

AMENDMENT II (4/5/2011):

1. *Pages 55 – Language Added: Question and Answers*

AMENDMENT I (3/28/2011):

1. *Pages 1 and 35 - Application Deadline Date has changed to April 29, 2011*
2. *Page 11- Language added :*
Year one activities should concentrate on improving strategic information and monitoring and evaluation. Years two through five may expand into implementation of the remaining activities to achieve the overall goal of improving coverage and uptake of HIV/AIDS, related disease and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) services in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
3. *Page 20 - Language modified:*
Approximate Current Fiscal Year Funding: \$1,000,000
Approximate average award: \$1,000,000

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Providing Capacity-Building Assistance to Government and Indigenous Congolese Organizations to Improve HIV/AIDS Service Delivery in the Democratic Republic of Congo under the President’s Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

I. AUTHORIZATION AND INTENT

Announcement Type: New

Funding Opportunity Number: CDC-RFA-GH11-1138

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.067

Key Dates:

Application Deadline Date: *April 29, 2011, 5:00pm U.S. Eastern Standard Time*

Authority:

This program is authorized under Public Law 108-25 (the United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2003) [22 U.S.C. 7601, et seq.] and Public Law 110-293 (the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act of 2008).

Background:

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) has called for immediate, comprehensive and evidence based action to turn the tide of global HIV/AIDS. As called for by the PEPFAR Reauthorization Act of 2008, initiative goals over the period of 2009 through 2013 are to treat at least three million HIV infected people with effective combination anti-retroviral therapy (ART); care for twelve million HIV infected and affected persons, including five million orphans and vulnerable children; and prevent twelve million infections worldwide (3,12,12). To meet these goals and build sustainable local capacity, PEPFAR will support training of at least 140,000 new health care workers in HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment and care. The Emergency Plan *Five-Year Strategy* for the five year period, 2009 - 2014 is available at the following Internet address:

<http://www.pepfar.gov>.

Purpose:

Under the leadership of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, as part of the President's Emergency Plan, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (HHS/CDC) works with host countries and other key

partners to assess the needs of each country and design a customized program of assistance that fits within the host nation's strategic plan and partnership framework.

HHS/CDC focuses primarily on two or three major program areas in each country. Goals and priorities include the following:

- Achieving primary prevention of HIV infection through activities such as expanding confidential counseling and testing programs linked with evidence based behavioral change and building programs to reduce mother-to-child transmission;
- Improving the care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and related opportunistic infections by improving STI management; enhancing laboratory diagnostic capacity and the care and treatment of opportunistic infections; interventions for intercurrent diseases impacting HIV infected patients including tuberculosis (TB); and initiating programs to provide anti-retroviral therapy (ART);
- Strengthening the capacity of countries to collect and use surveillance data and manage national HIV/AIDS programs by expanding HIV/STI/TB surveillance programs and strengthening laboratory support for surveillance, diagnosis, treatment, disease monitoring and HIV screening for blood safety.
- Developing, validating and/or evaluating public health programs to inform, improve and target appropriate interventions, as related to the prevention, care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, TB and opportunistic infections.

In an effort to ensure maximum cost efficiencies and program effectiveness, HHS/CDC also supports coordination with and among partners and integration of activities that promote Global Health Initiative principles. As such, grantees may be requested to participate in programmatic activities that include the following activities:

- Implement a woman- and girl-centered approach;
- Increase impact through strategic coordination and integration;
- Strengthen and leverage key multilateral organizations, global health partnerships and private sector engagement;
- Encourage country ownership and invest in country-led plans;
- Build sustainability through investments in health systems;
- Improve metrics, monitoring and evaluation; and
- Promote research, development and innovation.

The purpose of this program is to enhance HIV/AIDS control efforts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by improving the human, organizational, and structural capacity of governmental and indigenous Congolese non-governmental organizations (NGO) in the following program areas: laboratory infrastructure, strategic information, policy analysis, health systems strengthening, and human resources. This assistance is aimed at improving overall coverage and uptake of HIV/AIDS, related disease and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) services in the capital city of Kinshasa, Province Orientale and Katanga Province. Capacity-building assistance may include, but is not limited to, the provision of financial assistance, technical assistance, information, training, technology transfer and other related services in order to improve the delivery

and effectiveness of services and intervention related to HIV prevention, care and treatment, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV).

The selected applicant(s) will provide capacity-building assistance to HIV/AIDS-related national institutions and programs within the government of DRC (GDRC), which may include the National Multi-Sector AIDS Control Program (PNMLS), the National AIDS Control Program (PNLS), the National Tuberculosis Program (PNT), the National Malaria Program (PNLP), the National Reproductive Health Program (PNSR), the National Blood Safety Program (PNTS), the Ministry of Social Affairs (MINAS), the Ministry of Gender and Family (MGF), the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights (MJDH) as well as other key HIV/AIDS stakeholders such as local community-based organizations (CBOs), faith-based organizations (FBOs) and other governmental entities like universities.

Applicants are expected to respond to one or more of the following program areas:

- A. HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Treatment
- B. Laboratory Infrastructure
- C. Strategic Information
- D. Policy Analysis
- E. Health Systems Strengthening
- F. Human Resources

Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with one (or more) of the following performance goal(s) and represent the minimum outcomes expected to be achieved regardless of the geographic location over the life of this program. The applicant will be responsible for collecting baseline data in partnership with relevant government institutions or HIV/AIDS stakeholders if there is not sufficient data for a particular location.

A. HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care, and Treatment: (by the end of the project period the following performance goals will be achieved)

- Number of individuals who received pre-service training in accordance with national and international standards on medical transmission and injection safety: 600 individuals;
- Number of individuals who received pre-service training in accordance with national and international standards on HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT): 600 individuals;
- Number of individuals who received pre-service training in accordance with national and international standards on client counseling for various HIV prevention methods: 600 individuals;
- Number of individuals who received pre-service training on identifying, counseling, and referring survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV): 600 individuals; and

- Number of assessments to identify gender norms, among general population and high risk populations, that perpetuate multiple partnering, concurrent partnerships, cross-generational sex, transactional sex, gender-based violence, childhood sexual violence/exploitation, alcohol misuse, and lack of condom use: 1.

B. Laboratory Infrastructure: (by the end of the project period the following performance goals will be achieved)

- Number of laboratories with the capacity to perform HIV tests, CD4 tests, hematology, bacteriology and biochemistry tests (and/or lymphocyte tests) for clinical follow-up of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA): 15 laboratories;
- Number of individuals trained in the provision of laboratory-related activities, excluding early infant diagnosis: 500 individuals (within educational institutions for laboratory personnel and pre-service training);
- Number of tests performed at US Government (USG) supported laboratories during the reporting period: 200,000 HIV tests, 160,000 syphilis tests, and 400,000 HIV disease monitoring tests;
- Number of laboratories receiving maintenance services for the Fasc Count, spectrophotometer, bacteriology equipment, and hematology counter: 15;
- Number of laboratory technicians trained in quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) using dry tube samples (DTS): 15; and
- Number of QA/QC studies completed among laboratories participating in the QA/QC network: number of QA/QC studies 110

C. Strategic Information: (by the end of the project period the following performance goals will be achieved)

- Number of assessment reports produced that identify gaps in current HIV/AIDS surveillance methods and data quality improvement: 1;
- Number of TB/HIV co-infection epidemiological studies implemented in the specified focus geographic areas: 2;
- Number of technicians at the Ministry of Health (MoH) trained to run and maintain IT equipment related to the national HIV/AIDS reporting system, including data storage: 10 technicians;
- Number of MoH staff trained to perform activities necessary to manage the national HIV/AIDS reporting system : 1,030 MoH staff;
- Percentage of PEPFAR-supported health zones that are capable of using and contributing to the national HIV/AIDS reporting system: 100%;
- Number of staff at various levels of the MoH who are capable of collecting, analyzing, presenting, using, and disseminating data for decision-making at the programmatic and policy level: 162 staff; and
- Number of technical assistance sessions provided to transfer skills for the development of quality assurance plans that lead to sustainable quality improvement of surveillance and reporting: 15 technical assistance sessions.

D. Policy Analysis and Development: (by the end of the project period the following performance goals will be achieved)

- Number of DRC governmental organizations provided with technical assistance for HIV and SGBV related policy development: 5 (National AIDS Control Program, PNLS; National Multisectoral AIDS Control Program, PNMLS; National Blood Transfusion Program, PNTS; National TB Program, PNT and National Reproductive Health Program, PNSR);
- Number of individuals trained in HIV- and SGBV-related policy development: 15 (3 people per organization listed as receiving technical assistance for HIV-related policy development); and
- Number of technical assistance sessions provided to support the development of a document defining criteria for HIV/AIDS Centers of Excellence: 10 sessions.

E. Health Systems Strengthening: (by the end of the project period the following performance goals will be achieved)

- Percentage of indigenous organizations provided with technical assistance for HIV- and SGBV-related institutional capacity building: 75% of local organizations;
- Number of individuals trained in HIV- and SGBV-related institutional capacity building: 100 individuals.

F. Human capacity development: (by the end of the project period the following performance goals will be achieved)

- Percentage of individuals in leadership positions in government institutions trained at the Masters degree level in public health programs: 75% of individuals;

- Number of MoH staff who received training on designing and implementing an evidenced-based, standardized, comprehensive package of TB/HIV prevention, care, and treatment services; 15 staff members.

This announcement is only for non-research activities supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention within HHS (HHS/CDC). If research is proposed, the application will not be reviewed. For the definition of research, please see the CDC Web site at the following Internet address:

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/integrity/docs/cdc-policy-distinguishing-public-health-research-nonresearch.pdf>

II. PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

Recipient Activities:

Partners receiving HHS/CDC funding must place a clear emphasis on developing local indigenous capacity to deliver HIV/AIDS related services to the Congolese population and must also coordinate with activities supported by Congolese, international or USG agencies to avoid duplication. Partners receiving HHS/CDC funding must collaborate across program areas whenever appropriate or necessary to improve service delivery.

The selected applicant(s) of these funds is responsible for activities in multiple program areas.

The grantee will implement activities both directly and, where applicable, through sub-grantees; the grantee will, however, retain overall financial and programmatic management under the oversight of HHS/CDC and the strategic direction of the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator. The grantee must show measurable progressive reinforcement of the capacity of health facilities to respond to the national HIV epidemic as well as progress towards the sustainability of activities.

Applicants should describe activities in detail that reflect the policies and goals outlined in the *Five-Year Strategy* for the President's Emergency Plan and the Partnership Framework for Democratic Republic of Congo. The grantee will produce an annual operational plan, which the U.S. Government Emergency Plan team on the ground in Democratic Republic of Congo will review as part of the annual Emergency Plan review-and-approval process managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

The grantee may work on some of the activities listed below in the first year and in subsequent years, and then progressively add others from the list to achieve all of the Emergency Plan performance goals as cited in the previous section. HHS/CDC, under the guidance of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, will approve funds for activities on an annual basis, based on availability of funding and USG priorities, and based on documented performance toward achieving Emergency Plan goals, as part of the annual Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Country Operational Plan review-and-approval process.

Grantee activities for this program are as follows:

Grantee activities should build enough capacity among relevant government and indigenous non-governmental organizations to expand service coverage and uptake related to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and HIV/AIDS prevention, care, and treatment in Kinshasa, Province Orientale, and Katanga Province. Collaboration with other providers of HIV/AIDS and related-diseases services is of paramount importance. **Year one activities should concentrate on improving strategic information and monitoring and evaluation. Years two through five may expand into implementation of the remaining activities to achieve the overall goal of improving coverage and uptake of HIV/AIDS, related disease and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) services in the Democratic Republic of Congo.**

A. HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care, and Treatment:

1. Provide pre-service training and education in HIV Counseling and Testing (HCT) and client counseling on various HIV prevention methods in accordance to national and international standards. This includes developing curriculum as necessary.
2. Provide pre-service training and education on how to identify, counsel and refer survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV). This includes developing curriculum as necessary.
3. Assess and identify gender norms, among general population and high risk populations, that perpetuate multiple partnering, concurrent partnerships, cross-

generational sex, transactional sex, gender-based violence, childhood sexual violence/exploitation, alcohol misuse and lack of condom use.

4. Support the development of SGBV clinical guidelines and protocols related to rape care and post-exposure prophylaxis for applicable HIV-related health services.

B. Laboratory Infrastructure:

1. Establish and maintain laboratories with the capacity to perform HIV tests, CD4 tests, hematology, and biochemistry tests (and/or lymphocyte tests) for clinical follow-up of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA) including renovation and providing equipment.
2. Establish and maintain laboratories with the capacity to perform early infant diagnosis tests, including renovation and provision of equipment.
3. Provide pre-service and in-service training of individuals on laboratory activities.
4. Build the capacity of MoH programs to support their various laboratories in the process of laboratory accreditation.
5. Build the capacity of individual laboratories to participate in the DRC National AIDS Control Program's QA/QC Program.
6. Support the DRC National AIDS Control Program in the implementation of their QA/QC system.

C. Strategic Information (SI):

1. Work with the DRC MoH to assess gaps present in current HIV/AIDS surveillance methods and data quality.
2. Contribute to and support existing national Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) and SI systems to improve the epidemiological assessment of HIV/AIDS and related diseases. Existing national M&E and SI systems incorporate data from the following areas: periodic surveys, such as Ante-natal Clinic (ANC) HIV surveillance in pregnant women, Behavioral Surveillance Surveys with HIV testing (BSS+) among most-at-risk populations, compilations of national HIV/AIDS data sets, annual reports of national HIV/AIDS-related programs, operations research, public health evaluation reports and other relevant information.
3. Develop, implement, or support all necessary tools and activities to determine the prevalence of TB in HIV-positive patients in specified geographic areas.
4. Periodically generate maps depicting areas of high HIV incidence, high rates of HIV transmission and locations of various HIV/AIDS services throughout the country.
5. Train monitoring and evaluation officers at different levels of expertise within the government and other HIV/AIDS stakeholders (e.g. indigenous CBOs, FBOs, NGOs).
6. Adapt the appropriate tools, policies, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) to improve SI-related activities. This may include, but is not limited to, integration of SI activities or management of the national HIV/AIDS reporting system with the leadership of the MoH and in collaboration with other partners.

7. Support and scale-up the national HIV/AIDS reporting system under the direction of the DRC National AIDS Control Program (PNLS), the Kinshasa School of Public Health and other relevant institutions.
8. Train MoH technicians to operate and maintain IT equipment related to the national HIV/AIDS reporting system.
9. Train MoH staff to manage, operate and maintain the national HIV/AIDS reporting system;
10. Provide technical assistance for the development of quality assurance plans and the sustainable quality improvement of surveillance activities and reporting.

D. Policy Analysis and Development:

1. Provide training and technical assistance for individuals and organizations in HIV- and SGBV-related policy analysis and development.
2. Develop and/or update policy documents on HIV/AIDS and related diseases using strategic information.
3. Ensure that local and governmental organizations can develop strategic, data-driven, coherent HIV/AIDS-related policy.
4. Support the development of criteria for Centers of Excellence.
5. Provide technical assistance to the MoH to design and implement an evidence-based, standardized, comprehensive package of TB/HIV coinfection prevention, care, and treatment services.

E. Health Systems Strengthening:

1. Collaborate with DRC national programs and local partners to assure a minimum number of supply chain interruptions for laboratory supplies and other medical products necessary for delivery of HIV/AIDS and related-diseases services.
2. Promote sharing of information and exchange of best practices for management of HIV and SGBV services among governmental and non-governmental institutions at the national, provincial, health-zone and local levels through participation in the National HIV and AIDS Conference, teleconferences, international meetings, or other strategies.

F. Human Capacity Development:

1. Ensure that all individuals in management positions in relevant government institutions, implementing partners and local organizations can execute all necessary management duties (e.g. budget analysis and reporting, personnel decisions, quality control, etc.).

G. Other:

1. Communicate and collaborate strategically, systematically, and regularly with all HIV/AIDS and related services providers in the DRC to avoid the creation of parallel systems;
2. Establish an exit strategy to assure continuation of services after the final budget cycle of this funding opportunity. The exit strategy should be established in collaboration with the MoH and any other implementing partners responsible for the overall administration of participating health facilities. At a minimum, the

exit strategy should address: the capacity of government institutions and other relevant partners to carry on all activities implemented during the funding period after the funding period ends; the continued procurement of pharmaceuticals and other medical supplies in order to minimize interruptions in the supply chain; the continued flow of data regarding the provision of HIV/AIDS continuum of care services from the provider-level to relevant MoH programs; the transfer of supervisory responsibilities of implemented activities to relevant MoH programs.

CDC Activities:

The selected applicant of this funding competition must comply with all HHS/CDC management requirements for meeting participation and progress and financial reporting for this cooperative agreement (See HHS/CDC Activities and Reporting sections below for details), and comply with all policy directives established by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

In a cooperative agreement, CDC staff is substantially involved in the program activities, above and beyond routine grant monitoring. CDC activities for this program are as follows:

1. Organize an orientation meeting with the grantee to brief it on applicable U.S. Government, HHS, and Emergency Plan expectations, regulations and key management requirements, as well as report formats and contents. The orientation could include meetings with staff from HHS agencies and the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

2. Review and make recommendations as necessary to the process used by the grantee to select key personnel and/or post-award subcontractors and/or subgrantees to be involved in the activities performed under this agreement, as part of the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Country Operational Plan review and approval process, managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.
3. Review and make recommendations to the grantee's annual work plan and detailed budget, as part of the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Country Operational Plan review-and-approval process, managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.
4. Review and make recommendations to the grantee's monitoring-and-evaluation plan, including for compliance with the strategic-information guidance established by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.
5. Meet on a monthly basis with the grantee to assess monthly expenditures in relation to approved work plan and modify plans, as necessary.
6. Meet on a quarterly basis with the grantee to assess quarterly technical and financial progress reports and modify plans as necessary.
7. Meet on an annual basis with the grantee to review annual progress report for each U.S. Government Fiscal Year, and to review annual work plans and budgets for subsequent year, as part of the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief review and approval process for Country Operational Plans, managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.
8. Provide technical assistance, as mutually agreed upon, and revise annually during validation of the first and subsequent annual work plans. This could include

expert technical assistance and targeted training activities in specialized areas, such as strategic information, project management, confidential counseling and testing, palliative care, treatment literacy, and adult-learning techniques.

9. Provide in-country administrative support to help grantee meet U.S. Government financial and reporting requirements approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under 0920-0428 (Public Health Service Form 5161).
10. Collaborate with the grantee on designing and implementing the activities listed above, including, but not limited to the provision of technical assistance to develop program activities, data management and analysis, quality assurance, the presentation and possibly publication of program results and findings, and the management and tracking of finances.
11. Provide consultation and scientific and technical assistance based on appropriate, HHS/CDC and Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator documents to promote the use of best practices known at the time.
12. Assist the grantee in developing and implementing quality-assurance criteria and procedures.
13. Facilitate in-country planning and review meetings for technical assistance activities.
14. Provide technical oversight for all activities under this award.
15. Provide ethical reviews, as necessary, for evaluation activities, including from HHS/CDC headquarters.
16. Supply the grantee with protocols for related evaluations.

17. Review and establish, in collaboration with national health authorities, the geographic distribution and coordination of service delivery (by regions, district, etc.) among successful grantees.

Please note: Either HHS staff or staff from organizations that have successfully competed for funding under a separate HHS contract, cooperative agreement or grant will provide technical assistance and training.

III. AWARD INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

Type of Award: Cooperative Agreement.

Award Mechanism: U2G – Global HIV/AIDS Non-Research Cooperative Agreements

Fiscal Year Funds: FY2011

Approximate Current Fiscal Year Funding: *\$1,000,000*

Approximate Total Project Period Funding: \$25,000,000 (This amount is an estimate, and is subject to availability of funds and includes direct costs for international organizations or direct and indirect costs for domestic grantees for all years.)

Approximate Number of Awards: Up to five

Approximate Average Award: *\$1,000,000* (This amount is for the first 12 month budget period, and includes direct costs for international organizations or direct and indirect costs for domestic grantees.)

Floor of Individual Award Range: \$100,000

Ceiling of Individual Award Range: N/A (This ceiling is for the first 12 month budget period and includes direct costs for international organizations or direct and indirect costs for domestic grantees.)

Anticipated Award Date: September 2011

Budget Period Length: 12 months

Project Period Length: 5 years

Throughout the project period, CDC's commitment to continuation of awards will be conditioned on the availability of funds, evidence of satisfactory progress by the recipient (as documented in required reports), and the determination that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal government.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

Eligible applicants that can apply for this funding opportunity are listed below:

- Nonprofit with 501C3 IRS status (other than institution of higher education)
- Nonprofit without 501C3 IRS status (other than institution of higher education)
- For-profit organizations (other than small business)
- Small, minority, and women-owned businesses
- Universities
- Colleges
- Research institutions
- Hospitals
- Community-based organizations
- Faith-based organizations
- Non-domestic (non-U.S.) entity
- Non-profit with 501C3 IRS status (other than institution of higher education)

- Federally recognized or state-recognized American Indian/Alaska Native tribal governments
 - American Indian/Alaska native tribally designated organizations
 - Alaska Native health corporations
 - Urban Indian health organizations
 - Tribal epidemiology centers
 - Political subdivisions of States (in consultation with States)
- Other (specify)

A Bona Fide Agent is an agency/organization identified by the state as eligible to submit an application under the state eligibility in lieu of a state application. If applying as a bona fide agent of a state or local government, a letter from the state or local government as documentation of the status is required. Attach with “Other Attachment Forms” when submitting via www.grants.gov.

SPECIAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA: Licensing/Credential/Permits

Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost sharing or matching funds are not required for this program. If applicants receive funding from other sources to underwrite the same or similar activities, or anticipate receiving such funding in the next 12 months, they must detail how the disparate streams of financing complement each other.

Maintenance of Effort

Maintenance of Effort is not required for this program.

Other

If a funding amount greater than the ceiling of the award range is requested, the application will be considered non-responsive and will not be entered into the review process. The applicant will be notified that the application did not meet the eligibility requirements.

Special Requirements:

1. PEPFAR Local Partner definition:

A “local partner” may be an individual or sole proprietorship, an entity, or a joint venture or other arrangement. However, to be considered a local partner in a given country served by PEPFAR, the partner must meet the criteria under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) below within that country:

(1) an individual must be a citizen or lawfully admitted permanent resident of and have his/her principal place of business in the country served by the PEPFAR program with which the individual is or may become involved, and a sole proprietorship must be owned by such an individual; or

(2) an entity (e.g., a corporation or partnership): (a) must be incorporated or legally organized under the laws of, and have its principal place of business in, the country served by the PEPFAR program with which the entity is or may become involved; (b) must be at least 51% for FY 2009-10; 66% for FY 2011-12; and 75% for FY 2013 beneficially owned by individuals who are citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per sub-paragraph (2)(a), or by other

corporations, partnerships or other arrangements that are local partners under this paragraph or paragraph (3); (c) at least 51% for FY 2009-10; 66% for FY 2011-12; and 75% for FY 2013 of the entity's staff (senior, mid-level, support) must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of that same country, per sub-paragraph (2)(a), and at least 51% for FY 2009-10; 66% for FY 2011-12; and 75% for FY 2013 of the entity's senior staff (i.e., managerial and professional personnel) must be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of such country; and (d) where an entity has a Board of Directors, at least 51% of the members of the Board must also be citizens or lawfully admitted permanent residents of such country; or

(3) a joint venture, unincorporated association, consortium, or other arrangement in which at least 51% for FY 2009-10; 66% for FY 2011-12; and 75% for FY 2013 of the funding under the PEPFAR award is or will be provided to members who are local partners under the criteria in paragraphs (1) or (2) above, and a local partner is designated as the managing member of the organization.

Host government ministries (e.g., Ministry of Health), sub-units of government ministries, and parastatal organizations in the country served by the PEPFAR program are considered local partners. A parastatal organization is defined as a fully or partially government-owned or government-funded organization. Such enterprises may function through a board of directors, similar to private corporations. However, ultimate control over the board may rest with the government.

2. If the application is incomplete or non-responsive to the special requirements listed in this section, it will not be entered into the review process. The applicant will be notified that the application did not meet submission requirements.

- Late submissions will be considered non-responsive. See section “V.3. Submission Dates and Times” for more information on deadlines.
- If the total amount of appendices includes more than 80 pages, the application will not be considered for review. For this purpose, all appendices must have page numbers and must be clearly identified in the Table of Contents.
- An HIV/AIDS related funding matrix must be submitted in order for the application to be considered for review. All applicants must indicate whether they are receiving other HIV/AIDS related funding. If the applicant is receiving or has applied for other HIV/AIDS related funding, the following information must be submitted:
 - ✓ Funding mechanism (i.e. contract, CoAg, grant)
 - ✓ Amount of award
 - ✓ Period performance
 - ✓ Funding agency
 - ✓ Contact details for funding agency
 - ✓ Brief description of program activities
- Note: Title 2 of the United States Code Section 1611 states that an organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to receive U.S. Government funds constituting a grant, loan, or an award.

3. If projects that involve the collection of information from 10 or more individuals are owned by USG and used to benefit USG funded programs in this or other countries, the project will be subject to review and approval by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under the Paperwork Reduction Act.

Intergovernmental Review of Applications

Executive Order 12372 does not apply to this program.

V. APPLICATION CONTENT

Unless specifically indicated, this announcement requires submission of the following information:

A Project Abstract must be completed in the Grants.gov application forms. The Project Abstract must contain a summary of the proposed activity suitable for dissemination to the public. It should be a self-contained description of the project and should contain a statement of objectives and methods to be employed. It should be informative to other persons working in the same or related fields and insofar as possible understandable to a technically literate lay reader. This abstract must not include any proprietary/confidential information.

The abstract must be submitted in the following format:

- Maximum of 2-3 paragraphs;
- Font size: 12 point unreduced, Times New Roman;
- Single spaced;
- Paper size: 8.5 by 11 inches (preferred), or generally accepted paper size; and

- Page margin size: One inch.

A Project Narrative must be submitted with the application forms. The project narrative must be uploaded in a PDF file format when submitting via Grants.gov. The narrative must be submitted in the following format:

- Maximum number of pages: 25 (If your narrative exceeds the page limit, only the first pages which are within the page limit will be reviewed.);
- Font size: 12 point, unreduced, Times New Roman;
- Double spaced;
- Paper size: 8.5 by 11 inches (preferred), or generally accepted paper size;
- Page margin size: One inch;
- Number all pages of the application sequentially from page one (Application Face Page) to the end of the application, including charts, figures, tables, and appendices; and
- *Project Context and Background (Understanding and Need):* Describe the background and justify the need for the proposed project. Describe the current infrastructure system; targeted geographical area(s), if applicable; and identified gaps or shortcomings of the current health systems and AIDS control projects;
- *Project Strategy - Description and Methodologies:* Present a detailed operational plan for initiating and conducting the project. Clearly describe the applicant's technical approach/methods for implementing the proposed project. Describe the existence of, or plans to establish partnerships necessary to implement the project.

Describe linkages, if appropriate, with programs funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development;

- *Project Goals and Objectives:* Describe the overall goals of the project, and specific objectives that are measurable and time phased, consistent with the objectives and numerical targets of the Emergency Plan and for this Cooperative Agreement program as provided in the “Purpose” Section at the beginning of this Announcement;
- *Project Outputs:* Be sure to address each of the program objectives listed in the “Purpose” Section of this Announcement. Measures must be specific, objective and quantitative so as to provide meaningful outcome evaluation;
- *Project Contribution to the Goals and Objectives of the Emergency Plan:* Provide specific measures of effectiveness to demonstrate accomplishment of the objectives of this program;
- *Work Plan and Description of Project Components and Activities:* Be sure to address each of the specific tasks listed in the activities section of this announcement. Clearly identify specific assigned responsibilities for all key professional personnel;
- *Performance Measures:* Measures must be specific, objective and quantitative;
- *Timeline* (e.g., GANTT Chart); and
- *Management of Project Funds and Reporting.*

Additional information may be included in the application appendices. The appendices will not be counted toward the narrative page limit. **The total amount of appendices must not exceed 80 pages and can only contain information related to the following:**

- ***Project Budget Justification:***

With staffing breakdown and justification, provide a line item budget and a narrative with justification for all requested costs. Be sure to include, if any, in-kind support or other contributions provided by the national government and its donors as part of the total project, but for which the applicant is not requesting funding.

Budgets must be consistent with the purpose, objectives of the Emergency Plan and the program activities listed in this announcement and must include the following: line item breakdown and justification for all personnel, i.e., name, position title, annual salary, percentage of time and effort, and amount requested.

The recommended guidance for completing a detailed budget justification can be found on the HHS/CDC Web site, at the following Internet address:

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/budgetguide.htm>.

For each contract, list the following: (1) name of proposed contractor; (2) breakdown and justification for estimated costs; (3) description and scope of activities the contractor will perform; (4) period of performance; (5) method of contractor selection (e.g., competitive solicitation); and (6) methods of

accountability. Applicants should, to the greatest extent possible, employ transparent and open competitive processes to choose contractors;

- ***Curricula vitae*** of current key staff who will work on the activity;
- ***Job descriptions*** of proposed key positions to be created for the activity;
- ***Applicant’s Corporate Capability Statement***;
- ***Letters of Support*** (5 letters maximum) The applicant must provide letters of support from relevant Ministry of Health programs or the MOH in general, indigenous Non Governmental Organizations, Community Based Organization's or Faith Based Organizations, and local universities;
- ***Evidence of Legal Organizational Structure; and***
- ***If applying as a Local Indigenous Partner***, provide documentation to self-certify the applicant meets the PEPFAR local partner definition listed in “Special Requirements,” Part IV. ELIGIBILITY section of the FOA.

Additional requirements for additional documentation with the application are listed in Section VII. Award Administration Information, subsection entitled “Administrative and National Policy Requirements.”

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Registering your organization through www.Grants.gov, the official agency-wide E-grant website, is the first step in submitting an application online. Registration information is located on the “Get Registered” screen of www.Grants.gov. Please visit www.Grants.gov at least 30 days prior to submitting your application to familiarize

yourself with the registration and submission processes. The “one-time” registration process will take three to five days to complete. However, the Grants.gov registration process also requires that you register your organization with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) annually. The CCR registration can require an additional one to two days to complete.

International organizations also require a NATO CAGE Code (NCAGE). The NCAGE request may take from two business days to two weeks to complete. NCAGE is needed before registering with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR). After registering with CCR, the applicant can proceed to register with Grants.gov (See “Other Submission Requirements” session below for more information).

Submit the application electronically by using the forms and instructions posted for this funding opportunity on www.Grants.gov. If access to the Internet is not available or if the applicant encounters difficulty in accessing the forms on-line, contact the HHS/CDC Procurement and Grant Office Technical Information Management Section (PGO-TIMS) staff at (770) 488-2700 for further instruction.

Note: Application submission is not concluded until successful completion of the validation process.

After submission of your application package, applicants will receive a “submission receipt” email generated by Grants.gov. Grants.gov will then generate a second e-mail message to applicants which will either validate or reject their submitted application package. This validation process may take as long as two (2) business days. Applicants are strongly encouraged check the status of their application to ensure submission of their application package is complete and no submission errors exists. To guarantee that you comply with the application deadline published in the Funding Opportunity Announcement, applicants are also strongly encouraged to allocate additional days

prior to the published deadline to file their application. Non-validated applications will not be accepted after the published application deadline date.

In the event that you do not receive a “validation” email within two (2) business days of application submission, please contact Grants.gov. Refer to the email message generated at the time of application submission for instructions on how to track your application or the Application User Guide, Version 3.0 page 57.

Other Submission Requirements

A letter of intent is not applicable to this funding opportunity announcement.

Dun and Bradstreet Universal Number (DUNS)

The applicant is required to have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) identifier to apply for grants or cooperative agreements from the Federal government. The DUNS is a nine-digit number which uniquely identifies business entities. There is no charge associated with obtaining a DUNS number. Applicants may obtain a DUNS number by accessing the Dun and Bradstreet website or by calling 1-866-705-5711. This is a requirement for domestic and international organizations.

International registrants can confirm by sending an e-mail to ccrhelp@dnb.com, including Company Name, D-U-N-S Number, and Physical Address, and Country.

Central Contractor Registration (CCR)

The applicant is required to have a CCR registration to apply for grants or cooperative agreements from the Federal government. For more information on CCR and how to register go to www.ccr.gov.

Other Submission Requirement for International Organizations:

NATO CAGE Code (NCAGE)

After obtaining DUNS, the applicant is required to have a NATO CAGE Code in order to apply for grants or cooperative agreements from the Federal government. Applicants can complete the request online at www.dlis.dla.mil/forms/Form_AC135.asp. If the organization cannot submit this form by Internet, the organization can obtain an NCAGE by contacting the National Codification Bureau of the country where the organization is located. For a list of addresses, go to www.dlis.dla.mil/nato_poc.asp. Please note that NCAGE code is required for international organizations in order to register with the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) and Grants.gov.

Electronic Submission of Application:

Applications must be submitted electronically at www.Grants.gov. Electronic applications will be considered as having met the deadline if the application has been successfully made available to CDC for processing from Grants.gov on the deadline date.

The application package can be downloaded from www.Grants.gov. Applicants can complete the application package off-line, and then upload and submit the application via the Grants.gov Web site. The applicant must submit all application attachments using a PDF file format when submitting via Grants.gov. Directions for creating PDF files can be found on the Grants.gov Web site. Use of file formats other than PDF may result in the file being unreadable by staff.

Applications submitted through Grants.gov (<http://www.grants.gov>), are electronically time/date stamped and assigned a tracking number. The AOR will receive an e-mail

notice of receipt when HHS/CDC receives the application. The tracking number serves to document submission and initiate the electronic validation process before the application is made available to CDC for processing.

If the applicant encounters technical difficulties with Grants.gov, the applicant should contact Grants.gov Customer Service. The Grants.gov Contact Center is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week with the exception of all federal holidays. The Contact Center provides customer service to the applicant community. The extended hours will provide applicants support around the clock, ensuring the best possible customer service is received any time it's needed. You can reach the Grants.gov Support Center at 1-800-518-4726 or by email at support@grants.gov. Submissions sent by e-mail, fax, CD's or thumb drives of applications will not be accepted.

Organizations that encounter technical difficulties in using www.Grants.gov to submit their application must attempt to overcome those difficulties by contacting the Grants.gov Support Center (1-800-518-4726, support@grants.gov). After consulting with the Grants.gov Support Center, if the technical difficulties remain unresolved and electronic submission is not possible to meet the established deadline, organizations may submit a request prior to the application deadline by email to PGO TIMS for permission to submit a paper application. An organization's request for permission must: (a) include the Grants.gov case number assigned to the inquiry, (b) describe the difficulties that prevent electronic submission and the efforts taken with the Grants.gov Support Center (c) be submitted to PGO TIMS at least 3 calendar days prior to the

application deadline. Paper applications submitted without prior approval will not be considered.

If a paper application is authorized, the applicant will receive instructions from PGO TIMS to submit the original and two hard copies of the application by mail or express delivery service.

Submission Dates and Times

This announcement is the definitive guide on application content, submission, and deadline. It supersedes information provided in the application instructions. If the application submission does not meet the deadline published herein, it will not be eligible for review and the applicant will be notified the application did not meet the submission requirements.

Application Deadline Date: *April 29, 2011, 5:00pm U.S. Eastern Standard Time*

VI. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

Eligible applicants are required to provide measures of effectiveness that will demonstrate the accomplishment of the various identified objectives of the cooperative agreement. Measures of effectiveness must relate to the performance goals stated in the “Purpose” section of this announcement. Measures of effectiveness must be objective, quantitative and measure the intended outcome of the proposed program. The measures of effectiveness must be included in the application and will be an element of the evaluation of the submitted application.

Evaluation Criteria

Eligible applications will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Ability to Carry Out the Proposal (20 points):

Does the applicant demonstrate the local experience in the Democratic Republic of Congo and institutional capacity (both management and technical) to achieve the goals of the project with documented good governance practices? Does the applicant have the ability to coordinate and collaborate with existing Emergency Plan partners and other donors, including the Global Fund and other U.S. Government Departments and agencies involved in implementing the President's Emergency Plan, including the U.S. Agency for International Development? Is there evidence of leadership support and evidence of current or past efforts to enhance HIV prevention? Does the applicant have the capacity to reach rural and other underserved populations in the Democratic Republic of Congo? Does the organization have the ability to target audiences that frequently fall outside the reach of the traditional media, and in local languages? To what extent does the applicant provide letters of support?

Technical and Programmatic Approach (20 points):

Does the application include an overall design strategy, including measurable time lines, clear monitoring and evaluation procedures, and specific activities for meeting the proposed objectives? Does the applicant display knowledge of the strategy, principles and goals of the President's Emergency Plan, and are the proposed activities consistent

with and pertinent to that strategy and those principles and goals? Does the applicant describe activities that are evidence based, realistic, achievable, measurable and culturally appropriate to achieve the goals of the President's Emergency Plan? Does the application propose to build on and complement the current national response in with evidence-based strategies designed to reach underserved populations and meet the goals of the President's Emergency Plan? Does the application include reasonable estimates of outcome targets? (For example, the numbers of sites to be supported, number of clients the program will reach.) To what extent does the applicant propose to work with other organizations? The reviewers will assess the feasibility of the applicant's plan to meet the target goals, whether the proposed use of funds is efficient, and the extent to which the specific methods described are sensitive to the local culture.

Capacity Building (15 points):

Does the applicant have a proven track record of building the capacity of indigenous organizations and/or government institutions? Does the applicant have relevant experience in using participatory methods, and approaches, in project planning and implementation? Does the applicant describe an adequate and measurable plan to progressively build the capacity of local organizations and government institutions to respond to the epidemic? Does the capacity building plan clearly describe how it will contribute to a) improved quality and geographic coverage of service delivery to achieve the "3,12,12¹" targets of the President's Emergency Plan?

Monitoring and Evaluation (15 points):

Does the applicant demonstrate the local experience and capability to implement rigorous monitoring and evaluation of the project? Does the applicant describe a system for reviewing and adjusting program activities based on monitoring information obtained by using innovative, participatory methods and standard approaches? Does the plan include indicators developed for each program milestone, and incorporated into the financial and programmatic reports? Are the indicators consistent with the President's Emergency Plan Indicator Guide? Is the system able to generate financial and program reports to show disbursement of funds, and progress towards achieving the numerical objectives of the President's Emergency Plan? Is the plan to measure outcomes of the intervention, and the manner in which they will be provided, adequate? Is the monitoring and evaluation plan consistent with the principles of the "Three Ones"²? Applicants must define specific output and outcome indicators must be defined in the proposal, and must have realistic targets in line with the targets addressed in the Activities section of this announcement.

Understanding of the Problem (10 points):

² The Emergency Plan supports the multi-sectoral national responses in host nations, adapting U.S. support to the individual needs and challenges of each nation where the Emergency Plan is at work. Countries and communities are at different stages of HIV/AIDS response and have unique drivers of HIV, distinctive social and cultural patterns (particularly with regard to the status of women), and different political and economic conditions. Effective interventions must be informed by local circumstances and coordinated with local efforts. In April 2004, OGAC, working with UNAIDS, the World Bank, and the U.K. Department for International Development (DfID), organized and co-chaired a major international conference in Washington for major donors and national partners to consider and adopt key principles for supporting coordinated country-driven action against HIV/AIDS. These principles became known as the "Three Ones": - **one national plan, one national coordinating authority, and one national monitoring and evaluation system** in each of the host countries in which organizations work. Rather than mandating that all contributors do the same things in the same ways, the Three Ones facilitate complementary and efficient action in support of host nations.

Does the applicant demonstrate a clear and concise understanding of the current national HIV/AIDS response and the cultural and political context relevant to the programmatic areas targeted? Does the applicant display an understanding of the Five-Year Strategy and goals of the President's Emergency Plan? To what extent does the applicant justify the need for this program within the target community?

Personnel (10 points):

Does the organization employ staff fluent in local languages who will work on this project? Are the staff roles clearly defined? As described, will the staff be sufficient to meet the goals of the proposed project? If not an indigenous organization, does the staff plan adequately involve local individuals and organizations? Are staff involved in this project qualified to perform the tasks described? Curricula vitae provided should include information that they are qualified in the following: management of HIV/AIDS prevention activities, especially confidential, voluntary counseling and testing; and the development of capacity building among and collaboration between Governmental and non-governmental partners.

Administration and Management (10 points):

Does the applicant provide a clear plan for the administration and management of the proposed activities, and to manage the resources of the program, prepare reports, monitor and evaluate activities, audit expenditures and produce collect and analyze performance data? Is the management structure for the project sufficient to ensure speedy implementation of the project? If appropriate, does the applicant have a proven track

record in managing large laboratory budgets; running transparent and competitive procurement processes; supervising consultants and contractors; using subgrants or other systems of sharing resources with community based organizations, faith based organizations or smaller non-governmental organizations; and providing technical assistance in laboratory or pharmacy management? The grantee must demonstrate an ability to submit quarterly reports in a timely manner to the HHS/CDC office.

Budget (Reviewed, but not scored):

Is the itemized budget for conducting the project, along with justification, reasonable and consistent with stated objectives and planned program activities? Is the budget itemized, well justified and consistent with the goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief? If applicable, are there reasonable costs per client reached for both year one and later years of the project?

Funding Restrictions

Restrictions, which must be taken into account while writing the budget, are as follows:

- Recipients may not use funds for research.
- Recipients may not use funds for clinical care.
- Recipients may only expend funds for reasonable program purposes, including personnel, travel, supplies, and services, such as contractual.
- The direct and primary recipient in a cooperative agreement program must perform a substantial role in carrying out project objectives and not merely serve as a conduit for an award to another party or provider who is ineligible.

- Reimbursement of pre-award costs is not allowed.
- The costs that are generally allowable in grants to domestic organizations are allowable to foreign institutions and international organizations, with the following exception: With the exception of the American University, Beirut and the World Health Organization, Indirect Costs will not be paid (either directly or through sub-award) to organizations located outside the territorial limits of the United States or to international organizations regardless of their location.
- The applicant may contract with other organizations under this program; however the applicant must perform a substantial portion of the activities (including program management and operations, and delivery of prevention services for which funds are required.)
- All requests for funds contained in the budget, shall be stated in U.S. dollars. Once an award is made, CDC will not compensate foreign grantees for currency exchange fluctuations through the issuance of supplemental awards.
- Foreign grantees are subject to audit requirements specified in 45 CFR 74.26(d). A non-Federal audit is required, if during the grantees fiscal year, the grantee expended a total of \$500,000.00 or more under one or more HHS awards (as a direct grantee and/or as a sub-grantee). The grantee either may have (1) A financial related audit (as defined in the Government Auditing Standards, GPO stock #020-000-00-265-4) of a particular award in accordance with Government Auditing Standards, in those case where the grantee receives awards under only one HHS program; or, if awards are received under multiple HHS programs, a financial related audit of all HHS awards in accordance with Government

Auditing Standards; or (2) An audit that meets the requirements contained in OMB Circular A-133.

- A fiscal Grantee Capability Assessment may be required, prior to or post award, in order to review the applicant's business management and fiscal capabilities regarding the handling of U.S. Federal funds.

The applicant can obtain guidance for completing a detailed justified budget on the CDC website, at the following Internet address:

<http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/budgetguide.htm>.

The 8% Rule

The President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) seeks to promote sustainability for programs through the development, use, and strengthening of local partnerships. The diversification of partners also ensures additional robust capacity at the local and national levels.

To achieve this goal, the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC) establishes an annual funding guideline for grants and cooperative agreement planning. Within each annual PEPFAR country budget, OGAC establishes a limit for the total amount of U.S. Government funding for HIV/AIDS activities provided to a single partner organization under all grant and cooperative agreements for that country. **For U.S. Government fiscal year (FY)2011, the limit is no more than 8 percent of the country's FY2011 PEPFAR program funding (excluding U.S. Government management and staffing**

costs), or \$2 million, whichever is greater. The total amount of funding to a partner organization includes any PEPFAR funding provided to the partner, whether directly as prime partner or indirectly as sub-grantee. In addition, subject to the exclusion for umbrella awards and drug/commodity costs discussed below, all funds provided to a prime partner, even if passed through to sub-partners, are applicable to the limit. PEPFAR funds provided to an organization under contracts are not applied to the 8 percent/\$2 million single partner ceiling. PEPFAR publishes the single-partner funding limits annually as part of guidance for preparing the Country Operational Plan (COP). U.S. Government Departments and agencies must use the limits in the planning process to develop Requests for Applications (RFAs), Annual Program Statements (APSs), or Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs). However, as PEPFAR country budgets are not final at the COP planning stage, the single partner limits remain subject to adjustment. The current limit applicable to this FOA is \$2 million (8 percent or \$2 million, whichever is greater, of the country's PEPFAR program funding). (Grants officers should insert the following sentence if the Department or agency issues the RFA prior to Congressional appropriation and final COP approval: "Please note that the current limit is based on an estimated country budget developed for planning purposes; thus, the limit is also an estimate and subject to change based on actual appropriations and the final approved country budget.") Exclusions from the 8 percent/\$2 million single-partner ceiling are made for (a) umbrella awards, (b) commodity/drug costs, and (c) Government Ministries and parastatal organizations. A parastatal organization is defined as a fully or partially state-owned corporation or government agency. For umbrella awards, grants officers will determine whether an award is an umbrella for purposes of

exception from the cap on an award-by-award basis. Grants or cooperative agreements in which the primary objective is for the organization to make sub-awards and at least 75 percent of the grant is used for sub-awards, with the remainder of the grant used for administrative expenses and technical assistance to sub-grantees, will be considered umbrella awards and, therefore, exempted from the cap. Agreements that merely include sub-grants as an activity in implementation of the award but do not meet these criteria will not be considered umbrella awards, and the full amount of the award will count against the cap. All commodity/drug costs will be excluded from partners' funding for the purpose of the cap. The remaining portion of awards, including all overhead/management costs, will be counted against the cap.

Applicants should be aware that evaluation of proposals will include an assessment of grant/cooperative agreement award amounts applicable to the applicant by U.S.

Government fiscal year in the relevant country. An applicant whose grants or cooperative agreements have already met or exceeded the maximum, annual single-partner limit may submit an application in response to this RFA/APS/FOA. However, applicants whose total PEPFAR funding for this country in a U.S. Government fiscal year exceeds the 8 percent/\$2 million single partner ceiling at the time of award decision will be ineligible to receive an award under this RFA/APS/FOA unless the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator approves an exception to the cap. **Applicants must provide in their proposals the dollar value by U.S. Government fiscal year of current grants and cooperative agreements (including sub-grants and sub-agreements) financed by the Emergency Plan, which are for programs in the country(ies) covered by this RFA/APS/FOA.**

For example, the proposal should state that the applicant has \$_____ in FY2011 grants and cooperative agreements (for as many fiscal years as applicable) in Democratic Republic of Congo. For additional information concerning this RFA/APS/FOA, please contact the Grants Officer for this RFA/APS/FOA.

Prostitution and Related Activities

The U.S. Government is opposed to prostitution and related activities, which are inherently harmful and dehumanizing, and contribute to the phenomenon of trafficking in persons.

Any entity that receives, directly or indirectly, U.S. Government funds in connection with this document (“recipient”) cannot use such U.S. Government funds to promote or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution or sex trafficking. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall be construed to preclude the provision to individuals of palliative care, treatment, or post-exposure pharmaceutical prophylaxis, and necessary pharmaceuticals and commodities, including test kits, condoms, and, when proven effective, microbicides. A recipient that is otherwise eligible to receive funds in connection with this document to prevent, treat, or monitor HIV/AIDS shall not be required to endorse or utilize a multisectoral approach to combating HIV/AIDS, or to endorse, utilize, or participate in a prevention method or treatment program to which the recipient has a religious or moral objection. Any information provided by recipients about the use of condoms as part of projects or activities that are funded in connection

with this document shall be medically accurate and shall include the public health benefits and failure rates of such use.

In addition, any recipient must have a policy explicitly opposing prostitution and sex trafficking. The preceding sentence shall not apply to any “exempt organizations” (defined as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Health Organization and its six Regional Offices, the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative or to any United Nations agency).

The following definition applies for purposes of this clause:

- Sex trafficking means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act. 22 U.S.C. § 7102(9).

All recipients must insert provisions implementing the applicable parts of this section, “Prostitution and Related Activities,” in all subagreements under this award. These provisions must be express terms and conditions of the subagreement, must acknowledge that compliance with this section, “Prostitution and Related Activities,” is a prerequisite to receipt and expenditure of U.S. government funds in connection with this document, and must acknowledge that any violation of the provisions shall be grounds for unilateral termination of the agreement prior to the end of its term. Recipients must agree that HHS may, at any reasonable time, inspect the documents and materials maintained or prepared

by the recipient in the usual course of its operations that relate to the organization's compliance with this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities."

All prime recipients that receive U.S. Government funds ("prime recipients") in connection with this document must certify compliance prior to actual receipt of such funds in a written statement that makes reference to this document (e.g., "[Prime recipient's name] certifies compliance with the section, 'Prostitution and Related Activities.'" addressed to the agency's grants officer. Such certifications by prime recipients are prerequisites to the payment of any U.S. Government funds in connection with this document.

Recipients' compliance with this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities," is an express term and condition of receiving U.S. Government funds in connection with this document, and any violation of it shall be grounds for unilateral termination by HHS of the agreement with HHS in connection with this document prior to the end of its term. The recipient shall refund to HHS the entire amount furnished in connection with this document in the event HHS determines the recipient has not complied with this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities."

Any enforcement of this clause is subject to Alliance for Open Society International v. USAID, 05 Civ. 8209 (S.D.N.Y., orders filed on June 29, 2006 and August 8, 2008)(orders gaining preliminary injunction) for the term of the Orders.

The List of the members of GHC and InterAction is found at:

http://www.usaid.gov/business/business_opportunities/cib/pdf/GlobalHealthMemberlist.pdf

Application Review Process

All eligible applications will be initially reviewed for completeness by the Procurement and Grants Office (PGO) staff. In addition, eligible applications will be jointly reviewed for responsiveness by HHS/CDC Global AIDS Program staff and PGO. Incomplete applications and applications that are non-responsive to the eligibility criteria will not advance through the review process. Applicants will be notified the application did not meet eligibility and/or published submission requirements.

An objective review panel will evaluate complete and responsive applications according to the criteria listed in Section VI. Application Review Information, subsection entitled “Evaluation Criteria”. The panel may include both U.S. Federal Government and non-U.S. Federal Government participants.

Applications Selection Process

Applications will be funded in order by score and rank determined by the review panel unless funding preferences or other considerations stated in the FOA apply.

CDC will provide justification for any decision to fund out of rank order.

- AR-15 Proof of Non-Profit Status
- AR-21 Small, Minority, and Women-Owned Business
- AR-23 States and Faith-Based Organizations
- AR-24 Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Requirements
- AR-25 Release and Sharing of Data
- AR-27 Conference Disclaimer and Use of Logos
- AR-29 Compliance with EO13513, “Federal Leadership on Reducing Text Messaging while Driving”, October 1, 2009
- AR-30 Section 508 Compliance

Additional information on the requirements can be found on the CDC Web site at the following Internet address: http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/Addtl_Reqmnts.htm.

For more information on the Code of Federal Regulations, see the National Archives and Records Administration at the following Internet address:

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfr-table-search.html>

CDC Assurances and Certifications can be found on the CDC Web site at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/grants/foamain.shtm>

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Reporting Requirements

Each funded applicant must provide CDC with an annual Interim Progress Report submitted via www.grants.gov:

1. The interim progress report is due no less than 90 days before the end of the budget period. The progress report will serve as the non-competing continuation application, and must contain the following elements: .
 1. Annual progress report, due 90 days after the end of the budget period. Reports should include progress against the numerical goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief for Democratic Republic of Congo;
 2. Financial status report, due no more than 90 days after the end of the budget period; and
 3. Final financial FSR and progress reports, due no more than 90 days after the end of the project period.

These reports must be mailed to the Grants Management Specialist listed in the "VIII. Agency Contacts" section of this announcement.

The Interim Progress Report will serve as the non-competing continuation application, and must contain the following elements:

- a. Standard Form ("SF") 424S Form.
- b. SF-424A Budget Information-Non-Construction Programs.
- c. Budget Narrative.
- d. Indirect Cost Rate Agreement.
- e. Project Narrative.
- f. Activities and Objectives for the Current Budget Period;
- g. Financial Progress for the Current Budget Period;

- h. Proposed Activity and Objectives for the New Budget Period Program;
- i. Budget;
- j. Measures of Effectiveness, including progress against the numerical goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief for the Democratic Republic of Congo; and
- k. Additional Requested Information;

Additionally, funded applicants must provide CDC with an original, plus two hard copies of the following reports:

- 2. Annual progress report, due 90 days after the end of the budget period. Reports should include progress against the numerical goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief for Democratic Republic of Congo;
- 3. Financial status report, due no more than 90 days after the end of the budget period; and
- 4. Final financial FSR and progress reports, due no more than 90 days after the end of the project period.

These reports must be submitted to the attention of the Grants Management Specialist listed in the Section VIII below entitled “Agency Contacts”.

VIII. AGENCY CONTACTS

CDC encourages inquiries concerning this announcement.

For programmatic technical assistance, contact:

Luca Flamigni, MD, MS, Project Officer
Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Ambassade Americaine - JAO
498 Avenue Lukusa
Gombe, Kinshasa, DRC
Telephone: (243) 0 81 225 52 32
E-mail: Lflamigni@cdc.gov

For financial, grants management, or budget assistance, contact:

Teresa Kidd, Grants Management Specialist
Department of Health and Human Services
CDC Procurement and Grants Office
2920 Brandywine Road, MS: K-75
Atlanta, GA 30341
Telephone: 770-488-2793
E-mail: Tkidd@cdc.gov

For **assistance with submission difficulties**, contact [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov):

Phone: 1-800-518-4726
Email: support@grants.gov

Hours of Operation: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Closed on Federal holidays.

For **application submission** questions, contact:

Technical Information Management Section

Department of Health and Human Services

CDC Procurement and Grants Office

2920 Brandywine Road, MS E-14

Atlanta, GA 30341

Telephone: 770-488-2700

Email: pgotim@cdc.gov

CDC Telecommunications for the hearing impaired or disabled is available at:

TTY 1-888-232-6348

Other Information

Other CDC funding opportunity announcements can be found on Grants.gov Web site,

Internet address: <http://www.grants.gov>.

Questions and Answers

1. The approximate current fiscal year funding is given as \$2,500,000 (p. 19); is this the ceiling for each individual applicant, or the maximum sum total of all awards to be granted to all successful applicants?

Response: The \$2,500,000 amount represents the maximum sum to be awarded to successful candidates.

2. Is any in-service training allowed?

Response: In-service training is one of the allowable costs.

3. Does the 100% of “PEPFAR-supported health zones that are capable of using and contributing to the national HIV/AIDS reporting system” (p. 8) refer only to those health zones that are in the 3 provinces of work under this project, i.e., Kinshasa, Katanga, and Orientale?

Response: The 100% of health zones refer to PEPFAR-supported zones that are in the 3 targeted provinces.

4. Would we have discretion to choose the 2 provinces (from Kinshasa, Katanga, and Orientale) to conduct each of the “TB/HIV co-infection epidemiological studies implemented in the specified focus geographic areas” (p. 7)?

Response: Indeed, the choice of the 2 provinces to conduct TB/HIV co-infection studies is to be made by the applicant.

