



USAID | AFGHANISTAN

December 14, 2021

Subject: Payment in USD or a third currency and update on Afghanistan's National Technical Assistance (NTA) Salary Scale

Dear USAID/Afghanistan Implementing Partners,

Implementing Partners (IPs) have reported problems with issuing local currency salary payments. In addition to the banking constraints, the Afghani (AFN) has fallen to a record low amid the turmoil. USAID has taken several actions to assist our IPs who may face challenges in meeting these requirements.

1. Payment in a currency other than the AFN – On November 24, 2021, USAID/Afghanistan approved contractors to pay their CCN staff in a currency other than the local currency. Your Contracting Officer will continue reviewing these requests as proposed by contractors on a case-by-case basis, including requesting contractors to confirm compliance with applicable local law.

Assistance partners may also pay their staff in a currency other than the local currency based on their organization's policies and procedures.

2. NTA Salary Scale - Since 2016, all salaries of Afghan local CCN employees and CCN consultants of USAID IPs were based on Afghanistan's NTA Salary Scale. Due to the continued deterioration of the AFN, contractors may use the market exchange rate of the USD to AFN on August 13, 2021 in their salary calculations from August 13, 2021 forward. IPs may consult with their Contracting Officer to confirm this rate.

Sincerely,

Nadeem Shah

Director USAID/Afghanistan Office of Acquisition and Assistance