

## Questions and Answers – 9/11/2014

### Funding Opportunity Announcement CDC-RFA-GH15-1504

#### ***Capacity Building through Training and Mentoring for Treatment, Care and Support, Including PMTCT, TB/HIV, Laboratory, Informatics, and Cervical Cancer in Botswana under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)***

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##### **Questions and Answers by email**

Q:

I was seeking clarification on the 8% rule. For Botswana, what is the country's FY2015 program funding level and what would it mean if the RFA ceiling budget is greater than the 8%/\$2m threshold of the country's program funding.

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R:

All applicants are encouraged to apply for the FOA. The 8% rule is detailed on pages 45-46 of the FOA. In the event that the ceiling of 8% or \$2million is exceeded, CDC will seek a waiver from the 8% rule.

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Q:

On page 13 of the attached document it states that "applicants must submit a separate application for each program area they intend to implement or work in". Can you confirm that this means that we should submit completely different packages including federal forms, narrative and budget for program areas A-E with page limits applying separately to each one?

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R:

Yes, for every program area you intend to implement or work in, you must submit an independent package, to include a project narrative, budget narrative, relevant appendices, and the other required forms specified in the FOA. The program areas under this FOA will be independently reviewed, so applicants must submit individual complete applications for each of the 2 review sessions for this FOA.

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Q:

On page 28 of the attached it states that "applicants must only apply for the first budget period funding, taking into consideration the floor of the individual award range and the ceiling of the individual award range". Does this mean that we should leave blank or enter "zero" for the fields requesting future year funding on the application? Does CDC request a detailed budget and justification for just the "Budget Period Length: Twelve Months" or would CDC prefer a detailed budget per year and justification for the entire "Project Period Length: Five Years?"

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R:

Yes, applicants must only apply to the first budget period. You can enter \$0, zero, or leave blank the future year funding fields in the application. CDC requests a detailed budget for the first twelve months.

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Q:

Finally, on page 50 it says funding preference will be given for submitting "at least one work plan and annual report describing similar work in sub-Saharan Africa and the outcomes of that work". Does this need to be from

another CDC grant and does it need to be for the same principal investigator or another project performed by our organization?

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R:

The annual report submitted must describe similar work and the outcomes of that work. The annual report should be reflective of the project performed by the organization applying for the award.

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Q:

Please confirm whether entities from outside Botswana could apply, and whether this would require either individually or in partnership with organizations already active in Botswana. We also wished to enquire whether the calls are really targeting entities already active in Botswana.

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R:

International organizations are eligible to apply for the FOA alone or in partnership with other organizations. Please note the section on Eligible Applicants on Page 29. Please also note the funding preferences section that begins on page 50. There is a preference for organizations with experience conducting similar work in Sub-Saharan Africa.

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Q:

The FOA states that applicants will be evaluated according to the strength of their responses per program area. More than one applicant will not be funded for the same program area under this award. Am I reading this correctly as in that only ONE application will be funded for the whole Program Area A: Care, support and treatment, including PMTCT, for adult and pediatric populations?

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R:

That is correct.