

USAID received numerous questions requesting clarification on similar issues (i.e. target countries, availability of funding per country, eligibility by approach). To reduce redundancy, USAID consolidated numerous questions and provides answers to all submitted questions as follows:

BUDGET & FUNDING

Question: If an organization decides to apply through Partnership Approach 2, is the organization permitted to leverage both US Government and Non-US Government resources. For example, could an organization leverage resources from its other existing US government-funded global mechanisms?

USAID Response: For resources to be considered cost share or leverage, they must be provided from sources other than the US Government.

Question: Can USAID provide more information about what is meant by "Awards in smaller values are preferred"?

USAID Response: It means awards with lower ceiling price are preferred. USAID wants to empower local organizations and intends to make multiple awards with the existing and anticipated funds.

Question: Please confirm that the figure in No. 13 is the total amount in No. 12 minus the cost share or leveraged fund?

USAID Response: The figure in number 13 of the concept paper template cover page is the total amount minus the cost share or leveraged funds.

Question: Since Leverage is mentioned here, does USAID anticipate a Public-Private Partnership award type with Leverage?

USAID Response: USAID determines the mechanism at a later stage.

Question: Please clarify if funding for this activity is coming from the Global Health Account which would make it subject to the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance policy.

USAID Response: Yes, funding for this activity would come from the Global Health Account and be subject to the Protecting Life in Global Health Assistance.

Question: Will the figures mentioned in Bullet 12 and 13 have any impact on reviewing the concept note?

USAID Response: Yes, the budget figure has to be in concert with technical activities presented in the concept paper.

Question: What is the minimum/maximum amount of funding that can be executed by a non-

governmental organization that has not yet worked with USAID?

USAID Response: There is no established ceiling. The ceiling depends on the relevance of activities described in the concept paper to the results of the addendum; sustainability; innovation; and meeting the other criteria stated in the addendum.

Question: I am interested in the Investing in Resilient Families addendum to the Global Health New Partnerships Initiative (NPI). I understand that there is no specified award range, and that USAID intends to grant multiple awards totaling approximately \$100 million. Is there a suggested range? For example, would concept papers requesting under a \$1 million not be considered?

USAID Response: There is no established range. The award ceiling depends on the depends on the relevance of activities described in the concept paper to the results of the addendum; sustainability; innovation; and meeting the other criteria stated in the addendum.

Question: Clarify what cost reimbursement and not cost reimbursement mean

USAID Response: Cost reimbursement is a mechanism in which the partner is reimbursed the actual allowable costs they incur in carrying out the works.

Question: I wanted to confirm if this funding opportunity is limited to only one concept paper submitted from an organization, regardless of focus or geographical area? We have had multiple groups at Johns Hopkins University inquire about this funding opportunity, given the broad range of countries and potential partners.

USAID Response: An organization can submit only one Concept Paper under this Addendum, which should prioritize the countries which organizations wish to focus on.

Question: Per Annex A, #12 – Can USAID clarify if cost share is required for all Partnerships Approaches and if so, what amount USAID expects from applicants?

USAID Response: Cost share is not required but encouraged. USAID under partnership 3 requires leverage, which is defined in footnote number 5 on page 11 of the Addendum.

Question: In Kenya how much money can organizations apply for?

USAID Response: There is no funding limit for organizations in Kenya. USAID anticipates making multiple awards, which will not exceed a cumulative ceiling of \$100,000,000.00.

Question: Can USAID confirm that the only information on the budget or cost proposal associated with the Concept Note that is needed is the information to be provided on the Cover Page?

USAID Response: Yes, at this stage USAID only needs budgetary information in the cover page.

SCOPE / PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Question: Kindly help us with the significant factors of the Three-Generation Model in relation to Investing in Resilient Families and Communities Solicitation # 7200AA21R00011.

USAID Response: The Three-Generation Model derives from published literature focusing on the effectiveness of interventions which include the entire family (see for example <https://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/features/pro-a0037735.pdf>). In this context, it focuses on the fact that interventions which include 3 generations (the adolescent, their parents, and the adolescent's potential future family, that is, future orientation) are most effective in helping promote healthy behaviors.

Question: I am inquiring whether a project aimed at sensitizing students in Uganda about Covid-19 mainly in finalists classes and universities in Uganda who have been allowed back in school amidst this pandemic through the use of survivors of pandemic to communicate the message qualifies for the resilient families grant.

USAID Response: Please refer to the illustrative activities and find out if your proposed activity is a good fit. Please note that USAID has already issued a Round (now closed) focused exclusively on COVID activities.

Question: On page 21 of the solicitation, the Merit Review outlines that the Concept Introduction must contain the causal pathway and a description of how family resilience can contribute to community and national stability and resilience including how approaches to strengthen family resilience will have significant positive effects on societies. This information appears to be more in-line with the requirements for the Technical approach provided on page 24 of the solicitation. Will there be any points reduced if this information is included in the Technical Approach (as described on page 24) instead of the Introduction (as outlined in page 21).

USAID Response: The Applicant is welcome to provide a brief summary in the Concept Introduction and note that further information is provided in the Technical Approach section.

Question: If we can merge program areas 1 and 2 since we can successfully implement both simultaneously.

USAID Response: Unless the Addendum specifically states that program areas 1 and 2 must remain separate, applicants are at liberty to merge them.

Question: Under and within the concept instructions: USAID uses the language “Describe your organization’s experience...” can USAID please clarify whether “your organization” refers to the prime applicant or prime applicant and its partners (if any)?

USAID Response: Yes, the organization refers to prime applicant.

Question: We understand that the Global Health division at USAID is developing operational guidance for its grantees around local capacity development. Is this guidance publicly available?

USAID Response: Global Health operational guidance on local capacity development is not yet available. Please see ADS 201 guidance on local capacity development.

Question: Does USAID have expectations around the specific areas of capacity strengthening grantees should prioritize with local partners if applying under partnership approach 2 or 3 (e.g. technical, financial, governance, legal, human resources, resource mobilization, M&E, mandatory provisions, etc.)?

USAID Response: USAID expects the grantees will prioritize those types of capacity strengthening that the grantee deems most important for the success of the local partners.

Question: Can organizations select more than one result area?

USAID Response: Yes.

Question: Can the range of activities under result 6 include those related to access and quality such as minor equipment upgrade, referral transport, HCW training, supervision, data system improvement, etc.

USAID Response: Yes, they can be included under result 6.

Question: Could USAID confirm if applicants are expected to coordinate with USAID country Missions during the concept note development phase?

USAID Response: USAID expects applicants to be familiar with and align their concepts with USAID country mission strategies and priorities. This may be based on document review.

Question: For a multi-country application, can the applicant use a different theory of change for each country?

USAID Response: Yes, applicants can use a different theory of change for each country.

Question: Can you provide more clarity on how USAID envisions (p.13) the “synergies with existing or planned US Government/USAID in-country investments” (p.13)?

USAID Response: USAID expects applicants to be familiar with and align their concepts with USAID country mission strategies and priorities. This may be based on document review.

Question: Can you give a reference for the research mentioned on page 3, "research conducted under the aegis of FP2020"?

USAID Response: This research was presented at the 2018 Ouagadougou Partnership meeting in Dakar, Senegal, and has not yet apparently been published. For background see <https://www.nap.edu/read/2220/chapter/9#143> page 143, 3rd paragraph.

Question: Does USAID have different priority technical areas for different countries? Or even

for specific geographies within a country?

USAID Response: USAID expects applicants to familiarize themselves with USAID programming in each country and align their concepts so they are consistent with USAID technical and geographic priorities.

Question: The RFA is heavily geared towards health, but also includes some other areas such as livelihoods, education, environment, etc. To what degree does USAID expect coordination across other developmental sectors as part of this work?

USAID Response: USAID expects applicants to coordinate across other development sectors as appropriate to accomplish the objectives of the activity in the concept.

Question: Page 7-8, Section I, Part B. Technical Focus of the Investing in Resilient Families and Communities Round, No. 6. The solicitation suggests that strengthening the health system as its topline approach, but the detailed bullets suggest only interventions where “families” do all the work – is this section not intended for health systems strengthening through improved service delivery, knowledge, attitudes of existing providers/networks?

USAID Response: USAID recognizes the importance of resilient families and communities to set the priorities of the health system, to ensure the system has the resources it needs, and to hold it accountable for results.

Question: On Page 8, USAID indicates it will not consider concept papers that propose new digital technology or proprietary digital solutions. Also, the addendum indicates preference is for “proven approaches over pilots” (Page 12). Will USAID consider ideas on new innovations under development for testing and/or scale-up?

USAID Response: Testing new innovations is the definition of “pilots.” Scaling up proven approaches is preferred.

Question: On Page 9, under Result 3 on improving communications between parents/caregivers and children/adolescents, USAID cites the “three generation model”. Would USAID please provide more clarification and/or reference material for this intervention model or approach?

USAID Response: The Three-Generation Model derives from published literature focusing on the effectiveness of interventions which include the entire family (see for example <https://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/features/pro-a0037735.pdf>). In this context, it focuses on the fact that interventions which include 3 generations (the adolescent, their parents, and the adolescent's future family) are most effective in helping promote healthy behaviors.

Question: On Pages 12 and 13, the solicitation says that applicants should connect and coordinate with each USAID Mission to ensure alignment with strategic initiatives and priorities. Must the coordination take place in the concept phase, which coincides with the holiday season? Regarding Partnership 2 (Page 16), can USAID please confirm that financial resources will not be required as leverage under Partnership 2.

USAID Response: USAID recognizes that engaging missions directly at the concept note stage is not practical. Publicly available documents provide information on mission priorities.

Question: Page 13 states that: “Applicants with a cross-country approach should connect and coordinate with each USAID country Mission to ensure alignment with U.S. government/USAID strategic initiatives and priorities”. Should that coordination happen prior to submission of the concept note, or during the co-creation phase?"

USAID Response: Applicants must align their approaches with relevant USAID Mission and HQ activities, and the ongoing efforts of other sub-national and local stakeholders, to maximize synergies with existing or planned U.S. Government/USAID in-country investments aimed at supporting national priorities and implementation plans. USAID encourages this coordination to happen at the concept paper stage to the extent possible.

Question: For a mentorship award (Approach 2), is it appropriate for the prime to provide limited or specialized technical capacity building in addition to organizational capacity strengthening? To what extent?

USAID Response: Yes, under Approach 2 limited capacity building can be provided and USAID cannot determine the extent as it depends on the implementer’s capacity.

TARGET COUNTRIES/GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE

Question: We want to know in the Democratic Republic of Congo, if all provinces are eligible for this funding or there are specific provinces in the DRC eligible for this funding. So we would like to know the geographic coverage of the DRC in the case of this funding.

USAID Response: Please target areas where USAID currently has activities.

Question: Can USAID please clarify the inclusion of Central African Republic (CAR) and Congo. In the NPI GH APS Appendix C - USAID Global Health Priority Countries by Health Sector, dated July 12, 2019, Central African Republic (CAR) and Congo were not included in the original list. Can USAID please clarify if these new countries are accurate and whether more countries will be added to future APS?

USAID Response: The list of countries has been revised under geographic coverage.

Question: Can you please clarify the geographic focus for this request for concept papers?

USAID Response: Eligible organizations from any of the following countries can submit concept papers: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burma, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Question: We are here by asking the way we can submit our concept note, We have the health institute here in Kagera Region in the north western part of Tanzania and we are planning to prepare and submit our concept note related to Build resilience through supporting families to achieve the health timing and spacing of pregnancy. as far as we are dealing with youth and adolescents, we hope to do something on this. Please make a favor and send to us the mail address for our proposal

USAID Response: Please send your concept paper via email provided in the Addendum.

SUBMISSION/FORMAT/PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

Question: Following your call for projects on "Strengthening resilient families and communities" launched by USAID, we have the honor to ask you if it would not be possible to have the French version and also to apply in French.

USAID Response: Concept papers will only be accepted in English language.

Question: Would USAID please allow data and evidence to support our technical approach and causal pathway (Page 4) to be referenced in the Reference Materials annex that does not count against the 5-page limit, as opposed to footnotes?

USAID Response: No. Any conceptual information above 5-page limit will not be considered for review.

Question: Can one applicant submit 2 applications, focused on programs implemented in 2 different countries?

USAID Response: No. An organization can only submit one concept paper, but can include two or multiple countries.

Question: For at-a-glance legibility of tables, may applicants use 10 point font for tables?

USAID Response: At this time there will be no changes to font. Please see the font format as stated in the announcement.

Question: For legibility in graphics, may applicants use a sans serif font?

USAID Response: The main body of the Concept Paper must be five (5) pages or less, single-spaced with 12-point Times New Roman font and one-inch margins on the electronic equivalent of 8.5 x 11 inch paper with page numbers in the footer.

Question: Can USAID please confirm that a table of contents may be submitted and WILL NOT be counted towards the 5-page limit?

USAID Response: Table of Content is not needed for the Concept Paper.

Question: Can USAID please confirm that a list of acronyms may be submitted and WILL NOT be counted towards the 5-page limit?

USAID Response: List of acronyms is not needed for the Concept Paper. Please spell out all acronyms in their first use.

Question: Can USAID please confirm that 2 pages of reference materials to confirm country registration are allowed per country proposed. i.e., 3 countries, 2 pages each, for a total of 6 pages?

USAID Response: Yes, two page per country is allowed.

Question: Can USAID please confirm that the font size for charts and tables within the concept note may be smaller than 12-point font size?

USAID Response: The main body of the Concept Paper must be five (5) pages or less, single-spaced with 12-point Times New Roman font and one-inch margins on the electronic equivalent of 8.5 x 11 inch paper with page numbers in the footer.

Question: Per the APS Addendum on page 18, USAID states “Please note, annex A and reference pages do not count toward the five page count...The only document an applicant may submit as Reference Material is the Certificate or Articles of Incorporation, or Registration, or Formation, or any formal document with the Government that establishes the organization's existence in the country, which must not exceed two (2) pages.” Can USAID please provide further clarity?

USAID Response: The main body of the Concept Paper must be five (5) pages or less, single-spaced with 12-point Times New Roman font and one-inch margins on the electronic equivalent of 8.5 x 11 inch paper with page numbers in the footer. Please note the Annex A (Cover Page of the Concept Paper) does not count towards the five-page count. Certificate or Articles of Incorporation, or Registration, or Formation, or any formal document with the Government that establishes the organization's existence in the country that must not exceed two (2) pages also don't count against the Concept Paper page limit.

Question: Can USAID move the submission date from January 4, 2021 to Jan 11, 2021 given the Christmas and New Year holiday?

USAID Response: Yes, the due date for Concept Papers is extended from January 4, 2021 - 12:00 PM EST to January 11, 2021 - 12:00 PM EST.

Question: I would wish to apply for the call for concept papers recently announced. Is there a standard format for the concept paper? If so, where can I find it?

USAID Response: The template for concept paper submission is provided in page 23 and 24 of the Addendum. Please make sure that you are in full compliance with your submission.

Question: Hello, I'm texting you on behalf of give and grow community development organization (GaGCDO) I wish to submit the concept paper of this program but I'm unable ..kindly if there is an available email that I can send to instead , pass me, I will submit the Concept paper.

USAID Response: Please refer to page 18 of the Addendum SECTION IV: CONCEPT PAPER SUBMISSION INFORMATION.

Question: I am preparing the concept paper for Investing in Resilient Families and Communities, and have a clarification question concerning submission. I believe I am supposed to submit answers to the questions from Annex A of the 7200AA21R00011 RAF document to Resilientfamilies@usaid.gov. However, there is also an application portal through Grants.gov that includes filling out several other forms, including: FORM: Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424) [V2.1], FORM: Other Attachments Form [V1.2], FORM: Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B) [V1.1] I was wondering if these forms are to be filled out and submitted via the portal by Jan 4th, 2021 in addition to the Concept paper that I will submit via Resilientfamilies@usaid.gov or if this step comes later in the process. I was wondering if these forms are to be filled out and submitted via the portal by Jan 4th, 2021 in addition to the Concept paper that I will submit via Resilientfamilies@usaid.gov., or if this step comes later in the process. FORM: Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) [V1.0]

USAID Response: At this stage please only submit the concept paper via the email address provided in the Addendum.

Question: Is this a typo? and not HAS its principal..... Below caption. "Additionally, the applicant must identify under which of the three (3) types of partnerships they are presenting their Concept Paper. USAID will determine as ineligible, and not Has its principal place of business or operations in a country that is receiving assistance from USAID;"

USAID Response: Text has been replaced with this this language “Additionally, the applicant must identify which of the three types of partnerships they are seeking below in the concept paper to be eligible. A concept paper that does not meet the type(s) of partnerships allowed in the Addendum will be determined to be ineligible and not be evaluated”.

Question: It is clear an organization may only submit one concept note as the prime recipient. However, can an organization either: Apply as a prime and then again as a subrecipient under another concept note?, Can a subrecipient be listed on multiple concept note applications or just one?

USAID Response: There is no limit on the number of subs or the organizations to be subs under prime applicants.

ELIGIBILITY & PARTNERSHIP APPROACH

Question: Page 15: Section III (Eligibility Information) states that a variety of organizations (U.S. and non-US public, private organizations, etc.) are eligible to submit a concept paper and therefore may be eligible to receive an award. In addition, this section imposed additional conditions such as “the organization must be a legally-recognized, organizational entity under applicable law, legally registered in countries where USAID has existing operations, but excluding any country that is a prohibited source.” Could USAID please confirm that these additional requirements do not apply to U.S. organizations who are established and operating

according to the U.S. laws?

USAID Response: These additional requirements do not apply to U.S. organizations which are established and operating according to the U.S. laws.

Question: I am however confused and would like to query the reason behind this criterion that states: Eligible Applicants: Nonprofits that do not have a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS. We are a non-profit registered in South Africa and providing a mental health service to marginalized communities through consulting rooms based at school. We are also registered as follows: DUNS 539164893 CAGE SJKG9 and are eligible to offer USA – 501(c)(3) tax-exempt benefits via NCF Giving Fund. Could you please advise if this deems us not eligible for this specific grant?

USAID Response: This was an oversight and was corrected in the synopsis page. U.S. and non-U.S. public, private, for-profit, and non-profit organizations, as well as institutions of higher education, public international organizations, and non-governmental organizations, are eligible to submit a Concept Paper under this Partnering for Resilient Families and Communities Round Addendum. Furthermore, the organization must be a legally recognized, organizational entity under applicable law, legally registered in countries where USAID has existing operations, but excluding any country that is a prohibited source.

Question: We are an African-led and Africa-focused network, and we are interested in applying for this grant for Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, and Malawi as a single bid. Is this allowed and is there a budgeting ceiling for a multi-country application?

USAID Response: Yes, submission of a concept paper for multiple countries is allowed as long as the organization meets the eligibility criteria. There is no established ceiling for a country or multiple countries concept paper. The ceiling depends on the relevance of activities to the results of addendum, sustainability of innovative ideas to be suggested as part of the concept paper and meeting the other criteria stated in the addendum.

Question: Is it necessary to work with the zones or areas that USAID-DR works? In the case of the Dominican Republic (DR), USAID works in the Duarte Corridor. The call indicates remote areas and there are more remote areas within the country than the Duarte Corridor.

USAID Response: USAID encourages applicants to target areas where USAID has activities. This would help coordination and USAID monitoring ability.

Question: The office of the Executive Director of the Haitian Movement for Rural Develop is interested in participating in this call for tenders, We already have an old D-U-N-S Number is 816302946 can we use it for this call?

USAID Response: The organization submitting a concept paper in response to this addendum must be active in sam.gov. The DUNS number provided does not appear to be active in sam.gov.

Question: We are a nonprofit organizations based in Pakistan, are interested to submit a concept are we eligible to submit , we want to focus on adolescent health and community awareness, curbing child marriages to complete education for girls."

USAID Response: Yes, any organization that meets eligibility criteria can submit a concept paper in response to this Addendum.

Question: Would programs working in refugee camps be eligible for participation in the Global Health New Partnerships Initiative (NPI) Investments in Resilient Families and Communities?"

USAID Response: No, applicants interested in implementing programs working in refugee camps should direct inquiries to the State Department Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration.

Question: Please could you confirm that LEPs are eligible to apply as primes on the Investing in Resilient Families and Communities opportunity and that this would come under Partnership Approach 1? Some of the text under Section III pages 15 – 16 seems to be in slightly the wrong order, so it would be helpful to have this confirmed."

USAID Response: Yes, LEPs are eligible to apply as primes under any Partnership Approaches, they see themselves fit. The selection of Partnership Approaches depends on the capabilities of LEPs and their scale of development activities implementation.

Question: We are a UK-headquartered NGO which meets the threshold for underutilized partners and has locally established offices in many of the priority countries for the Investing in Resilient Families and Communities addendum. Our locally established offices meet the criteria outlined in the addendum for LEPs. However, we do not have governing bodies for each of the local offices (we have one governing board for the overall organization). Based on the wording on page 16, we assume that this would be acceptable if all other LEP criteria are fulfilled. Is that correct?

USAID Response: Yes, if all the LEP criteria are fulfilled, the organizations are eligible to apply.

Question: We note that organizations can only submit one concept note. Is there any limit on the number of concept notes an organization can also join as a sub-awardee?

USAID Response: There is no limit on the number of concept papers for an organization to serve as a sub-awardee.

Question: For an LEP, is a letter of support from a local organization required at concept note stage?

USAID Response: A letter of support is not required from a local organization at the concept paper stage. The organizations must meet all the eligibility criteria before submitting a concept paper in response to this Addendum.

Question: I am interested in embarking in a new program to the Health Industry for natural processes and know very little about applying for grants. Is this particular grant still available and would I be able to get assistance in applying?

USAID Response: You can apply for the grant under this Addendum as long you meet the eligibility criteria.

Question: Could you please provide more clarification on the type of partnerships, and which entities will USAID determine as ineligible?

USAID Response: The types of partnership are listed in the Addendum. Any organization that doesn't meet the eligibility criteria will be determined ineligible.

Question: What are traditional implementing partners, can you share examples using the Zimbabwean context?

USAID Response: Traditional implementing partners are the ones that have been implementing projects using USAID's funding in multiple countries over the last several years.

Question: Question: For Zimbabwe, kindly share / clarify the geographics areas where the RFA is limited to or covers

USAID Response: USAID encourages interested applicants to submit concept papers for geographic areas where USAID has current activity implementation.

Question: Any limit on the number of partners (both Maximum and minimum that a partner can work with under this RFA)?

USAID Response: There is no limits on the number of partners that can work under this Addendum.

Question: Our organization is a registered 501(c)3 with valid DUNS and an active registration in SAM. Well over 90% of our employees are nationals of the country where activities take place, including our CEO and Country Director. We have been active for much more than five years, have registered with the local authorities, have a local bank account, and only incidental programmatic activities take place outside of that country. We have developed a robust and extensive structure to ensure community engagement and accountability, but our board of directors is based in the United States and does not feature a majority of citizens or lawful permanent residents of that country. Would our organization be eligible under Partnership Approach 1?

USAID Response: Your organization needs to determine under which partnership you can apply. USAID cannot advise on this item.

Question: Could you clarify if the UK entity is eligible to submit a concept note in the countries identified in the Addendum?

USAID Response: Please review the eligibility criteria and list of countries provided under the

geographic coverage.

Question: P.11 Contributing to the Journey to Self Reliance – Can you confirm that it is not a requirement for applicants to propose activities involving “innovative or blended financing, increased domestic-resource mobilization, ...leveraged funding”?

USAID Response: Concept papers must address the activities and results described in the Addendum.

Question: P.15-16 Eligibility Information, Partnership Approach 1 – Can USAID confirm that there are three types of partners under Partnership Approach 1, perhaps by clarifying the formatting of the bullet points?

USAID Response: It has been addressed in the revised Addendum.

Question: How will USAID decide which award mechanism to use? Re: Grants, Fixed awards or Cooperative agreements?

USAID Response: This decision would be made at the co-creation stage and depends on the organization capability and prior experience with USAID.

Question: How will USAID decide which of the three NPI partnership approaches they will fund? Does USAID have a preference for the partnership approaches they would like to see?

USAID Response: USAID does not have any preference to partnership. The funding decision is based on successful co-creation and submission of an acceptable project description.

Question: We need clarity on the focus sites/counties in Kenya. what are the focus counties for this call?

USAID Response: USAID doesn't have specific focus sites or counties in Kenya. Applicants should focus on areas where USAID currently has activities.

Question: In terms of the technical focus areas, can organizations only do one?

USAID Response: Organizations can apply to any focus areas depending on their expertise.

Question: Are organizations expected to form partnerships to be able to apply?

USAID Response: No. Organizations can apply with or without forming partnerships.

Question: What is USAID Kenya Country specific priorities?

USAID Response: Concept papers must be aligned to activities and results stated in the Addendum.

Question: Page 15, Section III: Eligibility Information, paragraph three, second sentence appears to have a copy and paste error. The sentence is incomplete and begins a new section. Further to this issue, Partnership Approach 1, begins with bullet B and is missing a section A.

Could this please be redrafted and clarified?

USAID Response: The missing text has been addressed in the revised Addendum. Thank you.

Question: For Partnership Approach 1, to be defined as a local entity, does the organization need to be legally organized under the laws of the country? (We are in the process of registering, but do not have our registration completed yet.) Can we be considered a local entity if we instead have maintained continuous operations in-country for more than five years; have local staff in a dedicated local office that comprise more than 50 percent of office personnel; and have an extensive portfolio of locally-implemented programs.

USAID Response: Any organization submitting a concept note under this Addendum must meet all the eligibility criteria listed in the Addendum.

Question: On page 5 of the solicitation, it is indicated that applicants must demonstrate an existing presence within the local community. Must the applicant itself be registered in-country to satisfy this requirement, or would a member of the consortium having registration suffice?

USAID Response: Yes, the Applicants needs to meet all the eligibility criteria listed in the Addendum.

Question: If an NUP (LE, LEP or NLO) plans to prime, do all of the subs need to be NPI eligible (i.e., do they need to also be an LE, LEP or NLO)?

USAID Response: Yes, the prime and sub applicants must meet the eligibility criteria listed in the Addendum.

Question: Does the lack of five years continuous operation in Uganda disqualify us from submitting a concept note, despite our long-term commitment to working in the country and previous receipt of USAID funds?

USAID Response: Yes, the Applicants needs to meet all the eligibility criteria listed in the Addendum.

Question: For Partnership Approaches 2 and 3, please clarify whether eligibility restrictions apply with regard to (1) prior USAID funding, or (2) place or nature of registration (local entity, locally established partner, non-local organizations). Would a New and Underutilized Partner applying under Partnership Approaches 2 or 3 be welcomed?

USAID Response: Yes, the selection of partnership approach is at the discretion of the applicants depending on their status, capability and reach.

Question: Are US-based nonprofits with a legally registered branch in the country where the program is proposed for implementation considered a Locally Established Partner? If yes, are they eligible to apply?

USAID Response: Any organizations submitting a concept note under this Addendum must meet all the eligibility criteria listed in the Addendum.

MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA

Question: Can USAID confirm that the Merit Review Criteria listed on Page 26 of the APS “Advancing NPI principles” will be considered as part of the evaluation of the concept note?

USAID Response: Merit Review Criteria for the Investing in Resilient Families and Communities Round are listed in SECTION V of the Addendum on pages 21 and 22.

MISCELLANEOUS

Question: Would you please share any information with regard to a potential grants writing expert or at least a starting place for me to find someone that could help me navigate all of the steps necessary in order to find funding for this program?

USAID Response: Unfortunately, USAID is unable to propose a potential grant writing expert.

Question: Page 4 of the Addendum states, “USAID anticipates issuing multiple awards under the Investing in Resilient Families Round...” Could you please confirm how many awards USAID intends to make?

USAID Response: The number of awards depends on the quality of concept papers and successful co-creation. USAID cannot anticipate the exact number of awards at this stage.

Question: Can you provide more clarity on how USAID envisions (p.13) the “synergies with existing or planned US Government/USAID in-country investments” (p.13)?

USAID Response: It means that the concept papers should be aligned with USAID country programs, strategies, and activities in the country.

Question: Would USAID be able to provide any information on anticipated key personnel positions at this stage? This would help applicants plan in the event they are selected to move to the next phase of the process.

USAID Response: This stage is only for the high level Concept Paper. The actual program will be designed at the co-creation stage.

Question: Would USAID issue multiples awards in the same country?

USAID Response: Yes, depending on the concept papers contents and quality there is a possibility that USAID may issue multiple awards in the same country.

Question: In the case of a U.S. non-governmental organization (NGO), in addition to the U.S. Articles of Incorporation, if the NGO needs to be legally recognized only in the countries the

applicant is targeting (as opposed as to all the countries where USAID has existing operations)?

USAID Response: The Applicant needs to be registered in the country for which it is submitting a concept paper.

Question: Could USAID clarify if this is the first or the second cycle under this Round? There is reference to both in different sections of the RFA (pages 1 and 18 refer to the second cycle, while page 13 mentions the first cycle). If this is the first cycle, could USAID provide any details on timing and number of future cycles, so that applicants may plan ahead?

USAID Response: This was an oversight and has been addressed in the revised version. There is only one cycle.

Question: Page 22, under Section V: Merit Review Criteria, USAID states that one of the evaluation criteria under Applicant Roles & Capacity is the "degree to which the applicant demonstrates an existing presence within the community..." Can USAID please clarify what "existing presence" means?

USAID Response: Existing presence means ongoing activities and operation.

Question: Per Annex A, the concept paper template, Section C. Applicant Roles & Capacity requests a list of countries in which Applicants have has a presence and years of experience in those identified countries. Could USAID confirm this information is needed just for the countries targeted by the Applicant (as opposed as to all the countries where the Applicant has presence)?

USAID Response: This information is needed just for the countries targeted by the Applicant not all the countries.

Question: Could USAID confirm that the approximate length suggested for each section in the concept paper template is just a recommendation and that Applicants do not necessarily need to adhere exactly to the approximate length as long, as the total pages of the concept paper do not exceed five pages?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID confirms that the approximate length suggested for each section in the concept paper template is just a recommendation and that Applicants do not necessarily need to adhere exactly to the approximate length as long as the total pages of the concept paper do not exceed five pages.

Question: Does USAID have an estimated timeline it can share for the review process of concept papers, and when the co-creation process and release of the full RFA would occur, given the anticipated award date of April 15, 2021?

USAID Response: There is no estimated timeline established at this stage.

Question: Does USAID envision the co-creation process being managed by individual USAID

missions or by USAID Washington?

USAID Response: USAID anticipates the co-creation process to be managed jointly by USAID Washington and relevant country Mission.

Question: Should a multi-country concept note under Approach 2 specify both the specific target countries and name specific new / underutilized partners for each country? Or should applicants expect that USAID Missions will identify new and underutilized partners in country to work alongside any mentor primes?

USAID Response: Applicants are expected to identify the underutilized partners in countries for which they are submitting Concept Papers.

Question: Does USAID have an anticipated number of awards that it would like to award?

USAID Response: At this time USAID does not have an anticipated number of awards.

Question: On Page 18, USAID says Reference Materials must not exceed two (2) pages. Is this (a) two pages per incorporation or (b) two pages in total? If a bidder is proposing more than one country, two pages in total may restrict their ability to be compliant to the solicitation.

USAID Response: The Applicant can submit two pages per country for reference materials if applying for multiple countries.

Question: Per Pages 19 and 21, can USAID please clarify its plans for co-creation – will USAID invite applicants with a concept paper score of “pass” to co-creation within a week of notification and approximately 30 days after concept paper submission?

USAID Response: This issue has been addressed in the revised Addendum.

Question: How does USAID anticipate this award working with its ongoing programming, especially EXPAND, ASAP, and MCGL (Momentum Country and Global Leadership)?

USAID Response: USAID encourages coordination with all USAID implementing partners in any country that the applicant implements development program.

Question: On Page 3, USAID says that “activities and innovations could, for example, [...] health supplies and commodities, equipment and products which could serve as tools to accomplish” the results. Would procurement of PPE supplies related to COVID-19 prevention and response for families and/or for community health workers be allowable in this solicitation?

USAID Response: PPE procurement depends on the type of PPE and the purpose of its use. USAID will determine the PPE limitation at the award stage if a PPE concept paper is relevant and makes it to the award stage.

THE END