



USAID | MOZAMBIQUE

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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Subject: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)
Request for Application (RFA) Number: 72065621RFA00004

Program Title: **Strengthened Investigative Journalism in Natural Resources Management and Other Economic Governance Issues (REAJIR)**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 98.001

Ladies/Gentlemen:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is seeking applications for a Fixed Amount Award (FAA) from qualified entities to implement the Strengthened Investigative Journalism in Natural Resources Management and Other Economic Governance Issues (REAJIR).

Eligibility for this RFA is restricted to Local Mozambican Organizations (Local Entities) as defined below:

“To be considered a “local” organization, an entity must:

- (1) Be organized under the laws of the recipient country;**
- (2) Have its principal place of business in the recipient country;**
- (3) Be majority owned by individuals who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of the recipient country; and/or**
- (4) Be managed by a governing body, the majority of who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of a recipient country.**

Please see **Section D** of the RFA for additional information.

USAID intends to make one (1) award to the applicant who best meets the objectives of this funding opportunity based on the merit review criteria described in this RFA subject to a risk assessment. USAID is seeking to fund one local implementing partner to provide comprehensive, high quality, and cost-effective services to meet the activity objectives.

Eligible parties interested in submitting an application are encouraged to read this RFA thoroughly to understand the type of program sought, application submission requirements and selection process.

To be eligible for award, the applicant must provide all information as required in this RFA and meet eligibility standards in Section C of this RFA. This funding opportunity is posted on

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Please also send any questions to the points of contact identified in Section D. The deadline for questions is shown above. Responses to questions received prior to the deadline will be furnished to all potential applicants through an amendment to this notice posted to www.grants.gov.

Issuance of this notice of funding opportunity does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government nor does it commit the Government to pay for any costs incurred in preparation or submission of comments/suggestions or an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Sincerely,

Jean-Jacques Badiane
Agreement Officer

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SECTION A: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This funding opportunity is authorized under the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) of 1961, as amended. The resulting award will be subject to 2 CFR 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, and USAID’s supplement, 2 CFR 700, as well as the additional requirements found in Section F.

A. INTRODUCTION

Despite having a diverse media sector and a few news outlets dedicated to investigative journalism, the capacity of investigative reporting in Mozambique continues to be hampered by (1) poor investigative journalistic skills resulting from limited capacity of journalism training programs, (2) lack of financial incentives for investigating and reporting issues, and (3) a constrained operating environment for investigative journalism. In line with existing CDCS Development Objective (DO) 1 (*Strengthened democratic governance of Mozambican institutions*) and the new CDCS DO 2 (*Diversified and inclusive growth*) and the approved DRG PAD framework, USAID/Mozambique proposes to implement the “*Strengthened Investigative Journalism in Natural Resources Management and Other Economic Governance Issues*” (*Reforço da Actividade de Jornalismo Investigativo em Recursos Naturais e outros assuntos de Governação Económica*) or REAJIR, a US\$1.46 Million 3-year Fixed Amount Award (FAA). The goal is to ensure Mozambican citizens are better informed and empowered to participate in governance processes. This activity’s purpose is to strengthen investigative journalism in Mozambique in the areas of reporting on natural resources and economic governance issues. To achieve this purpose, the activity will (1) strengthen the skills of Mozambican journalists to investigate natural resources management and other economic governance-related issues to improve accountability in those areas; (2) support investigative journalism initiatives; and, (3) strengthen the support system for investigative journalists. REAJIR will provide support to at least fifty (50) journalists and six (6) media outlets nationwide. To ensure that information is produced and reported back to communities where the natural resources abound and are extracted, and in alignment with USAID’s geographic scope, at least 10 journalists and 3 media outlets should be selected from the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Zambézia.

B. BACKGROUND

B.1 Investigative Journalism in Mozambique

Mozambique boasts a relatively diverse media sector with around 500 printed outlets, 95 radio stations including 65 community radios, 9 television stations, and 47 online publications. Over the past 30 years, there have been a few attempts to establish dedicated news outlets for investigative journalism, including but not limited to:

- **Savana** is a weekly newspaper published by Mediacoop, an independent press cooperative in Maputo. It was founded in 1993 by Mozambican journalist Carlos Cardoso, who left in 1999 to establish a new newspaper, Metical. Savana continued under the leadership of journalist Fernando Lima, and became one of the most well-known newspapers nationwide. Critics claim Savana is "too critical" and "counter-

government" and that its reporting is not objective. Several of its journalists have also received threats. In 2008, the CNN Multichoice African Journalist Award in the category of "media in Portuguese" went to Savana's current director, Lima.

- **Metical**, a fax-transmitted journal, is the first newspaper in Mozambique to be dedicated to investigative journalism relating to economic issues. It was founded by Carlos Cardoso who was killed in Maputo on 22 November 2000 while investigating a US\$14 million fraud case connected with the privatization of Mozambique's largest bank, Banco Comercial de Moçambique. Cardoso was among the minority of white Mozambicans who remained in the country after independence in 1975. He worked from 1980-1989 as editor of AIM, the government press agency, before leaving to work first as an artist, and later as founder of Mediacoop and Savana. Cardoso was killed due to his work to expose financial scandals. In the 2002 trial of six murder suspects, a Portuguese citizen who was said to have masterminded Cardoso's murder was sentenced to 30 years in prison. Metical ceased publication in December 2001.
- **A Verdade**, a weekly newspaper, was founded in August 2008 by Erik Charas. Although its founder Charas calls the newspaper "non-political" and simply a "newspaper with citizens' affairs", it is a known critic of the Mozambican national government. The newsroom has several partnerships, including with the blogger network Global Voices (since 2011), the German international broadcasting service Deutsche Welle (since 2013), and the American international broadcasting service Voice of America. In addition, the newsroom includes readers who can send news and observations by any means of communication (WhatsApp, SMS, Twitter, Facebook) for publication on the internet and in the next newspaper ("Citizen Reporter"). According to Charas, 35% of the newspaper's published news is based on observations by the "Citizen Reporter". In 2014, the newsroom decided to move from Maputo to Nampula, where it has had an office since 2010. The newspaper's editor-in-chief, Adérito Caldeira, noted that there was a need for more information in northern Mozambique and that there were already enough newspapers in the capital. The newspaper received the "African Media Prize Expo 2015" for its important influence on Mozambican civil society.
- **Carta de Moçambique**, published through the Cartamz.com website, is a daily digital newspaper launched in January 2017 by Marcelo Mosse. The newspaper follows the footsteps of well-known investigative outlets such as *DailyMaverick.co.za* in South Africa and *Mediapart.fr* in France. It investigates and reports on a wide range of economic, business, political, and social affairs. The newspaper's motto is to provide information through investigative journalism, with the aim of awakening public awareness, and promoting debate, criticism, and good governance in politics and in the corporate world.
- Other newspapers such as **Noticias, Domingo, O Pais, Canal de Moçambique** have, on a regular basis, dedicated a few pages to investigative issues. In addition, other civil society organizations have regularly embarked on investigative reporting, publishing articles and newsletters through local newspapers or email listservs. Among the more active lately are the *Centro de Integridade Pública* (Center for Public Integrity or CIP) and the *Centro de Democracia e Desenvolvimento* (CDD). There are also other web-based paid publications providing news in English, such as **Club of Mozambique, Rhula** and **Zitamar News**, all providing high quality news and information.

Noticias, O Pais, and Savana have, on a less regular basis, assigned individual journalists to pursue investigations of specific topics. Below are some of the most prominent journalists that have dedicated their work on an almost regular basis towards investigative journalism:

- **Marcelo Mosse** has worked more than 26 years as a journalist, mainly in investigative journalism. In 2017, he established the online investigative newspaper Carta de Moçambique. Mosse started his journalism career as a radio journalist in Inhambane, later joining Metical where he closely collaborated with Carlos Cardoso. He became the main mentor and founder of the most renowned Mozambican watchdog non-governmental organization, the CIP, which serves as the Mozambican chapter of Transparency International. He co-authored the Cardoso biography entitled "*É proibido pôr algemas nas palavras*". He also works as a correspondent for several international news outlets.

- **Estacio Valoi** identifies himself as a Mozambican investigative journalist (print, broadcaster, documentary, photography). He assists Oxpeckers with transnational investigations into environmental problems in the sub-Saharan region. As a member of the African Investigative Publishing Collective, he has covered a wide range of investigations, from rhino and elephant poaching to how the country has been robbed of its natural resources by a myriad of criminal syndicates often connected to the highest levels in government. One of his latest investigations saw him duck and dive bulldozers and security companies' machine guns in Montepuez, an area ravaged by destructive mining practices, and where local villagers were forcibly removed. His investigations have been featured by the Forum for African Investigative Reporters, Le Monde, Mail & Guardian, Foreign Police, Al Jazeera, Daily Maverick, The Star, German radio station Deutsche Welle, CNN, and Thomson Reuters Foundation, among others.
- **Luis Nhachote** is an award-winning investigative journalist, editor, and researcher, specializing in organized crime and the extractive industries. He has been a journalist since 1999, when he started his career as a junior reporter for Savana and the editor of cultural issues. From 2006 to 2009, he moved to launch a new project as deputy editor of the daily electronic press, Canal de Moçambique (currently a weekly newspaper). He performed the same role at Zambeze Semanário. In addition to almost two decades work as a senior investigator for the country's leading publications such as Savana, Canal de Moçambique, Zambeze, he has served as a consultant for Chatham House (UK), CIP (Mozambique) and executive director of the Center for Mozambican and International Studies (CEMO). Nhachote has also been a contributor to international media such as amaBhungane, the Mail & Guardian's investigative unit, where Nhachote completed an internship. He sat on the board of the Forum for African Investigative Reports (FAIR) from 2008 to 2013, and is currently the editor-in-chief of Confidential, Mozambique's new online daily and ANCIR's iLab country expert.
- **Joseph Hanlon** is a journalist, social scientist, and senior lecturer in Development Policy and Practice at the Open University, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom. Born in the United States, he moved to Britain in 1971 and has since devoted his time to studying and writing about Mozambique. His areas of interest also include international aid and development and the course and resolution of civil wars. He has resided in Mozambique for considerable periods and is one of the most knowledgeable people in the English-speaking world on the country's current affairs and history. He writes and publishes the *Mozambique News Reports and Clippings*, an e-mail server list published newsletter.

B.2 Investigative Journalism and Natural Resources Management

Investigative journalism can play a crucial role in improving the management of natural resources by exposing issues in the management of the country's natural resources and by demanding greater accountability in the sector. University of Missouri journalism professor Steve Weinberg defined investigative journalism as: "*Reporting, through one's own initiative and work product, matters of importance to readers, viewers, or listeners.*"¹ British media theorist Hugo de Burgh (2000) states that: "*An investigative journalist is a man or woman whose profession is to discover the truth and to identify lapses from it in whatever media may be available*"². Scholars agree that there are three essential elements of investigative journalism:

1. The investigation be the work of the reporter, not the work of others that he is reporting.
2. The subject of the story involves something that is important for his or her readers to know; and,
3. Others are attempting to hide the truth of these matters from the people.

Investigative journalism is meant to uncover hidden facts and report on issues that are important to the public, that involved parties would not necessarily want to see published.

¹ Weinberg, Steve. *The Reporter's Handbook: An Investigator's Guide to Documents and Techniques*. St. Martin's Press. 1996

² De Burgh, Hugo. *Investigative Journalism: Context and Practice*. London and New York: Routledge. 2000

An article written by Schiffrin and Rodrigues stated that “*in Mozambique, which has vast coal and natural gas reserves and is in the early stages of a significant natural resource boom, press coverage of protests against resettlements of farming communities in the mining areas helped spur government to issue new legislation on resettlements. Civil society organizations pushed Mozambique to join the EITF³, holding EITI workshops for government officials at the beginning of 2011. After several ups and downs and a great deal of back- and forth about what conditions Mozambique had to fulfill it finally became compliant on October 26th, 2012*”. This study highlights the enormous impact advocacy moved by investigative journalism can have in improving accountability in natural resources management.

The need for sophisticated investigative reporters in Mozambique will be increasing over the next few years. The recent announcement of oil and gas investments opens a large door for a future income boom. The exploitation of these natural resources is expected to generate a vast amount of revenue in a country dominated by poverty, inequality, and poor governance. In June 2017, Italian oil and gas company ENI committed to investing US\$10 billion in the building of Coral South, a floating liquified natural gas (FLNG) and the world’s first ultra-deep-water FLNG facility project, off the Rovuma basin in Mozambique. In June 2019, Mozambique LNG (led by US-based Anadarko) committed US\$20 billion in the development of integrated offshore and onshore gas fields, through LNG, in the Rovuma basin east of Palma. Rovuma LNG, led by ExxonMobil and ENI, is expected to commit US\$30-billion to develop the same. The French Total acquired Anadarko shareholdings in 2019. Mozambique’s economy is highly dependent on the extractive industry, which represents 50 percent of total exports. Only 4 percent of MSMEs sell to export markets and the sophistication of the country’s export basket has been falling since the late 1990s. With huge petroleum sector revenues set to boost GDP in the mid-2020s, Mozambique risks doubling down on its extractive industry dependency and watching an undiversified economy exacerbate the widening gap between rich and poor.

In an environment where the government faces challenges related to transparency, accountability, and inclusion and participation, the force of civil society in demanding greater accountability is crucial, particularly in a sector that will heavily influence the country’s economy. However, civil society can only be effective in playing the role of demanding greater accountability and transparency in the management of natural resources, as well as in acting as the government’s watchdog, if they understand and have in-depth knowledge of this highly complex sector.

B.3 Investigative Journalism and Other Economic Governance Issues

Corruption is a complex phenomenon and a difficult problem in Mozambique. The estimated average annual cost of corruption, as observed during the ten years from 2004 to 2014, was up to US\$4.9 billion, equivalent to around 30% of the 2014 GDP and 60% of the 2015 budget.⁴ Investigative journalism allows reporters to run in-depth investigations of single or multiple stories that may uncover corruption instances and provide the public with crucial details, thus playing a vital role in raising awareness about corruption and combating

³ Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI).

⁴ Centro de Integridade Pública (CIP) and Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI). The costs of corruption to the Mozambican economy Why it is important to fight corruption in a climate of fiscal fragility. December 2016. Source: <https://www.cmi.no/publications/file/6027-the-costs-of-corruption-to-the-mozambican-economy.pdf> accessed on March 25, 2020.

it. In many countries, investigative journalists are among the most important sources of raising public awareness on corruption. In turn, civil society can pressure appropriate accountability institutions and the justice sector to act against corrupt officials. In addition, civil society can advocate to improve related legislation and its implementation, as well as force reforms of the public financial management framework. In addition, investigative journalism can uncover other economic governance related issues such as instances of abuse of power and inappropriate political influence or any other illegal and/or unethical practice by public officials.

B.4 Relevant USAID Media Strengthening Activities and Lessons Learned

USAID/Mozambique funded the US\$ 14.9 Million Media Strengthening Program (MSP) since June 2012 with the overall objective of supporting a free, open, diverse, and self-sustaining Mozambican media sector that provides high quality information to all citizens. The program trained 204 emergent journalists and 1,428 in-service journalists; provided targeted customized assistance to 14 of the 116 media outlets to increase their revenue and improve their operational efficiency and cost effectiveness; and, strengthened 36 media associations in advocacy for freedom of expression and supported TV Surdo in TV news production for people with disabilities. Three different components of the program continued activities after the project ended, namely: (1) Media Lab, (2) H2N, and (3) TV Surdo. Media Lab is an independent, legally established not-for-profit association whose aim is to promote media development and journalist education through intensive in-depth training of journalists and customized assistance to build capacity of media outlets. The H2N association specializes in the implementation of local health communication projects. TV Surdo provides information and promotes access, inclusion and participation of people with disabilities.

USAID conducted a mid-term evaluation of USAID's Media Strengthening Project in 2015 that addressed discrete components of that project, specifically, the results achieved in: (1) increasing the level of professionalization of the Mozambican media sector, (2) improving the financial capacity of Mozambique's media sector, and (3) Mozambican media organizations displaying an increased ability to advocate for press freedom and for a legal environment that enables media freedom. The evaluation concluded that qualitative findings indicated that the activity contributed to improved journalism responding to a wide range of needs. While it acknowledged the activity's contribution to improving the business sustainability of partner outlets, it noted that partner outlets continued to face significant challenges to their financial capacity and long term viability, and that the activity "just scratched the surface of its work in building financial capacity."⁵

On August 8, 2018, USAID's Mozambique Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism and Services (MMEMS) organized a half-day learning event, with 15 local media actors (four female) covering a wide range of local media, including the private-independent media, government owned-media, community radios, and investigative journalists. Using an online voting mechanism, participants' opinions on: (i) importance of media; (ii) journalist skills and business; and, (iii) limiting factors, were surveyed. A wide majority (85%) of respondents partially (54%) or completely (31%) agreed that Mozambican media provides relevant information to citizens. A significant majority (77%) partially (31%) or completely (46%) agreed that poor journalist skills are among the major problems in the Mozambican media. The same majority (77%) agreed that investigative journalism is poor in Mozambique. A majority (84%) of respondents also partially (15%)

⁵ DRG Learning, Evaluation and Research Activity: Mid-Term Performance Evaluation of the USAID Media Strengthening Program, 2015 USAID/NORC at the University of Chicago, Abbott, Grant, Hendley.

or completely (69%) agreed that political power significantly limits the freedom of press. The same majority (85%) agreed that the government limits press freedom by restricting advertisement from the state-owned enterprises to independent media. Corruption was deemed as another limiting factor. Indeed, the majority (69%) partially (38%) or completely (31%) agreed that corruption significantly influences the media sector. As a result, most respondents (77%) agreed that self-censorship is a prevailing practice in the Mozambican media.

C. PROBLEM ANALYSIS

Mozambican investigative journalism is challenged by (1) poor investigative journalistic capacity; (2) lack of financial incentives for investigating and reporting issues, and (3) constrained operating environment for investigative journalism.

Poor investigative journalistic capacity:

The 2017 Media Sustainability Index⁶ report, in which Mozambique scored a 1.77 in professional journalism, stated: “*Although there are mid- and higher-level institutions that train journalists, too many journalists are poorly trained.*” The report, which also looked at quality niche reporting including investigative reporting, indicated that very few quality niche reports have been published in Mozambique, and that “*the few journalists who cover specific areas do so without any training, guided only by curiosity and interest.*”

Investigative journalists in Mozambique have few opportunities for training and skill development. Nonetheless, skills and techniques used in investigative reporting must cover a range of activities, from generating story ideas to planning the investigation, interviewing, researching, and writing an impactful story. The requisite skills include: identifying topics worth investigating; designing an investigation plan; choosing sources; techniques of forensic interviewing; research tools; data handling; use of public records and other resources; use of access to information laws and databases; story development; fact-checking; and ethical and legal issues to abide by during the investigation. Journalists also need to be aware of safety and security risks inherent in the work, both in the physical and digital space, and how to mitigate these risks (e.g. conduct of due diligence, high level of digital hygiene practice). Investigative journalism also requires that reporters develop a full set of other attributes: courage, passion, curiosity, initiative, logical thinking, flexibility, and communication skills.

Besides these skills and attributes, the issues in the areas of natural resources management and economic governance can be complex and nuanced, and investigative journalists will need opportunities to gain a fuller understanding of these more specialized topics in order to produce deeper more explanatory coverage. At the same time, they would also need to be able to translate the specialized subjects for wider consumption by an audience with varying familiarity with the issues.

⁶ The Media Sustainability Index score ranges from 1-4, from least to increasing sustainability. A score between 1-2 indicates an unsustainable mixed system where the “country minimally meets objectives, with segments of the legal system and government opposed to a free media system. Evident progress in free-press advocacy, increased professionalism, and new media businesses may be too recent to judge sustainability.” ([Media Sustainability Index 2017, The Development of Sustainable Independent Media in Mozambique](#))

Finally, in order to reinforce the skills and attributes required for successful investigative reporting, reporters need to work closely with an editor or mentor over a sustained period. A mentor “*trains a reporter with exercises and repetitive tasks, he also works with the reporter on a story like a trainer would work with a fighter in a boxing match, helping them figure out a strategy, pointing out weaknesses of the opponent, focusing the boxer on their technique, fixing them when they are bleeding, and motivating them to get up and go another round.*”⁷ This also helps form relationships and a network of contacts that can be essential when investigating stories that do not necessarily respect national boundaries.

Lack of financial incentives for investigating and reporting:

Investigative journalism often requires a relatively extended time to gather, process, and understand information. One estimate states that it can “*cost newsrooms up to \$300,000 and six months of a reporter’s time to do a deep dive into public interest issues like crime and corruption. In one case, it cost a newsroom \$487,000 to produce an investigative series on local police shootings.*”⁸ Similar to other African countries, investigative journalism in Mozambique is desperately unsupported and underfunded. The weak business structure in most Mozambican media outlets and lack of alternative sources of media financing present a huge economic challenge to their engagement in investigative journalism.

Most of the country’s media outlets operate under severe difficulties, being often underfunded and facing serious financial difficulties in raising revenues. The country’s economic crisis, resulting from the disclosure of hidden government loans, has hit circulation and advertising revenues of independent media. High interest rates hinder media outlets from borrowing, limiting modernization of high-cost operating equipment, with potential consequences on business viability. With these challenges, the media outlets cannot afford to support investigative journalism units or even sponsor their journalists to embark in the often costly endeavor of investigating and reporting issues.

Constrained operating environment for investigative journalism:

Investigative journalism is more likely to flourish where freedom of information is present than in an environment with prevailing press censorship. As noted previously, one way the government limits press freedom is through advertising restrictions. Other limitations also result from practical limitations that hinder full implementation of the Freedom of Information Act approved in January 2016. For instance, the regulation requires that all government institutions have an Information Officer who will be responsible for handling information requests. Given the shortage of human resources, this measure is virtually impossible for many government institutions to meet and has been used as a basis by some government institutions to decline requests of information. In addition, the fees a requestor must pay for copies of requested documents is also a barrier as these fees are not affordable for most of the population. Another issue is that civil

⁷ Sullivan, D. Want more Panama Papers, here’s how. Foreign Policy. April 22, 2016. Source: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2016/04/11/want-more-panama-papers-heres-how/>

⁸ Stanford Engineering. Investigative Journalism could make a comeback thanks to data. Stanford University. October 2018. Source: <https://engineering.stanford.edu/magazine/article/investigative-journalism-could-make-comeback-thanks-data> Accessed on March 23, 2020.

servants often deny access to information, thus undermining the possibility for local oversight and monitoring of public sector performance.

Other statutes in the legal framework also limit media freedom. For instance, libeling the head of state and other political figures is considered a security offense, deterring journalists from writing freely. Libel and defamation cases can lead to fines, prison terms of up to two years, and a media outlet's suspension, consequences that may also limit the ability of investigative journalists to carry out investigations that can expose senior government officials. In 2015, two individuals were acquitted of charges stemming from a post on social media in which a prominent economist was critical of then-President Armando Guebuza. The text of the post was republished by MediaFax and Canal de Moçambique. The economist was charged under the law on crimes against state security. The Mediafax editor, Fernando Mbanze, was charged under the "abuse of press freedom."⁹ In 2018, Matias Guente, the executive director of Canal de Moçambique, was acquitted in a defamation suit filed by a former Bank of Mozambique administrator who alleged she was defamed and slandered by a caricature published by the weekly. More recently, the Attorney General's Office named Mozambican journalists Fernando Veloso and Matias Guente, respectively the editorial director and executive director of Canal de Moçambique, as suspects on charges of violating state secrecy for publishing an alleged confidential agreement on security at gas project construction sites in Cabo Delgado.

In addition to legal liability, investigative journalists can be exposed to physical and digital security risks. Several recent cases of Mozambican journalists being assaulted, harassed, or disappearing have been documented, often with the occurrence of these events following publications on corruption or misuse of public funds.¹⁰ In addition to attacks on individual journalists, the offices of media outlet Canal de Moçambique was extensively damaged in 2020 in a case of arson. The attack occurred a few days after the newspaper published an investigative piece alleging unethical procurement by individuals associated with the Ministry of Resources and Energy. Given these administrative, legal, and security challenges, there is a clear need for effective functional investigative journalism network(s) that can advocate for investigative reporters. In addition, linking journalists in viable networks can also foster collaborative relationships. In this way, limited resources to be leveraged and the potential to produce meaningful content increases. Unfortunately, according to the Media Sustainability Index report, "many professional associations in Mozambique are moribund or serve to prop up political interests...any practicing journalist can become a member of the National Union of Journalists (SNJ), for instance, but it rarely speaks out in defense of its members or the profession."

D. GOAL, PURPOSE, AND OBJECTIVES

The goal of this activity is for Mozambican citizens to be better informed and motivated to participate in governance processes. The activity's purpose is to strengthen investigative journalism in Mozambique in the

⁹ The editor of Canal de Mocambique, Fernando Veloso, was also charged but was receiving medical treatment in Portugal. He was not tried in absentia. (Media Law, Ethics, and Policy in the Digital Age, 2017, Nhamo A. Mhiripiri, Tendai Chari eds).

¹⁰ Some of these recent cases include: Ibraimo Mbaruco, a community radio journalist in Cabo Delgado, disappeared in April 2020. Investigative journalist Armando Nенаe was arrested and detained for over a day in August 2020 for alleged noncompliance with COVID-19 regulations; however, the arrest came after publishing a story on Moz24h.co.mz about depositing funds into a former Defence Minister's personal bank account. Omardine Omar, a Carta de Moçambique journalist investigating allegations of police bribing the public not complying with COVID-19 regulations, was arrested and detained by police in June 2020.

areas of reporting on natural resources and economic governance. To achieve this purpose, the activity will (1) strengthen the skills of Mozambican journalists to investigate natural resources management and other economic governance-related issues to improve accountability in those areas; (2) support investigative journalism initiatives; and, (3) improve advocacy mechanisms for investigative journalists. The proposed results framework with illustrative indicators is shown in Figure 1. The associated milestones are discussed in Section A, Part E below.

The draft theory of change for this activity is: if investigative journalism skills of Mozambican journalists are strengthened, and if investigative journalism initiatives are increased, and if support systems for investigative journalism are improved, then investigative journalism in Mozambique in the areas of natural resources management and economic governance will be strengthened.

The activity will provide specific training and investigative incentives for at least fifty (50) journalists and six (6) media outlets nationwide. To ensure that information is produced and reported back to communities where the natural resources abound and are extracted, and in order to align the program with USAID’s geographic scope, at least ten (10) journalists and three (3) media houses should be selected from the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Zambézia.

This activity will support the CDCS Development Objective (DO) 1: Strengthened Democratic Governance of Mozambican Institutions and more directly supports the 2015-2019 Democracy, Human Rights and Governance (DRG) Project Appraisal Document (PAD), Intermediate Result (IR) 1: More effective civil society participation in governance processes, and more specifically the Sub-IR 1.1: Citizens better informed of rights and responsibilities. In the newly approved CDCS, this activity supports DO 2: Diversified and inclusive growth, and IR 2.1 Targeted democratic processes strengthened.

Figure 1. Results framework proposed for REAJIR. All indicators included are illustrative; applicants are not limited to these indicators and can propose alternate or additional ones but must clearly define which results are being measured.

<p align="center"><i>Strengthened Investigative Journalism in Natural Resources Management and Other Economic Governance Issues”</i> <i>(Reforço da Actividade de Jornalismo Investigativo em Recursos Naturais e outros assuntos de Governação Económica” or REAJIR)</i></p>			
Goal	Mozambican citizens are better informed and motivated to improve their lives and participate in governance processes.		
Purpose	To strengthen investigative journalism in Mozambique in the areas of natural resources management and economic governance <i># of high quality IJ pieces published from year to year, or % increase in high quality IJ pieces published from year to year</i>		
Outcomes	Investigative journalistic skills strengthened.	Investigative journalism initiatives incentivized.	Advocacy mechanisms for investigative journalism improved.
Outputs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training program developed. • Individuals trained (in basic, intermediate, advanced investigative and reporting skills; and investigating and reporting on natural resources and economic governance issues). • Skills reinforced/ internalized through internships/mentorships, conferences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independent review committee established. • IJ agreements negotiated. • IJ pieces published. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form or revitalize investigative journalists networks • Strengthen linkages among networks to increase collaboration and advocacy; • Strengthen linkages with international networks

Illustrative Indicators	<i>% of trained journalists demonstrating increased IJ skills; # of journalists employing increased IJ skills to report on focus subject areas; # of training days provided to journalists with USG assistance (DR5.2-1)</i>	<i># agreements signed; # of media outlets (or newsrooms or networks) engaged in IJ projects; #IJ projects meeting committee criteria</i>	<i># of IJ networks established; # of advocacy actions taken by networks; # of collaborative work products undertaken by networks; Number of USG-assisted media-sector civil society organizations (CSO) and/or institutions that serve to strengthen the independent media or journalists (DR 5.2-3)</i>
Target	Provide support to at least fifty (50) journalists and six (6) media outlets nationwide, with at least 10 journalists and 3 media outlets selected from the provinces of Cabo Delgado, Nampula, and Zambézia.		

E. ACTIVITIES, MILESTONES, AND TIMELINES

E.1 Activities and Milestones for Strengthening Investigative Journalistic Skills

The main objective is to provide to around fifty (50) journalists the mind set and the tools of investigative journalism. Participants will have opportunities to deeply research selected topics through publicly available information, selective interviews, and investigative reporting techniques; and, write an in-depth article or produce audio/video programs. Training will review the critical role that investigative reporting plays in democratic societies, more specifically, how good investigative reporting can contribute to greater accountability in modern societies. In addition, training will motivate participants' logical critical thinking ability, encourage curiosity, initiative, passion, courage, and empower them with communication skills. For a select number of individuals, the skills and attributes will be reinforced through on-the-job training or internships that would allow for job-shadowing and mentorship with more experienced investigative editors or journalists, either locally or internationally. Professional development will also be available for some individuals through participation in relevant international conferences to further the learning of ideas, approaches, and tools as well as to increase opportunities for networking and future collaborations (thereby also contributing to the third objective). The IP may choose to form an independent committee of media experts early (also discussed in this Section, Parts E.2, F.1 and G.4) to provide input and guidance in the development of the training program and criteria for recruitment. The milestones to be accomplished under this objective are included in Table 1 and described below:

(Milestone 1) Development of investigative journalism (IJ) training program: The Implementing Partner (IP) will develop a detailed investigative journalism training program including curriculum, subjects, and methodologies for the three training program phases (foundational, intermediate, advanced), where participants' expertise is improved gradually. For instance, while an entry level might focus on building fundamental blocks, participants in the intermediate level will examine how investigative journalism is conceived, researched, and written to fit all media platforms, including traditional, digital, and social. The advanced level may involve embarking in a medium or long-term project, testing and re-testing the hypothesis throughout the investigation, and shifting direction when the reporting dictates that the story direction has changed. An important feature of the training will be helping participants understand how local stories connect to global issues and how they can draw support from existing networks of investigative journalists. The curriculum will include, among others, how to investigate issues related to natural resources management, such as disclosures of information related to the rules for how the extractive sector is managed, laws and procedures for the award of exploration and production rights, the legal, regulatory and

contractual framework, the institutional responsibilities of the State in managing the sector, State-owned enterprises (SOEs) comprehensive disclosure of taxes and revenues collections and allocation, etc. It will also include an understanding of administrative challenges, legal liabilities, and physical and digital security issues that they could encounter, and what can be done to reduce those risks. It should also cover any revisions to existing laws affecting the press and the implications of these regulations on the practice of investigative journalism.

Thematic focus will be given to understanding the nuances and complexities of issues in natural resources management and economic governance, and how to communicate these subjects to a broader audience. For example, the development and exploitation of oil, gas, and mining resources is a critical and complex topic for investigative journalists. Estimates indicate that revenues from natural resource extraction, particularly oil and gas, will contribute substantially to the Mozambican GDP, to the point of making up the bulk of government revenue. The companies in the extractive sector are large and influential. How the revenues they generate are spent affects economic growth, the environment, domestic security, and social well-being. Other issues that could be explored include the gendered dimensions of the extractive industry with respect to involuntary land resettlement, extractives-associated sex work, and gender-based violence.

In addition to the curriculum, the IP will be required to outline rules and conduct the recruitment process of potential participants. Selection of participants should prioritize candidates that have demonstrated ability of critical thinking, analysis, and synthesis. Prior exposure to comprehensive journalist training programs and experience in investigative journalism will be an advantage; however, individuals who may not have received specialized journalism training but have demonstrated an aptitude for investigative journalism (for e.g. individuals from university journalism centers or watchdog organizations with journalism endeavors, credible bloggers) should also be considered. In addition, the IP should ensure participant selection criteria includes gender and youth representation, particularly from impacted areas. As part of this milestone, the IP will submit, as part of their quarterly report for this period, a list of at least 50 selected participants and a list of potential alternates, along with a brief resume of each. The IP will also submit a workplan, an activity MEL plan, and a gender analysis during this reporting period.

This milestone is expected to be completed not later than **three (3) months** after the award date.

(Milestone 2) Investigative journalism training program delivered: The IP will ensure that the training program developed in Milestone 1 is delivered to recruited participants. At least 80% of participants should successfully accomplish the training objectives. The training reports, which will be included as part of the quarterly reports submitted for these periods, will cover the three phases of the training program, foundational, intermediate and advanced training, and will also report the percentage of participants successfully accomplishing training objectives for each phase. A baseline report, important for establishing intervention conditions and providing a basis for the results, will also be submitted during this reporting period. This milestone is expected to be completed between the **3rd and 12th month** of the award date.

(Milestone 3) Investigative journalists learn from international experiences: The IP will organize and support the participation of up to twelve (12) investigative journalists in one or more international conferences, for a total of five days per conference per participant. While preference will be given to training program participants, senior investigative journalists who have not gone through the program but who have proven experience can also be supported. Participation in international learning conferences must

be summarized in applicable quarterly reports, and individual trip reports must be submitted for the applicable period. This milestone is expected to be completed between the 9th and 24th month of the award date.

(Milestone 4) Investigative journalists participate in internships, mentorships, job-shadowing. In addition to the skill-building curriculum, a select number of individuals will participate in internships in international or local newsrooms, mentored by experienced investigative editors or journalists, including women media leaders who may serve as mentors for women seeking a career in investigative journalism. A learning-by-doing experience will expose the individual to the demands and challenges of investigative journalism, allowing for real world application of skills while also learning from more experienced colleagues. Local internships can be done concurrent with the training program if feasible while international internships will be upon completion of training. Interns would likely benefit most from a longer-term mentorship, however, in the case of international internships where this may not be financially feasible, the IP can propose creative solutions to continue the mentoring relationships upon return (e.g virtual).

The IP will organize and support a minimum of six (6) individuals to participate in international internships. The IP will submit the following documents for USAID approval and acceptance: (1) terms of reference (goal, objectives, results); (2) identification of hosting institution and proof of acceptance to host the program; (3) list of beneficiaries (including name, province, and resumes). The status of this component will be summarized in quarterly reports submitted for the applicable periods. These quarterly reports will include the job shadowing or internship reports completed during that period. This milestone is expected to be completed between the 12th and 27th month of the award date.

E.2 Activities and Milestones for Incentivizing Investigative Journalism Initiatives in Natural Resources Management and Other Economic Governance Issues

There is a large scope for investigative journalists to report on in the areas of natural resources management and economic governance related issues: from absolute corruption to bad practices, where countries fail to calculate and collect the right value of their resources, and/or when the revenues raised are not appropriately allocated. Complex stories can expose how well-intentioned actions can have unintended adverse effects, such as the Dutch disease. These investigations can also uncover impacts and unintended consequences on local communities, including women and youth. Investigating and reporting on these issues is essential if the media will act as the much-needed watchdog in a complex and often cloudy industry. Investigating oil, gas, and mining can be more complex than other kinds of business reporting since journalists often need to track a range of companies and players with different kinds of tax regimes, labor conditions, and environmental and contractual agreements. Other natural resources management topics, no less complex, may also be considered. Poorly funded news outlets with overstretched editorial staff simply do not necessarily have the time, money, will, or expertise to cover these stories in enough detail. With the sector lacking resources to embark on these costly investigations, there is a need to provide immediate support to local media outlets by channeling incentives to existing newsrooms committed to undertaking investigative journalism in these sectors. An independent committee of experts in the media sector (also discussed in this Section, Parts E.1, F.1 and G.4) will be formed to establish criteria, and review and approve agreements and ensuing

investigative pieces to ensure criteria have been met. The milestones to be accomplished under this objective are included in Table 1 and described below:

(Milestone 5) Investigative teams undertake IJ projects: The IP will engage in negotiations and sign up to twenty (20) agreements with investigative teams to undertake investigative journalism projects on agreed upon topics, mainly related but not limited to natural resources management and economic governance issues. The agreements could be with media outlets, newsrooms, journalist networks/consortiums, university journalism centers, or watchdog organizations with journalism endeavors. The investigation should satisfy the following minimum requirements: (1) will need an extensive period of investigation; (2) will investigate a recognized major issue for the country; and (3) will be approved by an independent committee of experts. The IP will assemble and support an independent committee of reputable experts in media that will set the specific criteria for review of the agreements, conduct the review and assure that each agreement and subsequent news article/report has fully met the required criteria set for investigative journalism. The IP will provide continuous orientation, guidance, and support to the investigative teams throughout the entire period of the agreement. The status of negotiations must be summarized in quarterly reports submitted for the applicable period. Signed agreements approved by the independent committee must also be submitted to USAID. This milestone is expected to be completed between the third **12th and 18th month** of the award date.

(Milestone 6) Investigative reports are published: The IP will work with partner media outlets, newsrooms, or networks to ensure the agreed upon investigative journalism reporting piece (articles, audio/video productions) is published. The published reporting piece (article, audio/video) will have an accompanying written “investigation summary” that will provide details of the steps taken during the investigation, number of interviews, and the anticipated impact of the report. The independent committee of experts in media will evaluate each reporting piece and ensure that each meets the agreement requirements. Only reporting pieces meeting the requirements will be reimbursed. Quarterly reports will include the status of reporting pieces approved by the independent committee, and published pieces with their accompanying investigation summary will be submitted to USAID. This milestone is expected to be completed between the **12th and 30th month** of the award date.

E.3 Activities and Milestones for Improving Advocacy Mechanisms for Investigative Journalism

Investigative journalism networks are essential platforms to support the self-reliance and resilience of investigative reporters and are often the most effective advocacy vehicles for investigative journalism. These networks or associations can provide resources and networking services to investigative journalists nationwide, assisting in the formation and sustainability of journalism organizations involved in investigative reporting, supporting and promoting best practices and efforts to ensure free access to public documents and data, nationally and worldwide. Linking practitioners fosters collaborative working relationships through exchanges of ideas, practices, sources, research, access to documents, and possibly legal support. Linked networks can increase access to databases and publicly available information, develop a broad base of reliable sources, improve investigative techniques through training and expert technical assistance and develop trusted relationships between journalists to further collaboration. Local networks provide a linkage mechanism between local journalists and international or global networks such as: the

Global Investigative Journalism Network (GIJN)¹¹, the US-based International Consortium of Investigative Journalists (ICIJ)¹², the Brazilian Association of Investigative Journalism (ABRAJI), the African Investigative Journalism Conference (AIJC), and the Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), among others. These organizations are important for advocacy, serving as constant voices demanding improvement in the media operating environment and in the protection of journalists' rights, including advocating for improved legal frameworks to protect freedom of the press. The milestones to be accomplished under this objective are included in Table 1 and described below:

(Milestone 7) Formal Mozambican investigative journalists networks are functional: The IP will support Mozambican investigative journalists to organize into formal active networks or associations. The IP will also ensure the local networks are linked to international networks. The quarterly reports for the reporting periods during which this milestone is implemented should include a status report on this milestone, including operational information on how the network(s) are formalized (including but not limited to information on its mission, organizational structure, financial sustainability, etc.) as well as information on activities the networks or associations have conducted to support and advocate for their members and to increase collaboration (e.g. outreach activities, association meetings, events), and on activities to advocate for an improved operating environment, including the legal framework. This milestone is expected to be completed between the third **22nd and 33rd month** of the award date.

(Milestone 8) International conference of investigative journalism: The IP will support Mozambican network(s) or association(s) of investigative journalists to organize an international investigative journalism conference in partnership with a recognized international IJ organization, with participation of at least 50 Mozambican investigative journalists and 20 international investigative journalists. Verification documents specified in Table 1 must be submitted. In addition, the draft final report to be submitted during this time period should include a synthesis of the entire activity, including this milestone. This milestone is expected to be completed between the third **33rd and 35th** month of the award date.

(Milestone 9) Final report: The final report must summarize the work carried out over the life of the activity, including the results achieved and problems encountered, as well as a summary of context and design of the activity, key activities, performance and achievements, lessons learned, and other relevant information as the IP may choose. The IP must indicate which areas are, in its judgment, most appropriate for continued activities in the future. This milestone is expected to be completed not later than **36 months** after the award date.

E.4 Milestone Summary Table

The milestone description, output, timeline, cost, and verification methods are included below. The reports for this program are further described in Section F of this NOFO. Quarterly Reports coinciding with the US fiscal year's fourth quarter should contain a section summarizing activities and numbers achieved during the last 12 months (or year). The section could be titled "Summary of Annual Achievements".

Table 1. List of milestones to be achieved for REAJIR activity. Additional information is provided in Sections E.1 to E.3.

¹¹ <https://gijn.org/>

¹² <https://www.icij.org/about/>

Milestone # and Description	Output	Method of Verification	Deadline	Amount
Objective: Strengthening investigative journalistic skills.				
1. Development of investigative journalism training program and enrollment of participants	Detailed investigative journalism training program for three main phases (curriculum, subject, methodology, etc for foundational, intermediate, advanced); and trainees recruited (recruitment process, list of 50 participants)	Review of: Annual Workplan (draft, final) Quarterly Report to include: -Training program -List of enrolled participants and resume MEL PlanGender Analysis	Months 1 to 3	TBD Half of this amount will be disbursed at submittal of draft workplan; balance to be paid at submittal of remaining documents used for verification
2. Investigative journalism training program delivered	Training reports for the three main phases of the training program, and at least 80% of participants successfully accomplish training objectives	Review/approval of: Quarterly Reports to include: -Training reports per phase	Months 3 to 12 Foundational Training to be completed by month 6; Intermediate Training to be completed by month 9; Advanced Training to be completed by month 12	Up to a total of TBD Amount in dollars per training program, with at least 80% of participants per phase successfully accomplishing training objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TBD for Foundational training – at least 50 participants ● TBD for Intermediate training at least 40 participants ● TBD for Advanced Training for at least 32 participants
3. Investigative journalists learn from international experiences	Trip report; at least 12 investigative journalists participate in international conferences	Review/approval of: Quarterly Reports to include: -summary of IJ participation in international conferences Trip reports Baseline Report	Months 9 to 24	Up to a total of TBD <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TBD per journalist participating in international conference
4. Investigative journalists participate in internships	Job shadowing or internships reports; at least 6 investigative journalists participate in 1, 2 and 3-month job shadowing or internships in newsrooms with strong investigative components	Review/ approval of: Quarterly Reports to include: -summary of status of implementation of internship component	Months 12 to 27	Up a total of TBD Amounts per journalist participating in job shadowing and internships abroad: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TBD for one month (2 journalists); ● TBD for 2 months (2 journalists);

		-Job shadowing or internship reports		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TBD for 3 months (2 journalists);
Objective 2: Incentivizing investigative journalism initiatives.				
5. Media outlets or newsroom undertake twenty (20) major journalistic investigations	Signed agreements with thirty (30) media outlets, newsrooms or journalist networks or consortiums, committing to undertake investigative journalism on agreed upon topics, meeting criteria approved by an independent committee.	<p>Submittal of:</p> <p>Quarterly Reports to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -status of agreement negotiations -Signed agreements meeting criteria approved by independent committee 	Months 12 to 18	Up to a total of TBD TBD will be transferred by the activity to each media outlet, newsroom or independent journalist entering the program.
6. Twenty (20) major journalistic investigations are published by media outlets, newsrooms or independent journalists	Published reporting piece, with accompanying (unpublished) investigation summary report evidencing the steps taken during the investigation, number of interviews and the anticipated impact of the report.	<p>Submittal of:</p> <p>Quarterly Reports to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -status of reporting pieces approved by independent committee -Reporting pieces evaluated and approved by independent committee -Investigation summaries 	Months 12 to 30	Up to a total of TBD TBD will be transferred by the activity for each completed and published report of major journalistic investigation The IP will retain TBD per completed and published report.
Objective 3: Improving advocacy mechanisms for investigative journalism.				
7. Formal Mozambican investigative journalists networks are functional	Reports of the operations and activities of investigative journalist networks or associations	<p>Review of:</p> <p>Quarterly Reports to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -progress reports on network or associations 	Months 22 to 33	Up to a total of TBD TBD per report
8. International investigative conference organized in Mozambique	International investigative journalism conference organized in partnership with a recognized international IJ organizations (participation of at least 50 Mozambican IJs and 20 international IJ in the conference)	<p>Submittal of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -attendance list initialed by participant and verified by IP -conference proceedings summary <p>Draft Final Report to include synthesis of entire activity, including conference</p>	Months 33 to 35	TBD

9. Final report	Final Report	Review of: -Final report	Month 36	TBD
TOTAL AMOUNT				TBD

F. TECHNICAL APPROACH CONSIDERATIONS

F.1 Consultation with the Sector

In line with the strategy to build greater sustainability and self-reliance of the investigative journalism field, the activity should establish an early and ongoing strong collaboration and consultation mechanism with the investigative journalism networks locally and internationally and the other media sector stakeholders. This continuing consultative approach may include setting up a formal structure to advise the activity, such as a multi-stakeholder committee, composed of respected and influential figures from within the investigative journalism networks (such as editors, media owners, journalism educators, and influential journalists). Such a committee will be responsible for setting the requirements and evaluating investigative journalism reporting included in Milestone 5 and 6, and could also be a mechanism used earlier in the process to ensure technical rigor and transparency at the various stages of the activity (see also Section G.4).

F.2 Integration with Other USAID Programming

USAID/Mozambique’s work in other development sectors involves a substantial amount of resources that can be embezzled or used ineffectively by partner institutions. In some instances, these activities benefit from some in-depth investigative reporting. The activity should proactively reach out to other USAID implementing partners in other development sectors to enrich the information ecosystem and contribute to their ability to strengthen their intended results.

F.3 Gender Engagement

Promoting gender equality and advancing the status of women and girls is vital to achieving USAID’s development objectives. It is USAID policy that all applicants must mainstream and integrate gender into their interventions. The applicant will be expected to demonstrate compliance with USAID Policy ADS 205 and should explicitly state how this activity supports the gender policies and strategies of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Mozambique. While the application should contain an initial gender analysis, the applicant should plan to conduct a full gender analysis with an action plan following the award. The IP must also designate a Gender point of contact.

An earlier, 2012 analysis was done of how the Mozambican media addressed gender and provided several recommendations that continue to be relevant to this and other activities:

- Efforts to strengthen civil society and civic advocacy must prioritize gender issues and gender inclusivity in partner groups.
- Activities should target equal participation of men and women. Some activities may strive to increase female participation. For example, the applicant should consider whether male and female journalists have the same flexibility to participate in weekend-long seminars and what can be done to design workshops to meet the needs of female and male participants. In addition to equal participation, it is important to ensure that the environment in which women and other minorities are

invited is equitable, and that efforts are taken to deal with harassment and misconduct. Bringing a diverse group into a traditionally non-diverse environment may require out of the box thinking on ethics training and codes of conduct.

- Activities should actively seek to ensure women’s involvement in leadership roles and in making critical design, implementation, and evaluation decisions. For example, the applicant should consider if gender disparities are reflected in the types of journalistic pieces produced or expected (i.e. who gets the substantive transformative pieces, who is relegated to the “fluff” pieces), and whether women are also represented in leadership roles (e.g. mentors).
- The applicant should consider how activities will link with activities in other sectors and strengthen the gender approach in existing and future programs to ensure that there are no missed opportunities to reach more Mozambicans, particularly in services to meet the basic needs of women and girls.

In a 2015 mid-term evaluation of a prior USAID media support activity, program beneficiaries reported that women’s participation is “lacking in the Mozambican media sector and change in this area is expected to be very gradual.” The evaluation found that “journalists and managers at outlets are widely supportive of female participation in the media sector at all levels.” The evaluation concluded by specifying the need to continue and expand efforts “to promote increased women’s participation in the media sector and application of a gender perspective in the production of media content.” The evaluation found that women media professionals were eager to participate in media and most male counterparts were supportive of their expanded participation; and that reporting “would be further strengthened by the application of a gendered perspective when selecting content and deciding how to cover it.”

Opportunities proposed in the evaluation included: (1) collaboration with Mozambican women media leaders who may serve as role models for women seeking a career in journalism, and that “highlighting these individuals can encourage women and men to reconsider stereotypes about who should be in a newsroom and managing media outlets”; and (2) promotion of gender policies within media outlets, as the lack of gender policies “makes it particularly hard for supportive media professionals to impel change within their outlets”. The evaluation focused primarily on women working in the Maputo-based media. However, gender dynamics vary in the provinces of the country; and, there may be additional varying barriers to women’s ability to work in the media in some regions.

F.4 Youth Engagement

Youth is a key focus group for USAID and for the media sector. Mozambique’s high fertility rate has led to a significant “youth bulge,” meaning a large share of the population are children or young adults. Nearly 45% of the population is aged 15 or under (nearly 13 million people) and at current rates, the absolute number of these individuals is expected to rise to 20 million by 2040¹³, presenting enormous economic and social challenges. Among these, there is a relatively high dependency ratio (ratio of elderly and youth to working age population), which means that a relatively small portion of the active population must provide for the needs of a large segment of the population. As a result, the government’s ability to provide services such as health, education, water and sanitation, is strained and the economy is unable to supply jobs and entrepreneurial opportunities, leading to high unemployment among youth. The combined impact of a youth bulge, poverty, unemployment, and lack of access to economic opportunities, can drive social and political

¹³ Prospects and Challenges: Mozambique’s Growth and Human Development Outlook to 2040. Porter, Alex; Bohl, David; Kwasi, Stella; Honnenfeld, Zachary and Cilliers, Jakkie. Institute for Security Studies. Irish AID. June 2017.

exclusion and ultimately unrest and internal instability. Sustaining interventions can help ensure that the youth of today will be able to contribute to the economy and society far into the future.

A USAID sponsored study conducted by International Youth Foundation (IYF)¹⁴ revealed that, in general, “*young people access media outlets to become informed about the political climate in Mozambique, although many are skeptical of political influence on the media*”. Most young people reported that certain media, including radio outlets are politically biased. The same study revealed that young people feel that the media in general does not provide them with many channels to express their ideas. This points to the opportunity for media outlets to serve as hubs providing not only relevant information to young people but also as hubs and vehicles for local youth to express themselves.

Additionally, the USAID/Mozambique Nationwide Youth Assessment completed in July 2020, showed that given the opportunity, many young people use social media, particularly Facebook, to receive and share information, as well as engage on trending topics. Due to the fact that telecommunication companies in Mozambique do not charge a data fee for accessing Facebook (as they do for using WhatsApp, Instagram, and generally surfing the web), the young people surveyed in the youth assessment said they preferred using Facebook over community radio, to get information. Instant information, instant engagement, and choosing the topics you want to learn about is part of the increasing appeal. It also allows young people to get information that is neither district or regionally specific, affording the opportunity to connect with youth and communities in other parts of the country. Although internet penetration in Mozambique is relatively low, young people are keen to engage on social media, and do so whenever given the opportunity.

Based on the knowledge drawn through these and other studies, REAJIR can play a vital role in strengthening youth participation in the society. Many young people are using social media to voice concerns, share ideas, and connect with people throughout Mozambique and Africa in general. Moreover, in the COVID-19 environment, more and more young people are finding ways to engage virtually, and more information is being shared by both the Mozambican government and civil society using virtual channels. As youth see the possibilities for accessing accurate and up to date information online, their interests are turning to the most modern methods of communication. USAID Youth Policy provides a conceptual framework that can guide the media to engage youth positively. The conceptual framework includes four interacting elements essential to strengthen youth in any development areas, including media: support, protect, prepare and engage. Engaging youth requires communication and innovation. As per the USAID Youth Policy, engaging youth should be done early and often. This means it is not adequate to just target youth with a prepared activity. To effectively target youth with appropriate interventions, youth must be engaged in the design, implementation and assessment of impact of individual interventions. Consider these factors when engaging and targeting youth:

- Engage youth early and often to ensure that activities are appropriately designed, and implementation is yielding desired results.
- Engage young people where they are, around topics that are important to them and have immediate impacts on their lives and their communities. *Although political participation is low among youth, many report being active in religious organizations, sports groups, environmental clubs, and have interest in entrepreneurship.* Support what young people are already doing.
- Invest in increasing research and the knowledge base on the effectiveness of youth programming.

¹⁴ Voices of the Next Generation: An Assessment of Youth in Mozambique. International Youth Foundation. June 2014. https://www.iyfnet.org/sites/default/files/library/YouthMap_Mozambique.pdf accessed on February 26,2020.

Under the previous MSP, most of the over 200 graduates from the Media Lab were youth (24-29). The large number of new media professionals is composed of young people, below the age of 29. Most of these young journalists enter the labor market for the first time and face challenges associated with their initiation into the working environment. REAJIR should continue to target these young journalists, ensuring that their capacity to thrive in the industry is strengthened and their preparedness for the labor market is improved. In addition, the program should be cognizant of the specific needs of this part of the population, by designing and implementing activities that ensure that their needs and issues are addressed appropriately by the media industry.

F.5 Private Sector Engagement

As stated in the [USAID Private Sector Engagement Policy](#), there can be a specific role for the private sector, particularly the business community, in development programs. Programming should therefore consider how it can partner with the private sector, particularly media outlets, newsrooms, independent journalists, or training centers with vested interest in investigative journalism. Additionally, due to the increasingly important nature of local content provision as well as using natural resource revenues to invest in economic diversification and local business, there may be interest within the business community, particularly through business associations, to support advocacy in this area.

Private sector engagement can also take the form of the use of technology to achieve the specified development objectives. Social media, including Facebook, WhatsApp, and increasingly (among an elite yet influential group of activists) LinkedIn, can be a tool for not only publishing content but also engaging audiences in ongoing dialogue, ensuring that important topics do not end with the 24 hour news cycle. Telecom companies may be a stakeholder worth engaging, to ensure that access to the internet, and thus the content created through this project, is increased.

G. STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

G.1 Local Systems

Applicants should propose an approach which works extensively through local media systems, be it traditional media and digital and social media system actors. Local media system actors should be involved to lead in their own development as co-implementers of the REAJIR, and at the same time, to build skills to promote greater self-reliance. The approach should include local partners to implement and manage programs, with plans that consider how efforts and cooperation will be sustained beyond the life of the activity. International partners should play a supporting role in local efforts to achieve self-reliance. Prior USAID media programming has established local organizations to provide vital services to the media sector where there were gaps, and worked alongside well-established and influential local players. The challenges of the next phase of programming include providing a broad network of local organizations, both new and old, the opportunities to:

- Operate independently and lead project implementation while maintaining high standards;
- Foster cooperation and collaboration within the sector so that local organizations are integrated into the media system and are accountable;

- Develop and adopt models for their operations that establish financial sustainability, and the professional skills needed to meet changing needs in a dynamic media landscape; and
- Advance their policies, governance, and management capacities so that they may be able to receive direct support from USAID.

G.2 Self-Reliance and Sustainability

By improving journalistic skills and professionalism in the media sector, USAID seeks to encourage an increase in relevant, timely, reliable, and high-quality information to citizens. These citizens, in turn, will be empowered to have meaningful participation in governance processes. Informed citizens will be able to seize economic opportunities and exercise their civic rights responsibly and hold governments accountable for their actions. Investments to improve media outlets' business sustainability will directly influence the ability of these outlets to generate domestic resources for their operations, resulting in viable businesses able to continue operations without donor funding. A vibrant, independent and impartial media sector promotes a more inclusive, participatory, and politically stable democracy.

REAJIR objectives will contribute to the self-reliance metric, Diagonal Accountability Index (VDem), by contributing to improve the quality of information provided to citizens, thus allowing them to exercise their rights and responsibilities. The activity is expected to directly improve the capacity of civil society. To ensure appropriate contribution and attribution of this activity towards the Diagonal Accountability Index (VDem), the activity will establish and track the evolution of these metrics throughout its implementation.

G.3 Science Technology Innovation and Partnerships (STIP)

With the increasing use of the internet, new forms of media are flourishing, and Mozambique still has much to do to close gaps and keep pace. This activity will promote extensive use of technological advances, where available, while at the same time invest to prepare future generations to take advantage of ongoing innovations in the media sector. Where feasible and appropriate, REAJIR will integrate science, technology, and innovation and establish strategic partnerships to improve program performance, cost-effectiveness, and to advance the achievement of program objectives.

G.4 Transparency and Accountability

Fostering transparency and accountability is an important focus area for the U.S. Mission in Mozambique and a core objective of USAID support to the media sector. At the activity level, transparency and accountability will be fostered by promoting regular mechanisms to ensure stronger collaboration and consultation with the media industry from the start, continuing a consultative approach that will include setting up a formal structure to advise the REAJIR. This may be in the form of a multi-stakeholder committee composed of respected and influential figures from within the media sector (e.g. editors, media owners, journalism educators). The applicant is encouraged to propose the best structure to meet this recommendation, while at the same time allowing the program to remain accountable to USAID policies, rules and regulations. In addition, stakeholders should be encouraged to participate in monitoring and evaluation activities. All data (as appropriate) generated by the program will be made broadly available to the public, government, and civil society stakeholders. The data should be easily accessible, reusable, complete, and timely. Broadly, REAJIR will ultimately support the provision of quality information to

citizens, thus contributing to build a society where citizens are better informed of their rights and responsibilities. Informed citizens are more empowered to effectively participate in governance processes and to demand greater effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of government institutions, thus improving broad diagonal accountability in Mozambique.

G.5 Environmental Compliance and Climate Risk Integration

The recipient must adhere to the conditions set forth in the *Strengthening Democratic Governance of Mozambique Institutions* Categorical Exclusion, under 22 CFR 216.2(c)(i),(iii) and (v) concerning training, and technical assistance, studies and workshops, information transfer, and design-related activities not directly affecting the environment.

G.6 Host Government, Donor, and Other Counterpart Collaboration

Although no GRM entity is anticipated to be a direct beneficiary of the program, the recipient is highly encouraged to engage relevant GRM institutions such as Gabinete de Informação (GABINFO), Instituto de Comunicação Social (ICS) and other local government entities, such as Provincial Governments. Where appropriate, the recipient will ensure engagement with GRM institutions both at the central and local level, on policy, alignment with national priorities, coordination, regular communication and strategic discussions to develop a shared vision for successful implementation of the activity.

The recipient is also encouraged to collaborate with other USAID funded program activities to develop synergies and maximize outcomes. Such activities include but are not limited to other USAID funded programs and other programs funded by USG Agencies such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Department of Defense, the Peace Corps, and the Department of State. Collaboration might include co-organization or joint trainings in communication of specific thematic issues such as the economy, extractive industry, and biodiversity.

G.7 Grants

The Recipient will manage a grants program of at least a third of the entire budget. The grants program will support achievement of program objectives. Initial beneficiaries of the grants will likely be targeted investigative journalists or media outlets. The grants can also be channeled through identified networks or other media sector organizations supporting investigative journalism. This activity will provide transition support aiming to build the capacity of some of these institutions to become USAID direct recipients. Special consideration should be given to initiatives aiming to support investigative journalism to widen their coverage and expand the topics they investigate and report on.

The following are additional details regarding the grants program that cannot be modified without prior approval of the USAID/Mozambique Office of Acquisition and Assistance (OAA):

- The recipient/contractor must submit a Grants Manual, no later than 30 days after award, detailing the process for identifying, evaluating, vetting, awarding, and monitoring grant activities. The Grants Manual will be approved by the Contracting/Agreement Officer.

- The Recipient/Contractor must comply in all material respects with USAID’s Automated Directives System (ADS) Chapter 303 (including mandatory and supplementary references) in awarding and administering grants.
- The total value of an individual grant to a U.S. organization must not exceed \$100,000.
- USAID retains the ability to terminate the grant activities unilaterally in extraordinary circumstances.
- Construction activities are not allowed under grants. The definition of construction is available here: <http://inside.usaid.gov/ADS/300/303maw.pdf>.
- All grants must be completed six months prior to the end of the project.

H. COLLABORATING, LEARNING AND ADAPTING

This activity is expected to contribute to USAID/Mozambique’s commitment to a multi-faceted Collaborating, Learning and Adapting (CLA) approach to development. The CLA approach is based on the understanding that development efforts yield more effective results if they are coordinated and collaborative, test promising, new approaches in a continuous yet also rapid, targeted search for generating improvements and efficiencies, and build on what works and eliminate what does not. CLA creates the conditions for fostering broader development success by:

Collaborating: Facilitating collaboration internally and with external stakeholders to promote increasingly national-led socio-economic development (e.g. enhancing existing stakeholder engagement into learning platforms), substantially coordinating with other USG- or other complementary activities to ensure complementarity and reduce overlap, while also facilitating learning among activities (to reduce the collective cost while enhancing shared results faster) that are complementary to this activity;

Learning: Generating and feeding new learning, innovations, and performance information back into the system to inform program management, design, USG-GRM policy dialogue opportunities and funding allocations (e.g. creating pauses for reflection within the activity implementation scheme, engaging stakeholders for shared ‘learning moments’, conducting analytical review of existing and/or new evidence that may support or contradict common understanding);

Adapting: Translating learning (from within the implementation experience or external sources) and considering changing conditions, along the lines of the risks, assumptions and game changers, into strategic and programmatic adjustments (e.g. adjusting work-plans to account for contextual shifts or tacit learning from a team’s experience, while clearly and explicitly capturing and sharing the rationale for adjustments along the way).

I. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

I.1 Monitoring

Monitoring and evaluating a program's results-focused progress towards achieving its objectives is critical to successful implementation. The recipient must track indicators related to gender equity and female empowerment, and other indicators to be agreed upon. All required indicators will be finalized at the time of award and during work plan development. The recipient must capture, document and report on the impact of USAID assistance, while strengthening and using relevant national, provincial, and district-level reporting systems. The recipient will be expected to use the USAID/Mozambique reporting system managed through the Mozambique Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism (MMEMS).

The activity Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (AMEL) plan is a management tool that enables the IP and USAID to track whether desired results are being achieved and project implementation is being adapted to changing conditions. This plan should define critical performance indicators, data collection methods and the Recipient's plans for analyzing, utilizing, and sharing information for reporting, accountability, learning and adaptation. The AMEL plan is a required document, due within 90 days of the award.

I.2 Use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

The recipient must ensure that the data collection and performance monitoring system used is able to report geo-enabled performance management data to USAID. Existing Government of Mozambique information systems and databases will be used to inform the structure of data collection and reporting. USAID seeks to utilize all performance data in its own GIS system to facilitate program oversight.

I.3. Evaluation

The AOR will work with the USAID Program Office to plan for and commission an external evaluation to take place at the mid-term of the REAJIR activity where appropriate. The evaluation will assess progress toward the objectives and achievement of annual targets. The result of the evaluation will guide the implementation of the award for the remaining years. USAID will fund the external evaluations.

I.4 Baseline Report

A baseline survey will be conducted to establish the pre-intervention conditions, and provide a basis for monitoring activity results and impact. The baseline report will have information including but not limited to: number and list of existing investigative journalists, media outlets reporting on investigative journalism, number and list of investigative journalism reporting published over the past 12 months, rating/qualification of the quality of the last three investigative reports. The proposed assessment should provide gender disaggregated statistics and also investigate specific gaps that exist between males and females with respect to the problem that is being addressed, and explain or indicate potential causes of those gaps and indicate what opportunities there are to promote women's leadership and empowerment to project outcomes. The baseline report should be conducted after the Applicant has secured an approved activity MEL plan but within 6 months of contract award.

[END OF SECTION A]

SECTION B: FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

1. Estimate of Funds Available and Number of Awards Contemplated

USAID intends to make one cooperative agreement pursuant to this notice of funding opportunity. Subject to funding availability and at the discretion of the Agency, USAID intends to provide approximately \$1.4 in total USAID funding.

2. Start Date and Period of Performance for Federal Awards

The anticipated period of performance is three (3 years). The estimated start date will be upon the signature of the award, on or about, or other effective date determined by the Agreement Officer.

3. Substantial Involvement

a. Approval of the Recipient's Implementation Plans

The Recipient shall obtain the Agreement Officer's written approval for its implementation plan. The implementation plan includes the following: annual work plans, subawards, required reports, MEL plan, and knowledge management plans. Any change to the activity description or the approved budget requires Agreement Officer's approval. USAID must not require approval of implementation plans more often than annually. If the AO has delegated authority to the Agreement Officer Representative (AOR) to approve implementation plans, the AOR must review the agreement's terms and conditions to ensure that changes to the terms and conditions are not inadvertently approved by the AOR.

b. Approval of Specified Key Personnel

All Key Personnel shall be employees of the prime recipient, not a sub-recipient. Before removing, replacing or diverting responsibilities from any of the listed or specified Key Personnel, the Recipient shall 1) notify the Agreement Officer reasonably in advance and 2) submit justification, including proposed substitutions in sufficient detail to permit evaluation of the individual and the impact on this agreement. Unless specified in writing by the Agreement Officer, no replacement of Key Personnel shall be made by the Recipient without the written approval of the Agreement Officer.

c. Agency and Recipient Collaboration or Joint Participation

When the recipient's successful accomplishment of program objectives would benefit from USAID's technical knowledge, the AO may authorize the collaboration or joint participation of USAID and the recipient on the program. There should be sufficient reason for Agency involvement and the involvement should be specifically tailored to support identified elements in the program description. When these conditions are met, the AO may include appropriate levels of substantial involvement such as the following:

- (1) Collaborative involvement in selection of advisory committee members, if the program will establish an advisory committee that provides advice to the recipient. USAID may participate as a member of this committee as well. Advisory committees must only deal with programmatic or technical issues and not routine administrative matters.
- (2) Concurrence on the substantive provisions of sub-awards. 2 CFR 200.308 already requires the recipient to obtain the AO's prior approval for the subaward, transfer, or contracting out of any work under an award. This is generally limited to approving work by a third party under the agreement. If USAID wishes to reserve any further approval rights for sub-awards or contracts, it must clearly spell out such Agency involvement in the substantial involvement provision of the agreement.
- (3) Approval of the recipient's monitoring and evaluation plans.
- (4) Monitor to authorize specified kinds of direction or redirection because of interrelationships with other projects. All such activities must be included in the program description, negotiated in the budget, and made a part of the award.

4. Authorized Geographic Code

The geographic code for the procurement of commodities and services under this program is **935** (any area or country including the recipient country but excluding any country that is a prohibited source).

5. Nature of the Relationship between USAID and the Recipient

The principal purpose of the relationship with the Recipient and under the subject program is to transfer funds to accomplish a public purpose of providing effective support to community radios located in Zambézia, Nampula, Cabo Delgado and Niassa provinces, which is authorized by Federal statute.

The Recipient will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives and the efficient and effective administration of the award through the application of sound management practices. The Recipient will assume responsibility for administering Federal funds in a manner consistent with underlying agreements, program objectives, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

[END OF SECTION B]

SECTION C: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. Eligible Applicants

Eligibility for this RFA is restricted to Local Mozambican Organizations (Local Entities) as defined.

“To be considered a “local” organization, USAID defines an entity that must:

- (1) Be organized under the laws of the recipient country;
- (2) Have its principal place of business in the recipient country;
- (3) Be majority owned by individuals who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of the recipient country; and/or
- (4) Be managed by a governing body, the majority of whom are citizens or lawful permanent residents of a recipient country
- (5) Not be controlled by a foreign entity or by an individual or individuals who are not citizens or permanent residents of the recipient country.

The term “controlled by” means a majority ownership or beneficiary interest as defined above, or the power, either directly or indirectly, whether exercised or exercisable, to control the election, appointment, or tenure of the organization’s managers or a majority of the organization’s governing body by any means, e.g., ownership, contract, or operation of law.

“Foreign entity” means an organization that fails to meet any part of the “local organization” definition.

Government controlled and government owned organizations in which the recipient government owns a majority interest or in which the majority of a governing body are government employees, are included in the above definition of local organization.

These eligibility requirements apply to only the principal Applicant.

USAID welcomes applications from organizations that have not previously received financial assistance from USAID.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

There is no cost sharing requirement for the recipient of the award.

[END OF SECTION C]

SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Agency Points of Contact

Judite Caetano
Acquisition and Assistance Specialist
USAID/Mozambique
E-Mail: jcaetano@usaid.gov

2. Questions and Answers

All questions regarding this RFA should be submitted to Judite Caetano, jcaetano@usaid.gov with a cc copy to jbadiane@usaid.gov no later than the date and time indicated on the cover letter, as amended. Any information given to a prospective Applicant concerning this RFA will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Applicants as an amendment to this RFA, if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective Applicant.

3. Content and Form of Application Submission

Preparation of Applications:

Each Applicant must furnish the information required by this RFA. Applications must be submitted in two separate parts: The Technical Application and the Business (Cost) Application. This subsection addresses general content requirements applying to the Application. Please see subsections 5 and 6, below, for information on the content specific to the Technical and Business (Cost) applications. The Technical application must address technical aspects only while the Business (Cost) Application must present the costs and explain the basis of estimation and other related issues.

Both the Technical and Business (Cost) Applications must include a cover page containing the following information:

- Name of the organization(s) submitting the application
- Identification and signature of the primary contact person (by name, title, organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address) and the identification of the alternate contact person (by name, title, organization, mailing address, telephone number and email address)
- Program name
- Notice of Funding Opportunity number /RFA number
- Name of any proposed sub-recipients or partnerships (identify if any of the organizations are local organizations, per USAID's definition of 'local entity' under ADS 303).

Applications signed by an agent on behalf of the Applicant must be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to USAID/Mozambique.

Applicants may choose to submit a cover letter in addition to the cover pages, but it will serve only as a transmittal letter to the Agreement Officer. The cover letter will not be reviewed as part of the merit review criteria.

Applications must comply with the following:

- USAID will not review any pages in excess of the page limits noted in the subsequent sections. Please ensure that applications comply with the page limitations
- Written in English
- 12 font size, Times New Roman Font, single spaced, typed in standard 8.5 x 11 paper size with one-inch margins both right and left and each page numbered consecutively, date of submission, and Applicant's name
- 10-point font can be used for graphs and charts. Tables, however, must comply with the 12-point Times New Roman requirement
- Submitted via Microsoft Word or PDF formats, except budget files which must be submitted in Microsoft Excel
- The technical application must be searchable in Word or PDF format as appropriate
- The Cost Schedule must include an Excel spreadsheet with all cells unlocked and no hidden formulas or sheets. A PDF version of the Excel spreadsheet may be submitted in addition to the Excel version at the Applicant's discretion, however, the official cost application submission is the unlocked Excel version.

Applicants must review, understand and comply with all aspects of this RFA. Failure to do so may be considered as being non-responsive and may be evaluated accordingly. Applicants should retain a copy of the application and all enclosures for their records.

4. Application Submission Procedures

Applications in response to this RFA must be submitted no later than the closing date and time indicated on the cover letter, as amended. Late applications may not be reviewed nor considered. Applicants must retain proof of timely delivery in the form of system generated documentation of delivery receipt date and time/confirmation from the receiving office/certified mail receipt.

Electronic (e-mail) is the media for submitting the application. Please submit application to Judite Caetano at jcaetano@usaid.gov with a cc copy to jbadiane@usaid.gov .

Email submissions must include the RFA number and applicant's name in the subject line heading. In addition, for an application sent by multiple emails, the subject line must also indicate whether

the email relates to the technical or cost application, and the desired sequence of the emails and their attachments (e.g. "No. 1 of 4", etc.). For example, if your cost application is being sent in two emails, the first email should have a subject line that states: "[RFA number], [Applicant Organization Name], Cost Application, Part 1 of 2".

USAID's preference is that the technical application and the cost application submitted as single and separate email attachments, e.g. that you consolidate the various parts of a technical application into a single document before sending them and the cost application submitted as a single excel budget with a separate attachment for the budget narrative in MS word or PDF. If this is not possible, please provide instructions on how to collate the attachments. USAID will not be responsible for errors in compiling electronic applications if no instructions are provided or are unclear. The application, if submitted by the submission deadline, will be reviewed for responsiveness to the RFA and the application format. No additions or modifications will be accepted after the submission date.

After submitting an application electronically, applicants should immediately check their own email to confirm that the attachments were indeed sent. If an applicant discovers an error in transmission, please send the material again and note in the subject line of the email that it is a "corrected" submission. Do not send the same email more than once unless there has been a change, and if so, please note that it is a "corrected" email.

Applicants are reminded that e-mail is NOT instantaneous, and in some cases delays of several hours occur from transmission to receipt. Therefore, applicants are requested to send the application in sufficient time ahead of the deadline. For this RFA, the initial point of entry to the government infrastructure is the USAID mail server.

There may be a problem with the receipt of *.zip files due to anti-virus software. Therefore, applicants are discouraged from sending files in this format as USAID/Mozambique/OAA cannot guarantee their acceptance by the internet server. File size must not exceed 8MB per email.

5. Technical Application Format

The Technical Application should be specific, complete, and presented concisely. The Application must demonstrate the Applicant's capabilities and expertise with respect to achieving the goals of this program. The Application should take into account the requirements of the program and merit review criteria found in this RFA.

The Technical Application narrative section **must not exceed 25 single-spaced typed pages**.

To facilitate the competitive review of the applications, USAID will consider only applications conforming to the prescribed format and page limitations. Any other information submitted will not be provided to the Selection Committee and will not be reviewed. Letters of support are not requested and will not be provided to the Selection Committee.

The following will be counted as part of the 25-page limitation:

- Executive Summary
- Technical Excellence
- Management Approach; and

- Institutional Capacity

The following will NOT be counted as part of the 25-page limitation:

- Title Page (not counted against the page limit);
- Cover Page (not counted against the page limit);
- Table of Contents (not counted against the page limit).
- Annexes (not counted against the page limit)

Annexes: Annexes to the Technical Application should be provided as part of the technical submission. Promotional literature and materials regarding the applicant must not be submitted as part of the annexes. The following items submitted as an annex are not subject to the 25-page limitation and will not be counted.

- Relevant Tables, Charts and Graphs
- Resumes/Curriculum Vitae for Key Personnel and long-term professional staff, proposed position descriptions and signed letters of commitment from Key Personnel, no more than three (3) pages in length
- Partner letters of commitment, maximum 1-2 pages
- Charts providing information on management structure, matrixes demonstrating staff skills, and organizational chart(s)
- First Year draft Work Plan, and
- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan.

All other items not listed above and provided as an annex will count towards the page limitation. Please number pages as “Page x of xx Pages” where a page number combined with a letter indicates a page that is exempt from the 25-page limitation.

Annexes can be numbered separately and should be numbered as “Annex 1: 1 of X, Annex 2: 2 of X”, etcetera. Pages should be numbered at the bottom.

The Technical Application should confirm or propose modifications to the objectives, activities and indicators described in the Program Description. It should also contain a description of key strategies, activities and approaches, as well as the synergies among them that the proposed partner will pursue in order to accomplish the desired results described in this Activity Description, as well as the rationale for selecting them. Gender and youth issues should also be addressed. Interested applicants must provide a detailed technical application and demonstrate how it will achieve the overall goal, program objectives and results as previously described.

The Technical Application will be the most important part of consideration in selection for award of the proposed activity. It must take into account and be arranged in the order of the merit review criteria found in Section E—for ease of reviewing by the Selection Committee (SC):

Title Page: The Applicant must include the following basic information in the title page: Proposed project title; NOFO/RFA number; Name of organization(s) submitting the application; Address of organization(s) submitting the application; Point of contact (POC) at organization; and POC’s title, telephone number, and email address.

Cover Page: Describe the names of the organizations/institutions involved in the proposed application. In the case of a group, please indicate the lead or primary applicant clearly; followed by any proposed sub-grantees and/or contractors (hereafter referred to as “subs”), including a brief narrative describing the unique capacities/skills being brought to the program by each institution. A summary table should be included that lists the Prime Applicant and all partner organizations as well as the percentage of overall program activities that each partner will contribute. The Cover Page must be signed by the organization’s official with authority to negotiate/sign on such an application with USAID.

Table of Contents: The Table of Contents should list all parts of the technical application, with page numbers and attachments.

Executive Summary: A two- page, brief description of proposed activities, goals, and anticipated results (both quantitative and qualitative). Briefly describe technical and managerial resources of your organization. Describe how the overall program will be managed. State the bottom- line funding request from USAID and the bottom- line funding secured from other sources (state sources and amounts) for the proposed Activity. The Executive Summary shall summarize the key elements of the applicant’s technical application.

Program Description: The Technical Application Narrative as revised during negotiations will become the Program Description of any resulting Cooperative Agreement. It must include a clear description of the conceptual approach and the general strategy (i.e. methodology and techniques) being proposed. It must outline specific, focused activities; identify how and where (e.g. geographic locations and level: local, district, province, etc.) those activities will be implemented; explain how the approach is expected to achieve the proposed objectives; and describe a plan that will enable the activities to continue after the Activity has been completed.

In developing the application, Applicants are expected to take the RFA Program Description technical guidance into account. Applicants should demonstrate that they have researched other USG, GOM and donor activities in the region on which they are bidding and suggest solutions to ensure continuity of service and meet known gaps. The Applicant must articulate which key public and private sector stakeholders it intends to coordinate and engage with to advance the project’s goal and objective, to amplify the funding and/or contributions and to achieve a scale that would not be possible only through USAID funds. The Applicant must also explain why those stakeholders are vital to the approach. The Applicant must identify its existing relationship or work history with those organizations. Applicants must describe how they will coordinate and engage with the stakeholders, especially USG clinical partners and PEPFAR initiatives, to ensure ownership, maximize synergy and resources, minimize overlap, and achieve the project’s goal and objective.

6. Technical Application Considerations

a) Technical Approach

The Applicant must propose a technical approach that details how the activity will be implemented. The approach must demonstrate a clear understanding of the development challenges and opportunities specifically related to investigative journalism in Mozambique,

and to investigating and reporting on issues relating to natural resources and economic governance, as well as any regional context issues.

The approach must strive to be innovative and realistic. The approach proposed must demonstrate a thorough understanding of the project's overarching purpose, objectives, and expected results, and how proposed activities contribute to objectives, and propose potential indicators that will be used to track progress towards the anticipated results.

The Applicant must include a preliminary monthly work plan table that incorporates specific activities for milestone planning and attainment, and the associated monitoring activities and reporting. The Applicant must include a detailed narrative specifying how each of the milestone activities described under each of the three objectives will be implemented, keeping in mind that although each output represents a stand-alone milestone, they are interdependent, integrated, and complementary with each other. The approach should also account for the sequencing of milestone activities to ensure timely completion of all milestones, including the documentation that must be submitted to verify milestone completion.

The Applicant must address how the program will engage or obtain support from relevant stakeholders and identify local partners where appropriate. The Applicant should address if complementary or similar activities are taking place, and provide information on how activities will be coordinated. The Applicant should also ensure that inclusion of marginalized populations (including women, PWD, youth) are accounted for in proposed activities.

The Applicant must include an analysis of potential implementation challenges, and strategies to address unanticipated needs that may arise during activity implementation. This must include a clear understanding of the operating environment, including any potential security issues, and must articulate plans for ensuring safety of participants. It should specify how risks (including but not limited to physical and cybersecurity risk, operating environment risks, etc.) will be addressed and mitigated. It should include possible alternatives or contingency plans in case of challenges or difficulties in implementation.

The application must include an effective process for developing, awarding, and monitoring subgrants to achieve project results, including innovative grantmaking approaches that encourage/incentivize a matching or challenge grant mechanism for partnerships.

b) Key Personnel, Management Plan and Institutional Capacity

The Applicant must include an organizational chart and specify the composition and organizational context of the entire project team (including corporate office support and any sub-recipients/partners). Through the chart and accompanying narrative, the Applicant must specify clear lines of supervision, accountability, decision making and responsibility among staff. The Applicant must explain the management structure presented in the organizational chart with relationships among the individual positions described; logistical support; personnel management of staff; procurement arrangements for goods and services; and lines of authority and communication between organizations and staff.

The Applicant must include a complete staffing plan for all activities. It is not necessary to name specific candidates for non-Key Personnel positions in the staffing plan. The Applicant must provide the name of the position, location of the position, the number of personnel per the position, organization of the position (Applicant or sub-recipient), individual staff level of effort per year, and their roles and responsibilities.

Quality of Key Personnel: Applicants are requested to develop a comprehensive staffing plan that will enable achievement of results and that demonstrates an appropriate balance of skills, accountability, and efficiency. Levels of effort and brief position descriptions should be included. The staffing pattern will include a critical number of highly experienced technical and managerial staff sufficient to manage activities under this award. It is critical for applicants to show how the following qualifications are met by the staff proposed, taken as a whole, and how the staffing pattern is conducive to achieving results. The key qualifications for the proposed staff include skills and experience in:

- Management and administration of USG or other donor instruments such as grants and cooperative agreements;
- Proven technical knowledge of the media sector in Mozambique;
- Considerable experience in journalism training or capacity building activities, particularly with investigative reporting techniques; Demonstrated capabilities in reporting on natural resources and economic governance issues;
- Partnerships with governments, donors, and local organizations;
- Monitoring and evaluation and research methods for measuring program impact;
- Ability to transfer knowledge through technical assistance and mentoring to build capacity;
- Ability to interact professionally in both English and Portuguese;
- Ability to address gender throughout the project cycle; and
- Excellent teamwork, interpersonal and cross-cultural skills.

The applicant is expected to develop a comprehensive program management plan that enables achievement of all intermediate results under the activity. The professional staff proposed should possess complementary experience that reflects a combination of strong management skills as well as specific technical expertise and competencies. Key personnel under this activity include: Chief of Party; Senior Investigative Journalism (Media) Expert; Finance and Grants Director. Each will be one full-time equivalent, and the activity should make an effort to hire qualified Mozambican staff as key personnel.

Chief of Party:

The Chief of Party is responsible for the overall planning, implementation, monitoring, and management of the performance of the contract and for the vision, strategic direction, and management of USAID's REAJIR activity to achieve the objectives and expected outcomes of the activity. The Chief of Party will be responsible for providing strategic and technical guidance in investigative journalism capacity building, investigative journalism and reporting as it applies to natural resource management and economic governance issues, and effective development of investigative journalism networks or advocacy associations.

Senior Investigative Journalism (Media) Expert:

The Senior Investigative Journalism (Media) Expert, in coordination with the Chief of Party and USAID Provincial Advisors, will lead technical implementation of the program. This individual's work will include providing technical assistance related to capacity building, coaching and training for the development of effective investigative journalistic skills, ethics, network development, etc. S/he provides day-to-day guidance on all aspects of the program interventions, training, monitoring and evaluation of program results. This position is exclusive for Mozambicans or holders of Mozambique permanent residency.

Finance and Grants Director:

The Grants Manager will manage a grants team and administer grants and procurement processes related to subaward management, including for funds which will be passed to media outlets or journalist teams or individuals who would be performing investigative journalism. S/He will finalize and manage sub awards and ensure that all implementing sub-partners are compliant with USAID policies and procedures. In addition, this role will work with program and M&E teams to ensure oversight during implementation and closeout. The Grants Manager will advise staff on contractual and grant issues, donor compliance, and implementation of policies related to subaward management and risk mitigation in high risk settings. The Grant Manager will work closely with the technical team and USAID in evaluating agreements for investigations and reporting, and in determining if milestone requirements have been met. This position is exclusive for Mozambicans or holders of Mozambique permanent residency.

Letters of commitment, resumes (three pages maximum) including a half page summary of qualifications of all key personnel and core technical staff should be included in the annexes.

Qualifications of key personnel: The Applicant must propose appropriate and required qualifications for all key personnel positions, as well as qualified individuals whom they deem appropriate for the anticipated role of each key personnel position.

NOTE: USAID reserves the right to determine relevance of education and experience proposed.

Applicants should explain how the key personnel positions, as well as other proposed positions, provide the complete set of skills listed above. The staffing level and pattern may be increased or modified over time if needed to provide effective support to field programs as they evolve, rather than from the onset.

In an annex to the technical application, Applicants must provide resumes and proposed position descriptions for the candidates proposed for all key personnel and long-term professional positions. The resumes should indicate the names of the proposed personnel, and demonstrate that the proposed key personnel and long-term professional staff possess the skills and knowledge to effectively carry out their proposed responsibilities. Resumes must be no more than three (3) pages in length for each proposed individual and must be presented in chronological order starting with the most recent experience. For Key Personnel, each resume must be accompanied by a SIGNED letter of commitment from each candidate indicating his/her: (a) availability to serve in the stated position, in terms of days after award; (b) intention to serve for a stated term of the service; and (c) agreement to the compensation levels which correspond to the levels set forth in the cost application. References may be checked for all proposed key personnel and long-term personnel.

Applicants must provide current contact information, phone and email address for at least three (3) references for each proposed Key Personnel.

Other Staff

In addition to the Key Personnel, the applicant must design a staffing pattern to include core team members and individuals available for short-, medium-, and long-term technical assistance assignments. The staffing pattern should also include a gender POC. These individuals should bring technical expertise, innovation, and the capacity to build and maintain successful partnerships. Staff should have extensive experience in the areas of media, training, partnership development, capacity building, implementation research, and other related areas. The team proposed, overall, must demonstrate a strong understanding of, and experience in, the Mozambican context.

(ii) Institutional Capacity

The application must describe organizations that the Applicant proposes to partner with and specify technical resources and expertise of proposed sub partner organizations. The description must, at a minimum, explain how the Applicant plans to identify and utilize subawards under the activity and how they support activity component objectives; how the Applicant will coordinate activities authorized under the sub-awards; and capacity-building elements proposed under the sub-awards, if any. Since this activity also involves the possibility of bringing expertise from abroad as well as sending individuals for internships/mentorships abroad, any anticipated partnerships with international organizations and the rationale behind their engagement must also be outlined. The application must highlight any Applicant's and/or potential partners' success stories in supporting media sector organizations, including programs successfully implemented in this content area. The Applicant must also describe their specific organizational experience in provision of capacity building assistance. This must include description of relevant capacity building experience, specifically:

- Type of assistance provided (e.g., technical assistance, training, advisory service, logistics support, subgrant-funding).
- NGO function (e.g., public interest monitoring, assessing, public information/education, advocacy or policy dialogue, anti-corruption); any capacity building tools and methodologies developed and used.
- Materials developed in the above (Applicants must provide guidebooks or manuals; or electronic references to these items).

(iii) Management Plan

The Applicant must provide a Management Plan that describes the organizational structure, staff, and domestic and international partners to successfully implement the program and achieve the objectives detailed in the NOFO. USAID/Mozambique will highly favor applications presented by consortiums of local established organizations, composed by a Prime and sub-awardees, with proven experience working in the media sector. The Applicant must explain the complementary skill sets of the proposed project team, including proposed partners, and must be clear about how the program will be operationalized, including the division of labor. The Management Plan must specify clear lines of supervision, accountability, decision-making and responsibility among staff and sub- grantees, including administrative and reporting aspects. The Management Plan must

describe how Applicant will ensure coordination and communication with a wide range of stakeholders, including GOM, USG agencies, USG partners, other donors, international organizations that may be engaged for the activity, and targeted beneficiaries. In addition, the Applicant must provide an overall staffing plan consisting of personnel that demonstrate the breadth and depth of professional technical expertise required to successfully implement the proposed technical approach. The staffing plan must be responsive to the management/administration and technical requirements of the Applicants' technical approach.

c) Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Plan

The Applicant must propose a preliminary MEL Plan as part of its application. The plan should explain how monitoring and evaluation will be carried and who will be responsible for the activities. The plan must include appropriate indicators linked to each anticipated result. The MEL Plan must define a sound and realistic approach to measure the quality, effectiveness, and outcomes of implementation of the activity keeping in mind the possibility for insecurity and limited access to certain geographic locations at certain times. The Applicant should not limit itself to the illustrative indicators in Section A of this NOFO but should think creatively about what kinds of activities will best achieve the desired results in the Mozambican context and must be specific about which activities are expected to contribute to which results. The Plan must identify appropriate milestones, gender, youth, and People with Disabilities (PWDs) sensitive indicators and targets (including sex disaggregated targets), as well as plans to gather and utilize baseline data.

Past Performance

(1) Past Performance information will only be requested from the apparently successful applicant(s). It will be used for both risk assessment and greatest value decision by USAID. Also note that USAID may use past performance information obtained from other than the sources identified by the Applicant

Branding Strategy & Marketing Plan

The apparently successful applicant will be asked to provide a Branding Strategy and Marketing Plan to be evaluated and approved by the Agreement Officer and incorporated into any resulting award. Applicants are not required to submit a Branding Strategy and Marketing Plan with their application.

[END OF SECTION D]

SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. Evaluation

The merit review criteria prescribed here are tailored to the requirements of this particular RFA. Applicants should note that these criteria serve to: (a) identify the significant matters which the Applicants should address in their applications, and (b) set the standard against which all applications will be evaluated.

Technical and other factors will be evaluated relative to each other, as described here and prescribed by the Technical Application Format. The Technical Application will be scored by a Selection Committee (SC) using the ratings described in this section.

2. Review and Selection Process

a) Ratings

Adjective	Definition
Exceptional	<p>An Exceptional application has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A comprehensive and thorough application of exceptional merit. ● Application meets and fully exceeds the Government expectations or exceeds NFO objectives and presents very low risk or no overall degree of risk of unsuccessful performance. ● Strengths significantly outweigh any weaknesses that may exist.
Very Good	<p>A Very Good application has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An application demonstrating a strong grasp of the objectives. ● Application meets NFO objectives and presents a low overall degree of risk of unsuccessful project performance. ● Strengths significantly outweigh any weaknesses that exist.
Satisfactory	<p>A Satisfactory application has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● An application demonstrating a reasonably sound response and a good grasp of the objectives. ● Application meets NFO objectives and presents a moderate overall degree of risk of unsuccessful project performance. ● Strengths outweigh weaknesses.
Marginal	<p>A Marginal application has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The application shows a limited understanding of the objectives. ● Application meets some or most of the NFO objectives, but presents a significant overall degree of risk of unsuccessful project performance. ● Weaknesses equal or outweigh any strength that exists.
Unsatisfactory	<p>An Unsatisfactory application has the following characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Application does not meet the NFO objectives or requires a major rewrite of the application. ● Presents an unacceptable degree of risk of unsuccessful project performance. ● Weaknesses demonstrate a lack of understanding of the Government's needs. ● Weaknesses significantly outweigh any strength that exists.

b) Merit Review Criteria

The merit review criteria prescribed here are tailored to the requirements of this particular Request for Applications.

Applicants should note that these criteria serve to: (a) identify the significant matters which the Applicants should address in their applications, and (b) set the standard against which all applications will be evaluated.

Evaluation factors are weighted according to the order listed below: Technical Approach; Key Personnel, Management Plan, and Institutional Capacity; Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan. These factors are in a descending order of importance.

Criterion	Instructions to Applicant	Evaluation Criterion
Technical Approach	Section D.6.a	The extent to which the application demonstrates an in-depth understanding of the Mozambican context of investigative journalism, including challenges and opportunities associated with the operating environment and with reporting on natural resources and economic governance issues. The degree to which the applicant demonstrates a realistic and innovative approach to ensuring milestone achievement while showing how the proposed milestones contribute to strengthening investigative journalism in Mozambique. The extent to which the applicant demonstrates the capacity to effectively manage and monitor subgrants and subgrantee performance, leveraging local and international expertise and innovative local initiatives to best achieve desired results.
Key Personnel, Institutional Capacity, Management Plan	Section D.6.c (i), (ii), (iii)	The extent to which proposed key personnel possess relevant experience, skills, abilities, and qualifications to successfully carry out the proposed activities. The extent to which the recipient and proposed sub-partners have the institutional capability, expertise and experience to implement the Activity and achieve the results and requirements detailed in the NOFO. The extent to which the proposed management structure and plan, including relationship any partnerships, is clear, technically competent, and has the capability to achieve the activity’s objectives and corresponding milestones, and respond to the needs of the activity during implementation.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Plan	Section D.6.b	The extent to which the MEL Plan demonstrates innovative, rigorous yet cost-effective methods and procedures for monitoring, evaluation, analysis, CLA and reporting; and use of MEL to inform and guide implementation decisions.
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The table below outlines the Merit Review Criteria names and their order of importance:

Criterion		Importance
Criterion 1	Technical Approach	Most important
Criterion 2	Key Personnel, Management Plan and Institutional Capacity	Second most important
Criterion 3	Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Plan	Third most important

c) Business Review

The Agency will evaluate the cost application of the applicant(s) under consideration for an award as a result of the merit criteria review to determine whether the costs are allowable in accordance with the cost principles found in 2 CFR 200 Subpart E.

The Agency will also consider (1) the extent of the applicant's understanding of the financial aspects of the program and the applicant's ability to perform the activities within the amount requested; (2) whether the applicant's plans will achieve the program objectives with reasonable economy and efficiency; and (3) whether any special conditions relating to costs should be included in the award.

The AO will perform a risk assessment (2 CFR 200.205). The AO may determine that a pre-award survey is required to inform the risk assessment in determining whether the prospective recipient has the necessary organizational, experience, accounting and operational controls, financial resources, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program and comply with the terms and conditions of the award. Depending on the result of the risk assessment, the AO will decide to execute the award, not execute the award, or award with “specific conditions” (2 CFR 200.207).

[END OF SECTION E]

SECTION F: FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Federal Award Notices

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.

2. Administrative & National Policy Requirements

The resulting award from this RFA will be administered in accordance with the following policies and regulations. Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Non-governmental Organizations.

See Annex 2, for a list of the Standard Provisions that will be applicable to any awards resulting from this RFA.

3. Reporting and Plans Requirements

All reports listed below shall be submitted by the specified due dates for approval by the USAID AOR unless otherwise agreed upon with the AOR. Recipients will consult the AOR on the format and expected content of reports prior to submission. The Recipient should always be ready for revision in program indicators and reporting requirements.

Deliverables/Reports		Due Date	Approval
Annual Work Plan	1st Draft	60 days after the award date for the 1st year and by August 1 for the following fiscal years	AOR
	Final Work Plan	90 days after the award date for the 1st year and August 30 for the following year	AOR
Quarterly Progress Reports	Reports should include quarterly and cumulative data, and a narrative and/or table summary of the status of all milestones	30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter	AOR
Quarterly Financial (SF425) & Pipeline Analysis Report (including accruals)		30 calendar days after the end of each quarter	AOR & OFM

Baseline Report		180 days after the award date	AOR
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL)	1st Draft	60 days after the award date for the 1st year and by August 1 for the following fiscal years	AOR
	Final MEL	Plan 90 days after the award date for the 1st year and August 30 for the following year	AOR
Gender Analysis		90 days after award date	AOR
Final Report - covering all years of the program implementation and performance	1st Draft	60 days after the end of the project award	AO & AOR
	Final Report	90 days after project award	AO & AOR
Disposition Plan and Closeout Plan		180 days before completion of the award	AO & AOR
Other Reporting		Mutually agreed by partner and AOR/USAID	AOR
Branding and Marking Plan			AO

Annual Work Plan: Based on this PD, the recipient shall prepare and submit a detailed annual work plan to guide the implementation process with a breakdown of activities and timelines and anticipated progress in the achievement of the activity results (consistent with the Activity M&E Plan), as well as the associated costs. The recipient shall ensure a collaborative process in work-plan development, consulting beneficiaries, partners, USAID and other relevant stakeholders in preparing the annual work plan to ensure complementarity and shared ownership. In addition, the AOR may work with the Recipient to define particularly relevant sections of the work-plan that would enhance implementation, such as key assumptions and risks (as well as plans to mitigate and update these), lessons learned, and work plan adjustments going forward.

Quarterly Reports: The Recipient shall submit quarterly reports that include narratives of quarterly achievements, and progress against the work plan, and agreed upon performance indicators. A format for the quarterly report shall be approved by the AOR. The quarterly report shall describe and assess the overall progress to date based upon agreed performance indicators. The reports shall also describe the accomplishments of the Recipient and the progress made during the past quarter; include information on key activities relating to milestones, both ongoing and completed during the quarter (e.g. milestone activities, meetings, trainings, workshops, significant events, subcontracts, and grants). Quarterly Reports coinciding with the US fiscal year's fourth quarter should contain a section summarizing activities and numbers achieved during the last 12 months (or year). The section could be titled "Summary of Annual Achievements."

The quarterly reports should provide information on the extent to which gaps between males and females were closed; what new opportunities for men and women were created; what differential negative impacts on males/females were addressed or avoided; and what needs and gender inequalities emerged or remained. Recipients shall notify USAID of developments that have a significant impact on the award-supported activities.

The quarterly report provides the opportunity to discuss impacts of learning on the program, updates in key assumptions and the underlying development hypotheses. Also, notification shall be given in the case of problems, delays, or adverse conditions which materially impair the ability to meet the objectives of the award or which may have an impact on the development hypothesis or theory of change for the activity, and/or other activities (USG-funded or not) which might be informed by such learning. This notification shall include a statement of the action taken or contemplated, and any assistance needed to resolve the situation. The Recipient shall also prepare quarterly financial reports showing the amount of funding and level of effort spent and accrued during the quarter, cumulative spending, and estimates for the next quarter. The quarterly activity and financial reports are to be submitted within 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter to the AOR at USAID/Mozambique.

Final Report: A draft final report should be submitted to the AOR no later than 30 calendar days after the completion of the activity. The final report is due 90 calendar days after the end of the award. Three copies should be submitted to the AOR. The report shall summarize the accomplishments of the agreement, methods of work used, and recommendations regarding unfinished work and/or program continuation, as well as key learnings from the total implementation experience. The report should also include an analysis of the accomplishment of each milestone, including successes, challenges encountered, and other additional issues that may have affected performance. In addition the report should specifically address how the activity addressed gaps between males and females; what new opportunities for men and women were created; what differential negative impacts on males/females were addressed or avoided; and what needs and gender inequalities emerged or remained. It shall cover the entire period of the award and include the cumulative results achieved, an assessment of the impact of the program, lessons learned and recommendations, any particularly notable impact stories (or challenges), and detailed financial information. It should be grounded in evidence and data. The final/completion report shall also contain an index of all reports and information products produced under the award.

Financial Reporting:

Quarterly Financial Report: In accordance with 22 CFR 226.52 the Federal Financial Reporting Form (FFR) will be required on a quarterly basis. FFR 425 must be submitted.

Other Quarterly Financial Reports: The purpose of this clause is to enable USAID to implement the tax provisions of its bilateral agreement with the GRM. To comply with this clause, the Contractor shall maintain records of all taxes paid to GRM with U.S. government funds as well as other financial information as may be required by USAID. The Applicant shall furnish this information to USAID in accordance with guidance circulated by the Contracting Officer, as amended from time to time.

Baseline Report

A baseline survey will be conducted to establish the pre-intervention conditions, and provide a basis for monitoring activity results and impact. The baseline report will have information including but not limited to: number and list of existing investigative journalists, media outlets reporting on investigative journalism, number and list of investigative journalism reporting published over the past 12 months, rating/qualification of the quality of the last three investigative reports. The proposed assessment should provide gender disaggregated statistics and also investigate specific gaps that exist between males and females with respect to the problem that is being addressed, and explain or indicate potential causes of those gaps and indicate what opportunities there are to promote women's leadership and empowerment to project outcomes. The baseline report should be conducted after the Applicant has secured an approved activity MEL plan but within 6 months of contract award.

Activity Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Plan (MEL Plan)

The activity MEL plan is a management tool that enables the Applicant and USAID to track whether desired results are being achieved and project implementation is being adapted to changing conditions. This plan should define critical performance indicators, data collection methods and the Applicant's plans for analyzing, utilizing and sharing information for reporting, accountability, learning and adaptation. The activity MEL plan is a required document, with first draft due 60 days after the award and final documents due within 90 days of the award.

Gender Analysis

The full gender analysis with gender action plan must be submitted within 90 reporting. Gender analysis is a tool for examining the differences between the roles that women and men play in communities and societies, the different levels of power they hold, their differing needs, constraints and opportunities, and the impact of these differences on their lives. The gender analysis should identify root causes of existing gender inequalities or obstacles to female empowerment in the context of the activity (for e.g. participation of women in the media sector, particularly in investigative journalism), so that the applicant can seek out opportunities to promote women's leadership and participation. The gender analysis should also identify potential adverse impacts and/or risks of gender based exclusion that could result from planned activities, including but not limited to: (a) Displacing women from access to resources or assets; (b) Increasing the unpaid work or caregiver burden of females relative to males; (c) Conditions that restrict the participation of women or men in project activities and benefits based on pregnancy, maternity/paternity leave, or marital status; (d) Increasing the risk of gender based violence, including sexual exploitation or human trafficking, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV/AIDS; and (e) Marginalizing or excluding women in political and governance processes. Because males and females are not homogenous groups, the gender analysis should also to the extent possible disaggregate by income,

region, caste, race, ethnicity, disability, and other relevant social characteristics and explicitly recognize the specific needs of young girls and boys, adolescent girls and boys, adult women and men, and older women and men. See Section G.1 for additional considerations.

The full analysis should include the following domains: (1) Laws, Policies, Regulations and Institutional Practices that influence the context in which men and women act and make decisions; (2) Cultural Norms and Beliefs; (3) Gender Roles, Responsibilities and Time Use; (4) Access to and Control over Assets and Resources and (5) Patterns of Power and Decision-making. This information should be supported by statistical data reflecting the intersection of sex with other characteristics such as age, marital status, income, ethnicity, race, disability status, geographic location, sexual orientation and gender identity, or other socially relevant categories as appropriate – that could hinder both men’s and women’s participation in media/journalism career development.

Branding & Marking Plan

The apparently successful applicant will be asked to provide a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan to be evaluated and approved by the Agreement Officer and incorporated into any resulting award. Applicants are not required to submit a Branding Strategy and Marketing Plan with their application.

[END OF SECTION F]

SECTION G: FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACTS

The points of contact (POC) for questions on this funding opportunity are the following:

Judite Caetano

Acquisition and Assistance Specialist

USAID/Mozambique

E-mail: jcaetano@usaid.gov with cc copy to jbadiane@usaid.gov

[END OF SECTION G]

SECTION H: OTHER INFORMATION

USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted. The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. Any award and subsequent incremental funding will be subject to the availability of funds and continued relevance to Agency programming.

Applications with Proprietary Data

Applicants who include data that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose or used by the U.S. Government except for evaluation purpose, should mark the cover page with the following:

“This application includes data that must not be disclosed duplicated, used, or disclosed – in whole or in part – for any purpose other than to evaluate this application. If, however, an award is made as a result of – or in connection with – the submission of this data, the U.S. Government will have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting award. This restriction does not limit the U.S. Government’s right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets {insert sheet numbers}.”

Additionally, the Applicant must mark each sheet of data it wishes to restrict with the following:

“Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this application.”

[END OF SECTION H]

ANNEX 1 - SUMMARY BUDGET TEMPLATE

Item Description	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Total
Salaries						
Fringe Benefits						
Allowances						
Travel and Transportation						
Equipment						
Supplies						
Other Direct Costs						
Sub Total						
Indirect Costs						
Total						

ANNEX 2 - STANDARD PROVISIONS

(Note: the full text of these provisions may be found at: <https://www.usaid.gov/ads/policy/300/303mab>). The actual Standard Provisions included in the award will be dependent on the organization that is selected. The award will include the latest Mandatory Provisions for non-U.S. Nongovernmental organizations. The award will also contain the following “required as applicable” Standard Provisions:

MANDATORY STANDARD PROVISIONS FOR FIXED AMOUNT AWARDS TO NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

M1. SUBMISSIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE CLEARINGHOUSE AND DATA RIGHTS (JUNE 2012)

- a. Submissions to the Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC).
 - 1) The recipient must provide the Agreement Officer’s Representative one copy of any Intellectual Work that is published, and a list of any Intellectual Work that is not published.
 - 2) In addition, the recipient must submit Intellectual Work, whether published or not, to the DEC, either on-line (preferred) or by mail. The recipient must review the DEC Web site for submission instructions, including document formatting and the types of documents to submit. Submission instructions can be found at:

<https://dec.usaid.gov>
 - 3) For purposes of submissions to the DEC, Intellectual Work includes all works that document the implementation, evaluation, and results of international development assistance activities developed or acquired under this award, which may include program and communications materials, evaluations and assessments, information products, research and technical reports, progress and performance reports required under this award (excluding administrative financial information), and other reports, articles and papers prepared by the recipient under the award, whether published or not. The term does not include the recipient’s information that is incidental to award administration, such as financial, administrative, cost or pricing, or management information.
 - 4) Each document submitted should contain essential bibliographic information, such as 1) descriptive title; 2) author(s) name; 3) award number; 4) sponsoring USAID office; 5) development objective; and 6) date of publication.
 - 5) The recipient must not submit to the DEC any financially sensitive information

or personally identifiable information, such as social security numbers, home addresses and dates of birth. Such information must be removed prior to submission. The recipient must not submit classified documents to the DEC.

b. Rights in Data

- 1) Data means recorded information, regardless of the form or the media on which it may be recorded, including technical data and computer software, and includes Intellectual Work, defined in a. above.
- 2) Unless otherwise provided in this provision, the recipient may retain the rights, title and interest to Data that is first acquired or produced under this award. USAID reserves a royalty-free, worldwide, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to use, disclose, reproduce, prepare derivative works, distribute copies to the public, and perform publicly and display publicly, in any manner and for any purpose, and to have or permit others to do so.

c. Copyright. The recipient may copyright any books, publications or other copyrightable materials first acquired or produced under this award. USAID reserves a royalty-free, worldwide, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to use, disclose, reproduce, prepare derivative works, distribute copies to the public, and perform publicly and display publicly, in any manner and for any purpose, and to have or permit others to do so.

d. The recipient will provide the U.S. Government, on request or as otherwise provided in this award, a copy of any Data or copyrighted material to which the U.S. Government has rights under paragraphs b. and c. of this provision. The U.S. Government makes no representations or warranties as to title, right to use or license, or other legal rights or obligations regarding any Data or copyrighted materials.

[END OF PROVISION]

M2. MARKING AND PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS UNDER USAID-FUNDED ASSISTANCE (July 2015)

a. The USAID Identity is the official marking for USAID, comprised of the USAID logo and brandmark with the tagline “from the American people,” unless amended by USAID to include additional or substitute use of a logo or seal and tagline representing a presidential initiative or other high level interagency initiative. The USAID Identity is on the USAID Web site at www.usaid.gov/branding. Recipients must use the USAID Identity, of a size and prominence equivalent to or greater than any other identity or logo displayed, to mark the following:

- (1) Programs, projects, activities, public communications, and commodities partially or fully funded by USAID;

- (2) Program, project, or activity sites funded by USAID, including visible infrastructure projects or other physical sites;
 - (3) Technical assistance, studies, reports, papers, publications, audio-visual productions, public service announcements, Web sites/Internet activities, promotional, informational, media, or communications products funded by USAID;
 - (4) Commodities, equipment, supplies, and other materials funded by USAID, including commodities or equipment provided under humanitarian assistance or disaster relief programs; and
 - (5) Events financed by USAID, such as training courses, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, fairs, workshops, press conferences and other public activities. If the USAID Identity cannot be displayed, the recipient is encouraged to otherwise acknowledge USAID and the support of the American people.
- b. The recipient must implement the requirements of this provision following the approved Marking Plan in the award.
 - c. The AO may require a preproduction review of program materials and “public communications” (documents and messages intended for external distribution, including but not limited to correspondence; publications; studies; reports; audio visual productions; applications; forms; press; and promotional materials) used in connection with USAID-funded programs, projects or activities, for compliance with an approved Marking Plan.
 - d. The recipient is encouraged to give public notice of the receipt of this award and announce progress and accomplishments. The recipient must provide copies of notices or announcements to Agreement Officer’s Representative (AOR) and to USAID's Office of Legislative and Public Affairs in advance of release, as practicable. Press releases or other public notices must include a statement substantially as follows:

"The U.S. Agency for International Development administers the U.S. foreign assistance program providing economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 80 countries worldwide."
 - e. Any “public communication,” 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.”

- f. The recipient must provide the USAID AOR, with two copies of all program and communications materials produced under this award.
- g. The recipient may request an exception from USAID marking requirements when USAID marking requirements would:
 - (1) Compromise the intrinsic independence or neutrality of a program or materials where independence or neutrality is an inherent aspect of the program and materials;
 - (2) Diminish the credibility of audits, reports, analyses, studies, or policy recommendations whose data or findings must be seen as independent;
 - (3) Undercut host-country government “ownership” of constitutions, laws, regulations, policies, studies, assessments, reports, publications, surveys or audits, public service announcements, or other communications;
 - (4) Impair the functionality of an item;
 - (5) Incur substantial costs or be impractical;
 - (6) Offend local cultural or social norms, or be considered inappropriate; or
 - (7) Conflict with international law.
- h. The recipient may submit a waiver request of the marking requirements of this provision or the Marking Plan, through the AOR, when USAID- required marking would pose compelling political, safety, or security concerns, or have an adverse impact in the cooperating country.
 - (1) Approved waivers “flow down” to subagreements, including subawards and contracts, unless specified otherwise. The waiver may also include the removal of USAID markings already affixed, if circumstances warrant.
 - (2) USAID determinations regarding waiver requests are subject to appeal by the recipient, by submitting a written request to reconsider the determination to the cognizant Assistant Administrator.
- i. The recipient must include the following marking provision in any subawards entered into under this award:

“As a condition of receipt of this subaward, marking with the USAID Identity of a size and prominence equivalent to or greater than the recipient’s, subrecipient’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 subrecipient, USAID may, at its discretion, require marking by the subrecipient with the USAID Identity.”

[END OF PROVISION]

M3. DRUG TRAFFICKING AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (JUNE 2012)

In the event the recipient or any of its employees, subrecipients, or contractors are found to have been convicted of a narcotics offense or to have been engaged in drug trafficking as defined in 22 CFR 140, USAID reserves the right to terminate this award, in whole or in part, or take any other appropriate measures including, without limitation, refund or recall of any award amount. Additionally, the recipient must make a good-faith effort to maintain a drug-free workplace and USAID reserves the right to terminate or suspend this award if the recipient materially fails to do so.

[END OF PROVISION]

M4. DEBARMENT AND SUSPENSION (JUNE 2012)

- a. The recipient must not transact or conduct business under this award with any individual or entity that has an active exclusion on the System for Award management (SAM) (www.sam.gov) unless prior approval is received from the Agreement Officer. The list contains those individuals and entities that the U.S. Government has suspended or debarred based on misconduct or a determination by the U.S. Government that the person or entity cannot be trusted to safeguard U.S. Government funds. Suspended or debarred entities or individuals are excluded from receiving any new work or any additional U.S. Government funding for the duration of the exclusion period. If the recipient has any questions about listings in the system, these must be directed to the Agreement Officer.
- b. The recipient must comply with Subpart C of 2 CFR Section 180, as supplemented by 2 CFR 780, USAID may disallow costs, annul or terminate the transaction, debar or suspend the recipient, or take other remedies as appropriate, if the recipient violates this provision. Although doing so is not automatic, USAID may terminate this award if a recipient or any of its principals meet any of the conditions listed in paragraph c. below. If such a situation arises, USAID will consider the totality of circumstances—including the recipient’s response to the situation and any additional information submitted—when USAID determines its response.
- c. The recipient must notify the Agreement Officer immediately upon learning that it or any of its principals, at any time prior to or during the duration of this award:

- (1) Are presently excluded or disqualified from doing business with any U.S. Government entity;
- (2) Have been convicted or found liable within the preceding three years for committing any offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty such as fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery or lying;
- (3) Are presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any governmental entity for any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph c.(2); or
- (4) Have had one or more U.S.-funded agreements terminated for cause or default within the preceding three years.

d. Principal means—

- (1) An officer, director, owner, partner, principal investigator, or other person within a participant with management or supervisory responsibilities related to a covered transaction; or
- (2) A consultant or other person, whether or not employed by the participant or paid with Federal funds, who—
 - (i) Is in a position to handle Federal funds;
 - (ii) Is in a position to influence or control the use of those funds; or,
 - (iii) Occupies a technical or professional position capable of substantially influencing the development or outcome of an activity required to perform the covered transaction.

- e. The recipient must include this provision in its entirety except for paragraphs c.(2)-(4) in any subagreements, including subawards or contracts, entered into under this award.

[END OF PROVISION]

M5. PREVENTING TRANSACTIONS WITH, OR THE PROVISION OF RESOURCES OR SUPPORT TO, SANCTIONED GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS (May 2020)

- a. In carrying out activities under this award, except as authorized by a license issued by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) of the U.S. Department of Treasury, the recipient will not engage in transactions with, or provide resources or support to, any individual or entity that is subject to sanctions administered by OFAC or the United Nations (UN), including any individual or entity that is included on the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List maintained by OFAC (<https://www.treasury.gov/resource-center/sanctions/SDN-List/Pages/default.aspx/>) or on the UN Security Council consolidated list (<https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list>).
- b. Any violation of the above will be grounds for unilateral termination of the agreement by USAID.
- c. The Recipient must include this provision in all subawards and contracts issued under this award.

[END OF PROVISION]

M6. TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS (April 2016)

- a. The recipient, subawardee, or contractor, at any tier, or their employees, labor recruiters, brokers or other agents, must not engage in:
 - (1) Trafficking in persons (as defined in the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime) during the period of this award;
 - (2) Procurement of a commercial sex act during the period of this award;
 - (3) Use of forced labor in the performance of this award;
 - (4) Acts that directly support or advance trafficking in persons, including the following acts:
 - i. Destroying, concealing, confiscating, or otherwise denying an employee access to that employee's identity or immigration documents;
 - ii. Failing to provide return transportation or pay for return transportation costs to an employee from a country outside the United States to the country from which the employee was recruited upon the end of employment if requested by the employee, unless:
 - a) exempted from the requirement to provide or pay for such return transportation by USAID under this award; or

- b) the employee is a victim of human trafficking seeking victim services or legal redress in the country of employment or a witness in a human trafficking enforcement action;
 - iii. Soliciting a person for the purpose of employment, or offering employment, by means of materially false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises regarding that employment;
 - iv. Charging employees recruitment fees; or
 - v. Providing or arranging housing that fails to meet the host country housing and safety standards.
- b. In the event of a violation of section (a) of this provision, USAID is authorized to terminate this award, without penalty, and is also authorized to pursue any other remedial actions authorized as stated in section 1704(c) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Pub. L. 112-239, enacted January 2, 2013).
- c. If the estimated value of services required to be performed under the award outside the United States exceeds \$500,000, the recipient must submit to the Agreement Officer, the annual “Certification regarding Trafficking in Persons, Implementing Title XVII of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013” as required prior to this award, and must implement a compliance plan to prevent the activities described above in section (a) of this provision. The recipient must provide a copy of the compliance plan to the Agreement Officer upon request and must post the useful and relevant contents of the plan or related materials on its website (if one is maintained) and at the workplace.
- d. The recipient’s compliance plan must be appropriate to the size and complexity of the award and to the nature and scope of the activities, including the number of non-United States citizens expected to be employed. The plan must include, at a minimum, the following:
 - (1) An awareness program to inform employees about the trafficking related prohibitions included in this provision, the activities prohibited and the action that will be taken against the employee for violations.
 - (2) A reporting process for employees to report, without fear of retaliation, activity inconsistent with the policy prohibiting trafficking, including a means to make available to all employees the Global Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-844-888-FREE and its e-mail address at help@befree.org.
 - (3) A recruitment and wage plan that only permits the use of recruitment companies with trained employees, prohibits charging of recruitment fees to the employee, and ensures that wages meet applicable host-country legal requirements or explains any variance.
 - (4) A housing plan, if the recipient or any subawardee intends to provide or arrange

housing. The housing plan is required to meet any host-country housing and safety standards.

- (5) Procedures for the recipient to prevent any agents or subawardee at any tier and at any dollar value from engaging in trafficking in persons activities described in section a of this provision. The recipient must also have procedures to monitor, detect, and terminate any agents or subawardee or subawardee employees that have engaged in such activities.
- e. If the Recipient receives any credible information regarding a violation listed in section a(1)-(4) of this provision, the recipient must immediately notify the cognizant Agreement Officer and the USAID Office of the Inspector General; and must fully cooperate with any Federal agencies responsible for audits, investigations, or corrective actions relating to trafficking in persons.
 - f. The Agreement Officer may direct the Recipient to take specific steps to abate an alleged violation or enforce the requirements of a compliance plan.
 - g. For purposes of this provision, “employee” means an individual who is engaged in the performance of this award as a direct employee, consultant, or volunteer of the recipient or any subrecipient.
 - h. The recipient must include in all subawards and contracts a provision prohibiting the conduct described in section a(1)-(4) by the subrecipient, contractor, or any of their employees, or any agents. The recipient must also include a provision authorizing the recipient to terminate the award as described in section b of this provision.

[END OF PROVISION]

M7. N/A

M8. EQUAL PARTICIPATION BY FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS (JUNE 2016)

a. Faith-Based Organizations Encouraged

Faith-based organizations are eligible, on the same basis as any other organization, to participate in any USAID program for which they are otherwise eligible. Neither USAID nor entities that make and administer subawards of USAID funds shall discriminate for or against an organization on the basis of the organization’s religious character or affiliation. Additionally, religious organizations shall not be disqualified from participating in USAID programs because such organizations are motivated or influenced by religious faith to provide social services, or because of their religious character or affiliation.

Decisions about awards of USAID financial assistance must be free from political interference or even the appearance of such interference. Awards must be made on the basis

of merit, not the basis of the religious affiliation of an applicant, or lack thereof. A faith-based organization may continue to carry out its mission, including the definition, development, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs, within the limits contained in this provision. For more information, see the [USAID Faith- Based and Community Initiatives Web site](#) and [22 CFR 205.1](#).

b. Explicitly Religious Activities Prohibited.

- (1) Explicitly religious activities include activities that involve overt religious content such as worship, religious instruction, prayer, or proselytization.
- (2) The recipient must not engage in explicitly religious activities as part of the programs or services directly funded with financial assistance from USAID. If the recipient engages in explicitly religious activities, the activities must be offered separately, in time or location, from any programs or services directly funded by this award, and participation must be voluntary for beneficiaries of the programs or services funded with USAID assistance.
- (3) These restrictions apply equally to religious and secular organizations. All organizations that participate in USAID programs, as recipients or subawardees, including religious ones, must carry out eligible activities in accordance with all program requirements and other applicable requirements governing USAID- funded activities.
- (4) Notwithstanding the restrictions of b.(1) and (2), a religious organization that participates in USAID-funded programs or services:
 - (i) May retain its independence and may continue to carry out its mission, including the definition, development, practice, and expression of its religious beliefs, provided that it does not use direct financial assistance from USAID to support or engage in any explicitly religious activities or in any other manner prohibited by law;
 - (ii) May use space in its facilities, without removing religious art, icons, scriptures, or other religious symbols; and
 - (iii) May retains its authority over its internal governance, and may retain religious terms in its organization's name, select its board members on a religious basis, and include religious references in its organization's mission statements and other governing documents.

c. Implementation in accordance with the Establishment Clause: Nothing in this provision shall be construed as authorizing the use of USAID funds for activities that are not permitted by Establishment Clause jurisprudence or otherwise by law.

d. Discrimination Based on Religion Prohibited: The recipient must not, in providing services, discriminate against a program beneficiary or potential program beneficiary on

the basis of religion or religious belief, refusal to hold a religious belief or a refusal to attend or participate in a religious practice.

- e. A religious organization's exemption from the Federal prohibition on employment discrimination on the basis of religion, set forth in Sec. 702(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000e-1 is not forfeited when the organization receives financial assistance from USAID.
- f. The Secretary of State may waive the requirements of this section in whole or in part, on a case-by-case basis, where the Secretary determines that such waiver is necessary to further the national security or foreign policy interests of the United States.
- g. This provision must be included in all subawards under this award.

[END OF PROVISION]

M9. USAID IMPLEMENTING PARTNER NOTICES (IPN) PORTAL FOR ASSISTANCE (JULY 2014)

(a) Definitions

“USAID Implementing Partner Notices (IPN) Portal for Assistance (“IPN Portal)” means the single point where USAID posts proposed universal bilateral amendments for USAID awards, which can be accessed electronically by registered USAID recipients. The IPN Portal is located at <https://sites.google.com/site/usaidipnforassistance/>.

“IPN Portal Administrator” means the USAID official designated by the Director, M/OAA, who has overall responsibility for managing the USAID Implementing Partner Notices Portal for Assistance.

“Universal bilateral amendment” means those amendments with revisions or new requirements or provisions that affect all awards or a designated class of awards, as specified in the Agency notification of such revisions or new requirements.

(b) By submission of an application and execution of an award, the Applicant/Recipient acknowledges the requirement to:

- (1) Register with the IPN Portal if awarded an assistance award resulting from this solicitation, and
- (2) Receive universal bilateral amendments to this award and general notices via the IPN Portal.

(c) Procedure to register for notifications.

Go to <https://sites.google.com/site/usaidipnforassistance/> and click the “Register” button at the top of the page. Recipient representatives must use their official organization email address when subscribing, not personal email addresses.

(d) Processing of IPN Portal Amendments

The Recipient may access the IPN Portal at any time to review all IPN Portal amendments; however, the system will also notify the Recipient by email when the USAID IPN Portal Administrator posts a universal bilateral amendment for Recipient’s review and signature. Proposed USAID IPN Portal amendments distributed via the IPN Portal are applicable to all awards, unless otherwise noted in the proposed amendment.

Within 15 calendar days from receipt of the notification email from the IPN Portal, the Recipient must do one of the following:

- (1) (a) verify applicability of the proposed amendment for their award(s) per the instructions provided with each amendment; (b) download the amendment and incorporate the following information on the amendment form: award number, organization name, and organization mailing address as it appears in the basic award; (c) sign the hardcopy version; and (d) send the signed amendment (by email or hardcopy) to the AO for signature. The Recipient must not incorporate any other changes to the IPN Portal amendment. Bilateral amendments provided through the IPN Portal are not effective until the both the Recipient and the AO sign the amendment;
- (2) Notify the AO in writing if the amendment requires negotiation of additional changes to terms and conditions of the award; or
- (3) Notify the AO that the Recipient declines to sign the amendment.

Within 30 calendar days of receipt of a signed amendment from the Recipient, the AO must provide the fully executed amendment to the Recipient or initiate discussions with the Recipient.

[End of Provision]

M.10 PILOT PROGRAM FOR ENHANCEMENT OF GRANTEE EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS (SEPTEMBER 2014)

The requirement to comply with and inform all employees of the "Pilot Program for Enhancement of Contractor Employee Whistleblower Protections" is retroactively effective for all assistance awards and subawards (including subcontracts) issued beginning July 1, 2013.

The Grantee must:

1. Inform its employees working under this award in the predominant native language of the workforce that they are afforded the employee whistleblower rights and protections provided under 41 U.S.C. § 4712; and

2. Include such requirement in any subaward or subcontract made under this award.

41 U.S.C. § 4712 states that an employee of a Grantee may not be discharged, demoted, or otherwise discriminated against as a reprisal for "whistleblowing." In addition, whistleblower protections cannot be waived by any agreement, policy, form, or condition of employment.

Whistleblowing is defined as making a disclosure "that the employee reasonably believes" is evidence of any of the following:

- Gross mismanagement of a Federal contract or grant;
- A gross waste of Federal funds;
- An abuse of authority relating to a Federal contract or grant;
- A substantial and specific danger to public health or safety; or
- A violation of law, rule, or regulation related to a Federal contract or grant (including the competition for, or negotiation of, a contract or grant).

To qualify under the statute, the employee's disclosure must be made to:

- A Member of the U.S. Congress, or a representative of a U.S. Congressional Committee;
- A cognizant U.S. Inspector General;
- The U.S. Government Accountability Office;
- A Federal employee responsible for contract or grant oversight or management at the relevant agency;
- A U.S. court or grand jury; or,
- A management official or other employee of the Grantee who has the responsibility to investigate, discover, or address misconduct.

[End of Provision]

M11. SUBMISSION OF DATASETS TO THE DEVELOPMENT DATA LIBRARY (OCTOBER 2014)

a Definitions. For the purpose of submissions to the DDL:

- (1) "Dataset" is an organized collection of structured data, including data contained in spreadsheets, whether presented in tabular or non-tabular form. For example, a Dataset may represent a single spreadsheet, an extensible mark-up language (XML) file, a geospatial data file, or an organized collection of these. This requirement does not apply to aggregated performance reporting data that the recipient submits directly to a USAID portfolio management system or to unstructured data, such as email messages, PDF files, PowerPoint presentations, word processing documents, photos and graphic images, audio files, collaboration software, and instant messages. Neither does the requirement apply to

the recipient's information that is incidental to award administration, such as financial, administrative, cost or pricing, or management information. Datasets submitted to the DDL will generally be those generated with USAID resources and created in support of Intellectual Work that is uploaded to the Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC) (See M1. SUBMISSIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT EXPERIENCE CLEARINGHOUSE AND DATA RIGHTS (JUNE 2012)).

- (2) "Intellectual Work" includes all works that document the implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and results of international development assistance activities developed or acquired under this award, which may include program and communications materials, evaluations and assessments, information products, research and technical reports, progress and performance reports required under this award (excluding administrative financial information), and other reports, articles and papers prepared by the recipient under the award, whether published or not. The term does not include the recipient's information that is incidental to award administration, such as financial, administrative, cost or pricing, or management information.

b. Submissions to the Development Data Library (DDL)

- (1) The recipient must submit to the Development Data Library (DDL) at www.usaid.gov/data, in a machine-readable, non-proprietary format, a copy of any Dataset created or obtained in performance of this award, including Datasets produced by a subawardee or a contractor at any tier. The submission must include supporting documentation describing the Dataset, such as code books, data dictionaries, data gathering tools, notes on data quality, and explanations of redactions.
- (2) Unless otherwise directed by the Agreement Officer (AO) or the Agreement Officer Representative (AOR), the recipient must submit the Dataset and supporting documentation to the DDL within thirty (30) calendar days after the Dataset is first used to produce an Intellectual Work or is of sufficient quality to produce an Intellectual Work. Within thirty (30) calendar days after award completion, the recipient must submit to the DDL any Datasets and supporting documentation that have not previously been submitted to the DDL, along with an index of all Datasets and Intellectual Work created or obtained under the award. The recipient must also provide to the AOR an itemized list of any and all DDL submissions.

The recipient is not required to submit the data to the DDL, when, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this award, Datasets containing results of federally funded scientific research are submitted to a publicly accessible research database. However, the recipient must submit a notice to the DDL by following the instructions at www.usaid.gov/data, with a copy to the agreement officer representative, providing details on where and how to access the data. The direct results of federally funded scientific research must be reported no later than when

the data are ready to be submitted to a peer-reviewed journal for publication, or no later than five calendar days prior to the conclusion of the award, whichever occurs earlier.

- (3) The recipient must submit the Datasets following the submission instructions and acceptable formats found at www.usaid.gov/data.
- (4) The recipient must ensure that any Dataset submitted to the DDL does not contain any proprietary or personally identifiable information, such as social security numbers, home addresses, and dates of birth. Such information must be removed prior to submission.
- (5) The recipient must not submit classified data to the DDL.

[End of Provision]

M12. PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING CERTAIN INTERNAL CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS OR STATEMENTS (MAY 2017)

(a) Definitions.

“Contract” has the meaning given in 2 CFR Part 200.

“Contractor” means an entity that receives a contract as defined in 2 CFR Part 200.

“Internal confidentiality agreement or statement” means a confidentiality agreement or any other written statement that the recipient requires any of its employees or subrecipients to sign regarding nondisclosure of recipient information, except that it does not include confidentiality agreements arising out of civil litigation or confidentiality agreements that recipient employees or subrecipients sign at the behest of a Federal agency.

“Subaward” has the meaning given in 2 CFR Part 200.

“Subrecipient” has the meaning given in 2 CFR Part 200.

(b) The recipient must not require its employees, subrecipients, or contractors to sign or comply with internal confidentiality agreements or statements that prohibit or otherwise restrict employees, subrecipients, or contractors from lawfully reporting waste, fraud, or abuse related to the performance of a Federal award to a designated investigative or law enforcement representative of a Federal department or agency authorized to receive such information (for example, the Agency Office of the Inspector General).

(c) The recipient must notify current employees and subrecipients that prohibitions and restrictions of any preexisting internal confidentiality agreements or statements covered by this provision, to the extent that such prohibitions and restrictions are inconsistent with the prohibitions of this provision, are no longer in effect.

(d) The prohibition in paragraph (b) of this provision does not contravene the requirements applicable to Standard Form 312 (Classified Information Nondisclosure Agreement), Form 4414 (Sensitive Compartmented Information Nondisclosure Agreement), or any other form issued by a Federal department or agency governing the nondisclosure of classified information.

(e) In accordance with section 743 of Division E, Title VII, of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015, (Pub. L. 113-235), and its successor provisions in subsequent appropriations acts (and as extended in continuing resolutions) use of funds appropriated (or otherwise made available) is prohibited, if the Government determines that the recipient is not in compliance with the requirements of this provision.

(f) The recipient must include the substance of this provision, including this paragraph (f), in subawards and contracts under such awards.

(End of Provision)

M13. CHILD SAFEGUARDING (June 2015)

- (a) Because the activities to be funded under this award may involve children, or personnel engaged in the implementation of the award may come into contact with children, these activities could raise the risk of child abuse, exploitation, or neglect within USAID-funded programs. The organization agrees to abide by the following child safeguarding core principles:
- (1) Ensure compliance with host country and local child welfare and protection legislation or international standards, whichever gives greater protection, and with U.S. law where applicable;
 - (2) Prohibit all personnel from engaging in child abuse, exploitation, or neglect;
 - (3) Consider child safeguarding in project planning and implementation to determine potential risks to children that are associated with project activities and operations;
 - (4) Apply measures to reduce the risk of child abuse, exploitation, or neglect, including, but not limited to, limiting unsupervised interactions with children; prohibiting exposure to pornography; and complying with applicable laws, regulations, or customs regarding the photographing, filming, or other image-generating activities of children;
 - (5) Promote child-safe screening procedures for personnel, particularly personnel whose work brings them in direct contact with children; and
 - (6) Have a procedure for ensuring that personnel and others recognize child abuse, exploitation, or neglect; mandating that personnel and others report allegations; investigating and managing allegations; and taking appropriate action in response to such allegations, including, but not limited to, dismissal of personnel.

- (b) The organization must also include in their code of conduct for all personnel implementing USAID-funded activities the child safeguarding principles in (a)(1) through (6).
- (c) The following definitions apply for purposes of this provision:
- (1) Child: A child or children are defined as persons who have not attained 18 years of age.
 - (2) Child abuse, exploitation, or neglect: Constitutes any form of physical abuse; emotional ill-treatment; sexual abuse; neglect or insufficient supervision; trafficking; or commercial, transactional, labor, or other exploitation resulting in actual or potential harm to the child's health, well-being, survival, development, or dignity. It includes, but is not limited to: any act or failure to act which results in death, serious physical or emotional harm to a child, or an act or failure to act which presents an imminent risk of serious harm to a child.
 - (3) Physical abuse: Constitutes acts or failures to act resulting in injury (not necessarily visible), unnecessary or unjustified pain or suffering without causing injury, harm or risk of harm to a child's health or welfare, or death. Such acts may include, but are not limited to: punching, beating, kicking, biting, shaking, throwing, stabbing, choking, or hitting (regardless of object used), or burning. These acts are considered abuse regardless of whether they were intended to hurt the child.
 - (4) Sexual Abuse: Constitutes fondling a child's genitals, penetration, incest, rape, sodomy, indecent exposure, and exploitation through prostitution or the production of pornographic materials.
 - (5) Emotional abuse or ill treatment: Constitutes injury to the psychological capacity or emotional stability of the child caused by acts, threats of acts, or coercive tactics. Emotional abuse may include, but is not limited to: humiliation, control, isolation, withholding of information, or any other deliberate activity that makes the child feel diminished or embarrassed.
 - (6) Exploitation: Constitutes the abuse of a child where some form of remuneration is involved or whereby the perpetrators benefit in some manner. Exploitation represents a form of coercion and violence that is detrimental to the child's physical or mental health, development, education, or well-being.
 - (7) Neglect: Constitutes failure to provide for a child's basic needs within USAID-funded activities that are responsible for the care of a child in the absence of the child's parent or guardian.
- (d) The recipient must insert the provisions in (a) and (b) in all subawards under this award.

[End of Provision]

M14. MANDATORY DISCLOSURES (NOVEMBER 2020)

Consistent with 2 CFR §200.113, applicants and recipients must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the USAID Office of the Inspector General, with a copy to the cognizant Agreement Officer, all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Subrecipients must disclose, in a timely manner, in writing to the USAID Office of the Inspector General and to the prime recipient (pass through entity) all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Disclosures must be sent to:

U.S. Agency for International Development Office of
the Inspector General
P.O. Box 657
Washington, DC 20044-0657

Phone: [1-800-230-6539](tel:1-800-230-6539) or [202-712-1023](tel:202-712-1023)

Email: ig.hotline@usaid.gov

URL: <https://oig.usaid.gov/content/usaid-contractor-reporting-form>.

Failure to make required disclosures can result in any of the remedies described in 2 CFR §200.339 Remedies for noncompliance, including suspension or debarment (See 2 CFR 180, 2 CFR 780 and 31 U.S.C. 3321).

The recipient must include this mandatory disclosure requirement in all subawards and contracts under this award.

[End of Provision]

M15. NONDISCRIMINATION AGAINST BENEFICIARIES (November 2016).

(a) USAID policy requires that the recipient not discriminate against any beneficiaries in implementation of this award, such as, but not limited to, by withholding, adversely impacting, or denying equitable access to the benefits provided through this award on the basis of any factor not expressly stated in the award. This includes, for example, race, color, religion, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), national origin, disability, age, genetic information, marital status, parental status, political affiliation, or veteran's status. Nothing in this provision is intended to limit the ability of the recipient to target activities toward the assistance needs of certain populations as defined in the award.

(b) The recipient must insert this provision, including this paragraph, in all subawards and contracts under this award.

[End of Provision]

M16. CONFLICT OF INTEREST (August 2018)

- a. A conflict of interest in the award, administration, or monitoring of subawards arises when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of these parties, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a non-federal entity considered for a subaward. The officers, employees, and agents of the non-federal entity may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from subrecipients or parties to subawards. However, pass-through entities may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. The standards of conduct must provide for disciplinary actions to be applied for violations of such standards by officers, employees, or agents of the pass-through entity.
- b. The recipient must maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, award, and administration of subawards. The recipient safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
- c. The non-federal entity must also maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest. Organizational conflicts of interest means that because of relationships with a parent company, affiliate, or subsidiary organization, the non-federal entity is unable or appears to be unable to be impartial in conducting a subaward action involving a related organization.
- d. The recipient must have a system or systems in place to address, resolve, and disclose to USAID any conflicts of interest as described in this provision that affect any subaward regardless of the amount funded under this award.
- e. The recipient must disclose any conflict of interest and the recipient's approach for resolving the conflict of interest to the cognizant Agreement Officer for the award within 10 calendar days of the discovery of the conflict of interest.
- f. Upon notice from the recipient of a potential conflict of interest and the approach for resolving it, the Agreement Officer will make a determination regarding the effectiveness of the recipient's actions to resolve the conflict of interest within 30 days of receipt of the recipient's notice, unless the Agreement Officer advises the recipient that a longer period is necessary.
- g. The recipient cannot request payment from USAID for costs for transactions subject to the conflict of interest pending notification of USAID's determination. Failure to disclose a conflict of interest may result in cost disallowances.
- h. For conflicts of interest, including organizational conflicts of interest, involving

contracts, the recipient must follow 2 CFR 200.318, general procurement standards.

- i. The recipient must insert the substance of this provision, including paragraph(i), in all subawards under this award, at any subaward tier.

[End of Provision]

[END OF MANDATORY PROVISIONS]

REQUIRED AS APPLICABLE STANDARD PROVISIONS FOR FIXED AMOUNT AWARDS TO NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

RAA1. NA

RAA2. UNIVERSAL IDENTIFIER AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (NOVEMBER 2020)

- a. **Requirement for System for Award Management (SAM).** Unless you are exempted from this requirement under 2 CFR 25.110, you as the recipient must maintain current information in the SAM. This includes information on your immediate and highest level owner and subsidiaries, as well as on all of your predecessors that have been awarded a Federal contract or Federal financial assistance within the last three years, if applicable, until you submit the final financial report required under this Federal award or receive the final payment, whichever is later. This requires that you review and update the information at least annually after the initial registration, and more frequently, if required by changes in your information or another Federal award term.
- b. **Requirement for Unique Entity Identifier.** If you are authorized to make subawards under this Federal award, you:
 - (1) Must notify potential subrecipients that no entity (see definition in paragraph c. of this award term) may receive a subaward from you until the entity has provided its Unique Entity Identifier to you.
 - (2) May not make a subaward to an entity unless the entity has provided its Unique Entity Identifier to you. Subrecipients are not required to obtain an active SAM registration but must obtain a Unique Entity Identifier.
- c. **Definitions.** For purposes of this term:
 - (1) System for Award Management (SAM) means the Federal repository into which a recipient must provide information required for the conduct of business as a recipient. Additional information about registration procedures may be found at the SAM Internet site (currently at <https://www.sam.gov>).
 - (2) Unique Entity Identifier means the identifier assigned by SAM to uniquely identify business entities.
 - (3) Entity includes all non-Federal entities as defined a 2 CFR 200.1 and all of the following, for purposes of this part:
 - a. A foreign organization;
 - b. A foreign public entity;
 - c. A domestic for-profit organization;

- d. A domestic or foreign for-profit organization; and
 - e. A Federal agency.
- (4) Subaward has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1.
- (5) Subrecipient has the meaning given in 2 CFR 200.1.
- d. **Exceptions.** The requirements of this provision to obtain a Unique Entity Identifier and maintain a current registration in the SAM do not apply, at the prime award or subaward level, to:
- (1) Awards to individuals
 - (2) Awards less than \$25,000, with no anticipated subawards, to foreign organizations to be performed outside the United States (based on a USAID determination)
 - (3) Awards where the Agreement Officer determines, in writing, that the Agency must protect entity information from disclosure due to national security or foreign policy interests of the United States or that these requirements would cause personal safety concerns.
- e. This provision does not need to be included in subawards.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA3. REPORTING SUBAWARDS AND EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION (NOVEMBER 2020)

- a. **Reporting of first-tier subawards.**
- (1) Applicability. Unless you are exempt as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, you must report each action that equals or exceeds \$30,000 in Federal funds for a subaward to a non-Federal entity or Federal agency (see definitions in paragraph e. of this award term).
 - (2) Where and when to report.
 - (i) The non-Federal entity or Federal agency must report each obligating action described in paragraph a.(1) of this award term to www.fsrs.gov.
 - (ii) For subaward information, report no later than the end of the month following the month in which the obligation was made. (For example, if the obligation was made on November 7, 2010, the obligation must be reported by no later than December 31, 2010.)

- (3) What to report. You must report the information about each obligating action that the submission instructions posted at www.fsrs.gov specify.

b. Reporting total compensation of recipient executives for non-Federal entities.

- (1) Applicability and what to report. You must report total compensation for each of your five most highly compensated executives for the preceding completed fiscal year, if –
- (i) The total Federal funding authorized to date under this Federal award equals or exceeds \$30,000 as defined in 2 CFR 170.320;
 - (ii) In the preceding fiscal year, you received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (iii) The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm.)
- (2) Where and when to report. You must report executive total compensation described in paragraph b.(1) of this award term:
- (i) As part of your registration profile at www.sam.gov.
 - (ii) By the end of the month following the month in which this award is made, and annually thereafter.

c. Reporting of Total Compensation of Subrecipient Executives.

- (1) Applicability and what to report. Unless you are exempt, as provided in paragraph d. of this award term, for each first-tier non-Federal entity subrecipient under this award, you must report the names and total compensation of each of the subrecipient's five most highly compensated executives for the subrecipient's preceding completed fiscal year, if –

- (i) In the subrecipient's preceding fiscal year, the subrecipient received—
 - (A) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts) and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act, as defined at 2 CFR 170.320 (and subawards); and
 - (B) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from Federal procurement contracts (and subcontracts), and Federal financial assistance subject to the Transparency Act (and subawards); and
 - (ii) The public does not have access to information about the compensation of the executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (To determine if the public has access to the compensation information, see the U.S. Security and Exchange Commission total compensation filings at www.sec.gov/answers/execomp.htm.)
- (2) Where and when to report. You must report subrecipient executive total compensation described in paragraph c.(1) of this award term:
- (i) To the recipient.
 - (ii) By the end of the month following the month during which you make the subaward. For example, if a subaward is obligated on any date during the month of October of a given year (for example, between October 1 and 31), you must report any required compensation information of the subrecipient by November 30 of that year.

d. Exemptions.

If, in the previous tax year, you had gross income, from all sources, under \$300,000, you are exempt from the requirements to report:

- (1) Subawards, and
- (2) The total compensation of the five most highly compensated executives of any subrecipient.

e. Definitions.

For purposes of this award term:

- (1) Federal Agency means a Federal agency as defined at 5 U.S.C. 551(1) and further clarified by 5 U.S.C. 552(f).
- (2) Non-Federal entity means all of the following, as defined in 2 CFR 25:
 - (i) A governmental organization, which is a State, local government, or Indian tribe;
 - (ii) A foreign public entity;
 - (iii) A domestic or foreign nonprofit organization; and
 - (iv) A domestic or foreign for-profit organization.
- (3) Executive means officers, managing partners, or any other employees in management positions.
- (4) Subaward:
 - (i) This term means a legal instrument to provide support for the performance of any portion of the substantive project or program for which you received this award and that you as the recipient award to an eligible subrecipient.
 - (ii) The term does not include your procurement of property and services needed to carry out the project or program (for further explanation, see 2 CFR 200.331).
 - (iii) A subaward may be provided through any legal agreement, including an agreement that you or a subrecipient considers a contract.
- (5) Subrecipient means a non-Federal entity or Federal agency that:
 - (i) Receives a subaward from you (the recipient) under this award; and
 - (ii) Is accountable to you for the use of the Federal funds provided by the subaward.
- (6) Total compensation means the cash and noncash dollar value earned by the executive during the recipient's or subrecipient's preceding fiscal year and includes the following (for more information see 17 CFR 229.402(c)(2)):
 - (i) Salary and bonus.
 - (ii) Awards of stock, stock options, and stock appreciation rights. Use the dollar amount recognized for financial statement reporting purposes with

respect to the fiscal year in accordance with the Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (Revised 2004) (FAS 123R), Shared Based Payments.

- (iii) Earnings for services under nonequity incentive plans. This does not include group life, health, hospitalization or medical reimbursement plans that do not discriminate in favor of executives, and are available generally to all salaried employees.
- (iv) Change in pension value. This is the change in present value of defined benefit and actuarial pension plans.
- (v) Above-market earnings on deferred compensation which is not tax-qualified.
- (vi) Other compensation, if the aggregate value of all such other compensation (for example, severance, termination payments, value of life insurance paid on behalf of the employee, perquisites or property) for the executive exceeds \$10,000.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA4. N/A

RAA5. FLY AMERICA ACT RESTRICTIONS (AUGUST 2013)

***APPLICABILITY:** This provision is only applicable when international travel is listed as or in a milestone.*

- a. The recipient must use U.S. Flag Air Carriers for all international air transportation (including personal effects) funded by this award pursuant to the Fly America Act and its implementing regulations to the extent service by such carriers is available.
- b. In the event that the recipient selects a carrier other than a U.S. Flag Air Carrier for international air transportation, in order for the costs of such international air transportation to be allowable, the recipient must document such transportation in accordance with this provision and maintain such documentation in accordance with the record retention requirements of this award. The documentation must use one of the following reasons or other exception under the Fly America Act:
 - (1) The recipient uses a European Union (EU) flag air carrier, which is an airline operating from an EU country that has signed the US-EU “Open Skies” agreement (<http://www.state.gov/e/eb/rls/othr/ata/i/ic/170684.htm>).

- (2) Travel to or from one of the following countries on an airline of that country when no city pair fare is in effect for that leg (see <http://apps.fas.gsa.gov/citypairs/search/>):
 - a. Australia on an Australian airline,
 - b. Switzerland on a Swiss airline, or
 - c. Japan on a Japanese airline;
- (3) Only for a particular leg of a route on which no US Flag Air Carrier provides service on that route;
- (4) For a trip of 3 hours or less, the use of a US Flag Air Carrier at least doubles the travel time;
- (5) If the US Flag Air Carrier offers direct service, use of the US Flag Air Carrier would increase the travel time by more than 24 hours; or
- (6) If the US Flag Air Carrier does not offer direct service,
 - a. Use of the US Flag Air Carrier increases the number of aircraft changes by 2 or more,
 - b. Use of the US Flag Air Carrier extends travel time by 6 hours or more, or
 - c. Use of the US Flag Air Carrier requires a layover at an overseas interchange of 4 hours or more.

c. DEFINITIONS

The terms used in this provision have the following meanings:

- (1) "International air transportation" means international air travel by individuals (and their personal effects) or transportation of cargo by air between a place in the United States and a place outside thereof, or between two places both of which are outside the United States.
- (2) "U.S. Flag Air Carrier" means an air carrier on the list issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation at <http://ostpxweb.dot.gov/aviation/certific/certlist.htm>. U.S. Flag Air Carrier service also includes service provided under a code share agreement with another air carrier when the ticket, or documentation for an electronic ticket, identifies the U.S. flag air carrier's designator code and flight number.
- (3) For this provision, the term "United States" includes the fifty states, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, possessions of the United States, and the District of Columbia.

d. SUBAWARDS AND CONTRACTS

This provision must be included in all subawards and contracts, under which this award will finance international air transportation.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA6. OCEAN SHIPMENT OF GOODS (JUNE 2012)

- a. Prior to contracting for ocean transportation to ship goods purchased or financed with USAID funds under this award, the recipient must contact the office below to determine the flag and class of vessel to be used for shipment:

U.S. Agency for International Development,
Office of Acquisition and Assistance, Transportation Division
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
USAID Annex
Washington, DC 20523-7900
Email: oceantransportation@usaid.gov

- b. This provision must be included in all subagreements, including subwards and contracts.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA7. REPORTING HOST GOVERNMENT TAXES (JUNE 2012)

- a. By April 16 of each year, the recipient must submit a report containing:
- (i) Contractor/recipient name.
 - (ii) Contact name with phone, fax and e-mail.
 - (iii) Agreement number(s).
 - (iv) The total amount of value-added taxes and customs duties (but not sales taxes) assessed by the host government (or any entity thereof) on purchases in excess of \$500 per transaction of supplies, materials, goods or equipment, during the 12 months ending on the preceding September 30, using funds provided under this contract/agreement.
 - (v) Any reimbursements received by April 1 of the current year on value-added taxes and customs duties reported in (iv).
 - (vi) Reports are required even if the recipient did not pay any taxes or receive any

reimbursements during the reporting period.

- (vii) Cumulative reports may be provided if the recipient is implementing more than one program in a foreign country.
- b. Submit the reports to: [insert address and point of contact at the Embassy, Mission, or M/CFO/CMP as appropriate, may include an optional “with a copy to”].
- c. The recipient must include this reporting requirement in all applicable subawards and contracts.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA8. N/A

RAA9. EXCHANGE VISITORS AND PARTICIPANT TRAINING (JUNE 2012)

For any Exchange Visitor, Participant Training or Invitational Travel activities, the recipient must comply with this provision.

- a. Definitions
 - (1) An **Exchange Visitor** is any host-country or third-country national traveling to the U.S., for any purpose, including Participant Training and Invitational Travel, funded by USAID in whole or in part, directly or indirectly.
 - (2) A **Participant** is a host-country or third-country national sponsored by USAID for a Participant Training activity taking place in the U.S., a third country, or in the host country.
 - (3) **Participant Training** is a learning activity conducted within the U.S., a third country, or in the host country for the purpose of furthering USAID development objectives. A learning activity takes place in a setting in which an individual (the Participant) interacts with a knowledgeable professional, predominantly for the purpose of acquiring knowledge or skills for the professional or technical enhancement of the individual. Learning activities may be formally structured, such as an academic program or a technical course, or they may be more informal, such as an observational study tour.
 - (4) **Invitational Travel** is a type of travel that USAID funds for non-U.S. Government employees. This type of travel may be approved for both U.S. and foreign citizens who are not employed by the U.S. Government (USG), not receiving any type of compensation from the USG for such travel, and only when it is determined that the functions to be performed are essential to the interests of

USAID.

- b. **Program Monitoring and Data Reporting:** The recipient must monitor Exchange Visitors' and Participants' progress during their program and ensure that problems are identified and resolved quickly.
- (1) For U.S.-based activities, the recipient must use USAID's official Exchange Visitor and Participant Training information system, currently called "Training Results and Information Network – TraiNet" (see <http://trainethelp.usaid.gov/>), to report and manage Exchange Visitor and Participant Training data. The recipient must also use the USAID Visa Compliance System – VCS (see <http://trainethelp.usaid.gov/>) to transfer required data for USAID Exchange Visitors to the Department of Homeland Security's Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS).
 - (2) For all third-country activities, and for host-country activities of two consecutive days or 16 contact hours or more in duration, the recipient must use USAID's official Exchange Visitor and Participant Training information system, currently called "Training Results and Information Network – TraiNet" (see <http://trainethelp.usaid.gov/>), to report and manage Participant Training data.
- c. Health and Accident Insurance:
- (3) For Exchange Visitors traveling to the United States, the recipient must enroll Exchange Visitors in health and accident insurance coverage that meets or exceeds Department of State and USAID minimum coverage requirements as set forth in 22 CFR 62.14 and ADS 253.3.6.2. The requirements may be obtained from the Agreement Officer's Representative.
 - (4) For Participants traveling to a third country, the recipient must obtain health and accident insurance coverage for all Participants.
 - (5) For Participants traveling within the host country, the recipient must determine whether specific in-country participant training activities subject them to any risk of health and accident liability for medical costs. Participants may incur, and if so, take appropriate steps according to the local situation, including obtaining health and accident insurance coverage for Participants.
- d. Immigration Requirements:
- (6) For Exchange Visitors traveling to the United States, the recipient must ensure that all USAID-sponsored Exchange Visitors obtain, use, and comply with the terms of the J-1 visa, issued in conjunction with a USAID- issued Certificate of Eligibility for J-1 Visa Status (DS-2019).

- (7) For Participants traveling to a third country or within the host country, the recipient must ensure that all Participants obtain, use, and comply with the terms of all applicable immigration, visa and other similar requirements.
- c. **Language Proficiency:** The recipient must verify language proficiency. Exchange Visitors must possess sufficient English language proficiency to participate in a U.S.-based activity. Participants of third-country or host-country training must be proficient in the language of training at a sufficient level for participation, unless an interpreter has been arranged. Language competency can be verified through a variety of means including proficiency assessments of interviews, publications, presentations, education conducted in English, and formal testing.
- d. **Pre-departure Orientation:** The recipient must conduct pre-departure orientation for U.S-bound Exchange Visitors and Participants of third-country training programs. Pre-departure orientation covers: program objectives; administrative and policy review; cultural aspects; and training/learning methods (see http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/PNADT444.pdf).
- e. **Conditions of Sponsorship:** The recipient must ensure that all Exchange Visitors read and sign the Conditions of Sponsorship for U.S.-Based Activities form (AID 1381-6). The recipient must also ensure that all Participants of long- term (six months or longer) third-country training read and sign the form Conditions of Sponsorship for Third-Country Training form (AID 1381-7). The recipient must report to the Agreement Officer any known violations by Exchange Visitors of visa or other immigration requirements or conditions.
- f. **Exchange Visitor Security Risk and Fraud Inquiry:** Each USAID Mission has an established process for conducting a Security Risk and Fraud Inquiry (SRFI) for Exchange Visitors. The recipient must be prepared to assist Missions in conducting the SRFI, if requested. However, the recipient’s role is contributive, and the Mission is ultimately responsible for conducting the SRFI.
- g. **Fly America:** To the extent that participants travel by international air travel, the recipient must comply with the Standard Provision, “International Air Travel and Air Transportation of Property.”
- h. **Use of Minority Serving Institutions:** For U.S.-based Participant Training, the recipient must, to the maximum extent possible, maintain their use of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), including Hispanic Serving Institutions and Tribal Colleges and Universities, as training or education providers.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA10. N/A

RAA11. N/A

RAA12. N/A

RAA13. N/A

RAA14. N/A

RAA15. N/A

RAA16. N/A

RAA17. N/A

RAA18. N/A

RAA 19. N/A

RAA20. N/A

RAA21. LIMITATION ON SUBAWARDS TO NON-LOCAL ENTITIES (JULY 2014)

(a) By submission of an application and execution of the award, the applicant/recipient agrees that at least fifty (50) percent of the cost of award performance incurred for personnel must be expended for employees of the prime/local entity.

(b) By submission of an application and execution of the award, the Applicant/Recipient represents that it is an individual, a corporation, a nonprofit organization, or another body of persons that:

- (1) Is legally organized under the laws of;
- (2) Has as its principal place of business or operations in;
- (3) Is majority owned by individuals who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of; and

(4) Is managed by a governing body the majority of who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of the country in which this award will be primarily performed.

(c) For purposes of this provision, “majority owned” and “managed by” include, without limitation, beneficiary interests and the power, either directly or indirectly, whether exercised or exercisable, to control the election, appointment, or tenure of the organization's managers or a majority of the organization's governing body by any means.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA22. AWARD TERM AND CONDITION FOR RECIPIENT (APRIL 2016)

A. Reporting of Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance

1. General Reporting Requirement

If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system (currently the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIIS)) about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. This is a statutory requirement under section 872 of [Public Law 110-417](#), as amended ([41 U.S.C. 2313](#)). As required by section 3010 of [Public Law 111-212](#), all information posted in the designated integrity and performance system on or after April 15, 2011, except past performance reviews required for Federal procurement contracts, will be publicly available.

2. Proceedings About Which You Must Report

Submit the information required about each proceeding that:

- a. Is in connection with the award or performance of a grant, cooperative agreement, or procurement contract from the Federal Government;
- b. Reached its final disposition during the most recent five year period; and
- c. Is one of the following:
 - (1) A criminal proceeding that resulted in a conviction, as defined in paragraph 5 of this award term and condition;
 - (2) A civil proceeding that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and payment of a monetary fine, penalty, reimbursement, restitution, or damages of \$5,000 or more;
 - (3) An administrative proceeding, as defined in paragraph 5. of this award term and condition, that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and your payment of either a monetary fine or penalty of \$5,000 or more or reimbursement, restitution, or damages in excess of \$100,000; or
 - (4) Any other criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding if:
 - (i) It could have led to an outcome described in paragraph 2.c.(1), (2), or (3) of this award term and condition;

- (ii) It had a different disposition arrived at by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault on your part; and
- (iii) The requirement in this award term and condition to disclose information about the proceeding does not conflict with applicable laws and regulations.

3. Reporting Procedures

Enter in the SAM Entity Management area the information that SAM requires about each proceeding described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. You do not need to submit the information a second time under assistance awards that you received if you already provided the information through SAM because you were required to do so under Federal procurement contracts that you were awarded.

4. Reporting Frequency

During any period of time when you are subject to the requirement in paragraph 1 of this award term and condition, you must report proceedings information through SAM for the most recent five year period, either to report new information about any proceeding(s) that you have not reported previously or affirm that there is no new information to report. Recipients that have Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000 must disclose semiannually any information about the criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings.

5. Definitions

For purposes of this award term and condition:

- a. Administrative proceeding means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature in order to make a determination of fault or liability (e.g., Securities and Exchange Commission Administrative proceedings, Civilian Board of Contract Appeals proceedings, and Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals proceedings). This includes proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include audits, site visits, corrective plans, or inspection of deliverables.
- b. Conviction, for purposes of this award term and condition, means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.
- c. Total value of currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts includes—
 - (1) Only the Federal share of the funding under any Federal award with a recipient cost share or match; and

- (2) The value of all expected funding increments under a Federal award and options, even if not yet exercised.

B. [Reserved]

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA23. RESERVED

RAA24. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TELECOMMUNICATION AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SERVICES OR EQUIPMENT (NOVEMBER 2020)

a. The Recipient is prohibited from using grant funds for covered telecommunication equipment or services to:

- (1) Procure or obtain, extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain;
- (2) Enter into a contract, extend or renew a contract to procure; or
- (3) Obtain the equipment, services, or systems.

b. “Covered telecommunication equipment or services” as defined in [Pub. L. 115-232, Section 889](#), means any of the following:

- (1) Telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
- (2) For the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes, video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities).
- (3) Telecommunications or video surveillance services provided by such entities or using such equipment.
- (4) Telecommunications or video surveillance equipment or services produced or provided by an entity that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Director of the National Intelligence or the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, reasonably believes to be an entity owned or controlled by, or otherwise connected to, the government of a covered foreign country.

c. “Covered foreign country” is defined in [Pub. L. 115-232, Section 889](#) as the People’s Republic of China.

[END OF PROVISION]

RAA25. NEVER CONTRACT WITH THE ENEMY (NOVEMBER 2020)

1. Prohibition on Providing Funds to the Enemy

(a) The recipient must—

(1) Exercise due diligence to ensure that none of the funds, including supplies and services, received under this grant or cooperative agreement are provided directly or indirectly (including through subawards or contracts) to a person or entity who is actively opposing the United States or coalition forces involved in a contingency operation in which members of the Armed Forces are actively engaged in hostilities, which must be completed through 2 CFR

180.300 prior to issuing a subaward or contract and;

(2) Terminate or void in whole or in part any subaward or contract with a person or entity listed in SAM as a prohibited or restricted source pursuant to subtitle E of Title VIII of the NDAA for FY 2015, unless the Federal awarding agency provides written approval to continue the subaward or contract.

(b) The recipient may include the substance of this clause, including paragraph (a) of this clause, in subawards under this grant or cooperative agreement that have an estimated value over \$50,000 and will be performed outside the United States, including its outlying areas.

(c) The Federal awarding agency has the authority to terminate or void this grant or cooperative agreement, in whole or in part, if the Federal awarding agency becomes aware that the recipient failed to exercise due diligence as required by paragraph (a) of this clause or if the Federal awarding agency becomes aware that any funds received under this grant or cooperative agreement have been provided directly or indirectly to a person or entity who is actively opposing coalition forces involved in a contingency operation in which members of the Armed Forces are actively engaged in hostilities.

2. Additional Access to Recipient Records

(c) In addition to any other existing examination-of-records authority, the Federal Government is authorized to examine any records of the recipient and its subawards or contracts to the extent necessary to ensure that funds, including supplies and services, available under this grant or cooperative agreement are not provided, directly or indirectly, to a person or entity that is actively opposing the United States or coalition forces involved in a contingency operation in which members of the Armed Forces are actively engaged in hostilities, except for awards awarded by the Department of Defense on or before Dec 19, 2017 that will be performed in the United States Central Command (USCENTCOM) theater of operations.

(d) The substance of this clause, including this paragraph (b), must be included in subawards or contracts under this grant or cooperative agreement that have an estimated value over \$50,000 and will be performed outside the United States,

including its outlying areas.

[END OF PROVISION]

[END OF THE STANDARD PROVISIONS]

ANNEX A – NOFO WEBSITE LINKS

The following documents are located at the URLs provided below:

- USAID Mozambique Country Development and Cooperation Strategy (CDCS)
<https://www.usaid.gov/mozambique/cdcs>
- USAID Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Policy
<https://www.usaid.gov/GenderEqualityandWomensEmpowermentPolicy>
- ATTACHEMENT A -USAID Activity MEL Plan Template