

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT

1. CONTRACT ID CODE
PAGE OF PAGES
1 8

2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 000001
3. EFFECTIVE DATE 03/08/2015
4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO.
5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)

6. ISSUED BY CODE AFGHANISTAN
7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) CODE AFGHANISTAN

USAID/Afghanistan
Office of Acquisition & Assistance
USAID Afghanistan
00001

8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., street, county, State and ZIP Code)
9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. SOL-306-15-000030
9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) 03/02/2015
10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.
10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)
CODE FACILITY CODE

11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended. is not extended.
Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods: (a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning 1 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)

13. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO MODIFICATION OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS. IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.

CHECK ONE
A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.
B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b).
C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:
D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not, is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.

14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)
The purpose of this amendment is to incorporate answers to questions recieved from offerors concering the Solicitation number SOL-306-15-000030.

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)
16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print) Jennifer Armstrong
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR
15C. DATE SIGNED
16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
16C. DATE SIGNED 3/8/2015
(Signature of person authorized to sign) (Signature of Contracting Officer)

Response to Questions for RFP Number: SOL-306-15-000030

- 1- Question: Does the Combined Synopsis/Solicitation under Solicitation number SOL-306-15-000030 contain requirements similar to a current contract? If possible, please provide the current contract number. Or, is this a new requirement for the government?

Answer: This is a new requirement.

- 2- Question: List of Items, Schedule of Requirements, Scope of Work, Terms of Reference, Bill of Materials required.

Answer: This requirement is for Professional services and the Scope of Work is included in the Solicitation, RFP number SOL-306-15-000030 issued on March 2, 2015.

- 3- Question: Soft Copy of the Tender Document through email.

Answer: The soft copy of the RFP is available on FBO.gov, ACBAR.org and USAID website.

- 4- Question: Names of countries that will be eligible to participate in this tender.

Answer: The competition under this solicitation is limited to local entities. For definition of local entities please refer to the cover page of the RFP number SOL-306-15-000030.

- 5- Question: Information about the Tendering Procedure and Guidelines

Answer: Page 23, section D.2 of the RFP number SOL-306-15-000030 provides Instructions to offerors.

- 6- Question: Estimated Budget for this Purchase.

Answer: As set forth in ADS 302.3.5.7, the Contracting Officer (CO) must not include the Government cost estimate in a competitive solicitation or a Request for Task Order Proposals. USAID will award a Firm Fixed Price Contract to the responsible Offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to USAID.

- 7- Question: Any Extension of Bidding Deadline?

Answer: As stated on the cover page of the RFP, the closing date is March 12, 2015 at 11:30 PM Kabul time.

- 8- Question: Any Addendum or Pre Bid meeting Minutes?

Answer: There was no addendum prior to this RFP amendment.

- 9- Question: On page 23, under section D.2 Instructions to Offerors, it mentions that the page limit "shall not exceed 14 pages" yet further down on Page 23 it mentions that the total technical response is "limited to a total of twelve (12) pages". Please clarify the page limit.

Answer: In accordance with Section D.2 – Instructions to offerors of the RFP, offerors shall submit their proposals in 2 volumes; Volume 1 Technical Proposal; Volume 2 Price Proposal. Volume 1 technical proposal is limited to 12 pages. Volume 2 Price Proposal is limited to 2 pages. Therefore, the offeror's proposal (including Technical and Price Proposal) is limited to a total of 14 pages.

- 10- Question: Please clarify if there are any language requirements for the personnel.

Answer: Proficiency in English is required.

11- Question: Please clarify if the annexes such as past performance references and the personnel CVs are included in the page limit?

Answer: No

12- Question: Please clarify if the personnel would need to travel outside of Kabul city.

Answer: Most work will occur in Kabul. However, there is possible travel to Kandahar.

13- Question: Can USAID/Afghanistan share any existing documentation from the implementing partner to facilitate and better inform the approach in the technical response for this RFP?

Answer: See attached background information.

14- Question: Can USAID/Afghanistan please clarify the evaluation criteria for cost/price i.e. are there any points allocated to the offerors cost / price?

Answer: Per Section D.3.2 of the RFP, points are only allocated towards technical factors. However, an award will be made to the offeror whose proposal represents the best value to USAID.

15- Question: Can USAID/Afghanistan clarify the number of past performance references that need to be submitted?

Answer: A minimum of 3.

16- Question: Please clarify if the past performance references are subject to the page limit for the technical response.

Answer: No, past performance references do not count against the page limit.

17- Question: Does the offeror need to budget for security services and lodging? Please clarify.

Answer: Yes, USAID cannot provide lodging or security coverage for contractors. It is desirable that the bidder make use of, to the greatest extent possible, personnel already stationed in country.

18- Question: Does USAID/Afghanistan want cost notes in a Microsoft Word Document?

Answer: Submit all portions of the Price Proposal in an MS Excel document.

19- Question: Does USAID require biodatas to be submitted for all personnel as an annex to this proposal?

Answer: Yes, please complete attached Form AID 1420-17 (04/2007).



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AFGHANISTAN



Since 2002, USAID has worked with the Afghan government, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and international partners to:

- facilitate over \$306 million in increased sales of licit farm and non-farm products;
- create more than 358,000 jobs through alternative livelihood and stabilization activities; and

• bring more than 1 million

Agriculture

Agriculture is critical to Afghanistan's food security and a key driver of economic growth. Sixty percent of Afghans rely on agriculture for their livelihoods and their family's sustenance. The sector accounts for about 40 percent of Afghanistan's gross domestic product. Prior to decades of conflict, Afghanistan's agricultural products earned a global reputation for excellence, particularly almonds, pomegranates, pistachios, raisins, and apricots. Decades of war and neglect devastated Afghanistan's farmland, displaced millions of people, and largely destroyed the country's existing infrastructure.

OUR WORK

U.S. assistance to Afghanistan's agricultural sector focuses on creating jobs, increasing incomes and productivity, enhancing food security, creating export markets and strengthening the Afghan government's ability to promote broad-based growth. USAID makes a tangible impact on the lives of farmers and their families while laying the foundation for Afghanistan's economic growth.

RESTORING AFGHANISTAN'S AGRICULTURE STRENGTH

Since 2002, USAID has supported the distribution of vouchers for seed, fertilizer, tools and technology to approximately hundreds of thousands of farmers to jumpstart production. By 2014, USAID interventions have generated more than \$306 million in sales and services for farmers and agribusinesses. USAID has trained more than 1.5 million people, and provided more than 24,600 households with access to credit, while providing financing to agribusinesses that has generated 2,913 jobs (direct and indirect). In total, USAID investments in agriculture have helped create over 358,968 new agricultural jobs.

USAID investment in rehabilitating irrigation infrastructure has increased water availability for approximately 106,000 hectares of agricultural land. As a result, farmers are able to grow more than one crop, increasing the total land farmed and the volume and value of crops produced. In western Afghanistan, rehabilitating 12 canals and associated water containment structures has increased cultivatable land by almost 9,000 hectares, benefitting over 17,000 households across the country.

To prevent environmental degradation and enhance land productivity, USAID has supported tree planting, improved water management, reduced soil erosion, and increased water retention.

USAID supports every link in the agricultural value chain by promoting and supporting production, processing, and sales of commodities. USAID will continue to safeguard food and economic security, increase post-harvest storage capacity, encourage market-led agricultural growth, and promote women's participation in the agriculture sector.

INCREASING ACCESS TO CREDIT AND STRENGTHENING AGRIBUSINESS

USAID has helped to create the Agriculture Development Fund dedicated to serving the agriculture sector and facilitating access to specialized credit lines, including financial products designed specifically for business women and farmers, USAID is supporting development of new agribusinesses and enabling farmers to improve the quality and quantity of their products. Since 2010, USAID has provided \$53 million in loans to farming households and agribusinesses to increase farmers' access to credit, generating more than \$25 million in household income and creating thousands of full time jobs.

CONNECTING FARMERS TO REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MARKETS

The future of Afghanistan's agricultural sector depends on expanding the customer base beyond Afghanistan's borders. USAID has helped open new markets to Afghan goods by helping farmers meet international packaging and shipping standards and by organizing international agricultural trade fairs, USAID has facilitated agriculture export sales of fresh and dried fruit, nuts, and cashmere worth over \$54 million to India, Pakistan, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and other countries. USAID funding for various commercial horticulture value chains has helped 1.1 million households, planted over 3.9 million fruit saplings and grape cuttings, established over 25,000 hectares of fruit orchards and vineyards, and built 200 raisin drying facilities and cold storage rooms.

STRENGTHENING FOOD SECURITY

USAID is fighting hunger by providing critical food assistance to Afghanistan's most vulnerable populations, including pregnant women, malnourished children under five, orphans, the indigent, and the elderly. In 2013, about 2.3 million Afghans received humanitarian assistance. USAID also responds to natural and man-made disasters, price shocks, severe winter weather and deteriorating security by providing immediate help to displaced and suffering families.

CONTACTS

Mission

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USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

AFGHANISTAN

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FACT SHEET

Regional Agricultural Development Program-South (RADP-S)

October 2013 – October 2018

\$125 million

OVERVIEW

USAID Regional Agricultural Development Program-South (RADP-S) promotes inclusive and sustainable economic growth for rural Afghans in Kandahar, Helmand, Zabul and Uruzgan provinces. The program supports farmers and small and medium scale agribusinesses to improve production, processing and commodity sales.

ACTIVITIES

- **Food and economic security:**
 - Train farmers in improved productivity and production practices, particularly in the wheat, high value crops and livestock sectors.
 - Improve market value chains so farmers can better respond to market demand.
 - Increase personal incomes and nutrition for farming families.
- **Post-harvest storage capacity:** Increase volume of products available for off-season sales and consumption by improving post-harvest technologies, particularly packaging and warehousing.
- **Market-led agricultural growth:** Improve market efficiency by identifying strong local agricultural firms to champion reforms, and helping those firms lead market growth.
- **Women in agricultural value chains:**
 - Train women in production and post-harvest storage techniques, product value adding processes, and marketing techniques to sell outside their home.
 - Link women to other value chain actors and increase their nutritional awareness.
 - Focus project activities on improved women's income, food security, and productivity.
- **Enabling policy and regulatory environment:** Help the Afghan government draw up modern and enforceable agricultural regulations.
- **Improve public and private sector collaboration:** Facilitate increased coordination between the private sector, civil society, the Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock (MAIL), and provincial Directorate of Agricultural, Irrigation, and Livestock (DAIL).

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Increase wheat productivity by 20 percent, high value crops by 35 percent and livestock farmer income by 20 percent.
- Introduce new technologies, and improved farming techniques to 138,000 farmers.
- Generate total sales of licit crops by \$95 million (\$5 million wheat, \$85 million high value crops, and \$5 million livestock) over the life of the project.
- Provide benefits to a minimum of 15 percent women of total beneficiaries.
- Increase the management and technical skills in 105 small and medium agribusinesses, of which at least 25 are in the wheat sector, 60 in the high value crops sector, and 20 in the livestock sector.
- Train 15,000 wheat farmers to use improved post-harvest handling techniques, and 40,000 high value crop farmers in improved-harvest techniques.



OMB Control No. 0412-0520; Expiration Date: 02/28/2014

CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE BIOGRAPHICAL DATA SHEET

1. Name (Last, First, Middle)		2. Contractor's Name	
3. Employee's Address (include ZIP code)		4. Contract Number	5. Position Under Contract
		6. Proposed Salary	7. Duration of Assignment
8. Telephone Number (include area code)	9. Place of Birth	10. Citizenship (If non-U.S. citizen, give visa status)	

11. Names, Ages, and Relationship of Dependents to Accompany Individual to Country of Assignment

12. EDUCATION (include all college or university degrees)

13. LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY (see Instruction on Page 2)

NAME AND LOCATION OF INSTITUTION	MAJOR	DEGREE	DATE	LANGUAGE	Proficiency Speaking	Proficiency Reading
					2/S	2/R
					2/S	2/R
					2/S	2/R

14. EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

- Give last three (3) years. List salaries separate for each year. Continue on separate sheet of paper if required to list all employment related to duties of proposed assignment.
- Salary definition – basic periodic payment for services rendered. Exclude bonuses, profit-sharing arrangements, commissions, consultant fees, extra or overtime work payments, overseas differential or quarters, cost of living or dependent education allowances.

POSITION TITLE	EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Dates of Employment (M/D/Y)		Annual Salary
		From	To	Dollars

15. SPECIFIC CONSULTANT SERVICES (give last three (3) years)

SERVICES PERFORMED	EMPLOYER'S NAME AND ADDRESS POINT OF CONTACT & TELEPHONE #	Dates of Employment (M/D/Y)		Days at Rate	Daily Rate In Dollars
		From	To		

16. CERTIFICATION: To the best of my knowledge, the above facts as stated are true and correct.

Signature of Employee	Date
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17. CONTRACTOR'S CERTIFICATION (To be signed by responsible representative of Contractor)

Contractor certifies in submitting this form that it has taken reasonable steps (in accordance with sound business practices) to verify the information contained in this form. Contractor understands that USAID may rely on the accuracy of such information in negotiating and reimbursing personnel under this contract. The making of certifications that are false, fictitious, or fraudulent, or that are based on inadequately verified information, may result in appropriate remedial action by USAID, taking into consideration all of the pertinent facts and circumstances, ranging from refund claims to criminal prosecution.

Signature of Contractor's Representative	Date
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INSTRUCTION

Indicate your language proficiency in block 13 using the following numeric Interagency Language Roundtable levels (Foreign Service Institute Levels). Also, the following provides brief descriptions of proficiency levels 2, 3, 4, and 5. "S" indicates speaking ability and "R" indicates reading ability. For more in-depth description of the levels refer to USAID Handbook 28 or superseding policy directive.

2. Limited working proficiency

S Able to satisfy routine special demands and limited work requirements.

R Sufficient comprehension to read simple, authentic written material in a form equivalent to usual printing or typescript on familiar subjects within familiar contexts.

3. General professional proficiency

S Able to speak the language with sufficient structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in most formal and informal conversations on practical, social, and professional topics.

R Able to read within a normal range of speed and with almost complete comprehension of a variety of authentic prose material on unfamiliar subjects.

4. Advanced professional proficiency

S Able to use the language fluently and accurately on all levels normally pertinent to professional needs.

R Able to read fluently and accurately all styles and forms of the language pertinent to professional needs.

5. Functional native proficiency

S Speaking proficiency is functionally equivalent to that of a highly articulate well-educated native speaker and reflects the cultural standards of a country where the language is natively spoken.

R Reading proficiency is functionally equivalent to that of the well-educated native reader.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT INFORMATION

The information requested by this form is necessary for prudent management and administration of public funds under USAID contracts. The information helps USAID estimate overseas logistic support and allowances, the educational information provides an indication of qualifications, the salary information is used as a means of cost monitoring and to help determine reasonableness of proposed salary.

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT NOTICE

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average thirty minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to:

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