**DEVELOPMENT INNOVATION VENTURES**

**Application Guidelines**

Open innovation inspires new solutions to the critical challenges affecting millions of people. In the spirit of open innovation, Development Innovation Ventures (DIV) supports groundbreaking ideas to transform the lives of people living in poverty in developing countries around the world. DIV provides flexible, tiered grant funding to innovators and researchers to test new ideas and models, take strategic risks, build evidence of what works, and advance the best solutions.

DIV funds innovations that demonstrate our three guiding principles of: a) rigorous evidence of impact, b) cost-effectiveness, and c) potential for scale and sustainability. We accept proposals year-round from any type of organization, and in any sector and country in which USAID works. We accept proposals for funding at the following stages:

* **STAGE 1:** Pilot (up to $200,000)
* **STAGE 2**: Testing and Positioning for Scale (up to $1,500,000)
* **STAGE 3**: Transitioning to Scale (up to $15,000,000)
* **Evidence** **Generation** (up to $1,500,000)

**For detailed information about DIV, the evaluation criteria, and examples of previously funded innovations, please visit** [**www.usaid.gov/div**](http://www.usaid.gov/div)**.**

**Before you begin your application, please take the time to read through the resources below. These resources will help to ensure that your innovation meets our requirements.**

1. Take the [DIV Self-Screening Questionnaire](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Y6NXNP7) to determine if your innovation is a good fit for DIV.
2. Please review DIV’s [Annual Program Statement (APS)](https://www.usaid.gov/div/aps). This document provides a detailed description of the DIV program and application requirements for each funding stage.
3. Visit <https://www.usaid.gov/div/apply> for tips and instructions on how to submit your online application. All applications must be submitted through [DIV’s application portal](https://usaidinnovation.force.com/div/s/).
	1. You will need to create an account on the online application portal. You may use this account to work on the application over time and check the status of your application.
	2. Your application will save automatically and continuously as you work on the application; therefore, there is no need to “save” your application.
	3. The application is plain text only.
	4. There are three sections to the online application. You must complete all sections of the application to be considered for funding.
	5. Be clear and concise. While each field has limits on the amount of text, there is no need to fill the space provided.
	6. Once you submit an application, you will not be able to edit your application.
	7. Applications submitted via post or email will not be reviewed.
4. Please submit only one application per project and project team.

**DEVELOPMENT INNOVATION VENTURES**

**Sample Application Form**

***This is a sample application form. Once you are ready to submit your application, please visit the online application portal to submit your actual application. DIV will not review applications submitted via post or email.***

***Please provide accurate information to the full extent of your organization’s knowledge.***

**\* Required field**

**SECTION 1: ORGANIZATION INFORMATION**

Organization Name\*: (max. 80 characters):

Organization Type\*: [*Picklist selection: Academic, Nonprofit/NGO, For-profit, Federal Agency, Foreign Government, Multilateral, Other*]

Website:

**ORGANIZATION ADDRESS**

Country\*: [*Country List*]

Street Address\*:

City\*:

State/Region\*:

Zip Code/Postal Code\*:

In which country is your organization legally incorporated?\* [*Country List*]

How many employees are in your organization?\* [*Picklist: Large (300+), Medium (<300), Small (<50), Micro (<10 employees)*]

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Primary Point of Contact\*(Founder/CEO/Principal Investigator) | Secondary Point of Contact (optional) |
| First Name: | First Name: |
| Last Name: | Last Name: |
| Title: | Title: |
| Work email: | Work email: |
| Work Phone: | Work Phone: |
| Gender: [*Male/Female/Other*] | Gender: [*Male/Female/Other*] |
| Under 30 years old? [*Yes/No*] | Under 30 years old? [*Yes/No*] |

**SECTION 2: PROJECT OVERVIEW INFORMATION**

**Project Title** (max. 80 characters)\*:

**Please specify to which DIV Stage you are applying**\*: [*Stage 1/2/3/Evidence*]

The table below summarizes the purpose of each funding stage. For complete information about the distinct conditions and requirements of each funding stage, please review DIV’s Annual Program Statement (APS) in full. Applicants may enter at the Stage that best reflects their progress and do not necessarily need to enter at Stage 1.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Stage 1** | **Stage 2** | **Stage 3** | **Evidence Generation** |
| Pilot | Testing / Positioning for Scale | Transitioning to Scale | Evidence Generation |
| Up to $200,000 | Up to $1,500,000 | Up to $15,000,000 | Up to $1,500,000 |
| DIV funds Stage 1 awards to support the piloting of innovations in a developing country context. Innovations must be post-prototype and ready to be field-tested.  | DIV funds Stage 2 awards to support further testing and expansion of innovations. Applicants will have already conducted successful pilot testing and be ready to rigorously test an innovation’s impact or market viability. | DIV funds Stage 3 awards to transition proven approaches from piloting and testing to widespread scaling in new contexts or new geographies. Applicants should have completed the activities for Stage 2 innovations. | DIV funds Evidence Generation grants for evaluations of development approaches that are widely used but do not already have sufficient evidence from rigorous evaluations of causal impact and cost-effectiveness. |

**Total Funding Requested (in USD)\*:**

**Proposed co-funding (in USD)\*:** *[Please round up to the nearest dollar.]**Please specify the amount your organization or a partner organization plans to contribute toward the total cost of the project in addition to funding requested from DIV. This can include, for example, co-funding, the value of labor hours to be committed to the innovation at no cost to your organization, or already owned or donated equipment/machinery, which you will use to perform grant activities. Co-funding is not required, but may be considered as part of the selection criteria under cost-effectiveness and potential for scale and financial sustainability.*

**With what type(s) of organization(s) do you plan to partner (if any)\*?
[***Picklist selection(s): Academic, Nonprofit/NGO, For-profit, Federal Agency, Foreign Government, Multilateral, Other,* *None]*

**Which of the following best describes the sector(s) your innovation addresses?**

**Primary Sector** (select one)\*:

**Secondary Sector(s)**, if any:

*Picklist selection: Agriculture/Food Security, Democracy/Governance, Disaster Relief/Humanitarian Assistance, Economic Growth, Education and Training, Energy, Environment, Health, Water Sanitation and Hygiene, Other: please specify*

**Where will this project take place?**

**Primary Country** (select one)\*: [*Country List*]

**Secondary Country/Countries**, if any: [*Country List*]

**Does your organization have a long-term or permanent office in the country or countries where the project will take place?\*** [*Yes/No*]

**Expected duration of project activities in months** (max. 36 months)\*:

**Expected source of financial support at scale to ensure the long-term sustainability of the innovation\***: [*Public, Private, Hybrid*]

* ***Public*** *funding may come from sources including: local, state, or federal government; multilateral donors; philanthropies and foundations; etc.*
* ***Private*** *funding may come from commercial sources including: businesses, financial institutions, client revenue, investors, etc.*
* ***Hybrid*** *funding may come from a combination of public and commercial sources of financial support.*

**Has the applicant received funding for this or a similar project from any of the following**?\*

DIV\*: [*Yes/No*] If ‘Yes’, please provide the grant/award number

USAID (other than DIV)\*: [*Yes/No*] If ‘Yes’, please specify USAID Program/contact

U.S. Government\*: [*Yes/No*] If ‘Yes’, please specify

**Has the applicant submitted this or a similar project for funding consideration to any of the following?\***

DIV\*: [*Yes/No*] If ‘Yes’, please provide the application number

USAID (other than DIV)\*: [*Yes/No*] If ‘Yes’, please specify USAID Program

U.S. Government\*: [*Yes/No*] If ‘Yes’, please specify

**Has the applicant ever received any USAID funding in the past for other projects?\***  [*Yes/No*]

**How did you hear about DIV?\*** [*Please specify*]

*Picklist selection: USAID Staff, USAID Website/Newsletter, DIV Website/Newsletter, DIV grantee, USAID Implementing Partner, Conference, Press, Social Media, Other*

**SECTION 3: DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION - STAGE 1/2/3 APPLICATIONS**

**FOR APPLICATIONS FOR EVIDENCE GENERATION GRANTS, PLEASE GO TO PAGE 13**

*Please review the selection criteria available in the* [*Annual Program Statement*](https://www.usaid.gov/div/aps) *as guidance to answer the following long-form questions.*

*Specific guidance is included in the text boxes. Please read the guidance closely and provide detailed responses in order to have the greatest likelihood of advancing to the due diligence phase. Answers should be appropriate given the stage and the intended pathway to scale of your innovation.*

*Please include citations or sources for assertions or references where applicable.*

**DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION: Stages 1, 2, or 3**

1. **Problem Statement: What is the problem affecting the lives of people living in poverty that your innovation or solution addresses?\***

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| *What is the problem and how does it impact the lives of people living in poverty? How would solving this problem improve people's lives? How many people does this issue impact in the country/countries you are working in, and globally?* *Note: Please do not describe your innovation here; it should be addressed in Question #2.* |

 Max. Characters: 2,500

1. **Description of the Innovation: What is your innovation? How does your innovation compare to existing alternatives and what are the advantages of your innovation compared to these alternatives, including standard practice?\***

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| *Please describe your innovation and how it addresses the problem detailed in Question #1, above. Please summarize what makes your approach innovative: why does your innovation have potential to address the problem at lower cost, faster, or otherwise more feasibly at scale, than the status quo or alternatives?* *Please indicate the alternative solutions that already exist to address the problem targeted by your innovation (specifically in the same geographic area where your innovation is implemented), and articulate the comparative advantages of your innovation.*  |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Target Population: Who does your innovation impact?\***

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| *Explain who, specifically, is impacted by the problem and who is expected to benefit from your innovation (e.g., different genders, age groups, income levels, minorities).* |

Max. Characters: 1,000

1. **Theory of Change and Existing Evidence: How will your innovation lead to improved development outcomes? Please clearly describe the theory of change behind the innovation and cite the evidence linking your innovation to its intended impact.\***

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| *Please describe the theory of change supporting your innovation: through what steps will the proposed innovation lead to the intended outcome(s)? Please explain for which parts of the theory of change there already is evidence, and which are yet to be established.* *For applicants on a public pathway to scale, please explain how the activities under a potential DIV award would generate evidence of impact or build upon an existing evidence base.**For applicants on a commercial or hybrid pathway to scale, please include evidence of demonstrated demand or evidence that the innovation fills an identifiable need in the market, or indicate how a potential award would help you to gather this data. If relevant, please also explain how the activities under a potential DIV award would generate evidence of impact or build upon an existing evidence base.*  |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Current Impact and Reach: What has been achieved to date and how many people does the innovation currently serve? If other organizations have also implemented this innovation, please specifically indicate your organization’s experience and reach.\***

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| --- |
| *Please address whether your innovation has been prototyped, piloted or otherwise implemented and what you have learned from this experience, to date.* *Please indicate the results you have demonstrated thus far, including the number of people your innovation currently serves and how they benefit, and any evidence of demand for the innovation or that the innovation fills an identifiable need.* *For market-based solutions, please include relevant business metrics to date, including, but not limited to the: price, quantity sold, revenue, etc.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Anticipated Impact and Reach: What specific social outcomes do you expect your innovation to achieve over the next 3 years? How many people do you expect your innovation to reach over this time period? Please specify how you estimate the number of people served and the magnitude of impacts.\***

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| *Please describe the projected future impact of your innovation in terms of the number of customers or beneficiaries reached, and ultimate impacts/outcomes (e.g., improved learning, health outcomes, increase in household income, etc.) over the proposed award period. Please specify the magnitude of impacts (e.g., a X% reduction in chronic malnutrition; a $Y increase in household income, etc.).* *For market-based solutions, please include projections for how your key business metrics, including price, quantity sold figures, and revenue are forecasted to change in the next 3 years.* *We understand precise estimates may be difficult to calculate; we are interested in the logic used to approximate these numbers. Please include explanations of your assumptions and supporting calculations to demonstrate how you reached your estimates and be as concrete as possible.*  |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Evaluation Methodology: What evaluation methodology will you use to measure the success of your innovation?\***

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| *Please describe the evaluation methodology you will use to test key assumptions in the theory of change and measure the success of your innovation. For all evaluation methods, please describe how you will collect data on your innovation’s intended impact on development outcomes. For impact evaluations, please include your a) research questions, b) sampling frame, c) power calculations, and, if a randomized control trial (RCT), d) unit of randomization and randomization strategy. Stage 3 applicants should describe their plans to continue to assess their innovation’s social impact at scale.**Please describe any steps you will take during the course of a potential award to ensure findings influence future policy, programming, or widespread adoption (in your context or elsewhere).* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Key Performance Indicators: What relevant metrics/key performance indicators (KPIs) will you use to track your innovation’s performance and how will you collect the data?\***

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| *Please list relevant metrics/KPIs you will use to track your innovation’s performance, how you will collect this data, and your corresponding targets over the proposed award period. Example KPIs include: number of direct customers/beneficiaries; key outcomes, including magnitudes of social outcomes (e.g., X% reduction in chronic malnutrition, $X increase in household income); adoption rate by customers or beneficiaries; costs per customer or beneficiary; capital raised; and ratios of revenue to cost. DIV understands that these indicators and targets may change over time.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Cost and Potential Cost-Effectiveness: What is the current cost of your innovation, and what might make your innovation more cost-effective than alternatives? How do costs change as your innovation scales?\***

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| *DIV is interested in understanding why your innovation has the potential to have a greater impact per dollar than alternative means of addressing the same problem, including the status quo. Please provide your best estimate of the current total cost of your innovation, including any co-funding. Please include both fixed and variable costs. How do you expect this cost to change as your innovation scales?* *How does the total cost of your innovation compare to existing solutions now, and projected at scale (estimated to the extent possible)?* *If any cost-effectiveness analyses have been conducted on the innovation, please cite relevant data.* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Pathway to Scale: How will your innovation scale and be funded sustainably? Please explain the revenue model (public, private, or hybrid) and how your innovation will reach millions of people. Please indicate how many people you expect to serve over the next 10 years and specify how you estimate this number. Describe how the proposed activities will generate critical proof points for your intended path to scale. How will DIV funding play a catalytic role in your innovation’s path to scale?\***

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| *Please describe your model for scaling up and whether you will rely on public, commercial or hybrid funding. If you anticipate a mixed source of funds in the future, please indicate what percentage of each source you expect to rely on after DIV funding.* *Based on your pathway to scale, how will DIV funding play an enabling or catalyzing role in the expansion of your innovation?* *For innovations intended to scale commercially, please explain your revenue model, break-even projections, customer segmentation, cost assumptions, and the role of any stakeholders expected to provide financial or other material support. For innovations intended to scale publicly, please explain how you will generate the sustained public funds and partnerships required for scale. For all innovations, to what extent will the end buyer or user, whether government, organization, or individual customer, be able to afford your innovation and to what extent have they indicated this ability?*  |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Activities to be Supported with Proposed Funding: Please list and describe all major activities you will execute for the proposed project and the approximate amounts to be spent on each activity. Then, please indicate the total amounts to be spent by major budget categories.\***

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| *Please list and describe all major activities in the order they will take place and indicate the approximate budget required for each activity. Separately, please provide a breakdown of costs by major budget category (e.g., salaries, travel, data collection/analysis, implementation, R&D, other costs relevant to the innovation or solution). Amounts should be in US Dollars and estimates based on intentional and critical thought.* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Anticipated Risks: What are the biggest challenges or risks you expect to encounter and what measures will you take to mitigate them?\***

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| *All innovations and research face challenges in implementation and in achieving scale. Please provide a realistic assessment of present and anticipated challenges (e.g., issues generating revenue, supply chain issues, political economy issues, policy requirements, legal regulations, delays in roll-out, threats to validity of evidence, low statistical power) you may encounter and how you plan to address them. This assessment should demonstrate a strong understanding of local implementation context(s).* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Lead Organization: Please provide an overview of the lead implementing organization and include relevant past experience implementing similar activities. Describe why this organization is uniquely positioned and has the capacity to solve the problem.\***

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| *Please provide an overview of the lead implementing organization. What is the organization’s area of expertise and mission? Please provide detailed information on relevant past experience and highlight the lead organization’s core competencies as they relate to addressing the problem statement.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Key Personnel: Who are the key team members for implementation of grant activities and what is their level of effort?\***

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| *Please provide a list of the key team members contributing to grant activities. For each team member, specify their percentage level of effort (percentage of 100% of an individual’s working schedule), roles and responsibilities in completing project activities, and a one or two sentence summary of relevant skills and experience. Please do not include entire CVs or resumes.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Partner Organizations: Describe key partner organizations and explain how they have demonstrated their commitment to supporting or participating in the project activities. What skills, experience or resources will they contribute to implementing or scaling the innovation? What are their roles and responsibilities?\***

|  |
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| *For each key partner (e.g., co-funders, research partners, major clients, implementing partners, etc.), please specify the specific contribution or role they will play and whether and how they have demonstrated their commitment (e.g., entered into a formal agreement, indicated verbal interest). Please specify which organizations are providing financial or in-kind support for this project and the amount committed. If an innovation or impact evaluation depends on the support of another organization or institution to be implemented or scaled, please describe the extent to which the lead organization is working with them now, and the expected role of the partner(s) in future implementation or scale.**Finally, please indicate any amount of co-funding received for the activities proposed.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Professional References: Please provide contact information for up to three (3) professional references who can speak to the past performance and ability of the applicant.\***

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| *Please include each reference’s name, organization, email, and phone number. References should be able to attest to and validate the applicant’s ability to work effectively, achieve results, and successfully implement similar activities within the past three (3) years. Personal references are acceptable in cases in which a professional reference is not available.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Citations: Please use the space below to list any citations referenced in your responses above. Only content written in the application will be reviewed; these citations will be used to verify factual accuracy if necessary.**

|  |
| --- |
| *Please list citation URLs or publication information.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

* *I understand that USAID/DIV may share this application, internally or externally, as part of the due diligence process. USAID/DIV will obtain the requisite non-disclosure agreements and conflict of interest forms prior to sharing information with reviewers during the due diligence process.\**
* *By submitting this application, I certify that the answers to the questions are accurate to the full extent of my knowledge.\**
* DIV sometimes has an interest in sharing applications it receives with other funding partners, including with other USAID offices or missions as well as with external entities both inside and outside the United States. Please check this box if you would like to opt in to this opportunity. There is no requirement that you opt in, and your decision will not impact DIV's review of your application.

**SECTION 3: DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION – APPLICATIONS FOR EVIDENCE GENERATION GRANTS**

*Please review the selection criteria available in the* [*Annual Program Statement*](https://www.usaid.gov/div/aps) *as guidance to answer the following long-form questions.*

*Specific guidance is included in the text boxes. Please read the guidance closely and provide detailed responses in order to have the greatest likelihood of advancing to the due diligence phase. Answers should be appropriate given the stage and the intended pathway to scale of your innovation.*

*Please include citations or sources for assertions or references where applicable.*

**DETAILED PROJECT INFORMATION: Evidence Generation**

1. **Problem Statement: What is the problem affecting the lives of people living in poverty that is addressed by the innovation or solution you are planning to evaluate?\***

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| *What is the problem and how does it impact the lives of people living in poverty? How would solving this problem improve people's lives? How many people does this issue impact in the country/countries you or your implementation partners are working in, and globally?* *Note: Please do not describe the solution here; it should be addressed in Question #2.* |

 Max. Characters: 2,500

1. **Description of the Solution: What is the innovation or solution you plan to evaluate? How does it compare to alternatives?\***

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| *Please describe the solution or innovation and how it addresses the problem detailed in Question #1, above. What are the comparative advantages or disadvantages of this solution relative to alternatives, including standard practice?* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Current Impact and Reach: What has been achieved to date? Who is the target population for the innovation or solution and how many people does it currently serve? What resources are currently allocated to supporting this solution?\***

|  |
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| *What results have been achieved thus far by the innovation or solution? How many people currently benefit from the solution, and where?* *Please explain who, specifically, is impacted by the problem and who benefits or is expected to benefit from the innovation or solution (e.g., different genders, age groups, income levels, minorities).**Please indicate the annual budget allocated to supporting this solution, and from what sources.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Theory of Change and Existing Evidence: Please clearly describe the theory of change behind how the innovation or solution leads to improved development outcomes. Please cite the existing evidence (to the extent available) linking the innovation to its intended impact.\***

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| *Please describe the theory of change supporting the innovation or solution: through what steps is it assumed the proposed innovation or solution leads to the intended outcome(s)? Please explain for which parts of the theory of change there already is evidence, and which are yet to be established.* *Please cite any existing evidence on the innovation or solution’s impact thus far, and explain how your work will build upon this evidence base to contribute to knowledge of what works.* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Evidence Gaps: What gap(s) persist in the existing evidence base about the innovation or solution’s impact, and how do you intend to address these through the proposed evaluation?\***

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| *Please describe how your work will generate new evidence that fills a gap in current understanding about the effectiveness of the innovation or solution.* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Evaluation Methodology: Please describe your study design and research methodology. What are your intermediate and final outcomes of interest and how will you measure these outcomes?\***

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| --- |
| *Please describe your research questions and the evaluation methodology you will use to test key assumptions in the theory of change and to measure the success of the innovation. For impact evaluations, please include your a) sampling frame, b) power calculations, and, if a randomized control trial (RCT), c) unit of randomization and randomization strategy. For other evaluation methods, please describe how you will collect data on your innovation’s intended impact on development outcomes. Please include any other details that are needed to understand your study design.* *Please list relevant outcomes, metrics and data sources for measuring outcomes, and how you intend to collect this data (e.g., surveys, administrative data, etc.).* |

Max. Characters: 4,000

1. **Contributions of Evidence: How will this evidence be used and what will its major contributions be, regardless of results? How will this research contribute to changes in policy and practice? How will you disseminate evidence generated and promote adoption of the results?\***

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| --- |
| *What are the programmatic and policy questions that your evaluation addresses? Who are the consumers of the evidence that you generate and how do you expect it to influence their decisions or practice? How will this evidence feed into program and policy decisions?* *Please describe any steps you will take during the course of a potential award to ensure findings influence future policy, programming, or widespread adoption (in your context or elsewhere). What must occur in the short-, medium-, and long-term to ensure that research results are adopted by appropriate stakeholders? What are the key barriers for adopting and acting upon the results?* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Activities to be Supported with Proposed Funding: Please list and describe all major activities you will execute for the proposed project and the approximate amounts to be spent on each activity. Then, of the total budget, specify the total amounts to be spent on major budget categories.\***

|  |
| --- |
| *Please list and describe all major activities in the order they will take place and indicate the approximate budget required for each activity and each major budget category (e.g., salaries, travel, data collection/analysis, implementation, other costs relevant to the innovation or solution). Amounts should be in US Dollars and estimates based on intentional and critical thought.* |

Max. Characters: 2,500

1. **Cost and Potential Cost-Effectiveness: Clearly state what is known about the cost and cost-effectiveness of the innovation or solution and indicate how the proposed evaluation will establish or further build on this knowledge.\***

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| --- |
| *DIV is interested in understanding whether the solution has the potential to have a greater impact per dollar than alternative means of addressing the same problem, including the status quo. Please provide your best estimate of the current total cost of the solution.* *How does the total cost of the solution compare to alternative solutions? If any cost-effectiveness analyses have been conducted on the solution, please cite relevant data.* *Please note: DIV recognizes that Evidence Generation applicants may be seeking to answer whether or not a solution is cost effective due to a lack of existing knowledge, so applicants are not expected to advocate for the existing cost effectiveness of the solution. Rather, applicants must demonstrate how this evaluation will help answer this question.* |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Potential Scale of the Solution: If the evidence demonstrates positive evidence of impact, how might the innovation or solution continue to scale? What social outcomes would you expect the solution to achieve over the next ten years?\***

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| *If the evidence demonstrates positive impact, please describe possible channels for increasing the scale of the innovation or solution (government policy, uptake by an international organization, etc.) and the source of financing for the solution in the long term.**Please describe the projected future reach and impact of the innovation or solution in terms of the expected number of beneficiaries and ultimate impacts/outcomes (e.g., improved learning, health outcomes, increase in household income, etc.) should the evidence demonstrate positive impact. We understand precise estimates may be difficult to calculate; we are interested in the logic used to approximate these numbers. Please include explanations of your assumptions and supporting calculations to demonstrate how you reached your estimates and be as concrete as possible.*  |

Max. Characters: 3,000

1. **Anticipated Risks: What are the biggest challenges or risks you expect to encounter and what measures will you take to mitigate them?\***

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| *All innovations and research face challenges in implementation and in achieving scale. Please provide a realistic assessment of present and anticipated challenges (e.g., supply chain issues, political economy issues, policy requirements, legal regulations, delays in roll-out, threats to validity of evidence, low statistical power) you may encounter and how you plan to address them. This assessment should demonstrate a strong understanding of local implementation context(s).* |

Max. Characters: 2,500

1. **Lead Organization: Please provide an overview of the lead implementing organization and include relevant past experience implementing similar activities. Describe why this organization is uniquely positioned and has the capacity to solve the problem.\***

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| *Please provide an overview of the organization leading the research. What is the organization’s area of expertise and mission? Please provide detailed information on relevant past experience and highlight the lead organization’s core competencies as they relate to addressing the problem statement.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Key Personnel: Who are the key team members for implementation of grant activities and what is their level of effort?\***

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| --- |
| *Please provide a list of the key team members contributing to grant activities. For each team member, specify their percentage level of effort (percentage of 100% of an individual’s working schedule), roles and responsibilities in completing project activities, and a one or two sentence summary of relevant skills and experience. Please do not include entire CVs or resumes.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Partner Organizations: Describe key partner organizations and explain how they have demonstrated their commitment to supporting or participating in the project activities. What skills, experience or resources will they contribute to implementing or scaling the innovation? What are their roles and responsibilities?\***

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| *For each key partner (e.g., co-funders, research partners, major clients, implementing partners, etc.), please specify the specific contribution or role they will play and whether and how they have demonstrated their commitment (e.g., entered into a formal agreement, indicated verbal interest). Please specify which organizations are providing financial or in-kind support for this project and the amount committed. If an innovation or impact evaluation depends on the support of another organization or institution to be implemented or scaled, please describe the extent to which the lead organization is working with them now, and the expected role of the partner(s) in future implementation or scale.**Finally, please indicate any co-funding received for the activities proposed.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Professional References: Please provide contact information for up to three (3) professional references who can speak to the past performance and ability of the applicant.\***

|  |
| --- |
| *Please include each reference’s name, organization, email, and phone number. References should be able to attest to and validate the applicant’s ability to work effectively, achieve results, and successfully implement similar activities within the past three (3) years. Personal references are acceptable in cases in which a professional reference is not available.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

1. **Citations: Please use the space below to list any citations referenced in your responses above. Only content written in the application will be reviewed; these citations will be used to verify factual accuracy if necessary.**

|  |
| --- |
| *Please list citation URLs or publication information.* |

Max. Characters: 2,000

* *I understand that USAID/DIV may share this application, internally or externally, as part of the due diligence process. USAID/DIV will obtain the requisite non-disclosure agreements and conflict-of-interest forms prior to sharing information with reviewers during the due diligence process.\**
* *By submitting this application, I certify that the answers to the questions are accurate to the full extent of my knowledge.\**
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