



USAID | JORDAN

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Issue Date: September 20, 2015
Deadline for Question/Clarifications: October 7, 2015
Closing Date: September 19, 2016
Closing Time: 12 noon Jordan Time

Subject: Notice of Funding Opportunity Number: APS-278-15-000002

Program Title: Jordan Partnerships Program

Ladies/Gentlemen:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is seeking concept papers from qualified U.S. and Non-U.S. organizations to fund a program entitled “Jordan Partnerships Program”. Eligibility for this award is not restricted; see Section C of this NFO for eligibility requirements.

Subject to the availability of funds multiple awards will be made to that responsible applicant(s) whose application(s) best meets the objectives of this funding opportunity and the selection criteria contained herein. While there is not a specific number of awards anticipated as a result of this notice of funding opportunity (NFO), USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.

For the purposes of this NFO the term "Grant" is synonymous with "Cooperative Agreement"; "Grantee" is synonymous with "Recipient"; and "Grant Officer" is synonymous with "Agreement Officer". Eligible organizations interested in submitting an application are encouraged to read this funding opportunity thoroughly to understand the type of program sought, application submission requirements and evaluation process.

To be eligible for award, the applicant must provide all information as required in this NFO and meet eligibility standards in Section C of this NFO. This funding opportunity is posted on www.grants.gov, and may be amended. Potential applicants should regularly check the website to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to this notice of funding opportunity. Applicants will need to have available or download Adobe program to their computers in order to view and save the Adobe forms properly. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that the entire NFO has been received from the internet in its entirety and USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion process. If you have difficulty registering on www.grants.gov or accessing the NFO, please contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 or via email at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

The successful Applicant will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives. Please read each section of the NFO.

Please send any questions to the point(s) of contact identified in section D. The deadline for questions is shown above. Responses to questions received prior to the deadline will be furnished to all potential applicants through an amendment to this notice posted to www.grants.gov.

Issuance of this notice of funding opportunity does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government nor does it commit the Government to pay for any costs incurred in preparation or submission of comments/suggestions or an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Sincerely,

Luis A. Rivera
Director, Acquisition and Assistance Office

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Section A – Program Description

Section B –Award Information

Section C – Eligibility Information

Section D – Application and Submission Information

Section E – Application Review Information

Section F – Award and Administration Information

Section G – Agency Contacts

Section H – Other Information

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACCROYNMS USED IN THIS NFO

ADS	Automated Directives System
APS	Annual Program Statement
CDCS	Country Development Country Strategy
DO	Development Objective
GOJ	Government of Jordan
JCP	Jordan Competitiveness Program
MOE	Ministry of Education
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
SDO	Special Development Objective
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USG	U.S. Government

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SECTION A: PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

I. Background

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) emphasizes the importance of engaging the private sector in achieving development objectives, and in partnering towards creating cost-effective results-oriented solutions. The partnerships that USAID builds leverage the expertise, innovation, resources and assets of each of the public, private and non-profit sectors in order to increase the impact of USAID programs and to accomplish sustainable solutions. Partnerships enable USAID/Jordan to leverage private sector assets, innovation, markets and expertise, as well as public resources, from a variety of contributors. The Jordan Partnerships Program is designed to catalyze, facilitate, and support such collaboration toward shared objectives in areas ranging from clean energy and water resource management, to employment opportunities for youth, to medical tourism, to promoting exports of the service industry. USAID/Jordan recognizes that major global development challenges remain for which different solutions, approaches and resources are needed to affect the magnitude of change required to meet these challenges in a cost-effective, sustainable manner. This anticipates a shift towards building partnerships that enable private and public sector actors to collaborate with USAID/Jordan to contribute significant resources and to identify innovative solutions to development problems.

USAID defines innovations as those interventions that utilize novel business models or products or services that lead to dramatic improvements (not incremental ones) in addressing development challenges. Innovation can incorporate science and technology, but this integration is not mandatory. Innovation should help produce significant development outcomes more effectively, more sustainably, that reach more beneficiaries, less costly, and in a shorter period of time. Ideally, such innovations would provide a significantly amplified and/or accelerated positive development result.

II. USAID/Jordan's Partnerships Program

This APS announces USAID/Jordan's desire to partner with the private sector, including for-profit as well as not-for-profit entities, and provides a pathway for potential partners to engage with USAID/Jordan. This APS provides a competitive opportunity for any proposed partnership that is responsive to the terms included in this APS.

A. The Jordan Partnerships

Jordan Partnerships are public-private sector collaborations focused on overcoming critical economic development challenges through innovations that can be established, shared, and scaled in Jordan and abroad. The goal of such collaborations is to tackle economic development challenges in a replicable and sustainable manner leading to clear improvements in economic development indicators. The main objective is to catalyze private sector-funded and -conceived innovations that are responsive to economic

development challenges. However, through this APS, USAID/Jordan is open to considering a wide range of partnership approaches, whether Jordan financed and implemented or otherwise, in order to achieve its economic development objectives. All partners will share risks and responsibilities.

The first step in a developing a partnership with USAID/Jordan is submitting a Concept Paper which will be described in more detail later.

Partnership awards under this APS may be structured in a variety of different ways; either through grants, fixed amount awards, or cooperative agreements.¹ In some cases, USAID and a Resource Partner may agree to separately fund activities that will be coordinated to achieve a particular goal; in such cases the arrangement would be memorialized via a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). In other cases, some Resource Partners may wish to provide funding directly to USAID/Jordan in order to implement a particular activity.

B. USAID/Jordan's Development Objectives and Priority Sectors

Jordan faces a number of daunting challenges as it strives to address its development and reform priorities. These social challenges include a rapidly growing population, gaps in the quality of basic education, high unemployment, weak citizen participation in governance and politics, water scarcity, reliance on expensive, imported energy, gender disparities, and an influx of Syrian refugees. At the same time, however, Jordan is well positioned to address these challenges due to several opportunities, including a young workforce, a government that is forward leaning in terms of policy reform, and improving health and education indicators.

USAID/Jordan's goal for the 2013 – 2017 strategy period is to improve prosperity, accountability, and equality for a stable, democratic Jordan. This goal will be achieved through the following three development objectives (DOs) and a special development objective (SDO):

- DO 1: Broad-based, inclusive economic development accelerated
- DO 2: Democratic accountability strengthened
- DO 3: Social sector quality improved
- SDO 4: Gender equality and female empowerment enhanced

To achieve the first development objective, USAID Jordan's programs focus on how to improve economic competitiveness, workforce opportunities for all vulnerable groups,

¹ For definitions and descriptions of these types of agreements, please see; http://www.usaid.gov/business/business_opportunities/cib/pdf/aapd04_16.pdf and ADS 303 at <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303.pdf>.

For non-U.S. non-governmental organizations, Standard Provisions for non-U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations in ADS 303 are applicable. For U.S. organizations, 2CFR700 and 2CFR200 apply. Please refer to <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303.pdf> for governing regulations, standard provisions, required certifications, and standard forms SF-424, SF-424a, SF-424b that will need to be submitted by applicants prior to award.

energy management efficiency and macroeconomic improvements. Partnerships developed under this APS should support USAID/Jordan's efforts to positively influence outcomes in these DOI areas. A more detailed explanation of USAID/Jordan's core development objectives may be found in Jordan's CDCS.² Prospective partners should carefully review USAID/Jordan's development objectives and these key sectors in order to better determine how their interests and USAID's intersect.

USAID Jordan has produced a number of reports and assessments on opportunities for introducing innovation and strengthening the competitiveness of Jordan's economy. These documents are available to prospective applicants as a resource and should not be taken as criteria for selection. USAID Jordan's list of resource documents include:

- Cluster Competitiveness Strategy Report, Jordan Competitiveness Program (JCP), 2014
Other information from JCP available at <http://www.jcp-jordan.org/en>
- Jordan Economic Assessment, BEAM, 2012
http://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pa00j1t2.pdf

C. Critical Assumptions and Risks³

As the Arab Spring, the disruptions to Jordan's energy supply, and other events the past few years have demonstrated, there are a few safe assumptions one can make in the Middle East region. Given the unpredictable and often rapidly changing environment, assumptions, risks, and USAID responses will be reviewed and/or mitigated on a continuous basis for all DOs and projects through regular monitoring and progress reviews.

For the purposes of this APS, the following assumptions have been made:

- Despite continued fragility in the regional political environment, Jordan will remain free of severe conflict.
- Global economic recovery will continue at a slow but steady pace; Jordan will continue to find new markets for its products in the Gulf Cooperation Council, Africa, and Asia.
- The GOJ will maintain broad political will to pursue policies and reforms that are aligned with the goal of achieving sustainable and broad-based economic growth and political stability.
- Jordan will continue to find ways to navigate difficulties presented by regional events.
- Behavioral changes, such as increased acceptance of female employment, will be accepted by the general population.
- The GOJ will make progress in building accountability and transparency into the governance of its systems to address citizen demands for the elimination of corruption and improved delivery of social services.

² <https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1883/CDCSJordan.pdf>

³ USAID Jordan CDCS 2013-17

- With rising energy prices, Jordan will continue to implement reforms that will generate fiscal balance on both the revenue and expenditure fronts, including by addressing unsustainable subsidies.
- The GOJ and energy utilities will commit to a 10-year demand-side energy management program.
- Prices of renewable energy technologies will continue to fall relative to fossil fuels.
- The GOJ will maintain and increase its commitment at the very highest levels to address population growth, accompanied by increased resources for this high priority.
- The MOE will remain committed to carrying out education reform efforts more effectively, including creating institutional capacity to implement policies and enhance professional development of teachers and administrators to act as change agents.
- The GOJ will raise water tariffs and challenge the parties responsible for the most wasteful agricultural water use in Jordan.
- The GOJ will undertake more efficient management and reallocation of water resources, including promoting high-value household and industrial uses to help delay and decrease the need for costly new infrastructure.
- A steady level of development assistance will be forthcoming in the next few years from Jordan's allies, public international organizations, and non-governmental organizations to complement USAID's efforts.
- Women will enter the workforce once obstacles to their participation are overcome.

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SECTION B: FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

1. Estimate of Funds Available and Number of Awards Contemplated

Subject to funding availability, USAID intends to provide \$20 million in total USAID funding over a three year period. The ceiling for this program is \$20 million. Actual funding amounts are subject to availability of funds.

USAID intends to award a number of Cooperative Agreements and/or Grants pursuant to this notice of funding opportunity.

USAID reserves the right to fund any one or none of the applications submitted.

2. Start Date and Period of Performance for Federal Awards

The period of performance anticipated herein is 36 months. The estimated start date will be upon the signature of the award, on or about.

3. Substantial Involvement

Partnerships that are structured in the form of Cooperative Agreements will include the following elements of Substantial Involvement:

a. Approval of the Recipient's Implementation Plans.

b. Approval of Specified Key Personnel.

c. Agency and Recipient Collaboration or Joint Participation When the recipient's successful accomplishment of program objectives would benefit from USAID's technical knowledge, the AO may authorize the collaboration or joint participation of USAID and the recipient on the program. This may include appropriate levels of substantial involvement such as the following:

- (1) Collaborative involvement in selection of advisory committee members, if the program will establish an advisory committee that provides advice to the recipient. USAID may participate as a member of this committee as well. Advisory committees must only deal with programmatic or technical issues and not routine administrative matters.
- (2) Concurrence on the substantive provisions of sub-awards: 2 CFR 200.308 already requires the recipient to obtain the AO's prior approval for the subaward, transfer, or contracting out of any work under an award. This is generally limited to approving work by a third party under the agreement. If USAID wishes to reserve any further approval rights for sub-awards or contracts, it must clearly spell out such Agency involvement in the substantial involvement provision of the agreement.

(3) Approval of the recipient's monitoring and evaluation plans.

(4) Monitor to authorize specified kinds of direction or redirection because of interrelationships with other projects.

d. Agency Authority to Immediately Halt a Construction Activity: The AO may immediately halt a construction activity if identified specifications are not met.

4. Title to Property

Property title under the resultant agreement shall vest with the recipient in accordance with the Requirements of 2 CFR 200.

For Non US Non-Government Organizations, ADS Standard provision - TITLE TO AND USE OF PROPERTY (DECEMBER 2014) - title to all Property financed under this award vests in the recipient upon acquisition unless otherwise specified in this award; applies.

5. Authorized Geographic Code

The geographic code for this program is 937.

6. Purpose of the Award

The principal purpose of the relationship with the Recipient and under the subject program is to transfer funds to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation of the Jordan's Partnerships Program which is authorized by Federal statute.

The successful Recipient will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives and the efficient and effective administration of the award through the application of sound management practices. The Recipient will assume responsibility for administering Federal funds in a manner consistent with underlying agreements, program objectives, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award. The Recipient using its own unique combination of staff, facilities, and experience, has the primary responsibility for employing whatever form of sound organization and management techniques may be necessary in order to assure proper and efficient administration of the resulting award.

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SECTION C: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. Eligible Applicants

U.S. and non-US organizations may participate under this NFO. These are private sector businesses, foundations, financial institutions, entrepreneurs, investors, philanthropists, and others that can identify and suggest ways to utilize their financial resources to collaborate with USAID/Jordan to achieve the Mission's goal of broad-based, inclusive economic development accelerated in Jordan, such organizations are referred to as Resource Partners in this APS.

The APS is also USAID/Jordan's invitation to prospective Implementing Partners (e.g., NGOs, private sector concerns, and others) who can engage and work with Resource Partners.

USAID/Jordan encourages Jordan implementing organizations (for-profit and not-for-profit non-governmental organizations) and non-traditional Jordan development partners, to reach out to Resource Partners, in Jordan or otherwise, and explore ways in which collaboration with USAID/Jordan might help advance shared economic development goals.

To be eligible, all partners must be legally recognized entities under applicable law. Individuals are not eligible. Grant funds may be used, in part, to build the capacity of local organizations, whether they are for-profit or non-profit.

USAID welcomes applications from organizations which have not previously received financial assistance from USAID.

Applicants must have established financial management, monitoring and evaluation processes, internal control systems, and policies and procedures that comply with established U.S. Government standards, laws, and regulations. The successful applicant(s) will be subject to a responsibility determination assessment (Pre-award Survey) by the Agreement Officer (AO).

The Recipient must be a responsible entity. The AO may determine a pre-award survey is required to conduct an examination that will determine whether the prospective recipient has the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational controls, and technical skills – or ability to obtain them – in order to achieve the objectives of the program and comply with the terms and conditions of the award.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

Cost Sharing or Matching is defined by USAID as “the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds unless otherwise authorized by Federal statute”. Partnerships are expected to bring significant new, non-U.S. Government Resources, whether money, ideas, technologies, experience, or expertise, to address Jordan's economic development problems. In addition to having some alignment with USAID/Jordan's DO1 goals, partnerships should have an overall value of at least \$1 million which includes a minimum one-to-one leverage of USAID and non-USG funds. This means that a potential partner, or an alliance of partners, should be able to

contribute at least \$500,000 in cash and in-kind non-USG resources to the proposed partnership. An ideal partnership should have the following characteristics:

- Clear alignment with USAID/Jordan's DO1 objectives
- An overall program value of at least \$1 million
- A minimum 1:1 leverage in private, non-U.S. Government resources
- Performance period not exceeding 36 months

Moreover, prospective partners must be organizations with a reputation for integrity and the highest standard of conduct. They should demonstrate a respect for human rights, gender sensitivity, the inclusion of people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, decent work conditions, environmental consciousness, and community involvement in their operational practices. Preference will be given to alliances that engage underserved populations (especially women and youth) and communities as primary beneficiaries.

For guidance on cost sharing/matching in grants and cooperative agreements, see 2 CFR 200.306.

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SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Agency Point of Contact

Name: Rima Kayyal
Title: Senior Acquisition Specialist
Street Address: Umawiyeen Street
Email: rkayyal@usaid.gov
Phone number: 962-6-590-6666

Questions and Answers:

All questions regarding this NFO should be submitted in writing to Rima Kayyal to the e-mail address above.

Questions regarding this NFO should be submitted by email no later than October 7, 2015, 12 noon Jordan time to provide sufficient time to address the questions and incorporate the questions and answers as an amendment to this funding opportunity. Any information given to a prospective Applicant concerning this NFO will be furnished promptly to all other prospective Applicants as an amendment to this NFO, if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective Applicant. If found necessary, USAID/Jordan may conduct a meeting with interested applicants to explain this funding opportunity; this notification will be through an amendment to this funding opportunity.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission

Submission through email is the official application submission procedure.

Applicants are expected to review, understand, and comply with all aspects of the NFO.

Preparation of Applications:

Each Applicant shall furnish the information required by this NFO. This is a multi-tiered review process. Applications shall be submitted in two phases: (a) Concept Paper and (b) Full Application.

Any erasures or other changes to the application must be initiated by the person signing the application. Applications signed by an agent on behalf of the Applicant shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the issuing office.

Applicants who include data that they do not want disclosed to the public for any purpose or used by the U.S. Government except for evaluation purpose, should mark the title page with the following legend:

“This application includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the U.S. Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed – in whole or in part – for any purpose other than to evaluate this application. If, however, a grant is awarded to this Applicant as a result of – or in connection with – the submission of this data, the U.S. Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting grant. This restriction does not limit the U.S. Government’s right to use information contained in this data if it is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets {insert sheet numbers} and, mark each sheet of data it wished to restrict with the following legend:

“Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this application.”

Applicants should retain for their records one (1) copy of the application and all enclosures which accompany it.

3. Application Submission Procedures

It is the Applicant’s responsibility to ensure that all necessary documentation is complete and received on time.

Applicants may upload applications to <http://www.grants.gov>. USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes associated with electronic submissions.

All applications received by the submission deadline will be reviewed for responsiveness to the NFO and the application format. No addition or modifications will be accepted after the submission date.

After you have sent your applications electronically, immediately check your own email to confirm that the attachments you intended to send were indeed sent. If you discover an error in your transmission, please send the material again and note in the subject line of the email or indicate in the file name if submitted via grants.gov that it is a "corrected" submission. Do not send the same email more than once unless there has been a change, and if so, please note that it is a "corrected" email.

4. Technical and Cost Application Format

In accordance with ADS 303.3.6.1(d), this is a multi-tiered review process. During the first stage, applicants must submit a 3 to 5 page concept paper and a summary budget to provide USAID with a clear understanding of the application. At this point, USAID does not expect applicants to provide budget details, staffing plans, organizational background or similar detailed information. The concept paper should only discuss the project concept, including the proposed approach and a description of results to be achieved. This submission will be reviewed by a Technical Committee within USAID to determine whether or not a full application will be requested (second stage). Full applications will then also be reviewed by the Technical

Committee. Full applications may only be submitted by invitation from the USAID/Jordan Acquisition and Assistance Office.

Step One: Concept Paper

Concept Paper Instruction:

Prospective Applicants should submit their Concept Papers electronically to rkayyal@usaid.gov. Concept papers are limited to five pages plus a cover page (total of six pages). Concept papers must be either submitted in English or Arabic. Format for the Concept Paper must be in Microsoft Word 2010, Times New Roman font size 12, text accessible.

Concept Paper Contents:

- Cover page should consist of the following:
 - o NFO Number: APS-278-15-000002
 - o Title of the proposed partnership
 - o Lifetime of the proposed partnership
 - o Name and address of organization
 - o Type of organization (e.g. for-profit, non-profit, local organization, university, etc.)
 - o Point of Contact (lead contact name, relevant telephone and email information)
 - o Signature of authorized representative of the applicant

- Concept Paper Info:
 - o Definition of the overall objective and a brief description of the proposed partnership and anticipated outcomes.

 - o Technical Approach, including:
 - An analysis of the context of the problem that demonstrates an understanding of the needs, the complexity of the situation, and the challenges of programming or service provision in the identified geographic area or the targeted audience.

 - Discussion of the process or product innovation demonstrating a clear alignment with applicable USAID/Jordan DO1 objectives.

 - Description of how or why the proposed approach will be more successful or effective than other approaches and be appropriate for effective scale up.

 - Discussion of the economic development impact for vulnerable populations addressing feasibility, sustainability and scalability.

- Discussion of related gender issues and how the proposed approach will contribute to gender equality and women empowerment.
- Identified Resource and (if applicable) Implementing Partners and the required minimum 1:1 leverage.
- Budget breakdown of the major cost categories

Concept Papers will be reviewed according to the criteria described in Section E. If an applicant is successful at the Concept Paper stage, USAID will request a Full Application in accordance with instructions that will be communicated to the selected applicants.

Step Two: Full Application

This information is only applicable for organizations that receive a formal letter from USAID requesting a full application.

If USAID/Jordan determines, after review of the Concept Paper, that there are shared development goals as well as a strong potential for success, the Mission may either engage the prospective partner to clarify aspects of the proposed projects; or ask the prospective partner to submit a full application. Otherwise, USAID will respectfully decline the proposed partnership. Consultations or discussions, if any, which may occur between Mission staff and prospective partners, do not constitute any Agency commitment to developing or supporting a partnership or any commitment to funding the proposed partnership.

Upon request for a full application, the applicant will be required to submit the following:

- Full Technical Application that provides more detailed information on topics previously addressed in the Concept Paper;
- The SF 424 series found on <http://apply07.grants.gov/apply/FormLinks?family=15>, which included the:
 - SF-424, Application for Federal Assistance;
 - SF-424A, Budget Information – Non-construction Programs; and
 - SF 424B, Assurances – Non-construction Programs.
- A detailed monitoring and evaluation plan, including the gathering of baseline data, and the use of control groups and/or counterfactual approaches;
- A detailed budget and financial plan with major line items, identification of funding source (i.e., by partner) for each, and a narrative description of what the resources will be used for;
- Documentation of commitments and/or MOUs from all partners of the partnership

- An implementation schedule;
- Branding and marking plans
- Environmental compliance: The Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, Section 117 requires that the impact of USAID's activities on the environment be considered and that USAID include environmental sustainability as a central consideration in designing and carrying out its development programs. This mandate is codified in Federal Regulations (22 CFR 216) and in USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS) Parts 201.5.10g and 204 (<http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/200/>), which, in part, require that the potential environmental impacts of USAID-financed activities are identified prior to a final decision to proceed and that appropriate environmental safeguards are adopted for all activities.
- Full gender analysis and a plan for taking gender into consideration during project implementation including identification of project-relevant gender challenges and opportunities; a description of how gender considerations will be dealt with in the project; identification of any performance indicators relevant to gender considerations as well as identification of performance indicators that will be gender disaggregated; targets for female and male participation in relevant activities; and strategies for ensuring high levels of meaningful female and youth participation in project activities.
- If the Applicant has established a consortium or another legal relationship among its partners, the Cost/Business application must include a copy of the legal relationship between the parties. The agreement should include a full discussion of the relationship between the Applicant and Sub-Applicant(s) including identification of the Applicant with whom USAID will work with for purposes of Agreement administration, identity of the Applicant which will have accounting responsibility, how Agreement effort will be allocated and the express agreement of the principals thereto to be held jointly and severally liable for the acts or omissions of the other.
- Applicants who intend to utilize contractors or sub-awardees should indicate the extent intended and a complete cost breakdown. Extensive contracts/agreement financial plans should follow the same cost format as submitted by the primary Applicant. A breakdown of all costs according to each partner organization, contract or sub-awardee involved in the program should be provided.

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200 Contract means a legal instrument by which the Applicant purchases property or services needed to carry out the project or program under a resulting award. The term does not include a legal instrument when the substance of the transaction meets the definition of a Federal award or sub-award (see § 200.92 Sub-award), even if the Applicant considers it a contract. The Applicant must describe the work to be performed, the risk borne by the contractor, the contractor's investment, the amount of subcontracting proposed by the contractor, and the quality of its record of past performance for similar work. For-profit contract organizations that work under the award and do not meet the above definition of a sub-awardee are eligible for profit/fee.

- The Applicant must submit a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement NICRA if the organization has such an agreement with an agency or department of the U.S. Government. If no NICRA the Applicant should submit the following:

Reviewed Financial Statements Report: a report issued by a Certified Public Account (CPA) documenting the review of the financial statements was performed in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services; that management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework and for designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation. The account must also state the he or she is not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements; or

Audited Financial Statements Report: An auditor issues a report documenting the audit was conducted in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS), the financial statements are the responsibility of management, provides an opinion that the financial statements present fairly in all material respects the financial position of the company and the results of operations are in conformity with the applicable financial reporting framework (or issues a qualified opinion if the financial statements are not in conformity with the applicable financial reporting framework).

- Evidence of Responsibility Determination that the Agreement Officer can use to determine the Applicant:
 - a. Has adequate financial resources or the ability to obtain such resources as required during the performance of the award;
 - b. Has the ability to comply with the award conditions, taking into account all existing and currently prospective commitments of the Applicant;
 - c. Has a satisfactory record of performance. Past relevant unsatisfactory performance is ordinarily sufficient to justify a finding of non-responsibility, unless there is clear evidence of subsequent satisfactory performance;
 - d. Has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics; and
 - e. Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a Cooperative Agreement under applicable laws and regulations (e.g., EEO).

Required Certifications

- The required certifications, assurances and solicitation provisions found in ADS 303.3.8.
- Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) Number and System for Award Management (SAM) Requirements

USAID may not award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements. Each applicant is required to:

(i) Be registered in SAM before submitting its application. SAM is streamlining processes, eliminating the need to enter the same data multiple times, and consolidating hosting to make the process of doing business with the government more efficient.;

(ii) Provide a valid DUNS number in its application; and

(iii) Continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency.

USAID may not award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable DUNS and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time USAID is ready to make a Federal award, USAID may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.

- Certificate of Compliance: Please submit a copy of your Certificate of Compliance if your organization's systems have been certified by USAID/Washington's Office of Acquisition and Assistance (M/OAA).

5. Funding Restrictions

USAID policy is not to award profit under assistance instruments. However, all reasonable, allocable and allowable expenses, both direct and indirect, which are related to the agreement program and are in accordance with applicable cost principle under 2 CFR 200 Subpart E. of the Uniform Administrative Requirements may be paid under the anticipated award.

The award will not allow the reimbursement of pre-award costs.

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SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. Criteria

All concept papers will be evaluated using a go/no-go rating system based on the following criteria, which are of equal importance.

2. Review and Selection Process

A. Concept Paper review Information

- Demonstration of adequate knowledge and understanding of the Jordanian context and the relevant policy dynamics; Clear understanding of the needs and challenges and a clear, logical, and well-conceived approach to achieving the project objective in the identified geographic area and/or targeted audience.
- Alignment with USAID/Jordan Programming Priorities. Proposed activities should align with USAID/Jordan's strategic plan found at <https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1883/CDCSJordan.pdf> and programming priorities; including a focus on economic development outcomes, innovation and vulnerable populations. If there is no apparent alignment then the proposal will not be considered.
- The level of innovation proposed to address development challenges. Innovation should lead to dramatic improvements that reach more beneficiaries in a shorter period of time, producing development outcomes more effectively and more sustainably.
- Economic Development Impact: Feasibility, Sustainability and Scalability. USAID will evaluate the prospective economic development impact of the proposed partnership, paying particular attention to:
 - o Feasibility: The proposed partnership should have well-defined and achievable objectives with explicit magnitude of change linked to USAID's targets. The enabling environment and the proposed combination of partner assets, resources and expertise should be sufficient to yield significant impact on a specific and important economic development challenge. Financial and technical approaches must be viable. In addition, the involvement of Jordan partners and/or beneficiaries in the development and implementation of the partnership should be clear and sufficient to demonstrate a strong likelihood that the partnership will be successful.

- Sustainability: The partnership should demonstrate the potential to yield sustainable solutions to the economic development challenge being addressed by USAID/Jordan's CDCS. In addition, the proposed partnership should involve Jordan partners in leadership roles to enhance sustainability. Further, the proposed partnership should include a plan for engaging and strengthening capacity of local partners.
- Scalability: Whether and how the proposed approaches can be scaled or replicated in a manner that would offer a broader set of impacts at the national, regional or global level.
- Understanding of the impact that societal challenges have on each gender. Description of actions that will be taken to help each gender play their idea role and surmount gender-challenges.
- Level of Funding/Required Leverage. As noted previously in this APS, Jordan Partnerships should have an overall value of at least US \$1 million. While smaller projects may be considered, those that do not meet this minimum leverage requirement are unlikely to succeed.

The private sector contribution must equal, and preferably exceed, the level of resources provided by the U.S. Government. USAID refers to this private sector resource mobilization as leverage.

Leverage is typically a combination of cash and in-kind contribution. Examples of in-kind contributions that USAID might accept as leverage include:

- Commodities, such as equipment, drugs or foodstuffs
- Use of training or other purpose-specific facilities necessary to a program's implementation
- Value of time donated by technical consultants or company employees
- Value of salaries of staff dedicated to a project
- Technology, communications and capital assets
- Intellectual property rights
- Licenses

Certain types of resources cannot be counted as leverage. These include:

- Foregone profit
 - Value of brand, reputation, or “goodwill”
 - General overhead costs for an organization that are not directly related to partnership activities
 - Commitments to purchase or pay a premium for products or services generated as a result of partnership activities.
- Evaluation of the budget breakdown

B. Full Application

If the Mission’s review of the applicant’s concept paper results in a decision to request a full application as stated in Section E above, the Agreement Officer will provide specific requirements and instructions for the full application including evaluating criteria.

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SECTION F: FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Federal Award Notices

Award of the agreement contemplated by this NFO cannot be made until funds have been appropriated, allocated and committed through internal USAID procedures. While USAID anticipates that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award. The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. No costs chargeable to the proposed Agreement may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed Agreement or a specific, written authorization from the Agreement Officer.

2. Administrative & National Policy Requirements

Relevant policies and federal regulations are available at the following web sites:

- ADS-303: <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303.pdf>
- 2 CFR 200: <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/textidx?SID=1b472774f0a1e84d725c7ca14618e8ac&node=pt2.1.200&rgn=div5>
- Mandatory Standard Provisions for U.S. Nongovernmental Recipients can be accessed through USAID's website <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/refindx3.htm>
- Mandatory Standard Provisions for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental Recipients can be accessed through USAID's website <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/refindx3.htm>
- Resulting awards to non-U.S. non-governmental organizations will be administered in accordance with Chapter 303 of USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS-303), 2 CFR 200 and Standard Provisions for non-U.S. Nongovernmental Organizations. Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Nongovernmental organizations are available at: <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303mab.pdf>

3. Reporting Requirements.

The Agreement Officer will provide specific reporting requirements for the full application.

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SECTION G: FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACT(S)

Point of contact (POC) for questions while the funding opportunity is open is Rima Kayyal,
email: rkayyal@usaid.gov

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SECTION H: OTHER INFORMATION

USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.

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