

Questions and Answers – 12/19/2015

Funding Opportunity Announcement CDC-RFA-GH16-1650

Technical Assistance to Host Country Public Health Institutions in Tanzania to Lead HIV Response and Develop and Sustain Systems Required to Achieve and Sustain HIV Epidemic Control under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

	Question	Response
1.	Will there be any opportunity for a briefing on this RFA for organizations that are interested in applying?	Briefings for this FOA will not be convened. Please submit any questions you have in writing in accordance with the Question and Answer process outlined on page 50 of CDC-RFA-GH16-1648.
2.	I noticed/understood that it must include SI TA for NACP, NIMR and the counterpart in Zanzibar. And that is the focus. However, It doesn't say it can't also involve TA to the PEPFAR implementing partners, is this the case or one can also include TA to implementing partners in applying?	No. The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) is to provide technical assistance (TA) to Public Health Institutions (PHIs) in the United Republic of Tanzania. The initial PHIs to be included are identified but additional PHIs may be added over time if they are identified as a priority by CDC.
3.	RFA Page 32, Section d. Organizational Capacity of Applicants to Implement the Approach, lists six (6) key staff positions. The RFA does not specify a technical focus or area of technical specialization for the Deputy Chief of Party position. Would the CDC accept combining the role of the Deputy Chief of Party with the technical role of one of the other five key staff positions?	Applicant may propose suggestions for the organizational structure and key positions to address the key staff requirements. CDC is open to a suggestion to combine roles according to the skill set and experience of the proposed personnel.
4.	<p>RFA Page 32, Section d. states, "Applicant is required to submit CVs and clear terms of reference for all key staff identified in the organization structure who will participate in this work." RFA page 58 Section H, Other Information states "...The following documents must be included in the application appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please refer to "Organizational Capacity of Awardees to Execute the Approach" for specific requirements in this FOA, as applicable such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Resumes/CVs of current key staff who will work on the activity..." <p>The HHS checklist in the application package, uses the phrase "biographical sketch(es) with job description(s) been provided..." Please confirm if we are to use NIH biosketch format or CV's.</p>	Applicant may select format for biographical sketch. CV, resume, or NIH biosketch are all acceptable.

5.	<p>RFA Page 22, Paragraph 4, states, “The grantee(s) is required to submit to CDC Tanzania a detailed evaluation and performance management plan within 60 days,...” RFA Page 23, Paragraph 3 states, “Awardees will be required to submit a more detailed Evaluation and Performance Measurement plan within the first 6 months of award, as described in the Reporting Section of this FOA.” Please clarify the number and timing of the required evaluation and performance measurement plan.</p>	<p>The FOA will be amended to delete the following from the CDC Evaluation and Performance Measurement Strategy: “The grantee(s) is required to submit to CDC Tanzania a detailed evaluation and performance management plan within 60 days, and work with the CDC program activity manager to ensure that the evaluation plan is feasible and consistent with proposed program activities, the intent of this FOA, and CDC’s evaluation approach.” The requirement for the awardee to submit a more detailed Evaluation and Performance Measurement Plan within the first 6 months as stated in Part II.A.2.b.ii. is the requirement.</p>
6.	<p>RFA Page 33. Please confirm that indirect costs will be reimbursed to subawardees and subcontractors (regardless of international versus domestic) provided that sufficient supporting documentation is submitted including audited financial statements for the past two complete fiscal years and current year-to-date, and supporting computations.</p>	<p>Indirect Costs are only allowable to domestic organizations with a current, federally-negotiated indirect cost rate. Foreign based partners are not permitted to claim indirect costs. Those costs must be charged as a direct cost. However, if a foreign organization contracts with a domestic organizations, that domestic organization is eligible to claim their approved rate. The organization must submit the indirect cost rate agreement to the prime recipient as part of their contractual budget. Those “indirect costs” would be part of the overall contractual costs, not the directly funded partner’s indirect cost. As stated previously, indirect costs are not allowable for foreign-based partners.</p>