



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**ETHIOPIA**

**Office of Acquisition and Assistance**

Date RFA Issued: May 31, 2022  
Revised Closing Date: August 22, 2022,  
Closing Time: 17:00 Ethiopia Time  
Date Amendment No. 000001 Issued: July 21, 2022

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENT NO. 000001 TO REQUEST FOR APPLICATION  
(RFA) 72066322RFA00004; Public Health Emergency Management  
(PHEM) Activity**

Ladies/Gentlemen:

The United States Government (“USG”), represented by the U.S. Agency for International Development’s Ethiopia (“USAID/Ethiopia”) hereby amends the above-referenced RFA. The purpose of this amendment is to:

1. Extend the closing date of the RFA as follows:

**COVER LETTER**

*Closing Date:* Delete “July 27, 2022” and replace it with “August 22, 2022”.

2. Provide answers to the majority of the questions submitted in response to the RFA. The answers provided are listed in Attachment No. 1 to this Amendment. An Amendment No. 000002 will be issued no later than Friday, July 29 to respond to any remaining questions that were received before the deadline specified in the subject RFA.

Thank you for your consideration of this USAID initiative.

**END OF AMENDMENT 000001, 72066322RFA00004**

Sincerely,

Admir Serifovic  
Agreement Officer  
USAID/Ethiopia

**REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA) No. 72066322RFA00004**  
**USAID Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) Activity**  
**AMENDMENT NO. 000001 – Questions and Answers**

**ATTACHMENT NO.: A – QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Questions are divided into general, technical, and cost categories for ease of reference.

**I. General**

Q.1 There are several in-text references to documents in Access-Only Google Drive (e.g. Footnote 4 references a [Google Drive folder](#); Footnote 11 report, etc) that were not included in the Attachments. Is it possible to share all attachments directly?

Answer: [All the necessary files are now uploaded and are accessible to all applicants on \[www.grants.gov\]\(http://www.grants.gov\).](#)

Q.2 Section D.5.5. Can USAID clarify which appendices are required, how many can be included, and what are the order of appendices? Also, can USAID clarify the contents for the appendices from page 57-58 for more clarity?

Answer: [Please refer to Section D.5.5. Appendices \(page 57\) clearly outlines the contents of appendices or annexes, which is not part of the 20-page limitations.](#)

Q.3 Section D.5. Can USAID clarify if an acronym list is excluded from the page limitation of the Technical Application (20 pages)?

Answer: [Yes, acronym list is excluded from the 20-page limitation of the Technical Application.](#)

Q.4 Section D.5.5 Appendices. Can USAID please clarify if the letter of commitment is included or excluded from the 3 pages per resume?

Answer: [Letter of Commitment is excluded from the 3 pages per resume limit.](#)

Q.5 Can USAID confirm if the font requirements on pg. 54 apply to Annexes?

Answer: [The font requirements specified in this NOFO does not apply to Annexes.](#)

Q.6 Under D.5, on Page 55, can the applicant include an acronym list that would not count against the page limit?

Answer: [Yes, acronym list is excluded from the 20 page limitation of the Technical Application.](#)

Q.7 On pg 56, can the applicant include the implementation plan (work plan) in the Annex rather than the body of the Technical Application?

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Answer: [Yes, the Work Plan is to be included in the Annex.](#)

Q.8 Can USAID please share the Leading in Emergencies developed by Management Sciences for Health curriculum mentioned on pg 17?

Answer: [All the necessary files including ‘Leading in Emergencies’ are now uploaded and are accessible to all applicants on www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.9 On page 23, the NOFO states that applicants “...consider a risk matrix with high risk and very high-risk areas based on woreda hotspot maps (Annex X).”

Question: can USAID please provide the referred Annex?

Answer: [The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification is now uploaded, and accessible on www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.10 Would USAID please consider allowing Applicants to use 10-point Times New Roman font for tables (D.3, General Content and Form of Application, pg. 54)?

Answer: [No, please use font specified in this NOFO.](#)

Q.11 May applicants include an acronyms/abbreviations list that does not count toward the 20-page technical application body limit (D.5, Technical Applicant Format, pg. 55)

Answer: [Acronyms/abbreviations are excluded from the 20-page technical application body limit.](#)

Q.12 Will USAID please provide access to the links in the following footnotes: 4, 9, 11, 13, 15, 22, 24, 25, 27, 39, and 51? The documents linked via Google Drive are not accessible throughout the NOFO.

Answer: [All the necessary files are now uploaded and are accessible to all applicants on www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.13 On page 23, USAID states that the activity should “Consider a risk matrix with high risk and very high-risk areas based on woreda hotspot maps (Annex X).” Would USAID please provide Annex X?

Answer: [The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification is now uploaded and accessible on www.grants.gov.](#)

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Q.14 The RFA includes footnotes to documents in Google Drive requiring access permissions. Could USAID please provide these documents?

- a. The latest data on vulnerability and risk will be used for hot spot woreda categorization (NDRMC-ENCU)

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FPld7hzsUfJM4dwXkqgYA-iEkcwY6qS1>

Answer: All the necessary files including ‘The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification summary, January 2022’ are now uploaded, and are accessible to all applicants on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

- b. Recent PHEM restructuring efforts at national level improved functionality, particularly at the national and regional levels

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WEHLD8Oha9yLVJeyL4awUrFOTEPxklKW/edit?usp=drive\\_web&ouid=107823251659773791549&rtpof=true](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1WEHLD8Oha9yLVJeyL4awUrFOTEPxklKW/edit?usp=drive_web&ouid=107823251659773791549&rtpof=true)

Answer: All the necessary files including ‘EPHI-SPM III Final’ are now uploaded and are accessible to all applicants on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

- c. Formative Research Summary and Evidence and Knowledge Gaps Analysis. Assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of emergency health financing mechanisms in Ethiopia. 20th May 2021. BRE-TA Ethiopia

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1DJ\\_MoiTnR\\_yjUKeh31INYyo3oRdZPp2K/edit#slide=id.p1](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1DJ_MoiTnR_yjUKeh31INYyo3oRdZPp2K/edit#slide=id.p1)

Answer: All the necessary files including the document ‘Assessing the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Emergency Health Financing Mechanisms in Ethiopia, BRE Operational Research’ are now uploaded, and are accessible to all applicants on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

- d. Activity Logic Model 39

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mIY8cfYsUKJMj3f3yQHjQldzfGT9kXzS\\_XDxaiqpTB8/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mIY8cfYsUKJMj3f3yQHjQldzfGT9kXzS_XDxaiqpTB8/edit)

Answer: All the necessary files including the document ‘PHEM Results Framework and Log Frame’ are now uploaded, and are accessible to all applicants on [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

Q.14 Could USAID please clarify the annex requirements for key personnel? On Page 58: Section D5 “Technical Application Format”, Section 5 “Appendices”, #2. Resumes/CVs & Letters of Commitment, **ii. Key Personnel proposed minimum requirements** (1 page per position); Would USAID please confirm that applicants should submit “Key Personnel Letters of Commitment” instead of “Key Personnel proposed minimum requirements” since the sub-section is titled “Resumes/CVs & Letters of Commitment”?

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Answer: Letters of Commitment” is a separate document from Resumes/CVs. Please refer “paragraph” indicated next to Section D.5.5 subsection ii. – page 58.

Q.15 On page 56, USAID states that the “Applicant shall outline an Implementation Plan (Work Plan), which must include illustrative planned activities for the activity’s first year...”

- a. Could USAID please clarify whether the outline of an Implementation Plan (Work Plan) is to be presented within the 20-page Technical Application Body or as an allowed annex?

Answer: The work plan is to be included in the Annex.

- b. The instructions for the outline of an Implementation Plan request information on “planned expenditures.” Could USAID please confirm that these expenditures should be presented only in the cost proposal?

Answer: The work plan is a translation of award activity budget per year. Therefore, the “planned expenditures” should be presented in the work plan as well.

- c. Would USAID consider allowing 10-point Times New Roman font for the outline of an Implementation Plan presented in table format?

Answer: There is no font requirement for Annexes.

Q.16 In Footnote 3 on pg. 4, in reference to considering “geographies with strong health sector foundational capacity and commitment that are characterized as hotspot Woredas,” USAID notes that a tool to measure capacity and commitment will be developed jointly with the apparently successful offeror, USAID, and other stakeholders. On pg. 56, in reference to instructions for the outline of an Implementation Plan for the first year, USAID requests “proposed target woredas and health facilities.” Can USAID clarify whether the applicant should propose woredas or if target woredas will be selected with USAID after award and based on the tool to measure foundational capacity and commitment?

Answer: The applicant is expected to propose a geographic focus in their application and can use different criteria such as, but not limited to, using hotspot maps, the existence of well-established government PHEM structure and other necessary infrastructures, and complement with other USAID, donors/development partner’s programs. The final specific woredas of focus for the activity will be selected jointly by USAID, GOE and the apparent successful applicant during a co creation phase.

Q.17 On Page 56 of the Nofo USAID specifies that the Technical and Implementation Approach should include a Work Plan – which should include a draft schedule of milestones from the beginning to the completion of the full program, including all deliverables and plans for dissemination of reports and information. On page 57 of the Nofo, USAID indicates that the

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timeline of milestones should be included as an appendix. Can USAID please clarify if the workplan and timeline of milestones is included in the 20 page technical and implementation approach, or if it should be included as a separate appendix? If it should be included as a separate appendix, Can USAID please clarify if there is a page limit for this appendix?

Answer: [The work plan and milestones schedule are to be included in the Annex.](#)

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Q.18 On Page 57 of the Nofo USAID asks for an additional appendix for “technical approach charts, graphs and maps, and logic framework” is this a separate appendix from the expanded logic model?

Answer: [Yes, the technical approach charts, graphs and maps, and logic framework are a separate document from Expanded Logic Model and are to be presented in a separate appendix.](#)

Q.19 The link in footnote 4 does not work/applicants cannot access. Can USAID please share the latest data on vulnerability and risk that will be used for hot spot woreda categorization?

- Relatedly, all links beginning with “docs.google” do not work (applicants do not have access permission). Can USAID please provide referenced documents?

Answer: [All the necessary files are now uploaded and accessible on www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.20 On Page 23 of the Nofo USAID references a risk matrix with high risk and very high-risk areas based on woreda hotspot maps - “Annex X” - but there is no attached Annex in the Nofo. Did USAID intend to attach an Annex? And if yes, can you please share the Annex?

Answer: [The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification is now uploaded and accessible on www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.21 USAID indicates on page 54 of the Nofo that applicants should left justify their proposals. Can applicants please “justify” – rather than left justify?

Answer: [Please correct the word “left justify” with “justify”.](#)

Q.22 USAID indicates on page 54 that applicants should use single-spacing. Can applicants please use exact spacing rather than single spacing?

Answer: No, [Please use single-spaced.](#)

Q.23 Reference: RFA page 23, 4.2. Geographic Targeting. “In terms of geographic targeting and selection for the direct capacity development and technical assistance at the local levels, the

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PHEM activity must consider the following factors: - Consider a risk matrix with high risk and very high-risk areas based on woreda hotspot maps (Annex X).”

**Question:** Where can Annex X be found?

**Answer:** [The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification is now uploaded and accessible on www.grants.gov.](http://www.grants.gov)

Q.24 Reference: RFA page 24, Footnote. “51 Assessment report on public health emergency management in Ethiopia, February 2020  
. <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1DIdP3UwsfWjcn4cCY-sSKz02uURNWA8U> .”

**Question:** The referenced URL does not allow access to the referenced document. How does one access the “Assessment report on public health emergency management in Ethiopia, February 2020?”

**Answer:** [All the necessary files are now uploaded, and accessible on www.grants.gov.](http://www.grants.gov)

Q.25 Is the local NGO eligible for Application:

**Answer:** [Yes, local NGOs are eligible to apply. Eligibility for this NOFO is not restricted. Refer Section C.1 of the NOFO.](#)

Q.26 We have a DUNS number. Does it work for Unique Entity ID (UEI)

**Answer:** [No, DUNS number is replaced by Unique Entity ID \(UEI\) number. Refer table on page 53 \(second from last row\) of this NOFO.](#)

Q.27 I try to register on SAM more times, how it confirms either registered or not?

**Answer:** [Once you receive a Unique Entity ID \(UEI\) number and your status should be active in SAM.gov.](#)

Q.28 Section D.5.1. Can USAID please clarify if the Year 1 Implementation Plan described on page 56 may be included in Annex 5?

**Answer:** [Yes, include the work plan in the Annex.](#)

## **II. Technical**

Q.1 Section A.3: Can USAID please clarify the Objectives on pages 16-17? There are slight differences in wording between 3.2 Activity Logic Model, 3.3 Expected Results, and 3.4 Activity Description sections, and on pages 30-32 (Performance Indicators).

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Answer: The PHEM activity seeks to accomplish five interrelated objectives:

1. Local leadership of public health emergencies improved.
2. Woreda capacity to manage relevant public health risks increased (this entails preparedness, response and recovery).
3. Local Early Warning and Alert Response System (EWARS) and data management capacity strengthened.
4. Local core capacity on gender in emergencies (GiE) developed
5. Innovative funding for emergencies increased.

All descriptions, logic models and indicators revolve around these five objectives.

Q.2 Section A.3.4. Can USAID please provide the link to USAID/Ethiopia’s landscape assessment mentioned on pages 21 and 23? Is this the same assessment referenced on page 9 in the text box?

Answer: Yes. The USAID/Ethiopia’s landscape assessment on PHEM is the same as the Assessment report on public health emergency management in Ethiopia, done in February 2020. All the necessary files can be found attached to [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

Q.3 Section A.3.4. Can USAID please explain what is meant by “needy people” on page 21 under Objective 3?

Answer: The word “needy people” implies the community, who otherwise are vulnerable to emergencies and disasters.

Q.4 Section A.3.4. Can USAID please clarify if real-time or near-real-time PHEM data management, analysis, and use is anticipated, as indicated on page 21 under Objective 3?

Answer: Yes: real-time or near-real-time PHEM data management, analysis, and use means that surveillance data can immediately be processed and analyzed as it is created to inform decisions in a relatively short time period.

Q.5 Section A.3.4. Can USAID please clarify the statement “Further engagement will be needed at the policy level to address the gender gap in the DRM SPIF and at the community level to address gender gaps, but these are beyond the scope of this activity” (page 21) Does this mean that the PHEM activity is not expected to do any policy advocacy or community-level gender-related IEC or SBC? Especially in the context of the last illustrative activity on page 22, and the need to “manage ” on page 24 and elsewhere?

Answer: The PHEM activity will do policy advocacy on gender in emergencies (GiE) related issues. However, the community level gender-related IEC or SBC are beyond the scope of this activity.

Q.6 Section A.5.1. Can USAID please clarify expectations around the evaluation? On page 28 it states that the “external evaluation will be planned and managed by USAID to examine activity achievements against the stated objectives and document the challenges identified as

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lessons.” Yet on page 32 there are instructions on evaluation methodology and design, including that “the evaluation design should at a minimum include the evaluation time frames, budgets, workdays, and methodologies shall be co-decided between USAID and the Implementing Partner.”

Answer: USAID does independent activity evaluations as part of its own management process and depending on the need. However, the other evaluation refers to the applicant's evaluation of its activities as part of the overall M&E and CLA plan.

Q.7 Section A.6 Personnel. Given the critical gaps that exist in addressing the needs of women and girls in PHEM and the importance of gender integration per Objective 4, why isn't one of the Key Personnel a Senior Gender Advisor?

Answer: A Gender position is not included as part of key personnel at this point in response to the main requirements of this NOFO. However, that does not mean that other positions (those not listed as key) do not have weight in the overall evaluation when it is looked at in response to the requirements of the NOFO and the technical approaches.

Q.8 Section D.5.1. Technical and Implementation Approach. Can USAID please clarify what is the goal of the activity per the Technical Approach, or if this is the same as the purpose? Page 56 states “It shall demonstrate the Applicant’s capabilities and expertise with respect to achieving the goal of this activity.”

Answer: This refers to the Purpose.

Q.9 On Page 4 it is stated that “*specific woredas of focus for the activity will be selected jointly by USAID and the successful offeror*”. However, on Page 56, as part of the implementation plan (work plan), it is asking that applicant complement with other donors/development partner’s programs with “*propose target woredas*”.

- Can you please clarify as to whether the applicant should propose target woredas or an approach for selecting the geographical focus of the project?

Answer: The applicant could come up with proposed target woredas with adequate rationale, though final specific woredas of focus for the activity will be selected jointly by USAID, GOE and the apparent successful applicant during a co-creation process.

- If the applicant should propose woredas, can USAID please provide additional guidance on this?

Answer: The applicant can use different criteria such as, but not limited to, using hotspot maps, the existence of well-established government PHEM structure and other necessary infrastructures, and complement with other USAID, donors/development partner’s programs. The final specific woredas of focus for the activity will be selected jointly by USAID, GOE and the apparent successful applicant during a co-creation process.

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Q.10 On Page 23, under 4.2 Geographic Targeting, there is a reference to “*woreda hotspot maps (Annex X)*”, but the maps are not provided in the annexes.

- Can USAID please provide these maps?

Answer: [The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification is now uploaded together with the NOFO. Please refer to www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.11 In the footnotes of the NOFO, there are several references to Google documents; for instance, footnote 4 on “*hotspot woreda data*”.

- Can USAID please provide access to these documents in the form of annexes to ensure that all applicants have access to them?

Answer: [All the necessary files including ‘The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification summary, January 2022’ are now uploaded and are accessible to all applicants on www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.12 Pg. 23 mentions that USAID/Ethiopia conducted a “*landscape analysis of PHEM*”.

- Can this landscape analysis be made available to Applicants?

Answer: [USAID/Ethiopia’s landscape assessment/ analysis on PHEM is the same as ‘Assessment report on public health emergency management in Ethiopia, February 2020’. All the necessary files are now uploaded, and are accessible to all applicants on www.grants.gov.](#)

Q.13 “*External evaluation will be planned and managed by USAID to examine activity achievements...*” pg. 28.

- Will this be included in the PHEM budget or funded separately by USAID?

Answer: [External evaluations commissioned by USAID are funded separately, no proposed allocation of funds is expected from the applicant.](#)

Q.14 The theory of change (section 3.1) under the results framework mentions “*sustainable financing for PHEM*” and the “*proposed indicators and targets*” for Objective 5 (page 32 of the NOFO) mention budgeting and raising revenue for PHEM. However, the description of Objective 5 on page 22 of the NOFO only mentions the innovation fund/grants program.

- Does USAID want the offeror to propose activities other than the innovation fund for sustainable financing for PHEM under Objective 5, such as activities to increase government budget allocations to PHEM?

Answer: [Under this intervention the offeror is expected to identify and potentially support catalytic innovations for financing in emergencies that could be from government or private sector, community or other institutions.](#)

Q.15 On pg 22, under Objective 5, an “*innovation fund*” is mentioned:

- Is the main objective of the innovation fund to finance promising new tools and approaches for PHEM in Ethiopia, or to catalyze investment in PHEM?

Answer: [This intervention is all about financing.](#)

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- Does USAID have any expectations on the proportion of funding under the project that should go to the innovation fund grants proposed?  
*Ans: There is no specific allocation.*
- 2. “...data quality audits (DQAs) will be conducted every two years by the EPHI” (pg. 33).
  - Will these DQAs be funded separately by EPHI?

*Answer: The data quality audit (DQA) is conducted every two years by the Ethiopian Public Health Institute and will not be funded by this activity. However, this activity is expected to make use of the results of such DQAs for its interventions and data quality.*

Q.16 On page 5, the NOFO states “...Ethiopia lacks capacity to quickly detect and effectively respond to outbreaks and disasters, affecting the health and livelihoods of thousands of Ethiopians a year”.

Question: Does this mean that the NOFO is also looking for OneHealth components and veterinary service/response strengthening, too?

*Answer: The aim of PHEM activity is to reduce the impact of disasters on health outcomes and primary health care by improving the capacity to identify, manage and withstand shocks that can arise from any public health emergencies including those considered under the one-health shocks.*

Q.17 On page 15, the NOFO states “...This activity contributes to core capacities in coordination and collaboration during emergencies, strengthening surveillance systems, risk communication and early warning systems, preparedness, and response capability at the woreda level, while leveraging sustainable risk financing and incorporating an intentional integration of gender. It focuses on leadership capability and local system strengthening, with a fully integrated and adaptable approach to create disaster resilient communities and reduce the impact of disasters on health outcomes and health care delivery.” And page 16 Objective 2– “2. Woreda capacity to manage relevant public health risks increased (preparedness, response, and recovery).”

Question: Immunizations (including against vaccine preventable diseases via EIP as part of the MNCH services) and emergency immunizations during certain disease outbreaks are also important elements of DRR and preparedness to consider. Does NOFO look for that, too?

*Answer: The PHEM activity will work on ensuring the continuity of essential health services delivery during emergencies (including MNCH, immunization against vaccine-preventable diseases, and nutritional screening and management).*

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Q.18 Can USAID please clarify the monitoring indicators listed under Objective 5 (A.5.1, Monitoring, pg. 32) vis-à-vis the Objective description (3.4, Activity Description, pg. 22)?

Answer: [Five objectives were described under section 3.4. Appropriate indicators and suggested targets are included under section A according to the objectives in section 3.4.](#)

Q.19 The NOFO tells Applicants to ‘Consider a risk matrix with high risk and very high-risk areas based on woreda hotspot maps (Annex X)’ (A.4.2, Geographic Targeting, pg. 23). Is the inclusion of Annex X intended to refer to a specific annex that was not included in the list of Appendices (D.5.5, Appendices, pg. 58), OR to suggest the inclusion of an Annex in the proposal to speak to this risk matrix? Are we required to submit an annex to support this?

Answer: [The National Level Hotspot Woreda classification is now uploaded and accessible on \[www.grants.gov\]\(http://www.grants.gov\).](#)

Q.20 In the Performance Monitoring Indicators for Objective 5, USAID notes ‘Proportion of innovative raised revenue for PHEM/EICC operational financing reached 2% in 2025’ (A.5.1, Monitoring, pg. 32). Can USAID please clarify over what base number USAID is proposing a 2% increase?

Answer: [The baseline funding allocation will be used from resources allocated for PHEM on Year 1 of this activity.](#)

Q.21 USAID states that ‘As part of the approach, the Applicant shall outline an Implementation Plan (Work Plan), which must include...planned expenditures’ (D.1, Technical and Implementation Approach, pg. 56). Can USAID please clarify and elaborate the meaning of planned expenditures in this technical context?

Answer: [Planned Expenditures reference expenditures projected to be spent in the future or subsequent months.](#)

Q.22 The NOFO states that ‘The applicant should estimate the amount of cost sharing resources to be provided over the life of the agreement and specify the sources of such resources, and the basis of calculation in the budget narrative. Applicants should also provide a breakdown of the cost share (financial and in-kind contributions) of all organizations involved in implementing the resulting award’ (D.6.4.I, Business [Cost] Application Format, pg. 64) while also stating that ‘cost share is desirable and strongly encouraged in order to amplify the impact of the activity and the U.S Government funding. However, while encouraged, it is not mandatory under this RFA’ (C.2, Cost Sharing or Matching, pg. 51) Can USAID clarify if cost share is mandatory for this RFA?

Answer: [Cost share is not mandatory, however as per section C.2 of the NOFO, it is desirable and strongly encouraged.](#)

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Q.23 Can USAID clarify what geographies this project should work? Or, will this be decided with USAID and GOE upon award? Or, is USAID asking partners to propose a geographic focus in their application?

Answer: The applicant is expected to propose a geographic focus in their application and can use different criteria such as, but not limited to, using hotspot maps, the existence of well-established government PHEM structure and other necessary infrastructures, and complement with other USAID, donors/development partner's programs. The final specific woredas of focus for the activity will be selected jointly by USAID, GOE and the apparent successful applicant during a co creation phase.

Q.24 Based on your proposal to cover at least 10 woreds, I plan to propose 10 woreda from three regions like SNNPR, Sidama and the Southwest region. Is it possible?

Answer: Any combination of regions and woredas is acceptable as long as a sound selection and rational targeting process is followed.

Q.25 Is USAID's expectation that implementation happens under the oversight of the Ethiopian Public Health Institute or should applicants add EPHI as a partner in a consortium?

Answer: Applicants are expected to follow and work under established PHEM structures in the country and coordinate with all the relevant authorities including, but not limited to, EPHI and MoH. However, it is up to the applicant to establish consortiums and other partnerships to respond to the requirements under this NOFO. Moreover, proposed technical approaches may also inform what kind of partnerships and working arrangements are needed in response to the requirements of the NOFO.

Q.26 Could USAID please confirm Branding and Marking are not required with the Cost Application submission, given applicants are not required to submit a branding and marking plan with the application?

Answer: Yes, applicants are not required to submit a Branding and Marking plan with their applications.