

FY 2018, 1st Quarter Business Forecast Questions and Responses

Background

The Agency's Business Forecast is an informational resource on potential funding and partnership opportunities at USAID. It is an advanced look at grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements that USAID is in the process of developing and plans to issue in the coming year. Organizations interested in working with USAID can use this tool to plan for proposal or application submissions.

General Business Forecast Questions

1. **Timing of Solicitations:** There are a number of solicitations that are expected to be released in mid-December. Similar to previous years, can NUSAID issue a notice to Contracting and Agreement Officers to be mindful of the holiday schedule?

USAID Response: We realize this is a busy time of year. While we cannot mandate the prohibition of solicitation releases in case of emergency or other urgent requirements, we have sent a note to our staff encouraging them to take the holidays into account and to avoid scheduling solicitation closings during this time period, if possible.

2. **Value for Money Approach:** Would USAID consider issuing RFAs with a value for money approach or a combined cost share and leverage requirement rather than the "standard" cost share requirement? This approach would expand the impact of the US dollar and/or broaden the resource pool for activities, such as the forecasted Madagascar health opportunities (IMPACT and ACCESS) and the Ghana Amplify Family Planning and Sexual and Reproductive Health Activity (AMPLIFY-FP).

USAID Response: With respects to Amplify-FP, for USAID/West Africa - we consider cost share contribution appropriate for the AMPLIFY activity. The intent behind the cost share is sustainability and to encourage new investment in family planning in the West African focus countries. On the more general question related to value for money and cost-share and leverage, leverage was developed in the context of Public-Private Partnerships as defined in ADS 303.3.27. However, it would be helpful to us for you to further elaborate your thoughts along these lines related to value for money to discuss and engage further beyond this specific Business Forecast question.

3. **Identifying Task Order Mechanism:** When TO/DOs are forecasted, can USAID also announce which IDIQ or GSA vehicle is intended to be used?

USAID Response: We encourage staff to list the contemplated GSA Schedule or title of the IDIQ contract in the "Award Description" field when listing TOs/DOs. We will continue to message this to staff when providing guidance on the Business Forecast.

4. **Items Removed from Forecast:** What is the exact timeframe that USAID decides to archive its forecast entries? Is there any type of standard that missions and bureaus are following?

USAID Response: We encourage staff to retain opportunities on the forecast for one quarter after they are cancelled. We also ask staff to keep items on the Forecast while they are open for responses. We will continue to message this to staff when providing guidance on the Business Forecast.

5. **Limited Competition Activities on the Forecast:** We have noticed several opportunities appear on the Forecast as general opportunities that were then released under existing LWAs or IDIQs, and therefore not open to the competitive bidding process. Can USAID provide clear indications on the forecast whether opportunities will have limited competition or not?

USAID Response: We will continue to encourage planners to include as much information as early in the planning process as possible, and to update opportunities as information changes. In the event an opportunity will be satisfied under an existing LWA or IDIQ, we instruct planners to identify the specific LWA or IDIQ mechanism that will be used in the "Award Description" field.

6. **Origin Date:** Can USAID add the origination date for opportunities to the forecast to know for certain when they first appeared and if they are new opportunities not previously forecasted?

USAID Response: This is not a current functionality, but we will explore the possibility of adding a field to future Business Forecast updates. We will continue to encourage planners to use the "Forecast Status Change" field to identify "New Opportunity Not Previously Forecasted" for appropriate actions and to update the status as an action moves through the pre-award phase. Business Forecast users can also sort opportunities by "Updated Date" to see which entries have recently been modified.

7. **Watch Feature:** It has been requested that there be a "Watch" button added to the website to allow people to be notified when there are changes to a particular item. Does USAID/OAA have any updates in regards to if/when it will be possible to "Watch" items on the USAID Forecast website?

USAID Response: This is not a current functionality, but we will explore the possibility of adding this field to future Business Forecast updates.

Washington Business Forecast Questions

1. **Africa:** Previously USAID has stated it was “analyzing options for future programming and may be seeking innovative ideas for the period leading up to the 2018 elections and beyond” in Africa. Would USAID be able to provide updates on countries of interest in Africa?

USAID Response: USAID is continuing to explore if opportunities exist at the Mission level to support election activities in upcoming African parliamentary elections.

2. **BFS:** FTF Innovation Lab – several innovation lab opportunities were recently added to the Forecast – capacity building for agriculture innovations; fish; and grain legumes. Is USAID planning on multiple awards for each of them? Are there target geographic regions for each of these opportunities? For a single award what is the anticipated maximum award size?

USAID Response: USAID is planning on one award for each Innovation Lab. The geographic region for the Fish Innovation Lab is Asia and Africa and worldwide for all the other labs. The anticipated maximum award size is approximately \$35M for each lab.

3. **BFS:** FTFIL: Fish
 - a. What countries will be targeted for the opportunity?

USAID Response: The targeted regional countries are Asia and Africa.

4. **BFS:** FTFIL: Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems
 - a. What is the relationship between this and the EU-funded project of the same name (see cdais.net)?

USAID Response: The EU-funded project is piloting materials and approaches that support the global mechanism launched by the G20 to facilitate capacity development in agricultural innovation, called the Tropical Agriculture Platform (TAP). Amongst these materials and approaches is the TAP Common Framework on Capacity Development for Agricultural Innovation Systems. USAID is a TAP partner. Through this new activity, USAID will apply the principles and good practices outlined in the TAP Common Framework to strengthen its agricultural research and other capacity development investments. However, there is no formal relationship between this activity and the EU-funded project.

5. **BFS:** FTFIL: Grain Legumes
 - a. Does USAID plan to release this opportunity as a Leader with Associates Award?

- b. Can USAID provide more information on the expected scope of this opportunity, as well as the expected areas of inquiry?

USAID Response: Yes, this award is currently contemplated as a Leader with Associates Award. At present, this scope is currently being revised. More information will be provided when the Notice of Funding Opportunity is posted to [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

6. **BFS:** FTFIL for Food Safety

- a. Is a FTF Innovation Lab for Food Safety anticipated?
- b. What are the expected release and award dates for this opportunity? Will this information be added to the business forecast?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID is anticipating releasing a Notice of Funding Opportunity for this Lab in February 2018.

7. **BFS:** Food Systems IDIQ

- a. Can USAID provide any information as to the reason for the delay of the Agri-Food Systems IDIQ?
- b. Does USAID still intend to release the Food Systems IDIQ on December 18, 2017?
- c. Will USAID release an illustrative task order with the release of the Food Systems IDIQ?

USAID Response: The Food Systems IDIQ is being removed from the Business Forecast as it is going through significant redesign considerations to most effectively program in this area.

8. **BFS:** Seed Systems Support

- a. Will the Seed Systems Support Project through the Bureau of Food Security be full and open competition? Will USAID restrict eligibility for the Seed Systems Support opportunity to universities and colleges as defined under Title XII?
- b. Does USAID intend to issue an RFI or pre-solicitation prior to the bid?

USAID Response: The Seed Systems Support activity will be an Assistance activity that will be competed full and open. Currently, USAID does not plan to restrict eligibility to colleges and universities. USAID does not intend to issue a pre-solicitation for this.

9. **BFS:** Knowledge, Data, Learning, and Training (KDLT)

- a. Can USAID please provide an update on the total estimated cost of the project? The Forecast lists the range of \$0 - \$149,999.
- b. Can USAID please provide an update on the award mechanism?
- c. Is a description available for the Knowledge, Data, Learning and Training (KDLT) opportunity through the Bureau of Food Security?

USAID Response: KDLT is still in the early stages of design and we do not have the information requested at this time. While the amount will certainly be more than \$0 to \$149,999, USAID has not finalized our cost estimate, and therefore cannot provide an update. The award instrument is likely to be acquisition, however USAID has not made a determination as to the award mechanism.

10. **BFS:** Advancing Women’s Economic Empowerment Framework

- a. Do you have an updated solicitation release date?
- b. Does USAID still expect to release this as a small-business set aside and GSA Task/Delivery order, or has this strategy changed following the Sources Sought process?
- c. Has USAID completed the market research to determine if the Advancing Women’s Empowerment Framework (AWEF) opportunity will still come out as a small business set-aside under GSA Professional Service Schedule SIN 874-1?

USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation release date remains April 9, 2018. If that changes, the Business Forecast will be updated to reflect that change. USAID anticipates releasing this activity as a small business set-aside, utilizing the GSA Professional Services Schedule (PSS), SIN 874-1

11. **BFS:** Knowledge-driven Agricultural Development (KDAD) Project

- a. The Knowledge-driven Agricultural Development (KDAD) Project was recently listed on GovWin, but has not yet been posted on FBO or in the forecast. Will USAID please confirm whether they plan to re-bid this opportunity, and if so, when it will be added to the forecast?

USAID Response: The project entitled Knowledge, Data, Learning and Training (KDLT) will be the follow on to the KDAD project. USAID is still in the process of designing the activity and it will be posted to FBO once a solicitation has been prepared.

12. **BFS:** Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F)

- a. Can USAID please indicate whether they believe this procurement will be released in mid-December, or whether any delays are anticipated?
- b. The current F2F project has several awardees according to geographic regions. Will this next round continue with a similar geographic split?

USAID Response: It is USAID’s goal to issue the solicitation in December. If there are delays, that timeline would be pushed to January at the latest. This next iteration will include multiple awards. The solicitation will provide information as to the eligible geographic regions.

13. **DCHA:** IT Solutions

- a. Is the scope of the DCHA IT Solutions procurement focused on internal (HQ) DCHA operations, or is it focused on DCHA-funded activities?

- b. Will it be issued as a small business set-aside?

USAID Response: The DCHA IT Solutions procurement will be focused on internal (HQ) DCHA operations. It will likely be issued as a small business set-aside, however that has yet to be determined.

14. **DCHA:** Rule of Law

- a. Please clarify whether USAID anticipates an extension to the Rule of Law IDIQ. If yes, how many years would be added and would there be a ceiling increase?

USAID Response: USAID anticipates an extension of the IDIQ by one year with no additional ceiling.

15. **DCHA:** SWIFT V

- a. SWIFT V has been delayed for several months. Does USAID anticipate releasing the SWIFT V IDIQ on December 1, 2017?

USAID Response: SWIFT 5 RFP was Posted at www.FBO.gov on November 30, 2017.

16. **DCHA:** Active Communities Effective States (ACES)

- a. Can USAID please confirm that it intends to proceed with procurement of this mechanism?
- b. If so, can USAID please confirm that this is still the anticipated solicitation release date?
- c. Does USAID anticipate that it will issue a pre-solicitation with a draft SOW in advance of a final solicitation?
- d. Will there be a task order released with the final ACES solicitation?
- e. Could USAID please confirm that there will not be an illustrative task order or case study with the release of the ACES IDIQ?

USAID Response: The ACES IDIQ is being removed from the business forecast as it is going through significant redesign considerations to most effectively program in this area.

17. **DCHA:** Analytical Services IV IDIQ

- a. Could you provide an update on the anticipated award date for the Analytical Services IV IDIQ? The previous Forecast Q&A indicated November 13th as the award date, but the awards have not been announced yet.

USAID Response: Finalization of the evaluation of proposals received is still ongoing; currently anticipate an award by September 30, 2018.

18. **DCHA:** Would USAID please confirm when the Office of Food for Peace intends to release a draft RFA for non-emergency programs?

USAID Response: FFP plans to release the draft RFA and country specific information for Burkina Faso and Niger to the Food Aid Consultative Group and post the RFA on the FFP website by the end of November 2017.

19. **DCHA:** In order to build on potential lessons learned and current program experiences, would USAID please ensure that required Food for Peace reports are on Development Clearinghouse? Along that same vein, would USAID consider providing the final evaluations and other reports for current Food for Peace programs in Burkina Faso and Niger (not currently available on the DEC) to potential Offerors prior to the release of the draft RFA?

USAID Response: USAID will ensure that the required reports are on the Development Clearinghouse (DEC).

20. **DCHA:** Would USAID please clarify whether the Office of Food for Peace is considering any other countries other than Burkina Faso and Niger for the FY 2018 funding cycle?

USAID Response: Not at this time for FFP development food security activities

21. **DCHA:** Does USAID anticipate a single country Food for Peace solicitation for Burkina Faso? When can we expect the release?

USAID Response: FFP plans to release the draft RFA and country specific information for Burkina Faso and Niger to the Food Aid Consultative Group and post the RFA on the FFP website by the end of November 2017.

22. **DCHA:** Implementer-Led Design, Evidence, Analysis and Learning (IDEAL)
a. Does USAID expect to re-issue the Implementer-Led Design, Evidence, Analysis and Learning (IDEAL) RFA in the near future?
b. If so, can you provide information on expected release date, funding levels, etc.?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID expects to re-issue the IDEAL RFA in the future. The expected release date and funding levels are TBD.

23. **DCHA:** Infectious Disease (with Epidemic or Pandemic potential) Standby Capacity for Humanitarian Emergency APS
a. In September 2017 USAID posted a pre-solicitation notice for Infectious Disease (with Epidemic or Pandemic potential) Standby Capacity for Humanitarian Emergency APS (SOL-OFDA-17-00088). This opportunity is not listed in the forecast. Does USAID still intend to release the APS in the coming months?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID intend to release an APS in the coming months.

24. **DCHA:** Empowerment and Inclusion Support Services (EISM)

- a. Can USAID please advise if the EISM RFA will be re-released, and if so what the anticipated release date is?

USAID Response: USAID intends to re-release the EISM as an RFP. An anticipated release date has not yet been established.

25. **DCHA:** FEWS NET 7 IDIQ

- a. Could USAID please provide an update on the anticipated award dated for the FEWS NET 7 IDIQ and the issuance of planned Task Orders to continue Pillar 1 activities following the conclusion of the current contract?
- b. USAID recently requested that offerors for the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET; SOL-OAA- 16-000189) extend their validity of their proposals until 2018. Could USAID provide an update on the procurement? Further, could USAID indicate if the current FEWS NET has been extended, and if so, until when?

USAID Response: USAID is in the process of reviewing all proposals received for the FEWS NET 7 IDIQ. No additional information is available at this time.

26. **E3:** Energy II IDIQ

- a. Can USAID provide an updated RFP estimated release date?

USAID Response: USAID anticipates the RFP will be released early December.

- b. Is USAID considering extending the current Clean Energy IDIQ to afford Missions and Operating Units (OUs) the opportunity to use the IDIQ to procure energy services?

USAID Response: USAID does not intend to extend the current Clean Energy IDIQ.

27. **E3:** Data and Evidence for Education Programs (DEEP)

- a. Can USAID please provide an update on the award mechanism?
- b. Will this activity be set aside for small businesses?
- c. Has USAID determined whether the Data and Evidence for Education Programs (DEEP) will be a full and open competition or whether it will be limited to small businesses?

USAID Response: USAID is currently working on the design of the Data and Evidence for Education Programs (DEEP) and has no additional information available at this time.

28. **E3:** Communications, Education, and Learn (CEL)

- a. The E3 Communications, Education, and Learning (CEL) item in the forecast is currently listed as due for release 11/1/17. Can USAID advise on a new expected release date or update to the forecast item?
- b. Can USAID please also provide an indication of the Award/Action Type for this opportunity which is still listed as TBD on the Business Forecast?
- c. Will this be a small business set aside?
- d. Will USAID proactively address any ambiguity for CEL implementers and partners regarding potential conflict of interest for downstream implementation activities that benefit from CEL's inputs?

USAID Response: USAID anticipates the solicitation will be released by November 30th, 2017. USAID anticipates the award to be a task order under GSA Schedules. The solicitation will be a small business set aside. USAID intends to address any potential conflicts of interest as soon as they may be identified in the course of work.

29. **E3:** Learning, Evaluation, and Analysis Project (LEAP III)

- a. Can USAID confirm what is the anticipated solicitation date for LEAP III? The date in the forecast is June 30, 2017.

USAID Response: USAID anticipates the solicitation will be released by December 8th, 2017.

30. **E3:** Sharing Environment and Energy Knowledge (SEEK)

- a. The E3 Sharing Environment and Energy Knowledge (SEEK) item has been removed from the forecast. A pre-solicitation for this procurement was released on 8/25/2017, but a cancellation notice has not been posted. Can USAID advise as to the status of the SEEK procurement?

USAID Response: Sharing Environment and Energy Knowledge (SEEK) is on the forecast anew (it was removed in error). USAID anticipates the solicitation will be released by the end of January 2018.

31. **E3:** Replace IDIQ

- a. What are USAID's current plans regarding a REPLACE IDIQ follow-on? The last update was there were no plans *at the time*, suggesting the decision may be revisited.

USAID Response: No additional information is available at this time.

32. **E3:** Public Financial Management II & Leadership for Public Financial Management (LPFM) RFTOP

- a. Per the forecast, the Leadership for Public Financial Management (LPFM) RFTOP will be released in mid-January. However, the PFM II IDIQ will not be awarded until late January. Does USAID expect to release LPFM before the award of PFM II?

- b. Can you please confirm the release dates?

USAID Response: The LPFM RFTOP will be released after award of the PFM II IDIQ. We are unable to confirm a specific release date at this time.

33. **E3:** WADI

- a. Given the recent public release of the new U.S. Government Global Water Strategy, does USAID anticipate a follow-on or successor to the Water and Development IDIQ (WADI)?

USAID Response: USAID does not have any information at this time regarding a follow-on to the Water and Development IDIQ.

34. **GH:** Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Activity

- a. Could USAID please provide an update on the timing of an anticipated award decision for the Multi-Sectoral Nutrition Activity?

USAID Response: We anticipate that the award will be finalized by April 2018.

35. **GH:** Control and Elimination Project for Neglected Tropical Diseases

- a. Is the anticipated solicitation release date still slated for January 22, 2018?
- b. Does USAID know yet the number of awards that will be granted for CEP-NTDs?
- c. Per the forecast, the CEP-NTDs opportunity is listed as 1 of 2. Does that mean that USAID will be issuing a second bid related to CEP-NTDs?
- d. Does USAID anticipate that implementing partners must be non-exclusive

USAID Response: USAID anticipates issuing a solicitation at the end of January and anticipates issuing 2 awards. Organizations may choose to apply for either one or both awards. Organizations that are being proposed as subs under prime awards may choose to apply for one or both awards. Organizations that are being proposed as subs are allowed to be included under more than one prime for the same award.

36. **GH:** Youth Power

- a. Does USAID anticipate a follow-on mechanism for the YouthPower extension? If yes, can USAID share guidance on a potential release date for this solicitation?

USAID Response: As noted in the J&A document that increased the ceiling for the YouthPower: Implementation IDIQ -- should a new global positive youth development mechanism be awarded in Year 4 or 5 of the current IDIQ, all new task order contracts or similar type buy-ins will be directed to the new mechanism. No additional information is available at this time.

- b. The ceiling for the Youth Power: Implementation IDIQ was recently increased to allow the potential for further Task Order Requests for Proposals into 2018 and

2019. The J&A document references total estimated costs for “intents to contract” and “task orders for critical activities”. Can USAID provide further details regarding the specific countries these TOs will cover?

USAID Response: This information was based on USAID’s best knowledge at the time of the ceiling increase. USAID missions will include task order details in their forecast plans, as applicable.

- c. The J&A document that increased the ceiling for the YouthPower: Implementation IDIQ discusses that the increase in ceiling is specifically for task orders that may be issued in Year 4, with an alternative mechanism in place for activities starting in 2019 and 2020. Can USAID please add this alternative mechanism to the forecast so that bidders may prepare?

USAID Response: USAID is currently discussing design options for an alternative mechanism, and no additional information available at this time.

37. **GH:** PMI new and expansion countries (Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Niger, Sierra Leone, and expansion in Burkina Faso)
 - a. Does PMI anticipate bilateral investments? If so, when should implementers look for such opportunities on the USAID Business Forecast?

USAID Response: USAID does not anticipate bilateral awards for PMI in the new/expansion countries at this time. Initial PMI investments for these countries will be programmed through Global Health Bureau awards that have malaria and appropriate geographic scope. Approved investment plans (country malaria operational plans) for all PMI countries can be found at www.pmi.gov.

38. **GH:** Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance
 - a. Can USAID update the release date for the Infectious Disease Detection and Surveillance solicitation under OASIS?
 - b. How is IDDS intended to work with the projects in the Emerging Pandemic Threats 2 (EPT2) program?

USAID Response: The RFP for IDDS has been posted to OASIS IDIQ holders on 11/27/2017.

IDDS activities will be developed and coordinated closely with key stakeholders involved in strengthening infectious disease detection and surveillance. These stakeholders include USAID partners implementing Emerging Pandemic Threat 2 (EPT-2), TB, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), and Global Health Security Agenda (GHSA), and other disease programs. USAID project management and country staff will continue to provide information and support to IDDS to partner with the relevant projects and stakeholders. USAID’s EPT-2 program purpose is to mitigate the impact of novel

zoonotic pathogens that have pandemic potential and pose a public health risk. The project has three main areas of emphasis: 1) wildlife surveillance, risk characterization, and risk mitigation; 2) preparedness and response; and 3) one health(OH) university network strengthening and workforce development. EPT-2's activities involved strengthen diagnostic and surveillance capacity and the work of IDDS will complement and not duplicate these activities. IDDS' geographic scope and disease focus is broader.

39. **GH:** Emerging Pandemic Threats Program

- a. Will USAID plan to re-compete the Emerging Pandemic Threats Program?
- b. If so, will it continue to be three awards as currently configured? What is the expected solicitation date?

USAID Response: USAID intends to continue to support activities to prevent, detect and respond to emerging infectious diseases and pandemics. There is no information to share at this early date. The number of awards has not yet been determined. Solicitations for any follow-on awards will be posted in time to begin implementation in September/October 2019.

40. **GH:** Project SOAR

- a. Does USAID plan to re-compete Project SOAR? What is the expected solicitation date?

USAID Response: We do plan to have a follow-on for Project SOAR. Our current timeline is to make the award before Sept 30, 2019, the anticipated solicitation release date will be updated as we near the end of FY18.

41. **GH:** Integrated Health Systems IDIQ

- a. Will the RFP include both the IDIQ and Task Order One or will there be two separate RFPs released? If so, when is the anticipated release date for Task Order One?
- b. What role do you see small businesses playing in this opportunity?
- c. Will this be a multi-award IDIQ or a single-award?
- d. How many large business awards and how many small business awards does USAID anticipate for the IDIQ?
- e. Does USAID intend to hold a pre-solicitation conference or release a draft scope of work?

USAID Response: This program is still early in design stage and the activity has not been approved yet. A subset of awards will be reserved for small business. It is planned to be a multi-award IDIQ. We anticipate approximately 5-6 awards, a couple of them will be reserved for small business. Currently we do not intend to hold any pre-solicitation conference or release a draft scope of work.

42. **GH:** Demographics and Health Surveys-8 (DHS-8)

- a. Currently listed anticipated solicitation release date is 11/20/2017 and award date is 8/30/2018. Can USAID share if there are any changes to this timeline?

USAID Response: The Business Forecast has been revised to reflect the new anticipated solicitation release date. Please continue to monitor the forecast and fbo.gov.

43. **The Lab:** Research Technical Assistance Center (RTAC)

- a. Can USAID confirm that, as described in RFI-OAA-17-000114 from USAID/LAB, the Research Technical Assistance Center (RTAC) is still forecast to be released in 2017?

USAID Response: The anticipated release date for this solicitation is early December. Once the solicitation is released, the Business Forecast listing will be updated to reflect this information.

44. **The Lab:** Global Development Alliance

- a. The current Global Development Alliance (GDA) Annual Program Statement (APS) closes in February 2018. The GDA is not listed in the forecast. Does USAID plan to issue a new GDA APS? Is there a reason why it is not currently listed in the Forecast?

USAID Response: At this time, the GDA APS has a current closing date of February 23, 2018. There are plans to extend it for another year through an extension to be issued sometime in December 2017 or January 2018. Please continue to monitor the Business Forecast for additional information.

Mission Business Forecast Questions

1. **Afghanistan:** Afghanistan Value Chain-Crops

- a. Could USAID please indicate whether it plans to issue an RFI or pre-solicitation notice in advance of solicitation release of the USAID/Afghanistan Value Chain-Crops opportunity?

USAID Response: RFI was released on March 15, 2017. There will not be a pre-solicitation noticed released prior to release of the solicitation.

- ### 2. **Afghanistan:** Is it still USAID's intention to release the Afghanistan Value Chain Crops and Value Chain Livestock procurements simultaneously? This would make it difficult for many bidders to consider pursuing both opportunities.

USAID Response: Yes, USAID Afghanistan plans to release both Value Chain livestock and Value Chain Crops Solicitations at the same time.

3. **Afghanistan:** Afghanistan Job Creations Program

- a. Has USAID requested any full proposals from the concept notes submitted thus far for the Afghanistan Jobs Creation Program (AJCP)? If so, how many proposals were requested, and have any been awarded?

USAID Response: USAID has proceeded to the Request for Full Application for Round 1 of the AJCP APS. The number of applications requested is procurement sensitive and cannot be disclosed. No awards have been made to date.

4. **Afghanistan:** Afghanistan Trade and Revenue Initiative (ATARI)

- a. Can you please confirm if this is cancelled and provide the reason for cancelling it?

USAID Response: The ATARI activity has been cancelled and will be removed from the Business Forecast after this current fiscal quarter. The current notes indicate cancellation. This was due to changes in OEG strategy.

5. **Bangladesh:** Read to Learn

- a. Does USAID plan to release a pre-solicitation or an RFI for the Read to Learn Activity?
- b. If so, would USAID please indicate an approximate timeframe for the pre-solicitation or RFI to aid in prospective bidders' planning and preparation?
- c. The purpose is to provide direct technical assistance to the Government of Bangladesh and its sector-wide Fourth Primary Education Development Program (PEDP4), as well as to schools and teachers. Will this include technical support for inclusive education, targeting children with disabilities and other marginalised groups?

- d. Will USAID/Bangladesh use a non-traditional mechanism (APS, BAA, etc) that includes some form of co-creation for this opportunity?

USAID Response: It is USAID's intent to release a pre-solicitation notice for this activity. The anticipated timeframe for release of a pre-solicitation notice is mid-February 2018. Yes, this will include technical support for inclusive education, targeting children with disabilities and other marginalised groups. Co-creation, or the use of a non traditional mechanism is not being considered.

6. Bangladesh: Promoting Advocacy and Rights Activity (PAR)

- a. Can USAID please confirm that the release date for the PAR Activity of December 4, 2017 is accurate?
- b. Does USAID still intend to release the RFI prior to the RFA/NOFO?
- c. Can USAID provide more information on the scope
- d. Does USAID plan to issue an EOI for the Bangladesh PAR Activity?
- e. Does USAID still anticipate a two-staged process for this opportunity involving an expression of interest phase from which select applicants will be invited to apply?
- f. Can USAID please clarify what the format of the EOI will be and what will be required at this stage?

USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation release date was revised in the Business Forecast to November 16th, in anticipation of the release of the Expression of Interest. The EOI was posted in Grants.gov on November 16th. There is no RFI associated with this solicitation or activity. Information on the scope of the activity is included in the Notice of Expressions of Interest and will be further explained in the NOFO. The EOI was issued on November 16, 2017, and closed on November 27, 2017. All eligible organizations submitting an expression of interest will receive the NOFO. Expressions of Interest were requested via email, providing organization name and address, type of organization, point of contact name, telephone, email address, information on potential partners, and NGO Affairs Bureau registration status.

7. Benin: Private Sector Health Partnership:

- a. Does USAID still intend to release this activity on 12/08/2017?

USAID Response: The solicitation was issued on November 27, 2017

8. Benin: New Integrated RH/MCH/Malaria Activities

- a. Could USAID please confirm that the anticipated solicitation release date of 12/18/2017 is still accurate?
- b. Will there be a pre-solicitation for release or bidders' conference?
- c. Can USAID kindly share more information on the proposed program description, including the expected level of effort within RH, MCH, and Malaria?

- d. Can USAID please specify/clarify if this Integrated opportunity will be working through/implementing on behalf of the Ministry of Health?
- e. Can USAID please share any information on the geographic focus of this project?
- f. Can USAID share an award description that defines the intended project outcomes?

USAID Response: The revised anticipated solicitation posting date is January 26, 2018. No, there will not be a pre-solicitation or bidders' conference. USAID does not have an LOE distribution for program areas to share at this time. This activity will work collaboratively with the Ministry of Health. USAID is not able to share the geographic focus of this activity at this time. USAID is not able to share an award description that defines intended outcomes at this time.

- 9. Burkina Faso:** Does USAID anticipate any Feed the Future or other opportunities to be released in 2018?

USAID Response: No, we do not.

- 10. Burma:** Does USAID anticipate any procurements coming out of the USAID/Burma mission and/or anything planned for FY18?

USAID Response: USAID/Burma is in the process of procurement planning and updates to the Business Forecast will begin the week of December 4th for FY18 procurements. Please check the Business Forecast in the coming weeks.

- 11. Cambodia:** Greening Prey Lang

- a. When will Cambodia Greening Prey Lang be awarded?

USAID Response: We are completing the technical review of all proposals for this procurement at this time. Please monitor www.FBO.gov for updates.

- 12. Cameroon:** Can USAID confirm whether there will be any Cameroon-specific opportunities in the next few quarters? If so, can USAID please share what sector/focus?

USAID Response: We cannot confirm whether there will be Cameroon procurements for FY 2018 at this time. USAID/West Africa will update the business forecast with any Cameroon activities when we have more specific information.

- 13. Central Asia:** Evaluation Mechanism

- a. Will the competition be full and open?
- b. Will it be a SB set aside?
- c. Will it be a single or multi holder IDIQ?

- d. Will it be issued under the M&E IDIQ
- e. What is the anticipated release date?
- f. Does USAID have any further information about this opportunity?

USAID Response: This RFP will be advertised on fbo.gov as a total small business set aside. It will be a single-holder IDIQ. No, this solicitation will be an RFP issued on fbo.gov. The anticipated release date is January 15, 2017. USAID/Central Asia will post a pre-solicitation notice shortly with additional information.

14. Cote d'Ivoire: Political Transition and Inclusion in Cote d'Ivoire

- a. Can USAID confirm the Anticipated Solicitation Release Date for the Political Transition and Inclusion program in Cote d'Ivoire (which currently shows 11/15/2017)?
- b. Does USAID anticipate a program with national geographic coverage?
- c. Is this program a follow on to a current or past USAID-funded program in Côte d'Ivoire?
- d. Would this program involve programming for local elections in 2018 and/or national general elections in 2020?
- e. Does USAID anticipate that additional funding would become available to support the 2020 elections closer to that time?

USAID Response: Solicitation No. 720624RFA00001 was released on Grants.gov on 11/17/2017 with a closing date of applications submission set for 01/04/2018. The project will be implemented at the local, national and regional level. Please refer to the referenced Solicitation for more details. No. This is not a follow on to a current or past program. Please refer to the referenced Solicitation for more details on PTI. At this time, USAID's planned support is for the national general elections for 2020. Anticipated funding cannot be determined at this time.

15. Democratic Republic of Congo: Social and Behavior Change

- a. Can you please provide an updated solicitation release date?
- b. Will this opportunity be released as an RFA or be released under the Break through Action?
- c. Can USAID confirm the length of award?
- d. Given the political unrest in the Democratic Republic of Congo, can USAID confirm that the forecasted opportunities will be released?
- e. Can USAID provide any information about which provinces will be targeted for this activity?

USAID Response: The Social and Behavior Change activity is a pre-competed field-support mechanism and has been removed from the Business Forecast.

16. Democratic Republic of Congo: USAID Environmental Policy and Capacity Support Activity

- a. Can USAID share further information about the technical scope of this activity?

USAID Response: This activity will build capacity for local, national and regional civil society, private sector and governments to identify, prioritize and pursue policy goals and actions that result in biodiversity conservation and reduced deforestation in countries of Central Africa. In addition, this contract will build strong links between policy, capacity and landscape activities among a broad range of partners, including local and private sector partners and establish or strengthen models that address threats to biodiversity at a large scale. To aid in establishment of leadership opportunities among local partners and complement the capacity-building objectives, this contract may include a small grants component.

17. Democratic Republic of Congo: Responsible Mineral Trade (RMT)

- a. Can USAID please confirm if RMT will be openly competed?
- b. Will USAID be issuing another RFI based on the feedback received?
- c. Is USAID anticipating Gold, 3Ts or both as the primary focus?
- d. Can USAID please share the anticipated total estimated cost range?
- e. Can USAID please confirm the expected release date?
- f. If an organization partakes in the planned co-creation event, does that preclude them from bidding?
- g. Can USAID please confirm if you intend to issue one or multiple awards?

USAID Response: USAID confirms that RMT will be a full and open competition. The expected release date is January 2018. USAID may release an additional RFI in the future. Should an organization be selected to participate in the co-creation, then they will be able to submit an application. The activity is currently in the project design stage and does not have more specific details.

18. East Africa: East Africa Regional Environment Strategy

- a. In August, USAID posted a pre-solicitation on FBO.gov related to the USAID East Africa Regional Environment Strategy (SOL-623-17-000023), however there is no related entry on the FY18 Q1 Forecast. Is USAID intending to issue a regional environmental RFP?

USAID Response: USAID/KEA does not intend to issue a solicitation directly resulting from the subject RFI at this time. Any changes to this position will be reflected in updates to the Business Forecast.

19. Egypt: Trade Reform and Development in Egypt (TRADE)

- a. Does USAID anticipate any delays to the release of the Trade Reform and Development in Egypt (TRADE) solicitation (previously posted as RFI-263-17-00007). If so, what is the anticipated solicitation release date?

USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation release date for TRADE has been revised to January 15, 2018.

20. Egypt: Egypt Value Added Solutions (EVAS)

- a. Would USAID please confirm that the anticipated release date is 11/30/2017?

USAID Response: USAID/Egypt has revised the anticipated release date of EVAS to December 27, 2017.

21. Egypt: Centers of Excellence

- a. Does the Mission plan to release a pre-solicitation?
- b. Will the Mission please confirm the anticipated solicitation release date as 1/05/2018?

USAID Response: USAID/Egypt is still determining whether a pre-solicitation will be released. Additionally, USAID/Egypt is reviewing which award instrument will be most appropriate for this activity, and as such the anticipated release date for this solicitation is still being determined.

22. Egypt: STEM Teacher Education and School Strengthening Activity (STESSA)

- a. It is no longer listed in the forecast this quarter. Is USAID still planning this activity?

USAID Response: Yes; USAID is still planning this activity, however the solicitation has already been released and proposals have been received, and this activity is now in the Evaluation process. Therefore, this activity was removed from the forecast.

23. El Salvador: Regional Integrated Trade

- a. Can you please provide an update on the timing for release of this activity?
- b. Confirm whether this will be a follow-on to the USAID Regional Trade and Market Alliances Project, which focused on agricultural value chains?

USAID Response: The RFP was posted to FBO.gov on 11/14/17, and proposals are due on 1/19/18. Please see the RFP for questions regarding the technical nature/specifications of the activity.

24. El Salvador: New Child Protection Activity

- a. Can USAID please provide information on whether this activity is expected to be procured as assistance, or as an acquisition?

USAID Response: We do not have information on the choice of instrument at this time.

25. Ethiopia: Supporting the Electronic Information Systems in Ethiopia to Improve Health Outcomes

- a. Will Supporting the Electronic Information Systems in Ethiopia to Improve Health Outcomes (previously posted as RFI: AID-663-RFI-17-00001) be added to the Business Forecast? What is the anticipated value of this opportunity? What is the anticipated solicitation release date?

USAID Response: We have no further information to share at this time.

26. Ethiopia: Green Growth

- a. USAID previously released a pre-RFP for an opportunity called Ethiopia Green Growth, though it is now off the forecast. Can USAID confirm that they no longer intend to procure this opportunity?

USAID Response: There are no current plans to for any solicitation in this area.

27. Ethiopia: Pastoralists Areas Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion (PRIME)

- a. There is no mention in the forecast of the second phase of the Ethiopia Pastoralists Areas Resilience Improvement and Market Expansion (PRIME) activity. We are aware that USAID/Ethiopia is in the process of designing the second phase of the program and would appreciate any information regarding anticipated release date, funding level, duration, etc.

USAID Response: We have no further information to share at this time.

28. Ethiopia: MULU/Worksite (MULU II) End-line Evaluation

- a. Please advise from which IDIQ/IQC this Task Order will be procured from?

USAID Response: This is being competed openly as a commercial item.

29. Georgia: Economic Security Activity

- a. From the FY2017 Q4 Business Forecast Q&A, USAID stated that the anticipated timing of the RFP release for the Georgia Economic Security contract is Q1 or Q 2 of FY 2018; however, the business forecast still states a release date of 11/28/2017. Could USAID kindly provide an update on the anticipated timing of release?
- b. Could USAID kindly provide an award description for the Georgia Economic Security contract?
- c. Does USAID intend to release a pre-solicitation notice for the Georgia Economic Security contract?
- d. Does this activity intend to include agricultural value chains?
- e. Is this intended to be a follow-on project?

USAID Response: The release date of the RFP is revised to reflect the revised anticipated release date of Feb 28, 2018; we have updated the forecast accordingly. USAID is still in the process of designing the activity and it will be posted to FBO once a

solicitation has been finalized. The Mission has issued the Georgia Economic Security-Request for Information (RFI-114-17-000001) on Feb 22, 2017. The presolicitation notice will be issued in mid February 2018. The general description of the requirement is in the forecast and is provided in the RFI, issued on Feb 22, 2017 posted on www.fbo.gov. Value Chains could be one of the possible approaches, as mentioned in the RFI. This will be a new activity, a full and open competitive contract.

30. Ghana: Are any upcoming Feed the Future or agricultural procurements anticipated for Ghana in 2018?

USAID Response: USAID/Ghana is in the midst of developing its country development cooperation strategy for 2018. After solidified, the upcoming opportunities will be posted in the USAID Business Forecast.

31. Ghana: Energy Development Program (GEDP)

- a. Will the Ghana Energy Development Program (GEDP) be released as a full and open opportunity?
- b. Is this a follow-on activity?
- c. Can USAID indicate which mechanism they intend to procure the this through since the opportunity is listed as a Task Order?
- d. Will this be just one award or multiple awards?
- e. Who are the current holders of the IDIQ?

USAID Response: The acquisition strategy for the Energy Development Program is still being developed. Once defined, the USAID Business Forecast will be updated accordingly.

32. Ghana: Peace through Learning, Evaluation, and Adapting Activity (PELA)

- a. Does USAID still expect this activity to be released on November 30, 2017?
- b. What is the research focus for the "Peace through Learning, Evaluation, and Adapting Activity" in Ghana, is it focused on assessing the impact of USAID's current portfolio and/or external programs?
- c. Will current CVE implementers be encouraged to apply, or would there be a conflict of interest?

USAID Response: As noted in the last two Business Forecasts, the Mission considered issuing the contract under the EVAL-ME IDIQ, and the IDIQ holders have been contacted accordingly through the fair opportunity process. The focus of the PELA activity is to support the Mission to be a more effective, efficient, and adaptable operating unit in achieving the development objective of strengthening systems of nonviolent conflict management in West Africa, and strengthen the USAID/West Africa's effectiveness implementing its projects; coordinating its activities; learning from its experiences; and serving as an information, communication, and thought leader regarding peace promotion and countering violent extremism (CVE) in West

Africa region. Only EVAL-ME IDIQ holders are considered to submit proposals for the activity.

33. Ghana: Ag. Development & Value Chain Enhancement III (ADVANCE III)

- a. When does USAID anticipate releasing information on this activity?

USAID Response: USAID/Ghana is in the midst of developing its country development cooperation strategy for 2018. After solidified, the upcoming opportunities will be posted in the USAID Business Forecast.

34. Guatemala: MCH, Nutrition and FP

- a. Could USAID please confirm that the anticipated solicitation release date of 2/15/2018?
- b. Could USAID please provide additional information on the Guatemala Nutrition, MCH and Family Planning forecasted opportunity?
- c. What is the award description? Is this opportunity a continuation to an existing project? If so, could USAID indicate which project and who is the incumbent?
- d. For the Guatemala MCH, Nutrition and FP activity, we know the MOH has prioritized a package of nine essential nutrition-specific and nutrition-sensitive interventions that need to be implemented at scale to achieve the GoG goal of a 10 percentage point reduction in stunting by 2020. Does USAID intend for this activity to address stunting via all of these nine interventions? If not, what is the scope of this specific activity related to nutrition?
- e. Will this project have more of a focus at the facilities level? Or the community level?
- f. Is USAID considering releasing a draft RFA or an RFI related to this project? If so, what would be the expected release date?
- g. Is there an incumbent for this program or is this a new program?

USAID Response: Yes, the anticipated solicitation release date continues to be the same. The activity will strengthen national government policies, their implementation at the local level, and health systems to expand access to improved nutrition and health services and encourage normative changes at the community level to increase uptake of healthy behaviors. It is a new activity. More details will be provided when USAID/Guatemala publishes the RFA. The project will have a focus on the facilities and community level. No, USAID is not considering in releasing a draft RFA or an RFI for this activity. This is a new program.

35. Guatemala: Guatemala National Institution Strengthening for Accountable Governance

- a. The anticipated solicitation date for Guatemala NIS is 01/05/2018. The solicitation date for this project has been delayed several times. Has the scope of the project changed significantly from the draft Section C that was released in April 2017?

- b. It is our understanding that this procurement was scheduled to be released as a task order under the PFM IDIQ. Can USAID please confirm whether it intends to proceed with procurement of this activity?
- c. Could USAID please confirm that the PFM TO held by DAI is considered the predecessor project to NIS? Will these projects operate concurrently and if so, what does USAID anticipate will be the distinction in focus of each project.
- d. USAID currently lists the Total Estimated Cost/Amount Range as \$25MM to 49.99MM. Has USAID further narrowed the anticipated cost range?
- e. Does USAID anticipate releasing a revised draft Scope of Work for the Guatemala National Institution Strengthening for Accountable Governance project prior to the RFP's release?

USAID Response: The draft SOW has changed. We do not describe the changes as significant. The anticipated date to issue solicitation is: o/a mid January. USAID intends to carry out a full and open competition process for this Contract. The PFM TO held by DAI is considered the predecessor project to NIS. These projects will operate concurrently for an as yet undetermined period of time. The draft NIS SOW remains distinct from the TO in that it covers more areas and partners with more GOG institutions. This procurement falls within the range on the Forecast..

36. Guatemala: Reaching and Linking with Key Populations

- a. Is this a follow on project?
- b. Is this is a Regional project? If so, which countries will this include?

USAID Response: This is a new activity/project. Yes, this is a Regional activity/project. It includes the countries of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama.

37. Guatemala: Sustainable Forest Management and Water Activity

- a. Through what mechanism will this activity be released?
- b. When does the Mission expect to release it?

USAID Response: The Mission is still working on the choice of instrument and does not yet have an answer to this question. The Mission expects to release the RFA/RFP by the third quarter of FY 2018.

38. Haiti: Is USAID planning agricultural procurement(s) during FY 18? If so, can you please estimate the timeframe for the project to be published in the forecast and estimated RFP release date?

USAID Response: USAID is planning to begin the design of a new agricultural project in late Spring 2018, an estimated date. Once the planning begins, it should appear on the Business Forecast. There is no anticipated RFP release date at this time.

39. Haiti: Improving Governance in Haiti (IGHI)

- a. In June 2017, a Request for Information came out for the Haiti IGHI project. This project has not been added to the Forecast yet. Does USAID still plan to release an RFP?
- b. What is anticipated solicitation release date?
- c. What is the anticipated mechanism?

USAID Response: Yes, it is going to be a full and open RFP. The anticipated solicitation release date is February 20, 2018. The anticipated mechanism is a Contract.

40. Haiti: Platform for Investment Mobilization

- a. What is the anticipated solicitation release date?
- b. This opportunity has moved, over the course of 2017, from cooperative agreement to TBD. What is the award/action type?
- c. We had suggested this as a small business project via email to the Mission and OSDBU; what was the outcome of this request?

USAID Response: The solicitation should be released before the end of calendar year 2017. A contract is considered for the type of A&A instrument. A final decision has not yet been made if this will be a small business activity.

41. Haiti: Youth Civic Engagement

- a. In September 2017, a \$10M - \$24.99M Haiti Youth Civic Engagement opportunity was listed in the forecast for release on September 13, 2017, but this solicitation subsequently disappeared from future forecasts. Can USAID confirm if it will release a solicitation focused on enhancing Haitian youths' civic engagement and community leadership in the coming months?
- b. Has USAID advanced enough with the design of this opportunity to include it on the forecast? If so, would USAID please add details regarding the description, timing, value, and mechanism?

USAID Response: The technical team decided to use a LWA for this opportunity in early September 2017.

42. Honduras: Tertiary Prevention

- a. Can you please confirm the release date of 12/31/2017?
- b. Can USAID please confirm this anticipated award date (or update accordingly, as 1/30/18 does not seem feasible)?
- c. Is there an incumbent for this activity?

USAID Response: USAID/Honduras still anticipates a release on or about 12/31/2017. USAID/Honduras acknowledges that 1/30/2018 is not feasible and will update the date in the forecast. This is a new activity, there is no incumbent.

43. Indonesia: ASEAN Economic Integration Support Activity

- a. The current release date for the ASEAN Economic Integration Support Activity is December 5. Can USAID verify the current release date?
- b. Will this project be issued as a TO under the PFM II IDIQ? If so, will it be issued as a small business reserve under that IDIQ?

USAID Response: USAID/Indonesia confirms that it anticipates releasing the solicitation for the activity preliminary titled “IGNITE: Inclusive Growth in ASEAN through Innovation, Trade and E-Commerce” in early January 2018. For additional information regarding this anticipated activity, please see the Request For Information released on November 17, 2017, under Reference No. AID-497-RFI-18-000002 at fbo.gov.

44. Indonesia: Microenterprise

- a. The anticipated release date for this solicitation is 4/24/2018 and the award/action type is TBD. Can USAID update the award/action type?

USAID Response: USAID/Indonesia has not identified a “Microenterprise” activity on its A&A Plan and therefore does not have any information regarding this inquiry.

45. Indonesia: HEA-TB Private Sector Activity

- a. The mechanism is listed as TBD. Do you know the mechanism? If not, do you know when it will be decided?

USAID Response: USAID/Indonesia has not made a final determination on the choice of instrument for the TB Private Sector Activity; however such a determination is expected by the end of December 2017.

46. Indonesia: Harmoni: Towards Inclusion and Resilience

- a. Can USAID please advise on when the anticipated release date for this activity is, and whether or not USAID has completed the project design?
- b. Will USAID clarify whether the 12/5/2017 anticipated release date is accurate?

USAID Response: USAID/Indonesia anticipates the release of a Request for Applications (RFA) in mid December 2017.

- 47. Jordan:** Does USAID/Jordan expect to be releasing RFPs or RFAs focused on technical assistance rather than construction in FY18? The question is related to procurement notices that periodically appear in the forecast and then disappear a few months later.

USAID Response: Yes, the Mission does. When we can more accurately predict the quarter during which the solicitations will be released, we will update the forecast with that information.

48. Jordan: New Competitiveness Project

- a. Does USAID anticipate including refugees in the populations to be served by this project?

USAID Response: Yes, we will include refugees in the population served.

- 49. Jordan:** Are there any plans to issue any CVE opportunities in Jordan in 2018? If so, when do you anticipate them being released, and what are USAID's primary interests and goals?

USAID Response: The Mission has no plans for any CVE-related procurement in 2018.

- 50. Jordan:** Is the Mission planning a new workforce development activity? If yes, what will be the focus of the activity?

USAID Response: No, we are not planning workforce development activities.

- 51. Kenya:** Kenya Strategic Information at the County Level Program

- a. The anticipated award date was 10/31/2017. Can USAID provide an updated award date?

USAID Response: The anticipated award date has been updated in the Business Forecast to 2/27/2017. Please continue to the Business Forecast for any future changes.

- 52. Kenya:** TB Opportunity

- a. Could USAID please provide an update on the Kenya TB opportunity mentioned in the FY 2017 Q3 Q&A (Accelerating Response & Care – ARC), but not yet included in the forecast?

USAID Response: This activity has been added to the Business Forecast. The solicitation is anticipated to be released in Quarter 2 of FY18.

- 53. Kosovo:** Local Effective Governance (LEGO)

- a. Given that the Kosovo Local Effective Governance (LEGO) project was already awarded, why is it appearing on the Business Forecast again with an anticipated award date of February 2018 and as a new opportunity?

USAID Response: LEGO is still in the procurement process. The information on the Business Forecast is correct with projected award date of February 2018.

- 54. Kyrgyz Republic:** AgroHorizons

- a. Does the Mission intend to procure another agriculture project to follow-on to AgroHorizons?

USAID Response: USAID/Kyrgyz Republic does not intend to procure a new agriculture activity to follow-on to AgroHorizons during the current fiscal year.

55. Kyrgyz Republic: Enterprise Competitiveness Project

- a. Could USAID/Kyrgyz Republic please advise whether the “Enterprise Competitiveness Project” is a follow-on to any certain project?
- b. Are there any agricultural components anticipated?
- c. Does USAID plan to issue a pre-solicitation or RFI for this opportunity?
- d. Is the anticipated release date listed in the forecast (1/15/2018) accurate in light of the recently announced extension to the BGI Project?

USAID Response: The USAID/Kyrgyz Republic Enterprise Competitiveness Project is not a follow-on to a specific USAID project, but will build on the achieved outcomes and learned lessons of previous projects. The Project is not focused on specific sectors and does not have a specific agriculture component. USAID previously issued an RFI on September 14, 2016 as SOL-176-16-000011 with the title Enterprise Development Project. The responses informed the design of the current version of the Enterprise Competitiveness Project. USAID will issue a pre-solicitation notice for the Enterprise Competitiveness Project in December 2017. Yes, the anticipated release date in the forecast is accurate. The Enterprise Development Project is not a follow-on to BGI.

56. Laos: Microenterprise

- a. Can you please advise which type of agricultural value chains will be targeted in the “Laos Microenterprise” activity?

USAID Response: USAID/RDMA is currently at the early stage of designing the Lao Microenterprise activity and specific value chains have not been identified. USAID released a request for information (RFI) related to this solicitation on Nov. 7, 2017 seeking information to help inform the design of this activity. The Mission is considering responses received to the RFI and is continuing with the activity design.

57. Laos: Trade and Investment

- a. Could USAID please advise whether this will include an agricultural component?
- b. Will this procurement be tendered under the PFM II IDIQ? If so, will it be issued as a small business reserve under that IDIQ?

USAID Response: USAID/RDMA is in the design process of this activity and so the decision to include an agricultural component has yet to be determined. Final determination of the most appropriate implementing mechanism for the Trade and Investment activity has yet to be made.

58. Laos: Rule of Law

- a. Could USAID clarify if this will be an openly competed solicitation or will be this routed through an existing IDIQ?

- b. If it will be openly competed, what is the anticipated choice of instrument?

USAID Response: USAID/RDMA anticipates a full and open competition for the Rule of Law activity. Final determination of the most appropriate instrument type for the Rule of Law activity has yet to be made.

- 59. Lesotho:** Does USAID/Lesotho have a HIV combination prevention project in its forecast? If so, what is the anticipated release date?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID/Lesotho will include a HIV combination prevention and orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) program in its forecast. The anticipated solicitation release date is o/a February 2018.

- 60. Liberia:** Is the Mission planning a new youth-focused activity? If yes, what will be the technical focus of the activity?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID/Liberia is in the early design phase for a youth-focused activity. It will be cross-cutting, likely to include Education, Health, Economic Growth and Democracy & Governance. The technical areas may include post-secondary institutional capacity building (TVET) and employment generation - investment in value-added businesses.

- 61. Madagascar:** Accessible Continuum of Care and Essential Services Sustained (ACCESS) - (Mikolo Follow-on)

- a. Could USAID please provide an updated anticipated solicitation release date and award date?

USAID Response: A Notice of Funding Opportunity is anticipated to be released end-January, 2018. A resulting award is expected mid-June, 2018.

- 62. Madagascar:** Hay Tao

- a. Can USAID please provide an update on the anticipated award date of the Madagascar Hay Tao opportunity? Proposals were due October 31, 2016 and applicants are awaiting notification of award.

USAID Response: An award is anticipated on or around February 2018.

- 63. Madagascar:** Improving Market Partnerships and Access to Commodities Together (IMPACT)

- a. What is the anticipated solicitation release date?
b. What is the anticipated mechanism?

USAID Response: Approximately January 2018. It is anticipated that this will be a Cooperative Agreement

64. Malawi: National Technical Assistance Support

- a. This activity was on the forecast last quarter, but it is now missing from the forecast. Can USAID confirm whether it is still expected to come out?

USAID Response: This activity has been removed from the forecast in its entirety.

65. Malawi: Disability Activity

- a. Does USAID/Malawi expect to compete this opportunity through a traditional RFA and full technical applications, or is there a chance a different multi-stage approach may be used?
- b. Can USAID/Malawi provide additional details about any specific disabilities (e.g., blindness, deafness, dyslexia, etc.) or general disability categories (e.g., intellectual disability, specific learning disability, emotional disturbance, orthopedic impairment, etc.) intended to receive focused attention as part of the Malawi Disability Activity?
- c. In a recent opportunity of similar size and scope for Nepal, USAID requested a Program Manager, instead of a COP, to lead the program. The requirements for the Program Manager were more conducive to local hiring. Does USAID/Malawi expect that to similarly consider this factor when designating Key Personnel for this opportunity, to encourage local leadership?
- d. Does USAID Malawi expect this opportunity to target children with specific types of disabilities, or all types, including hidden disabilities such as language processing impairments and dyslexia?
- e. Does USAID expect this opportunity will have an an exclusive focus on the early grades, or may it also include a focus on the pre-primary level?

USAID Response: This activity will be procured through an IDIQ mechanism. The activity will be primarily focus on the visually impaired/blind, the hearing impaired/deaf and learning difficulties (which includes all other forms of disabilities, i.e. intellectual, learning, emotional, and orthopedic and dyslexia). It will focus on young children and especially girls grades one to four who are failing to progress in their schooling because they have visual, hearing, learning, etc. disabilities. It will not include a focus on pre-primary level. Yes, USAID/Malawi expects to similarly consider this factor when designating Key Personnel for this opportunity, to encourage local leadership

66. Malawi: Higher Education

- a. Will the Mission please provide more information about the scope of the activity?
- b. Does the term “higher education” refer to secondary, vocational or tertiary/university level education?
- c. Can the Mission provide more information on the anticipated targeted beneficiaries?

- d. Does the Mission plan to release a pre-solicitation or request for information?
- e. Will the Mission please confirm the anticipated solicitation release date as 12/15/2017?
- f. Can USAID/Malawi please confirm if the focus of this higher education award will focus on tertiary-level institutions and transition from secondary to tertiary level?

USAID Response: The USAID/Malawi higher education activity will complement existing Mission programming and priorities by focusing on improving higher education access and transition rates of vulnerable adolescent girls and young women (AGYW). The intervention will increase the opportunities of AGYW to attend university or pursue open and distance learning certificate, diploma, and degree programs and focus on high-demand employment subjects and training programs for increased economic impact. Support for shorter term post-secondary training programs will focus on high growth sectors and take into account the needs of Malawian employers or opportunities for self-employment. This will inform ways to support internships and other on-the-job training partnerships, particularly with private companies and local business leaders. Activity results will achieve the goals of increasing equitable access to higher education especially for vulnerable populations, strengthening higher education systems, linking education training to labor market and private sector needs, and improving the employment and business skills of youth so that they are better able to contribute to the economic growth of the country.

Higher Education is referring to post-secondary education whether vocational or tertiary leading to award of a certificate, diploma, or degree.

The program will provide equal access for both boys and girls who qualify or are eligible for higher education programs, however special attention will be given to adolescent girls and young women who progress from primary to secondary school by increasing the opportunity for transition into higher education.

Yes. It will focus on tertiary level institutions and the transition from secondary to tertiary level.

The solicitation release date is planned to be early 2018. The Mission plans to release a pre-solicitation notice.

67. Malawi: Scale up VMMC Services

- a. Is there an incumbent?
- b. Under which mechanism will the TO/DO be released?
- c. Will competition be limited in any way – to small business or to local entities, for instance?
- d. The forecast states that this solicitation will be released as a Task Order, could USAID provide the mechanism that the mission will utilize for this procurement?

- e. Could USAID confirm if the anticipated Scale-up VMMC Services in Malawi as an HIV Prevention Strategy in Select Southern Malawi Districts

USAID Response: The activity is currently at the design stage. It is anticipated to be released under the Technical Assistance Support Contract 4 Africa (TASC4AFRICA) IDIQ. Confirm that the anticipated Scale-up VMMC Services in Malawi as an HIV Prevention Strategy in Select Southern Malawi Districts

- 68. Mali:** Does USAID anticipate procuring additional cereal and livestock value chain projects in Mali to follow-on to the existing projects?

USAID Response: USAID/Mali is currently working on its Global Food Security Strategy, which has not yet been approved.

- 69. Moldova:** Power Generation Feasibility Study

- a. We note that this is only \$1-4M over three years and it's listed as a contract. We believe this could be a small business opportunity as there are several small businesses with energy and power past performance. Would the Mission consider making this a small business opportunity?
- b. Can USAID please provide more details on the anticipated statement of work (SOW) for the Moldova Power Generation Feasibility Study?

USAID Response: The purpose of the Feasibility Study is to review the feasibility of investment in local heat and power generation to improve the energy supply security and thus ensure conditions for economic development of Moldova. The mission has determined this action will be fully competitive due to the complexity of this highly specialized activity, including the need to have expertise in multiple highly technical areas specifically related to power generation. Small businesses are highly encouraged to submit proposals.

- 70. Morocco:** PAD Evaluation

- a. Due to size (under \$1 mil) and scope of the USAID Morocco PAD Evaluation opportunity, will this be solicited as Small Business Set Aside (SBSA) or under IDIQ as an SBSA?

USAID Response: USAID/Morocco is planning on releasing the solicitation under a full and open competition solicitation method. Before that happens, USAID/Morocco has issued a Request for Information (RFI) to solicit feedback from stakeholders on the statement of work and will adjust our solicitation accordingly.

- 71. Mozambique:** Currently, there is only one opportunity on the forecast for Mozambique. Can USAID indicate if there are plans to add funding opportunities for Mozambique in 2018?

USAID Response: At this time USAID/Mozambique only plans to issue the ECHO. The A&A plan has been updated.

72. Mozambique: Efficiencies for Clinical HIV Outcomes Activity (ECHO)

- a. The latest forecast indicates the anticipated solicitation release date for the Mozambique Efficiencies for Clinical HIV Outcomes Activity (ECHO) is January 15, 2018 although the anticipated award date is not until January 28, 2019. Can USAID please confirm the anticipated solicitation release date is accurate?
- b. Could USAID indicate if it will release an updated RFI or other pre-solicitation material before releasing the RFP?

USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation release date is January 15, 2018. USAID will issue pre-solicitation material before releasing the RFP.

73. Namibia: DREAMS Initiative

- a. An RFI was released for the Namibia DREAMS Initiative, but it has not yet been included in the Business Forecast live feed. Could USAID please provide further information on the anticipated release date?
- b. Will the opportunity be limited to local organizations?

USAID Response: The anticipated release date is December/January. This opportunity will be limited to local organizations.

74. Nepal: Local Governance Project/Support to Federalization

- a. For the Nepal Local Governance Project/Support to Federalization opportunity, does USAID anticipate issuing a pre-solicitation or a Request for Information (RFI) prior to the release of the RFP?
- b. Recognizing USAID's commitment to 20 core districts in the middle hills and Terai portions of Nepal's Far-Western, Mid-Western, and Western Development Regions, can the Mission please specify whether it anticipates broad assistance across all of the targeted regions, or more focused assistance to a smaller number of municipalities? If the latter, is the Mission able to provide guidance as to the targeted regions?
- c. Please confirm the forecasted release date for the Local Governance Project/Support to Federalization solicitation (1/18/2018) is accurate.

USAID Response: USAID/Nepal anticipates issuing a Request for Information (RFI) prior to the release of the RFP. USAID/Nepal anticipates a February 09, 2018 solicitation release date. USAID/Nepal will likely focus on working in approximately 20 to 30 target municipalities in the Mission's zone of influence, but have space to work at the provincial and national levels at the policy level.

75. Nepal: Social Services for AIDS-affected Orphans, Vulnerable Children and Adolescents

- a. Can USAID please confirm if they intend to issue one or multiple awards?

- b. Can USAID please share the geographic areas of the intervention?

USAID Response: This not a planned activity for Nepal.

- 76. Nepal:** Per USAID FY17 Qtr 4 Business Forecast Q&As #99, USAID indicated that a "new inclusive education activity is under design" for USAID/Nepal. Can you please provide any additional updates regarding this opportunity and indicate the anticipated timeframe?

USAID Response: USAID/Nepal issued the Reading for All: Disability Inclusive Education for Nepali Children Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) No. RFA-367-17-000009 to Grants.gov on September 26, 2017. However, October 25, 2017 was the concept paper submission deadline. The Mission has updated its A&A plan with additional information accordingly.

- 77. Nicaragua:** Ideas Locales

- a. Can you please confirm the release date of 12/15/17 and anticipated award date of 9/28/18?
- b. The USAID Business Forecast page says this will be evaluated for impact. Assuming this evaluation will inform program design, when will this evaluation take place and what will be the process of securing a copy of this evaluation?
- c. Can USAID share additional information on the differences between this forecasted opportunity and the USAID/Nicaragua Lifting Nicaraguan Voices opportunity from earlier this year?

USAID Response: At present, we project the RFP to be released by 12/15/17, and the award to be made by 8/22/18.

The Impact Evaluation team for Ideas Locales will not conduct a typical evaluation, which often focuses solely on informing programming. Instead, the IE team is working together with program designers to co-create an evaluation that can respond to high-level research questions. The IE will take place in conjunction with the activity from the date of award through the base period, and possibly the option period should USAID choose to exercise it. The implementing partner will receive a copy of the base period evaluation as soon as it is complete, ideally within 6-8 months of the completion of the endline data collection of the base period. Should USAID exercise the option period and determine it wants to continue the IE, the implementing partner will receive a copy the option period evaluation as soon as it is complete, ideally within 6-8 months of the completion of the endline data collection of the base period.

Lifting Nicaraguan Voices supports Civil Society Organizations, whereas Ideas Locales supports communities to organize, identify issues facing their communities, and advocate at the municipal level for the government to address those issues.

78. Niger: DFSA FY18

- a. Can USAID please share any information available about the estimated timeline for the draft or final RFA expected release date?

USAID Response: The RFA was released November 27, 2017. Comments are due January 11, 2018.

79. Nigeria: Timing of Solicitations

- a. The forecast currently lists 5 opportunities for Nigeria to be released in the December 11-18 timeframe. Could USAID please clarify which of these are the priority for release?
- b. Given the forecast lists 5 opportunities for Nigeria to be released in December, how does USAID plan to accommodate the December holiday period when most offices in Nigeria are closed, including government which is a key design stakeholder?

USAID Response: USAID/Nigeria has updated the Forecast to accommodate for the December holiday period.

80. Nigeria: Rural Resilience

- a. Does USAID anticipate releasing a draft scope of work or pre-solicitation Request for Information?
- b. As per the information in the Business Forecast Q&A for quarter four of fiscal year 2017, can you please confirm that the approximate budget for this solicitation is \$30 million?
- c. Could you please confirm the geographic targeting within Nigeria for this solicitation and if Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe remain the target states?
- d. Will there be a pre-solicitation or bidders conference for this RFA?
- e. Can USAID please confirm whether the forecasted date of 12/11/2017 for Rural Resilience is accurate? If so, would USAID consider releasing the RFA on or after January 3 to accommodate the schedule of Nigerian Government employees and local stakeholders who may want to engage in program design but will not be able to do so during the December holidays?

USAID Response: USAID does not anticipate releasing a draft program description or pre-solicitation RFI or bidders conference. The range as listed in the Forecast is \$25M-\$49.99M. Adamawa, Borno, Gombe and Yobe remain the target states. The Forecast has been updated to accommodate for the holiday season.

81. Nigeria: Agricultural Competitiveness and West Africa Trade Hub Project

- a. Can USAID please clarify its intentions regarding the procurement of the Agricultural Competitiveness and West Africa Trade Hub project? Can USAID clarify if it intends for this to be procured as one large project?
- b. Are there any changes in technical scope of work for the activity?

- c. Can USAID add additional language describing the West Africa Trade Hub project's objectives, geographical reach, and proposed outcomes?
- d. Is USAID still anticipating a mid-December release for the Nigeria AgCompete & West Africa Trade Hub?
- e. What is the anticipated value for this activity?
- f. Will USAID consider doing an RFI for this activity?
- g. Would USAID please confirm that the anticipated release date is 12/11/2017?
- h. Does USAID continue to anticipate combining the West Africa Trade Hub Activity with the Nigeria Agriculture Competitiveness Activity?
- i. Would USAID please provide the target countries in addition to Nigeria for the West Africa Trade Hub?
- j. How does this announcement relate to the ongoing USAID NEXTT project and is this now viewed as containing follow-on elements or as a follow-on project?

USAID Response: Ag Compete and the West Africa Trade Hub Activity have been redesigned into one activity as stated in the Forecast. The Trade Hub activity will increase smallholder productivity and profitability and expand trade with a particular focus on job creation, increased exports and expanded access to finance to support value-added processing in West Africa. The target countries are Nigeria and other countries in the region. Further details will be provided in the RFP.

The forecast has been updated to reflect new release dates. The range as listed in the Forecast is \$50M-\$99.99M. An RFI is not anticipated at this time. Finally, this activity contains follow on elements, but is not a follow on project.

82. Nigeria: Addressing Education in Northeast Nigeria

- a. Can USAID please advise on when the anticipated release date for this activity is?

USAID Response: The anticipated release date is FY 2018, Q3.

83. Nigeria: Agribusiness Investment Project

- a. Does USAID still anticipate releasing an RFP for the Agri-Business Investment Project in Nigeria?
- b. Would USAID please confirm that the anticipated release date is 12/15/2017?
- c. Does USAID intend to release an RFI for the Agri-Business Investment Project in Nigeria?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID Nigeria plans on releasing this RFP. The Forecast has been updated to reflect new release dates. An RFI is not anticipated at this time.

84. Nigeria: Social Services for AIDS-affected Orphans, Vulnerable Children, and Adolescents

- a. Will the geographic focus be on Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Lagos, and Rivers?

- b. How many awards are anticipated to be issued?
- c. What are the anticipated target states for this RFA?
- d. Will there be a bidders' conference for this award?
- e. Could USAID please provide further information for the "social services" required under this project?
- f. Can USAID please confirm whether the forecasted date of 12/18/2017 for the Social Services for AIDS-affected Orphans, Vulnerable Children, and Adolescents RFA is still accurate? If so, would USAID consider releasing the RFA on or after January 3 to accommodate the schedule of Nigerian Government employees and local stakeholders who may want to engage in program design but will not be able to do so during the December holidays?

USAID Response: The geographic focus will be on Akwa Ibom, Cross River, Lagos, and Rivers. USAID anticipates up to two awards. A bidders conference is anticipated. Awards will include a range of services for orphans and vulnerable children. Further details will be available in the solicitation. The Forecast has been updated to reflect new release dates.

85. Pakistan: Could USAID/Pakistan confirm whether any additional agricultural funding will become available in FY 2018?

USAID Response: USAID/Pakistan can not confirm receipt of any additional agricultural funding in FY 2018.

86. Pakistan: Let Girls Learn

- a. What is the new expected award date of this opportunity?

USAID Response: The LGL Cooperative Agreement (CA) was awarded on November 3, 2017

87. Pakistan: Ambassador's Grant Fund Program (AFGP)

- a. Has this program has been cancelled, or can we expect another funding round?

USAID Response: The Contract is already awarded. The award notice was published on FBO on 9/20/2017.

88. Pakistan: Sindh Enabling Environment Activity (SEEA)

- a. The "Sindh Enabling Environment Activity (SEEA) was updated nearly two months ago to say that the activity had been cancelled, yet it still remains on the business forecast. Could USAID/Pakistan please provide an update on this opportunity?

USAID Response: Please see the updated Business Forecast for the latest information on SEEA.

89. Peru: USAID has multiple listings for opportunities in the environment sector in Peru and for South America Regional. These include: Promotion of Best Environmental and Social Management Practices with an anticipated release date of 11/15/2017; Securing a Sustainable, Legal, Profitable and Inclusive Forest Sector also with an anticipated release date of 11/15/2017; the Amazon Knowledge and Learning Platform with an anticipated release date of 1/15/2018; and, Representation of Indigenous Peoples in Governance of Amazon Forests and Waters with an anticipated release date of 2/15/2018. Does USAID intend to release the first two procurements simultaneously? Are there any changes to the anticipated dates of release for any of these four of these opportunities?

USAID Response: The first two activities mentioned (Promotion of Best Environmental and Social Management Practices and Securing a Sustainable, Legal, Profitable and Inclusive Forest Sector) are not specifically linked, but both are anticipated to be released soon. All anticipated solicitation release dates have been updated in the Business Forecast

90. Peru: Amazon Knowledge & Learning Platform

- a. Does USAID intend to issue a pre-solicitation or draft SOW prior to issuance of the RFP?

USAID Response: Yes, USAID/Peru intends to issue a pre-solicitation notice in Fed Biz Ops.

91. Peru: Promotion of Best Environmental and Social Management Practices

- a. Given that the anticipated RFP release date for the Peru Promotion of Best Environmental and Social Management Practices activity would likely require Offerors to develop proposals during a holiday season when many in the LAC region go on leave, would USAID consider postponing the release of the RFP until after the holidays, thereby allowing Offerors the opportunity to obtain meaningful feedback from stakeholders in the target countries to produce stronger proposals for USAID's review and consideration?

USAID Response: Thank you for your request. We realize this is a busy time of year and will take this into consideration when response dates are established.

92. Philippines: Does USAID/Philippines have a maternal, newborn, and child health project in its forecast? If so, what is the anticipated release date?

USAID Response: The Mission will provide the necessary information in regards to any maternal, newborn and child health work once the FY 2018 budget becomes clearer.

93. Philippines: Will USAID/Philippines have an energy opportunity in the forecast for 2018 or 2019?

USAID Response: The Mission will provide the necessary information in regards to any energy sector work once the FY 2018 budget becomes clearer.

94. Philippines: Currently, there is no entry on USAID forecast for the Philippines for any follow –on to the current regional health projects or new procurements for the USAID/Philippines Health Project 2017-2021. There was a an concept note released in January 2017, soliciting comments, but there is nothing on the forecast of when it will be potentially released. Therefore, can USAID/Philippines let us know when they envision any new forecast entry for USAID Philippines especially a follow on to the regional health projects?

USAID Response: We have released two RFAs related to TB activities. The Mission will provide the necessary information in regards to any family planning and maternal, newborn and child health work once the FY 2018 budget becomes clearer.

95. Philippines: Education

- a. Can USAID provide more information on the expected focus of the multiple awards? Specifically does USAID expect that the next awards will maintain separate activities for early grade reading and youth work, similar to the current Basa Pilipinas and MYDev activities?

USAID Response: USAID/Philippines anticipates separate awards for early-grade reading and youth.

96. Philippines: Water Activity

- a. Could USAID please provide more information regarding this potential opportunity including a general description of the anticipated Statement of Work and information regarding the anticipated Award/Action Type for this procurement?
- b. Could USAID please indicate if it will release a draft RFP or other presolicitation material for the anticipated Water Activity?

USAID Response: The Mission will provide the necessary information in regards to water activity once the FY 2018 budget becomes clearer. It is to be determined if there will be any presolicitation engagements.

97. Philippines: B-Leaders

- a. Does USAID/Philippines expect to have a follow-on energy activity after the conclusion of B-LEADERS?

USAID Response: The Mission will provide the necessary information in regards to post B-LEADERS energy sector work plans once the FY 2018 budget becomes clearer.

98. Philippines: Marawi

- a. It's our understanding that additional funding for Marawi will be coming from USAID in a competitive process in 2018 but we do not see this on the forecast. Can USAID clarify if there will be an opportunity forthcoming and provide any information about it (timeline, award mechanism, etc.)?

USAID Response: To be determined.

99. Philippines: Luzon Health Follow-on

- a. When will this activity be released?
- b. Will this activity include human resources for health or other aspects of health systems strengthening?
- c. If this activity is planning on including family planning and RMNCH, will it be implemented nationally and at what time?

USAID Response: The Mission will provide the necessary information once the FY 2018 budget becomes clearer.

100. RDMA: Lao Basic Education

- a. Is USAID able to provide any additional information on the nature of the Lao Basic Education program at this time?

USAID Response: USAID/RDMA is currently in the early stages of designing the Lao Basic Education activity. The anticipated solicitation release date per the business forecast is April 2018. Please monitor the Agency's Business Forecast for when more information becomes available.

101. RDMA: New Thailand Activity

- a. Could USAID please provide more information as to the scope for the "New Thailand Activity"?
- b. Can you provide the anticipated mechanism?

USAID Response: The scope of the New Thailand Activity will be focused on Conflict Resolution in Thailand. This activity is still in the concept design stage, so no decision has been made yet as to the anticipated mechanism.

102. Rwanda: Are there any upcoming agricultural procurements anticipated for Rwanda in 2018?

USAID Response: Nothing is planned.

- 103. Rwanda: Orora Wihaze**
a. Does USAID/Rwanda intend to put this activity back on the forecast? If not, has this been officially cancelled?

USAID Response: The procurement is on hold pending FY 2018 budget information.

- 104. Rwanda: Health Service Delivery Activity**
a. Could USAID confirm that the anticipated solicitation date of February 28, 2018?

USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation date for the Health Service Delivery Activity remains February 28, 2018.

- 105. Senegal:** Could USAID please confirm whether it intends to release global health opportunities for Senegal in FY 2018?

USAID Response: USAID/Senegal expects no opportunities for release in FY18.

- 106. Senegal:** Are any upcoming agricultural procurements anticipated for Senegal in 2018?

USAID Response: Yes, the following procurements are listed on this Business Forecast: Fisheries, Biodiversity, and livelihood & Agricultural Value Chain Services.

- 107. Senegal: Equitable Access to Education in Southern Senegal**
a. Can USAID please advise on when the anticipated release date for this activity is?

USAID Response: USAID/Senegal anticipates to release this activity by end of December.

- 108. Senegal: Agriculture Value Chain Services**
a. Does USAID anticipate releasing an RFI for the Agriculture Value Chain Services Activity in Senegal?
b. Will USAID please consider providing more details on the anticipated scope of work for the upcoming RFP?
c. Can you please advise as to the anticipated value chains? In particular, will livestock be a component of this activity?

USAID Response: USAID/Senegal does not plan to issue an RFI for this activity. When there is a clear consensus about the final Statement of Work (SOW) for the Agriculture Value Chain Services activity, USAID will consider providing more details; however, any details provided prior to the final release of the RFP are subject to change without prior notice.

USAID/Senegal expects the value chains for the new Agriculture Value Chain Services activity to include sorghum, millet, rice, and maize. However, these value chains are not final and any information provided prior to the final release of the RFP is subject to change without prior notice.

109. Senegal: Sahel Resilience Learning Project

- a. Can USAID confirm if it intends to re-compete the current Sahel Resilience Learning Project (SAREL)?

USAID Response: No decision has been made to re-compete the SAREL award.

110. Serbia: Government Accountability Initiative Activity

- a. The Serbia activity still lists an anticipated solicitation date of June 7, 2017. Could USAID please provide an updated timeframe for when this solicitation should now be expected?
- b. Will this procurement be tendered under the PFM II IDIQ? If so, will it be issued as a small business reserve under that IDIQ?

USAID Response: The activity was posted on FedBizOpps on 08/01/2017 with a closing date for proposals of 10/20/2017. This procurement will not be tendered under the PFM II IDIQ.

111. Somalia: New Somalia Education Opportunity

- a. Is there an update on the anticipated solicitation release date?
- b. Does USAID plan to release a pre-solicitation or an RFI for the New Somalia Education Activity?
- c. If so, would USAID please indicate an approximate timeframe for the pre-solicitation or RFI to aid in prospective bidders' planning and preparation?
- d. Could USAID please clarify the geographic focus of the award?
- e. Will this award include any integrated activities in WASH, nutrition, or health?
- f. Is there any additional information on the scope that can be shared?

USAID Response: The target release date for this solicitation is now late February 2018. USAID anticipates releasing pre-solicitation information mid-January 2018. The geographic focus is intended to be a phased approach with the eventual goal of national coverage. It is not anticipated that this will include activities in WASH, nutrition or health.

112. South Africa: Gender Based Violence

- a. In the last Q&A, it was stated that the South Africa GBV activity would be posted to the forecast but this has not yet been added. Is more information available at this point such as the mechanism, timing for release, funding value, and any restrictions on eligibility of applicants?

- b. Will this proposal be full and open competition, or limited to South African organizations?

USAID Response: The solicitation is scheduled for release at the end of November 2018. The anticipated TEA is \$10M. A cooperative agreement is the anticipated mechanism. The competition will be limited to local South African organizations.

113. South Africa: Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Knowledge Management for Southern Africa, IDIQ

- a. In the last Q&A, USAID indicated that this solicitation was planned for an FY17 release. The anticipated solicitation date has remained unchanged from 14 June 2017. Do you have an updated timeline, for this opportunity?
- b. Can USAID please clarify whether this is going to be a multiple or a single award IDIQ?
- c. Will it be issued under the IDIQ, or will it be issued as separate small business set-aside?

USAID Response: USAID anticipates that the solicitation will be released by the end of November 2018. This will be a multiple award IDIQ. There will be no small business set-aside.

114. South Africa: Key Populations Activity

- a. Can USAID please provide an update on the expected Key Populations activity in South Africa Proposal, including the size and anticipated release date? Several documents released by the mission have referenced the activity, but it has not appeared on the forecast.
- b. Will this proposal be full and open competition, or limited to South African organizations?

USAID Response: USAID anticipates that an RFA will be released in December 2017. The estimated value is in the range of \$25M - \$49.99M. USAID is finalizing its design of this activity.

115. South Africa: OVC and Care and Treatment, Cooperative Agreements

- a. In a previous Q&A, it was confirmed that these two opportunities are the Scaling Up Health for Everyone (SHESHA) opportunities. Following the release of a Draft Program Description in July 2017 and the September 2017 indicative solicitation date communicated in the last Q&A, is there an updated solicitation date for this?
- b. The South Africa OVC opportunity pre-solicitation makes the opportunity look as if it may be open only to local NGOs. Will International NGOs be allowed to apply as a prime? Will International NGOs be permitted to sub to a local NGO?

- c. Does USAID still anticipate offering up to 8 awards for the South Africa OVC opportunity? If so, will the 8 awards be oriented to specific geographies or to different activities/components within the overall scope of work?

USAID Response: Solicitation number 72067418RFA00001 was posted on October 27, 2017 for the USAID “Accelerating Program Achievements to Control the Epidemic (APACE) in South Africa” activity (previously SHESHA).

Solicitation number 72067418RFA00002 was posted on November 28, 2017 for the USAID “Preventing HIV/AIDS in Vulnerable Populations in South Africa” activity.

For additional details, please see the solicitations on www.grants.gov.

- 116. South Africa: Preventing HIV/AIDS in Vulnerable Populations Activity**
- a. The recently released RFI for the South Africa Preventing HIV in Vulnerable Populations Activity limited competition to local organizations, while the last Forecast Q&A document clearly stated the opportunity would be full and open competition. Can USAID please provide:
 - i. An explanation for why the eligibility has changed?
 - ii. Confirmation that the decision is final and the award will not be open to international organizations as primes?
 - b. Can USAID please provide an updated timeline for the release of this Activity?
 - c. Does USAID anticipate releasing multiple awards?

USAID Response: Please see solicitation number 72067418RFA00002 on www.grants.gov.

- 117. South Africa: New USAID Health Information System Activity**
- a. The Health Information Systems Activity is not on the current forecast. Can USAID provide more information on the anticipated release date and the procurement mechanism?
 - b. Would USAID be able to provide a bit more detail and the anticipated scope of work for the anticipated Health Information System Activity Award?
 - c. Will the Health Information Systems Activity award include supply chains systems strengthening as part of its scope of work? If so, could you please provide more detail on the supply chains systems strengthening scope of work?
 - d. Will the focus be on national, provincial or district level?
 - e. Can you please provide an indication of the anticipated budget for this solicitation?
 - f. Does USAID anticipate making more than one award? If so, will awards be divided by geography or another factor?
 - g. What types of organizations will be eligible to prime the opportunity?

USAID Response: This activity is envisioned as a buy-in to a centrally funded mechanism.

- 118. South Sudan: Promoting Peace and Civil Engagement in South Sudan (PPCS)**
- a. Will this opportunity be an RFA or an RFP?
 - b. Is it possible that this opportunity will be cancelled, or is USAID still fairly confident that the opportunity will be released?
 - c. Can interested applicants assume that the USAID Civic Engagement and Peace Project RFI released on November 7, 2017 includes USAID's proposed objectives and activities for this program?
 - d. Will the forecasted program replace all three programs mentioned in the description (SUCCESS, VISTAS, Reconciliation for Peace)?
 - e. Is there an updated anticipated solicitation release date for this project?
 - f. The RFI for this opportunity mentions USAID's intention to award one or more contracts up to \$75 million. However, the Forecast still lists this opportunity's mechanism as "TBD." Could USAID please confirm if this project will be released as a contract?

USAID Response: Please note that the activity name is changed to PCEP, Promoting Civic Engagement and Peace. It is anticipated to be released through an RFP. The anticipated solicitation date is in the second quarter of FY18. The purpose of the RFI was to hear from industry to help refine our program requirements. PCEP will include elements of all three programs listed above.

- 119. South Sudan: Outside of the the PPCS activity, does USAID/South Sudan plan to release any other democracy and governance RFAs or RFPs in the coming year?**

USAID Response: The Business Forecast represents the DG RFPs/RFAs planned for this fiscal year at this time.

- 120. Tajikistan: Agribusiness Competitiveness Activity**
- a. Would USAID please confirm that the anticipated release date is 12/15/2017?
 - b. Does USAID intend to release a request for information (RFI) or pre-solicitation notice?
 - c. Would USAID please provide more details on the anticipated scope of work for the upcoming RFP?
 - d. Is this a follow-on to any certain project?

USAID Response: USAID/Central Asia plans to publish this RFP in mid-December, though the exact timing is not final. USAID/Central Asia will post a pre-solicitation notice shortly with additional information. The Tajikistan Agribusiness Competitiveness Activity is not a follow-on to a specific USAID project.

- 121. Tanzania:** Does USAID Tanzania plan to fund a nutrition-focused activity similar to the current Mwanzo Bora project? If so, would this likely be a national level nutrition technical assistance project? What might the geographic focus be and the award or contract amount?

USAID Response: This activity will link explicitly with the Government of Tanzania National MSN Action Plan to foster nutrition specific and sensitive interventions. In the coming weeks, USAID/Tanzania will share a draft of Program Description/Statement of Work for review and comments.

- 122. Tanzania:** Malaria Surveillance and Monitoring Activity (TMSM)
- a. Can USAID please confirm if there is going to be a vector control RFA separate to the released RFI on surveillances?
 - b. Can USAID please provide an updated anticipated solicitation release date and estimated cost?

USAID Response: USAID does not intend to issue a solicitation or notice of funding announcement (NOFO) for vector control. The Indoor Residual Spraying Activity will be part of a previously awarded Field Support mechanism. Malaria Surveillance and Monitoring estimated cost is \$14,000,000. USAID estimated that the notice of funding announcement will be posted on December 2017.

- 123. Tanzania:** Malaria Bednet Delivery
- a. Recently the Tanzania Malaria Bednet Delivery activity was removed from the forecast. Is this a permanent removal/deletion or is the opportunity temporarily on hold?
 - b. Will the opportunity will be awarded through other means and not through the forecast/grants.gov?
 - c. If organizations would like to express interest, who should they reach out to?

USAID Response: The removal was temporary, the current bed net project ends on June 2019, currently the scope of work is developed. USAID expects to award the Tanzania Malaria Bednet Delivery activity as a competitive task order under an existing IDIQ. If organizations would like to express interest, they should contact Office of Acquisition and Assistance (OAA) USAID/Tanzania.

- 124. Timor-Leste:** Timor-Leste Tourism
- a. When will this award be made?

USAID Response: This contract is currently in the proposal review process. An award is anticipated by February of 2018.

- 125. Tunisia:** Tunisia Youth and Community Resilience
- a. Could USAID please confirm the mechanism for this activity?

- b. Will the solicitation be full and open?
- c. Does USAID intend to release a request for information or draft scope of work?
- d. Could USAID please confirm the anticipated geography for the solicitation?
- e. Could USAID please advise whether a pre-solicitation conference will be held?
- f. We note the anticipated solicitation release date has recently moved to 1/22/2018 – could you please confirm that this is still the anticipated release date?
- g. Will the Mission please provide more information about the scope of the activity?
- h. Does the Mission plan to compete this activity through the YouthPower IDIQ mechanism?

USAID Response: USAID plans to issue a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to solicit applications for this activity. The A&A Business Forecast will be updated to include this information. Yes, eligibility will be worldwide with some exceptions. USAID does not plan to issue an RFI or hold a pre-solicitation conference at this time. The place of performance will be Tunisia. The anticipated NOFO issuance date is late February/early March 2018. Additional information will be provided with the NOFO.

- 126. Uganda:** Are any upcoming agricultural procurements anticipated for Uganda in 2018?

USAID Response: Details about any agricultural procurements will be published in the Agency Business Forecast at the appropriate time.

- 127. Uganda:** Health Systems Strengthening
- a. Is the Health Systems Strengthening RFP still expected to be released on December 29, 2017?

USAID Response: The RFP release date for this activity has been changed to February 26, 2018.

- 128. Ukraine:** Program Support Services (PSC)
- a. Can you please provide an updated release date? 11/10/2107 has passed.

USAID Response: The forecast has been updated to show a release date of December 7, 2017.

- 129. Ukraine:** ODG: New Media Activity
- a. Can USAID confirm that this will be openly competed, and also clarify the procurement type for this solicitation?

USAID Response: The activity is still under design and the procurement type has not yet been determined.

130. Ukraine: Analytical Services IDIQ

- a. The current solicitation release date for the Ukraine Analytical Services IDIQ is October 31, 2017, which has passed. Can USAID please provide an update on the status and anticipated timing for this opportunity?

USAID Response: The forecast has been updated to show a release date of December 7, 2017.

131. Ukraine: ODG: Donbas Activity

- a. Can USAID please confirm the intended geographic scope of this program, specifically which oblasts (provinces) USAID seeks to include in the program?
- b. Does USAID intend for applicants to work in occupied areas of Ukraine?
- c. Can USAID provide an update on the Award/Action (which currently states “To Be Determined”)?
- d. Does USAID intend to release a request for information, pre-solicitation or draft scope of work

USAID Response: Since this activity is still in the design stage, the award/action type and the geographic scope, including specific areas the program will focus on, have not yet been determined. Should the mission decide to release any pre-solicitation requests for information, they will be posted on Fedbizopps or Grants.gov.

132. Vietnam: Responsible Trade and Growth (SMEs Linkages)

- a. Could USAID provide more information about the award description?
- b. Will there be agricultural components?
- c. Development Objective 1 of the USAID/Vietnam CDCS references the Trans-Pacific Trade Partnership as a foundation for the relationship between the United States and Vietnam. Given that the new administration has cancelled this trade agreement, will USAID/Vietnam change its strategy for DO1 to reflect a new position, or should potential offerors assume that the broader CDCS Integrated Results for DO1 will still apply?

USAID Response: The award is still in the design phase. It is unknown at this time if there will be any agricultural components. USAID/Vietnam's 2014-2018 CDCS has been extended until end of 2019. However, USAID/Vietnam is currently engaged in a process of updating its strategy below the DO level to take account of numerous changes in U.S. policy (such as that mentioned) and operating environment, to include FY17 and out year budget projections. It is expected that, despite the withdrawal of the U.S. from the TPP, our focus in this DO will remain on Vietnam's competitiveness and ability to meet international standards, such as WTO standards.

133. Vietnam: Responsible Trade and Growth (Trade Facilitation)

- a. Could USAID provide more information about the award description?

- b. Will there be agricultural components?
- c. Can USAID please confirm the planned mechanism for this opportunity?
- d. Will this procurement be tendered under the PFM II IDIQ? If so, will it be issued as a small business reserve under that IDIQ?
- e. Can USAID please confirm the anticipated solicitation release day of February 5, 2017?

USAID Response: The award is still in the design phase. It is unknown at this time if there will be any agricultural components. This activity is planned to be a contract. It is not planned under the PFM II IDIQ or to be a small business reserve under that IDIQ. Release is anticipated o/a January 31, 2018.

134. West Africa: Amplify-FP

- a. The forecast currently indicates a solicitation release date of January 23, 2018. Please confirm if USAID still anticipates a January release or if this date will be postponed?

USAID Response: USAID still anticipates issuing the notice of funding opportunity on/about January 23, 2018

135. West Africa: Municipal WASH Program

- a. Can USAID please provide an update on the Award/Action Type (which currently states "To Be Determined")?

USAID Response: The award type for the Municipal WASH program continues to be in the "to be determined" phase of planning.

136. West Bank/Gaza: Can USAID provide more information on how the Global Competencies, Civil Society Support, and Positive Youth Engagement projects will complement one another?

USAID Response: These activities will target different groups, but as a matter of good practice USAID expects synergy among these planned activities and with other ongoing activities. There is no additional information to release at this time. For more information, see the specific Award Descriptions in the Business Forecast and the USAID/WBG fact sheets that discuss sector priorities at: <https://www.usaid.gov/west-bank-and-gaza/newsroom/fact-sheets>.

137. West Bank/Gaza: Has USAID/West Bank and Gaza done a Youth Assessment and if so, can this document be made available publicly?

USAID Response: USAID has not conducted a youth assessment in the West Bank and Gaza recently. An evaluation of an ongoing youth activity is not completed yet and it is not related to the Positive Youth Engagement Activity.

- 138. West Bank/Gaza: Positive Youth Engagement**
- a. Could you please confirm that December 20th remains the anticipated release date?
 - b. Could USAID provide additional information with regard to the scope of work for the opportunity?
 - c. Does USAID anticipate releasing a draft scope of work or a pre-solicitation Request for Information/Expression of Interest?
 - d. Is there an incumbent? If so, can you please share the name?
 - e. Can USAID provide information on the approximate turnaround time for proposal submission (e.g., 45 days)?
 - f. Is there any additional information USAID can provide on the key interventions expected on this bid? Will the project focus primarily on education (formal or nonformal), employability, civic engagement, health, or combatting violent extremism?
 - g. Is this anticipated to be a follow-on to the Partnerships for Youth project currently being implemented by IREX in the West Bank?
 - h. Does USAID anticipate that there will be a cost-share requirement for the Positive Youth Engagement project?

USAID Response: Yes, December 20th that is the most recent projection for release. There is no additional information to release at this time with regards to details on the activity. Note that a decision has not been made on issuing an RFI/EOI. There is no incumbent for this activity.

- 139. West Bank/Gaza: Civil Society Support Project**
- a. Could USAID please confirm whether this award type will be a cooperative agreement or another mechanism?
 - b. Does USAID intend to release the project as a full and open opportunity?
 - c. Could USAID provide additional information with regard to the scope for this opportunity?
 - d. Does USAID anticipate releasing a draft scope of work or a pre-solicitation Request for Information/Expression of Interest?
 - e. Can the Mission confirm if the scope of this opportunity will include Gaza or if it is limited to the West Bank?
 - f. Could the Mission please publish the recent final report of the previous civil society project?
 - g. Is the Mission anticipating a sub-grant component for local NGOs as part of the opportunity's scope?

USAID Response: We anticipate that the award type will be an Associate Cooperative Agreement. See updated entry in the Agency Business Forecast for additional details on scope. At this time USAID does not anticipate releasing a draft scope of work or pre-solicitation materials.

The program will include activities in the West Bank and Gaza.

The CPP final report has been posted on the Development Experience Clearinghouse site.

Yes, the Mission anticipating a sub-grant component for local NGOs as part of the opportunity's scope

140. West Bank/Gaza: Global Competencies

- a. Does the Mission plan to release a pre-solicitation or request for information?
- b. Will the Mission please confirm the anticipated solicitation release date as 3/16/2018?

USAID Response: This activity is still in the preliminary design stage; there is no additional information to release at this time. Yes, that is the most recent projection for release.

141. Zambia: Are organizations able to be a partner (not prime) on both the USAID Zambia SUN Learning and Evaluation bid and the DFID Zambia SUN Fund bid, or will this be considered a conflict of interest?

USAID Response: There is a perceived conflict of interest; however, any offeror planning on placing multiple bids within the SUN program will be required to identify their role and COI mitigation plan for evaluation.

142. Zambia: Scaling Up Nutrition -- Learning and Evaluation

- a. Will this be issued as a small-business set aside?
- b. Will it be issued as a TO under the M&E IDIQ?
- c. Is the release date of November 30th still valid?
- d. Can USAID please provide any insight as to what is the implication on the budget and technical scope of this project, given that Zambia is no longer a Feed the Future country?

USAID Response: Yes, this will be a small-business set aside and not under the M&E IDIQ. The solicitation release date has been updated to January 2018. The SUNTA Solicitation was released under SOL-611-17-000005, please check on fbo.gov for further details as the solicitation references the Learning and Evaluation portion and how the two are related.

- 143. Zambia: Scaling Up Nutrition -- Technical Assistance**
- a. What is the anticipated release date of the solicitation?
 - b. The duration of this project was recently expanded to 7 years without increase in the \$4 – \$9.99 million amount range. Can you please advise if this amount range will be increased?

USAID Response: This requirement was released under SOL-611-17-000005, please check on fbo.gov. The range is \$50 - \$99.99 million. Further details can be found within the solicitation.

- 144. Zambia: Evidence for Health**
- a. Would applying for and/or being awarded the Zambia Evidence for Health opportunity preclude an organization from subsequently applying for other USAID opportunities that use the same data systems?
 - b. Can USAID elaborate on how this award might complement the CDC NOFO 1823, Strengthening and Improving Data for the Republic of Zambia under PEPFAR?
 - c. Can USAID share the geographical target for this award?
 - d. Does USAID have any further information about this opportunity?
 - e. The Zambia Evidence for Health opportunity has a release date set for March 1, 2018. Could USAID please confirm that it will release the solicitation on this date?
 - f. In addition, the small business set-aside category is listed as “N/A.” Can USAID please confirm whether this will be a small business set-aside?

USAID Response: Potentially being awarded this activity could preclude an organization from subsequently applying for activities. It would depend on the details of the opportunity. A future opportunity which simply utilizes the system created would not exclude an organization however, use of proprietary information that would give an offeror an unfair advantage in future opportunities would exclude an organization. So it depends on the specifics of the opportunity.

USAID/E4H and CDC NOFO 1823 differ in that E4H has a wider set of expected outcomes to improve program data across multiple public health program areas while the CDC RFA has a greater focus on HIV, data triangulation, and the implementation of routine HIV surveillance activities. E4H has greater focus on national strategy pre-service learning, and on-site mentoring for first-line health workers specifically for the HMIS system. At the national level the mechanisms will be closely coordinated to ensure no duplication of efforts/engagements.

Please see the pre-solicitation (AID-611-18-EvidenceForHealth) on fbo.gov for available information on geographic scope

We confirm that March 1, 2018 is USAID/Zambia's anticipated solicitation release date. Any updates will be published on the forecast.

USAID has not concluded its market research once it has been decided an announcement will be made. Please continue to monitor the business forecast for updates.

145. Zambia: Let's Read

- a. Does USAID have any additional information regarding the release of Let's Read Zambia Program?
- b. If so, would USAID please indicate an approximate timing to aid in prospective bidders' planning and preparation?
- c. Is the work in Early Childhood Education Centers expected to engage parents and caregivers to improve the Home Learning Environment and reinforce reading outcomes?
- d. Do Early Childhood Centers include both public and community-based?
- e. Is the primary goal of the Early Childhood Centers to improve emergent reading or are there other goals?

USAID Response: The Solicitation is expected to be released in the next quarter. The primary focus will be on school based ECE interventions. Yes it is expected to engage parents and caregivers. Please note that not all public or community schools have ECE centers. The Ministry introduced ECE in 2014, and such centers exist as annexes in public and community schools, that is, a classroom is designated as an ECE facility. Yes, the primary goal is to improve pre-reading skills

146. Zimbabwe: Advancing Accountability and Rights in Zimbabwe (AARZ)

- a. Does this opportunity represent an anticipated second round of funding under APS-613-17-000001? If so, is there any additional information on the likely scope?

USAID Response: Yes, the opportunity represents an anticipated second round of funding under the APS-613-17-000001. Additional information on the purpose of the program has been included in the Business Forecast.

147. Zimbabwe: Social Cohesion

- a. Is the Social Cohesion opportunity for Zimbabwe the same as the AARZ opportunity, which had a call for concept papers in June?
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=293883>
- b. If it is the same, can only those who submitted successfully concept papers apply?

USAID Response: It is the second call for concept papers under the same APS. Since it will be a new call for applications, it will be open for full competition, and all eligible applicants are free to apply.