Localize Global Health Security Activity

AMENDMENT 1

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION

UPDATE: The LGHS Sierra Leone Bidder's Conference is scheduled for July 23, 2024, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM GMT at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Freetown, Sierra Leone. This hybrid event offers both in-person and virtual attendance options. Please RSVP by emailing LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net.

RFA Issuance Date: July 12, 2024
Deadline for Questions: July 22, 2024, at 5:00 pm Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)
Deadline for Full Application Submission: August 12, 2024, at 5:00 pm GMT
Submission Method for Questions and Applications: Via email to LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net

Subject: Request for Applications No. RFA_SL001

Program Name: Localize Global Health Security (LGHS) Activity

Dear Prospective Applicants,

Panagora, under the USAID-funded LGHS project, is seeking applications for grants from qualified local organizations to fund activities under the LGHS project. **LGHS will initiate a request for applications (RFA) solicitation process. RFA responses (i.e., full application) will be due on Monday, August 12, 2024, at 5:00 pm GMT.**

Applicants will submit a full application that addresses a key technical content area of the program. Each application received will be reviewed for its technical merit and responsiveness to the RFA objectives. **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.** Successful applicants will be fully responsible for ensuring achievement of the activity's objectives. Please read each section of the RFA carefully.

LGHS intends to make up to four awards to applicants who best meet the objectives of this funding opportunity based on the merit review criteria described in the RFA. While four award(s) are anticipated, LGHS reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.

Subject to fund availability, awards will be made to the responsible applicant(s) who have applications that 1) best demonstrate the most technically responsive and cost-effective approach and methodology to meet the RFA requirements, 2) are fully compliant, and 3) present the best value to LGHS. The applicant must meet the eligibility requirements included in Section C and provide all the information and signed attachments required in the RFA that constitutes a full application for an award.

The RFA, answers to questions, and amendments to the RFA will be posted in the following sites:

1. Panagora Procurement Page: https://panagoragroup.net/procurements/
2. Panagora LinkedIn Page: https://www.linkedin.com/company/panagora-group
3. Work With USAID: https://www.workwithusaid.gov/sub-opportunities/
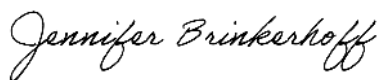4. SLANGO HOME: https://slango.sl/

Potential applicants should regularly check the websites to make sure they have the latest information pertaining to the RFA. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the RFA has been downloaded in its entirety, including any amendments. If you have difficulty accessing the RFA, please contact the LGHS Grants Team at LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net for technical assistance.

The deadline for questions is Monday, July 22, 2024, at 5:00 pm GMT. Responses to questions received before the deadline will be provided to all potential applicants through postings on the sites noted above. Please note that no questions will be accepted after the deadline.

Issuance of this RFA does not constitute an award commitment from LGHS nor does it commit LGHS to pay for any costs incurred in preparing or submitting comments/suggestions for an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant.

Thank you for your interest in the LGHS project.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Brinkerhoff

Jennifer Brinkerhoff
Interim Project Director
USAID Localize Global Health Security Project (LGHS)

Section A: Program Description

BACKGROUND ON LOCALIZE GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY

USAID Localize Global Health Security (LGHS) intends to initiate a grants program for local organizations in Sierra Leone to address critical gaps in public health security at the subnational level using a One Health approach that integrates human, animal, and environmental health. The project focus will be prevention, detection, and notification of suspected zoonotic disease through risk communication and community engagement (RCCE), community-based surveillance (CBS), and workforce development. LGHS anticipates awarding up to four grants for a two-year period (subject to availability of funding). Successful applicants will receive a grant to implement their global health security (GHS) activities in one or several of the identified technical focus areas. In addition, LGHS will offer technical assistance in GHS, organizational capacity strengthening, and learning opportunities to support grantee effectiveness and improve the reach of their programs. Based on the One Health approach and the focus on zoonotic disease management LGHS encourages participation of organizations with experience implementing animal and environmental health–related activities, as well as organizations that are able to pivot to support health security initiatives in the aforementioned technical focus areas

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the LGHS Sierra Leone grants program is to further strengthen, establish, and sustain Sierra Leone's implementation of GHS priorities and compliance with International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005 at the subnational level. Specifically, successful grant activities will:

1. Improve the ability of local organizations to prevent, detect, and provide notification of suspected zoonotic disease threats at the subnational level.
2. Strengthen community-level ability to identify, and mitigate the risks associated with, animal-to-human transmission of diseases.
3. Strengthen (or establish) multisectoral linkages with community structures to improve timely and complete reporting of health security threats.

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

Public health security is a multi-sectoral priority in Sierra Leone. The Joint External Evaluation (JEE) was conducted in March 2023 to assess the country's capacity to prevent, detect, and rapidly respond to public health risks. Zoonotic disease was among the critical gaps identified through the JEE, as well as community-based surveillance of zoonotic disease. The Sierra Leone National One Health Strategic Plan 2023–2028 was finalized and officially launched on December 14, 2023. This initiative demonstrates a significant commitment, political will, and engagement across ministries to enhance public health through a One Health approach, integrating efforts across human, animal, and environmental health sectors to address zoonotic diseases and other health threats comprehensively. The One Health approach is particularly critical for effectively preventing, detecting, and responding to priority zoonotic diseases. Historically, the primary focus has been the human health impacts of zoonotic disease, but recognition is growing of the need to strengthen animal and environmental interventions to mitigate risks more effectively before they result in human outbreaks of disease.

Sierra Leone hosts a population of eight million spread out across five administrative areas subdivided into 16 districts. Seven districts (Bombali, Kenema, Kailahun, Kambia, Koindadugu, Kono Kenema, and Pujehun) share a border with Liberia and Guinea through which significant cross-border population and animal movements take place, contributing to increased risk of outbreaks of infectious diseases and the transfer of zoonotic diseases. Recent events such as the COVID-19 pandemic have stifled economic growth in the country, which has also experienced political insecurity/instability and governmental shifts.

Sierra Leone has faced significant challenges with emerging infectious diseases, particularly because of its recent history with the Ebola virus outbreak in 2014–2015. The outbreak highlighted several key issues, including weak health infrastructure; the need for better disease surveillance and faster, more coordinated response mechanisms; and the threat of zoonotic diseases. The country's rich biodiversity and substantial human-animal interaction, climate change and its impact, temperature and rainfall variability, and deforestation and land use changes expose the communities to infectious diseases, such as Ebola, zoonotic influenza, and rabies. To tackle these public health threats, Sierra Leone is implementing strategies such as One Health, which aims to strengthen surveillance, improve health care infrastructure, and promote community engagement. Integrated approaches addressing infectious and non-communicable diseases, alongside efforts to mitigate the impacts of climate change, are crucial to enhancing the country's public health resilience. By focusing on these areas, Sierra Leone aims to build a more robust health system capable of effectively responding to current and emerging public health threats.

Localization of GHS in Sierra Leone necessitates the active involvement of various target populations at the community level, including subsistence farmers who have regular interactions with livestock as well as women, youth groups, traditional and cultural leaders, and other marginalized populations that play a critical role but have not been fully engaged in animal health and other health security interventions. These populations are critical for ensuring that health security interventions are culturally relevant, sustainable, and effective in addressing the complex health challenges facing the country.

EXPECTED ROLE OF THE GRANTEE IN THE PROGRAM

Grantees will work with LGHS to implement a program of integrated activities that will contribute to the prevention, detection, and notification of suspected zoonotic disease threats using RCCE, CBS, and/or One Health human resource development interventions through the multi-sectoral One Health approach. Technical areas of focus include.

1. Improve surveillance and reporting of suspected priority zoonotic diseases in the animal health sector at the community level using a One Health approach.
2. Leverage existing RCCE/community awareness resources (i.e., information, education, and communication materials, etc.) to improve understanding of zoonotic disease risk factors and associated prevention activities at the community level, including identification of early warning signs of priority zoonotic diseases.
3. Increase opportunities to strengthen skills of the animal health workforce to reinforce multi-sectoral/One Health surveillance and notification of priority zoonotic diseases at the community level.

Prospective grantees can bid for part or all the technical areas of this RFA, and clearly state in their application what area they are bidding on.

Grantees will be expected to:

- Work with LGHS to develop a work plan, budget and monitoring and evaluation plan to implement a program of integrated activities that will sustainably help prevent, detect, and respond to zoonotic disease threats using the selected technical areas of focus.
- Work with LGHS to design and implement a capacity strengthening plan based on the organizations self-assessment.
- Regularly monitor their program; engage in continuous improvement and adaptive management exercises to meet defined program goals.
- Participate in monthly data review meetings to contribute to tracking of key indicators.
- Share experiences and contribute to learning; actively engage in learning opportunities that will improve program performance and effectiveness.
- Seek government approval of the project at the subnational level, post-award.
- Be readily available to actively engage with the USAID Mission upon request (facilitated by LGHS).

IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

Applications should reflect a One Health approach that contributes to and leverages the integration of human, animal, and environmental health sectors. GHS activities need to be linked to World Health Organization IHR benchmarks (link), World Organization for Animal Health Performance of Veterinary Services, and/or JEE capacities (link) within the stated technical focus areas of the program: zoonotic disease, community-based surveillance of zoonotic disease, risk communication and community engagement, and/or workforce development.

Target populations/communities should be identified and engaged in the design, implementation, and participatory monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL). The program should seek to create opportunities to solicit feedback from communities to promote continuous improvement and demonstrate how it is building on existing structures/systems to maximize impact and promote sustainable solutions.

The program should be well integrated into, and ensure multisectoral linkages with, existing public health security/One Health systems and structures to improve timely and complete reporting of suspected public health threats to the communities.

Programs should also include gender-sensitive programming that advances gender equality and social inclusion of relevant marginalized populations in the program coverage area (e.g., youth, people with disabilities) to demonstrate how the activities will contribute to greater equity in public health security.

INTENDED RESULTS

The overall goal of this RFA is to further strengthen, establish, and sustain Sierra Leone's capacity in support of GHS priorities.

ACTIVITY PARAMETERS

Presented below are the program technical areas with illustrative examples of potential activities. Applicants can propose some or all the activities presented for each technical area or propose new activities not listed here that contribute to the defined technical areas. We encourage innovative, creative approaches to achieving program objectives. Applicants must clearly state in their application which technical area(s) they have selected, identify corresponding activities to address the area, and identify the target audiences and geographical areas of focus (if applicable).

Community-Based Zoonotic Disease Surveillance
1. Improve surveillance and reporting of priority zoonotic diseases in the animal health sector at the community level using a One Health approach.

Examples of activities:
   a. Sensitizing community members on surveillance of suspected zoonotic diseases at the community level utilizing a One Health approach to improve detection and notification of potential zoonotic outbreaks.
   b. Train community animal health workers and local leaders on vaccination programs and the role of vaccination in disease prevention in animal/human health in order to reduce outbreaks/infection.
   c. Train community animal health workers on biosafety/biosecurity measures and processes in order to prevent/contain outbreaks.
   d. Train community animal health workers to conduct complete and timely reporting to local leaders and district animal health authorities as part of an early warning system using One Health.

Risk Communication and Community-based Surveillance
2. Increase community understanding and surveillance of zoonotic disease risk factors and associated prevention activities including identification of early warning signs (i.e. signs and symptoms) of priority zoonotic diseases.

Examples of activities:
   a. Leveraging existing Ministry of Health approved RCCE resources and materials, conduct community awareness-raising campaigns on zoonotic disease prevention and risk factors (WhatsApp platforms, radio/TV talk-shows, printing of materials in the local language, distribution of posters, pamphlets, flyers, etc.) among the following groups:
      • Farmer networks/associations and communities with a high prevalence of zoonotic diseases to increase awareness of early warning signs (i.e., signs and symptoms of priority zoonotic diseases) and effects of climate change on the prevalence of priority infectious diseases
      • Minority groups or high-risk communities at the animal-human interface to increase awareness of early warning signs (i.e., signs and symptoms of priority zoonotic diseases) of priority infectious diseases)
   b. Create and/or target community networks, e.g. faith-based, education, arts, employers, professional associations, etc., to coordinate community engagement and infodemic activities, adapting and utilizing these networks to distribute messages on priority topics.
   c. Train CHW/CAHW and volunteers to roll out a community-led approach in communities with high risk of zoonotic diseases and empower them to perform basic situational

analyses and take community driven action to report suspected zoonotic diseases and prevent spread.

Workforce Development
3. Increase opportunities to strengthen animal health worker skills to reinforce multi-sectoral/One Health surveillance and notification of priority zoonotic diseases at the community level.

Examples of activities:
a. Establish a certification program for community animal health workers with support from local universities.
b. Create One Health youth clubs in local primary and secondary schools
c. Establish continuing education and training programs on zoonotic disease surveillance and management for community animal health workers at the subnational level
d. Strengthen the subnational One Health workforce by engaging in-service professionals through peer-to-peer learning opportunities

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

Applicants' proposed activities should directly contribute to achieving the intended results presented above. Upon award, selected grantees will be expected to work with LGHS within 90 days of award to develop a MEL plan for their GHS activities, including the selection/development of indicators; data collection, management, and quality assurance; reporting; and collaborative, learning, and adapting (CLA) practices.

PROPOSED PERSONNEL

The program will require the following designated personnel (either full-time or part-time, as determined in consultation with LGHS post-award) to ensure effective implementation. Additional supporting positions are encouraged to be included, such as:

1. Program direction and management
2. GHS technical implementation
3. MEL
4. Finance and operations
5. Activity coordination/program administration

[END OF SECTION A]

Section B: Grant Information

GRANTS PROGRAM PRIORITY AREAS

The RFA seeks applicants interested in proposing grant-funded activities to support USAID's global health security programs in up to three technical focus areas. These three areas align with USAID's strategic expertise, with particular engagement across the human, animal, and environmental health sectors of Sierra Leone.

Grantees are invited to submit grant applications for technical programs in one or more of the following technical focus areas:

1. Improve surveillance and reporting of suspected priority zoonotic diseases in the animal health sector at the community level using a One Health approach.
2. Leverage existing RCCE/community awareness resources (i.e., IEC materials) to improve understanding of zoonotic disease risk factors and associated prevention activities at the community level, including identification of early warning signs of priority zoonotic diseases.
3. Increase opportunities to strengthen animal health worker skills to reinforce multi-sectoral/One Health surveillance and notification of priority zoonotic diseases at the community level.

ESTIMATE OF FUNDS AVAILABLE AND NUMBER OF AWARDS CONTEMPLATED

LGHS anticipates this award will be a fixed-price or cost-reimbursable award. The grant type will be based on the program description and the results of the pre-award assessment, which LGHS will conduct before issuing the award. Subject to fund availability, the project intends to award grants whose total value will be up to $250,000 USD delivered over two years. LGHS anticipates awarding up to four grants to successful applicants. Negotiations will be conducted with successful applicants only. LGHS reserves the right to award any or none of the applications submitted.

START DATE AND PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance anticipated is two years. The start date will be upon the signature of the award, estimated on or about September 30, 2024.

[END OF SECTION B]

Section C: Eligibility Information

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

This competition is open to any local non-governmental organization (NGO) that is a nonprofit, not-for-profit, or for-profit entity registered in Sierra Leone with the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development (MoPED). Grant support will be extended to local entities that are legally registered according to the law of Sierra Leone and seek to strengthen their country's global health security capacity. These may include:

- Not-for-profit and for-profit NGOs
- Civil society organizations
- Community-based organizations (not-for-profit and for-profit)
- Local cooperatives or associations
- Private enterprises

Organizations based outside of Sierra Leone will not be considered eligible for grant support.

Grantees must be able to demonstrate that they:
- Have sound managerial, technical, and institutional capacities to attain project results.
- Have a system of internal controls and measures to safeguard assets and prevent fraud.
- Hold good standing with all civil and fiscal authorities.
- Possess financial accountability and the ability to maintain detailed records of all expenditures.
- Are willing to sign relevant assurance and certification required by USAID based on grant value.

Applicants will also be required to complete a pre-award survey, as part of determination of eligibility for award.

INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Organizations **not** eligible to participate in the Grant Program include entities that:

- Are suspended or debarred by the U.S. Government or otherwise subject to an active exclusion in the System for Award Management.
- Appear on the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons List maintained by the Office of Foreign Assets Control.
- Appear on the United Nations Security Council Consolidated List.
- Are political parties, groupings, or institutions or their subsidiaries and affiliates.
- Advocate or promote anti-democratic policies or illegal activities.
- Are faith-based organizations whose objectives are for discriminatory and religious purposes, and whose main objective for the grant is of a religious nature.
- Are included in any supplementary information concerning prohibited entities that may be provided by USAID.
- Refuse to sign required certifications and assurances.
- Are university structures.

Section D: Application and Submission Guidelines

1. SUBMISSION METHOD FOR QUESTIONS

Submit questions electronically to the LGHS Grants Team at LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net. The deadline for questions is July 22, 2024, at 5:00pm GMT.

The email subject line should read "Questions – LGHS Sierra Leone Grant Program – *name of organization submitting application*."

All questions and answers will be shared with all interested applicants.

GRANT SOLICITATION BIDDERS CONFERENCE

A bidder's conference will be organized to provide prospective applicants with the opportunity to ask questions about the application process and program details. All prospective applicants are encouraged to attend. No more than two people per organization may participate. All information shared during the bidder's conference, including a recording of the event, will be made available after the conference through the sites referenced on page 2.

Date(s): July 24, 2024, afternoon GMT, time to be confirmed.

Location: This will be a hybrid event with both in-person and virtual participation options. Details, including meeting link, will be provided to prospective applicants who RSVP.

RSVP: All prospective applicants who wish to attend the bidder's conference, and/or receive a recording of the conference immediately after the event and any other materials, must RSVP by sending an email containing the names of the participants name of the organization, and email address(es) to LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net by July 22, 2024, at 5:00 pm GMT.

Language: The workshop will be held in English.

SUBMISSION METHOD FOR FINAL APPLICATION

Applications must be submitted by the closing date and closing time listed below:

Closing date: Monday, August 12, 2024

Closing time: Applications (including technical application and budget) are due by 5:00 pm GMT.

Panagora will determine that a submission has been received on time by using the date and time stamp of the email in the time zone indicated.

POINT OF CONTACT

Submit applications electronically to LGHS Grants Team at LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net. Panagora will not accept paper applications for this RFA.

The email subject line should read "RFA_SL001 Application – LGHS Sierra Leone Grant Program – *name of organization submitting application*."

Technical applications and attachments must be submitted in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF. Budgets must be submitted in Microsoft Excel and budget narratives in Microsoft Word.

LATE SUBMISSIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND WITHDRAWALS OF APPLICATION

At LGHS' discretion, any application received after the exact date and time specified for receipt may be ineligible for consideration. Applications may be withdrawn by written notice through email or in person by an organization or the authorized representative.

UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER

Applicants must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) to receive an award from Panagora. The process of obtaining a UEI may take many weeks. More information can be found at these two following websites:

- https://www.SAM.gov
- https://www.workwithusaid.gov/

FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

The following costs are not eligible for funding under this grant program:

- Ineligible goods and services as defined by USAID, including:
    - Military equipment
    - Surveillance equipment
    - Commodities and services for support of police and other law enforcement activities
    - Abortion equipment and services
    - Luxury goods and gambling equipment
    - Weather modification equipment
- Involuntary sterilization as a method of family planning or any financial incentive to an individual to undergo sterilization
- Biomedical research that relates, in whole or in part, to methods of, or the performance of, abortions or involuntary sterilizations as a means of family planning
- Construction, including improvements, renovation, alteration, and refurbishment
- Costs that are unallowable as determined by the applicable cost principles

2. APPLICATION CONTENT AND FORMAT

OVERALL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants will develop their applications based on their understanding of needs, their prior institutional experience, and their determination of the approaches that would be feasible and successful. In all cases, applicants must clearly explain the rationale for the proposed approaches chosen. To facilitate the competitive review of the applications, Panagora will consider only applications conforming to the following criteria:

- The application narrative should be clear, concise, and organized according to the RFA instructions.
- The document should be in 12-point, Times New Roman font, single spaced, with 1 inch/2.5 cm margins.
- Full applications should not exceed 18 pages; page maximums for specific parts are provided in the technical and cost application sections below.
- Applications should be written in English.
- Technical and cost applications should be separate files.
- The budget must be in Microsoft Excel 2003 or a later version and compatible with a Microsoft Windows XP operating environment. All calculations and formulas must be visible and unlocked and worksheets must be connected.
- The budget narrative must explain the contents of all budget lines. The basis for all costs, such as vendor quotations and labor law requirements, must be explained.

All applications received by the deadline will be reviewed for responsiveness to the specifications outlined in these guidelines and the application format. Applications should consider the evaluation criteria.

TECHNICAL APPLICATION

Limit of 13 pages, including the following sections:

I. TECHNICAL APPROACH AND FEASIBILITY OF PROGRAM DESIGN (UP TO SEVEN PAGES)

The applicant's technical approach should include:

- A description of the applicant's prior work as it pertains to the project objective
- A description of the activities to be undertaken, organized by thematic area
- Anticipated results
- The proposed approach to achieving each result

The application should discuss the applicant's approach for engaging with local actors, building partnerships with key stakeholders, and creating linkages with other relevant development activities/programs.

II. MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING PLAN (UP TO THREE PAGES NOT INCLUDING THE CURRICULUM VITAE (CV))

The management and staffing plan should show the roles and responsibilities of all staff who will participate in the program.

Applicants should provide the CVs of proposed senior personnel.

III. PAST PERFORMANCE (UP TO THREE PAGES)

Describe the organization's previous experience with RCCE, CBS, and/or One Health human resources development interventions through the multi-sectoral One Health approach.

COST APPLICATION

Please use the templates in Annexes 1 and 2 for the detailed budget and budget narrative. The budget should include all costs anticipated within the following line items:

- **Salaries/fringe benefits:** all costs associated with employees working under the proposed program, including the level of effort expected from each salaried employee and the costs of fringe benefits
- **Travel and per diem:** travel, lodging, and per diem for staff needed to implement the project
- **Equipment:** equipment that must be purchased to support program implementation
- **Workshops/training/events:** workshops, development of information materials, studies, information dissemination, etc.
- **Other direct costs:** any other direct costs associated with implementing activities under the project
- **Operating/administrative costs:** rent, communications, electricity, telephone, audit, and other operating costs. Office start-up costs and application development costs will not be paid.

OTHER DOCUMENTS

Applicants are required to provide the documents listed below. These documents do not count toward the technical and cost application page limits.

1. A copy of the organization's current and up-to-date registration.

2. Identification of the type of applicant organization, a brief description of its purpose, and detailed point of contact information for its principal officers, including full legal name, job title, email, telephone, and physical primary address of entity.

3. Signed required USAID certifications and assurances. (see Annex 4)

[END OF SECTION D]

Section E: Application Review Information

REVIEW PROCESS

LGHS will establish a technical evaluation committee to review applications. All reviewers will be subjected to a screening process to eliminate any conflict of interest. Evaluation will be based on the criteria set forth in points 1 and 2 below. The review committee, using the criteria detailed below, will rate applications, and make funding recommendations.

LGHS anticipates making its selection by August 2024.

1. EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR THE APPLICATION

A technical review committee will review the full technical application and assess it against the criteria below. In evaluating the applications, LGHS will examine overall merit and feasibility, as well as the specific criteria relevant to each component, shown in the table below. These criteria serve as the standard against which all applicants will be evaluated and as a way to identify the significant matters that applicants should address in their applications. LGHS will instruct the technical review committee to evaluate all applications according to the criteria as established and weighted below.

Table 1. LGHS Application Evaluation Criteria and Weighting

Evaluation Criteria	Points
I. Technical Approach, Strategies, and Feasibility of Program Design The review team considers a strong technical design to be one that is informed by local circumstances and needs. Applications must be in line with the technical areas outlined in the Program Description.	40
II. Management and Staffing Plan The review team will evaluate the extent to which the management and staffing plans demonstrate the applicant's ability to effectively implement proposed activities responsive to this RFA. Reviewers will assess whether the organization has proposed a sufficient level of effort to achieve stated results.	20
III. Organizational Capacity/Experience/Past Performance Reviewers will evaluate whether the organization has managed successful projects of similar size and scope in the geographic areas specified.	20
IV. Cost Evaluation The cost application will be evaluated for reasonableness, allocability, allowability, cost effectiveness, realism, and financial feasibility.	20
Total	**100**

2. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FOR PRE-AWARD SURVEY

After the application evaluation process, potential finalist organizations will be required to complete a Pre-Award Survey so that LGHS can assess the capacity of the grantee to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed grant. Organizations that received prior direct funding from USAID will be exempt from the pre-award survey process. LGHS staff may conduct site visits to evaluate the organization in these areas.

Section F: Grant and Administration Information

NOTIFICATION

Award of the grant contemplated by this RFA cannot be made until funds are made available through internal LGHS procedures. While LGHS anticipates that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award. The Panagora president and chief executive officer (CEO) is the only individual who may legally commit Panagora and LGHS to the expenditure of public funds. No costs chargeable to the proposed grant may be incurred before receipt of either a fully executed agreement or a specific written authorization from the Panagora president and CEO.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

STANDARD PROVISIONS

The Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. NGOs as applicable will apply to these grants. Applicants can find the provisions by going to:

https://www.usaid.gov/about-us/agency-policy/series-300/references-chapter/303mab.

Printed versions of these provisions are available upon request.

PERMISSION FOR USE AND DISCLOSURE

By submitting an application under this RFA, the applicant consents to the disclosure of the documents submitted by the applicant to the reviewers involved in the selection process. Please note that all reviewers are bound by non-disclosure agreements.

REPORTING

All financial and performance reporting will be implemented in accordance with USAID requirements. The following reports will be required:

- Quarterly Performance Reports
- Annual Performance Reports

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Activities determined to qualify for a Negative Determination with Conditions, as they have potential for negative impact on the environment, are shown below:

Table 2. Activities with Potential Environmental Impact

Activity or Activity Category	Recommended Determination Per 22 CFR 216(a)(2)(iii), which guides the following:
Procurement, storage, management, and disposal of public health commodities (e.g., HIV test kits, antiretrovirals, treatment of opportunistic infections)	The generation, storage, and disposal of medical materials will potentially have a negative impact on the environment.
Training of professional and paraprofessional health care workers in methods that may result in generation and disposal of hazardous medical waste	Health activities likely to involve blood testing will potentially generate hazardous waste.
Activities involving generation, storage, management, and disposal of hazardous and highly hazardous medical waste	Health activities will potentially generate hazardous waste.
Activities involving ongoing development, manufacturing, and distribution of novel antiretroviral formulations	Health activities will potentially generate hazardous health waste.
Small-scale construction and rehabilitation of health facilities and training centers	For activities potentially involving minor construction and renovation of existing facilities, no large-scale construction activities will be conducted.

These activities will be conducted in compliance with, and reported against, an approved Environmental Mitigation and Monitoring Plan (EMMP).

In addition, the grantee must comply with the host country's environmental regulations unless otherwise directed in writing by LGHS and USAID. In case of conflict between the host country and USAID regulations, the latter will govern.

[END SECTION F]

Section G: Other Information

DISCLAIMERS

LGHS:

- May cancel the solicitation and not award any funds.
- May reject any or all applications received; issuance of solicitation does not constitute award commitment by LGHS.
- Reserves the right to disqualify any application based on applicant's failure to follow solicitation instructions.
- Will not compensate applicants for their response to the solicitation.
- Reserves the right to issue an award based on initial evaluation of applications without further discussion.
- May choose to award only part of the activities in the solicitation or to issue multiple awards based on the solicitation activities.
- Reserves the right to waive minor application deficiencies that can be corrected before award determination to promote competition.
- May contact applicants to confirm contact person and address, and that the application was submitted for this solicitation.
- May contact listed past performance references without notice to the applicant; Panagora also reserves the right to contact other past-performance information sources that the applicant did not list in the application.

By submitting an application, the applicants confirm they understand the terms and conditions. The LGHS terms and conditions are attached to this RFA.

ANNEXES

The following documents are considered part of this RFA:

1. Budget template
2. Budget narrative template
3. Panagora grant terms and conditions
4. Required certifications and assurances
5. USAID Mandatory Provisions. Links: ADS Reference 303mab | Document | U.S. Agency for International Development (usaid.gov) and ADS Reference 303mat | Document | U.S. Agency for International Development (usaid.gov)
6. 2 CFR 200. Link: 2 CFR Part 200 -- Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards

[END OF SECTION G]

RFA_SL001_Amendment 1_7.18.24 (2)

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