

Issuance Date: February 21, 2020

New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution BAA Addendum Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

- 1. Is there any more information you can share about your general Air Pollution program, in terms of strategic priorities or geographies - or other opportunities to engage?**

Answer: USAID is in its nascent stage of developing Agency-wide programming on air pollution. The Air Pollution BAA Addendum is an important first step in developing USAID's air pollution programming. The strategic priorities are outlined in the Addendum as the five focus areas. USAID is interested in working in Asia (e.g. India, Nepal, Vietnam, Thailand, etc.), however we highly encourage organizations to submit ideas/approaches/solutions for air pollution challenges for any of [USAID partner countries](#) including those outside of Asia.

- 2. Will a study across multiple countries or a study focusing on one sole country be more favorable over the latter can both be accepted under this Addendum?**

Answer: USAID will consider the scale of analysis relative to the significance and innovation of the proposed idea/approach/solution. An Expression of Interest (EOI) focusing on a single country will not be less favorable than an EOI working across multiple countries.

- 3. We would like to expand the scope of an existing research program in Kenya and involve other counties in Kenya as well as do an exposure assessment at the household level. In this Air Pollution program is there a component that can help further this study?**

Answer: Per the language of the [New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum](#) to the BAA for *Pollution Prevention & Mitigation*, USAID seeks air pollution solutions that include basic research, applied research, and/or research and development (page 4). Research and development can represent expanding the scope of an existing research program and/or scaling up an existing program to new pilot areas.

- 4. Is this announcement interested in ambient air pollution, household air pollution, or both?**

Answer: We are interested in ideas/approaches/solutions for ambient air pollution, household air pollution, and/or both.

- 5. Is there an EOI template and or other document that I can use as guidance for formatting my EOI?**

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Answer: There is no template for submitting an EOI. Please use whatever format that works best for you that meets the submission and format guidelines on page 7 of the [New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum](#) for submitting your EOIs.

6. In the two pages EOI, what must be included?

Answer: The required components for submitting EOIs are described on page 7 of the [New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum](#).

7. What is the budget range and for how many years?

Answer: USAID uses the BAA process to design solutions - not to a dollar value or to a specific instrument. USAID will, however, discuss potential funding levels of support with organizations whose EOIs have been accepted for co-creation with the Agency. In addition, USAID is not obligated to issue financial instruments or awards as a result of this Addendum.

8. What is the typical grant amount from these types of funds? Are there minimal or maximum amounts?

Answer: This is USAID's first Addendum under the BAA for *Pollution Prevention & Mitigation*. As such, there is no incumbent and thus no typical grant amount. USAID will discuss potential funding levels to selected organizations at the co-creation workshop.

9. Will you be offering an informational webinar ?

Answer: At this time we are not planning to offer a webinar for submitting EOIs, however we created a page on <https://urban-links.org/> to clarify the BAA process and guidelines for submitting an EOI to the *New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum*.

We may offer a webinar on the co-creation workshop to selected organizations to help them prepare for the workshop.

10. Is research on air pollution and health impacts eligible for this opportunity?

Answer: Research on air pollution and health impacts fits the scope of the [New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum](#), however each EOI must clearly address one of the five focus areas described on pages 4-6 of the Addendum.

11. Are non-U.S. organizations eligible to submit an EOI for the New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum? Is collaboration between U.S. organizations and non-US organizations eligible?

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Answer: Non-U.S. and U.S. organizations are eligible to submit an EOI as long as the proposed work is within [a USAID partner country and/or across multiple USAID partner countries](#). Collaboration between U.S. organizations and non-U.S. organizations are eligible to submit EOIs. Per the Addendum (page 4) USAID is open to receiving EOIs from private firms, non-government organizations (NGOs,) universities/academic institutions, associations, technical and financial services providers, and other stakeholders.

USAID in particular encourages organizations to consider collaborating with other organizations to form non-traditional partnerships, and to utilize diverse expertise to advance cross-cutting solutions.

12. Are multi-stakeholder partnerships and consortiums eligible to submit EOIs under this Addendum?

Answer: Multi-stakeholder partnerships and consortiums are eligible to submit EOIs under this Addendum.

13. Are UN agencies eligible to submit EOIs to the Addendum either as the lead organization or partner organization?

Answer: UN agencies, multilaterals, and intergovernmental organizations are eligible to submit EOIs to this addendum as a lead organization and/or a partner organization. An organization can submit multiple EOIs and can be a partner organization on multiple EOIs under the [New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum](#).

14. To what extent is integration across the five focus areas encouraged? – for instance, evidence-based (focus area 1) adoption and implementation of control strategies for reducing air pollution (focus area 3).

Answer: For the EOI stage (i.e., pre-proposal), we want organizations to submit one EOI per focus area, however organizations can submit multiple EOIs to address multiple focus areas. At the co-creation workshop, we will facilitate collaboration between organizations to design cross-cutting solutions that integrate across the five focus areas. Organizations are encouraged to mention integrated strategies in their EOIs, but one focus area must be selected as the prime focus per EOI. For each EOI one focus area must be clearly identified and articulated on the cover page (as described on page 7 of the [New Approaches for Addressing Air Pollution Addendum](#)).

15. Can organizations submit EOIs focusing on different geographic scales – global, regional, national, sub-national (city/urban scale) or a mix of either?

Answer: Organizations are encouraged to submit EOIs that work at different geographic scales and/or across multiple administrative levels.

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- 16. Taking into account the need to indicate both broad and discrete goals in the EOIs, is there an indication of (i) timeframe for the co-creation process from submission of EOIs to selection of concept papers (in months), and (ii) resources available to support broad goals that EOIs might want to articulate?**

Answer: We plan to let organizations know if their EOIs are selected by late-March 2020, and will likely hold the co-creation workshop in late-April 2020. USAID will discuss potential funding levels of support with organizations whose EOIs have been accepted at the co-creation workshop. USAID expects it will take approximately 3-4 months from the submission of EOIs to selection of concept papers.

- 17. When a private firm submits an EOI along with technical experts, can the experts be independent consultants on the submission (and not affiliated with any organization) OR must consultants necessarily have an organizational affiliation?**

Answer: Independent consultants and technical experts can submit an EOI without an organizational affiliation and/or they can partner with organizations to submit an EOI.

- 18. Can USAID arrange a phone call with interested organizations to answer questions about submitting EOIs?**

Answer: Unfortunately, USAID staff cannot conduct a call or meet with parties interested in submitting an EOI given that this is a competitive process.

*****[End of Amendment 01]*****