better understand program progress and impact. GH investments in M&E have been focused on developing more user friendly and cost effective methods that capture simple and specific information. In line with USAID Forward and the new

USAID Evaluation Policy, improving M&E systems is essential to measuring the impact of USAID programs and will continue to be a core component of USAID investments in food security, health, emergency and food assistance as needed.

In addition to building the evidence base, strengthening human and institutional capacity is also at the core of program assessment, design, implementation and M&E and will be a key component of FANTA III. Investments in direct technical assistance, mentoring, formative supervision and training will remain significant investments in nutrition related food security and health programming. FANTA III will continue to enhance the multisectoral nature of nutrition and work with stakeholders from a variety of sectors (agriculture, education, health, emergency, etc.) to expand knowledge around nutrition, both technically and programmatically, in order to improve overall management and delivery of services.

The types of activities that are most essential to building the global evidence base and capacity are laid out in the following sub-IRs.

IR1.1: Evidence base for effective food and nutrition program approaches expanded

IR1.2: Monitoring and evaluation systems and tools developed and implemented

IR 1.3: Global Standards and policies in nutrition and food security promoted

IR1.4: Capacity in assessment, program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation strengthened

Illustrative activities for IR1:

- Conducting research and/or impact evaluations related to relevant nutrition topics to improve on-going and/or future program approaches including, but not limited to, specialized food based approaches for PLHIV and children and for prevention of chronic undernutrition
- Documenting and disseminating strategies related to the integration of approaches for the treatment of acute malnutrition (i.e. CMAM) into HIV and/or other food security/health/emergency programs/policies
- Develop/modify nutrition related indicators that measure program impact and cost effectiveness
- Develop/strengthen cost effective and simplified monitoring and evaluation systems and tools
- Develop guidelines/protocols and training modules/plans (both pre- and in-service) with country counterparts to introduce/scale up preventive and recuperative nutrition services
- Document and disseminate effective exit strategies for USAID food security programming (Title II)
- Work with international stakeholders to assist in continued global harmonization of nutrition indicators

- c. **Intermediate Result 2:** Country-driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

Central to FTF and GHI, and in line with the Paris principles, nutrition requires a country driven approach to effectively improve policies, programs and systems in food security and health programs. The Global Health Nutrition Division has been working closely with other health areas within the bureau (i.e. MCH,

HIV/AIDS, NTD, ID, etc.) and with other bureaus including BFS, DCHA in both the FFP and OFDA offices, the Africa, Asia and Latin American and Caribbean Regional Bureaus and USAID Country Missions to introduce and/or expand effective programming approaches. Technical assistance on nutrition related policies, programs and systems in the context of food security and health has been a primary activity for GH and the respective offices and missions depend on this type of support to ensure quality design, implementation and M&E. In light of the increased attention to HIV/AIDS and the need for nutrition-related emergency response in disaster situations in recent years, GH has increased its focus on technical assistance to integrate and strengthen evidence-based nutrition interventions with PEPFAR and OFDA programs and it will be of greater importance in FANTA III.

Country level technical assistance is critical to ensure the continuity of on-going activities and to support the roll-out/scale-up of newly identified priority areas that concern nutrition. The types of activities that are most essential to the country driven process are laid out in the following sub-IRs.

IR 2.1: Emergency nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

IR 2.2: Resiliency and vulnerability/food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved

IR 2.3: HIV nutrition and food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved

IR2.4: Maternal and child health and nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

Illustrative Activities for IR 2:

- Analyze, develop and/or strengthen country level policies, monitoring and evaluation tools/systems, political economies, early warning/surveillance systems, guidelines and other critical instruments needed to introduce/strengthen nutrition related programming in collaboration with the government and other stakeholders
- Strengthen community-based nutrition programming (MCH programs, Integrated Agriculture, Health and Nutrition programs, Title II programs, HIV/AIDS programs, etc.)
- Develop guidelines, assessment tools and evaluation methods for HIV related Nutrition Assessment Counseling and Support (NACS) activities
- Strengthen program design, assessment and capacity around food security programming that utilizes agricultural approaches (i.e. value chains, agribusiness, etc.) to improve nutrition
- Develop country specific nutrition oriented food security (including food assistance strategies) and health programming strategies
- Strengthen emergency nutrition assessment tools/methods, guidelines and treatment protocol in emergency and early recovery settings
- Harmonize monitoring and evaluation systems, indicators and tools within nutrition components of food security and health systems/programs, and mainstream environmental management principles into food security program M&E frameworks
- Build evidence base to improve approaches to nutrition programming in food security and health contexts for emergency and development contexts

- Strengthen linkages and referral systems between facility and community-based nutrition efforts, including monitoring and evaluation of such systems

d. Program Requirements for FANTA 3

- 1) Support on-going high priority activities that are integral to expanding the evidence base and improving program approaches**

There are several multi-year USAID-funded activities that will be in full implementation phase with the beginning of FANTA III. A top priority for FANTA III is to continue high priority multi-year activities that will expand the evidence base and improve nutrition programming approaches. FANTA III is expected to work closely with USAID to identify the specific activities and partners with whom ongoing work will be supported under this cooperative agreement.

- 2) Build off of existing knowledge base and reflect advances in theory and practice**

Food security and nutrition programs supported by FANTA III will be based on knowledge and experience accumulated over the past decade. It is expected that FANTA III will be innovative and devise new solutions to improve the nutrition program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in food security and health programs. This could entail expanding beyond the Applicant's knowledge base and drawing on the knowledge and experience of other initiatives. FANTA III will be expected to collect, systematize and share lessons from the field support experiences and to serve as a global technical lead in nutrition and food security programs for GH.

- 3) Utilize creative procurement mechanisms to support on-going or new activities, including research studies**

FANTA III will be expected to use innovative and efficient methods of partnering with research entities to conduct its work. USAID encourages applicants to explore fixed obligation subgrants (pending USAID approval) where applicable. These grants under the FANTA III cooperative agreement are expected to be issued within a range of \$100,000 to \$8 million over the life of the project. These or other creative mechanisms should be explored that will emphasize the payment against milestones as a measure of cost effectiveness and accountability to results. See ADS 303.3.25. Checklist on Fixed Obligation Grants is attached.

- 4) Coordinate with other USAID collaborating agencies, host-country programs, and other USG agencies as appropriate.**

The applicant must be able to work collaboratively with a large number of USAID partners, mission bilateral programs, host-country programs, and donors to provide effective technical support to USAID Missions and Operating Units. Further, the applicant may be requested to collaborate with other USG agencies such State/Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS), Department of Defense (DoD), State/Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative (S/GHFSI), and Office of Global AIDS Coordinator (O/GAC) as appropriate.

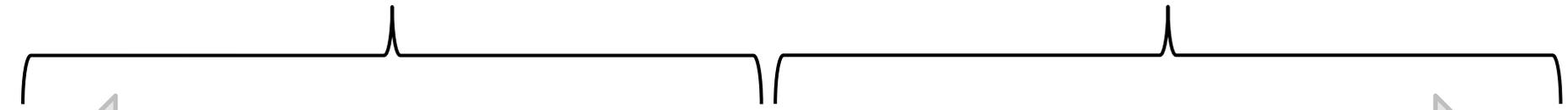
- 5) Work with Small Businesses**

One of the major objectives of the Implementation and Procurement Reform (IPR) initiative at USAID is to increase the number and diversity of our partner base. Using U.S. small businesses allows USAID to work with diverse partners, bringing new and creative approaches to meeting our programming needs and also serves to meet a major IPR objective. USAID has established a small business goal of 11 percent of the total dollar value of all prime contract awards. It is, therefore, encouraged to partner and/or work with small businesses (see http://www.usaid.gov/business/small_business/programs.html) to implement project activities throughout the duration of project activities.

Project Objective:
Food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

IR1: Global evidence and capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

IR2: Country-driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened



IR1.1: Evidence base for effective food and nutrition program approaches expanded

IR1.2: Monitoring and evaluation systems and tools developed and implemented

IR1.3: Global Standards and policies in nutrition and food security promoted

IR1.4: Capacity in assessment, program design, implementation and M&E strengthened

IR2.1: Emergency Nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

IR2.2: Resiliency and vulnerability/food security program assessment, design, implementation and M&E improved

IR2.3: HIV and Nutrition and food security program assessment, design, implementation and M&E improved

IR2.4: Maternal and child health and nutrition program assessment, design, implementation and M&E improved

F. Gender Considerations

Gender inequality cuts across each dimension of food security—availability, access, and utilization—and the interactions between women and men that affect gender roles and responsibilities—status, negotiating power, decision making, time and mobility. Through all its work, USAID aims to integrate a gender perspective that identifies and addresses the differential impact of development on women and men. As a policy and as a goal in itself, —USAID strives “to promote gender equality, in which both men and women have equal opportunity to benefit from and contribute to economic, social, cultural, and political development; enjoy socially valued resources and rewards; and realize their human rights” (Automated Directives System [ADS] 201, 2009, Revised 2010, 201.3.9.3, p. 31). Ultimately, the goal of development programs is to achieve improved health outcomes and transform gender norms towards greater equality.¹⁰ Addressing gender is integral to both GHI and FTF approaches to improving nutrition.

FANTA III is aimed to provide technical assistance to country level partners, USAID and implementing partner staff to improve overall nutrition capacity and program effectiveness. Part of this role will be providing technical assistance in the integration and mainstreaming of gender. While the applicant will specifically be asked to show this level of technical expertise in gender integration, a successful application will also reflect a gender perspective throughout the application, and the treatment of gender will be considered in the evaluation of each component of the application.

G. Geographic focus

FANTA III will work at the global level and will direct its efforts primarily to GHI and FTF focus countries (see Annex A). Applicants must be able to demonstrate capacity to be fully functional and able to immediately start implementing activities in at least 15 countries. The level of effort and budget will be adjusted according to availability of funds, the nature of the activities, and the needs and opportunities in each situation.

H. Project Monitoring and Evaluation

FANTA III is expected to develop a Performance Monitoring Plan including indicators and targets for achieving the project’s objective and IRs, to the USAID Agreement Officer Technical Representative (AOTR) for review and approval. Through the annual work plan and progress reports, the Recipient will report on indicators and provide information that describes the expected results on an annual basis. The approach included in the overall plan should be consistent with USAID’s Evaluation Policy (refer to <http://www.usaid.gov/evaluation/>).

I. Planning, Reporting, and Communications

a. Annual Work plan

The Recipient is required to prepare and submit an annual work plan and detailed estimated budget associated with that work plan on a schedule established by the AOTR following the award. This plan will identify the activities to be carried out in the coming year, associated level of effort, and funding sources

¹⁰ Deborah Caro for the IGWG, *A Manual for Integrating Gender Into Reproductive Health and HIV Programs: From Commitment to Action (2nd Edition)* (Washington, DC: PRB, 2009). http://www.igwg.org/igwg_media/manualintegratgendr09_eng.pdf.

to be used for that work. A first draft of the Year One work plan will be due within sixty (60) days of the award of the Cooperative Agreement. This work plan shall be reviewed and USAID written comments forwarded to the Recipient within one month of submission, and then finalized by the Recipient no later than two (2) weeks after Recipient's receipt of USAID's written comments. Annual work plans for Project Year two (2) to five (5) should be submitted to the AOTR for approval prior to the end of the previous Project Year.

b. Semi-Annual and Annual Status Reports

On a semi-annual basis following submission of the first work plan, and within thirty (30) days following the close of each six month period (based on the USG fiscal year), the Recipient shall prepare and submit to USAID written status reports (Semi-Annual Reports) that:

- Identify key problems or issues encountered, how they were or will be resolved, and, if/as required, recommended Mission-level intervention to facilitate their timely resolution;
- Include a brief summary of achievements during the concluding quarter towards planned targets; and
- Present succinct success stories and lessons learned for possible public dissemination.

The second six-month status report of the fiscal/project year will serve as the annual status report for the concluding year, and shall be submitted within thirty (30) days following the close of the fourth quarter (July-September). In addition to meeting the above requirements, the annual report shall include a discussion, supported with quantitative and qualitative evidence, (which evidence shall remain auditable under the terms of the agreement and USAID program implementation procedures), of impacts achieved to-date. This shall include clear identification of which impacts achieved were within the manageable interests of the Recipient and which were likely catalyzed by Recipient-supported initiatives, leading to substantial, sustained achievement of results.

c. Financial Reporting Requirements

Financial reporting requirements will be in accordance with 22 CFR 226. The implementer shall submit an original and two copies of completed form SF-269, SF 269A, SF-270 or SF0272, as appropriate, on a quarterly basis to AOTR and M/FM/CMP-LOC Unit.

d. Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)

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. The environmental compliance

obligations of the Applicant under these regulations and procedures are specified in the following paragraphs of this RFA.

An Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) has been approved for this Cooperative Agreement. The IEE covers activities expected to be implemented under this agreement. 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 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.

As part of its initial Work Plan, and all Annual Work Plans thereafter, the Applicant, in collaboration with the USAID Agreement Officer's Technical Representative (AOTR) and Mission Environmental Officer or Bureau Environmental Officer, as appropriate, shall review all ongoing and planned activities under this cooperative agreement to determine if they are within the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation.

Unless the approved Regulation 216 documentation contains a complete environmental mitigation and monitoring plan (EMMP) or a project mitigation and monitoring (M&M) plan, the Recipient shall prepare an EMMP or M&M Plan describing how they will, in specific terms, implement all IEE and/or EA conditions that apply to proposed project activities within the scope of the award. The EMMP or M&M Plan shall include monitoring the implementation of the conditions and their effectiveness.

If the Recipient plans any new activities outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation, it shall prepare an amendment to the documentation for USAID review and approval. No such new activities shall be undertaken prior to receiving written USAID approval of environmental documentation amendments. Any ongoing activities found to be outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation shall be halted until an amendment to the documentation is submitted and written approval is received from USAID

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.

e. Recipient/USAID Communications

Given the nature of FANTA III, the need for regular ongoing communication between USAID and the Recipient is vital. Such communication may include face-to-face meetings at USAID/Washington DC headquarters, face-to-face meetings at Recipient offices, conference calls, email exchanges, etc.

f. Authorized Geographic Code

The authorized geographic code for sub-procurements of services under this award is 935. The authorized geographic code for procurement of commodities is 935. (Pending Approval)

*****END SECTION I*****

SECTION II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. Anticipated Award Schedule

It is anticipated that a five-year, cooperative agreement will be awarded. USAID may choose to non-competitively extend for a second five year Agreement based upon the Agency priorities and the satisfactory performance of the Recipient during the first five-year Agreement.

B. Estimate Funds Available and Type of Award

Applicants should assume the ceiling for the Cooperative Agreement of \$200 million over five years – 25% Global Health and Child Survival account (GHCS) Core funds and 75% Field Support (FS). Field support includes Food for Peace Development Assistance PL 480/Title II account funding, Office of HIV/AIDS GHAI account funds, and Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance funding. GH core funds are expected to be used primarily for IR1 to support the key functions of global leadership, research, monitoring and evaluation, global standards, and capacity. Pending the availability of funds, USAID expects to award one cooperative agreement as a result of this RFA.

C. USAID Management of the Activities

The Agreement Officer's Technical Representative (AOTR) will serve as the primary contact between USAID and the Recipient. The AOTR will assist in linking FANTA III with other projects, USAID Mission bilateral projects, civil society, multilateral agencies, and other donors/foundations.

D. Substantial Involvement

USAID shall be substantially involved during the implementation of this Cooperative Agreement in the following ways:

1. Approval of the Recipient's annual work plans, including: planned activities for the following year, annual reports, international travel plans, planned expenditures, event planning/management, research studies/protocols, and changes to any activity to be carried out under the Cooperative Agreement;
2. Approval of specified key personnel assigned to the positions listed below. All changes thereto must be submitted for the approval by the Agreement Officer Technical Representative.

Title: Project Director

Title: Deputy Director for Operations

Title: Deputy Director for IR1 Global Leadership

Title: Deputy Director for IR2 Country Programs

Title: Senior Advisor for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

3. USAID and Recipient collaboration or joint participation, which may include selection of advisory committee members;

4. Approval of sub-awards in accordance with 22 CFR 226;

5. Approval of Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and other monitoring as described in 22 CFR 226.

*****END SECTION II*****

SECTION III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Cooperative Agreement under this RFA, an organization must:

- a. Be a U.S. and Non-US based institution, for-profit, non-profit or private voluntary organizations registered with USAID. Must be able to meet the eligibility criteria in 22 CFR 228 sub-part D;
- b. Have experience and/or capacity to provide specialized technical assistance in nutrition and food security programming in USAID-assisted countries described in this RFA;
- c. Agree to work with and hire individuals who have the technical expertise to provide technical support to strengthen country specific nutrition and food security policies, strategies and programming;
- d. Have managerial, technical, and institutional capacities to achieve the results outlined in this RFA
- e. Have the capacity to collaborate with other organizations/groups in undertaking nutrition and food security programming across multiple areas such as maternal child health and nutrition, HIV, agriculture, and humanitarian assistance.

The Recipient must be a responsible entity. The Agreement Officer (AO) may determine a Pre-Award survey is required and if so, would establish a formal survey team to conduct an examination that will determine whether the prospective recipient has the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program.

B. Cost Share

USAID has established a cost share minimum of 5% of the USAID-funded or obligated amount projected up to the maximum ceiling (\$200 million) for the recipient of the award. Such funds may be mobilized from the recipient; other multilateral, bilateral, and foundation donors; host governments; and local organizations, communities and private businesses that contribute financially and in-kind to implementation of activities at the country level. For guidance on cost sharing in grants and cooperative agreements, please see 22 CFR 226.23 at <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov> and search under Title 22 Foreign Relations.

*****END SECTION III*****

SECTION IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Submission Instructions

The following are instructions for how Applications shall be submitted:

1. RFA Closing Date and Time: Applications shall be submitted on or before October 14, 2011 5pm Washington DC time.

2. The applications must submit applications via grants.gov. NO hand carried submissions will be accepted. Contractor must ensure that they have access to grants.gov (instructions Attachment F). Applications submitted electronically must have technical separate from cost. All documents must be properly labeled. Cost Application budget spreadsheet must be submitted in Excel form with unlocked cells with formulas visible. Omission of the below will be considered non-responsive and will not be reviewed.

- 1) Lack of either the Technical or Cost Proposal
- 2) Technical and Cost in the same document
- 3) Technical Approach addresses IR 1 and IR 2
- 4) Less than the required five key personnel
- 5) No Letters of intent of key personnel
- 6) No Resumes for key personnel
- 7) Management Plan
- 8) Organizational Chart
- 9) Management Plan Narrative
- 10) M&E Plan with Illustrative PMP
- 11) Institutional Capability factors addressed
- 12) Past Performance short forms (3 for Prime and 3 for each subcontractor unless indicated otherwise why no short forms are provided.
- 13) Past Performance references for key personnel
- 14) Detailed budget in Excel form for Prime and subcontractors
- 15) Budget notes for prime and subcontractors
- 16) Certifications and Representations
- 17) Failure to submit via grants.gov by closing time.
- 18) Less than 5% required cost share requirement
- 19) No proposed ceiling on Indirect costs

3. USAID Point of Contact:

Primary Contact:

Amy Wire
awire@usaid.gov

Secondary Contact:

Shanon Krause
skrause@usaid.gov

4. Questions shall be submitted in writing via email to the Point of Contact listed above, no later than September 23, 2011 at 12:00pm Washington DC time. Any questions submitted after this date will not be accepted. Question answers will be posted as an amendment to this RFA on www.grants.gov.

5. 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 applications.

B. General Application Instructions

The following are general instructions for what constitutes an application and how applications shall be formatted:

1. An application shall consist of a Technical application and a Cost application.
2. All information shall be presented in the English language and shall be formatted in either Microsoft Word 2010 or Microsoft Excel 2010 with all formulas unlocked.
3. Cover page shall ONLY contain following information:
 - 1) RFA number and title for which this application is being submitted
 - 2) Applicant Name, address, TIN, DUNS, Cage Code, and point of contact information for technical and cost application.
 - 3) Names of subcontractors
4. Technical application:
 - a. Submit electronically via grants.gov and properly labeled.
 - b. Shall be single-spaced text, printed double-sided, minimum 12-point font, minimum one (1") margins on standard letter sized paper (8.5" x 11").

- c. Shall not exceed thirty-five (35) pages excluding documents requested to be provided in an annex (e.g. resumes, references, etc.) and the following (if applicable): Cover page, dividers, acronym list and table of contents. Applications in excess of this limit will not be evaluated.
- d. Supplementary materials such as full resumes of personnel, documentation of past institutional work, Past Performance references and relevant letters of support may be provided in annexes accompanying the technical application. There is no page limit for the annexes, although brevity is encouraged.
- e. Any graphs, charts, exhibits, tables, etc. contained in the body of the technical application shall be numbered and included in the 35 page limit.
- f. Executive Summary may not be included.

5. Cost/business application:

- a. Submitted via grants.gov and properly labeled
- b. No limit on the number of pages for the cost/business application.
- c. The application must be submitted using SF-424 and SF 424A "Application for Federal Assistance." The form is downloadable on USAID's website at:
http://www.usaid.gov/procurement_bus_opp/procurement/forms/.

6. The Government may (a) reject any or all applications, (b) accept other than the lowest cost application, (c) accept more than one application, (d) accept alternate applications meeting the applicable standards of this RFA, and (e) waive informalities and minor irregularities in the application(s) received.

7. Applicants may only submit documents to be included in the Annex as requested in the RFA directions below.

C. Technical Application Guidelines

The Applicant shall submit a technical application that addresses the items listed below and that is organized in the order described below. Suggested page limits for each section of the technical application are provided for guidance, but Applicants may choose the number of pages to devote to each section, within the **thirty-five (35) page limit** of the technical application as stated above. Any application over 35 pages WILL NOT be reviewed.

The following technical guidelines should be used to prepare an application in response to this RFA:

1. Technical Understanding and Approach (Suggested 12 pages)

The Technical Understanding and Approach shall demonstrate the Applicant's understanding and expertise with respect to achieving the objective and intermediate results, of FANTA-III as described in Section I. Technical applications must be specific, complete and presented concisely. The application must take into account the evaluation criteria and procedures found in Section V. For purposes of the

overall technical understanding and approach, Applicants can assume the following geographic mix regarding regions of countries: Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Applicants will describe how they propose to achieve the overall objective of this project: ***Food Security and Health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened*** by achieving the two intermediate results (IRs) which are both of equal importance to achieve the overall objective. The overall approach should reflect current USAID priorities and initiatives and present a clear plan for reaching the overall objective.

Intermediate Result 1: Global evidence and capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

- IR1.1: Evidence base for effective food and nutrition program approaches expanded
- IR1.2: Monitoring and evaluation systems and tools developed and implemented
- IR 1.3: Global Standards and policies in nutrition and food security promoted
- IR1.4: Capacity in assessment, program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation strengthened

Intermediate Results 2: Country-driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

- IR 2.1: Emergency nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved
- IR 2.2: Resiliency and vulnerability/food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved
- IR 2.3: HIV nutrition and food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved
- IR2.4: Maternal and child health and nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

Applicants shall describe for each IR:

- How principal activities will be implemented including how activities will contribute to achieving the IR as well as the overall objective, be reflective of the state of the art knowledge and build on previous lessons learned
- What key approaches will be used and what evidence exists that these approaches will be effective
- How activities will be able to be effectively and quickly started
- Expected IR results and indicators

In addressing IR 1 and IR 2, the Applicant must show how it will fulfill the program requirements listed in this RFA. As appropriate, the following components should be integrated across the intermediate results country-specific and global level efforts and be reflected in the proposed activities and approaches.

- Plans to supports ongoing high priority activities that are integral to expanding the evidence base and improving program approaches
- Build on existing knowledge base and reflect advances in theory and practice.
- Use of creative procurement mechanisms to support ongoing or new activities, including research studies, such as fixed obligation grants that are based on performance against set milestones
- Coordination with other USAID collaborating agencies, host-country programs, other USG agencies and local organizations as appropriate.
- Activities must capitalize on global efforts such as Scaling Up Nutrition and translate these efforts into multi-sectorial and country-level action
- Gender issues and constraints must be integrated and addressed

2. Key Personnel Qualifications and Staffing Capabilities (Suggested 7 pages)

FANTA-III will include personnel with an appropriate balance of managerial, technical and operational skills sufficient to achieve its objective and sub-objectives including the identification of in-country professionals. The core team should reflect expertise in nutrition, food security; HIV/AIDS, emergency specialists, gender integration, as well as program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. USAID's intent is to have a sufficient core staff available to continue to plan and provide consistent specialized, targeted technical assistances in nutrition and food security program analysis, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and to provide global leadership in the identification and application of promising practices. Applicants should propose the optimal mix of technical personnel considered necessary for specialized, targeted technical assistance in food and nutrition programming and for global leadership.

A total of five (5) key personnel shall be proposed by name and position. Each of these five key personnel position requires USAID approval, as noted in substantial involvement provisions in Section II.

1. Project Director: The Project Director is responsible for the overall management of FANTA III. The Project Director will have the following experience and qualifications:

- a minimum of a Master's degree in management, nutrition, public health, social sciences, international development, or a related field
- at least 15 years' experience leading, managing and implementing large international projects, specifically with experience in two or more of the following areas: management, nutrition, health policy, health systems strengthening, behavior change communication, community development, food security, or agriculture including at least 5 years of experience on nutrition specific programming;
- demonstrated experience and understanding of public health and food security as they relate to nutrition and should be knowledgeable about the relevant socioeconomic, institutional and policy issues that are related to nutrition;
- professional experience interacting with U.S. Government agencies, host country governments, and other relevant stakeholders;
- demonstrated experience working in partnership with international donors and agencies;
- Professional experience working in nutrition programs in low or middle income countries.

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas only 10-20 percent of the time.

2. Deputy Project Director for Operations (DPD-O): The Deputy Project Director for Operations is part of the management team which is expected to complement the Project Director in knowledge and experience. The DPD-O is responsible for overall management of FANTA-III communications, finance, contract and administration clusters. They should be a senior manager with the following experience and qualifications:

- an advanced degree (MS, MA or Ph.D.) in finance, management, food security, MCH, HIV/AIDS or a related field;
- at least 10 years of experience in management, finance, contract and administration
- at least 3-5 years of experience in programs in food security, MCH, HIV, emergency nutrition or related programming.
- Professional experience interacting with U.S. Government agencies in relation to the duties of this position.

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas 20-30 percent of the time.

3. Deputy Director for IR-1-Global Leadership (DPD-G): The DPD-G is part of the management team which is expected to complement the Project Director in knowledge and experience. The DPD-G is specifically responsible for ensuring the scientific and technical quality of all activities implemented under IR-1. S/he will facilitate consensus on FANTA III operations research agenda, develop strategies for the incorporation of findings in global normative standards and facilitate capacity building. S/he will be responsible for managing the identification of and response to priority areas for global capacity building. The DPD-C and DPD-G are jointly responsible for ensuring that FANTA III field level activities are informed by and inform FANTA III global leadership activities. The DPD-G should be a senior manager with the following experience and qualifications.

- an advanced degree (MS, MA or Ph.D.) in nutrition or food security or a related field;
- at least 15 years of experience in providing specialized technical assistance and global leadership in food security, MCH, HIV or related programming.
- At least 10 years professional experience managing nutrition and/or food security activities specifically related to at least one of the following: research, monitoring and evaluation, capacity development, or global standards development

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas 20-30 percent of the time.

4. Deputy Director for IR-2-Country Programs (DPD-C): The DPD-C is part of the management team which is expected to complement the Project Director in knowledge and experience. The DPD-C is responsible for ensuring that country-driven activities under each sub-IR reflect the state-of-the-art and that FANTA-III approaches are consistent across countries under each sub-IR. S/he will also ensure FANTA-III approaches are harmonized across sub-IRs. The DPD-C and DPD-G are jointly responsible for

ensuring that FANTA III country level activities are informed by and inform FANTA-III global evidence and capacity activities. The DPD-C should be a senior manager with the following experience and qualifications:

- an advanced degree (MS, MA or Ph.D.) in the food security, nutrition or related field,
- At least 10 years of experience in providing specialized technical assistance and global leadership in nutrition programming
- At least 5 years of experience on integration of nutrition with at least one of the following: HIV/AIDS programs, food security programs, or other infectious disease programs
- At least 5 years Professional experience working in low or middle income countries implementing nutrition programs.

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas 20-30 percent of the time.

5. Senior Advisor for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation. The Senior Advisor for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation will focus on research and capacity for technical assistance in monitoring and evaluation. The Advisor will serve as a technical expert to lead the activities providing technical assistance in research, monitoring and evaluation. S/he should have the following experience and qualifications.

- A Master's degree in public health, nutrition, food security, epidemiology, or related field.
- At least 5-10 years of experience in monitoring, evaluation and research inclusive of each of the following
 - Experience in designing, managing and implementing research projects in low income and resource constrained settings
 - Experience in designing and implementing monitoring and evaluation systems in low income and resource constrained settings
 - Experience in training implementers and/or policy makers
 - Experience in data analysis

Non-key senior program staff: In addition to the Key Personnel, the Applicant will have sufficient other senior program staff ,including professionals from developing countries and institutions, to help address the objective of FANTA-III and to be available for short-, medium-, and long-term assignments. FANTA-III will have sufficient staffing to address technical and administrative aspects that may include but not be limited to the following areas of expertise: food security, infectious diseases, emergency nutrition, maternal and child health, research design and implementation, data analysis, monitoring and evaluation, capacity building and other skill areas required for implementation. Additionally, Applicants should also propose up to 10 non-US-based staff that can serve as experts (inclusive of US citizens who reside abroad).

The section on personnel capability in the main body of the application will include brief statements of major duties, experience, academic background and resumes for each of the five (5) key personnel and also include other senior program staff. Resumes for key personnel, other senior program staff will be limited to four (4) pages in length and should be included in the annexes. The annexes (which are

beyond the 35-page limit) will include letters of intent to participate for those not already employed by the proposing organization and letters of commitment from proposed key personnel.

The applicant must provide resumes and letters of intent for key personnel. The applicant must provide resumes for other non-key senior program staff. It is not required to submit resumes from the up to ten non-US based experts, but will do so upon request from USAID.

Applicants may propose and justify an alternative staffing structure, including a different configuration of key staff positions, if they feel that a different structure is more conducive to achieving the desired project results.

3. Management Plan (Suggested 7 pages)

The Applicant shall propose a management plan, including an organizational chart, which addresses the breadth, depth and technical areas required to successfully undertake FANTA III. Given the technical scope and global focus of this activity, it is anticipated the applicant would be a partnership of organizations or groups, each bringing a particular set of program experience and technical expertise that would contribute to successfully undertaking the activities within this RFA.

The Applicant's management plan should be consistent with the project's technical complexity, the range of USAID and external stakeholders potentially to be involved, the global reach, and application of the state-of-the art in food and nutrition programming. In addition, the management plan needs to be efficient in responding to budgetary constraints and emphasize cost effectiveness.

The management plan should also address how the applicant proposes to facilitate a continuation of field-based and research-focused activities under FANTA-2.

As such, the management plan must include the following:

- A. Organizational chart with the roles and responsibilities and lines of authority and reporting within FANTA-III, including both technical and administrative.

A description of meaningful cost savings and cost efficiency measures on both the administrative and programmatic elements of the proposed program. USAID is open to creative solutions for cost efficiencies and will evaluate the management plan on the degree to which the applicant demonstrates their commitment to these efforts and provides concrete and specific examples.

An accompanying management plan narrative that:

- B. Merit and feasibility of the presented approach for meeting both country and global technical needs
 - Organizational chart and supporting management plan narrative clearly address the depth and technical skills necessary to successfully implement the proposed technical approach.

- Management plan clearly describes the applicant and sub-awardees capacity and commitment to continuing on-going FANTA-II priority activities and carry them forward to completion(see FANTA publications at <http://dec.usaid.gov>)
- Management plan that presents appropriate lines of authority for managing all staff, including partners and sub-Awardees, includes clear and feasible roles for any proposed sub awardees, and outlines a clear approach to managing technical and financial reporting, project logistics, and procurement issues while taking advantage of each organization’s strength, emphasizing cost effectiveness, and avoiding duplication of effort.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (Suggested 3 pages)

Applicants shall:

- Provide an illustrative performance monitoring plan for FANTA-III that includes the indicators that will be used for the project objective and two IRs. This may be included as an annex.
- Identify the data collection method, type, and source of information to be collected.
- Describe how USAID reporting requirements will be met.

Evaluation should be designed and implemented at the beginning of the project and continue throughout the project. The plan should be consistent with USAID’s Evaluation Policy (<http://www.usaid.gov/evaluation/>).

5. Institutional Capability (Suggested 6 pages)

The Applicant shall:

- Demonstrate at least 8-10 years of institutional experience implementing nutrition and/or food security-related programming and any proposed partners or sub-Awardees
- Identify at least 10 countries where the applicant or any proposed partners or sub-Awardees has provided technical assistance to nutrition programs
- Identify at least 10 countries where the applicant or any proposed partners or sub-Awardees has operational programming and staff in health or food security technical areas
- Demonstrate the institutional capacity of the Applicant and any proposed partners or sub-Awardees in the nutrition technical areas relevant to achieving the goal and objectives of FANTA III as outlined in Section D.

6. Past Performance (note: past performance materials shall be provided in an annex and will not count toward the 35 page limit)

1) Organizational Past Performance

This section of the application provides information about the Applicant’s past performance record in implementing similar programs.

As an appendix, please complete **Past Performance Report – Short Form (Annex D)** for three (3) past performance references which describe any contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements which the Applicant organization, as well as any sub-recipients or partners has implemented involving similar or related programs over the past three years. Short forms shall be submitted for any proposed

subawardees proposed. Please include the following information: name and address of the organization for which the work was performed; name and current telephone number and email address of responsible representative from the organization for which the work was performed; contract/grant name and number (if any), the period of contract/grant performance, annual amount received for each of the last three years and beginning and end dates; brief description of the project/assistance activity and key project accomplishments / results achieved to date.

We request that the Applicant alert the contacts that their names have been submitted and that they are authorized to provide past performance information when requested.

Please note that USAID reserves the right to obtain past performance information from other sources including those not named in this application. If the applicant does not have any relevant past performance for themselves or subcontractors must indicate in their application or considered unresponsive and will not be considered for award.

2) Key Personnel Past Performance

Each of the five key personnel shall provide three references. We request that the Applicant alert the contacts that their names have been submitted and that they are authorized to provide past performance information when requested. Please note that USAID reserves the right to obtain past performance information from other sources including those not named in this application. If the applicant does not have any relevant past performance it must indicate in their application or considered unresponsive and will not be considered for award.

Reference should include name, telephone number, and email address for contact. The reference should include a description of the work performed by the key personnel that relates to work that person will perform under this agreement.

D. Cost/Business Application Guidelines

USAID will evaluate the cost/business application separately for cost effectiveness and realism. While there is no page limit for this portion, Applicants are encouraged to be as concise as possible, but still provide the necessary details. USAID will require the following detailed information from the Applicant organization:

The cost/business application must be completely separate from the technical application. The application must be submitted using SF-424 and SF 424A "Application for Federal Assistance." The form is downloadable on USAID's website at:

http://www.usaid.gov/procurement_bus_opp/procurement/forms/.

The cost/business application should be for a period of 5 years using the budget format shown in the SF-424A. The anticipated amount of the award is \$200 million. In addition to hard copies, technical and Cost/Business applications must be submitted on separate CDs in MS Word 2000 or latest versions. Graphic/tables must be formatted in Microsoft Excel 2000 (or later versions).

If the Applicant has established a consortium or another legal relationship among its partners, the Cost/Business application must include a copy of the document establishing the parameters of the legal relationship between the parties. The agreement should include a full discussion of the relationship between the Applicants including identification of the Applicant with which USAID will treat for purposes of Agreement administration, identity of the Applicant which will have accounting responsibility, how Agreement effort will be allocated and the express agreement of the principals thereto to be held jointly and severally liable for the acts or omissions of the other.

New Recipients: Applicants that have never received a grant, cooperative agreement or contract from the U.S. Government are required to submit a copy of their accounting manual and procurement/management handbook relating to personnel and travel policies.

To support the proposed costs, please provide detailed budget notes/narrative for all costs that explain how the costs were derived. The following provides guidance on what is needed.

1. The breakdown of all costs associated with the program.
2. The breakdown of all costs according to each partner organization involved in the program.
3. The costs associated with external, expatriate technical assistance and those associated with local in-country technical assistance.
4. The breakdown of any financial and in-kind contributions of all organizations involved in implementing this program.
5. Potential contributions of non-USAID or private commercial donors to this program.
6. Procurement plan for commodities, goods and services (if applicable).

The cost application should contain the following budget categories:

1. Salary and Wages: Direct salaries and wages should be proposed in accordance with the Applicant's personnel policies; USAID requires that salary daily rates are calculated 260 working days per year. Budget narrative should explain how daily rates are calculated.
2. Fringe Benefits: If the Applicant has a fringe benefit rate that has been approved by an agency of the U.S. Government, such rate should be used and evidence of its approval should be provided. If a fringe benefit rate has not been so approved, the application should propose a rate and explain how the rate was determined. If the latter is used, the narrative must include a detailed breakdown comprised of all items of fringe benefits (e.g., unemployment insurance, workers compensation, health and life insurance, retirement, FICA, etc.) and the costs of each, expressed in dollars and as a percentage of salaries;
3. Travel and Transportation: The application should indicate the number of trips, domestic, regional, and international, and the estimated costs. Specify the origin and destination for proposed trips, duration of travel, and number of individuals traveling. Per Diem should be based on the Applicant's normal travel policies;
4. Equipment: Estimated types of equipment (i.e., model #, cost per unit, quantity);

- 5. Supplies: Supply items related to this activity (e.g., specimen collection, sample transport, administrative);
 - 6. Contractual: Any goods and services being procured through a contract mechanism;
 - 7. Other Direct Costs: This includes communications, report preparation costs, passports, visas, medical exams and inoculations, insurance (other than insurance included in the Applicant’s fringe benefits), equipment, office rent, etc. The narrative should provide a breakdown and support for all other direct costs;
 - 8. Indirect Costs: The Applicant should support the proposed indirect cost rate with a letter from a cognizant U.S. Government audit agency, a Negotiated Indirect Cost Agreement (NICRA), or with sufficient information for USAID to determine the reasonableness of the rates (For example, a breakdown of labor bases and overhead pools, the method of determining the rate, etc.).
- E. Certifications and Representation
- F. Ceiling on Indirect Cost Rates And Final Reimbursement for Indirect Costs- Contractor shall propose a ceiling on their Indirect Costs.

(a) Reimbursement for indirect costs shall be at the lower of the negotiated final or predetermined rates, or the following ceiling rates:

Description	Rate	Base	Type	Period
	%	1/	1/	1/
	%	2/	2/	2/

1/Base of Application:

Type of Rate:

Period:

Source:

2/Base of Application:

Type of Rate:

Period:

Source:

- (b) The Government shall not be obligated to pay any additional amount should the final indirect cost rates exceed the negotiated ceiling rates. If the final indirect cost rates are less than the negotiated ceiling rates, the negotiated rates shall be reduced to conform to the lower rates.

- (c) This advance understanding shall not change any monetary ceiling, obligation, or specific cost allowance or disallowance. Any changes in classifying or allocating indirect costs require the prior written approval of the Contracting Officer.

- (d) The contractor will make no change in its established method of classifying or allocating indirect costs without the prior written approval of the Agreement Officer and OAA/CAS.

- (e) This advance understanding shall not change any monetary ceiling, cost limitation, or obligation established in the contract.

- (f) The distribution base for establishment of final overhead rates is -----. The distribution base for establishment of final G&A rates is -----.

NOTE: The AO shall determine a fair and reasonable indirect cost rate ceiling for each task order awarded to a small business that does not have an established NICRA.

G.

All Certifications and Representations found under Annex B must be completed and submitted with the cost application.

*****END SECTION IV*****

SECTION V. EVALUATION CRITERIA

A. Technical Evaluation Criteria

The technical applications will be evaluated in accordance with the Technical Evaluation Criteria set forth below. The criteria are presented with relative weights (totaling 100 points) so Applicants will know which areas require emphasis in applications. The sub-criteria are weighted equally for Technical Understanding and Approach, Key Personnel Qualifications and Staffing Capabilities, Management Plan, and Institutional Capability and these sections will be scored as a whole. Past Performance sub-criteria will be weighted in descending order of importance giving more weight to key personnel past performance (10 out of 15 points) and Organizational Past Performance(5 out of 15 points).

Costs will be evaluated for general reasonableness, allowability, and allocability. Awards will be made to responsible Applicants whose application offers the greatest value to the U.S. Government, technical, cost and other factors considered. In evaluating the different components of the technical proposals, the U.S. Government will examine the overall merit and feasibility of the applications, as well as examine specific criteria relevant to each component, as elaborated below. Applications will be evaluated on their technical criteria, however, USAID intends to award to the applicant which provides the greatest value to the Government. Applications who are most technically acceptable will be considered for award. However, some other determining factors could be used to determine the greatest value to the Government ie.cost/business application,evidence for program impact, cost efficiency and cost savings methods, utilization of small businesses.

Each technical application submitted in response to this RFA will be evaluated in relation to the evaluation factors set forth in this solicitation and which have been tailored to the requirements of this RFA. These criteria: a) identify the significant areas that Applicants should address in their applications; and b) serve as the standard against which all applications will be evaluated.

1. Technical Understanding and Approach (25 points).

- Technical approach reflects strong understanding of USAID, current global initiatives, particularly FTF and GHI, the global nutrition environment, the FANTA-III results framework, and the ability to synthesize and apply the lessons learned from other program experiences.
- Applicants approach demonstrates state-of-the-art and evidence-based interventions and approaches that allow a rapid, effective start-up of program activities and continuation of critical research investments and efficient contracting mechanisms
- Applicant demonstrates technical understanding and effective approaches to interact with a number of Operating Units among USAID to achieve the results described in the RFA.
- Applicant prioritizes activities, demonstrates how principal activities under each IR will be implemented and how key approaches maximize opportunities to meet the overall project objective.
- Gender issues and constraints are considered throughout the program description and presents specific approaches to tackle gender-related constraints in nutrition programming.

2. Key Personnel Qualifications and Staffing Capabilities (20 points)

- The FIVE key personnel meet the requirements described in Section IV.C.2
- Proposed personnel, including other senior program staff, have the requisite skills and experiences, as well as clearly defined duties to enable the Applicant to effectively implement the project.

3. Management Plan (25 points)

- Organizational chart and supporting management plan meet or exceeds the ability to successfully implement the proposed technical approach.
- Applicant demonstrates cost savings and cost efficiency, both administrative and programmatic, and has included concrete examples of what cost efficiency measures will be implemented
- Degree to which the applicant and sub-awardees have the ability continue on-going FANTA-II priority activities
- Management plan has defined lines of authority for managing all staff, including partners and sub-awardees, includes clear and feasible roles for any proposed sub awardees, and outlines a clear approach to managing technical and financial reporting, project logistics, and procurement issues while taking advantage of each organization's strength, emphasizing cost effectiveness, and avoiding duplication of effort.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (3 points)

- Applicant presented appropriate performance indicators that describe data collection method, type, information source, as well as the anticipated outcomes.
- M&E plan details a clear approach for how the Applicant will meet USAID reporting requirements.

5. Institutional Capability (12 points)

- Applicant and/or proposed sub-partners demonstrate at least 8-10years of institutional experience implementing nutrition and/or food security-related programming
- Applicant demonstrates the ability to provide TA and to have operational programming in countries
- Institutional capacity of the Applicant and any proposed partners or sub-Awardees in the nutrition technical areas are relevant to achieving the goal and objectives of FANTA III as outlined in Section I..

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6. Past Performance (15 points)

- Key Personnel past performance information obtained demonstrates successful past performance implementing previous work.(10 points)
- Organizational past performance information obtained demonstrates successful past performance implementing previous work similar in scope to FANTA-III.(5 points)

B. Acceptability of Proposed Non-Price Terms and Conditions

An offer is acceptable when it manifests the Applicant's assent, without exception, to the terms and conditions of the RFA, including attachments, and provides a complete and responsive proposal without taking exception to the terms and conditions of the RFA. If an Applicant takes exception to any of the terms and conditions of the RFA, then USAID will consider its offer to be unacceptable. Applicants wishing to take exception to the terms and conditions stated within this RFA are strongly encouraged to contact the Agreement Officer before doing so. USAID reserves the right to change the terms and conditions of the RFA by amendment at any time prior to the source selection decision.

[END SECTION V]

SECTION VI. AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Authority to Obligate the Government

The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. No costs chargeable to the proposed Agreement may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed Agreement or a specific, written authorization from the Agreement Officer.

B. Branding & Marking Requirements

BRANDING & MARKING STRATEGY - ASSISTANCE (December 2005)

(a) Definitions

Branding Strategy means a strategy that is submitted at the specific request of a USAID Agreement Officer by an Apparently Successful Applicant after evaluation of an application for USAID funding, describing how the program, project, or activity is named and positioned, and how it is promoted and communicated to beneficiaries and host country citizens. It identifies all donors and explains how they will be acknowledged.

Apparently Successful Applicant(s) means the Applicant(s) for USAID funding recommended for an award after evaluation, but who has not yet been awarded a grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance award by the Agreement Officer.

The Agreement Officer will request that the Apparently Successful Applicants submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan. Apparently, Successful Applicant status confers no right and constitutes no USAID commitment to an award. USAID Identity (Identity) means the official marking for the Agency, comprised of the USAID logo and new brand mark, which clearly communicates that our assistance is from the American people. The USAID Identity is available on the USAID website and is provided without royalty, license, or other fee to recipients of USAID-funded grants or cooperative agreements or other assistance awards or sub-awards.

(b) Submission

The Apparently Successful Applicant, upon request of the Agreement Officer, will submit and negotiate a Branding Strategy. The Branding Strategy will be included in and made a part of the resulting grant or cooperative agreement. The Branding Strategy will be negotiated within the time that the Agreement Officer specifies. Failure to submit and negotiate a Branding Strategy will make the Applicant ineligible for award of a grant or cooperative agreement. The Apparently Successful Applicant must include all estimated costs associated with branding and marking USAID programs, such as plaques, stickers, banners, press events and materials, and the like.

(c) Submission Requirements

At a minimum, the Apparently Successful Applicant's Branding Strategy will address the following:

(1) Positioning

What is the intended name of this program, project, or activity?

Guidelines: USAID prefers to have the USAID Identity included as part of the program or project name, such as a "title sponsor," if possible and appropriate. It is acceptable to "co-brand" the title with USAID's and the Apparently Successful Applicant's identities. For example: "The USAID and [Apparently Successful Applicant] Health Center."

If it would be inappropriate or is not possible to "brand" the project this way, such as when rehabilitating a structure that already exists or if there are multiple donors, please explain and indicate how you intend to showcase USAID's involvement in publicizing the program or project. For example: School #123, rehabilitated by USAID and [Apparently Successful Applicant]/ [other donors].

Note: the Agency prefers "made possible by (or with) the generous support of the American People" next to the USAID Identity in acknowledging our contribution, instead of the phrase "funded by." USAID prefers local language translations.

Will a program logo be developed and used consistently to identify this program? If yes, please attach a copy of the proposed program logo.

Note: USAID prefers to fund projects that do NOT have a separate logo or identity that competes with the USAID Identity.

(2) Program Communications and Publicity

Who are the primary and secondary audiences for this project or program?

Guidelines: Please include direct beneficiaries and any special target segments or influencers. For Example: Primary audience: schoolgirls age 8-12, Secondary audience: teachers and parents—specifically mothers.

What communications or program materials will be used to explain or market the program to beneficiaries?

Guidelines: These include training materials, posters, pamphlets, Public Service Announcements, billboards, websites, and so forth.

What is the main program message(s)?

Guidelines: For example: "Be tested for HIV-AIDS" or "Have your child inoculated." Please indicate if you also plan to incorporate USAID's primary message – this aid is "from the American people" – into the narrative of program materials. This is optional; however, marking with the USAID Identity is required.

Will the recipient announce and promote publicly this program or project to host country citizens? If yes, what press and promotional activities are planned?

Guidelines: These may include media releases, press conferences, public events, and so forth. Note: incorporating the message, "USAID from the American People," and the USAID Identity is required.

Please provide any additional ideas about how to increase awareness that the American people support this project or program.

Guidelines: One of our goals is to ensure that both beneficiaries and host-country citizens know that the aid the Agency is providing is "from the American people." Please provide any initial ideas on how to further this goal.

(3) Acknowledgements

Will there be any direct involvement from a host-country government ministry? If yes, please indicate which one or ones. Will the recipient acknowledge the ministry as an additional co-sponsor?

Note: it is perfectly acceptable and often encouraged for USAID to "co-brand" programs with government ministries.

Please indicate if there are any other groups whose logo or identity the recipient will use on program materials and related communications.

Guidelines: Please indicate if they are also a donor or why they will be visibly acknowledged, and if they will receive the same prominence as USAID.

(d) Award Criteria

The Agreement Officer will review the Branding Strategy for adequacy, ensuring that it contains the required information on naming and positioning the USAID-funded program, project, or activity, and promoting and communicating it to cooperating country beneficiaries and citizens. The Agreement Officer also will evaluate this information to ensure that it is consistent with the stated objectives of the award; with the Apparently Successful Applicant's project, activity, or program performance plan; and with the regulatory requirements set out in 22 CFR 226.91. The Agreement Officer may obtain advice and recommendations from technical experts while performing the evaluation.

MARKING PLAN – ASSISTANCE (December 2005)

(a) Definitions

Marking Plan means a plan that the Apparently Successful Applicant submits at the specific request of a USAID Agreement Officer after evaluation of an application for USAID funding, detailing the public communications, commodities, and program materials and other items that will visibly bear the USAID Identity. Recipients may request approval of Presumptive Exceptions to marking requirements in the Marking Plan.

Apparently Successful Applicant(s) means the Applicant(s) for USAID funding recommended for an award after evaluation, but who has not yet been awarded a grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance award by the Agreement Officer. The Agreement Officer will request that Apparently Successful Applicants submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan. Apparently, Successful Applicant status confers no right and constitutes no USAID commitment to an award, which the Agreement Officer must still obligate.

USAID Identity (Identity) means the official marking for the Agency, comprised of the USAID logo and new brand mark, which clearly communicates that our assistance is from the American people. The USAID Identity is available on the USAID website and USAID provides it without royalty, license, or other fee to recipients of USAID funded grants, cooperative agreements, or other assistance awards or sub-awards.

A. Presumptive Exception exempts the Applicant from the general marking requirements for a particular USAID-funded public communication, commodity, program material or other deliverable, or a category of USAID-funded public communications, commodities, program materials or other deliverables that would otherwise be required to visibly bear the USAID Identity. The Presumptive Exceptions are:

Presumptive Exception (i). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of a program or materials where independence or neutrality is an inherent aspect of the program and materials, such as election monitoring or ballots, and voter information literature; political party support or public policy advocacy or reform; independent media, such as television and radio broadcasts, newspaper articles and editorials; and public service announcements or public opinion polls and surveys (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(1)).

Presumptive Exception (ii). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would diminish the credibility of audits, reports, analyses, studies, or policy recommendations whose data or findings must be seen as independent (22 C.F.R.226.91(h)(2)).

Presumptive Exception (iii). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would undercut host-country government “ownership” of constitutions, laws, regulations, policies, studies, assessments, reports, publications, surveys or audits, public service announcements, or other communications better positioned as “by” or “from” a cooperating country ministry or government official (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(3)).

Presumptive Exception (iv). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would impair the functionality of an item, such as sterilized equipment or spare parts (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(4)).

Presumptive Exception (v). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would incur substantial costs or be impractical, such as items too small or otherwise unsuited for individual marking, such as food in bulk (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(5)).

Presumptive Exception (vi). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would offend local cultural or social norms, or be considered inappropriate on such items as condoms, toilets, bed pans, or similar commodities (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(6)).

Presumptive Exception (vii). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would conflict with international law (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(7)).

(b) Submission

The Apparently Successful Applicant, upon the request of the Agreement Officer, will submit and negotiate a Marking Plan that addresses the details of the public communications, commodities, program materials that will visibly bear the USAID Identity. The marking plan will be customized for the particular program, project, or activity under the resultant grant or cooperative agreement. The plan will be included in and made a part of the resulting grant or cooperative agreement. USAID and the Apparently Successful Applicant will negotiate the Marking Plan within the time specified by the Agreement Officer. Failure to submit and negotiate a Marking Plan will make the Applicant ineligible for award of a grant or cooperative agreement.

(c) Submission Requirements

The Marking Plan will include the following:

(1) A description of the public communications, commodities, and program materials that the recipient will produce as a part of the grant or cooperative agreement and which will visibly bear the USAID Identity. These include:

(i) program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects or other programs, projects, or activities that are physical in nature;

(ii) technical assistance, studies, reports, papers, publications, audiovisual productions, public service announcements, Web sites/Internet activities and other promotional, informational, media, or communications products funded by USAID;

(iii) events financed by USAID, such as training courses, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, fairs, workshops, press conferences, and other public activities; and

(iv) all commodities financed by USAID, including commodities or equipment provided under humanitarian assistance or disaster relief programs, and all other equipment, supplies and other materials funded by USAID, and their export packaging.

(2) A table specifying:

(i) the program deliverables that the recipient will mark with the USAID Identity,

(ii) the type of marking and what materials the Applicant will be used to mark the program deliverables with the USAID Identity, and

(iii) when in the performance period the Applicant will mark the program deliverables, and where the Applicant will place the marking.

(3) A table specifying:

- (i) what program deliverables will not be marked with the USAID Identity, and
- (ii) the rationale for not marking these program deliverables.

(d) Presumptive Exceptions

(1) The Apparently Successful Applicant may request a Presumptive Exception as part of the overall Marking Plan submission. To request a Presumptive Exception, the Apparently Successful Applicant must identify which Presumptive Exception applies, and state why, in light of the Apparently Successful Applicant's application and in the context of the program description or program statement in the USAID Request For Application or Annual Program Statement, marking requirements should not be required.

(2) Specific guidelines for addressing each Presumptive Exception are:

(i) For Presumptive Exception (i), identify the USAID Strategic Objective, Interim Result, or program goal furthered by an appearance of neutrality, or state why the program, project, activity, commodity, or communication is 'intrinsically neutral.' Identify, by category or deliverable item, examples of program materials funded under the award for which you are seeking an exception.

(ii) For Presumptive Exception (ii), state what data, studies, or other deliverables will be produced under the USAID funded award, and explain why the data, studies, or deliverables must be seen as credible.

(iii) For Presumptive Exception (iii), identify the item or media product produced under the USAID funded award, and explain why each item or product, or category of item and product, is better positioned as an item or product produced by the cooperating country government.

(iv) For Presumptive Exception (iv), identify the item or commodity to be marked, or categories of items or commodities, and explain how marking would impair the item's or commodity's functionality.

(v) For Presumptive Exception (v), explain why marking would not be cost beneficial or practical.

(vi) For Presumptive Exception (vi), identify the relevant cultural or social norm, and explain why marking would violate that norm or otherwise be inappropriate.

(vii) For Presumptive Exception (vii), identify the applicable international law violated by marking.

(3) The Agreement Officer will review the request for adequacy and reasonableness. In consultation with the Agreement Officer's Technical Representative and other agency personnel as necessary, the Agreement Officer will approve or disapprove the requested Presumptive Exception. Approved exceptions will be made part of the approved Marking Plan, and will apply for the term of the award, unless provided otherwise.

(e) Award Criteria

The Agreement Officer will review the Marking Plan for adequacy and reasonableness, ensuring that it contains sufficient detail and information concerning public communications, commodities, and

program materials that will visibly bear the USAID Identity. The Agreement Officer will evaluate the plan to ensure that it is consistent with the stated objectives of the award; with the Applicant's actual project, activity, or program performance plan; and with the regulatory requirements of 22 C.F.R.

226.91. The Agreement Officer will approve or disapprove any requested Presumptive Exceptions (see paragraph (d)) on the basis of adequacy and reasonableness. The Agreement Officer may obtain advice and recommendations from technical experts while performing the evaluation.

MARKING UNDER ASSISTANCE INSTRUMENTS (DEC 2005)

(a) Definitions

Commodities mean any material, article, supply, goods or equipment, excluding recipient offices, vehicles, and non-deliverable items for recipient's internal use, in administration of the USAID funded grant, cooperative agreement, or other agreement or sub-agreement.

Principal Officer means the most senior officer in a USAID Operating Unit in the field, e.g., USAID Mission Director or USAID Representative. For global programs managed from Washington but executed across many countries, such as disaster relief and assistance to internally displaced persons, humanitarian emergencies or immediate post conflict and political crisis response, the cognizant Principal Officer may be an Office Director, for example, the Directors of USAID/W/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and Office of Transition Initiatives. For non-presence countries, the cognizant Principal Officer is the Senior USAID officer in a regional USAID Operating Unit responsible for the non-presence country, or in the absence of such a responsible operating unit, the Principal U.S. Diplomatic Officer in the non-presence country exercising delegated authority from USAID.

Programs mean an organized set of activities and allocation of resources directed toward a common purpose, objective, or goal undertaken or proposed by an organization to carry out the responsibilities assigned to it.

Public communications are documents and messages intended for distribution to audiences external to the recipient's organization. They include, but are not limited to, correspondence, publications, studies, reports, audio visual productions, and other informational products; applications, forms, press and promotional materials used in connection with USAID funded programs, projects or activities, including signage and plaques; Web sites/Internet activities; and events such as training courses, conferences, seminars, press conferences and so forth.

Subrecipient means any person or government (including cooperating multi-lateral agency or country government) department, agency, establishment, or for profit or nonprofit organization that receives a USAID sub-award, as defined in 22 C.F.R. 226.2.

Technical Assistance means the provision of funds, goods, services, or other foreign assistance, such as loan guarantees or food for work, to developing countries and other USAID recipients, and through such recipients to sub recipients, in direct support of a development objective – as opposed to the internal management of the foreign assistance program.

USAID Identity (Identity) means the official marking for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), comprised of the USAID logo or seal and new brand mark, with the tagline that clearly communicates that our assistance is “from the American people.” The USAID Identity is available on the USAID website at www.usaid.gov/branding and USAID provides it without royalty, license, or other fee to recipients of USAID-funded grants, or cooperative agreements, or other assistance awards

(b) Marking of Program Deliverables

(1) All recipients must mark appropriately all overseas programs, projects, activities, public communications, and commodities partially or fully funded by a USAID grant or cooperative agreement or other assistance award or sub award with the USAID Identity, of a size and prominence equivalent to or greater than the recipient’s, other donor’s, or any other third party’s identity or logo.

(2) The Recipient will mark all program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects (for example, roads, bridges, buildings) or other programs, projects, or activities that are physical in nature (for example, agriculture, forestry, water management) with the USAID Identity. The Recipient should erect temporary signs or plaques early in the construction or implementation phase. When construction or implementation is complete, the Recipient must install a permanent, durable sign, plaque or other marking.

(3) The Recipient will mark technical assistance, studies, reports, papers, publications, audio-visual productions, public service announcements, Web sites/Internet activities and other promotional, informational, media, or communications products funded by USAID with the USAID Identity.

(4) The Recipient will appropriately mark events financed by USAID, such as training courses, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, fairs, workshops, press conferences and other public activities, with the USAID Identity. Unless directly prohibited and as appropriate to the surroundings, recipients should display additional materials, such as signs and banners, with the USAID Identity. In circumstances in which the USAID Identity cannot be displayed visually, the recipient is encouraged otherwise to acknowledge USAID and the American people’s support.

(5) The Recipient will mark all commodities financed by USAID, including commodities or equipment provided under humanitarian assistance or disaster relief programs, and all other equipment, supplies, and other materials funded by USAID, and their export packaging with the USAID Identity.

(6) The Agreement Officer may require the USAID Identity to be larger and more prominent if it is the majority donor, or to require that a cooperating country government’s identity be larger and more prominent if circumstances warrant, and as appropriate depending on the audience, program goals, and materials produced.

(7) The Agreement Officer may require marking with the USAID Identity in the event that the recipient does not choose to mark with its own identity or logo.

(8) The Agreement Officer may require a pre-production review of USAID funded public communications and program materials for compliance with the approved Marking Plan.

(9) Sub recipients. To ensure that the marking requirements “flow down” to sub recipients of sub awards, recipients of USAID funded grants and cooperative agreements or other assistance awards will include the USAID-approved marking provision in any USAID funded sub award, as follows:

“As a condition of receipt of this sub award, marking with the USAID Identity of a size and prominence equivalent to or greater than the recipient’s, sub recipient’s, other donor’s or third party’s is required. In the event the recipient chooses not to require marking with its own identity or logo by the sub recipient, USAID may, at its discretion, require marking by the sub recipient with the USAID Identity.”

(10) Any ‘public communications’, as defined in 22 C.F.R. 226.2, funded by USAID, in which the content has not been approved by USAID, must contain the following disclaimer:

“This study/report/audio/visual/other information/media product (specify) is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of [insert recipient name] and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.”

(11) The recipient will provide the Agreement Officer’s Technical Representative (AOTR) or other USAID personnel designated in the grant or cooperative agreement with two copies of all program and communications materials produced under the award. In addition, the recipient will submit one electronic or one hard copy of all final documents to USAID’s Development Experience Clearinghouse.

(c) Implementation of marking requirements

(1) When the grant or cooperative agreement contains an approved Marking Plan, the recipient will implement the requirements of this provision following the approved Marking Plan.

(2) When the grant or cooperative agreement does not contain an approved Marking Plan, the recipient will propose and submit a plan for implementing the requirements of this provision within 45 days after the effective date of this provision. The plan will include:

(i) a description of the program deliverables specified in paragraph (b) of this provision that the recipient will produce as a part of the grant or cooperative agreement and which will visibly bear the USAID Identity.

(ii) the type of marking and what materials the Applicant uses to mark the program deliverables with the USAID Identity,

(iii) when in the performance period the Applicant will mark the program deliverables, and where the Applicant will place the marking,

(3) The recipient may request program deliverables not be marked with the USAID Identity by identifying the program deliverables and providing a rationale for not marking these program deliverables. Program deliverables may be exempted from USAID marking requirements when:

(i) USAID marking requirements would compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of a program or materials where independence or neutrality is an inherent aspect of the program and materials;

(ii) USAID marking requirements would diminish the credibility of audits, reports, analyses, studies, or policy recommendations whose data or findings must be seen as independent;

(iii) USAID marking requirements would undercut host-country government “ownership” of constitutions, laws, regulations, policies, studies, assessments, reports, publications, surveys or audits, public service announcements, or other communications better positioned as “by” or “from” a cooperating country ministry or government official;

(iv) USAID marking requirements would impair the functionality of an item;

(v) USAID marking requirements would incur substantial costs or be impractical;

(vi) USAID marking requirements would offend local cultural or social norms, or be considered inappropriate;

(vii) USAID marking requirements would conflict with international law.

(4) The proposed plan for implementing the requirements of this provision, including any proposed exemptions, will be negotiated within the time specified by the Agreement Officer after receipt of the proposed plan. Failure to negotiate an approved plan with the time specified by the Agreement Officer may be considered as noncompliance with the requirements is provision.

(d) Waivers

(1) The recipient may request a waiver of the Marking Plan or of the marking requirements of this provision, in whole or in part, for each program, project, activity, public communication or commodity, or, in exceptional circumstances, for a region or country, when USAID required marking would pose compelling political, safety, or security concerns, or when marking would have an adverse impact in the cooperating country. The recipient will submit the request through the Agreement Officer’s Technical Representative. The Principal Officer is responsible for approvals or disapprovals of waiver requests.

(2) The request will describe the compelling political, safety, security concerns, or adverse impact that require a waiver, detail the circumstances and rationale for the waiver, detail the specific requirements to be waived, the specific portion of the Marking Plan to be waived, or specific marking to be waived, and include a description of how program materials will be marked (if at all) if the USAID Identity is removed. The request should also provide a rationale for any use of recipient’s own identity/logo or that of a third party on materials that will be subject to the waiver.

(3) Approved waivers are not limited in duration but are subject to Principal Officer review at any time, due to changed circumstances.

(4) Approved waivers “flow down” to recipients of sub-awards unless specified otherwise. The waiver may also include the removal of USAID markings already affixed, if circumstances warrant.

(5) Determinations regarding waiver requests are subject to appeal to the Principal Officer’s cognizant Assistant Administrator. The recipient may appeal by submitting a written request to reconsider the Principal Officer’s waiver determination to the cognizant Assistant Administrator.

(e) Non-retroactivity.

The requirements of this provision do not apply to any materials, events, or commodities produced prior to January 2, 2006. The requirements of this provision do not apply to program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects (for example, roads, bridges, buildings) or other programs, projects, or activities that are physical in nature (for example, agriculture, forestry, water management) where the construction and implementation of these are complete prior to January 2, 2006 and the period of the grant does not extend past January 2, 2006.

C. Standard Provisions

The Applicant will be required to adhere to and govern itself under the Standard Provisions for U.S. NGO and Non-U.S. NGOs. Links to these Standard Provisions can be found under Annex C.

*****END SECTION VI*****

SECTION VII – AGENCY CONTACTS

The Applicant may contact the following USAID personnel in writing regarding this RFA:

Primary Point of Contact: Amy Wire

Email: awire@usaid.gov

Alternate Point of Contact: Shanon Krause

Email: skrause@usaid.gov

The Applicant shall refer to Section IV for instructions on submitting questions and applications.

*****END SECTION VII*****

SECTION VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

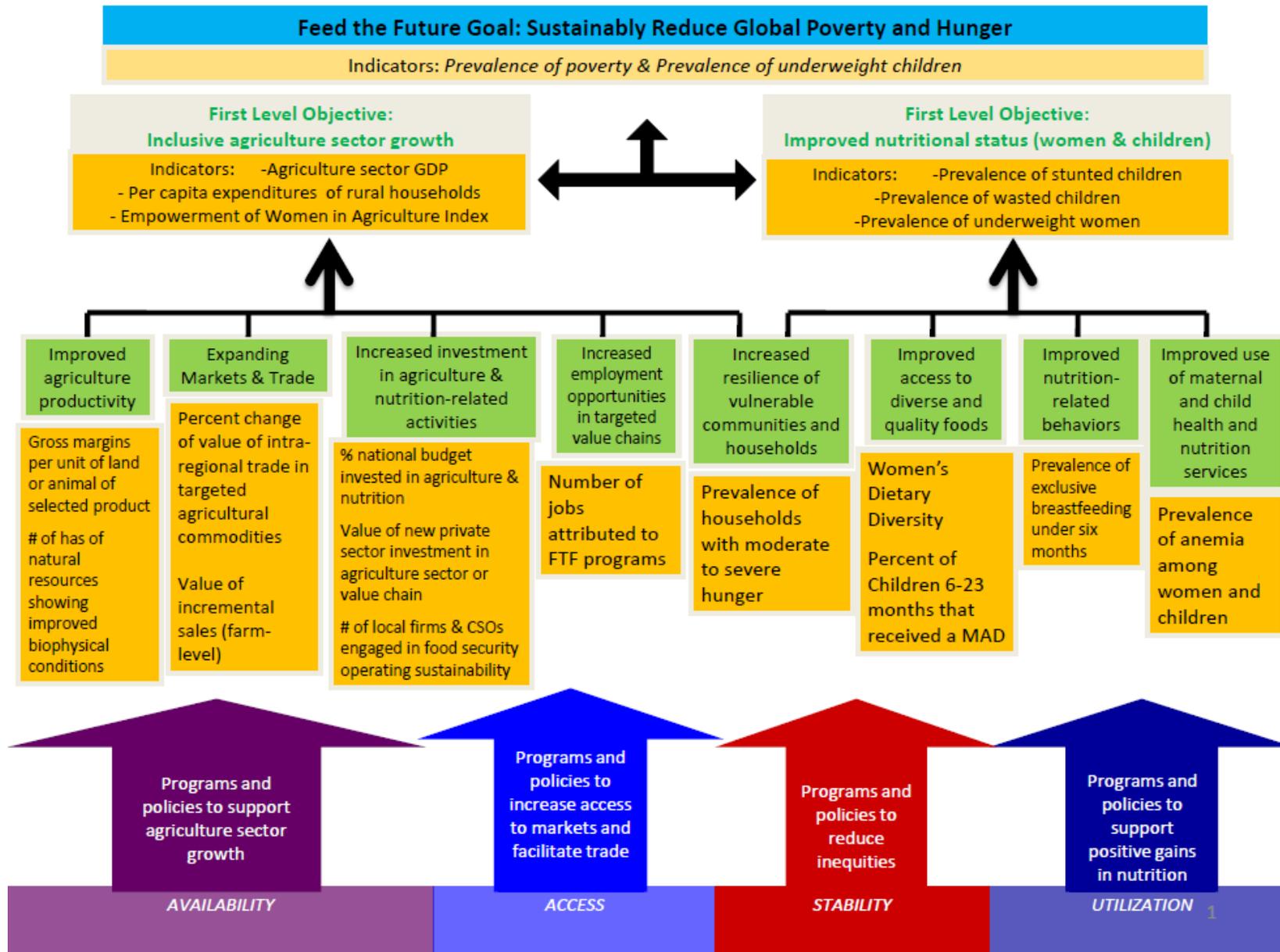
A. USAID Rights and Funding

The Government may (a) reject any or all applications, (b) accept other than the lowest cost application, (c) accept more than one application, (d) accept alternate applications meeting the applicable standards of this RFA, and (e) waive informalities and minor irregularities in the application(s) received.

B. Applicable Regulations and References-See ANNEX C

*****END SECTION VIII*****

ANNEX A: FEED THE FUTURE RESULTS FRAMEWORK



ANNEX B: CERTIFICATIONS, ASSURANCES, AND OTHER STATEMENTS OF THE RECIPIENT (MAY 2006)

The following certifications, assurances and other statements from both U.S. and non-U.S. organizations (except as specified below). The required certifications, assurances and other statements follow:

- a. For U.S. organizations, a signed copy of the mandatory reference, **Assurance of Compliance with Laws and Regulations Governing Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs**. This certification applies to Non-U.S. organizations if any part of the program will be undertaken in the United States;

- b. A signed copy of the certification and disclosure forms for “Restrictions on Lobbying” (see **22 CFR 227**);

- c. A signed copy of the “Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers” for covered assistance in covered countries is required in its entirety as detailed in **ADS 206.3.10**;

- d. A signed copy of the Certification Regarding Terrorist Funding in its entirety is required by the Internal Mandatory Reference **AAPD 04-14**;

- e. When applicable, a signed copy of “Key Individual Certification Narcotics Offenses and Drug Trafficking” (See **ADS 206**);

- f. When applicable, a signed copy of “Participant Certification Narcotics Offenses and Drug Trafficking” (See **ADS 206**);

- h. **Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants**; and

- i. All Applicants must provide a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number (see **Federal Register Notice Use of a Universal Identifier by Grant Applicants**).

NOTE: The term "Grant" means "Cooperative Agreement".

PART I - CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES

1. ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING NON-DISCRIMINATION IN FEDERALLY ASSISTED PROGRAMS

Note: This certification applies to Non-U.S. organizations if any part of the program will be undertaken in the United States.

(a) The recipient hereby assures that no person in the United States shall, on the bases set forth below, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving financial assistance from USAID, and that with respect to the Cooperative Agreement for which application is being made, it will comply with the requirements of:

(1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352, 42 U.S.C. 2000-d), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(2) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(3) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (Pub. L. 95-478), which prohibits discrimination based on age in the delivery of services and benefits supported with Federal funds;

(4) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681, et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance (whether or not the programs or activities are offered or sponsored by an educational institution); and

(5) USAID regulations implementing the above nondiscrimination laws, set forth in Chapter II of Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) If the recipient is an institution of higher education, the Assurances given herein extend to admission practices and to all other practices relating to the treatment of students or clients of the institution, or relating to the opportunity to participate in the provision of services or other benefits to such individuals, and shall be applicable to the entire institution unless the recipient establishes to the satisfaction of the USAID Administrator that the institution's practices in designated parts or programs of the institution will in no way affect its practices in the program of the institution for which financial assistance is sought, or the beneficiaries of, or participants in, such programs.

(c) This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts, or other Federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the recipient by the Agency, including installment payments after such date on account of applications for Federal financial assistance which was approved before such date. The recipient recognizes and agrees that such Federal financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this Assurance, and that the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this Assurance. This Assurance is binding on the recipient, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this Assurance on behalf of the recipient.

2. CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal Cooperative Agreement, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, United States Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that: If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit

Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

3. PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS FOR COVERED COUNTRIES AND INDIVIDUALS (ADS 206)

USAID reserves the right to terminate this Agreement, to demand a refund or take other appropriate measures if the Grantee is found to have been convicted of a narcotics offense or to have been engaged in drug trafficking as defined in 22 CFR Part 140. The undersigned shall review USAID ADS 206 to determine if any certifications are required for Key Individuals or Covered Participants.

If there are COVERED PARTICIPANTS: USAID reserves the right to terminate assistance to or take other appropriate measures with respect to, any participant approved by USAID who is found to have been convicted of a narcotics offense or to have been engaged in drug trafficking as defined in 22 CFR Part 140.

4. CERTIFICATION REGARDING TERRORIST FINANCING IMPLEMENTING EXECUTIVE ORDER 13224

By signing and submitting this application, the prospective recipient provides the certification set out below:

1. The Recipient, to the best of its current knowledge, did not provide, within the

previous ten years, and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that it does not and will not knowingly provide, material support or resources to any individual or entity that commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated, or participated in terrorist acts, as that term is defined in paragraph 3.

2. The following steps may enable the Recipient to comply with its obligations under paragraph 1:

a. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will verify that the individual or entity does not (i) appear on the master list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons, which list is maintained by the U.S. Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and is available online at OFAC's website : <http://www.treas.gov/offices/eotffc/ofac/sdn/t11sdn.pdf>, or (ii) is not included in any supplementary information concerning prohibited individuals or entities that may be provided by USAID to the Recipient.

b. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient also will verify that the individual or entity has not been designated by the United Nations Security (UNSC) sanctions committee established under UNSC Resolution 1267 (1999) (the "1267 Committee") [individuals and entities linked to the Taliban, Osama bin Laden, or the Al Qaida Organization]. To determine whether there has been a published designation of an individual or entity by the 1267 Committee, the Recipient should refer to the consolidated list available online at the Committee's website: <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm>.

c. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will consider all information about that individual or entity of which it is aware and all public information that is reasonably available to it or of which it should be aware.

d. The Recipient also will implement reasonable monitoring and oversight procedures to safeguard against assistance being diverted to support terrorist activity.

3. For purposes of this Certification-

a. "Material support and resources" means currency or monetary instruments or

financial securities, financial services, lodging, training, expert advice or assistance, safehouses, false documentation or identification, communications equipment, facilities, weapons, lethal substances, explosives, personnel, transportation, and other physical assets, except medicine or religious materials."

b. "Terrorist act" means-

(i) an act prohibited pursuant to one of the 12 United Nations Conventions and Protocols related to terrorism (see UN terrorism conventions Internet site: <http://untreaty.un.org/English/Terrorism.asp>); or

(ii) an act of premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents; or

(iii) any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.

c. "Entity" means a partnership, association, corporation, or other organization, group or subgroup.

d. References in this Certification to the provision of material support and resources shall not be deemed to include the furnishing of USAID funds or USAID-financed commodities to the ultimate beneficiaries of USAID assistance, such as recipients of food, medical care, micro-

enterprise loans, shelter, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that one or more of these beneficiaries commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.

e. The Recipient's obligations under paragraph 1 are not applicable to the

procurement of goods and/or services by the Recipient that are acquired in the ordinary course of business through contract or purchase, e.g., utilities, rents, office supplies, gasoline, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that a vendor or supplier of such goods and services commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.

This Certification is an express term and condition of any agreement issued as a result of this application, and any violation of it shall be grounds for unilateral termination of the agreement by USAID prior to the end of its term.

5. CERTIFICATION OF RECIPIENT

By signing below the recipient provides certifications and assurances for (1) the Assurance of Compliance with Laws and Regulations Governing Non-Discrimination in Federally Assisted Programs, (2) the Certification Regarding Lobbying, (3) the Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers for Covered Countries and Individuals (ADS 206) and (4) the Certification Regarding Terrorist Financing Implementing Executive Order 13224 above.

RFA/APS No. _____

Application No. _____

Date of Application _____

Name of Recipient _____

Typed Name and Title _____

Signature _____

Date _____

PART II - KEY INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATION NARCOTICS OFFENSES AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

I hereby certify that within the last ten years:

1. I have not been convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, any law or regulation of the United States or any other country concerning narcotic or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances.

2. I am not and have not been an illicit trafficker in any such drug or controlled substance.

3. I am not and have not been a knowing assistor, abettor, conspirator, or colluder with others in the illicit trafficking in any such drug or substance.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

NOTICE:

1. You are required to sign this Certification under the provisions of 22 CFR Part 140, Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers. These regulations were issued by the Department of State and require that certain key individuals of organizations must sign this Certification.

2. If you make a false Certification you are subject to U.S. criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

PART III - PARTICIPANT CERTIFICATION NARCOTICS OFFENSES AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

1. I hereby certify that within the last ten years:

a. I have not been convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, any law or regulation of the United States or any other country concerning narcotic or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances.

b. I am not and have not been an illicit trafficker in any such drug or controlled substance.

c. I am not or have not been a knowing assister, abettor, conspirator, or colluder with others in the illicit trafficking in any such drug or substance.

2. I understand that USAID may terminate my training if it is determined that I engaged in the above conduct during the last ten years or during my USAID training.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

NOTICE:

1. You are required to sign this Certification under the provisions of 22 CFR Part 140, Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers. These regulations were issued by the Department of State and require that certain participants must sign this Certification.

2. If you make a false Certification you are subject to U.S. criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

PART IV - SURVEY ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

All applications must include the Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants as an attachment to the RFA package.

This survey can be found at the following website:

<http://www.usaid.gov/forms/surveyeo.doc>

PART V - OTHER STATEMENTS OF RECIPIENT

1. AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS

The recipient represents that the following persons are authorized to negotiate on its behalf with the Government and to bind the recipient in connection with this application or grant:

Name	Title	Telephone No.	Facsimile No.
------	-------	---------------	---------------

2. TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN)

If the recipient is a U.S. organization, or a foreign organization which has income effectively connected with the conduct of activities in the U.S. or has an office or a place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the U.S., please indicate the recipient's TIN:

TIN: _____

3. DATA UNIVERSAL NUMBERING SYSTEM (DUNS) NUMBER

(a) In the space provided at the end of this provision, the recipient should supply the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number applicable to that name and address. Recipients should take care to report the number that identifies the recipient's name and address exactly as stated in the proposal.

(b) The DUNS is a 9-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet Information Services. If the recipient does not have a DUNS number, the recipient should call Dun and Bradstreet directly at 1-800-333-0505. A DUNS number will be provided immediately by telephone at no charge to the recipient. The recipient should be prepared to provide the following information:

- (1) Recipient's name.

- (2) Recipient's address.
- (3) Recipient's telephone number.
- (4) Line of business.
- (5) Chief executive officer/key manager.
- (6) Date the organization was started.
- (7) Number of people employed by the recipient.
- (8) Company affiliation.

(c) Recipients located outside the United States may obtain the location and phone number of the local Dun and Bradstreet Information Services office from the Internet Home Page at <http://www.dbisna.com/dbis/customer/custlist.htm>. If an offeror is unable to locate a local service center, it may send an e-mail to Dun and Bradstreet at globalinfo@dbisma.com.

The DUNS system is distinct from the Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) system.

DUNS: _____

4. LETTER OF CREDIT (LOC) NUMBER

If the recipient has an existing Letter of Credit (LOC) with USAID, please indicate the LOC number:

LOC: _____

5. PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

(a) Applicability. This applies to the procurement of goods and services planned by the recipient (i.e., contracts, purchase orders, etc.) from a supplier of goods or services for the direct use or benefit of the recipient in conducting the program supported by the grant, and not to assistance provided by the recipient (i.e., a sub-grant or subagreement) to a sub-grantee or subrecipient in support of the sub-grantee's or subrecipient's program. Provision by the recipient of the requested information does not, in and of itself, constitute USAID approval.

(b) Amount of Procurement. Please indicate the total estimated dollar amount of goods and services which the recipient plans to purchase under the grant:

\$_____

(c) Nonexpendable Property. If the recipient plans to purchase nonexpendable equipment which would require the approval of the Agreement Officer, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types, quantities of each, and estimated unit costs. Nonexpendable equipment for which the Agreement Officer's approval to purchase is required is any article of nonexpendable tangible personal property charged directly to the grant, having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.

TYPE/ DESCRIPTION (Generic)	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED UNIT COST
-----------------------------	----------	---------------------

(d) Source, Origin, and Componentry of Goods. If the recipient plans to purchase any goods/commodities which are not of U.S. source and/or U.S. origin, and/or does not contain at least 50% componentry, which are not at least 50% U.S. source and origin, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each, estimated unit costs of each, and probable source and/or origin, to include the probable source and/or origin of the components if less than 50% U.S. components will be contained in the commodity. "Source" means the country from which a commodity is shipped to the cooperating country or the cooperating country itself if the commodity is located therein at the time of purchase. However, where a commodity is shipped from a free port or bonded warehouse in the form in which received therein, "source" means the country from which the commodity was shipped to the free port or bonded warehouse. Any commodity whose source is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing. The "origin" of a commodity is the country or area in which a

commodity is mined, grown, or produced. A commodity is produced when, through manufacturing, processing, or substantial and major assembling of components, a commercially recognized new commodity results, which is substantially different in basic characteristics or in purpose or utility from its components. Merely packaging various items together for a particular procurement or relabeling items do not constitute production of a commodity. Any commodity whose origin is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing. "Components" are the goods, which go directly into the production of a produced commodity. Any component from a non-Free World country makes the commodity ineligible for USAID financing.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED	GOODS	PROBABLE	GOODS	PROBABLE
UNIT COST	COMPONENTS	COMPONENTS	SOURCE	ORIGIN		
(Generic)						

(e) Restricted Goods. If the recipient plans to purchase any restricted goods, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each, estimated unit costs of each, intended use, and probable source and/or origin. Restricted goods are Agricultural Commodities, Motor Vehicles, Pharmaceuticals, Pesticides, Rubber Compounding Chemicals and Plasticizers, Used Equipment, U.S. Government-Owned Excess Property, and Fertilizer.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED	PROBABLE	INTENDED USE
(Generic)	UNIT COST	SOURCE	ORIGIN	

(f) Supplier Nationality. If the recipient plans to purchase any goods or services from suppliers of goods and services whose nationality is not in the U.S., please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each good or service, estimated costs of each, probable nationality of each non-U.S. supplier of each good or service, and the

rationale for purchasing from a non-U.S. supplier. Any supplier whose nationality is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED	PROBABLE SUPPLIER	NATIONALITY
RATIONALE	UNIT COST	(Non-US Only)	for NON-US	
(Generic)				

(g) Proposed Disposition. If the recipient plans to purchase any nonexpendable equipment with a unit acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the proposed disposition of each such item. Generally, the recipient may either retain the property for other uses and make compensation to USAID (computed by applying the percentage of federal participation in the cost of the original program to the current fair market value of the property), or sell the property and reimburse USAID an amount computed by applying to the sales proceeds the percentage of federal participation in the cost of the original program (except that the recipient may deduct from the federal share \$500 or 10% of the proceeds, whichever is greater, for selling and handling expenses), or donate the property to a host country institution, or otherwise dispose of the property as instructed by USAID.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION (Generic)	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED	UNIT COST	PROPOSED
				DISPOSITION

6. PAST PERFORMANCE REFERENCES

On a continuation page, please provide past performance information requested in the RFA.

7. TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

The recipient, by checking the applicable box, represents that -

(a) If the recipient is a U.S. entity, it operates as a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of, an individual, a partnership, a nongovernmental nonprofit organization, a state or local governmental organization, a private college or university, a public college or university, an international organization, or a joint venture; or

(b) If the recipient is a non-U.S. entity, it operates as a corporation organized under the laws of _____ (country), an individual, a partnership, a nongovernmental nonprofit organization, a nongovernmental educational institution, a governmental organization, an international organization, or a joint venture.

8. ESTIMATED COSTS OF COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS

The following are the estimate(s) of the cost of each separate communications product (i.e., any printed material [other than non-color photocopy material], photographic services, or video production services) which is anticipated under the grant. Each estimate must include all the costs associated with preparation and execution of the product. Use a continuation page as necessary.

ANNEX C: REGULATIONS & REFERENCES

C. Applicable Regulations & References

- Mandatory Standard Provisions for U.S., Nongovernmental Recipients
<http://www.usaid.gov/pubs/ads/300/303maa.pdf>
- Mandatory Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Nongovernmental Recipients:
<http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303mab.pdf>
- 22 CFR 226
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_02/22cfr226_02.html
- OMB Circular A-122
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a122/a122.html>
- OMB Circular A-110
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a110/a110.html>
- SF-424 Downloads
http://www.grants.gov/agencies/aapproved_standard_forms.jsp

ANNEX D: PAST PERFORMANCE

Past Performance Report – Short Form

Past Performance Report – Short Form

PERFORMANCE REPORT - SHORT FORM
PART I: Award Information (to be completed by Prime)
1. Name of Awarding Entity:
2. Award Number:
3. Award Type:
4. Award Value (TEC): (if subagreement, subagreement value)
5. Problems: (if problems encountered on this award, explain corrective action taken)
6. Contacts: (Name, Telephone Number and E-mail address)
6a. Agreement/Contract Officer:
6b. Technical Officer (AOTR/COTR):
6c. Other:
7. Recipient:
8. Title/Brief Description of Product/Service Provided:
9. Information Provided in Response to RFA/RFP No. :
PART II: Performance Assessment (to be completed by Agency)
1. How well Recipient/Contractor performed:
1a. Quality of product or service, including consistency in meeting goals and targets, and cooperation and effectiveness in fixing problems. Comment:
1b. Cost control, including forecasting costs as well as accuracy in financial reporting. Comment:
1c. Timeliness of performance, including adherence to schedules and other time-sensitive project conditions, and effectiveness of home and field office management to make prompt decisions and ensure efficient operation of tasks. Comment:
1d. Customer satisfaction, including satisfactory business relationship to clients, initiation and management of several complex activities simultaneously, coordination among subawardees and developing country partners, prompt and satisfactory correction of problems, and cooperative attitude in fixing problems. Comment:

<p>1e. Effectiveness of key personnel including: effectiveness and appropriateness of personnel for the job; and prompt and satisfactory changes in personnel when problems with clients where identified. Comment:</p>
<p>2. Specify instances of good or poor performance, especially in the most critical areas. Comment:</p>
<p>3. List significant achievements and/or problems. Comment:</p>

[Note: The actual dollar amount of subagreement, if any, (awarded to the Prime) must be listed in Block 4 instead of the Total Estimated Cost (TEC) of the overall contract. In addition, a Prime may submit attachments to this past performance table if the spaces provided are inadequate; the evaluation factor(s) must be listed on any attachments.]

ANNEX E: INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

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ANNEX D: PAST PERFORMANCE INFORMATION.....

ANNEX E: INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION.....

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ADS	Automated Directives System
AFR	Africa Bureau
AME	Asia and Middle East Bureau
AOTR	Agreement Officer Technical Representative
ART	Antiretroviral drugs
BFS	Bureau of Food Security
CGIAR	Consultative Group of International Agricultural Research Institutes
CMAM	Community Management of Acute Malnutrition
CRSP	Collaborative Research Support Program
DOD	Department of Defense
EGAT	Bureau for Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (USAID)
EMMP	Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
EST	Eastern Standard Time
FAF	Foreign Assistance Framework
FANTA	Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project
FFP	Office of Food for Peace (USAID)
FTF	Feed the Future
GAIN	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition
GAM	Global Acute Malnutrition
GH	Global Health Bureau (USAID)
GHI	Global Health Initiative
HIV/AIDS	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
IDP	Internally Displaced Person
IR	Intermediate Result
IYCN	Infant and Young Child Nutrition
LIFT	Livelihood and Food Security Technical Assistance Project
LNS	Lipid-based nutrient supplements
LQAS	lot quality assurance sampling
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
M&M	Mitigation and Monitoring plan
MCH	Maternal and Child Health
MCHIP	Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program
MCHN	Maternal and Child Health Nutrition
MDG	Millennium Development Goals
MOH	Ministry of Health
MUAC	Mid upper arm circumference
MYAP	Multi-year assistance program
NACS	Nutrition Assessment, Counseling and Support

NFNC	National Food and Nutrition Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NICRA	Negotiated Indirect Cost Agreement
NTD	Neglected Tropical Diseases
OAA	Office of Acquisition and Assistance
OFDA	Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
OGAC	Office of the Global Aids Coordinator
OHA	Office of HIV/AIDS
PEPFAR	President's Emergency Plan for HIV/AIDS Relief
PLHIV	Persons Living with HIV
PM2A	Preventing Malnutrition in Children under Two years of Age Approach
PMTCT	Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV/AIDS
RFA	Request for Application
RUTF	Ready to use Therapeutic Foods
S/CRS	State/Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization
S/GHFSI	State/Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative
SAM	Severe Acute Malnutrition
SBCC	Social and Behavior Change Communication
SO	Strategic Objective
SPRING	Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovations in Nutrition Globally
TEC	Technical Evaluation Committee
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization

SECTION I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Introduction

Nutrition is a critical component of USAID food security¹ and health investments both in the context of two US Government (USG) Initiatives, Feed the Future (FTF) and the Global Health Initiative (GHI), and humanitarian assistance in both emergency and non-emergency settings. In support of this heightened commitment to nutrition, the USAID Bureau of Global Health (GH) seeks to award a five year, \$200 million Cooperative Agreement entitled the Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance Project (FANTA III).

Guided by the principles of FTF, GHI and USAID Forward, FANTA III will provide technical assistance that contributes to its Project Objective (PO) of *Food Security and Health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened*. FANTA III will provide technical assistance based on the following two Intermediate Results (IR) to achieve this objective: *IR1: Global Evidence and Capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened* and *IR2: Country driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened*.

The authorizing legislation for this Cooperative Agreement is the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as Amended, and the award is subject to 22 CFR 226 – Administration of Assistance Awards to U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations. The following are applicable for the administration of this award: 22 CFR 226, OMB Circulars and the Standard Provisions for U.S. Non-governmental Recipients. USAID anticipates that Applicants may indicate formal arrangements with partner organizations or with sub-awardees for implementing this activity in their application.

B. Background

a. Global Nutrition Context

Undernutrition robs the developing world of critical human capital and capacity and undermines other development investments in health, education, and economic growth. Nearly 200 million children suffer from undernutrition, and one in three women of reproductive age is anemic. Undernutrition contributes to 35 percent of the burden of under-five child mortality and to 20 percent of the burden of maternal mortality.² With the increase of evidence around the causes and impacts of undernutrition, global consensus has been made concerning the types of interventions to be prioritized during the critical window of opportunity, from conception to two years of life (the first 1,000 days). Recent global efforts have brought a variety of stakeholders to the table to discuss moving the nutrition agenda forward and have identified two major approaches to reducing undernutrition: 1) direct nutrition interventions and 2) a multisectoral approach.³ FANTA III will be a primary mechanism to provide high

¹ Food security can be defined as “When all people at all times have both physical and economic access to sufficient food to meet their dietary needs for a productive and healthy life”. PD-19; April 13, 1992.

² Black RE, et al. Maternal and child undernutrition: global and regional exposures and health consequences. *Lancet* 2008; 371: 243-60.

³ *Scaling up Nutrition: A Global Framework for Action*. 2010. Direct nutrition interventions include: complementary feeding for infants after the age of six months, improved hygiene practices including handwashing, periodic Vitamin A supplements, therapeutic zinc supplements for diarrhea management, multiple micronutrient powders, de-worming drugs for children (to reduce losses of nutrients), iron-folic acid supplements for pregnant women to prevent and treat anaemia, iodized oil capsules where iodized salt is unavailable, salt iodization, iron fortification of staple foods, prevention or treatment for moderate undernutrition, treatment of severe undernutrition (“severe acute

quality, efficient, and effective technical assistance that furthers USAID’s efforts to scale up evidence based nutrition interventions and that expands and builds the evidence base for multisectoral approaches that strengthen food security and health programs.

b. Alignment of FANTA III activities with other USG Priorities

i. *FANTA III and the Foreign Assistance Framework*

The Foreign Assistance Framework (FAF) consists of five priority objectives: peace and security, governing justly and democratically, investing in people, economic growth, and humanitarian assistance. The FAF also has five country categories: rebuilding, developing, transforming, sustaining partner, and restrictive countries, as well as a global or regional program area. Within each of these categories, all foreign assistance is organized to achieve the overarching USG foreign assistance goal: “To help build and sustain democratic, well governed states that respond to the needs of their people, reduce widespread poverty and conduct themselves responsibly in the international system.”

FANTA III is expected to build on previous experience in bringing together the FAF objectives of Investing in People, Economic Growth, and Humanitarian Assistance through work on the different components of food security and health that aim to improve nutrition outcomes. The multi-sectoral nature of nutrition requires the same knowledge, skills and approaches across sectors as diverse as health, agriculture, education, poverty alleviation, HIV/AIDS and humanitarian assistance. It is envisioned that food security and health programming will be strengthened and better coordinated and harmonized in countries within an overarching mechanism to address priority nutrition issues across multiple FAF objectives⁴.

ii. *FANTA III and its relationship to the Global Health Initiative and Feed the Future*

Guided by the Paris principles on Aid Effectiveness and the US President’s pledge for Food Security in l’Aquila⁵, FTF and GHI have been developed to increase country owned efforts, strengthen coordination among donors and partners and lend to sustainable and measurable results in food security and health. Nutrition is the critical link between GHI and FTF, which have a shared goal of reducing undernutrition by 20-30% in selected areas of priority countries. Both initiatives acknowledge the multifaceted causes of undernutrition and highlight the need for a multisectoral approach to reducing undernutrition.

Improved nutrition, especially for women and children, is a high level goal of FTF (see Annex A) with particular attention to how to leverage agriculture and health programming to impact nutrition. Country level strategies have been developed for the potential FTF focus countries and will be developed for all GHI countries. Each of the strategies builds on of existing food security and health experience in country and works to increase agriculture productivity; expand markets and trade;

malnutrition”) with ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF). Multisectoral approach: integrating nutrition—in other words by including specific pro-nutrition actions—in programmes in other sectors.

⁴ The FANTA III will not provide support in the following areas of Title II, PEPFAR and emergency programming: procurement of commodities, commodity sales arrangements, and market analyses that are not a direct component of interventions aimed at the promotion of household consumption and nutrition.

⁵ G8 Summit Statement on Food Security, “L’Aquila” Joint Statement on Global Food Security – L’Aquila Food Security Initiative (July 10, 2009), found at http://www.g8italia2009.it/static/G8_Allegato/FINAL_DECLARATION%5b1%5d,2.pdf

increase investment in agriculture and nutrition-related areas; increase employment opportunities in targeted value chains; improve access to diverse and quality food; improve nutrition related behaviors; improve utilization of maternal and child health and nutrition services; and increase resilience of vulnerable households.

iii. FANTA III and its relationship to Humanitarian Assistance, Disaster Relief and HIV/AIDS agency priorities

Food for Peace

Public Law 480, the Agricultural Trade, Development and Assistance Act of 1954, renamed the Food for Peace Act in 2008, authorizes the USAID Administrator to establish programs to provide agricultural commodities to foreign countries on behalf of the people of the United States and to provide assistance to address famine and food crises; combat malnutrition, especially in children and mothers; carry out activities that attempt to alleviate the causes of hunger, mortality and morbidity; promote economic and community development; promote food security and support sound environmental practices; carry out feeding programs; and promote economic and nutritional security by increasing educational, training, and other productive activities.

Since its inception, USG international food assistance programs have evolved to address multiple objectives. The most recent changes came with the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008, commonly known as the 2008 Farm Bill. This legislation restated the objectives that guide U.S. food assistance programs:

- Combat world hunger and malnutrition and their causes;
- Promote broad-based, equitable and sustainable development, including agricultural development;
- Expand international trade;
- Foster and encourage the development of private enterprise and democratic participation in developing countries; and
- Prevent conflicts

The Office of Food for Peace (FFP), in USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), is the U.S. Government leader in international food assistance. Through FFP, USAID provides development food aid as part of Title II multi-year, non-emergency programs integrated with USAID strategies to address the underlying causes of chronic food insecurity. FFP's goal for multi-year, non-emergency programming is to reduce risks and vulnerabilities to food insecurity and increase food availability, access, stability and utilization/consumption. USAID also provides emergency food aid to address needs arising from natural disasters, such as floods or droughts, and complex emergencies often characterized by insecurity and population displacement. With a hard-earmark for non-emergency funding, and limited availability of resources for emergency funding, continued technical assistance is needed in a timely and efficient manner to ensure effective use of Title II funding.

FANTA III will be expected to provide high quality technical assistance to DCHA/FFP, USAID missions, and Title II awardees to strengthen Title II programs throughout the program cycle of assessment, strategy, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.

Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief

As the lead U.S. Government (USG) office for responding to natural and human-caused disasters in foreign countries, USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) also has primary responsibility for meeting the needs of internally displaced persons (IDPs) in these emergency situations. Belonging to the DCHA Bureau, USAID/OFDA's mandate is to save lives, alleviate human suffering, and reduce the economic impact of disasters. To fulfill its mandate, USAID/OFDA provides rapid, appropriate responses to requests for assistance; strengthens the capacity of local, national, regional, and international entities on early warning of natural hazards; and fosters self-sufficiency among disaster-prone nations by helping them achieve some measure of preparedness.

USAID/OFDA supports a variety of emergency and preventive nutrition interventions worldwide. Their nutrition programs include treatment for severe and moderate acute malnutrition, infant and young child feeding, nutrition education, support for nutrition systems, and operational research to advance best practices and build capacity within local systems and the humanitarian community. FANTA III will provide technical assistance to USAID/OFDA in a way that enables USAID emergency programming to respond quickly and effectively. The program will support rapid roll-out of emergency-related nutrition programming and nutrition capacity strengthening to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the risks associated with disasters.

HIV/AIDS

The US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), initiated in 2003 and reauthorized in 2008, is the cornerstone and largest component of the President's Global Health Initiative. In 2006, the USG outlined its approach to addressing the food and nutrition needs of people infected and/or affected by HIV/AIDS in the Report on Food and Nutrition for People Living with HIV/AIDS. Policy guidance to operationalize this approach was issued by the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC) the same year, setting guidance targets for food support to priority groups, including: orphans and vulnerable children born to an HIV infected parent (regardless of the child's HIV and nutritional status); HIV-positive pregnant and lactating women in programs to prevent the transmission of HIV to their children (PMTCT); and adult patients in care and treatment. As part of the overall PEPFAR strategy, particular emphasis is given to the Nutrition Assessment, Counseling and Support (NACS) approach which was developed to address the nutritional needs of populations infected and affected by HIV. NACS provides a framework for strengthening nutrition support within all health programs at the facility and community levels. NACS is an essential component of a comprehensive response to HIV care and treatment strengthening links between community and facility based care and support.

The introduction, roll-out and quality improvement of NACS activities and connections to other health and food security efforts in priority countries will require additional support to improve program performance and impact. USAID's Office of HIV/AIDS has already initiated this type of support for global and country programs through such mechanisms as LIFT, IYCN, and FANTA 2. FANTA III is expected to provide this support through technical assistance on nutrition-related policies and systems to improve overall HIV programming.

C. USAID Nutrition Priorities and Activities

a. USAID Priority nutrition areas and investments

Prevention of Undernutrition

MCHN programs play a key role in integrating approaches to prevent food insecurity by addressing constraints to optimal food consumption/utilization in populations to improve their health and nutritional status. USAID has supported work to expand the evidence base in this field as well as conduct research and evaluations to build more effective programming. An evidence-based package of interventions exists to prevent undernutrition: this package targets the window of opportunity from pregnancy to two years of age with preventive interventions to improve maternal nutrition; early and exclusive breastfeeding through six months; use of appropriate, diverse foods beginning at six months of age; nutrient supplementation; and improve hygiene and sanitation. These interventions can be effectively promoted through community-based social and behavior change communication (SBCC) that empower communities—and especially women—with increased knowledge, access to assets, and protective measures. Successful SBCC efforts are tailored to community contexts and harmonized with national strategies and guidelines.

In resource poor settings, low quality, monotonous diets are the norm. Poor diet quality and diversification means that populations suffer from high levels of macronutrient and micronutrient deficiencies, particularly women and children. Reducing poverty, improving agriculture-led growth, and reducing undernutrition are synergistic, yet each requires a concerted effort. Integrating nutrition into agriculture-focused programs can be achieved through a variety of different pathways, including:

- Increasing community and household production of staples and quality foods like fruits, green and yellow vegetables, and animal source foods
- Ensuring equity by targeting programs to support enabling environment including both empowering women and men, so that new food production and processing skills, access to inputs and services, and increases in income translate into improved health and wellbeing of themselves and their children
- Maximizing the use of food produced through improved post-harvest techniques including food preservation and processing techniques
- Providing technical assistance to the design and implementation of food fortification programs, either at national or local scale
- Incorporating nutrition outreach and behavior change activities to ensure both increases in household production and income lead to the purchase and consumption of diverse foods and appropriate feeding of infants and young children
- Ensure analyses of agriculture and food security policies and programs includes their effect on nutritional status of mothers and children

Nutrition Service Delivery

In some communities, preventing undernutrition through food-based approaches and SBCC is not always enough. Where necessary, prevention programs should be accompanied by nutrition service delivery through strong systems. These services include: vitamin A supplementation for children 6-59 months, iron folic acid supplementation for pregnant women and children as part of anemia reduction

packages (that include malaria prevention and treatment and deworming), or other micronutrients or macronutrients. These services should be delivered based on sound analyses of existing deficiencies, targeted appropriately, and incorporated into existing community platforms.

Severe acute malnutrition (SAM) remains a major killer of children under five years of age in developing countries, with mortality rates in untreated SAM ranging from approximately 10-25% (depending on the concurrent HIV rates)⁶. Even in some countries not classified as being in an emergency state, global acute malnutrition rates can be high as 15% during lean seasons (e.g., Burkina Faso, Niger, and Malawi). Emergencies, however, can exacerbate the conditions leading to even higher levels of acute malnutrition. In some areas affected by climactic anomalies or conflict, these rates have moved well beyond emergency levels and even to the level of famine⁷ as seen in the Horn of Africa in 2011.

The community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) approach involves timely detection and referral of cases with acute malnutrition, outpatient treatment of those without medical complications, and inpatient treatment of those with medical complications. CMAM is intended to provide services that are closer to communities and less disruptive for families by making services available at decentralized treatment points and through community outreach and mobilization. Provision of therapeutic products, particularly ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF), is a critical component enabling decentralized care and improved recovery. Moreover, CMAM programs can promote education and behavior change for long-term solutions to inadequate care and feeding practices, food insecurity, and other threats to public health.

With USAID support, the evidence base for the nutritional and health impacts of the CMAM methodology has been well established in programs run by relief agencies during emergencies, and these findings have allowed for CMAM programs to be scaled up nationally in some countries (e.g. Ethiopia, Malawi.). FANTA III is expected to continue to collaborate with USAID, UNICEF, WFP and WHO to support the introduction of CMAM services into the basic package of health services in developing countries coping with high levels of acute malnutrition. This includes the development and dissemination of program manager and policy maker tools that enable CMAM programs to be more cost-effective and efficient.

HIV/AIDS Nutrition and Food Security

Food and nutrition support is a critical component of HIV/AIDS care and treatment. HIV and malnutrition interact in a vicious cycle. For many people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV), the infection causes or aggravates malnutrition through reduced food intake, increased energy needs, impaired nutrient absorption and nutrient losses associated with frequent and persistent diarrhea. Malnutrition can hasten the progression of HIV, further weakening the immune system, increasing susceptibility to opportunistic infections and reducing the effectiveness of both ART and treatment of opportunistic infections. Food insecurity and malnutrition remain highly prevalent in most countries where PEPFAR

⁶ COMMUNITY-BASED MANAGEMENT OF SEVERE ACUTE MALNUTRITION: A Joint Statement by the World Health Organization, the World Food Programme, the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition and the United Nations Children's Fund. May, 2007.

⁷ Famine is declared when acute malnutrition rates among children exceed 30 per cent; more than 2 people per 10,000 die per day; and people are not able to access food and other basic necessities

supports programs, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. Thus, nutrition support is a critical component of a comprehensive response to HIV/AIDS.

According to the PEPFAR guidelines the key priority intervention areas for targeting HIV and nutrition support include nutrition care and support for the aforementioned populations as well as linking NACS programs to livelihoods and food security programs, ensuring country ownership and sustainable programs. As part of the overall PEPFAR strategy, the Nutrition Assessment, Counseling and Support (NACS) approach was developed to address the nutritional needs of populations infected and affected by HIV. Nutrition assessment, counseling, and support (NACS) is an essential component of a comprehensive response to HIV care and treatment. Ensuring that basic nutrition assessments and effective nutrition counseling occur consistently and accurately creates a foundation on which all other nutrition activities are based. Therapeutic and supplementary feeding is a critical component of HIV care and support and is most effectively utilized when provision is based on anthropometric criteria. Provision of therapeutic and supplementary feeding support, particularly in resource-poor settings, should be prioritized to assist the most vulnerable populations.

Over the past several years, USAID has provided technical assistance to NACS activities, both at the global and national levels. USAID has funded targeted evaluations and provided technical assistance at the global, regional, and national program levels to strengthen the evidence base on the role food and nutrition plays in HIV care. USAID supported projects have offered technical assistance to MOH's and the NFNC for integration of food and nutrition interventions into HIV/AIDS services for malnourished PLHIV and OVCs, and contributed to the development and review of the national nutrition guidelines, identifying specialized food products, designing monitoring and evaluation systems for nutrition care and support of PLHIV and in training of clinical officers and community volunteers. USAID is considered a global leader in food and nutritional care of PLHIV. To the extent possible FANTA III should build on the guidance and materials already created and provided continued technical assistance.

Enabling Environment for Nutrition Programming

Policy, Advocacy and Capacity Strengthening

USAID has worked closely with country partners to develop advocacy tools and policies that support increased engagement on nutrition. PROFILES, an advocacy tool, facilitates discussion around the costs and implications of the current nutrition context in a specific country. This tool has been used in over 30 countries since 1995 and USAID revisited a number of countries (Bangladesh, Ghana, Guatemala, South Sudan and Uganda) to revitalize and update this process. FANTA III will continue to provide technical assistance to these countries and others depending as needed.

Nutrition national policies and guidelines are also a focus of USAID investments. For example, USAID is currently supporting the new Government of South Sudan to develop a national nutrition policy and in Mozambique, USAID is providing technical assistance for the development of nutrition treatment guidelines on acute malnutrition. Additional efforts to support capacity development among ministry staff on nutrition, including HIV and nutrition, are on-going and will continue to be an integral component of FANTA III.

Nutrition Research to Use

USAID supports research to improve the assessment, design, delivery, and impact evaluation of food and nutrition programs that target the most vulnerable populations during the critical 1000 day window of development from pregnancy until two years of age. Recent successes in USAID research activities have led to shifts in programming such as the targeting of interventions in the first two years of life and the development of tools for evaluation of dietary diversity and quality. The Agency continues to align research activities with emerging evidence to advance and expand knowledge.

Product research and development relating to the prevention of maternal and child malnutrition is also a critical area of interest. The development of innovative ready-to-use specialized food products, such as lipid-based nutrient supplements (LNS), is an important area of future focus for the prevention of malnutrition, especially among children under the age of two.

Clinical assessment and use of RUTFs are integral components of the CMAM approach. USAID has invested in multiple studies evaluating entry/exit criteria for CMAM using mid-upper arm circumference (MUAC) compared to other anthropometric measures and have also invested in the different formulations and durations of RUTFs for acute malnutrition. FANTA III will continue to support this type of research which aims to inform global and country level policies as well as strengthen USAID emergency and non-emergency programs.

The Preventing Malnutrition in Children under Two years of Age (PM2A) approach is a food-assisted, preventive program developed by USAID/FFP. The PM2A approach targets a package of health and nutrition interventions to women and children during the critical 1,000 days⁸. Results from a study in Haiti showed that this preventive model is more effective in reducing malnutrition, with the prevalence of stunting, underweight and wasting significantly lower in the preventive compared to the recuperative program communities after 3 years of program implementation. Now, USAID is undertaking additional studies in Burundi and Guatemala to determine most successful and cost-effective interventions and delivery approaches to strengthen Title II MCHN programs and maximize their impact on nutrition. The results will assist USAID/FFP and its Awardees to design better Multi Year Assistance Programs (MYAPs) in the future. The study's various foci (the potential role of specialized foods in support of preventive program; the most cost effective size of the family ration; and the duration of the benefits) will allow Title II Awardees to design programs that have the maximum impact on the prevention of child malnutrition in developing country settings, at the lowest cost possible.

Innovations in Program Assessment and Monitoring

USAID has supported the development and validation of various measurement tools to better monitor and evaluate dietary diversity and quality among women (Women's Dietary Diversity), infants and young children (Indicators for assessing Infant and young Child Feeding Practices) as well as household hunger (Household Hunger Scale). All three innovative and simplified measurement tools have been adopted

⁸ Preventive food rations to women and children; incentive rations to families; preventive and curative health services for children and women; and a Social and Behavior Change and Communication strategy) to prevent malnutrition may further boost PM2A's cost efficiency.

by the Global Health Initiative and Feed the Future and will improve the planning, design, and monitoring systems of USAID-supported nutrition activities.

To meet expressed needs of USAID's partners, USAID invested in the development of innovative tools for problem assessment and improved oversight and management of programs. For example, in using Lot Quality Assurance Sampling (LQAS) methodologies, a simple, cost-effective and reliable method, LAYERS, for monitoring performance of USAID-funded Title II field operations was developed. LAYERS is a software application that uses a hand-held computer to collect and analyze data based on principles of LQAS. Other innovative solutions to improve assessment and monitoring including the development of alternative sampling for rapid assessment of the prevalence of SAM; and LQAS-based applications for annual monitoring of USAID Mission's bilateral population, health and nutrition programs. It is expected that FANTA III will continue to expand the use and quality of assessment and monitoring activities for nutrition oriented food security and health programming.

b. Relationship to other USAID programs

USAID has invested in nutrition for over 30 years. Synergies and integration are necessary with a diverse set of health programs under GHI, including: newborn health, maternal health, child health, family planning, water and sanitation, and infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, neglected tropical diseases, and malaria. Within FTF, nutrition programming will be designed and implemented alongside agriculture-focused efforts, which requires improved linkages between agriculture and nutrition outcomes. Lastly, nutrition is a fundamental component of both emergency and non-emergency assistance. FANTA III will be expected to interact and collaborate with these and other USAID food security and health programs.

Many of these programs are mission-funded bilaterals that are implementing activities as part of FTF and GHI in line with these initiatives' results frameworks. In addition, USAID/Washington supports a diverse set of mechanisms intended to provide global technical leadership and support to the field. The projects with which FANTA III will be expected to work are:

- Strengthening Partnerships, Results, and Innovation on Nutrition Globally (SPRING)—Aims to improve policies and programs to scale up effective nutrition services, with a concerted effort on country-specific social and behavior change communication, dietary diversity and micronutrient adequacy (through locally available as well as fortified foods).
- The Nutrition Collaborative Research Support Program (CRSP)—Supports a research agenda to determine what kinds of investments in agriculture-based strategies, human and institutional capacity, agricultural and food system policies, and human health and nutrition can be used to achieve impact on nutrition.
- Maternal and Child Health Integrated Program (MCHIP)— MCHIP's vision is to accelerate the reduction of maternal, newborn and child mortality in the 30 USAID priority countries facing the highest disease burden.
- Livelihood and Food Security Technical Assistance Project (LIFT)—Aims to directly support the improvement of food security of HIV-affected families through livelihood assistance and economic strengthening activities.

- Technical and Operational Performance Support program (TOPS)— TOPS, funded by USAID/Food for Peace (FFP), strengthens the capacity of FFP Title II grantees to improve the quality and effectiveness of food aid implementation through fostering collaboration, innovation, and knowledge sharing. TOPS and FANTA III activities will be complementary and will require strong collaboration and coordination.

c. Contribution to global agenda and partnerships

Effective partnership is one of the principles behind both FTF and GHI. USAID is heavily engaged in numerous partnerships with bilateral donors, multilaterals, the United Nations, the private sector, and civil society that focus on nutrition. FANTA III will be a vehicle through which USAID's commitment to effective partnerships is realized.

One such partnership is the Scaling Up Nutrition (SUN) movement. This movement is a multi-stakeholder global effort to improve nutrition. The SUN framework has been endorsed by more than 100 entities from national governments, the UN system, civil society organizations, development agencies, academia, philanthropic bodies, and the private sector. SUN encourages a focus on nutrition within development programs and identifies investments that have been shown to work if implemented within the context of nutrition-focused development policies. The 1,000 days partnership is intended to serve as a platform to encourage investment and strengthen policies to improve early nutrition in the developing world in alignment with SUN. FANTA III will be one of USAID's key programs contributing to the country-driven SUN movement.

In addition to SUN, FANTA III will be expected to work with important global partners such as PEPFAR Technical Working Groups; the Global Fund; NUGAG; MERG; LNS Research Network; CSHGP; Core Group; Emergency Nutrition Network; WHO, WFP, and UNICEF; universities; the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition; CGIAR, NIH, and others.

D. Problem Statement

Undernutrition continues to be one of the gravest global health epidemics in the world. More than one billion people – nearly one-sixth of the world's population – suffer from chronic hunger. Nearly one-third of children in the developing world are either underweight or stunted, and more than 30 percent of the developing world's population suffers from micronutrient deficiencies. Not only are the ramifications of undernutrition immediate, it also diminishes future economic productivity, education attainment, and long-term health status.

Many Asian countries have made substantial progress in reducing undernutrition, but considerable problems persist in India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Nepal, where undernutrition plagues roughly half of all children. In Sub-Saharan Africa, the number of underweight children has almost doubled since 1980 and is projected to be 25% higher in 2015 than in 1990 due to population growth, stagnant agriculture production, and volatile food prices. Further exacerbating the global nutrition crisis is the increase in natural disasters, humanitarian emergencies, and conflicts, which often increase the nutritional vulnerability of affected populations by causing displacement; food insecurity; reduced

access to health and sanitation infrastructure; and weakened purchasing power. Unless significant advances are made in improving policies and strategies and scaling-up promising program approaches, the magnitude of the malnutrition problem will prevent many countries from achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)—especially in Sub-Saharan Africa, where malnutrition is increasing, and in South Asia, where malnutrition is widespread and improving only slowly.

Food insecurity in particular has devastating and far-reaching causes and impacts. Food insecurity is often rooted in poverty and has long-term impacts on the ability of families, communities, and countries to develop. However, improving food security alone does not guarantee an improvement in nutritional outcomes. Non-food factors such as burden of disease, sanitation conditions, quality of water and availability of primary health care also play a role in nutritional status. A comprehensive integrated approach addresses all aspects of food insecurity including addressing the basic level of an individual's well-being to result in good nutritional and health status. Additionally, gender inequality and the specific barriers women face in achieving their full potential in the societies and the communities in which they live have long been recognized as both underlying and direct causes of food insecurity and undernutrition. Overcoming gender inequality is a key element of reducing global hunger.

Undernutrition hampers the control of infectious diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis and malaria. In particular, more than 40 million people are living with HIV throughout the world. Sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean are home to approximately 30 million people living with HIV/AIDS. In these regions, HIV/AIDS has deepened poverty, exacerbated food insecurity, and diverted state resources. There is a complex, bi-directional relationship between food security and HIV. Illness and death resulting from the disease have an immediate impact on food security by limiting household income and food production. At the same time, food insecurity and poverty fuel the spread of HIV when people are driven to adopt immediate survival strategies that make them more vulnerable to HIV infection. Food security is also compromised by HIV because of the specific nutritional requirements of those infected by the disease. Not only do people living with HIV (PLHIV) require greater energy intake from foods, they often experience difficulty in digesting it. Access to adequate nutrition is critical to the health of infected individuals, including those receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART). As PLHIV life expectancies are now extended by decades w/ ART, NACS will be critical to manage the increased risks of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and other chronic health conditions associated with HIV infection and long-term ART. Finally, the combined impacts of food insecurity and HIV place further strain on already limited household resources as affected family members struggle to meet household.

E. Results Framework

a. Overall Focus

FANTA III aims to provide technical assistance to partner countries, USAID, and implementing partners to improve overall nutrition capacity and program effectiveness. With a particular emphasis on food security and health programming, FANTA III will work closely with the Bureau for Global Health (GH) and other USAID bureaus and offices (i.e. GH/OHA, BFS, EGAT, DCHA/FFP, DCHA/OFDA, AFR, AME) to strengthen the nutrition components of food security and health programming as a mechanism to improve the nutritional status of its target populations.

The pillars of food security are availability, access, utilization/consumption and stability⁹. FANTA III will focus on the pillars of improving utilization/consumption and access to food with a focus on improving nutritional status. In line with FTF and GHI, this work will aim to strengthen overall utilization of maternal and child health and nutrition services, increase access to diverse and quality foods, improve nutrition related behaviors and increase the resiliency of vulnerable communities and households.

FANTA III supports the three major objectives of the Global Health Bureau: to provide global leadership on innovative and evidence based approaches to improve overall health outcomes; to conduct state of the art research that advances the global health field; and to provide technical support to USAID missions, programs and country partners. Building upon previous USAID experiences in nutrition oriented programming, FANTA III will continue to strengthen food security and health policies, programs and systems which contribute to improved nutritional status.

FANTA III Project Objective: Food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

FANTA III is expected to provide technical assistance to partner countries and USAID staff and partners to strengthen the nutrition components of food security and health programs as part of GHI and FTF. With a mandate to assume global technical leadership on nutrition-oriented food security and health programs, particular attention will be given to building the evidence base for introduction or expansion of effective program approaches; developing effective monitoring and evaluation systems and tools; and strengthening the capacity of food security and health staff to implement effective program approaches to improve nutrition policies and programs.

In order to strengthen food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition, FANTA III will work on two intermediate results:

- b. **Intermediate Result 1:** Global evidence and capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

USAID supports the development of evidence based and innovative approaches to improve nutrition as outlined in GHI and FTF and in line with USAID Forward. Both past and on-going USAID activities have expanded the nutrition-related evidence base by looking at a variety of food security and health areas including dietary diversity and quality, anemia in women and children, community-based management of acute malnutrition (CMAM) in HIV and non-HIV settings and program effectiveness for activities targeting chronic undernutrition in children. This evidence base has led to the development of global guidelines (e.g. CMAM guidelines), USAID oriented programming guidance (e.g. Title II non-emergency programming) and changes in approaches to HIV care and support (e.g. NACS). FANTA III is expected to build upon completed research activities and ensure the continuity of on-going research related to nutrition oriented food security and health programming.

Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) are also critical components to better understand program progress and impact. GH investments in M&E have been focused on developing more user friendly and cost effective methods that capture simple and specific information. In line with USAID Forward and the new

USAID Evaluation Policy, improving M&E systems is essential to measuring the impact of USAID programs and will continue to be a core component of USAID investments in food security, health, emergency and food assistance as needed.

In addition to building the evidence base, strengthening human and institutional capacity is also at the core of program assessment, design, implementation and M&E and will be a key component of FANTA III. Investments in direct technical assistance, mentoring, formative supervision and training will remain significant investments in nutrition related food security and health programming. FANTA III will continue to enhance the multisectoral nature of nutrition and work with stakeholders from a variety of sectors (agriculture, education, health, emergency, etc.) to expand knowledge around nutrition, both technically and programmatically, in order to improve overall management and delivery of services.

The types of activities that are most essential to building the global evidence base and capacity are laid out in the following sub-IRs.

IR1.1: Evidence base for effective food and nutrition program approaches expanded

IR1.2: Monitoring and evaluation systems and tools developed and implemented

IR 1.3: Global Standards and policies in nutrition and food security promoted

IR1.4: Capacity in assessment, program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation strengthened

Illustrative activities for IR1:

- Conducting research and/or impact evaluations related to relevant nutrition topics to improve on-going and/or future program approaches including, but not limited to, specialized food based approaches for PLHIV and children and for prevention of chronic undernutrition
- Documenting and disseminating strategies related to the integration of approaches for the treatment of acute malnutrition (i.e. CMAM) into HIV and/or other food security/health/emergency programs/policies
- Develop/modify nutrition related indicators that measure program impact and cost effectiveness
- Develop/strengthen cost effective and simplified monitoring and evaluation systems and tools
- Develop guidelines/protocols and training modules/plans (both pre- and in-service) with country counterparts to introduce/scale up preventive and recuperative nutrition services
- Document and disseminate effective exit strategies for USAID food security programming (Title II)
- Work with international stakeholders to assist in continued global harmonization of nutrition indicators

- c. **Intermediate Result 2:** Country-driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

Central to FTF and GHI, and in line with the Paris principles, nutrition requires a country driven approach to effectively improve policies, programs and systems in food security and health programs. The Global Health Nutrition Division has been working closely with other health areas within the bureau (i.e. MCH,

HIV/AIDS, NTD, ID, etc.) and with other bureaus including BFS, DCHA in both the FFP and OFDA offices, the Africa, Asia and Latin American and Caribbean Regional Bureaus and USAID Country Missions to introduce and/or expand effective programming approaches. Technical assistance on nutrition related policies, programs and systems in the context of food security and health has been a primary activity for GH and the respective offices and missions depend on this type of support to ensure quality design, implementation and M&E. In light of the increased attention to HIV/AIDS and the need for nutrition-related emergency response in disaster situations in recent years, GH has increased its focus on technical assistance to integrate and strengthen evidence-based nutrition interventions with PEPFAR and OFDA programs and it will be of greater importance in FANTA III.

Country level technical assistance is critical to ensure the continuity of on-going activities and to support the roll-out/scale-up of newly identified priority areas that concern nutrition. The types of activities that are most essential to the country driven process are laid out in the following sub-IRs.

IR 2.1: Emergency nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

IR 2.2: Resiliency and vulnerability/food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved

IR 2.3: HIV nutrition and food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved

IR2.4: Maternal and child health and nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

Illustrative Activities for IR 2:

- Analyze, develop and/or strengthen country level policies, monitoring and evaluation tools/systems, political economies, early warning/surveillance systems, guidelines and other critical instruments needed to introduce/strengthen nutrition related programming in collaboration with the government and other stakeholders
- Strengthen community-based nutrition programming (MCH programs, Integrated Agriculture, Health and Nutrition programs, Title II programs, HIV/AIDS programs, etc.)
- Develop guidelines, assessment tools and evaluation methods for HIV related Nutrition Assessment Counseling and Support (NACS) activities
- Strengthen program design, assessment and capacity around food security programming that utilizes agricultural approaches (i.e. value chains, agribusiness, etc.) to improve nutrition
- Develop country specific nutrition oriented food security (including food assistance strategies) and health programming strategies
- Strengthen emergency nutrition assessment tools/methods, guidelines and treatment protocol in emergency and early recovery settings
- Harmonize monitoring and evaluation systems, indicators and tools within nutrition components of food security and health systems/programs, and mainstream environmental management principles into food security program M&E frameworks
- Build evidence base to improve approaches to nutrition programming in food security and health contexts for emergency and development contexts

- Strengthen linkages and referral systems between facility and community-based nutrition efforts, including monitoring and evaluation of such systems

d. Program Requirements for FANTA 3

- 1) Support on-going high priority activities that are integral to expanding the evidence base and improving program approaches**

There are several multi-year USAID-funded activities that will be in full implementation phase with the beginning of FANTA III. A top priority for FANTA III is to continue high priority multi-year activities that will expand the evidence base and improve nutrition programming approaches. FANTA III is expected to work closely with USAID to identify the specific activities and partners with whom ongoing work will be supported under this cooperative agreement.

- 2) Build off of existing knowledge base and reflect advances in theory and practice**

Food security and nutrition programs supported by FANTA III will be based on knowledge and experience accumulated over the past decade. It is expected that FANTA III will be innovative and devise new solutions to improve the nutrition program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation in food security and health programs. This could entail expanding beyond the Applicant's knowledge base and drawing on the knowledge and experience of other initiatives. FANTA III will be expected to collect, systematize and share lessons from the field support experiences and to serve as a global technical lead in nutrition and food security programs for GH.

- 3) Utilize creative procurement mechanisms to support on-going or new activities, including research studies**

FANTA III will be expected to use innovative and efficient methods of partnering with research entities to conduct its work. USAID encourages applicants to explore fixed obligation subgrants (pending USAID approval) where applicable. These grants under the FANTA III cooperative agreement are expected to be issued within a range of \$100,000 to \$8 million over the life of the project. These or other creative mechanisms should be explored that will emphasize the payment against milestones as a measure of cost effectiveness and accountability to results. See ADS 303.3.25. Checklist on Fixed Obligation Grants is attached.

- 4) Coordinate with other USAID collaborating agencies, host-country programs, and other USG agencies as appropriate.**

The applicant must be able to work collaboratively with a large number of USAID partners, mission bilateral programs, host-country programs, and donors to provide effective technical support to USAID Missions and Operating Units. Further, the applicant may be requested to collaborate with other USG agencies such State/Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS), Department of Defense (DoD), State/Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative (S/GHFSI), and Office of Global AIDS Coordinator (O/GAC) as appropriate.

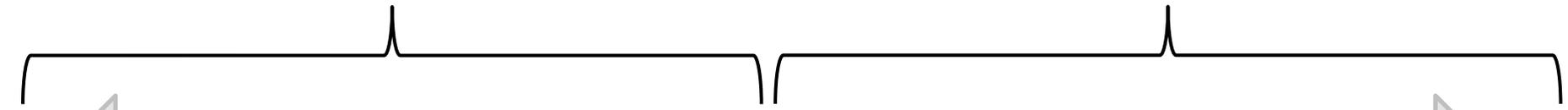
- 5) Work with Small Businesses**

One of the major objectives of the Implementation and Procurement Reform (IPR) initiative at USAID is to increase the number and diversity of our partner base. Using U.S. small businesses allows USAID to work with diverse partners, bringing new and creative approaches to meeting our programming needs and also serves to meet a major IPR objective. USAID has established a small business goal of 11 percent of the total dollar value of all prime contract awards. It is, therefore, encouraged to partner and/or work with small businesses (see http://www.usaid.gov/business/small_business/programs.html) to implement project activities throughout the duration of project activities.

Project Objective:
Food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

IR1: Global evidence and capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

IR2: Country-driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened



IR1.1: Evidence base for effective food and nutrition program approaches expanded

IR1.2: Monitoring and evaluation systems and tools developed and implemented

IR1.3: Global Standards and policies in nutrition and food security promoted

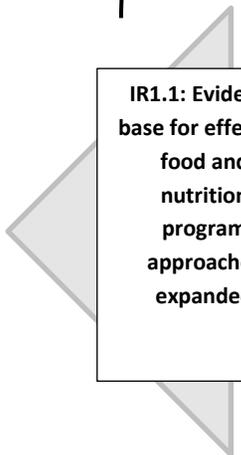
IR1.4: Capacity in assessment, program design, implementation and M&E strengthened

IR2.1: Emergency Nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

IR2.2: Resiliency and vulnerability/food security program assessment, design, implementation and M&E improved

IR2.3: HIV and Nutrition and food security program assessment, design, implementation and M&E improved

IR2.4: Maternal and child health and nutrition program assessment, design, implementation and M&E improved



F. Gender Considerations

Gender inequality cuts across each dimension of food security—availability, access, and utilization—and the interactions between women and men that affect gender roles and responsibilities—status, negotiating power, decision making, time and mobility. Through all its work, USAID aims to integrate a gender perspective that identifies and addresses the differential impact of development on women and men. As a policy and as a goal in itself, —USAID strives “to promote gender equality, in which both men and women have equal opportunity to benefit from and contribute to economic, social, cultural, and political development; enjoy socially valued resources and rewards; and realize their human rights” (Automated Directives System [ADS] 201, 2009, Revised 2010, 201.3.9.3, p. 31). Ultimately, the goal of development programs is to achieve improved health outcomes and transform gender norms towards greater equality.¹⁰ Addressing gender is integral to both GHI and FTF approaches to improving nutrition.

FANTA III is aimed to provide technical assistance to country level partners, USAID and implementing partner staff to improve overall nutrition capacity and program effectiveness. Part of this role will be providing technical assistance in the integration and mainstreaming of gender. While the applicant will specifically be asked to show this level of technical expertise in gender integration, a successful application will also reflect a gender perspective throughout the application, and the treatment of gender will be considered in the evaluation of each component of the application.

G. Geographic focus

FANTA III will work at the global level and will direct its efforts primarily to GHI and FTF focus countries (see Annex A). Applicants must be able to demonstrate capacity to be fully functional and able to immediately start implementing activities in at least 15 countries. The level of effort and budget will be adjusted according to availability of funds, the nature of the activities, and the needs and opportunities in each situation.

H. Project Monitoring and Evaluation

FANTA III is expected to develop a Performance Monitoring Plan including indicators and targets for achieving the project’s objective and IRs, to the USAID Agreement Officer Technical Representative (AOTR) for review and approval. Through the annual work plan and progress reports, the Recipient will report on indicators and provide information that describes the expected results on an annual basis. The approach included in the overall plan should be consistent with USAID’s Evaluation Policy (refer to <http://www.usaid.gov/evaluation/>).

I. Planning, Reporting, and Communications

a. Annual Work plan

The Recipient is required to prepare and submit an annual work plan and detailed estimated budget associated with that work plan on a schedule established by the AOTR following the award. This plan will identify the activities to be carried out in the coming year, associated level of effort, and funding sources

¹⁰ Deborah Caro for the IGWG, *A Manual for Integrating Gender Into Reproductive Health and HIV Programs: From Commitment to Action (2nd Edition)* (Washington, DC: PRB, 2009). http://www.igwg.org/igwg_media/manualintegratgendr09_eng.pdf.

to be used for that work. A first draft of the Year One work plan will be due within sixty (60) days of the award of the Cooperative Agreement. This work plan shall be reviewed and USAID written comments forwarded to the Recipient within one month of submission, and then finalized by the Recipient no later than two (2) weeks after Recipient's receipt of USAID's written comments. Annual work plans for Project Year two (2) to five (5) should be submitted to the AOTR for approval prior to the end of the previous Project Year.

b. Semi-Annual and Annual Status Reports

On a semi-annual basis following submission of the first work plan, and within thirty (30) days following the close of each six month period (based on the USG fiscal year), the Recipient shall prepare and submit to USAID written status reports (Semi-Annual Reports) that:

- Identify key problems or issues encountered, how they were or will be resolved, and, if/as required, recommended Mission-level intervention to facilitate their timely resolution;
- Include a brief summary of achievements during the concluding quarter towards planned targets; and
- Present succinct success stories and lessons learned for possible public dissemination.

The second six-month status report of the fiscal/project year will serve as the annual status report for the concluding year, and shall be submitted within thirty (30) days following the close of the fourth quarter (July-September). In addition to meeting the above requirements, the annual report shall include a discussion, supported with quantitative and qualitative evidence, (which evidence shall remain auditable under the terms of the agreement and USAID program implementation procedures), of impacts achieved to-date. This shall include clear identification of which impacts achieved were within the manageable interests of the Recipient and which were likely catalyzed by Recipient-supported initiatives, leading to substantial, sustained achievement of results.

c. Financial Reporting Requirements

Financial reporting requirements will be in accordance with 22 CFR 226. The implementer shall submit an original and two copies of completed form SF-269, SF 269A, SF-270 or SF0272, as appropriate, on a quarterly basis to AOTR and M/FM/CMP-LOC Unit.

d. Initial Environmental Examination (IEE)

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. The environmental compliance

obligations of the Applicant under these regulations and procedures are specified in the following paragraphs of this RFA.

An Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) has been approved for this Cooperative Agreement. The IEE covers activities expected to be implemented under this agreement. 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 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.

As part of its initial Work Plan, and all Annual Work Plans thereafter, the Applicant, in collaboration with the USAID Agreement Officer's Technical Representative (AOTR) and Mission Environmental Officer or Bureau Environmental Officer, as appropriate, shall review all ongoing and planned activities under this cooperative agreement to determine if they are within the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation.

Unless the approved Regulation 216 documentation contains a complete environmental mitigation and monitoring plan (EMMP) or a project mitigation and monitoring (M&M) plan, the Recipient shall prepare an EMMP or M&M Plan describing how they will, in specific terms, implement all IEE and/or EA conditions that apply to proposed project activities within the scope of the award. The EMMP or M&M Plan shall include monitoring the implementation of the conditions and their effectiveness.

If the Recipient plans any new activities outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation, it shall prepare an amendment to the documentation for USAID review and approval. No such new activities shall be undertaken prior to receiving written USAID approval of environmental documentation amendments. Any ongoing activities found to be outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation shall be halted until an amendment to the documentation is submitted and written approval is received from USAID

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.

e. Recipient/USAID Communications

Given the nature of FANTA III, the need for regular ongoing communication between USAID and the Recipient is vital. Such communication may include face-to-face meetings at USAID/Washington DC headquarters, face-to-face meetings at Recipient offices, conference calls, email exchanges, etc.

f. Authorized Geographic Code

The authorized geographic code for sub-procurements of services under this award is 935. The authorized geographic code for procurement of commodities is 935. (Pending Approval)

*****END SECTION I*****

SECTION II. AWARD INFORMATION

A. Anticipated Award Schedule

It is anticipated that a five-year, cooperative agreement will be awarded. USAID may choose to non-competitively extend for a second five year Agreement based upon the Agency priorities and the satisfactory performance of the Recipient during the first five-year Agreement.

B. Estimate Funds Available and Type of Award

Applicants should assume the ceiling for the Cooperative Agreement of \$200 million over five years – 25% Global Health and Child Survival account (GHCS) Core funds and 75% Field Support (FS). Field support includes Food for Peace Development Assistance PL 480/Title II account funding, Office of HIV/AIDS GHAI account funds, and Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance funding. GH core funds are expected to be used primarily for IR1 to support the key functions of global leadership, research, monitoring and evaluation, global standards, and capacity. Pending the availability of funds, USAID expects to award one cooperative agreement as a result of this RFA.

C. USAID Management of the Activities

The Agreement Officer's Technical Representative (AOTR) will serve as the primary contact between USAID and the Recipient. The AOTR will assist in linking FANTA III with other projects, USAID Mission bilateral projects, civil society, multilateral agencies, and other donors/foundations.

D. Substantial Involvement

USAID shall be substantially involved during the implementation of this Cooperative Agreement in the following ways:

1. Approval of the Recipient's annual work plans, including: planned activities for the following year, annual reports, international travel plans, planned expenditures, event planning/management, research studies/protocols, and changes to any activity to be carried out under the Cooperative Agreement;
2. Approval of specified key personnel assigned to the positions listed below. All changes thereto must be submitted for the approval by the Agreement Officer Technical Representative.

Title: Project Director

Title: Deputy Director for Operations

Title: Deputy Director for IR1 Global Leadership

Title: Deputy Director for IR2 Country Programs

Title: Senior Advisor for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation

3. USAID and Recipient collaboration or joint participation, which may include selection of advisory committee members;

4. Approval of sub-awards in accordance with 22 CFR 226;

5. Approval of Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and other monitoring as described in 22 CFR 226.

*****END SECTION II*****

SECTION III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

A. Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for the Cooperative Agreement under this RFA, an organization must:

- a. Be a U.S. and Non-US based institution, for-profit, non-profit or private voluntary organizations registered with USAID. Must be able to meet the eligibility criteria in 22 CFR 228 sub-part D;
- b. Have experience and/or capacity to provide specialized technical assistance in nutrition and food security programming in USAID-assisted countries described in this RFA;
- c. Agree to work with and hire individuals who have the technical expertise to provide technical support to strengthen country specific nutrition and food security policies, strategies and programming;
- d. Have managerial, technical, and institutional capacities to achieve the results outlined in this RFA
- e. Have the capacity to collaborate with other organizations/groups in undertaking nutrition and food security programming across multiple areas such as maternal child health and nutrition, HIV, agriculture, and humanitarian assistance.

The Recipient must be a responsible entity. The Agreement Officer (AO) may determine a Pre-Award survey is required and if so, would establish a formal survey team to conduct an examination that will determine whether the prospective recipient has the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program.

B. Cost Share

USAID has established a cost share minimum of 5% of the USAID-funded or obligated amount projected up to the maximum ceiling (\$200 million) for the recipient of the award. Such funds may be mobilized from the recipient; other multilateral, bilateral, and foundation donors; host governments; and local organizations, communities and private businesses that contribute financially and in-kind to implementation of activities at the country level. For guidance on cost sharing in grants and cooperative agreements, please see 22 CFR 226.23 at <http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov> and search under Title 22 Foreign Relations.

*****END SECTION III*****

SECTION IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

A. Submission Instructions

The following are instructions for how Applications shall be submitted:

1. RFA Closing Date and Time: Applications shall be submitted on or before October 14, 2011 5pm Washington DC time.

2. The applications must submit applications via grants.gov. NO hand carried submissions will be accepted. Contractor must ensure that they have access to grants.gov (instructions Attachment F). Applications submitted electronically must have technical separate from cost. All documents must be properly labeled. Cost Application budget spreadsheet must be submitted in Excel form with unlocked cells with formulas visible. Omission of the below will be considered non-responsive and will not be reviewed.
 - 1) Lack of either the Technical or Cost Proposal
 - 2) Technical and Cost in the same document
 - 3) Technical Approach addresses IR 1 and IR 2
 - 4) Less than the required five key personnel
 - 5) No Letters of intent of key personnel
 - 6) No Resumes for key personnel
 - 7) Management Plan
 - 8) Organizational Chart
 - 9) Management Plan Narrative
 - 10) M&E Plan with Illustrative PMP
 - 11) Institutional Capability factors addressed
 - 12) Past Performance short forms (3 for Prime and 3 for each subcontractor unless indicated otherwise why no short forms are provided.
 - 13) Past Performance references for key personnel
 - 14) Detailed budget in Excel form for Prime and subcontractors
 - 15) Budget notes for prime and subcontractors
 - 16) Certifications and Representations
 - 17) Failure to submit via grants.gov by closing time.
 - 18) Less than 5% required cost share requirement
 - 19) No proposed ceiling on Indirect costs

3. USAID Point of Contact:

Primary Contact:

Amy Wire
awire@usaid.gov

Secondary Contact:

Shanon Krause
skrause@usaid.gov

4. Questions shall be submitted in writing via email to the Point of Contact listed above, no later than September 23, 2011 at 12:00pm Washington DC time. Any questions submitted after this date will not be accepted. Question answers will be posted as an amendment to this RFA on www.grants.gov.

5. 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 applications.

B. General Application Instructions

The following are general instructions for what constitutes an application and how applications shall be formatted:

1. An application shall consist of a Technical application and a Cost application.
2. All information shall be presented in the English language and shall be formatted in either Microsoft Word 2010 or Microsoft Excel 2010 with all formulas unlocked.
3. Cover page shall ONLY contain following information:
 - 1) RFA number and title for which this application is being submitted
 - 2) Applicant Name, address, TIN, DUNS, Cage Code, and point of contact information for technical and cost application.
 - 3) Names of subcontractors
4. Technical application:
 - a. Submit electronically via grants.gov and properly labeled.
 - b. Shall be single-spaced text, printed double-sided, minimum 12-point font, minimum one (1") margins on standard letter sized paper (8.5" x 11").

- c. Shall not exceed thirty-five (35) pages excluding documents requested to be provided in an annex (e.g. resumes, references, etc.) and the following (if applicable): Cover page, dividers, acronym list and table of contents. Applications in excess of this limit will not be evaluated.
- d. Supplementary materials such as full resumes of personnel, documentation of past institutional work, Past Performance references and relevant letters of support may be provided in annexes accompanying the technical application. There is no page limit for the annexes, although brevity is encouraged.
- e. Any graphs, charts, exhibits, tables, etc. contained in the body of the technical application shall be numbered and included in the 35 page limit.
- f. Executive Summary may not be included.

5. Cost/business application:

- a. Submitted via grants.gov and properly labeled
- b. No limit on the number of pages for the cost/business application.
- c. The application must be submitted using SF-424 and SF 424A “Application for Federal Assistance.” The form is downloadable on USAID’s website at:
http://www.usaid.gov/procurement_bus_opp/procurement/forms/.

6. The Government may (a) reject any or all applications, (b) accept other than the lowest cost application, (c) accept more than one application, (d) accept alternate applications meeting the applicable standards of this RFA, and (e) waive informalities and minor irregularities in the application(s) received.

7. Applicants may only submit documents to be included in the Annex as requested in the RFA directions below.

C. Technical Application Guidelines

The Applicant shall submit a technical application that addresses the items listed below and that is organized in the order described below. Suggested page limits for each section of the technical application are provided for guidance, but Applicants may choose the number of pages to devote to each section, within the **thirty-five (35) page limit** of the technical application as stated above. Any application over 35 pages WILL NOT be reviewed.

The following technical guidelines should be used to prepare an application in response to this RFA:

1. Technical Understanding and Approach (Suggested 12 pages)

The Technical Understanding and Approach shall demonstrate the Applicant’s understanding and expertise with respect to achieving the objective and intermediate results, of FANTA-III as described in Section I. Technical applications must be specific, complete and presented concisely. The application must take into account the evaluation criteria and procedures found in Section V. For purposes of the

overall technical understanding and approach, Applicants can assume the following geographic mix regarding regions of countries: Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean.

Applicants will describe how they propose to achieve the overall objective of this project: ***Food Security and Health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened*** by achieving the two intermediate results (IRs) which are both of equal importance to achieve the overall objective. The overall approach should reflect current USAID priorities and initiatives and present a clear plan for reaching the overall objective.

Intermediate Result 1: Global evidence and capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

IR1.1: Evidence base for effective food and nutrition program approaches expanded

IR1.2: Monitoring and evaluation systems and tools developed and implemented

IR 1.3: Global Standards and policies in nutrition and food security promoted

IR1.4: Capacity in assessment, program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation strengthened

Intermediate Results 2: Country-driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

IR 2.1: Emergency nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

IR 2.2: Resiliency and vulnerability/food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved

IR 2.3: HIV nutrition and food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved

IR2.4: Maternal and child health and nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

Applicants shall describe for each IR:

- How principal activities will be implemented including how activities will contribute to achieving the IR as well as the overall objective, be reflective of the state of the art knowledge and build on previous lessons learned
- What key approaches will be used and what evidence exists that these approaches will be effective
- How activities will be able to be effectively and quickly started
- Expected IR results and indicators

In addressing IR 1 and IR 2, the Applicant must show how it will fulfill the program requirements listed in this RFA. As appropriate, the following components should be integrated across the intermediate results country-specific and global level efforts and be reflected in the proposed activities and approaches.

- Plans to supports ongoing high priority activities that are integral to expanding the evidence base and improving program approaches
- Build on existing knowledge base and reflect advances in theory and practice.
- Use of creative procurement mechanisms to support ongoing or new activities, including research studies, such as fixed obligation grants that are based on performance against set milestones
- Coordination with other USAID collaborating agencies, host-country programs, other USG agencies and local organizations as appropriate.
- Activities must capitalize on global efforts such as Scaling Up Nutrition and translate these efforts into multi-sectorial and country-level action
- Gender issues and constraints must be integrated and addressed

2. Key Personnel Qualifications and Staffing Capabilities (Suggested 7 pages)

FANTA-III will include personnel with an appropriate balance of managerial, technical and operational skills sufficient to achieve its objective and sub-objectives including the identification of in-country professionals. The core team should reflect expertise in nutrition, food security; HIV/AIDS, emergency specialists, gender integration, as well as program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation. USAID's intent is to have a sufficient core staff available to continue to plan and provide consistent specialized, targeted technical assistances in nutrition and food security program analysis, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and to provide global leadership in the identification and application of promising practices. Applicants should propose the optimal mix of technical personnel considered necessary for specialized, targeted technical assistance in food and nutrition programming and for global leadership.

A total of five (5) key personnel shall be proposed by name and position. Each of these five key personnel position requires USAID approval, as noted in substantial involvement provisions in Section II.

1. Project Director: The Project Director is responsible for the overall management of FANTA III. The Project Director will have the following experience and qualifications:

- a minimum of a Master's degree in management, nutrition, public health, social sciences, international development, or a related field
- at least 15 years' experience leading, managing and implementing large international projects, specifically with experience in two or more of the following areas: management, nutrition, health policy, health systems strengthening, behavior change communication, community development, food security, or agriculture including at least 5 years of experience on nutrition specific programming;
- demonstrated experience and understanding of public health and food security as they relate to nutrition and should be knowledgeable about the relevant socioeconomic, institutional and policy issues that are related to nutrition;
- professional experience interacting with U.S. Government agencies, host country governments, and other relevant stakeholders;
- demonstrated experience working in partnership with international donors and agencies;
- Professional experience working in nutrition programs in low or middle income countries.

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas only 10-20 percent of the time.

2. Deputy Project Director for Operations (DPD-O): The Deputy Project Director for Operations is part of the management team which is expected to complement the Project Director in knowledge and experience. The DPD-O is responsible for overall management of FANTA-III communications, finance, contract and administration clusters. They should be a senior manager with the following experience and qualifications:

- an advanced degree (MS, MA or Ph.D.) in finance, management, food security, MCH, HIV/AIDS or a related field;
- at least 10 years of experience in management, finance, contract and administration
- at least 3-5 years of experience in programs in food security, MCH, HIV, emergency nutrition or related programming.
- Professional experience interacting with U.S. Government agencies in relation to the duties of this position.

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas 20-30 percent of the time.

3. Deputy Director for IR-1-Global Leadership (DPD-G): The DPD-G is part of the management team which is expected to complement the Project Director in knowledge and experience. The DPD-G is specifically responsible for ensuring the scientific and technical quality of all activities implemented under IR-1. S/he will facilitate consensus on FANTA III operations research agenda, develop strategies for the incorporation of findings in global normative standards and facilitate capacity building. S/he will be responsible for managing the identification of and response to priority areas for global capacity building. The DPD-C and DPD-G are jointly responsible for ensuring that FANTA III field level activities are informed by and inform FANTA III global leadership activities. The DPD-G should be a senior manager with the following experience and qualifications.

- an advanced degree (MS, MA or Ph.D.) in nutrition or food security or a related field;
- at least 15 years of experience in providing specialized technical assistance and global leadership in food security, MCH, HIV or related programming.
- At least 10 years professional experience managing nutrition and/or food security activities specifically related to at least one of the following: research, monitoring and evaluation, capacity development, or global standards development

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas 20-30 percent of the time.

4. Deputy Director for IR-2-Country Programs (DPD-C): The DPD-C is part of the management team which is expected to complement the Project Director in knowledge and experience. The DPD-C is responsible for ensuring that country-driven activities under each sub-IR reflect the state-of-the-art and that FANTA-III approaches are consistent across countries under each sub-IR. S/he will also ensure FANTA-III approaches are harmonized across sub-IRs. The DPD-C and DPD-G are jointly responsible for

ensuring that FANTA III country level activities are informed by and inform FANTA-III global evidence and capacity activities. The DPD-C should be a senior manager with the following experience and qualifications:

- an advanced degree (MS, MA or Ph.D.) in the food security, nutrition or related field,
- At least 10 years of experience in providing specialized technical assistance and global leadership in nutrition programming
- At least 5 years of experience on integration of nutrition with at least one of the following: HIV/AIDS programs, food security programs, or other infectious disease programs
- At least 5 years Professional experience working in low or middle income countries implementing nutrition programs.

This is a full-time position; in order to ensure adequate managerial oversight of the project, it will involve traveling overseas 20-30 percent of the time.

5. Senior Advisor for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation. The Senior Advisor for Research, Monitoring and Evaluation will focus on research and capacity for technical assistance in monitoring and evaluation. The Advisor will serve as a technical expert to lead the activities providing technical assistance in research, monitoring and evaluation. S/he should have the following experience and qualifications.

- A Master's degree in public health, nutrition, food security, epidemiology, or related field.
- At least 5-10 years of experience in monitoring, evaluation and research inclusive of each of the following
 - Experience in designing, managing and implementing research projects in low income and resource constrained settings
 - Experience in designing and implementing monitoring and evaluation systems in low income and resource constrained settings
 - Experience in training implementers and/or policy makers
 - Experience in data analysis

Non-key senior program staff: In addition to the Key Personnel, the Applicant will have sufficient other senior program staff ,including professionals from developing countries and institutions, to help address the objective of FANTA-III and to be available for short-, medium-, and long-term assignments. FANTA-III will have sufficient staffing to address technical and administrative aspects that may include but not be limited to the following areas of expertise: food security, infectious diseases, emergency nutrition, maternal and child health, research design and implementation, data analysis, monitoring and evaluation, capacity building and other skill areas required for implementation. Additionally, Applicants should also propose up to 10 non-US-based staff that can serve as experts (inclusive of US citizens who reside abroad).

The section on personnel capability in the main body of the application will include brief statements of major duties, experience, academic background and resumes for each of the five (5) key personnel and also include other senior program staff. Resumes for key personnel, other senior program staff will be limited to four (4) pages in length and should be included in the annexes. The annexes (which are

beyond the 35-page limit) will include letters of intent to participate for those not already employed by the proposing organization and letters of commitment from proposed key personnel.

The applicant must provide resumes and letters of intent for key personnel. The applicant must provide resumes for other non-key senior program staff. It is not required to submit resumes from the up to ten non-US based experts, but will do so upon request from USAID.

Applicants may propose and justify an alternative staffing structure, including a different configuration of key staff positions, if they feel that a different structure is more conducive to achieving the desired project results.

3. Management Plan (Suggested 7 pages)

The Applicant shall propose a management plan, including an organizational chart, which addresses the breadth, depth and technical areas required to successfully undertake FANTA III. Given the technical scope and global focus of this activity, it is anticipated the applicant would be a partnership of organizations or groups, each bringing a particular set of program experience and technical expertise that would contribute to successfully undertaking the activities within this RFA.

The Applicant's management plan should be consistent with the project's technical complexity, the range of USAID and external stakeholders potentially to be involved, the global reach, and application of the state-of-the art in food and nutrition programming. In addition, the management plan needs to be efficient in responding to budgetary constraints and emphasize cost effectiveness.

The management plan should also address how the applicant proposes to facilitate a continuation of field-based and research-focused activities under FANTA-2.

As such, the management plan must include the following:

- A. Organizational chart with the roles and responsibilities and lines of authority and reporting within FANTA-III, including both technical and administrative.

A description of meaningful cost savings and cost efficiency measures on both the administrative and programmatic elements of the proposed program. USAID is open to creative solutions for cost efficiencies and will evaluate the management plan on the degree to which the applicant demonstrates their commitment to these efforts and provides concrete and specific examples.

An accompanying management plan narrative that:

- B. Merit and feasibility of the presented approach for meeting both country and global technical needs
 - Organizational chart and supporting management plan narrative clearly address the depth and technical skills necessary to successfully implement the proposed technical approach.

- Management plan clearly describes the applicant and sub-awardees capacity and commitment to continuing on-going FANTA-II priority activities and carry them forward to completion(see FANTA publications at <http://dec.usaid.gov>)
- Management plan that presents appropriate lines of authority for managing all staff, including partners and sub-Awardees, includes clear and feasible roles for any proposed sub awardees, and outlines a clear approach to managing technical and financial reporting, project logistics, and procurement issues while taking advantage of each organization’s strength, emphasizing cost effectiveness, and avoiding duplication of effort.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (Suggested 3 pages)

Applicants shall:

- Provide an illustrative performance monitoring plan for FANTA-III that includes the indicators that will be used for the project objective and two IRs. This may be included as an annex.
- Identify the data collection method, type, and source of information to be collected.
- Describe how USAID reporting requirements will be met.

Evaluation should be designed and implemented at the beginning of the project and continue throughout the project. The plan should be consistent with USAID’s Evaluation Policy (<http://www.usaid.gov/evaluation/>).

5. Institutional Capability (Suggested 6 pages)

The Applicant shall:

- Demonstrate at least 8-10 years of institutional experience implementing nutrition and/or food security-related programming and any proposed partners or sub-Awardees
- Identify at least 10 countries where the applicant or any proposed partners or sub-Awardees has provided technical assistance to nutrition programs
- Identify at least 10 countries where the applicant or any proposed partners or sub-Awardees has operational programming and staff in health or food security technical areas
- Demonstrate the institutional capacity of the Applicant and any proposed partners or sub-Awardees in the nutrition technical areas relevant to achieving the goal and objectives of FANTA III as outlined in Section D.

6. Past Performance (note: past performance materials shall be provided in an annex and will not count toward the 35 page limit)

1) Organizational Past Performance

This section of the application provides information about the Applicant’s past performance record in implementing similar programs.

As an appendix, please complete **Past Performance Report – Short Form (Annex D)** for three (3) past performance references which describe any contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements which the Applicant organization, as well as any sub-recipients or partners has implemented involving similar or related programs over the past three years. Short forms shall be submitted for any proposed

subawardees proposed. Please include the following information: name and address of the organization for which the work was performed; name and current telephone number and email address of responsible representative from the organization for which the work was performed; contract/grant name and number (if any), the period of contract/grant performance, annual amount received for each of the last three years and beginning and end dates; brief description of the project/assistance activity and key project accomplishments / results achieved to date.

We request that the Applicant alert the contacts that their names have been submitted and that they are authorized to provide past performance information when requested.

Please note that USAID reserves the right to obtain past performance information from other sources including those not named in this application. If the applicant does not have any relevant past performance for themselves or subcontractors must indicate in their application or considered unresponsive and will not be considered for award.

2) Key Personnel Past Performance

Each of the five key personnel shall provide three references. We request that the Applicant alert the contacts that their names have been submitted and that they are authorized to provide past performance information when requested. Please note that USAID reserves the right to obtain past performance information from other sources including those not named in this application. If the applicant does not have any relevant past performance it must indicate in their application or considered unresponsive and will not be considered for award.

Reference should include name, telephone number, and email address for contact. The reference should include a description of the work performed by the key personnel that relates to work that person will perform under this agreement.

D. Cost/Business Application Guidelines

USAID will evaluate the cost/business application separately for cost effectiveness and realism. While there is no page limit for this portion, Applicants are encouraged to be as concise as possible, but still provide the necessary details. USAID will require the following detailed information from the Applicant organization:

The cost/business application must be completely separate from the technical application. The application must be submitted using SF-424 and SF 424A "Application for Federal Assistance." The form is downloadable on USAID's website at:

http://www.usaid.gov/procurement_bus_opp/procurement/forms/.

The cost/business application should be for a period of 5 years using the budget format shown in the SF-424A. The anticipated amount of the award is \$200 million. In addition to hard copies, technical and Cost/Business applications must be submitted on separate CDs in MS Word 2000 or latest versions. Graphic/tables must be formatted in Microsoft Excel 2000 (or later versions).

If the Applicant has established a consortium or another legal relationship among its partners, the Cost/Business application must include a copy of the document establishing the parameters of the legal relationship between the parties. The agreement should include a full discussion of the relationship between the Applicants including identification of the Applicant with which USAID will treat for purposes of Agreement administration, identity of the Applicant which will have accounting responsibility, how Agreement effort will be allocated and the express agreement of the principals thereto to be held jointly and severally liable for the acts or omissions of the other.

New Recipients: Applicants that have never received a grant, cooperative agreement or contract from the U.S. Government are required to submit a copy of their accounting manual and procurement/management handbook relating to personnel and travel policies.

To support the proposed costs, please provide detailed budget notes/narrative for all costs that explain how the costs were derived. The following provides guidance on what is needed.

1. The breakdown of all costs associated with the program.
2. The breakdown of all costs according to each partner organization involved in the program.
3. The costs associated with external, expatriate technical assistance and those associated with local in-country technical assistance.
4. The breakdown of any financial and in-kind contributions of all organizations involved in implementing this program.
5. Potential contributions of non-USAID or private commercial donors to this program.
6. Procurement plan for commodities, goods and services (if applicable).

The cost application should contain the following budget categories:

1. Salary and Wages: Direct salaries and wages should be proposed in accordance with the Applicant's personnel policies; USAID requires that salary daily rates are calculated 260 working days per year. Budget narrative should explain how daily rates are calculated.
2. Fringe Benefits: If the Applicant has a fringe benefit rate that has been approved by an agency of the U.S. Government, such rate should be used and evidence of its approval should be provided. If a fringe benefit rate has not been so approved, the application should propose a rate and explain how the rate was determined. If the latter is used, the narrative must include a detailed breakdown comprised of all items of fringe benefits (e.g., unemployment insurance, workers compensation, health and life insurance, retirement, FICA, etc.) and the costs of each, expressed in dollars and as a percentage of salaries;
3. Travel and Transportation: The application should indicate the number of trips, domestic, regional, and international, and the estimated costs. Specify the origin and destination for proposed trips, duration of travel, and number of individuals traveling. Per Diem should be based on the Applicant's normal travel policies;
4. Equipment: Estimated types of equipment (i.e., model #, cost per unit, quantity);

- 5. Supplies: Supply items related to this activity (e.g., specimen collection, sample transport, administrative);
 - 6. Contractual: Any goods and services being procured through a contract mechanism;
 - 7. Other Direct Costs: This includes communications, report preparation costs, passports, visas, medical exams and inoculations, insurance (other than insurance included in the Applicant’s fringe benefits), equipment, office rent, etc. The narrative should provide a breakdown and support for all other direct costs;
 - 8. Indirect Costs: The Applicant should support the proposed indirect cost rate with a letter from a cognizant U.S. Government audit agency, a Negotiated Indirect Cost Agreement (NICRA), or with sufficient information for USAID to determine the reasonableness of the rates (For example, a breakdown of labor bases and overhead pools, the method of determining the rate, etc.).
- E. Certifications and Representation
- F. Ceiling on Indirect Cost Rates And Final Reimbursement for Indirect Costs- Contractor shall propose a ceiling on their Indirect Costs.

(a) Reimbursement for indirect costs shall be at the lower of the negotiated final or predetermined rates, or the following ceiling rates:

Description	Rate	Base	Type	Period
	%	1/	1/	1/
	%	2/	2/	2/

1/Base of Application:

Type of Rate:

Period:

Source:

2/Base of Application:

Type of Rate:

Period:

Source:

- (b) The Government shall not be obligated to pay any additional amount should the final indirect cost rates exceed the negotiated ceiling rates. If the final indirect cost rates are less than the negotiated ceiling rates, the negotiated rates shall be reduced to conform to the lower rates.

- (c) This advance understanding shall not change any monetary ceiling, obligation, or specific cost allowance or disallowance. Any changes in classifying or allocating indirect costs require the prior written approval of the Contracting Officer.

- (d) The contractor will make no change in its established method of classifying or allocating indirect costs without the prior written approval of the Agreement Officer and OAA/CAS.

- (e) This advance understanding shall not change any monetary ceiling, cost limitation, or obligation established in the contract.

- (f) The distribution base for establishment of final overhead rates is ----- . The distribution base for establishment of final G&A rates is ----- .

NOTE: The AO shall determine a fair and reasonable indirect cost rate ceiling for each task order awarded to a small business that does not have an established NICRA.

G.

All Certifications and Representations found under Annex B must be completed and submitted with the cost application.

*****END SECTION IV*****

SECTION V. EVALUATION CRITERIA

A. Technical Evaluation Criteria

The technical applications will be evaluated in accordance with the Technical Evaluation Criteria set forth below. The criteria are presented with relative weights (totaling 100 points) so Applicants will know which areas require emphasis in applications. The sub-criteria are weighted equally for Technical Understanding and Approach, Key Personnel Qualifications and Staffing Capabilities, Management Plan, and Institutional Capability and these sections will be scored as a whole. Past Performance sub-criteria will be weighted in descending order of importance giving more weight to key personnel past performance (10 out of 15 points) and Organizational Past Performance (5 out of 15 points).

Costs will be evaluated for general reasonableness, allowability, and allocability. Awards will be made to responsible Applicants whose application offers the greatest value to the U.S. Government, technical, cost and other factors considered. In evaluating the different components of the technical proposals, the U.S. Government will examine the overall merit and feasibility of the applications, as well as examine specific criteria relevant to each component, as elaborated below. Applications will be evaluated on their technical criteria, however, USAID intends to award to the applicant which provides the greatest value to the Government. Applications who are most technically acceptable will be considered for award. However, some other determining factors could be used to determine the greatest value to the Government ie. cost/business application, evidence for program impact, cost efficiency and cost savings methods, utilization of small businesses.

Each technical application submitted in response to this RFA will be evaluated in relation to the evaluation factors set forth in this solicitation and which have been tailored to the requirements of this RFA. These criteria: a) identify the significant areas that Applicants should address in their applications; and b) serve as the standard against which all applications will be evaluated.

1. Technical Understanding and Approach (25 points).

- Technical approach reflects strong understanding of USAID, current global initiatives, particularly FTF and GHI, the global nutrition environment, the FANTA-III results framework, and the ability to synthesize and apply the lessons learned from other program experiences.
- Applicants approach demonstrates state-of-the-art and evidence-based interventions and approaches that allow a rapid, effective start-up of program activities and continuation of critical research investments and efficient contracting mechanisms
- Applicant demonstrates technical understanding and effective approaches to interact with a number of Operating Units among USAID to achieve the results described in the RFA.
- Applicant prioritizes activities, demonstrates how principal activities under each IR will be implemented and how key approaches maximize opportunities to meet the overall project objective.
- Gender issues and constraints are considered throughout the program description and presents specific approaches to tackle gender-related constraints in nutrition programming.

2. Key Personnel Qualifications and Staffing Capabilities (20 points)

- The FIVE key personnel meet the requirements described in Section IV.C.2
- Proposed personnel, including other senior program staff, have the requisite skills and experiences, as well as clearly defined duties to enable the Applicant to effectively implement the project.

3. Management Plan (25 points)

- Organizational chart and supporting management plan meet or exceeds the ability to successfully implement the proposed technical approach.
- Applicant demonstrates cost savings and cost efficiency, both administrative and programmatic, and has included concrete examples of what cost efficiency measures will be implemented
- Degree to which the applicant and sub-awardees have the ability continue on-going FANTA-II priority activities
- Management plan has defined lines of authority for managing all staff, including partners and sub-awardees, includes clear and feasible roles for any proposed sub awardees, and outlines a clear approach to managing technical and financial reporting, project logistics, and procurement issues while taking advantage of each organization's strength, emphasizing cost effectiveness, and avoiding duplication of effort.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (3 points)

- Applicant presented appropriate performance indicators that describe data collection method, type, information source, as well as the anticipated outcomes.
- M&E plan details a clear approach for how the Applicant will meet USAID reporting requirements.

5. Institutional Capability (12 points)

- Applicant and/or proposed sub-partners demonstrate at least 8-10years of institutional experience implementing nutrition and/or food security-related programming
- Applicant demonstrates the ability to provide TA and to have operational programming in countries
- Institutional capacity of the Applicant and any proposed partners or sub-Awardees in the nutrition technical areas are relevant to achieving the goal and objectives of FANTA III as outlined in Section I..

-

6. Past Performance (15 points)

- Key Personnel past performance information obtained demonstrates successful past performance implementing previous work.(10 points)
- Organizational past performance information obtained demonstrates successful past performance implementing previous work similar in scope to FANTA-III.(5 points)

B. Acceptability of Proposed Non-Price Terms and Conditions

An offer is acceptable when it manifests the Applicant's assent, without exception, to the terms and conditions of the RFA, including attachments, and provides a complete and responsive proposal without taking exception to the terms and conditions of the RFA. If an Applicant takes exception to any of the terms and conditions of the RFA, then USAID will consider its offer to be unacceptable. Applicants wishing to take exception to the terms and conditions stated within this RFA are strongly encouraged to contact the Agreement Officer before doing so. USAID reserves the right to change the terms and conditions of the RFA by amendment at any time prior to the source selection decision.

[END SECTION V]

SECTION VI. AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

A. Authority to Obligate the Government

The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. No costs chargeable to the proposed Agreement may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed Agreement or a specific, written authorization from the Agreement Officer.

B. Branding & Marking Requirements

BRANDING & MARKING STRATEGY - ASSISTANCE (December 2005)

(a) Definitions

Branding Strategy means a strategy that is submitted at the specific request of a USAID Agreement Officer by an Apparently Successful Applicant after evaluation of an application for USAID funding, describing how the program, project, or activity is named and positioned, and how it is promoted and communicated to beneficiaries and host country citizens. It identifies all donors and explains how they will be acknowledged.

Apparently Successful Applicant(s) means the Applicant(s) for USAID funding recommended for an award after evaluation, but who has not yet been awarded a grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance award by the Agreement Officer.

The Agreement Officer will request that the Apparently Successful Applicants submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan. Apparently, Successful Applicant status confers no right and constitutes no USAID commitment to an award. USAID Identity (Identity) means the official marking for the Agency, comprised of the USAID logo and new brand mark, which clearly communicates that our assistance is from the American people. The USAID Identity is available on the USAID website and is provided without royalty, license, or other fee to recipients of USAID-funded grants or cooperative agreements or other assistance awards or sub-awards.

(b) Submission

The Apparently Successful Applicant, upon request of the Agreement Officer, will submit and negotiate a Branding Strategy. The Branding Strategy will be included in and made a part of the resulting grant or cooperative agreement. The Branding Strategy will be negotiated within the time that the Agreement Officer specifies. Failure to submit and negotiate a Branding Strategy will make the Applicant ineligible for award of a grant or cooperative agreement. The Apparently Successful Applicant must include all estimated costs associated with branding and marking USAID programs, such as plaques, stickers, banners, press events and materials, and the like.

(c) Submission Requirements

At a minimum, the Apparently Successful Applicant's Branding Strategy will address the following:

(1) Positioning

What is the intended name of this program, project, or activity?

Guidelines: USAID prefers to have the USAID Identity included as part of the program or project name, such as a "title sponsor," if possible and appropriate. It is acceptable to "co-brand" the title with USAID's and the Apparently Successful Applicant's identities. For example: "The USAID and [Apparently Successful Applicant] Health Center."

If it would be inappropriate or is not possible to "brand" the project this way, such as when rehabilitating a structure that already exists or if there are multiple donors, please explain and indicate how you intend to showcase USAID's involvement in publicizing the program or project. For example: School #123, rehabilitated by USAID and [Apparently Successful Applicant]/ [other donors].

Note: the Agency prefers "made possible by (or with) the generous support of the American People" next to the USAID Identity in acknowledging our contribution, instead of the phrase "funded by." USAID prefers local language translations.

Will a program logo be developed and used consistently to identify this program? If yes, please attach a copy of the proposed program logo.

Note: USAID prefers to fund projects that do NOT have a separate logo or identity that competes with the USAID Identity.

(2) Program Communications and Publicity

Who are the primary and secondary audiences for this project or program?

Guidelines: Please include direct beneficiaries and any special target segments or influencers. For Example: Primary audience: schoolgirls age 8-12, Secondary audience: teachers and parents—specifically mothers.

What communications or program materials will be used to explain or market the program to beneficiaries?

Guidelines: These include training materials, posters, pamphlets, Public Service Announcements, billboards, websites, and so forth.

What is the main program message(s)?

Guidelines: For example: "Be tested for HIV-AIDS" or "Have your child inoculated." Please indicate if you also plan to incorporate USAID's primary message – this aid is "from the American people" – into the narrative of program materials. This is optional; however, marking with the USAID Identity is required.

Will the recipient announce and promote publicly this program or project to host country citizens? If yes, what press and promotional activities are planned?

Guidelines: These may include media releases, press conferences, public events, and so forth. Note: incorporating the message, "USAID from the American People," and the USAID Identity is required.

Please provide any additional ideas about how to increase awareness that the American people support this project or program.

Guidelines: One of our goals is to ensure that both beneficiaries and host-country citizens know that the aid the Agency is providing is "from the American people." Please provide any initial ideas on how to further this goal.

(3) Acknowledgements

Will there be any direct involvement from a host-country government ministry? If yes, please indicate which one or ones. Will the recipient acknowledge the ministry as an additional co-sponsor?

Note: it is perfectly acceptable and often encouraged for USAID to "co-brand" programs with government ministries.

Please indicate if there are any other groups whose logo or identity the recipient will use on program materials and related communications.

Guidelines: Please indicate if they are also a donor or why they will be visibly acknowledged, and if they will receive the same prominence as USAID.

(d) Award Criteria

The Agreement Officer will review the Branding Strategy for adequacy, ensuring that it contains the required information on naming and positioning the USAID-funded program, project, or activity, and promoting and communicating it to cooperating country beneficiaries and citizens. The Agreement Officer also will evaluate this information to ensure that it is consistent with the stated objectives of the award; with the Apparently Successful Applicant's project, activity, or program performance plan; and with the regulatory requirements set out in 22 CFR 226.91. The Agreement Officer may obtain advice and recommendations from technical experts while performing the evaluation.

MARKING PLAN – ASSISTANCE (December 2005)

(a) Definitions

Marking Plan means a plan that the Apparently Successful Applicant submits at the specific request of a USAID Agreement Officer after evaluation of an application for USAID funding, detailing the public communications, commodities, and program materials and other items that will visibly bear the USAID Identity. Recipients may request approval of Presumptive Exceptions to marking requirements in the Marking Plan.

Apparently Successful Applicant(s) means the Applicant(s) for USAID funding recommended for an award after evaluation, but who has not yet been awarded a grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance award by the Agreement Officer. The Agreement Officer will request that Apparently Successful Applicants submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan. Apparently, Successful Applicant status confers no right and constitutes no USAID commitment to an award, which the Agreement Officer must still obligate.

USAID Identity (Identity) means the official marking for the Agency, comprised of the USAID logo and new brand mark, which clearly communicates that our assistance is from the American people. The USAID Identity is available on the USAID website and USAID provides it without royalty, license, or other fee to recipients of USAID funded grants, cooperative agreements, or other assistance awards or sub-awards.

A. Presumptive Exception exempts the Applicant from the general marking requirements for a particular USAID-funded public communication, commodity, program material or other deliverable, or a category of USAID-funded public communications, commodities, program materials or other deliverables that would otherwise be required to visibly bear the USAID Identity. The Presumptive Exceptions are:

Presumptive Exception (i). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of a program or materials where independence or neutrality is an inherent aspect of the program and materials, such as election monitoring or ballots, and voter information literature; political party support or public policy advocacy or reform; independent media, such as television and radio broadcasts, newspaper articles and editorials; and public service announcements or public opinion polls and surveys (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(1)).

Presumptive Exception (ii). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would diminish the credibility of audits, reports, analyses, studies, or policy recommendations whose data or findings must be seen as independent (22 C.F.R.226.91(h)(2)).

Presumptive Exception (iii). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would undercut host-country government “ownership” of constitutions, laws, regulations, policies, studies, assessments, reports, publications, surveys or audits, public service announcements, or other communications better positioned as “by” or “from” a cooperating country ministry or government official (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(3)).

Presumptive Exception (iv). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would impair the functionality of an item, such as sterilized equipment or spare parts (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(4)).

Presumptive Exception (v). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would incur substantial costs or be impractical, such as items too small or otherwise unsuited for individual marking, such as food in bulk (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(5)).

Presumptive Exception (vi). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would offend local cultural or social norms, or be considered inappropriate on such items as condoms, toilets, bed pans, or similar commodities (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(6)).

Presumptive Exception (vii). USAID marking requirements may not apply if they would conflict with international law (22 C.F.R. 226.91(h)(7)).

(b) Submission

The Apparently Successful Applicant, upon the request of the Agreement Officer, will submit and negotiate a Marking Plan that addresses the details of the public communications, commodities, program materials that will visibly bear the USAID Identity. The marking plan will be customized for the particular program, project, or activity under the resultant grant or cooperative agreement. The plan will be included in and made a part of the resulting grant or cooperative agreement. USAID and the Apparently Successful Applicant will negotiate the Marking Plan within the time specified by the Agreement Officer. Failure to submit and negotiate a Marking Plan will make the Applicant ineligible for award of a grant or cooperative agreement.

(c) Submission Requirements

The Marking Plan will include the following:

(1) A description of the public communications, commodities, and program materials that the recipient will produce as a part of the grant or cooperative agreement and which will visibly bear the USAID Identity. These include:

(i) program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects or other programs, projects, or activities that are physical in nature;

(ii) technical assistance, studies, reports, papers, publications, audiovisual productions, public service announcements, Web sites/Internet activities and other promotional, informational, media, or communications products funded by USAID;

(iii) events financed by USAID, such as training courses, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, fairs, workshops, press conferences, and other public activities; and

(iv) all commodities financed by USAID, including commodities or equipment provided under humanitarian assistance or disaster relief programs, and all other equipment, supplies and other materials funded by USAID, and their export packaging.

(2) A table specifying:

(i) the program deliverables that the recipient will mark with the USAID Identity,

(ii) the type of marking and what materials the Applicant will be used to mark the program deliverables with the USAID Identity, and

(iii) when in the performance period the Applicant will mark the program deliverables, and where the Applicant will place the marking.

(3) A table specifying:

- (i) what program deliverables will not be marked with the USAID Identity, and
- (ii) the rationale for not marking these program deliverables.

(d) Presumptive Exceptions

(1) The Apparently Successful Applicant may request a Presumptive Exception as part of the overall Marking Plan submission. To request a Presumptive Exception, the Apparently Successful Applicant must identify which Presumptive Exception applies, and state why, in light of the Apparently Successful Applicant's application and in the context of the program description or program statement in the USAID Request For Application or Annual Program Statement, marking requirements should not be required.

(2) Specific guidelines for addressing each Presumptive Exception are:

(i) For Presumptive Exception (i), identify the USAID Strategic Objective, Interim Result, or program goal furthered by an appearance of neutrality, or state why the program, project, activity, commodity, or communication is 'intrinsically neutral.' Identify, by category or deliverable item, examples of program materials funded under the award for which you are seeking an exception.

(ii) For Presumptive Exception (ii), state what data, studies, or other deliverables will be produced under the USAID funded award, and explain why the data, studies, or deliverables must be seen as credible.

(iii) For Presumptive Exception (iii), identify the item or media product produced under the USAID funded award, and explain why each item or product, or category of item and product, is better positioned as an item or product produced by the cooperating country government.

(iv) For Presumptive Exception (iv), identify the item or commodity to be marked, or categories of items or commodities, and explain how marking would impair the item's or commodity's functionality.

(v) For Presumptive Exception (v), explain why marking would not be cost beneficial or practical.

(vi) For Presumptive Exception (vi), identify the relevant cultural or social norm, and explain why marking would violate that norm or otherwise be inappropriate.

(vii) For Presumptive Exception (vii), identify the applicable international law violated by marking.

(3) The Agreement Officer will review the request for adequacy and reasonableness. In consultation with the Agreement Officer's Technical Representative and other agency personnel as necessary, the Agreement Officer will approve or disapprove the requested Presumptive Exception. Approved exceptions will be made part of the approved Marking Plan, and will apply for the term of the award, unless provided otherwise.

(e) Award Criteria

The Agreement Officer will review the Marking Plan for adequacy and reasonableness, ensuring that it contains sufficient detail and information concerning public communications, commodities, and

program materials that will visibly bear the USAID Identity. The Agreement Officer will evaluate the plan to ensure that it is consistent with the stated objectives of the award; with the Applicant's actual project, activity, or program performance plan; and with the regulatory requirements of 22 C.F.R.

226.91. The Agreement Officer will approve or disapprove any requested Presumptive Exceptions (see paragraph (d)) on the basis of adequacy and reasonableness. The Agreement Officer may obtain advice and recommendations from technical experts while performing the evaluation.

MARKING UNDER ASSISTANCE INSTRUMENTS (DEC 2005)

(a) Definitions

Commodities mean any material, article, supply, goods or equipment, excluding recipient offices, vehicles, and non-deliverable items for recipient's internal use, in administration of the USAID funded grant, cooperative agreement, or other agreement or sub-agreement.

Principal Officer means the most senior officer in a USAID Operating Unit in the field, e.g., USAID Mission Director or USAID Representative. For global programs managed from Washington but executed across many countries, such as disaster relief and assistance to internally displaced persons, humanitarian emergencies or immediate post conflict and political crisis response, the cognizant Principal Officer may be an Office Director, for example, the Directors of USAID/W/Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance and Office of Transition Initiatives. For non-presence countries, the cognizant Principal Officer is the Senior USAID officer in a regional USAID Operating Unit responsible for the non-presence country, or in the absence of such a responsible operating unit, the Principal U.S. Diplomatic Officer in the non-presence country exercising delegated authority from USAID.

Programs mean an organized set of activities and allocation of resources directed toward a common purpose, objective, or goal undertaken or proposed by an organization to carry out the responsibilities assigned to it.

Public communications are documents and messages intended for distribution to audiences external to the recipient's organization. They include, but are not limited to, correspondence, publications, studies, reports, audio visual productions, and other informational products; applications, forms, press and promotional materials used in connection with USAID funded programs, projects or activities, including signage and plaques; Web sites/Internet activities; and events such as training courses, conferences, seminars, press conferences and so forth.

Subrecipient means any person or government (including cooperating multi-lateral agency or country government) department, agency, establishment, or for profit or nonprofit organization that receives a USAID sub-award, as defined in 22 C.F.R. 226.2.

Technical Assistance means the provision of funds, goods, services, or other foreign assistance, such as loan guarantees or food for work, to developing countries and other USAID recipients, and through such recipients to sub recipients, in direct support of a development objective – as opposed to the internal management of the foreign assistance program.

USAID Identity (Identity) means the official marking for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), comprised of the USAID logo or seal and new brand mark, with the tagline that clearly communicates that our assistance is “from the American people.” The USAID Identity is available on the USAID website at www.usaid.gov/branding and USAID provides it without royalty, license, or other fee to recipients of USAID-funded grants, or cooperative agreements, or other assistance awards

(b) Marking of Program Deliverables

(1) All recipients must mark appropriately all overseas programs, projects, activities, public communications, and commodities partially or fully funded by a USAID grant or cooperative agreement or other assistance award or sub award with the USAID Identity, of a size and prominence equivalent to or greater than the recipient’s, other donor’s, or any other third party’s identity or logo.

(2) The Recipient will mark all program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects (for example, roads, bridges, buildings) or other programs, projects, or activities that are physical in nature (for example, agriculture, forestry, water management) with the USAID Identity. The Recipient should erect temporary signs or plaques early in the construction or implementation phase. When construction or implementation is complete, the Recipient must install a permanent, durable sign, plaque or other marking.

(3) The Recipient will mark technical assistance, studies, reports, papers, publications, audio-visual productions, public service announcements, Web sites/Internet activities and other promotional, informational, media, or communications products funded by USAID with the USAID Identity.

(4) The Recipient will appropriately mark events financed by USAID, such as training courses, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, fairs, workshops, press conferences and other public activities, with the USAID Identity. Unless directly prohibited and as appropriate to the surroundings, recipients should display additional materials, such as signs and banners, with the USAID Identity. In circumstances in which the USAID Identity cannot be displayed visually, the recipient is encouraged otherwise to acknowledge USAID and the American people’s support.

(5) The Recipient will mark all commodities financed by USAID, including commodities or equipment provided under humanitarian assistance or disaster relief programs, and all other equipment, supplies, and other materials funded by USAID, and their export packaging with the USAID Identity.

(6) The Agreement Officer may require the USAID Identity to be larger and more prominent if it is the majority donor, or to require that a cooperating country government’s identity be larger and more prominent if circumstances warrant, and as appropriate depending on the audience, program goals, and materials produced.

(7) The Agreement Officer may require marking with the USAID Identity in the event that the recipient does not choose to mark with its own identity or logo.

(8) The Agreement Officer may require a pre-production review of USAID funded public communications and program materials for compliance with the approved Marking Plan.

(9) Sub recipients. To ensure that the marking requirements “flow down” to sub recipients of sub awards, recipients of USAID funded grants and cooperative agreements or other assistance awards will include the USAID-approved marking provision in any USAID funded sub award, as follows:

“As a condition of receipt of this sub award, marking with the USAID Identity of a size and prominence equivalent to or greater than the recipient’s, sub recipient’s, other donor’s or third party’s is required. In the event the recipient chooses not to require marking with its own identity or logo by the sub recipient, USAID may, at its discretion, require marking by the sub recipient with the USAID Identity.”

(10) Any ‘public communications’, as defined in 22 C.F.R. 226.2, funded by USAID, in which the content has not been approved by USAID, must contain the following disclaimer:

“This study/report/audio/visual/other information/media product (specify) is made possible by the generous support of the American people through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The contents are the responsibility of [insert recipient name] and do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.”

(11) The recipient will provide the Agreement Officer’s Technical Representative (AOTR) or other USAID personnel designated in the grant or cooperative agreement with two copies of all program and communications materials produced under the award. In addition, the recipient will submit one electronic or one hard copy of all final documents to USAID’s Development Experience Clearinghouse.

(c) Implementation of marking requirements

(1) When the grant or cooperative agreement contains an approved Marking Plan, the recipient will implement the requirements of this provision following the approved Marking Plan.

(2) When the grant or cooperative agreement does not contain an approved Marking Plan, the recipient will propose and submit a plan for implementing the requirements of this provision within 45 days after the effective date of this provision. The plan will include:

(i) a description of the program deliverables specified in paragraph (b) of this provision that the recipient will produce as a part of the grant or cooperative agreement and which will visibly bear the USAID Identity.

(ii) the type of marking and what materials the Applicant uses to mark the program deliverables with the USAID Identity,

(iii) when in the performance period the Applicant will mark the program deliverables, and where the Applicant will place the marking,

(3) The recipient may request program deliverables not be marked with the USAID Identity by identifying the program deliverables and providing a rationale for not marking these program deliverables. Program deliverables may be exempted from USAID marking requirements when:

(i) USAID marking requirements would compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of a program or materials where independence or neutrality is an inherent aspect of the program and materials;

(ii) USAID marking requirements would diminish the credibility of audits, reports, analyses, studies, or policy recommendations whose data or findings must be seen as independent;

(iii) USAID marking requirements would undercut host-country government “ownership” of constitutions, laws, regulations, policies, studies, assessments, reports, publications, surveys or audits, public service announcements, or other communications better positioned as “by” or “from” a cooperating country ministry or government official;

(iv) USAID marking requirements would impair the functionality of an item;

(v) USAID marking requirements would incur substantial costs or be impractical;

(vi) USAID marking requirements would offend local cultural or social norms, or be considered inappropriate;

(vii) USAID marking requirements would conflict with international law.

(4) The proposed plan for implementing the requirements of this provision, including any proposed exemptions, will be negotiated within the time specified by the Agreement Officer after receipt of the proposed plan. Failure to negotiate an approved plan with the time specified by the Agreement Officer may be considered as noncompliance with the requirements is provision.

(d) Waivers

(1) The recipient may request a waiver of the Marking Plan or of the marking requirements of this provision, in whole or in part, for each program, project, activity, public communication or commodity, or, in exceptional circumstances, for a region or country, when USAID required marking would pose compelling political, safety, or security concerns, or when marking would have an adverse impact in the cooperating country. The recipient will submit the request through the Agreement Officer’s Technical Representative. The Principal Officer is responsible for approvals or disapprovals of waiver requests.

(2) The request will describe the compelling political, safety, security concerns, or adverse impact that require a waiver, detail the circumstances and rationale for the waiver, detail the specific requirements to be waived, the specific portion of the Marking Plan to be waived, or specific marking to be waived, and include a description of how program materials will be marked (if at all) if the USAID Identity is removed. The request should also provide a rationale for any use of recipient’s own identity/logo or that of a third party on materials that will be subject to the waiver.

(3) Approved waivers are not limited in duration but are subject to Principal Officer review at any time, due to changed circumstances.

(4) Approved waivers “flow down” to recipients of sub-awards unless specified otherwise. The waiver may also include the removal of USAID markings already affixed, if circumstances warrant.

(5) Determinations regarding waiver requests are subject to appeal to the Principal Officer’s cognizant Assistant Administrator. The recipient may appeal by submitting a written request to reconsider the Principal Officer’s waiver determination to the cognizant Assistant Administrator.

(e) Non-retroactivity.

The requirements of this provision do not apply to any materials, events, or commodities produced prior to January 2, 2006. The requirements of this provision do not apply to program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects (for example, roads, bridges, buildings) or other programs, projects, or activities that are physical in nature (for example, agriculture, forestry, water management) where the construction and implementation of these are complete prior to January 2, 2006 and the period of the grant does not extend past January 2, 2006.

C. Standard Provisions

The Applicant will be required to adhere to and govern itself under the Standard Provisions for U.S. NGO and Non-U.S. NGOs. Links to these Standard Provisions can be found under Annex C.

*****END SECTION VI*****

SECTION VII – AGENCY CONTACTS

The Applicant may contact the following USAID personnel in writing regarding this RFA:

Primary Point of Contact: Amy Wire

Email: awire@usaid.gov

Alternate Point of Contact: Shanon Krause

Email: skrause@usaid.gov

The Applicant shall refer to Section IV for instructions on submitting questions and applications.

*****END SECTION VII*****

SECTION VIII. OTHER INFORMATION

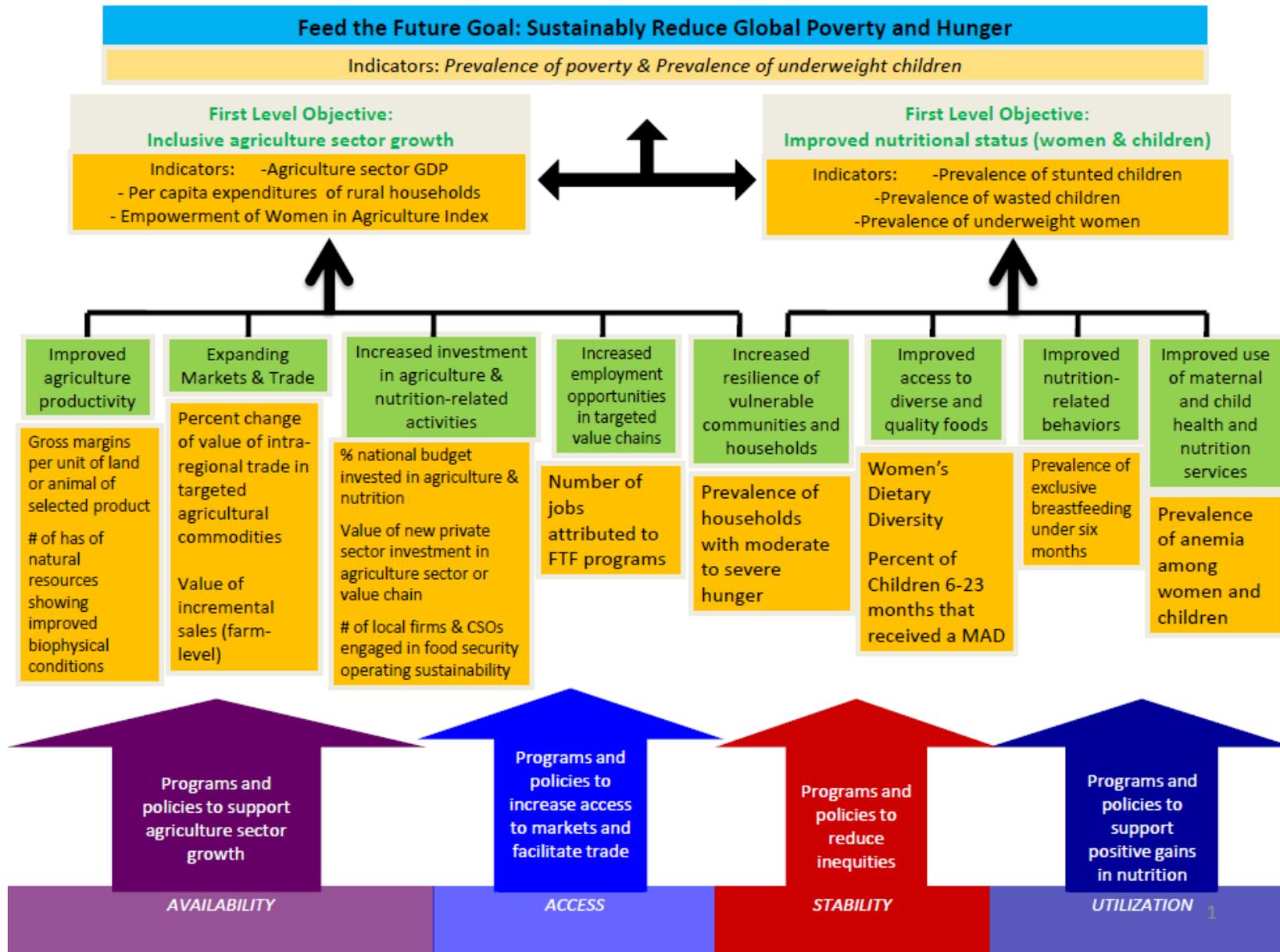
A. USAID Rights and Funding

The Government may (a) reject any or all applications, (b) accept other than the lowest cost application, (c) accept more than one application, (d) accept alternate applications meeting the applicable standards of this RFA, and (e) waive informalities and minor irregularities in the application(s) received.

B. Applicable Regulations and References-See ANNEX C

*****END SECTION VIII*****

ANNEX A: FEED THE FUTURE RESULTS FRAMEWORK



ANNEX B: CERTIFICATIONS, ASSURANCES, AND OTHER STATEMENTS OF THE RECIPIENT (MAY 2006)

The following certifications, assurances and other statements from both U.S. and non-U.S. organizations (except as specified below). The required certifications, assurances and other statements follow:

- a. For U.S. organizations, a signed copy of the mandatory reference, **Assurance of Compliance with Laws and Regulations Governing Nondiscrimination in Federally Assisted Programs**. This certification applies to Non-U.S. organizations if any part of the program will be undertaken in the United States;

- b. A signed copy of the certification and disclosure forms for “Restrictions on Lobbying” (see **22 CFR 227**);

- c. A signed copy of the “Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers” for covered assistance in covered countries is required in its entirety as detailed in **ADS 206.3.10**;

- d. A signed copy of the Certification Regarding Terrorist Funding in its entirety is required by the Internal Mandatory Reference **AAPD 04-14**;

- e. When applicable, a signed copy of “Key Individual Certification Narcotics Offenses and Drug Trafficking” (See **ADS 206**);

- f. When applicable, a signed copy of “Participant Certification Narcotics Offenses and Drug Trafficking” (See **ADS 206**);

- h. **Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants**; and

- i. All Applicants must provide a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number (see **Federal Register Notice Use of a Universal Identifier by Grant Applicants**).

NOTE: The term "Grant" means "Cooperative Agreement".

PART I - CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES

1. ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING NON-DISCRIMINATION IN FEDERALLY ASSISTED PROGRAMS

Note: This certification applies to Non-U.S. organizations if any part of the program will be undertaken in the United States.

(a) The recipient hereby assures that no person in the United States shall, on the bases set forth below, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving financial assistance from USAID, and that with respect to the Cooperative Agreement for which application is being made, it will comply with the requirements of:

(1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352, 42 U.S.C. 2000-d), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(2) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(3) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (Pub. L. 95-478), which prohibits discrimination based on age in the delivery of services and benefits supported with Federal funds;

(4) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681, et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance (whether or not the programs or activities are offered or sponsored by an educational institution); and

(5) USAID regulations implementing the above nondiscrimination laws, set forth in Chapter II of Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) If the recipient is an institution of higher education, the Assurances given herein extend to admission practices and to all other practices relating to the treatment of students or clients of the institution, or relating to the opportunity to participate in the provision of services or other benefits to such individuals, and shall be applicable to the entire institution unless the recipient establishes to the satisfaction of the USAID Administrator that the institution's practices in designated parts or programs of the institution will in no way affect its practices in the program of the institution for which financial assistance is sought, or the beneficiaries of, or participants in, such programs.

(c) This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts, or other Federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the recipient by the Agency, including installment payments after such date on account of applications for Federal financial assistance which was approved before such date. The recipient recognizes and agrees that such Federal financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this Assurance, and that the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this Assurance. This Assurance is binding on the recipient, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this Assurance on behalf of the recipient.

2. CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal Cooperative Agreement, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, United States Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that: If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit

Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

3. PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS FOR COVERED COUNTRIES AND INDIVIDUALS (ADS 206)

USAID reserves the right to terminate this Agreement, to demand a refund or take other appropriate measures if the Grantee is found to have been convicted of a narcotics offense or to have been engaged in drug trafficking as defined in 22 CFR Part 140. The undersigned shall review USAID ADS 206 to determine if any certifications are required for Key Individuals or Covered Participants.

If there are COVERED PARTICIPANTS: USAID reserves the right to terminate assistance to or take other appropriate measures with respect to, any participant approved by USAID who is found to have been convicted of a narcotics offense or to have been engaged in drug trafficking as defined in 22 CFR Part 140.

4. CERTIFICATION REGARDING TERRORIST FINANCING IMPLEMENTING EXECUTIVE ORDER 13224

By signing and submitting this application, the prospective recipient provides the certification set out below:

1. The Recipient, to the best of its current knowledge, did not provide, within the

previous ten years, and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that it does not and will not knowingly provide, material support or resources to any individual or entity that commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated, or participated in terrorist acts, as that term is defined in paragraph 3.

2. The following steps may enable the Recipient to comply with its obligations under paragraph 1:

a. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will verify that the individual or entity does not (i) appear on the master list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons, which list is maintained by the U.S. Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and is available online at OFAC's website : <http://www.treas.gov/offices/eotffc/ofac/sdn/t11sdn.pdf>, or (ii) is not included in any supplementary information concerning prohibited individuals or entities that may be provided by USAID to the Recipient.

b. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient also will verify that the individual or entity has not been designated by the United Nations Security (UNSC) sanctions committee established under UNSC Resolution 1267 (1999) (the "1267 Committee") [individuals and entities linked to the Taliban, Osama bin Laden, or the Al Qaida Organization]. To determine whether there has been a published designation of an individual or entity by the 1267 Committee, the Recipient should refer to the consolidated list available online at the Committee's website: <http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm>.

c. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will consider all information about that individual or entity of which it is aware and all public information that is reasonably available to it or of which it should be aware.

d. The Recipient also will implement reasonable monitoring and oversight procedures to safeguard against assistance being diverted to support terrorist activity.

3. For purposes of this Certification-

a. "Material support and resources" means currency or monetary instruments or

financial securities, financial services, lodging, training, expert advice or assistance, safehouses, false documentation or identification, communications equipment, facilities, weapons, lethal substances, explosives, personnel, transportation, and other physical assets, except medicine or religious materials."

b. "Terrorist act" means-

(i) an act prohibited pursuant to one of the 12 United Nations Conventions and Protocols related to terrorism (see UN terrorism conventions Internet site: <http://untreaty.un.org/English/Terrorism.asp>); or

(ii) an act of premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents; or

(iii) any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.

c. "Entity" means a partnership, association, corporation, or other organization, group or subgroup.

d. References in this Certification to the provision of material support and resources shall not be deemed to include the furnishing of USAID funds or USAID-financed commodities to the ultimate beneficiaries of USAID assistance, such as recipients of food, medical care, micro-

enterprise loans, shelter, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that one or more of these beneficiaries commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.

e. The Recipient's obligations under paragraph 1 are not applicable to the

procurement of goods and/or services by the Recipient that are acquired in the ordinary course of business through contract or purchase, e.g., utilities, rents, office supplies, gasoline, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that a vendor or supplier of such goods and services commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.

This Certification is an express term and condition of any agreement issued as a result of this application, and any violation of it shall be grounds for unilateral termination of the agreement by USAID prior to the end of its term.

5. CERTIFICATION OF RECIPIENT

By signing below the recipient provides certifications and assurances for (1) the Assurance of Compliance with Laws and Regulations Governing Non-Discrimination in Federally Assisted Programs, (2) the Certification Regarding Lobbying, (3) the Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers for Covered Countries and Individuals (ADS 206) and (4) the Certification Regarding Terrorist Financing Implementing Executive Order 13224 above.

RFA/APS No. _____

Application No. _____

Date of Application _____

Name of Recipient _____

Typed Name and Title _____

Signature _____

Date _____

PART II - KEY INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATION NARCOTICS OFFENSES AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

I hereby certify that within the last ten years:

1. I have not been convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, any law or regulation of the United States or any other country concerning narcotic or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances.

2. I am not and have not been an illicit trafficker in any such drug or controlled substance.

3. I am not and have not been a knowing assistor, abettor, conspirator, or colluder with others in the illicit trafficking in any such drug or substance.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

NOTICE:

1. You are required to sign this Certification under the provisions of 22 CFR Part 140, Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers. These regulations were issued by the Department of State and require that certain key individuals of organizations must sign this Certification.

2. If you make a false Certification you are subject to U.S. criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

PART III - PARTICIPANT CERTIFICATION NARCOTICS OFFENSES AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

1. I hereby certify that within the last ten years:

a. I have not been convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, any law or regulation of the United States or any other country concerning narcotic or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances.

b. I am not and have not been an illicit trafficker in any such drug or controlled substance.

c. I am not or have not been a knowing assister, abettor, conspirator, or colluder with others in the illicit trafficking in any such drug or substance.

2. I understand that USAID may terminate my training if it is determined that I engaged in the above conduct during the last ten years or during my USAID training.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

NOTICE:

1. You are required to sign this Certification under the provisions of 22 CFR Part 140, Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers. These regulations were issued by the Department of State and require that certain participants must sign this Certification.

2. If you make a false Certification you are subject to U.S. criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

PART IV - SURVEY ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

All applications must include the Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants as an attachment to the RFA package.

This survey can be found at the following website:

<http://www.usaid.gov/forms/surveyeo.doc>

PART V - OTHER STATEMENTS OF RECIPIENT

1. AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS

The recipient represents that the following persons are authorized to negotiate on its behalf with the Government and to bind the recipient in connection with this application or grant:

Name	Title	Telephone No.	Facsimile No.
------	-------	---------------	---------------

2. TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN)

If the recipient is a U.S. organization, or a foreign organization which has income effectively connected with the conduct of activities in the U.S. or has an office or a place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the U.S., please indicate the recipient's TIN:

TIN: _____

3. DATA UNIVERSAL NUMBERING SYSTEM (DUNS) NUMBER

(a) In the space provided at the end of this provision, the recipient should supply the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number applicable to that name and address. Recipients should take care to report the number that identifies the recipient's name and address exactly as stated in the proposal.

(b) The DUNS is a 9-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet Information Services. If the recipient does not have a DUNS number, the recipient should call Dun and Bradstreet directly at 1-800-333-0505. A DUNS number will be provided immediately by telephone at no charge to the recipient. The recipient should be prepared to provide the following information:

- (1) Recipient's name.

- (2) Recipient's address.
- (3) Recipient's telephone number.
- (4) Line of business.
- (5) Chief executive officer/key manager.
- (6) Date the organization was started.
- (7) Number of people employed by the recipient.
- (8) Company affiliation.

(c) Recipients located outside the United States may obtain the location and phone number of the local Dun and Bradstreet Information Services office from the Internet Home Page at <http://www.dbisna.com/dbis/customer/custlist.htm>. If an offeror is unable to locate a local service center, it may send an e-mail to Dun and Bradstreet at globalinfo@dbisma.com.

The DUNS system is distinct from the Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) system.

DUNS: _____

4. LETTER OF CREDIT (LOC) NUMBER

If the recipient has an existing Letter of Credit (LOC) with USAID, please indicate the LOC number:

LOC: _____

5. PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

(a) Applicability. This applies to the procurement of goods and services planned by the recipient (i.e., contracts, purchase orders, etc.) from a supplier of goods or services for the direct use or benefit of the recipient in conducting the program supported by the grant, and not to assistance provided by the recipient (i.e., a sub-grant or subagreement) to a sub-grantee or subrecipient in support of the sub-grantee's or subrecipient's program. Provision by the recipient of the requested information does not, in and of itself, constitute USAID approval.

(b) Amount of Procurement. Please indicate the total estimated dollar amount of goods and services which the recipient plans to purchase under the grant:

\$ _____

(c) Nonexpendable Property. If the recipient plans to purchase nonexpendable equipment which would require the approval of the Agreement Officer, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types, quantities of each, and estimated unit costs. Nonexpendable equipment for which the Agreement Officer's approval to purchase is required is any article of nonexpendable tangible personal property charged directly to the grant, having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.

TYPE/ DESCRIPTION (Generic)	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED UNIT COST
-----------------------------	----------	---------------------

(d) Source, Origin, and Componentry of Goods. If the recipient plans to purchase any goods/commodities which are not of U.S. source and/or U.S. origin, and/or does not contain at least 50% componentry, which are not at least 50% U.S. source and origin, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each, estimated unit costs of each, and probable source and/or origin, to include the probable source and/or origin of the components if less than 50% U.S. components will be contained in the commodity. "Source" means the country from which a commodity is shipped to the cooperating country or the cooperating country itself if the commodity is located therein at the time of purchase. However, where a commodity is shipped from a free port or bonded warehouse in the form in which received therein, "source" means the country from which the commodity was shipped to the free port or bonded warehouse. Any commodity whose source is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing. The "origin" of a commodity is the country or area in which a

commodity is mined, grown, or produced. A commodity is produced when, through manufacturing, processing, or substantial and major assembling of components, a commercially recognized new commodity results, which is substantially different in basic characteristics or in purpose or utility from its components. Merely packaging various items together for a particular procurement or relabeling items do not constitute production of a commodity. Any commodity whose origin is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing. "Components" are the goods, which go directly into the production of a produced commodity. Any component from a non-Free World country makes the commodity ineligible for USAID financing.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION UNIT COST	QUANTITY COMPONENTS	ESTIMATED GOODS COMPONENTS	PROBABLE GOODS SOURCE	PROBABLE GOODS ORIGIN
(Generic)				

(e) Restricted Goods. If the recipient plans to purchase any restricted goods, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each, estimated unit costs of each, intended use, and probable source and/or origin. Restricted goods are Agricultural Commodities, Motor Vehicles, Pharmaceuticals, Pesticides, Rubber Compounding Chemicals and Plasticizers, Used Equipment, U.S. Government-Owned Excess Property, and Fertilizer.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED	PROBABLE	INTENDED USE
(Generic)	UNIT COST	SOURCE	ORIGIN	

(f) Supplier Nationality. If the recipient plans to purchase any goods or services from suppliers of goods and services whose nationality is not in the U.S., please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each good or service, estimated costs of each, probable nationality of each non-U.S. supplier of each good or service, and the

rationale for purchasing from a non-U.S. supplier. Any supplier whose nationality is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED	PROBABLE SUPPLIER	NATIONALITY
RATIONALE	UNIT COST	(Non-US Only)	for NON-US	
(Generic)				

(g) Proposed Disposition. If the recipient plans to purchase any nonexpendable equipment with a unit acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the proposed disposition of each such item. Generally, the recipient may either retain the property for other uses and make compensation to USAID (computed by applying the percentage of federal participation in the cost of the original program to the current fair market value of the property), or sell the property and reimburse USAID an amount computed by applying to the sales proceeds the percentage of federal participation in the cost of the original program (except that the recipient may deduct from the federal share \$500 or 10% of the proceeds, whichever is greater, for selling and handling expenses), or donate the property to a host country institution, or otherwise dispose of the property as instructed by USAID.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION (Generic)	QUANTITY	ESTIMATED	UNIT COST	PROPOSED
				DISPOSITION

6. PAST PERFORMANCE REFERENCES

On a continuation page, please provide past performance information requested in the RFA.

7. TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

The recipient, by checking the applicable box, represents that -

(a) If the recipient is a U.S. entity, it operates as a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of, an individual, a partnership, a nongovernmental nonprofit organization, a state or local governmental organization, a private college or university, a public college or university, an international organization, or a joint venture; or

(b) If the recipient is a non-U.S. entity, it operates as a corporation organized under the laws of _____ (country), an individual, a partnership, a nongovernmental nonprofit organization, a nongovernmental educational institution, a governmental organization, an international organization, or a joint venture.

8. ESTIMATED COSTS OF COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS

The following are the estimate(s) of the cost of each separate communications product (i.e., any printed material [other than non-color photocopy material], photographic services, or video production services) which is anticipated under the grant. Each estimate must include all the costs associated with preparation and execution of the product. Use a continuation page as necessary.

ANNEX C: REGULATIONS & REFERENCES

C. Applicable Regulations & References

- Mandatory Standard Provisions for U.S., Nongovernmental Recipients
<http://www.usaid.gov/pubs/ads/300/303maa.pdf>
- Mandatory Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Nongovernmental Recipients:
<http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303mab.pdf>
- 22 CFR 226
http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_02/22cfr226_02.html
- OMB Circular A-122
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a122/a122.html>
- OMB Circular A-110
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/circulars/a110/a110.html>
- SF-424 Downloads
http://www.grants.gov/agencies/aapproved_standard_forms.jsp

ANNEX D: PAST PERFORMANCE

Past Performance Report – Short Form

Past Performance Report – Short Form

PERFORMANCE REPORT - SHORT FORM	
PART I: Award Information (to be completed by Prime)	
1.	Name of Awarding Entity:
2.	Award Number:
3.	Award Type:
4.	Award Value (TEC): (if subagreement, subagreement value)
5.	Problems: (if problems encountered on this award, explain corrective action taken)
6.	Contacts: (Name, Telephone Number and E-mail address)
6a.	Agreement/Contract Officer:
6b.	Technical Officer (AOTR/COTR):
6c.	Other:
7.	Recipient:
8.	Title/Brief Description of Product/Service Provided:
9.	Information Provided in Response to RFA/RFP No. :
PART II: Performance Assessment (to be completed by Agency)	
1.	How well Recipient/Contractor performed:
1a.	Quality of product or service, including consistency in meeting goals and targets, and cooperation and effectiveness in fixing problems. Comment:
1b.	Cost control, including forecasting costs as well as accuracy in financial reporting. Comment:
1c.	Timeliness of performance, including adherence to schedules and other time-sensitive project conditions, and effectiveness of home and field office management to make prompt decisions and ensure efficient operation of tasks. Comment:
1d.	Customer satisfaction, including satisfactory business relationship to clients, initiation and management of several complex activities simultaneously, coordination among subawardees and developing country partners, prompt and satisfactory correction of problems, and cooperative attitude in fixing problems. Comment:

<p>1e. Effectiveness of key personnel including: effectiveness and appropriateness of personnel for the job; and prompt and satisfactory changes in personnel when problems with clients where identified. Comment:</p>
<p>2. Specify instances of good or poor performance, especially in the most critical areas. Comment:</p>
<p>3. List significant achievements and/or problems. Comment:</p>

[Note: The actual dollar amount of subagreement, if any, (awarded to the Prime) must be listed in Block 4 instead of the Total Estimated Cost (TEC) of the overall contract. In addition, a Prime may submit attachments to this past performance table if the spaces provided are inadequate; the evaluation factor(s) must be listed on any attachments.]

ANNEX E: INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EVALUATION

**INITIAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXAMINATION
AND REQUEST FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION**

PROGRAM/ACTIVITY DATA:

GH Environmental Number – GH-

Country/Region: Global

Program Title: Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III

Funding Begin: December 2011

Funding End: December 2016

LOP Amount: US \$200 Million

IEE Prepared By: Newal Sherif, USAID Bureau for Global Health

IEE Amendment (Y/N): N

Current Date: 08 -12-2011

IEE expiration date: 5 years from award or when changes to the scope, funding level or duration of the contract occur

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED:

Categorical Exclusion: X

Negative Determination: _____

Positive Determination: _____

Deferral: _____

ADDITIONAL ELEMENTS: (place X where applicable)

CONDITIONS _____

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

The foreign assistance act of 1961, as amended, in section 117 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, 109 and 204, ([Http://www.usaid.gov/policyADS/200D/](http://www.usaid.gov/policyADS/200D/)), 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.

No activity funded under FANTA III will be implemented unless an environmental threshold determination, as defined by the 22CFR 216, has been reached for that activity, as documented in a request for Initial Environmental Examination duly signed by the Bureau Environmental Officer (BEO).

While food insecurity and malnutrition remain a significant challenge in many countries, experience has shown that improvements can be achieved with political will of country governments combined with strategic support and investment by USAID and others. FANTAIII is expected to build on what is known, seek opportunities to strengthen and improve what already exists in nutrition and food security programming in a variety of environments, while also expanding and deepening the knowledge base and practice to meet new challenges over the next 10 years. Because food insecurity and malnutrition challenges must be addressed in dynamic policy and operating environments that continuously evolve, FANTA III will need to anticipate, adapt and respond with agility and flexibility to changes in the operating environment to ensure responsive, appropriate and practical support to USAID (GH, DCHA and Missions) and its partners as well as other USG agencies as needed.

FANTA III is designed to provide the USAID Bureau for Global Health and other operating units with a global mechanism to provide specialized, targeted technical assistance to the field and maintain global technical leadership in the area of nutrition and food security programming in both global technical leadership and in field support in support of the Bureau for Global Health's Office of Health Infectious Disease and Nutrition, Office of HIV/AIDS, DCHA's Office of Food For Peace and Office of Foreign Disaster assistance as well as USAID Missions.

FANTA III will provide specialized, targeted technical assistance in the following areas;

IR 1: Global evidence and capacity for food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

- **IR1.1:** Evidence base for effective food and nutrition program approaches expanded
- **IR1.2:** Monitoring and evaluation systems and tools developed and implemented
- **IR 1.3:** Global Standards and policies in nutrition and food security promoted
- **IR1.4:** Capacity in assessment, program design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation strengthened

Examples of assistance under IR 1 include assistance to strengthen Title II programs throughout the program cycle of assessment, strategy, design, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation (M&E). Additionally FANTA III will continue efforts to integrate proven approaches to nutrition into national health systems, while continuing to innovate and adapt approaches to maximize impacts. Examples of this include, providing technical assistance in Nutrition Program Design, Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation, assistance in design and implementation of Community-Based Management of Acute Malnutrition, and the creation, use and support of Policy and Advocacy tools such as PROFILES, and continued adaptation and support for nutrition and HIV guidelines at the country level. In emergency context, technical assistance will include efforts to strengthen USAID initiatives to improve the nutritional status and food security of those affected.

IR 2: Country-driven food security and health policies, programs and systems for improved nutrition strengthened

- **IR 2.1:** Emergency nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved
- **IR 2.2:** Resiliency and vulnerability/food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved
- **IR 2.3:** HIV nutrition and food security program assessment, design, implementation and monitoring and evaluation improved
- **IR2.4:** Maternal and child health and nutrition program assessment, design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation improved

Under this Intermediate Result, the FANTA III will continue to work with international and in-country partners to carrying out priority research and development activities, developing innovative methods and tools, contributing to and promoting global normative standards, and strengthening competencies in the design and implementation of nutrition and food security interventions.

A Categorical Exclusion is recommended for FANTA III except to the extent that the activities directly affect the environment, pursuant to 22 CFR 216.2(viii):

- Programs involving nutrition, health care or population and family planning services except to the extent designed to include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, water supply systems, waste water treatment etc.)

As part of its initial Work Plan, and thereafter, all Annual Work Plans, FANTA III, in collaboration with the USAID Cognizant technical officer (CTO), shall review all ongoing and planned activities under the FANTA III Cooperative Agreement to determine if they are within the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation.

If FANTA III plans any new activities outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation, it shall prepare an amendment to the documentation for USAID review and approval. No such new activities shall be undertaken prior to receiving written USAID approval of environmental documentation amendments.

Any ongoing activities found to be outside the scope of the approved Regulation 216 environmental documentation shall be halted until an amendment to the documentation is submitted and written approval is received from USAID.

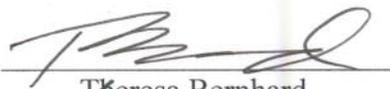
APPROVAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION RECOMMENDED:

Activity Title: Food and Nutrition Technical Assistance III

CLEARANCE:

Division Chief  **Date:** 9/19/2011
Michael Zeilinger

Office Director  **Date:** 5/19/2011
Elizabeth Fox

GH Bureau Environmental Officer:  **Date:** 5/19/2011
Theresa Bernhard

Approval: 

Disapproval: _____