



Localize Global Health Security Activity

REQUEST FOR APPLICATION (RFA) - SN001

AMENDMENT I

UPDATE: The LGHS Senegal Bidder's Conference is scheduled for Friday, December 6, 2024, from 10:30 AM – noon UTC, and will be held at Hotel Le Djoloff, 7 Rue Nani Fann Hock, Dakar, Senegal. This hybrid event will offer both in-person and virtual attendance options. Please RSVP by December 5 by emailing LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net . For complete details, refer to Section D: Application and Submission Guidelines under "Bidders Conference."

Program Name: Localize Global Health Security (LGHS)

RFA Issuance Date: November 22, 2024

Deadline for Questions: December 2, 2024, at 5pm Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)

Submission Method for Questions and Applications: Via email to LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net

Bidders' Conference: December 6, 2024

Deadline for Application Submission: January 13, 2025, at 5pm UTC.

Dear Prospective Respondents,

Panagora Group, under the USAID-funded Localize Global Health Security (LGHS) project, is seeking applications from qualified local organizations in Senegal, to fund grant activities under the LGHS project.

Respondents will submit an application that addresses the key technical content area of the program. Each part will be reviewed for its technical merit and responsiveness to one or more of the objectives presented in the request for application (RFA) and in accordance with evaluation criteria.

Eligible organizations are encouraged to read this funding opportunity thoroughly to understand the type of activities LGHS is looking to support the application submission requirements, and evaluation process.

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

Subject to the availability of funds, awards will be made to the responsible Respondent(s) whose applications best demonstrate a technically responsive, feasible and cost-realistic approach and methodology to meet the requirements of the RFA, that are fully compliant, and that present the best

value to LGHS. To be eligible for an award, the Respondent 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.

The RFA and all subsequent amendments, including responses to questions will be posted on:

1. <https://localizeglobalhealth.org/active-grants/>
2. <https://www.linkedin.com/company/panagora-group> (Panagora Group's LinkedIn page)
3. <https://www.workwithusaid.gov/sub-opportunities>

Respondents should regularly check the websites to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to the RFA. It is the responsibility of the Respondent to ensure that the RFA solicitation and any amendments have been downloaded in its entirety. If you have difficulty accessing the RFA, please contact the LGHS Grants Team at LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net for technical assistance.

Issuance of this RFA does not constitute an award commitment on the part of LGHS nor does it commit LGHS to pay for any costs incurred in preparation or submission of comments/suggestions for an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the Respondent.

Thank you for your interest in the LGHS project.

Sincerely,

Laurentiu Stan

Dr. Laurentiu Stan
Project Director
USAID Localize Global Health Security Project

ACRONYMS	
AMR	antimicrobial resistance
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
EMMP	environmental mitigation and monitoring plan
GHS	global health security
IHR	International Health Regulations
IP	implementing partner
JEE	Joint External Evaluation
LGHS	Localize Global Health Security
MEL	monitoring, evaluation, and learning
NGO	nongovernmental organization
PAN-RAM	National Multisectoral Action Plan for Surveillance and Control of AMR
PMP	Progressive Management Pathway
RCCE	risk communication and community engagement
RFA	request for application
SBC	social and behavior change
TEC	technical evaluation committee
UEI	unique entity identifier
UTC	Coordinated Universal Time
WHO	World Health Organization

Section A: Program Description

BACKGROUND ON LOCALIZE GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY IN SENEGAL

The USAID Localize Global Health Security (LGHS) project intends to issue grants to local organizations in Senegal to address critical gaps in global health security (GHS) at the subnational level using a [One Health approach](#) that integrates human, animal, and environmental health. The project will focus on risk communication, community engagement and social and behavior change (SBC) and the prevention of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). LGHS anticipates awarding up to two grants to local organizations. Successful Respondents will receive grants to implement GHS activities in the identified technical focus areas. In addition, LGHS will offer technical support to grantees in grant management, GHS, and organizational capacity strengthening, and will provide learning opportunities to support grantee effectiveness and improve the reach of grantee programs. Based on the One Health approach and the aspects of risk communication and community engagement (RCCE) and prevention of AMR that LGHS aims to support, we encourage the participation of organizations with experience implementing human, animal and environmental health-related activities that can leverage this experience to address GHS.

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the LGHS Senegal grants program is to further strengthen, establish and sustain Senegal's implementation of GHS priorities and compliance with International Health Regulations (IHR) (2005) at the subnational level in the Thies, Fatick, and Kaolack Regions. Specifically, successful grant activities will improve the ability of local organizations to mitigate the risks of AMR through RCCE and SBC activities designated to create awareness and facilitate behavior change of community stakeholders in the human, animal, agriculture and environment health sectors.

PROGRAM BACKGROUND

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), AMR is a growing threat to health and undermines health development, ranking among the top 10 public health threats (across all sectors) ([WHO, 2023](#)). The O'Neill Report, commissioned by the UK government in 2014, estimates that AMR infections could become the leading cause of death worldwide by 2050 ([The Review on Antimicrobial Resistance, 2016](#)). The fight against AMR is in its infancy in Senegal. In 2019, the number of AMR deaths was higher than deaths from maternal and neonatal disorders, respiratory infections, tuberculosis, neglected tropical diseases, or malaria ([University of Washington, 2023](#)). Although the country has an integrated AMR surveillance manual and standard operating procedures for AMR testing, critical gaps remain in operationalizing the surveillance system ([Senegal Ministry of Health and Social Action, 2017](#)). There are challenges in effectively and efficiently establishing strategies to properly address risky behaviors; particularly regarding the use of antimicrobials, which promotes the emergence and spread of AMR. The abundance of AMR in zoonotic diseases, as described by several peer-reviewed sources ([Yale School of Public Health, 2023](#)), also exacerbates the public health challenges in Senegal.

Following the 2017 Joint External Evaluation ([WHO, 2016](#)) of the minimum capacities required for the implementation of the International Health Regulations ([WHO, 2005](#)), Senegal developed its first National Multisectoral Action Plan for Surveillance and Control of AMR (PAN-RAM) for the period 2017-2022. Despite the efforts made by the country and technical and financial partners, the various evaluations (PAN RAM review, e-Spar, Progressive Management Pathway (PMP AMR), JEE 2023) of the implementation of the PAN-RAM 2017-2022 have shown gaps. In addition, the WHO reference actions tool updated in 2023

has redefined and increased the number of actions to be completed to move from one capacity level to another, which increases the gap in terms of capacity.

During the 2023 JEE, Senegal received a score of 2 out of 5 in the indicator for “optimal use of antimicrobials medicines in human health” and a score of 1 out of 5 in the indicator for “optimal use of antimicrobials medicines in animal and agricultural health” (World Health Organization, 2023). The country has initiated the process of optimizing the use of antimicrobials in the field of human health through the development of the National Plan for the Management of Antimicrobials which has been technically validated by the AMR Technical Working Group. However, in the areas of animal health and agriculture, the country must put in place regulatory provisions to optimize the use of antimicrobials for the stimulation and growth of animals (JEE, 2023). Populations have a low level of knowledge about AMR and risky behaviors associated with the abusive and inappropriate use of medicines, including antimicrobials, are high. Limited access to information on AMR is a determining factor in the problem. Self-medication and misuse of medicines is common. Medicines are often sold without a prescription in pharmacies and in illicit markets (e.g., Keur Serigne Bi in Dakar, weekly markets). The use of AMR agents in animal and plant food production represents a significant risk factor for the selection and transmission of AMR microorganisms and AMR determinants from food animals and plants to humans through food consumption. A lack of awareness of AMR by some breeders and professional stakeholders, easy access to antibiotics (sale without prescription, illicit markets), and systematic use of antibiotics by breeders are major constraints. Self-medication is characterized by non-compliance with dosages and waiting times. From a community perspective, common and non-recommended practices are underpinned by erroneous information and experiences ([Senegal High Council for Global Health Security “One Health,” 2023](#)).

Senegal has progressed in RCCE through formal plans and systems for risk communication and collaboration with communities. For example, the Strategic Plan for the Control of Noncommunicable Diseases 2017–2020 outlines a strategy of promoting behaviors that reduce risk and emphasizes the importance of aligning messages at the local and regional levels to increase trust ([Senegal Ministry of Health and Social Action, 2017](#)). In November 2022, Breakthrough Action led a formative and qualitative study that explored the individual, sociocultural and structural determinants of behaviors related to the risks and spread of AMR in Senegal. Its aim was to support the National High Council for Health Security "One Health" in the development of a national communication strategy to combat AMR in Senegal. The integration of RCCE and AMR is demonstrated in the National Strategy for Social and Behavior Change in the Fight Against AMR (2023-2027).

Senegal’s Dakar and the Central regions (Thies, Fatick, and Kaolack) are the most populated and account for more than 70% of poultry farming. Therefore, they are the most severely impacted by AMR. This highlights the need for stronger RCCE activities to raise awareness about the dangers to human health linked to the excessive use of antibiotics in livestock farming in both the human and animal health sectors at the community level. The target populations in the rural communities surrounding these large cities include community health workers, subsistence farmers, livestock assistance, as well as women and youth who play a significant role in village and backyard poultry farming.

EXPECTED ROLE OF THE GRANTEE IN THE PROGRAM

LGHS will help to address gaps in Senegal’s subnational GHS activities by applying RCCE and SBC principles to AMR with the aim of increasing greater acceptability, collaboration, communication, local ownership, and trust at the community level to reduce the risks of AMR.

The LGHS program will focus on three Central regions (Thies, Fatick, and Kaolack) that have a high risk of AMR. These regions, characterized by large populations and intensive poultry production, are more susceptible to AMR due to an increased use of antimicrobials by the community (especially farmers) in these production systems to compensate for inadequate biosecurity measures, leading to public health concerns (particularly the presence of antimicrobial residues in food products).

LGHS Grantees will work to implement integrated activities that will contribute to the prevention of AMR at the subnational level in the Thies, Fatick, and Kaolack Regions, using RCCE through the multi-sectoral One Health approach. The technical focus areas are below (see the "Activity Parameters" for examples of activities for each technical focus area):

- **Risk Communication, Social Behavioral Change, Community Engagement.** i.e., (1) Using participatory approaches that involve communities in the design and contextualization of messages and materials, and engaging communities to explore barriers to antimicrobial stewardship and provide culturally relevant solutions and (2) Developing RCCE resources and community activities to increase community awareness of the risk factors of AMR in humans and animals, and facilitating behavior change among multi-sectoral community stakeholders.
- **Antimicrobial Resistance.** i.e. Using newly developed tools, design approaches that gather information about community knowledge, perceptions, misinformation and concerns related to AMR and develop innovative community-based approaches and activities to combat AMR in human, animal, agriculture and environment, especially among farmers, farmers networks / associations and rural communities.

Respondents will submit a Full Application to work in **one or more technical areas** outlined in the RFA and should clearly specify the key priority activities they are targeting in their responses. However, **it is not necessary to address all technical areas, and we highly encourage Respondents to focus and design activities to align with their core areas of expertise and to not attempt to work in all areas** (unless their existing capabilities allows for this). We encourage organizations to **leverage their existing strengths** and align with their current activities/programs, to propose targeted activities that are realistic, achievable and appropriate given the level of funding. **LGHS values specialized expertise over broad coverage and will evaluate applications accordingly.** Where feasible, Respondents should consider the existing GHS programs and resources in Senegal, particularly those focusing on RCCE and/or AMR in a One Health context, and how they could be leveraged for their proposed activities.

Up to two grants will be awarded, with a preference for local organizations that bring a strength in a specific focus area that may complement another grantee who brings expertise in another prioritized technical area.

For culturally relevant, sustainable, and effective interventions, it will be critical to engage various community-level populations, including subsistence farmers who interact with livestock, vendors in live markets, women, youth groups, communities, religious and traditional leaders, and marginalized individuals. Respondents must clearly state the program coverage area where they will implement activities within the Thies, Fatick, and Kaolack Regions (e.g., health districts, sub-district) and identify target audiences/populations.

The grantees will be expected to:

- Work with LGHS to develop a work plan and implement a program of integrated activities that will sustainably help prevent AMR using the selected technical areas of focus.

- Participate in project work planning, budgeting, and monitoring and evaluation preparatory meetings with LGHS immediately after grant award.
- Regularly monitor their program; engage in continuous improvement and adaptive management exercises to meet the defined program goals.
- Participate in monthly data review meetings to contribute to the tracking of key indicators.
- Share experiences with LGHS and contribute to learning; actively engage in learning opportunities that will improve program performance and effectiveness.
- Be readily available to participate in meetings with LGHS and the USAID mission.
- Actively engage in the design and implementation of a capacity-strengthening plan, with support and funding from LGHS.
- Ensure information flow between themselves and government structures/systems.
- Provide data but also seek out and receive information from government entities involved in work related to their program at subnational and national levels (e.g., High Council for Global Health Security – One Health; Ministry of Health and Social Action; Ministry of Agriculture, Food Sovereignty and Livestock; and Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development).
- Collaborate with and attend USAID-GHS implementing partner (IP) meetings when relevant and also share their experiences with GHS IPs.

IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

Respondents should integrate the following implementation approaches into their program design, as appropriate:

The program design should reflect a One Health approach that contributes to and leverages the integration of human, animal, and environmental health sectors to strengthen GHS. GHS activities should be linked to WHO IHR benchmarks, [Global Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance](#), and/or JEE capacities within the stated technical focus areas of the program: AMR and RCCE.

Target populations/communities should be actively engaged in design, implementation, and participatory monitoring, evaluation, and learning (MEL), starting with local officials and community leadership. The program should 1) create opportunities and solicit feedback from communities to promote continuous improvement and 2) demonstrate how it is building on existing structures/systems in the community to maximize impact.

Programs should be well integrated into, and ensure multisectoral linkages with, existing GHS and One Health systems and structures to avoid redundancies.

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

INTENDED RESULTS

The overall goal of this RFA is to further strengthen, establish and sustain Senegal's capacity in support of GHS priorities and compliance with IHR (2005) at the subnational level. The GHS activities supported by the grants will need to link to the WHO IHR benchmarks and/or JEE capacities within the stated technical focus areas of the program (to be determined in consultation with LGHS after award).

ILLUSTRATIVE ACTIVITIES

Presented below are the program technical areas with several **illustrative** activities. Respondents need to focus on activities under technical areas that align with their area of expertise. Respondents can also propose new activities that are not listed here as long as they contribute to the defined technical areas. Respondents must clearly state in their application which technical area(s) they have selected and outline their approach to implement the corresponding activity or activities related to their area(s).

- **Risk Communication Social Behavioral Change, Community Engagement:** Use participatory approaches that involve communities in the design and contextualization of messages and materials, and engage communities to explore barriers to antimicrobial stewardship and provide culturally relevant solutions. Develop RCCE resources and community activities to increase community awareness of the risk factors of AMR in humans and animals, and facilitate behavior change among multi-sectoral community stakeholders. Illustrative activities include:
 - Develop training curriculums for community health workers / livestock auxiliaries and volunteers to perform a basic situational analysis on antimicrobial use in their communities and take community driven action on sensitization and awareness on the risks of AMR and the appropriate use of antibiotics.
 - Leverage existing High Council of Global Health Security “One Health” and Ministry of Health and Social Action approved RCCE resources and materials (including [Qualitative Study of Individual, Sociocultural and Structural Determinants of Behaviors Linked to Antimicrobial Resistance \(AMR\) in Senegal](#) and/or the [National Social and Behavior Change Strategy for the Fight Against AMR](#)), to conduct community awareness-raising campaigns on the prevention and risk factors of AMR (WhatsApp platforms, radio/TV talk shows, printing of materials in local language, distribution of posters, pamphlets, flyers, etc.) among the following groups:
 - Farmer networks/associations and communities with a high prevalence misuse of antimicrobials.
 - Community health workers associations and networks.
 - Minority groups or high-risk communities to increase awareness of AMR within a One Health framework.
 - Develop innovative strategies (community mapping and action planning sessions, educational games, storytelling sessions, community theater,) to explore behavioral drivers that can lead to AMR, and educate target populations on the dangers of AMR and the importance of appropriate antimicrobial use. Consider activities that empower communities to identify barriers and solutions that they can feasibly implement.
 - Create a community listening system (e.g., via focus group discussions, community surveys, community activities, and/or SMS surveys, etc.) that collects information on community perceptions, concerns, questions, misinformation, and feedback that can be used to inform and adapt ongoing RCCE programming.
 - Create and/or target community networks and influencers (e.g., faith-based, education, arts, employers, professional associations, etc.) to coordinate community engagement to combat rumors, adapting and utilizing these networks to distribute messages on the appropriate use of antimicrobials.

- **Antimicrobial resistance:** Using newly developed tools, design approaches that gather information about community knowledge, perceptions, misinformation and concerns related to AMR and develop innovative community-based approaches and activities to combat AMR in

human, animal, agriculture and environment, especially among farmers, farmers networks / associations and rural communities. Illustrative activities include:

- Develop strategies to enhance community-based antimicrobial stewardship, including tracking and evaluating antimicrobial use patterns through improved record-keeping systems.
- Conduct door-to-door sensitization of households on the appropriate use of antimicrobials and the dangers of AMR.
- Sensitize livestock auxiliaries and farmers on the appropriate and responsible use of antimicrobials while promoting vaccines and biosecurity measures to reduce pathogen transmission and create community activities and communication using SBC approaches.
- Sensitize key audiences on the use of appropriate infection prevention and control measures to prevent AMR in communities and farms.

MONITORING, EVALUATION, AND LEARNING

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 collaborating, learning, and adapting practices.

PROPOSED PERSONNEL

The program will require designated personnel (on a full- or part-time basis) for the following areas of responsibility to ensure effective implementation of the program. Respondents are encouraged to include specific positions aligned with their proposed programming.

- Program direction and management (Project Lead)
- GHS technical implementation
- MEL
- Finance and operations
- Activity coordination/program administration

[END OF SECTION A]

Section B: Grant Information

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 up to two grants, each with a total value ranging from \$150,000 - \$250,000 delivered over two years. Respondents should thoughtfully assess the appropriate funding level for their proposed activities, ensuring that their budget aligns with their organization's capacity and experience. It is important to avoid budgeting to the maximum allowable amount and focus on cost realism. Negotiations will be conducted with successful Respondents only. LGHS reserves the right to award any or none of the applications submitted.

START DATE AND PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance for these grants is anticipated to be for two years. The start date will be upon the signature of the award, which is currently estimated on or about the end of March 2025.

[END OF SECTION B]

Section C: Eligibility Information

ELIGIBLE RESPONDENTS

This competition is open to any local nongovernmental organization (NGO) that is a nonprofit or not-for-profit entity that is legally registered in Senegal. Grant support will be extended to local entities that are legally registered according to the laws of Senegal and seek to strengthen their country's GHS capacity. These may include:

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

Under LGHS, local entities eligible for funding must meet the definition of local organization per USAID RAA27 Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Nongovernmental Organizations - A Mandatory Reference for ADS Chapter 303 (usaid.gov). The Respondent/Recipient must be a legally formed entity, corporation, nonprofit organization, or another body of persons that:

- is legally organized under the laws of Senegal
- has as its principal place of business or operations in Senegal
- is majority owned or controlled by individuals who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of Senegal and
- is managed by a governing structure whose members are citizens or lawful permanent residents of Senegal.

LGHS will only consider submissions from local organizations currently operating in the Thies, Fatick, and Kaolack Regions.

LGHS will consider applications from the following organization:

- **Organizations who have never received USAID funding**
- **Organizations that have previously received less than USD 500,000 of cumulative direct USAID funding**

LGHS will prioritize those organizations who represent underserved communities and meet the eligibility criteria.

Organizations based outside of Senegal (and/or with offices outside of Senegal) will not be considered eligible for grant support. All entities in a consortium must also be local and meet the eligibility criteria set forth above.

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.

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

INELIGIBLE RESPONDENTS

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 Colleges, Universities, Research Centers and other organizations affiliated with institutions of higher education.
- Are for-profit organizations or private enterprises.
- Respondents that do not meet the local entity eligibility criteria provided under USAID RAA27 [Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Nongovernmental Organizations - A Mandatory Reference for ADS Chapter 303 \(usaid.gov\)](#)

UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER (UEI)

Respondents must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) to receive an award from Panagora. The process of obtaining a UEI may take a few weeks. More information can be found at <https://www.SAM.gov>. Additional information about how to obtain a UEI can also be found at <https://www.workwithusaid.gov/>. If you do not have an active UEI at the time of submission, please provide proof that you have successfully applied, and that receipt is pending.

[END OF SECTION C]

Section D: Application and Submission Guidelines

OVERALL REQUIREMENTS

Respondent will submit an application 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, Respondents shall clearly explain the rationale for the proposed approaches chosen. To facilitate the competitive review of the responses, Panagora will only consider applications conforming to the following:

- The responses should be clear, concise, and organized according to the RFA instructions and template.
- The narrative should be in 12-point Times New Roman font, single spaced, with 1 inch/2.5 cm margins.
- Applications may be written in English **or** French.
- All submissions should be set in unprotected Word, PDF, or Excel format.
- The Cost Application must be provided in both local currency and USD equivalent to the award range provided under Section B. The document must be submitted in unlocked, unprotected Microsoft Excel 2003 or later and compatible with an MS Windows XP operating environment. All calculations and formulas must be visible and unlocked, and worksheets must be connected. The budget narrative, presented in Microsoft Word, must explain the contents of all budget lines, and refer to the budget developed in local currency. The basis for all costs must be explained, such as vendor quotations, labor law requirements, etc.
- Zipped files are not permitted.
- Applications must be submitted by the stated deadline and time for each submission.

LATE SUBMISSIONS, MODIFICATIONS, AND WITHDRAWALS OF APPLICATIONS

At LGHS' discretion, any submission received after the stated deadline may be considered ineligible for consideration. Submissions may be withdrawn by written notice via email or in person by an organization or the authorized representative.

FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

The following costs are not eligible for funding under this grant program. Ineligible goods and services as defined by USAID, include:

- 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 which 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

BIDDERS' CONFERENCE

LGHS will host a bidders' conference for all prospective Respondents to learn more about the funding opportunity and ask questions about the overall process and program details. Prospective Respondents are encouraged to attend as this will allow them to gain a clearer understanding of the technical, financial, and administrative aspects of the solicitation to better align their proposals with LGHS' priorities. The conference will also provide a platform for Respondents to ask questions. All information shared during the bidders' conference, including a recording of the event and questions and responses, will be made available after the conference on the numerous websites listed in the cover letter. The bidders conference announcement and details will be published on the LGHS website <https://localizeglobalhealth.org/active-grants/>.

Date: December 6, 2024

Location: This will be a hybrid event with an in-person at Hotel Le Djoloff, 7 Rue Nani Fann Hock, Dakar, Senegal, as well as virtual participation. Meeting link details will be provided to prospective Respondents who RSVP by December 5, 2024, at 5pm UTC.

RSVP: All prospective Respondents who wish to attend the bidders' conference and/or receive a recording of the conference immediately after the event and any other materials, must send an email containing the names of the participants (no more than two per organization), name of the organization, and email address(es) to LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net by December 5, 2024.

Language: The bidders' conference will be held in French with English translation.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

SUMMARY OF APPLICATION CONTENT AND EXPECTATIONS

Closing time: Full RFA Applications (including technical application and budget) are due on **January 13, 2025, at 5pm UTC**. Panagora will determine that a submission has been received on time by using the date stamp of the email in the time zone indicated.

Point Of Contact: Submit Full Applications electronically to LGHS Grants Team at LGHSGrants@lghsproject.net; Panagora will not accept paper applications for this solicitation. The email subject line should read "**RFA_SN001 Full Application – LGHS Senegal Grant Program – name of organization submitting application.**"

The Technical and Cost Volumes should be sent in separate emails.

TECHNICAL VOLUME

Limit of 17 pages, excluding the cover page, table of contents, acronym list, executive summary, and the requested annexes. No additional annexes will be accepted or evaluated. Tables, graphics, charts, and graphs may be included, where appropriate, in the technical proposal, however they must be within the 17-page limitation (with the exception of any tables or graphics required as annexes).

I. TECHNICAL APPROACH AND FEASIBILITY OF PROGRAM DESIGN (UP TO 10 PAGES)

The Respondent must provide a technical approach that addresses how the overarching goal and selected objectives will be achieved and clearly state any expected results or outcomes associated with the proposed activities. The narrative must describe the activities to be undertaken by the Respondent under each of the selected objectives and sub-activities, including a timeline. The Respondent must clearly indicate the results to be achieved during the life of the activity and outline a process for integrating learning into activity implementation (although the actual MEL plan will be developed in collaboration with LGHS within 90 days of award).

The Respondent's technical approach should include:

- Evidence of the Respondent's relevant expertise, background, and prior work as it pertains to the project objective and proposed activities.
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of the context, multisectoral linkages, and how the proposed initiative will leverage and integrate with existing programs and interventions within health security and One Health systems and structures.
- A clear, comprehensive and technically sound, and feasible program design, given the budget and time parameters. The description of the activities to be undertaken should be organized by thematic area and substantiated with a detailed implementation plan timeline.
- Demonstrated previous engagement with clearly indicated target populations / communities. These should be engaged in the design, implementation, and participatory MEL, starting with local officials and community leadership.
- Demonstrated opportunities to solicit feedback from communities to promote continuous improvement and demonstrate the project is building on existing structures/systems in the community to maximize impact.
- Description of the anticipated outputs, outcomes and results, and how these contribute to further strengthen, establish and sustain Senegal's capacity in support of GHS priorities and compliance with IHR (2005) at the subnational level.
- Gender-sensitive programming that advances gender equality and social inclusion of relevant marginalized populations (e.g., youth, people with disabilities) in the program coverage area (e.g., youth, people with disabilities) to demonstrate how the activities will contribute to greater equity in GHS.

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

II. MANAGEMENT AND STAFFING PLAN (UP TO 4 PAGES NOT INCLUDING CVs)

This section should provide a clear description of the proposed mobilization strategy, management approach to implementation, organizational structure and each of the team's roles to implement the proposed scope of work (the Respondent may provide an organizational chart depicting the lines of authority in an Annex). This section should also include a narrative describing the Respondent's approach to managing technical and financial reporting, award administration, logistics, and budget/costs; as well as how communication will be fostered with the LGHS team.

The program will expect designated personnel (on a full- or part-time basis) for the following areas of responsibility to ensure effective implementation of the program (other supporting positions are encouraged to be included):

- Program direction and management (Project Lead)
- GHS technical implementation

- MEL
- Finance and operations
- Activity coordination/program administration

The Respondent must designate the Project Lead who will serve as the main point of contact for LGHS and provide vision, direction, leadership, and management for the activity. S/he will serve as the offeror's primary representative. This position is considered essential to the work being performed, and the CV for this candidate must be included. The provision of CVs of identified personnel for the other positions is welcome but not mandatory.

The Respondent must describe a staffing plan for all staff that demonstrates an appropriate balance of skills, expertise, and experience to achieve the objectives of your proposed approach. It must include a narrative description that explains how the Respondent's proposed combination of personnel (long term staff, and short-term technical assistance) will collectively possess the required technical and management expertise and skills to lead the activities and deliver the results expected. The staffing plan must also demonstrate efficient use of resources. The Respondent must describe the division of roles and responsibilities in implementing the proposed approach and optimize the use of local human resources and subject-matter experts.

LGHS will evaluate the extent to which the Respondent's management plan demonstrates readiness and capability to facilitate effective and efficient management to successfully accomplish the proposed implementation approach to achieve the stated objectives.

III. PAST PERFORMANCE REFERENCES (3 PAGES)

Respondents must provide three (3) references (one page each) from the most recent (within the last five (5) years) and relevant projects and awards for efforts similar to the work in the subject proposal. The most relevant indicators of performance are awards of similar scope, size, geographic coverage, and complexity. Please include all USAID-funded projects. Each past performance reference must include:

- 1) Reference contact name(s), phone number(s), and e-mail(s)
- 2) A description of the work conducted summarizing the scope, size, and geographic coverage of the project for context
- 3) Funding value

LGHS will consider applications from the following organizations:

- **Organizations who have never received USAID funding**
- **Organizations that have previously received less than USD 500,000 of cumulative direct USAID funding**

LGHS requests that the Respondent alert the contacts that their names have been submitted and that they are authorized to provide performance information concerning the Respondent if and when LGHS requests it.

SECTION IV – OTHER REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Respondents are required to provide the documents listed below. These documents do not count towards page limits.

- A certification that your institution (1) is legally organized under the laws of Senegal; (2) has as its principal place of business or operations in Senegal; (3) is majority owned/or controlled by individuals who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of Senegal; and (4) is managed by a governing body the majority of who are citizens or lawful permanent residents of Senegal.
- A certification that your institution (1) has never received USAID funding; or (2) has previously received less than USD 500,000 of cumulative direct USAID funding.
- An organizational profile that includes identification of the type of applicant organization, a brief description of its history and 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.
- A copy of the organization's current and up-to-date registration.
- A copy of the organizations signed Articles of Incorporation, By-Laws and other institutional documents.

ANNEXES

Annex A: Organizational Chart

Annex B: CVs of Proposed Personnel

COST VOLUME

Respondents should thoughtfully assess the appropriate funding level for their proposed activities, ensuring that their budget aligns with their organization's capacity and experience. It is important to avoid budgeting to the maximum allowable amount and align costs with the technical activities proposed, focusing on cost realism. Please use the budget and budget narrative templates provided in Annexes C and D for the detailed budget and budget narrative. The budget should be prepared in both local currency and USD, and 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.

The exchange rate used shall be thoroughly documented with reputable sources in country (e.g. National Bank). The budget narrative, presented in Microsoft Word, must explain the contents of all budget lines and refer to the budget line items and totals presented in the local currency budgets. The basis for all costs must be explained, such as vendor quotations, labor law requirements, etc.

[END OF SECTION D]

Section E: Application Review Information

REVIEW PROCESS

LGHS will establish a Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) to review Full Applications. All reviewers will be subjected to a screening process to eliminate any conflict of interest. Evaluation of the Full Applications will be based on the criteria set forth below.

These criteria both serve as the standard against which all Respondents will be evaluated and serve to identify the significant matters that Respondents should address in their Full Applications.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR THE FULL APPLICATION

In evaluating the Full Applications, LGHS will examine overall merit and feasibility, as well as the specific criteria relevant to each component, as elaborated in the table below. These criteria both serve as the standard against which all Respondents will be evaluated and serve to identify the significant matters that Respondents should address in their applications. LGHS will instruct the TEC to evaluate all applications according to the criteria as established and weighted in the following table:

Evaluation Criteria	Points
<p>I. Technical Approach, Strategies, and Feasibility of Program Design</p> <p>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. LGHS will evaluate the extent to which the Respondent’s proposed approach clearly demonstrates a thorough understanding of the technical scope provided in Section A: Program Description to include well defined indicators of success.</p> <p>Key evaluation components include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensiveness and technical soundness of the full application (thoroughness of the technical design, including methodologies, tools, and processes). • Feasibility of the proposed program design and the robustness of the implementation plan, including risk management and mitigation strategies. • Appropriateness of the anticipated results, and how these contribute to further strengthen, establish and sustain Senegal’s capacity in support of GHS priorities and compliance with IHR (2005) at the subnational level. • Sustainability of the program and its potential for scalability, with a focus on local capacity building and ownership. • Incorporation and consideration of USAID’s policies, including environmental compliance. • Incorporation of gender equity and social inclusion considerations. i.e. how well the organization’s approach reflects analysis of gender and identity-related factors influencing health security in the selected technical areas, the extent to which its proposed activities target marginalized populations appropriately while reflecting an inclusive and locally led approach. 	<p>50</p>
<p>II. Management and Staffing Plan</p> <p>LGHS will evaluate the extent to which the Respondent’s management plan demonstrates readiness and capability to facilitate effective and efficient management to successfully accomplish the proposed implementation approach to achieve the stated objectives. The review team will evaluate the extent to which the management and staffing plans demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Respondent’s ability to effectively implement proposed activities responsive to this RFA; 	<p>30</p>

Evaluation Criteria	Points
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Whether the skills mix of the suite of proposed personnel are sufficient to achieve the results of LGHS; ● Whether the staffing plan has proposed sufficient level of effort to achieve stated results and makes efficient use of resources; ● Appropriate division of roles and responsibilities to implement the proposed approach; ● Incorporation of gender equity and social inclusion considerations (i.e. the extent to which the organization is led by and/or empowers women leaders and leaders from other under-represented groups). 	
<p>III. Past Performance References</p> <p>LGHS will evaluate whether the organization has managed successful projects of similar size and scope in the geographic areas specified and review references provided.</p>	20
Total	100

COST EVALUATION

There are no points assigned to cost. Only the top three to five ranked will be evaluated on cost. The cost application will be evaluated separately for reasonableness, allocability, allowability, cost effectiveness, realism, and financial feasibility.

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. LGHS staff may conduct site visits to evaluate the organization in these areas.

[END OF SECTION E]

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 Respondents are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award. The Panagora President and CEO (Chief Executive Officer) 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-US NGOs and applicable provisions under 2 CFR 200 will apply to the grants. Respondents can find the provisions at <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 applying under this RFA, the Respondent consents to the disclosure of the documents submitted by the Respondent 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.

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 the following:

Activity or Activity Category	Recommended Determination
Procurement, storage, management, and disposal of public health commodities (e.g., HIV test kits, antiretrovirals, treatment of opportunistic infections, etc.).	Per 22 CFR 216(a)(2)(iii) that the generation, storage, and disposal of medical materials will have potential for 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.	Per 22 CFR 216(a)(2)(iii) that health activities likely to involve blood testing will have potential generation of hazardous waste.
Activities involving generation, storage, management, and disposal of hazardous and highly hazardous medical waste.	Per 22 CFR 216(a)(2)(iii) that health activities will have potential generation of hazardous waste.
Activities involving ongoing developing, manufacturing, and distribution of novel antiretroviral formulations.	Per 22 CFR 216(a)(2)(iii) that health activities will have potential generation of hazardous health waste.
Small-scale construction and rehabilitation of health facilities and training centers.	Per 22 CFR 216(a)(2)(iii) 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/or USAID. In case of conflict between the host country and USAID regulations, the latter shall govern.

[END SECTION F]

Section G: Other Information

DISCLAIMERS

- LGHS may cancel the solicitation and not award any funds.
- LGHS may reject any or all applications received.
- Issuance of solicitation does not constitute award commitment by LGHS.
- LGHS reserves the right to disqualify any application based on Respondent's failure to follow solicitation instructions.
- LGHS will not compensate Respondents for their response to the solicitation.
- LGHS reserves the right to issue an award based on initial evaluation of applications without further discussion.
- LGHS may choose to award only part of the activities in the solicitation or to issue multiple awards based on the solicitation activities.
- LGHS reserves the right to waive minor application deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.
- LGHS may contact Respondents to confirm contact person, address, and that the application was submitted for this solicitation.
- LGHS may contact listed past performance references without notice to the Respondent. Panagora also reserves the right to contact other past performance information sources that the Respondent did not list in the application.
- By applying, the Respondents confirm they understand the terms and conditions (our terms and conditions are attached to this RFA).

ANNEXES

The following documents are considered part of this RFA:

- Annex A: Respondents Survey
- Annex B: Full Application: Technical Volume: Narrative Template
- Annex C: Full Application: Cost Volume (Budget Spreadsheet Template)
- Annex D: Full Application: Cost Volume (Budget Narrative Template)
- Annex E: Panagora Grant Terms and Conditions
- Annex F: Required USAID Certifications and Assurances (for Full Application)
- Annex G: USAID Mandatory Provisions applicable to the Grant as well as all applicable provision under [2 CFR 200](#).

[END OF SECTION G]