



USAID | KENYA AND EAST AFRICA

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U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT

**CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP CONCEPTS: NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER
72061523APS00001**

**EMPOWERING WOMEN TO ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE
IN NORTHERN KENYA**

**UNDER EXISTING
GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT
APS No.: APS-OAA-21-00001**

Issue Date:	May 22, 2023
Deadline for Questions:	June 21, 2023
Concept submission Deadline:	August 21, 2023, 10:00 am Eastern Time
Federal Assistance Listing Number:	98.001

PLEASE NOTE: This is an addendum to an existing announcement. All interested organizations should carefully review both this addendum AND the full announcement, which can be found here: <https://www.usaid.gov/gda/global-development-alliance-annual-program>. Important information contained in the full announcement applies to but is not repeated in this specific addendum.

This program is authorized in accordance with Part 1 of the Foreign Assistance act of 1961, as amended.

Through this Addendum to the 2020-2023 Global Development Alliance (GDA) Annual Program Statement (APS) No. APS-OAA-21-00001 (the GDA APS), USAID/Kenya & East Africa is making a special call for the submission of concepts focused on empowering women in northern Kenya to improve their resilience and adaptive capacity to climate change and its impacts. Any GDA supported through this addendum should strengthen the entrepreneurial capacity of women, expand their alternative income generating activities; and create market linkages between the women-led enterprises in Northern Kenya and local, regional and international private sector actors. The private sector will have the opportunity to partner in the co-creation and delivery of a high impact activity that will improve the well-being and prosperity of communities while reducing threats to biodiversity and strengthening the resilience of pastoral women and youth to the effects of climate change. In addition to enhancing the resilience and adaptive capacity of women and youth in Northern Kenya to climate change, this activity will also be critical in

addressing socio-cultural norms that often prevent women from actively engaging in income generating activities or seeking formal / informal employment and reducing the harmful effects of gender-based violence.

The objectives of this addendum are aligned to USAID Kenya's Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) whose goal is "Kenya's competitive private sector, resilient communities and civil society organizations, and citizen-responsive public sector better collaborate to drive inclusive growth and well-being for Kenya's self-reliance" and the USAID Kenya Environment Office Strategy whose goal is "Kenya's capacity to drive sustainable and inclusive growth for its people and environment is strengthened". The specific objectives of the addendum are also aligned to the following USG priorities: the National Strategy on Gender Equity and Equality; USG Strategy on Global Women's Economic Security; and the USG Strategy to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence Globally 2022. Furthermore, in accordance with USAID Climate Strategy 2022-2030, USAID will support our partners to achieve systemic changes that increase meaningful participation and active leadership in climate action of Indigenous Peoples, local communities, women, youth, and other marginalized and/or underrepresented groups. The specific objectives of this addendum are:

1. Enhance women's capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change in Northern Kenya.
2. Stimulate job creation for women in conservancies, to reduce their dependence on natural resources and strengthen their resilience to the effects of climate change.
3. Address gender-based violence.

USAID anticipates making one award of up to \$1,500,000. Per the requirements of the GDA APS, USAID expects private sector contributions to at least equal and preferably exceed \$1,500,000. Unless otherwise stated herein, all terms and conditions of the FY2020-2023 GDA APS apply. For additional information, please see <https://www.usaid.gov/gda/global-development-alliance-annual-program>.¹

I. Background

Kenya is 80% arid and semi-arid lands (ASALs) and comprises communities that are mostly marginalized, particularly in the northern and coastal areas of the country. The country has faced cyclical and periodic extreme weather events e.g. drought and floods and is currently enduring its worst drought in 40 years, according to the Government and UN. More than four million people are "food insecure," and 3.3 million can't get enough water to drink. Drought-affected populations have experienced consecutive shocks since 2016,

¹ As stated in APS No. APS-OAA-21-00001, the partnerships proposed in any concept submission should mobilize and leverage private sector resources at a level and value that at least equals and preferably significantly exceeds the level of funding being requested from USAID. Proposed GDAs that do not meet this requirement will not be considered under this announcement.

including natural hazards, such as drought and floods, COVID-19, and a desert locust invasion in 2020 (OCHA 30/09/2021). Poor pasture and below-average crop production have disrupted pastoralism, agropastoralism, and farming, the main livelihood activities in the affected areas (KFSSG 31/08/2021). In 2021, northwestern Kenya experienced the driest conditions and highest temperatures since 1981. The combined effect of high temperatures and below-average rainfall worsened the impact on vegetation, pasture, and water resources (WFP 20/01/2022).

In Kenyan ASALs, women are among the first to experience the devastating impact of biodiversity loss and climate change while at the same time, they are often nature's first responders searching for a cure to the crisis engulfing their communities. Due to prolonged drought in the ASALs, women and girls have been forced to spend more than 3 to 5 hours in search of water for their domestic use. This exposes them to increased risk of sexual and gender-based violence. Due to the prolonged drought, pastoral communities have also lost their main source of livelihood, livestock. This has in turn led to an increase in early marriages as a way of restocking and reducing the perceived burden of taking care of the girls.

Women in ASALs generally face stark inequalities, they have fewer opportunities and experience a mix of unemployment, underemployment and poor-quality jobs (informal, unskilled, and lowly paid), with less than 5% of women being in gainful employment and female rangers making up only 6% of the workforce in conservancies. Women's marginalization, harmful social cultural norms and lack of access to resources and information on climate and early warning information were reported as the underlying causes of vulnerability in the Northern Rangelands (USAID Vulnerability, Impact and Adaptation Assessment in the Northern Rangelands, 2019).

The role of ASAL women in leadership is also limited due to socio-cultural norms. For example, only 2 out of 94 community conservancies have female chairpersons; less than 5% of conservancy managers are women; and less than 10% of conservancy membership are women.

In most pastoralist settings, women often engage in alternative income generating activities albeit at a very micro level to buffer themselves from the devastating effects of climate change. This includes beadwork, weaving, collection of medicinal plants / gums and resins, farming and processing of milk and milk products. In traditionally patriarchal communities like those in Northern Kenya, women continue to face entrenched gender biases and inequalities that limit their ability to engage in and benefit from economic activities. This is coupled with a lack of sustainable markets; minimal profits; inadequate capacity to grow their businesses; and inadequate linkages with the outside markets beyond their villages and counties.

USAID aims to enable and empower women, youth, other marginalized and underrepresented groups to lead climate action by creating tangible economic

opportunities for women in climate friendly industries by supporting the training, education, and enabling environment and opportunities necessary to ensure equitable access to jobs.

II. Solicitation

Through this announcement, USAID seeks to develop new and innovative public-private alliances with the private sector - including businesses, investors, and corporate foundations - as well as philanthropic foundations, NGOs, and other stakeholders focused on advancing entrepreneurship with a special focus on women in Northern Kenya. This activity will enhance women's participation in climate action, create tangible economic opportunities for women in climate friendly industries and reduce gender-based violence which is often associated with women's lack of 'voice' in decision making and lack of economic empowerment.

Geographic Scope

The target area for this addendum is Northern Kenya conservancies, specifically the conservancies in the following 10 Counties: Samburu, Isiolo, Laikipia, Marsabit, Tana River, Garisa, Meru, West Pokot, Lamu and Baringo.

Sectoral Scope

USAID prefers multi-sectoral approaches, but is open to other promising approaches. All partnership proposals should specify how the proposed effort aligns with the USAID's [2023 Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Policy](#) and the [U.S. Strategy on Global Women's Economic Security](#).

III. Evaluation Considerations and Criteria

Proposed alliances will be evaluated based on the considerations and criteria set forth in Section VI of the GDA APS. As stated in APS No. APS-OAA-21-00001, USAID expects to receive GDA concepts that mobilize and leverage private sector resources at a level and value that at least equals and preferably significantly exceeds the level of funding being requested from USAID. The GDA concepts submitted must demonstrate extensive engagement of and co creation with the private sector and other organizations. Proposed alliances will also be evaluated based on considerations and criteria in ADS 204, 3.9 (a) due diligence investigation of the environmental record and practices of each partner in an alliance, and for the alliance as a whole.

In addition, the following criteria and considerations will also be used:

- Innovations that empower women, improve their participation in decision making, and enhance adaptive capabilities to climate change.
- Preference will be given to GDA concepts with private sector partners who demonstrate long-term commitment to the targeted region.

As stated in the GDA APS and the Agency's [Private Sector Engagement Policy](#), concepts should be characterized by market-based approaches and foster enterprise led development.

Proposed alliances should be consistent with USAID legal and policy restrictions, including those set forth in USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS) and in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

IV. Concept Submission Instructions and Review Process

USAID/Kenya & East Africa, Environment Office will be responsible for the review process and management of any awards issued under this addendum. Applicants are required to follow the concept submission instructions set forth in Section V of the GDA APS and submit concepts using the appropriate template provided in the GDA APS.

The concept notes are limited to a total of 7 (seven) pages only inclusive of annexes. If an applicant submits any material that exceeds the page limits specified in this addendum, USAID reserves the right, at its option, to reject the entire submission or to disregard any information beyond the specified page limits.

NOTE: The GDA APS states that a concept cannot be submitted until the core private sector partner(s) to a proposed GDA discuss that GDA with the relevant USAID operating unit (USAID/Kenya & East Africa, Environment Office) and receives an email from that operating unit confirming the discussion and indicating that operating unit's willingness to receive and review a concept submission. These preliminary discussions before submission of the concept note fall under stage 1 of the Co-creation process - "Engage and Explore"

For purposes of this addendum, the point of contact for engaging in those discussions, exploring potential GDAs and addressing questions related to this addendum is **Claire Ogali, Program Management Specialist (Biodiversity and Policy)** at inuamama@usaid.gov. A concept cannot be submitted until Claire Ogali or her designate provides an email confirming initial co-creation discussions with the private sector and indicating USAID/Kenya's willingness to receive and review a concept submission.

All emails related to this addendum and the development of a GDA under this addendum should also be copied to gda@usaid.gov.

The completed concept submission template and required supporting information should be sent to USAID/Kenya at inuamama@usaid.gov with a copy to gda@usaid.gov.

Information provided in the relevant template must address the objectives and criteria presented in this addendum.

Concepts should be submitted by 21st August 2023. Submitted concepts will be reviewed on a rolling basis and feedback provided to the applicants.

After review by USAID/Kenya & East Africa, Environment Office, applicants will receive instructions from that office on whether to continue with co-creation under the GDA APS. Depending on what emerges from the continued co-creation, USAID may proceed directly to award without negotiations. If an award is issued, it would be an assistance award, such as a grant, cooperative agreement or fixed amount award. The specific type of assistance award will depend on a variety of considerations.

V. Questions and Further Assistance

Questions regarding the substance and objectives of this addendum should be directed to Claire Ogali at inuamama@usaid.gov, with copy to gda@usaid.gov.

Questions regarding the substance and terms of the GDA APS should be directed to Ken Lee at kenlee@usaid.gov, with copy to gda@usaid.gov.

For additional information regarding guidelines and procedures to submit a concept, please refer to the GDA APS which can be found at the following website: <https://www.usaid.gov/gda/global-development-alliance-annual-program>.

**[END OF CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP CONCEPTS: NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY
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