



USAID | MALI
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

August 16, 2023

Subject: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) Number: 72068823RFA00007 – Amendment #01

Activity Title: Feed the Future (FtF) Mali Yarnudè

Dear Prospective Applicants:

This amendment modifies the subject NOFO No. 72068823RFA00007, to provide answers to questions raised by potential applicants by the deadline for general consideration of interested parties.

With this Amendment 1:

- Under Section D.3 - General Content and Forms of Application: “12-point” is deleted and replaced by “11-point” in lieu thereof.
- Under Section D.5 - Technical Application Format: “10-page limit” is deleted and replaced by “20-page limit” in lieu thereof.

Except for the specific changes transmitted through this Amendment, all other terms and conditions of the NOFO as published remain unchanged.

Sincerely,

Aaron Ruble
Agreement Officer

Attachment A: Responses to Questions

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1. To be eligible to receive this Cooperative Agreement, an organization must propose to contribute from their own, private, or local sources no less than 2% of the amount of funds provided by USAID for the implementation of this Activity over the course of the agreement. The 2% cost share will be in addition to the total estimated budget of \$5,000,000" (page 21)- are co-financing(s) from other public institutional donors eligible?

Response: Cost share includes all cash and in-kind contributions from the recipient or third parties. Other public institutional donors are included in third parties. Applicants must refer to 2 CFR 200.306.

2. Due diligence: is it necessary for Acted to launch a due diligence process knowing that we are already partnering with BHA, in the framework of the project "Providing a multi-sectoral response to vulnerable individuals affected by displacement after a RRM response; while enabling recovery and fostering qualitative coordination of services in Mali", contract N°720BHA22GR00259, from September 1st, 2022, to August 31st 2024?

Response: No. Applicants must follow the eligibility requirements mentioned in the NOFO.

3. There is a discrepancy between pages 23 and 24 on the required font size. Can USAID confirm whether the required font size is 11 or 12 points?

Response: Applications must be written with 11-point Calibri single-spaced paragraph, one-inch (1") margins.

4. Page 24 – Table of Contents – should read “20-page limit” as opposed to “10-page limit”. Page 24 states that the Table of Contents is not included in the “10-page limit”. Can USAID please confirm this is intended to read “20-page limit” instead?

Response: USAID confirms that application must be limited to 20 pages excluding the cover page, the table of content and annexes.

5. Page 27 states the following: “Applicants must provide resumes for the candidates proposed as key personnel and for any long-term candidates not proposed as key personnel.” Can USAID confirm this only applies to full-time staff working directly on the award?

Response: It is only concerned with the key personnel and the “long-term candidates not proposed as key personnel” should be removed. USAID will review only resumes for key personnel only.

6. Is there a maximum number of past performance records that an organization may submit?

Response: Yes.the maximum number of past performance records is five. Each report should not exceed 3 pages.

7. The required budget format is unclear. Page 28, 29 and 30 of the NOFO states that the budget categories must match the SF-424C whereas the budget format on page 53 is different. Can USAID confirm if the detailed project budget will have to be submitted in a format matching the SF-424C cost categories?

Response: No. This Activity is not only designed for Construction, so Applicants can use the SF-424C for the Construction portion. The overall detailed budget for the Activity including Construction must be submitted using the budget format provided on page 53 of the RFA.

8. Under the NOFO page#26, the General Manager is required to be based in Douentza, does the applicant need to have a sub-office in Douentza?

Response: The main Office will be based in Douentza town.

9. On page 8, it is mentioned that the successful applicant will engage USAID Engineering Division, E3 Engineering & Infrastructure for input, review and technical assistance. How does USAID envision the successful applicant engaging technical assistance from E3 Engineering & Infrastructure?

Response: USAID/Mali's Agricultural and Economic Growth (AEG) office will interface with the USAID Engineering Division and the successful Applicant.

10. On page 9, it is mentioned that the implementing partner will facilitate the private sale of inputs instead of distributing them. On page 4, the NOFO states that the implementing partner will be responsible for the "provision of solar powered moto pumps and/or increase access to moto pumps for farmers". Does the requirement of not distributing inputs exclude the provision of moto pumps?

Response: Yes, the requirement of not distributing inputs exclude the provision of moto pumps. Moto pumps will not be distributed but their acquisition will be supported by the Activity, then the implementing partner. The expected total number of moto pumps is three (3).

11. The activity has ambitious plans to change several program outcomes at once: increased productivity, reduced conflict between specific livelihoods groups, increased income, and increased food security and food safety outcomes. Can the Mission clarify whether these outcomes for all the 4,000 farmers are expected to be achieved entirely by this project?

Response: USAID confirms that these outcomes for all 4,000 farmers are expected to be achieved entirely by this Activity.

12. Could the Mission clarify the specific current or future complementary programs funded by USAID with which this activity is expected to coordinate?

Response: The specific current complementary programs funded by USAID with their respective implementing partners are: Sene Yiriwa/DevWorks; Sugu Yiriwa/CARE; Anka Jiko/Tetra Tech ARD; Kedo Diren/ILRI; Albarka/CARE; Keneya Nieta/URC; Keneya Sinsi Wale/Palladium International; EMERGE/NDI; MET/IFE and An Bè Kungo Do/IMRAP .

13. The cost section of the RFA includes an estimate of \$1,742,947 for construction activities. It's not clear to LWR what would be included in this amount for construction activities. Does this include all the design, quality control requirements, and environmental impact assessments and mitigation measures?

Response: Yes, USAID confirms that it includes design, quality control requirements, and environmental impact assessments and mitigation measures. The successful applicant will build from and implement considerations set forth by the USAID environmental documentation, although the implementing partner will implement the mitigation measures set forth in the Reg.216 doc.

14. \$1,742,947 is a very specific amount and applicants would benefit from understanding and validating the costing assumptions related to construction activities since this comprises 33% of the overall envelope. Can USAID share their study of the costs for construction? Can USAID share any site survey information?

Response: The cost estimate for the construction component is based on information from previous USAID irrigation activities in the Sikasso region. USAID does not have any study of the cost of construction information to share. Any site survey information is available.

15. Construction: the construction portion of this Activity is \$1,742,947 - does this total cover all costs (including support costs) or just the programmatic costs of the activities?

Response: This amount of \$1,742,947 is the total cost for the entire construction component.