Business Forecast Quarter 3 Review Conference Call: Questions Submitted in Advance of the Call June 3, 2015 1:00pm to 2:00pm

General Questions on the Business Forecast

1. Why are so many dates inaccurate on the Business Forecast? There seems to be many dates that have already passed, yet no solicitation has been issued.

<u>USAID Response:</u> The latest iteration had a number of issues related to incorrect dates. USAID is working to correct this issue and is planning on issuing an updated Business Forecast correcting the issues with incorrect dates.

2. Why are planned actions removed from the Business Forecast?

<u>USAID Response:</u> There are a number of different reasons why opportunities are removed from the Business Forecast. In some cases opportunities are removed because USAID is no longer planning on implementing them. In other cases, opportunities are removed because there is no longer funds available to implement the activity.

Other times, opportunities are removed because USAID cannot verify the accuracy of the information. Often, during the design phase, scopes of work, implementing mechanisms, program objectives, etc., change. When major changes happen, the design of an activity starts over again.

If you have questions about specific solicitations and why they were removed, we recommend reaching out to the point of contact listed on the Forecast with a cc: ombudsman@usaid.gov.

3. How can Partners ensure that the information on the Business Forecast is reliable and accurate?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID is taking a number of steps to ensure the accuracy of the Business Forecast. USAID has begun a detailed review of the Forecast each quarter before publishing it.

In addition, the Agency has rolled-out a new Acquisition and Assistance (A&A) planning system that allows for Program Officers, Contracting/Agreement Officers, Senior Leaders, etc. to collaborate and track all upcoming actions. This new system replaces an old process of hundreds of spreadsheets.

Additionally, through doing these quarterly calls with Partners and the questions we receive because of the calls, we're seeing patterns of mistakes that are frequently being made by USAID on the Forecast. We are taking steps internally to address these issues.

It is important to note that the Forecast is a snapshot in time of USAID's program cycle. During the design of planned activities information is subject to change as USAID determines how to most effectively and efficiently implement its activities. So while we are taking a number of steps to ensure the accuracy of the Forecast, there will always be changes to planned activities between the quarterly updates.

4. There are many countries missing from the Business Forecast. Why are they missing? How does USAID ensure that all Missions are providing information for the Business Forecast?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Our goal is to ensure that all Missions are included on the Business Forecast. However, there are a variety of different reasons why Mission may not be listed on the Business Forecast. In some cases, Missions have no new opportunities available or new opportunities may be too early in the planning process to be included on the Business Forecast. In addition, there are times that Missions do not submit information on time for the Business Forecast release. In those instances, we work with Missions to publish information as soon as it is available. If you have questions about a specific Mission missing from the Forecast, please contact the Mission directly, copying <u>ombudsman@usaid.gov</u>.

5. Although Quarterly Forecast seems a great initiative, we believe it only outlines the mega projects. Is it possible that USAID can include medium and small procurement services in the Quarterly Forecasts as well?

<u>USAID Response</u>: USAID's Business Forecast lists all open and competitive actions. This includes medium to small activities. Below are the list of types of actions that are included on the Forecast: Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA), Collaborative Agreement, Contract, Cooperative Agreement, Development Innovation Accelerator (DIA), Fixed Amount Award (FAA), Grant, Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract, Leader with Associate (LWA), Personal Services Contractor (PSC), Purchase Order, GSA Orders, GSA BPA, Activities that are To Be Determined (TBD)

6. The time that this call is scheduled, 1pm EST, is not conducive to engaging staff not in the US. Has USAID considered shifting the time of this call to accommodate teams not in the US?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID appreciates the fact that people across the globe are interested in participating in our Business Forecast review calls. Next quarter, we will plan on organizing the call earlier in the day for our colleagues in different time zones. If you have colleagues that were unable to participate in this session, we will be posting a recording online as well as the question and answers addressed during the call.

7. Can you clarify the column "Implementing Partner (Incumbent)"? on the Washington and Mission forecasts; this column is "TBD" or "blank". Shouldn't it say the name of the incumbent?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Yes, the system should say the name of the incumbent if available. We are removing the option of "TBD" for this section.

8. Can USAID please clarify its practice for including IDIQs/IQCs, LWAs, and other global mechanisms on the Business Forecast?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID includes all full and open competitive actions on the Business Forecast. Therefore, opportunities such as task orders issued under IDIQs should not be included on the Forecast.

9. We have begun reaching out to the points of contacts listed in the Business Forecast, however we've had mixed results in getting responses. What do you recommend we do?

<u>USAID Response:</u> If you are not getting responses back from the Points of Contact listed on the Business Forecast, please e-mail <u>ombudsman@usaid.gov</u>. The Agency's Ombudsman will assist in getting responses for you.

10. The Mission forecast includes no set asides for small business (vis-a-vis the Washington forecast). How should small businesses interpret this? Will Missions rely solely on Washington IQC small business holders to achieve the Mission small business goal?

<u>USAID Response:</u> In the early stages of the acquisition process, formal market research hasn't been conducted. Missions frequently have not decided whether a solicitation will be issued as a small business set-aside or a full and open competition. If you see a requirement that could be performed by a small business, please contact the mission's contracting officer directly and forward a copy of your correspondence to USAID's OSDBU (<u>osdbu@usaid.gov</u>). And no, missions will not rely solely on Washington small business IDIQs holders to help meet the agency's overseas targets.

11. What role does OSDBU play in the creation of the Business Forecast?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The M Bureau's Office of Acquisition and Assistance has the primary responsibility for managing and issuing the agency's business forecast. OSDBU reviews the document before it is issued and collaborates on changes/updates to its format. In some instances, OSDBU may have the opportunity to address the description of the requirements to ensure that the small business community has enough information to determine if they wish to pursue the requirement as a prime or a sub.

12. The Country Operational Plans (COP) and Malaria Operational Plans (MOP) include a significant number of business requirements. How can USAID ensure these requirements are included in the forecast?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Any competitive opportunities that are USAID specific, resulting from these plans are required to be included in the Business Forecast.

13. There are a number of items on the Business Forecast that Small Businesses have the capabilities and skills to implement. What is the best way to notify USAID of the small businesses capabilities to implement these activities?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The best way to notify USAID of the small business capabilities to implement the activities is to contact the Mission's contracting officer directly. Please provide the mission with your capabilities and your knowledge of other small businesses who are capable of implementing the activities. Please copy OSDBU (<u>osdbu@usaid.gov</u>) on any requests for Missions to consider an activity for a small business set-aside. Most important, provide a brief capability statement which addresses the requirement. Do not send a general capability statement.

Recommendations for future Business Forecasts

1. Revision date: Could USAID consider including a "date last updated" field, so readers could more easily identify where changes have been made since the last forecast?

<u>USAID Response:</u> In the latest iteration of the Business Forecast, USAID included a column that note if an activity has been updated. We are looking in to the possibility of including a "date last updated" field into the Forecast.

2. Can the name of the incumbent be included and/or updated when applicable?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Yes, USAID added this feature to the Business Forecast in its most recent release. We are still working with staff around the world to ensure that this information is populated in the A&A system and therefore included in the Business Forecast.

3. Is it possible to have some sort of idea as to whether the opportunities are purposefully dropped and eliminated?

<u>USAID Response:</u>We have included a "Changes" column and the requirement should be sustained in the next forecast and marked as "cancelled." In the case this does not occur, we are posting archived forecasts for industry to contact the POC that is listed for further details/explanation.

4. Would USAID/OAA consider providing guidance to IDIQ and IQC Contracting Officers' Representatives to promote a standardized approach to forecasting task order opportunities?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID has provided guidance, which is sent each quarter and available on our Intranet, to Contracting Officers on the type of information that is appropriate for the Business Forecast.

5. If a solicitation is posted on fedbizopps or grants.gov and was not included on the forecast, would USAID consider a longer solicitation period to give small businesses additional time to prepare proposals? For example, on May 4, 2015, USAID posted a combined synopsis/solicitation on grants.gov (Health Policy Plus, \$185 million) with a closing date of June 3, 2015, not included on the forecast. The solicitation encouraged small businesses to apply, but 30 days is insufficient time (with no other advanced notice) for preparing a proposal this size.

<u>USAID Response:</u> If a procurement opportunity is posted on fedbizopps, yet it was not posted on the Forecast, please contact the Contracting Officer listed on the opportunity. You can also notify the Agency's Ombudsman (<u>ombudsman@usaid.gov</u>). Depending upon the urgency of the action, it may be possible to amend the solicitation to extend the response period. This also applies to

RFAs (assistance) that are posted on grants.gov, but were not posted on the Business Forecast. For procurement actions, you may also copy the OSDBU (<u>osdbu@usaid.gov</u>).

6. In March 2015, USAID revised clause AIDAR 752.219-8 (Utilization of Small Business Concerns and Small Disadvantaged Business Concerns). The clause states contractors must, to the maximum extent possible, provide the following information to USAID (OSDBU) at least 45 days prior to placing any order in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold, except where shorter time is request 1) a brief general description and quantity commodities and services, 2) the closing date for receiving quotations or bids, and 3) the address where invitations or specifications may be obtained. Can these small business requirements be included in the forecast? Or where can they be posted for timely access?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Agency's A&A system, which is used to create the Business Forecast, does not currently capture this information. We are looking in to how this information is captured and could potentially be distributed.

7. Would it be possible to include the "FAD activity code," "FAD category" and "FAD objective name" in the matrix as columns following the country name? Alternatively, would it be possible to include the "Activity Name Title" and "Activity Description," using the official standardized nomenclature?

Example from a typical project:

- FAD activity code/category/objective name: 4.4.1, Infrastructure/Economic development
- Activity name title/activity description: ECONOMIC GROWTH -Infrastructure/Modern Energy Services

<u>USAID Response:</u> Our A&A planning system does not currently capture FAD Activity Codes, however it does capture activity sectors. USAID is looking in the possibility of adding this field into the Business Forecast.

Washington Forecast Questions

1. <u>AID/A:</u> Office of the Administrator (AID/A) lists Digital Asset Management System for Internal Communications Team (1 one-year base + 4 one-year options) contract ranging from \$1-\$3.99 million. Would USAID consider procuring any of these contracts as Small Business set-asides, given that there are a number of Small Businesses that would be well-positioned to perform services under this contract?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Currently, USAID is conducting internal discussions to determine the direction and design of the project. We anticipate conducting market research to provide the small business community with an opportunity to compete. As we make progress, the Business Forecast may be revised to reflect the program updates.

2. <u>Africa Bureau</u>: The Africa Bureau has not forecasted any Requests for Task Order Proposals under the TASC4 IDIQ, which was awarded last July after more than three years of PALT. Would the Africa Bureau consider an effectiveness assessment of its health strategy in support of the health portfolio in the various African Missions?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Task Orders under existing IDIQs are not listed in the Business Forecast. If there are specific questions about how an IDIQ is being utilized, we recommend reaching out to the COR or Activity manager in the Bureau.

3. <u>DCHA Bureau</u>: Is it anticipated that the DCHA "Regional and Local Support for Elections and Political Transitions" opportunity will single or multiple award? As the anticipated solicitation release date for "Regional and Local Support for Elections and Political Transitions" has passed, could USAID please provide an updated estimated release date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Multiple awards are anticipated. The estimated solicitation release date is 3rd Quarter FY15.

4. <u>DCHA Bureau</u>: The Active Communities – Effective States (ACES) program, and the Global Award for Accountable Governance program seem to be identical – what is the difference? Are either of these opportunities related to the "Democratic, Responsive, and Accountable GOverNance (DRAGON)" RFI that was issued on July 9, 2014?

<u>USAID Response</u>: "DRAGON" is now known as "ACES." The ACES and the Global Award for Accountable Governance program are one in the same. Only ACES should be listed. USAID will make update this for the next iteration of the Forecast.

5. <u>DCHA Bureau</u>: Can you please clarify the differences between the two Civil Society LWAs?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The two Civil Society Strengthening LWA listings are duplicates. USAID will make this update on the next iteration of the Forecast.

6. <u>DCHA Bureau:</u> Can you provide any updates regarding the Global Human Rights LWA, meant to replace the existing HR LWA with Freedom House, that last appeared on the July 2014 USAID Business Forecast? Is USAID still planning to issue this LWA? If so, is there an estimate on when the solicitation will come out?

<u>USAID Response</u>: USAID is still planning for a new Global Human Rights LWA. The estimated solicitation release date is 4th Quarter FY15 or 1st Quarter FY16. The Business Forecast will be updated with this information as soon as possible.

7. <u>DCHA Bureau</u>: DRAGON IQC has been taken off the Washington Forecast. Has the IQC been cancelled?

USAID Response: "DRAGON" is now known as "ACES."

8. E3 Bureau: Could USAID/OAA please provide an update on plans to procure a new global economic growth IDIQ contract?

<u>**USAID Response**</u>: E3 is assessing Agency's needs for a new global economic growth IDIQ. All new E3 procurements will be included in future Business Forecasts.

9. <u>E3 Bureau:</u> In the September update, the *Higher Education Annual Program Statement* (E3 Office of Education) was listed on the Washington forecast but did not appear on the January, February or May updates. Is this opportunity the same as *Higher Education Partnerships for Innovation and Impact (HEPII)* for which a request for comments was released in March 2015 (SOL-OAA-15-000048)?

USAID Response: Yes, this is the same opportunity.

10. <u>E3 Bureau:</u> Please inform us of the status of the procurement for Construction Management Services (SOL-OAA-15-000071), which was the subject of a sources sought notice posted April 9, 2015. When will an RFP be issued? Is it USAID's intention to reserve this contract for small businesses? Will large businesses be allowed to compete or will there be a separate vehicle for large businesses?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Currently, the procurement is pending internal review which includes small business consideration. USAID anticipates releasing the RFP on or before 9/30/15.

11. <u>E&E Bureau</u>: What is the status of the Economic Development, Governance and Entrepreneurship (EDGE) project that was listed in the previous Washington forecast but not in the current forecast?

<u>USAID Response</u>: USAID is no longer planning this activity.

12. <u>Global Health Bureau</u>: We noticed the Bureau of global health does not have many activities forecasted. Is this correct?

<u>USAID Response:</u> There are a few Global Health Bureau related actions that should have appeared be on the Business Forecast. We are working to correct this mistake. Global Health activities will be posted in the next update to the Business Forecast.

13. <u>Global Health Bureau:</u> We have not seen any of the upcoming Office of Population opportunities on the forecast. What is the status of upcoming Global Office of Population bids, their expected release dates, agreement type and approximate value?

<u>USAID Response:</u> There are one or two solicitations related to the Office of Population that will appear on the next update to the Business Forecast.

14. Latin American and the Caribbean Bureau: Is the New Higher Education Activity (Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)) listed on the Washington forecast the same opportunity as the recently released Regional Workforce Development Program (RFA-OAA-15-000011)?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Yes, the New Higher Education Activity was recently released as RFA-OAA-15-000011 for LAC/RSD Regional Workforce Development Program. Amendment #1 to the Regional Workforce Development Program (RFA-OAA-15-000011) was posted on Grants.com May 20 and the closing date for receipt of applications has been extended to June 17.

15. Legislative and Public Affairs Bureau: There are three anticipated contracts listed by the Legislative and Public Affairs (LPA) Bureau: LPA Long Term Bureau Support Contract for Surge Support Services ranging from \$10-\$24.99 million, LPA Long Term Bureau Support Contract ranging from \$4-\$9.99 million, and MyUSAID Support ranging from \$1-\$3.99 million. Would USAID consider procuring any of these contracts as Small Business set-asides, given that there are a number of Small Businesses that would be well-positioned to perform services under these contracts?

<u>USAID Response</u>: LPA Long Term Support Contract for Surge Support Services is now being referred to as Technical and Specialized Public Affairs Assistance - This contract is being awarded under the GSA Federal Supply Schedule. It envisions a multiple award BPA with multiple small businesses and a large business. Responses will only be considered from offerors that hold a current 541 Schedule for Advertising and Integrated Marketing Solutions (AIMS).

LPA Long Term Bureau Support Contract - This is the same contract as the LPA Long Term Support Contract for Surge Support Services. Again, this is now Technical and Specialized Public Affairs Assistance.

MyUSAID Support - This contract is being awarded under the 8(a) Program.

16. Management Bureau: Could you confirm that the new Transparency, Accountability and Performance (TAP) IDIQ, a follow-on to the existing IDIQ, to be released by the Office of Management Policy, Budget, and Performance (M/MPBP) with a ceiling of \$50-\$74.99 million will be a Small Business set-aside?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The activity title will change. The award is a total small business set aside, with an award ceiling of \$40M.

17. <u>Management Bureau:</u> Office of the Chief Financial Officer (M/CFO) lists two contracts - Financial Audit Support Services and Loan and Foreign Currency Transaction Management Support Services – both ranging in estimated amount of \$1-\$3.99 million. Would USAID consider procuring any of these contracts as Small Business set-asides?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Financial Audit Support Services award is underway as an 8(a) award under \$500K. In regards to the Foreign Currency Transaction Management Support Services action, this contract was openly competed and is within negotiation for award completion.

18. <u>Middle East Bureau:</u> Could USAID please provide an update on the status of the Middle East Sustainable Transition Initiatives IDIQ that was listed on a previous version of the new business forecast that no longer appears? (Previously listed on March 2015 forecast)

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Middle East Bureau is still discussing if it will move forward with this activity in FY16. Therefore, it is removed as a 2015 proposed award.

Mission Forecast Questions

1. <u>Afghanistan:</u> Afghanistan RADP-E has been lingering on the forecast, with largely the same information and a 3/15/15 release date for months. Is there any update on this procurement?

<u>USAID Response:</u> RADP-East has a projected release date of early August, with an anticipated award date of February 2016.

2. <u>Bangladesh</u>: The mission in Bangladesh has forecasted a new APS activity for 1 to 3,99 M that can be converted into a woman-owned small business set aside. My company and at least 5 more I know of have capacity to contribute innovative Preventive MCH solutions to the mission. Would the mission consider a WOSB set aside?

<u>USAID Response:</u> No. This action has been revised to a Broad Agency Announcement seeking innovative approaches from the widest pool of traditional and non-traditional partners. This action is not appropriate for a set aside.

3. <u>Bangladesh</u>: The mission in Bangladesh also has announced a new nutrition project of 1 to 3.99 million that can be part of woman-owned small business (WOSB)set aside. There are at last 5 WOSB that can provide this service. Would the mission consider a WOSB set aside? *Would the mission accept a sources sought application?*

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This action has been cancelled for this fiscal year due to FY15 funding levels.

- **4.** <u>Bangladesh:</u> The Mission in Bangladesh has forecasted the following projects as cooperative agreements or grants in the \$1-\$3.99 million range that could be procured as Small Business setasides given that there are a number of qualified small businesses that could implement these activities:
 - a. New Nutrition Project
 <u>USAID Response:</u> This activity was cancelled for this fiscal year due to FY15 funding levels.
 - b. Innovation for Improving Early Grade Reading Activity

 *USAID Response: This action has already been released in grants.gov
 - c. New: Adolescent/Reproductive Health Project

 <u>USAID Response:</u> It is anticipated that this action will be a full and open competition.
 - d. New program Political Competition and Consensus-Building

 <u>USAID Response:</u> Cancelled for this fiscal year due FY15 funding levels.

e. New program – Evaluations

<u>USAID Response:</u> Design is still in early stages. It is anticipated that the work will provide evaluation services for the Mission thus the action will most likely be amended to a task

f. New program - Human Rights

<u>USAID Response:</u> This action is now anticipated in FY16 subject to the availability of funds.

g. New program - Good Governance (Anti-Corruption)

<u>USAID Response:</u> This activity was cancelled for this fiscal year due to FY15 funding levels.

h. New: Health APS for Ending Preventable Maternal and Child Death *USAID Response:* This action has been cancelled.

order or contract.

NGO Digitization - new program
 <u>USAID Response:</u> This activity was cancelled for this fiscal year due to FY15 funding levels.

j. Private sector engagement APS
<u>USAID Response:</u> Please note that this is now anticipated to be a Broad Agency
Announcement promoting innovation and technology seeking participation from a wide array of potential partners. A set aside would not be appropriate for this action.

Would USAID consider procuring any of these activities as Small Business set-asides?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID/Bangladesh takes an active review of activities and may set aside actions as appropriate. Currently many of our anticipated actions have been cancelled due to FY15 funding levels or are very early in the design process.

5. <u>Bangladesh</u>: Bangladesh Private Sector Engagement APS: The solicitation release and award date are the same. There is also little information about this opportunity. Can you please provide a description of this proposed award and the anticipated solicitation release date?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The APS has transitioned into the Bangladesh Market Led Solutions for Feedthe-Future and Global Climate Changes Initiatives (BAA – Broad Agency Announcement).

6. <u>Bangladesh:</u> What is the relationship between the "Rice and Integrated Crop Systems Activity" (Cooperative Agreement \$10M - \$24.99) and the "New Rice/Maze Project" (Cooperative agreement \$1M-\$3.99M)?

<u>USAID Response:</u> They are the same program – the award title is currently slated as the "Rice and Integrated Crop System Activity" and the award description is new rice/maze project. It is anticipated that an RFI will issue shortly.

7. <u>Bangladesh:</u> Regarding the entry listed as "new Program – Evaluations," what is the nature of the work? If the work includes providing evaluation services to the mission, would USAID/Bangladesh's requirement be better served under a contract instead of a cooperative agreement as currently listed?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Design is still in early stages. It is anticipated that the work will provide evaluation services for the Mission thus the action will most likely be amended to a task order or contract.

8. <u>Bangladesh:</u> Regarding the entry listed as "New Evaluation Award" could you please describe how this work is different than the entry marked "new Program- Evaluations"?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> They are the same program name has been changed.

9. <u>Bangladesh:</u> Can USAID provide a description for Bangladesh-Human Rights? Will this funding be restricted to local NGOs?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> Bangladesh-Human Rights is a Democracy and Governance activity. This action is now anticipated FY16 subject to the availability of funds.

10. <u>Bangladesh</u>: New Nutrition Project: Please note this tender is listed twice in the forecast with two different anticipated solicitation release dates of 20/09/2015 and 01/10/2015. Is the double listing a mistake? If yes, please confirm correct date of release? Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? Can USAID provide an award description and length of award?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> They are the same program. However, the action has been cancelled for this fiscal year due FY15 funding levels.

11. <u>Bangladesh</u>: New Adolescent/Reproductive Health Project: Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? Can USAID provide an award description and length of award? On Line 22.

USAID Response: It is anticipated that this action will be full and open.

12. <u>Bangladesh:</u> New Follow on to Cooperative Agreement to NGO-1: Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? Can USAID provide an award description and length of award? What is the existing project this tender is a follow on to? **On Line 29.**

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This action has been cancelled. It was originally anticipated to be for local organizations.

13. <u>Bangladesh</u>: New cooperative Agreement to NGO-2: Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? Can USAID provide an award description and length of award? **On Line 30.**

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This action has been cancelled. It was originally anticipated to be for local organizations.

14. <u>Bangladesh</u>: New Health APS for Ending Preventable Maternal and Child Death: Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? Can USAID provide an award description and length of award?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This action has been cancelled.

15. <u>Bangladesh</u>: Bangladesh has 18 upcoming procurements listed, all of which are anticipated as Cooperative Agreements. Please confirm that this is accurate.

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Mission no longer has 18 planned actions due to FY15 funding levels. See questions above for details on specific actions. The Mission is now working on 9 activities which are tentatively planned to be issued as Cooperative Agreements or Grants. This information will be updated in the next iteration of the Business Forecast.

16. <u>Barbados</u>: "At-Risk Youth Program" was originally scheduled to be released on 3/31/2015. Do you have an updated timeframe for the release of the solicitation? Also, has the instrument type (Assistance or Acquisition) been determined?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Mission opted to remove the program requirement until the project design process is completed. This action had been listed for a long period of time and there is not a clear indication of when the solicitation will come out. Once details for this activity become more solidified, USAID will add it back on to the Forecast. The instrument has not been determined yet.

17. <u>Barbados</u>: Regarding the entry marked "Environment (Climate Change)", the entry currently states an anticipated release date of 3/2/15, which is in the past. What is the current anticipated release date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: "Environment (Climate Change)" was removed from last update of the forecast until the project design process is completed.

18. <u>Benin:</u> Regarding the entry marked "Research and Assessments Service Organization" if the purpose of the program is to support evaluation of ongoing USAID programs, we urge USAID to consider awarding these programs under a contract instead of a cooperative agreement. Will USAID/Benin be procuring services for this work under the USAID PPL Monitoring and Evaluation (EVAL-ME) IDIQ?

<u>USAID Response</u>: This is now anticipated to be an acquisition action. The Request for Proposals has been issued inviting proposals from local organizations only under ADS 302.3.4.5- Limited Competition to Local Entities.

19. <u>Benin</u>: On the January 2015 forecast, the "Advancing the Development of Vulnerable Organizations and Communities for Active Transformation (ADVOCAT)" opportunity was listed for Benin. This opportunity is no longer on the forecast. Has it been awarded or has the opportunity been cancelled?

USAID Response: This opportunity has been cancelled.

20. <u>Bosnia and Herzegovina:</u> The February 2015 Mission Forecast included a listing for a SME Development Project in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This procurement is not listed on the May 2015 Mission Forecast. Does the omission indicate that USAID is no longer planning this project?

USAID Response: It has been deleted at this time due to budgetary constraints.

21. <u>Bosnia and Herzegovina:</u> The 5/4/15 forecast shows the Bosnia Agricultural Markets Activity for a 3/30/15 release. Is there an updated release date?

USAID Response: Anticipated solicitation date is June 19, 2015.

22. <u>Brazil:</u> The Mission in Brazil lists a contract titled Outreach and Communication Activity ranging from \$500,000-\$999,999. Would USAID consider procuring this contract as a Small Business setaside given that there are at least five well-qualified small businesses that could provide these services?

<u>USAID Response</u>: USAID is still determining how this will be awarded, but is considering including this in a Task Order under an existing IQC.

23. <u>Brazil:</u> Regarding the entry marked "Support the implementation of indigenous community environmental management plans" the anticipated solicitation date is 2/15/15, which is in the past. What is the updated anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Annual Program Statement No. APS-512-15-000002 was posted on March 4, 2015.

24. <u>Cambodia</u>: The mission is Cambodia has announced two new malaria projects and one health commodities social marketing project. There are at least 5 WOSB that can provide these services. Would the mission consider a WOSB set aside? Would the mission accept a sources sought application?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Sometime in the next few weeks, the Mission will release draft SOW for the new Malaria project through an RFI. We encourage the 5 WOSBs to submit comments in response to the RFI.

25. <u>Cambodia</u>: Are the entries marked "Malaria Elimination Project Cambodia (MEP-C)" and "Cambodia Malaria Project" duplicate entries? If so, which is the correct entry? Rows 49 and 50 of the Excel format refer to two malaria projects in Cambodia, much of the information is the same, the upper row seems it might be an update of the lower and no change has been noted for either. Is it possible to confirm that these are distinct awards?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This is one award. We will update this in the next iteration of the business forecast.

26. Cambodia: Can USAID provide a description for Cambodia-Education Project?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID/Cambodia is in the very early stages of designing this project. However, the Cambodia Education project will be focused on early grade reading.

27. <u>Cambodia</u>: Health Commodities Social Marketing Project: Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? **On Line 5**.

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This activity will be done through a field support mechanism. It should not have appeared on the Forecast.

28. <u>Cambodia</u>: There is a solicitation for Cambodia, "Health Information Policy and Advocacy Project" that has been in Pre-Draft for a year. It was not on the January, February, or May forecast. Has the solicitation been cancelled?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This was a mistake as the work is being conducted through a field support mechanism.

29. <u>Central Asia Republics:</u> The Central Asia Republics Mission lists the target release date of the Legislative Strengthening Project in Kyrgyzstan as January 15, 2015 and the award date as September 30, 2015. Will USAID please revise this entry to indicate new target release and award dates? Also, could USAID advise whether this procurement will be competed openly or if it will be competed through a mechanism such as the Legislative Strengthening IQC?

<u>USAID Response:</u> This procurement will now be made under the Fair Opportunity process, IDIQ for Legislative Strengthening services "STRENGTHENING DELIBERATIVE BODIES" (AID-OAA-I-12-0000#). The anticipated RFTOP issuance date is June 30, 2015, the anticipated award date is September 30, 2015.

30. <u>Central Asia Republics:</u> Please confirm the current anticipated award date of the following solicitation from USAID/Central Asian Republics, which does not appear on the latest Mission Forecast: Request for Proposals No.: SOL-176-15-000006 Community and Municipal Governance Initiative (CAMI) in the Kyrgyz Republic, released on Feb 17, 2015

<u>USAID Response:</u> The anticipated award date for this procurement is September 30, 2015. This procurement does not appear on the latest Mission Forecast, per the A&A plan guidance, since it is closed for receiving proposals (the RFP closing date was 03/31/2015).

31. <u>Colombia</u>: "Connecting Producers to Markets" was originally scheduled to be released on 3/2/2015. Do you have an updated timeframe for the release of this solicitation?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> Due to delays in developing the project's design, we are anticipating a new solicitation date to be FY15 (September 15th); Award Type: TBD

32. <u>Colombia</u>: The "Reconciliation Program" is scheduled to be released on 7/1/2015. Is this date still accurate? Secondly, the estimated award range is quite broad - \$50mm - \$74.9mm. Can USAID provide a more precise estimate?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The new anticipated solicitation date for this one is now August 31st. At this point, the range provided on the Business Forecast is the best we're able to provide.

33. <u>Colombia</u>: Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Inclusion Program: the release date for this program is listed as June 2016. Can USAID confirm that this is not planned for release earlier than that?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Although we are currently in the process of designing an Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Inclusión Program, the program is currently scheduled for solicitation in June 2016. If there are any changes, we will update future Forecasts.

34. <u>Colombia:</u> USAID Mission in Colombia planning any new environment activities, and if so, could USAID/Colombia please provide additional detail in the new business forecast?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> Yes, the Mission is currently designing new Environment activities. This will appear on the next Business Forecast.

- **35.** <u>Democratic Republic of Congo</u>: There are two listings for the Accelerating Social and Behavior Change project in the DRC -- **one on line 67 and one on line 69**. Can you please confirm which listing is more accurate?
 - a. There are two IHP and two IHAP awards in the DRC. Can you confirm these are 4 separate award mechanisms?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Lines 67 and 69 are duplicate entries, so only one possible award. HOWEVER: The Health Team is seeking Mission Director concurrence to switch this funding to field support for the next 1-2 years

36. <u>Democratic Republic of Congo</u>: The mission DRC has not forecasted any small business set aside opportunities for WOSB. However, this SBA program has no ceiling and there are more than 5 WOSB that can do the work of improving the quality of health services and increase the capacity of the health system as well as do M&E work. Several RFPs are listed by the mission in DRC. Would the mission accept a sources sought application?

<u>USAID Response</u>: For the pending Health RFPs USAID is not planning on setting aside any, but will encourage and expect substantial opportunities for small businesses. The proposed M&E RFP is still being discussed, the SOO/SOW is in the very early draft stages, and chances are that rather than one large M&E RFP as originally proposed, the work will be spread between a smaller RFP and the balance using the new Evaluation IQC which is already a small business set aside .

37. <u>Democratic Republic of Congo:</u> Regarding the entry marked "Integrated HIV/AIDS Project (IHAP)" the anticipated solicitation date is 3/14/15, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

USAID Response: The revised anticipated solicitation date is August 15, 2015.

38. <u>Democratic Republic of Congo:</u> The 5/4/15 forecast shows the DRC Integrated Governance Activity for a 5/15/15 release. Is there an updated release date?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The new forecast date for release of this RFP is o/a July 19, 2015.

39. <u>Democratic Republic of Congo:</u> The forecast previously showed a follow-on Rule of Law Activity, which has now disappeared from the forecast. Please could you provide any information on this opportunity, and whether it will now be released via an IQC?

<u>USAID Response</u>:The information released on the business forecast was included for the benefit of industry as the award was still in the design process when it was identified on the forecast. Since that time, a determination of instrument type was submitted and approved by the

Agreement Officer to proceed with a planned assistance instrument for this activity. Further, a cooperative agreement (associate award under LWA) has been awarded for this activity.

40. <u>Democratic Republic of Congo:</u> Are the entries marked "Integrated HIV/AIDS Project (IHAP)" and "IHAP" duplicate entries? If so, which is the correct entry? Can USAID clarify the regions/provinces that each of the anticipated IHAP projects will cover? What are the new anticipated solicitation release dates as the current anticipated award release dates have expired?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The three geographic areas covered (regardless of whether 1 or 3 RFP solicitations) will be 1) Kinshasa 2) Bas Congo and 3) Oriental. The revised anticipated solicitation date is August 15, 2015.

41. <u>Dominican Republic:</u> Could USAID provide an award description/additional information of the Dominican Republic "At Risk Youth Program" opportunity (row 77)?

<u>USAID Response</u>: USAID decided to delete this action since it does not have a PAD yet. The deletion will be reflected on next forecast publication.

42. <u>East Timor:</u> Regarding the entry marked "HASOI-MCH," the forecast states that the project "is in its PAD stage" and "an approved PAD is expected to be available in February 2015," which is in the past. What is the current status of this entry?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The solicitation was released on Grants.gov on May 8, 2015. See the following link: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=276428

43. <u>East Timor</u>: The mission in East Timor listed a RFA for a new MCH project for about 4 to 9.9 million in this small nation that can be implemented by at least 5 WOSBs. *Would the mission accept a sources sought application?*

<u>USAID Response:</u> RFA-472-15-000001 for USAID's Health Project in Timor-Leste is currently on the street. Applications from interested parties are due to RDMA on July 17, 2015 at 1600 BKK time.

- **44.** Egypt: In multiple 2014 versions of the Mission Forecast, USAID/Egypt listed new programs that have since been removed from more recent versions of the forecast. These programs include:
 - a. Sustainable Investment in Tourism in Egypt (SITE) Project
 - b. TIA Trade and Investment Assistance
 - c. Food Security and Agribusiness Support (FAS): Phase 2

Could the Mission please confirm if these new programs are still anticipated to be procured? If so, can USAID please provide the mechanism type, anticipated solicitation dates and award dates for these new program?

USAID Response:

- a. <u>Sustainable Investment in Tourism in Egypt (SITE) Project</u>: SITE was removed from the Business Forecast. USAID/Egypt decided that a government-to-government approach was better suited to accomplishing development objectives.
- b. <u>TIA Trade and Investment Assistance</u>: TIA was the name of the planned activity of the OEG Trade and Investment Team that was supposed to use an IQC mechanism. This was replaced by the two contracts SEED and WISE.
- c. <u>Food Security and Agribusiness Support (FAS), Phase 2</u>: FAS Phase 1 was the precursor to FAS Phase 2. However, due to budget changes, adjustments were made to FAS Phase 1 to cover 5 years instead of the original 3 and to be more comprehensive as an activity.
- **45.** Egypt: The Mission in Egypt lists Facilities Operations, Custodial and Supply Management Services (FOCS) contract as \$4-9.99 million activity. Would USAID consider procuring this contract as a Small Business set-aside given that there are a number of well-qualified small businesses that could provide these services?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The FOCS procurement was issued and proposals have been received. All of the businesses that responded were small businesses, though some are not formally classified as such because they are Egyptian businesses.

46. Egypt: Can USAID provide a description for Egypt-Adult Literacy?

<u>USAID Response</u>: <u>Description</u>: In Egypt, there are considerable numbers of vulnerable youth and adults who, due to poverty or other limitations, do not have access to the formal education system. To address this, a variety of community school models have been developed to meet the educational needs of youth, aged 9 -14, outside the public school system. These are overseen by the Community Education Department (CED) of the Ministry of Education. Community schools also provide vocational training in addition to literacy. Graduates must pass the primary school exit exam, which then entitles them to Government-sponsored further education and health care services. The educational facilitators are not Ministry of Education teachers, although they may utilize GOE-supplied books. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have been active in developing many of these models, although sustainability is a critical issue. As of to date, over 100 community schools in rural areas were supported by USAID through the New School and Education Reform Programs. Currently, there are 6,000 community schools in Egypt, with an enrollment of 110,000.

Using modern technology (through Information Communication and Technology- based literacy training programs) is commonly perceived as an effective tool in combatting illiteracy, especially for the enthusiasm expressed by the target groups in using these tools; it is also considered an important transition to gaining ICT skills, which is becoming a necessity these days. There is probably a significant potential in Egypt for utilizing modern communication technology for promoting literacy. Television, radio, internet and cell phone communication are perhaps un- or under-tapped tools for reaching certain populations.

USAID/Egypt's Office of Education and Training is interested in addressing youth and adult illiteracy in the country, by assessing what has been, and is currently being done, the relative success, and sustainability of different models. Both youth and adult illiteracy are being addressed outside the public school system, youth through a variety of community school models, and adults through interventions at private homes, mosques, churches, and military camps.

47. El Salvador: The 5/4/15 forecast shows the El Salvador Transparency/Civic Education/Anti-Corruption procurement for a 6/30/15 release. Please confirm that this is accurate. Please also indicate whether this will be released as a Cooperative Agreement or a Contract and the anticipated period of performance.

<u>USAID Response:</u> The El Salvador Transparency requirement is still scheduled to be released by 6/30/15. We anticipate releasing it as acquisition. We anticipate that the performance period will be five years.

48. <u>Ethiopia</u>: The mission in Ethiopia forecasts a contract to do the baseline, midterm and endline evaluation of the TRANFORMproject. There are in fact several WOSB that can do this work. Would the mission accept a sources sought application?

<u>USAID Response</u>: According to the market research conducted by the Technical Office there are a mix of organizations composed of both for-profit and NGOs with experience working in Ethiopia and implementing similar activities. We intend to open the solicitation to all. Any organization will be free to submit a proposal. Based on this I have made the determination not to set-aside this activity for small business entities.

49. <u>Ethiopia</u>: Support to tertiary institutions including vocational education. This initiative aims to support vocational education. Can you please provide additional information on the aims of this project?

<u>USAID Response:</u> According to the Government of Ethiopia's long-term Growth and Transformation Plan, expanding the country's human capital through education is a key priority. In higher education, this equates to strengthening the management and administrative systems of educational institutions (institutional strengthening) and developing the skills of faculty

members (faculty upgrading) to successfully execute their teaching and research duties (such as those in science and technology fields). The Ministry of Education requires well-qualified higher education staff to lead its higher education institutions, ideally with 75% of faculty members holding Master's degrees, the other 25% with Doctorate degrees, and lecturer's contributing actively in research. Currently, most faculty members hold only Bachelor's degrees. Notably, there is a dearth of qualified female leaders in leadership positions and with postgraduate degrees. Due to the value the Ministry of Education places on partnerships with international and U.S. higher education institutions, the MOE has repeatedly requested USAID's support to higher education.

50. <u>Ethiopia</u>: Regarding the entry marked "Ethiopia Performance Management & Evaluation Services (EPMES)," the anticipated solicitation date is 1/31/2015, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation date is is now the first quarter of FY 2016.

51. Ethiopia: The Mission in Ethiopia lists the Enhanced Livelihoods Application (ELA) contract ranging from \$4-\$9.99 million. Would USAID consider procuring this contract as a Small Business set-aside given that there are at least five well-qualified small businesses that could provide these services?

USAID Response: Findings from Market research conducted by the Mission reveal a limited number of qualified organizations either with significant experience working in Ethiopia and/or experience implementing HEA based livelihoods studies abroad who could implement this project. Based on this the Mission will not set aside this procurement for small business entities.

52. Ethiopia: Regarding the entry marked "TRANSFORM: M&E Large Monitoring and Evaluation award for TRANSFORM IPs" the anticipated solicitation dates is listed as 9/15/15 and the anticipated award date is 5/15/15, which takes place before the anticipated solicitation date. What are the correct dates for anticipated solicitation and anticipated award? Will work for this requirement be procured under the USAID PPL Monitoring and Evaluation (EVAL-ME) IDIQ?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Solicitation release date is 06/30/15 and the anticipated award date 11/28/15. This activity will not be procured under EVAL-ME IDIQ.

53. <u>Ethiopia</u>: The entries marked "Water assessment for 17 sites – TBD" and "Electrical supply for 17 sites – TBD" also have anticipated award dates that take place before the anticipated solicitation dates. What are the correct dates for anticipated solicitation and anticipated award?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Mission will decided to fold this requirement into another activity which will be reflected in the next forecast.

54. Ethiopia: Regarding the entry marked "PSNP-Plus Project Evaluation" the anticipated solicitation date is 3/31/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date? Will work for this requirement be procured under the USAID PPL Monitoring and Evaluation (EVAL-ME) IDIQ?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Mission has decided that it will not go forward with this project.

55. Ethiopia: The Mission in Ethiopia lists the PSNP-Plus Post Project Evaluation contract ranging \$150,000-\$499,000. Would USAID consider procuring this contract as a Small Business set-aside given that there are a number of well-qualified small businesses that could provide these services?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Mission has decided that it will not go forward with this project.

56. Ethiopia: The Innovation Fund for Improving Food Security in Ethiopia (IFSE) opportunity is included twice. Please confirm there is only one IFSE in the forecast. Also, please provide information, if possible, on how this is different from the solicitation with the same name shared last year.

<u>USAID Response:</u> There is only one IFSE activity being implemented by the Mission. It was advertised under an APS last year. This activity will be implemented via an assistance mechanism.

57. Ethiopia: The 5/4/15 forecast shows the Ethiopia ELA procurement for a 3/31/14 release. Is there an updated release date?

USAID Response: This solicitation was posted on FedBizOpps on May 27, 2015.

58. <u>Georgia</u>: Building Resilient Communities and Zrda: Can USAID confirm whether these are separate awards, or a duplicate entry? Can USAID update the anticipated release date?

USAID Response: This is a duplicate entry. Anticipated release is potentially July now.

59. <u>Georgia</u>: The Georgia Building Resilient Communities procurement is a follow-on to the existing NEO program, which is a Contract. Please confirm that USAID intends to procure the follow-on through a Cooperative Agreement as shown in the current forecast?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The activity that was "building resilient communities" is not a follow on but actually is a new activity that we are now calling Zrda. The mission will publish a notice of funding opportunity for Zrda hopefully later this year.

60. Georgia: Youth Development in Georgia: The solicitation is listed with a release date of January 2015. Can USAID update the anticipated release date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Youth APS RFA was out in January of 2015. We are hoping it will be awarded in August of 2015.

61. Ghana: The Ghana People for Health has an estimated solicitation release date of 4/28/14, should that have been 4/28/15?

<u>USAID Response</u>: This was a typo. It should have been 4/28/15. However, this has since been revised to a new date of July 2015.

62. <u>Ghana:</u> Regarding the entry labeled "Northern Ghana Governance," what is the difference between this activity and the Resilience in Northern Ghana (RING) activity, which started in 2014?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Resiliency in Northern Ghana (RING) activity which began in 2014 is an integrated project and partnership effort under USAID's Feed the Future (FtF) Initiative designed to contribute to Government of Ghana efforts to sustainably reduce poverty and improve nutritional status of vulnerable populations. The entry labeled "Northern Ghana Governance" activity is intended to accelerate governance improvements and manage conflict in support of enhanced agricultural development in Ghana's Northern, Upper East and Upper West Regions.

63. Ghana: As the anticipated solicitation release date for "2016 Ghana National General Elections Support" has passed, could USAID please provide an updated estimated release date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The updated estimated release date for the "2016 Ghana National General Elections Support" is July 2015.

64. <u>Guatemala</u>: USAID Guatemala released a RFI for Citizens for Health Communities Project (520-15-00005) with responses to be submitted no later than March 5. What is the estimated release date of the final solicitation documents?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The RFI answers from the community brought up some items that we tried to incorporate into the solicitation. The name has changed, due to some RFI responses thinking it was a health based project. We are now calling it Community Led Development, however it could possibly change again. We anticipate this solicitation will be issued no later than July

65. <u>Guatemala</u>: Could USAID confirm that the entry on the current forecast for Guatemala titled "Local Community Strengthening Project targeted to different Guatemalan Municipalities" is distinct from the Guatemala Citizens for Healthy Communities Project (CHCP) for which there was a recent request for information released? Further, could USAID please confirm that these

opportunities are also distinct from the Guatemala Community Strengthening Project, for which we understand USAID is in the process of evaluating applicants' proposals?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Yes, the "Local Community Strengthening Project" is a different project than the Guatemala Citizens for Healthy Communities Project. Both projects are also different from the Guatemala Community Strengthening Project.

66. <u>Guatemala</u>: Local Community Strengthening Project targeted to different municipalities: this program is listed with a March 2015 release date. Can USAID update the anticipated release date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: We expect to release the RFA in July 2015.

67. <u>Haiti:</u> In the most recent version of the Forecast, the mechanism for the Haiti Macro Economic Policy Reform Project is not provided. Does USAID have additional information regarding the anticipated mechanism (i.e. Contract or Cooperative Agreement) that can be shared with prospective Offerors?

<u>USAID Response:</u> This activity is the Public Investment Appraisal Capacity program. USAID/Haiti is using the Learning, Evaluation and Analysis Project II (LEAP II) IQC mechanism.

68. <u>Haiti:</u> It appears that most of the opportunities listed in the Mission forecast for Haiti have anticipated solicitation release dates that are in the past or the fiscal year of action is 2014. Is it possible for USAID to update forecast information for Haiti or indicate which of the opportunities are still anticipated to be released in the future?

USAID Response: The prior year actions were removed.

69. <u>Honduras:</u> Regarding the entry labeled "M&E Support for Collaborative Learning & Adapting (MESCLA)," the anticipated solicitation date is 3/15/15, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> USAID/Honduras is planning to issue an Request for Information (RFI) in the coming days. The solicitation would then be issued sometime late June or early July.

70. <u>Honduras:</u> The 5/4/15 forecast shows the Honduras Secondary Prevention Project for a 4/27/15 release. Is there an updated release date? Please confirm that this will be procured as a Full and Open Contract, and will not be procured through an IQC mechanism.

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Secondary Prevention estimated release date mid to late June, 2015. The Mission is looking at whether this will be full and open or an IDIQ mechanism. The final determination has not yet been made.

71. Honduras: The Honduras Justice Sector Strengthening has an anticipated release date of 4/15/15. Please could USAID provide an updated anticipated release date for this RFP?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Justice Sector Strengthening current estimated solicitation is mid to late July.

72. <u>India:</u> Regarding the entry labeled "Improved Decision-Making Framework," the anticipated solicitation date is 11/10/14, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: This solicitation will be a Request for Task Order Proposal and it is expected to be released around 07/27/2015.

73. <u>India:</u> Regarding the three entries labeled "Baseline Data Collection" all anticipated solicitation dates are in the past. What is the revised solicitation date?

USAID Response: These three projects have been withdrawn by the technical office.

74. <u>Indonesia:</u> Regarding the entry marked "TBD – Signature Effort" please provide more information about this entry. There is not enough information here to determine the nature of the potential activity. Please provide more detail. In addition, the anticipated solicitation date is 3/31/2015, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The design team has decided for a buy-in through a Global Development Lab mechanism as a procurement instrument. This entry will be deleted from the A&A plan.

75. <u>Indonesia</u>: Eastern Indonesia Project, GBV: Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? Can USAID provide an award description? Award/Action Type is listed as TBD. Can USAID confirm whether this tender will be released as contract or cooperative agreement?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The RFA will be based on full and open competition and projected to be released July 23, 2015. The resultant award is anticipated to be a cooperative agreement that is in response to high levels of violence against women (VAW) and obstacles to promoting and protecting women's rights in eastern Indonesia. The program is consistent with USAID Indonesia's Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) and the recommendations of the 2012 USAID Papua Strategic Assessment

76. <u>Indonesia</u>: Maternal Child Health (MCH): Does USAID anticipate this tender will be restricted to local applicants only? Can USAID provide an award description? Award/Action Type is listed as

TBD. Can USAID confirm whether this tender will be released as contract or cooperative agreement?

USAID Response: The team is currently working on the design of the MCH program. The decision on choice of instrument will be made after the design is completed. We are anticipating for this procurement to be a full and open process.

77. <u>Indonesia:</u> Please provide any updates on the anticipated solicitation release dates for the following: Indonesia Workforce Development, anticipated solicitation release date is listed as 4/1/2015

<u>USAID Response:</u> The team is currently completing the design of this program. The anticipated solicitation release date is September 2015.

78. <u>Indonesia</u>: Will Indonesia's "New MCH Bilateral (UHC Equality monitoring)" be open to full competition or will it be an associate award?

<u>USAID Response:</u> This procurement will be removed from the A&A plan as we will combine these activities with the MCH program that is currently under design.

79. <u>Indonesia</u>: The 5/4/15 forecast shows the Indonesia Accountability and Anti-Corruption Project for a 5/15/15 release. Is there an updated release date?

USAID Response: The estimated release date is now 7/15/15.

80. <u>Jamaica:</u> Regarding the entry marked "Combating Corruption and Strengthening Integrity in Jamaica," the anticipated solicitation date is 5/4/15, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The anticipated solicitation date is August 14, 2015 and the award date February 15, 2016.

81. <u>Jamaica:</u> Regarding the entry marked "Climate Change Adaptation" the award/action type is listed as a "leader with associates (LWA)" Will the Jamaica mission be using one of the existing hg-based LWA mechanisms for this activity? If so, which one?

<u>USAID Response</u>: This action will be an Associate Award under Farmer to Farmer LWA. A&A Plan has been updated accordingly.

82. <u>Jordan</u>: Syria Essential Services: the release date for this program is listed as October 2016 with an award date of May 2016. Can USAID clarify the anticipated release and award dates for this program?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The anticipated release date is now late August 2015 with anticipated award of June 2016.

83. <u>Jordan</u>: PFH Integrated Health Service Delivery Activity: What is the new anticipated solicitation release date as the current anticipated award release date has expired?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The new anticipated solicitation release date is September 2015. The anticipated award date is February 2016.

84. <u>Jordan</u>: The September 2014 mission forecast included an anticipated Jordan Municipal Governance program. However, this opportunity no longer appears on the forecast. Was it removed because it is no longer a planned procurement, or because it is expected to be procured through a relevant IQC?

<u>USAID Response</u>: This opportunity should have been included in the A&A Forecast. It is correct that this is anticipated to be a Task Order. The anticipated solicitation date is late June 2015, with anticipated award of late November 2015.

85. <u>Kenya</u>: Would USAID confirm that the Social Protection activity appearing on Kenya's Q2 forecast is no longer planned, as it has been dropped from the Q3 forecast?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Social Protection activity is no longer planned, which is why it was removed from the Business Forecast.

86. Kenya: Regarding the entry marked "Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene Program (KIWASH)," the anticipated solicitation date is 12/12/14, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date? Would USAID please provide an update for the expected release date of the Kenya Integrated Water, Sanitation and Hygiene activity?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The KIWASH procurement mechanism has been changed to a RFTOP. It no longer falls under Full & Open Competition, and the Business Forecast will be updated accordingly.

87. <u>Kenya</u>: Proposals for the Kenya Support for OVC in Coast and Nairobi have been submitted, but the opportunity was removed from the list. Is there an expected award date?

USAID Response: Approximately July 2015

88. <u>Kenya</u>: Proposals for the Kenya Afya projects in Coast and Nairobi have been submitted, but the opportunity was removed from the list. Are there updated expected award date?

USAID Response: Approximately July 2015

89. <u>Kenya:</u> In the 3rd quarter updated USAID Mission Forecast, there only two opportunities currently listed for Kenya, though a number of regional health projects are expected to end in this calendar year. When can we expect to see the follow-ons for these opportunities appear on the Forecast?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Regional Health Office does not have any activities ending in September and has no further updates at this time.

90. <u>Lebanon</u>: The mission in Lebanon forecasts a contract to do the M&E support to the mission. Would USAID consider procuring this contract as a Small Business set-aside given that there are a number of well-qualified small businesses that could provide these services?

<u>USAID Response:</u> This solicitation has already closed and proposals have been received. It was posted on FedBizOpps on March 24, 2015 with a response date of April 24, 2015.

91. <u>Liberia:</u> USAID/Liberia's Feeder Roads Maintenance Program (FRAMP) in Liberia, the expected solicitation date in the most recent Mission Forecast was given as 1/5/2015, which has already passed. When does USAID anticipate this solicitation will be released?

USAID Response: The new FRAMP planned solicitation date is 5/26/2015

92. <u>Liberia:</u> Regarding the Sustainable High Impact Infrastructure for Education and Agriculture (SHINE) opportunity for Liberia – can USAID please provide information about priority sectors for the higher education component? Specifically, we are interested in whether medical, nursing, or public health education will be included in this component of the upcoming project.

<u>USAID Response:</u> This will be an infrastructure construction and rehabilitation project focusing on facilities in the education and agriculture sectors. No program activity related to medical, nursing, or public health education is contemplated under this award.

93. <u>Liberia</u>: Liberia, Agribusiness Activity (BLiV) in Liberia and Forest Incomes for Environmental Sustainability (FIFES): both of these programs have an anticipated release date of April 2015. Can USAID update the anticipated release dates?

<u>USAID Response:</u> FIFES new planned solicitation date is 5/26/2015. BLIV will be renamed to the "Feed the Future Liberia Agribusiness Development Project" and the solicitation is scheduled to be released 6/12/15

94. <u>Madagascar:</u> USAID listed the release date for the Environment and Biodiversity Conservation Project in Madagascar as May 15, 2015, which has passed. Is there a further updated release

date? Also, the award/action type for this project is listed as TBD. Could USAID please clarify what the award mechanism will be for this opportunity?

<u>**USAID Response**</u>: The mechanism is still TBD at this time. The mission hopes to have updates reflected on the next forecast.

95. <u>Mali</u>: Could USAID please confirm if the "Mali Civil Society" opportunity listed in the May 2015 forecast is the same as the "Mali Community Engagement" opportunity listed in the September 2014 forecast?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Mali Civil Society opportunity is different from the Mali Community Engagement activity listed in the September 2014 forecast. The Mali Community Engagement activity is cancelled.

96. <u>Mali</u>: Will USAID/Mali's "Selective Integrated Reading Activity (SIRA)" be a stand-alone contract or run through ABE-LEARN (or a similar mechanism)?

<u>USAID Response</u>: SIRA will be procured through the IDIQ of goal 3 of Education Strategy. The community engagement has been renamed Girls' Leadership and Empowerment through Education.

97. Mali: During the last Forecast call, USAID mentioned that it would only be listing RFPs that would be released as "full and open" in future forecasts. However, we notice that on the FY15 3rd Quarter, there is a procurement named "Mali Peace & Security/OTI follow on – Countering Violence Extremism" listed. Please clarify if the Mali Peace and Security/OTI follow on- Counter Violence Extremism is expected to be a task order under the SWIFT IV mechanism.

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Mali Peace and Security/ OTI follow on activity will be a full and open competition.

98. <u>Mali:</u> Mali Subnational Governance/Public Financial Management Activity in the most recent Forecast. Could USAID clarify whether this will be a full and open RFP or whether it is anticipated to be released as a RFTOP under the Public Financial Management IDIQ?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Mali Subnational Governance/ PFM activity will be a full and open RFP and not released as a RFTOP under the PFM IDIQ.

99. <u>Malawi:</u> Regarding the entry marked "Performance Evaluation of the BRIDGE and IMPACT programs," the anticipated solicitation date is 2/28/15, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date? Will services under this activity be procured under the USAID PPL Monitoring and Evaluation (EVAL-ME) IDIQ?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Mission decided not to pursue this activity; it will be removed in the next business forecast.

Malawi: The Mission in Malawi forecasts a Performance evaluation of the BRIDGE and IMPACT programs as a contract ranging from \$500,000-\$999,999. Would USAID consider procuring this contract as a Small Business set-aside given that there are a number of well-qualified small businesses that could provide these services?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Mission decided not to pursue this activity; it will be removed in the next business forecast.

Malawi: Could USAID provide an update on the USAID/Malawi opportunity "Integrating Nutrition in Value Chains (INVC) II", which has an anticipated solicitation date of 4/22/2015?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The updated anticipated INVC II solicitation date will be 09/2015

102. <u>Malawi:</u> If available, could USAID please provide information about the target districts for the *Integrating Nutrition in Value Chains (INVC) II* opportunity listed for Malawi in the Mission forecast?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The new activity is in the development stage; target districts have not been identified yet.

Malawi: There are 2 Early Grade reading calls for Malawi, one called Early Grade Reading Program 2 and on called Scale up Early Grade Reading. Are they both new tenders, or will the one called no. 2 be an extension of the existing program (by World Education)?

<u>USAID Response:</u> There is one planned activity under the ABE ACR Indefinite Quantity Indefinite Delivery contracts (IDIQs) that will scale up the early grade reading project in Malawi. This is the only anticipated solicitation for early grade reading. This solicitation is not an extension of the current Early Grade Reading Activity and has not yet been awarded.

Mexico: Regarding the entry marked "Energy Assessment" the anticipated solicitation date is 3/15/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This has been changed to a field support activity. It will be removed from the Forecast.

105. Moldova: Are the dates for solicitation release of the various Moldova awards meant to be in 2016 or is this a typo? Lines 184-188 -- Line 184 (EPP Follow On), Line 185 (Local Government Support Project Follow On), Line 186 (Rule of Law Follow On), Line 187 (Moldova Ag Competitiveness Follow On), Line 188 (Moldova Business Regulatory Env Follow On)

<u>USAID Response:</u> This is not a typo. These actions are planned to take place in 2016.

106. Morocco: The award "Reading for Success, small scale experimentation" is listed as an IDIQ, Will this be released under either ABE-Learn IQC, YouthPower IQC, or another mechanism?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> Reading for Success-Small Scale Experimentation will be released under the ABE-Learn IDIQ.

Mozambique: The mission in Mozambique forecasts a cooperative agreement for a family project. However, there are about 5 or more WOSB that can do that work. Would the mission consider a WOSB set aside?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Mission is planning on having a full and open competition for this cooperative agreement.

Mozambique: Regarding the entry marked "Mozambique Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism and Services" the anticipated solicitation date is 5/1/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The new estimated solicitation date is June 12, 2015.

Mozambique: Regarding the entry marked "Clinical Community Care of HIV" the anticipated solicitation date is 3/26/15, which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The advertisement of this action was postponed. The Clinical Community Care of HIV award is expected to be advertised in January/February 2018. Action will be deleted from the A&A Plan.

110. <u>Mozambique:</u> Can USAID provide a description for Mozambique-Education and OVC initiatives?

USAID Response:

<u>Description for Mozambique Education:</u>

USAID's Mozambique Education Initiative, referred to as the Leitura Project will support the Mission's CDCS DO 3 "Improved Education and Training" and will address the Mission's immediate result 3.1 "Improved reading outcomes for students in early grades." The goal of this project is three-fold:

1. More students received quality reading instruction

- 2. Improved capacity of the government of Mozambique (GRM) institutions to support early grade reading, and
- 3. Strengthened civil society engagement in early grade reading.

Activities under this project will be procured through a competitive process during 2015/2016 calendar years.

Description for OVC Initiatives:

USAID focuses the Mozambique-OVC initiatives on strengthening the capacity of families and communities to care for and protect the children within their care.

The Service Delivery and Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Children will be USAID Mozambique's OVC flagship program. Its goal is to improve the health, nutritional status, and well-being of the Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC) living in PEPFAR defined priority districts for epidemic control. The overall objective is to strengthen the capacity of families and communities to care for and protect the children within their care. The program will be implemented in 56 out of 65 PEPFAR defined priority districts.

111. <u>Mozambique</u>: In row 198 of the 3rd quarter Business Forecast, USAID lists an award titled "Orphans and Vulnerable Children Program" in Mozambique. Could USAID kindly confirm that this is a distinct opportunity from RFA-656-14-000001/Strengthening Family and Community Support to OVC in Mozambique (closed on May 7th, 2015) and if so, how the project description will differ?

<u>USAID Response</u>: USAID-Mozambique also has an OVC Girls Education program (RFA-656-14-000001). The overall objective of the Girls Education program is similar to USAID Mozambique's OVC flagship program with the addition of taking into consideration the gaps between boys and girls in transitioning to secondary schools. The Girls Education program will be implemented in 9 of the 65 PEPFAR priority districts.

112. Mozambique: Is The Family Plan integrated project in Mozambique a continuation of the SCIP program or is it a new tender/project?

<u>USAID Response:</u> This is a new project.

113. Nepal: Please provide any updates on the anticipated solicitation release dates for the following: Nepal Public Financial Management, anticipated solicitation release date is listed as 3/20/2015

USAID Response: Updated release date is 31 August 2015

114. <u>Nicaragua:</u> Does USAID/Nicaragua have any new business opportunities they are planning to add to the forecast?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> The Mission is not currently working on new awards. For now, they are only funding current activities.

115. <u>Nigeria</u>: Regarding the entry marked "Strengthening the Delivery of Malaria Case Management" the anticipated solicitation date is 5/4/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date? Can USAID please confirm that the anticipated funding mechanism for the Strengthening Delivery of Malaria Case Management activity in Nigeria will be an IDIQ?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The solicitation date will be approximately September 20, 2015 (the end of the last quarter). Yes this will be an IDIQ.

Nigeria: Does USAID have further details to provide regarding the Nigeria Strengthening Delivery of Malaria Case Management IDIQ and whether the resulting award will be made to one single holder, or whether there may be multiple awards made to multiple holders?

USAID Response: This will be a single-award IDIQ.

Nigeria: Regarding the entry marked "Nigerian Monitoring and Evaluation Management Services" the anticipated solicitation date is 5/15/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The solicitation date is June 15, 2015.

- 118. <u>Nigeria:</u> Could USAID update/indicate the Award Type for the Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH) Activity in Nigeria, as well as an updated anticipated release date?
 - a. Does USAID have an updated Anticipation Release Date for Nigeria-Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (RMNCH) Activity, given that what is on the latest Mission Forecast is 4/01/2015. Should we expect an overlap with the current project or will the new award be made after the close out of the existing project?
 - <u>USAID Response:</u> The solicitation date will be approximately September 20, 2015 (the end of the last quarter) and the award type will be a single-award IDIQ. The new award will be made after the close of the existing project.
 - b. Does USAID have additional information regarding the anticipated mechanism (i.e. Contract or Cooperative Agreement) that can be shared with prospective Offerors?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> We are currently in the process of determining the choice of instrument.

c. Can USAID confirm if this is a new project or a follow on to an existing project?

USAID Response: This is a new project.

d. Is this opportunity a follow on to the USAID Nigeria TSHIP Project? In the last Quarterly Business Forecast Review meeting on February 4, 2015, USAID mentioned they "will include an update in the next forecast issuance," and there doesn't seem to be an update.

<u>USAID Response:</u> This activity does incorporate portions of the TSHIP activity however this is a new activity. USAID/Nigeria anticipates having industry outreach sessions for each of the projects/programs mentioned above (excluding the M&E award). We are currently in the planning phase and will announce the details on FBO or grants.gov.

119. Please provide any updates on the anticipated solicitation release dates for the following: Pakistan Small and Medium Enterprise Activity (SMEA), anticipated solicitation release date is listed as 5/31/2015.

<u>USAID Response:</u> Anticipated solicitation release date for this activity is June 30, 2015 and anticipated award date is Feb 26, 2016.

Pakistan: A draft RFP for SOL-391-15-000018, Punjab Youth Workforce Development was released from the USAID/Pakistan Mission in March 2015, yet it is not mentioned on the most recent forecast. Is USAID planning to release an RFP for this opportunity within the next two months?

<u>USAID Response:</u> Anticipated solicitation release date is May 26, 2015 and anticipated award date is Nov 30, 2015. The Agency A&A plan/Business Forecast is updated accordingly.

121. Please confirm the current anticipated award date of the following solicitation on the latest Mission Forecast: Pakistan Regional Economic Integration Activity (PREIA), anticipated award date is listed as 5/29/2015

<u>USAID Response:</u> Solicitation was issued on March 06, 2015 and anticipated award date is July 30, 2015, as already indicated in the solicitation. The Agency A&A plan/Business Forecast is updated accordingly.

Peru: Peru is currently not listed on the Business Forecast. Does USAID/Peru have any new business opportunities they are planning to add to the forecast?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID/Peru is currently in the design phase for a substantial suite of new projects but has been delayed due to uncertainty of funding. At the present, we are in the very

early stages of design discussions and will include these activities in the forecast in 4th quarter FY 2015 or 1st Quarter FY 2016 Forecast at the very latest.

Philippines: Philippines Biodiversity Activity has the same anticipated solicitation release date and anticipated award date (9/30/2015); please provide any updates/clarifications regarding the timing of these actions.

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This activity is expected to be issued as a task order. It will be removed from the Business Forecast.

124. Rwanda: Could USAID provide an update on the USAID/Rwanda Water and Sanitation Infrastructure and Capacity Building Activity that was listed through an RFI on <u>fbo.gov</u> and grants.gov in December 2014?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This activity should be released on grants.gov as an RFA in the 3rd quarter of this Fiscal Year.

Rwanda: Rwanda has been listed on the Mission forecast for the past year or so, but does not appear on the Q3 update. Does USAID anticipate including Rwanda in the next quarter's update or are we encouraged to get in touch with the respective Missions directly in the meantime?

<u>USAID Response:</u> USAID/Rwanda recently migrated over to USAID's new Acquisition and Assistance Planning tool. In that migration data for 2015 was put in the incorrect category. The Mission is in the process of fixing this glitch and expects to include information in the next Business Forecast.

- **126.** Rwanda: On December 15, 2015, USAID/Rwanda issued via Grants.gov and FBO.gov, respectively, two Special Notices:
 - a. RWANDA-696-15-02-SPECIALNOTICE Nutrition/WASH Integrated Activity
 - b. Rwanda-696-15-01-SPECIALNOTICE Water and Sanitation Infrastructure and Capacity Building Activity

These notices were archived after 30 days and have not appeared on subsequent forecasts. Is the Rwanda Mission still anticipating issuing solicitations for these activities? If so, as an RFA and an RFP, respectively?

USAID Response:

Part A: The preliminary notice provided relates to what is now called the Integrated Nutrition and WASH Activity (INWA). It will be released as a RFA in FY 2015 Q3.

Part B: The preliminary notice refers to the WASH Activity that is scheduled to be released for competition in FY 2016 Q1. It is tentatively expected to be a RFP but no final decision has been made.

Sierra Leone: Sierra Leone has not appeared on the Mission forecast in the past year. Does USAID anticipate releasing any new funding opportunities for this country?

<u>USAID Response:</u> There is one action currently being planned for Sierra Leone. It is a \$3.5 million Legislative Strengthening project.

128. <u>South Sudan</u>: Is the award "South Sudan Community Action Program (SSCAP)" different from the recently released "South Sudan Community Engagement Project (CEP)"?

USAID Response: There is only one program which is CEP, it was formally SSCAP.

129. <u>South Sudan</u>: Could USAID provide an update on the USAID/South Sudan Rural Wash Program (SSRWASH), which has an anticipated solicitation date of 3/1/2015? The South Sudan Rural Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Program (SSRWASH) had not been listed in the previous 2015 editions of the mission forecast. Since it is now once again listed on the FY15 3rd Quarter mission forecast, could USAID please confirm that it will be released as a free and open procurement?

USAID Response: SSRWASH will be full and open with anticipated solicitation date of 8/1/2015.

- **Tanzania:** Greater Ruaha (SAGCOT); Sustainable landscape-level action to reverse trends of degradation of biodiversity and Protect water sources for Greater Rufiji river by: harmonization and application of sectoral legal and policy frameworks, integration of natural resource conservation and socio-economic development, and increasing local community capacity and incentives for participation in natural resource governance." It appeared in 9 forecasts: June, Aug, Sept in 2013 and Jan, Feb, April, May, August and Sept of 2014.
 - a. Can you please tell me what the status of this activity is? If it has been awarded, can you provide information as to the funding mechanism under which it was awarded, when it was awarded and to whom?
 - <u>**USAID Response:**</u> This was awarded under an LWA to Wildlife Conservation Society on September 30, 2014.
 - b. Could USAID provide an update of the USAID/Tanzania opportunity "Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) SAGCOT, which was listed in the September 2014 forecast with a value of \$25-\$74.9M, and an estimated date of September 2014?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) activity, WARIDI, will be solicited under the recently issued WADI IQC.

Tanzania: Could USAID provide an update of the USAID/Tanzania opportunity "Coordinating Mechanism/Engagement with the Private Sector", which was listed in the September 2014 forecast with a value of \$25-\$74.9M, and an estimated solicitation date of 1st Quarter, 2015?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> This was originally planned to be one large mission mechanism however that solution is no longer viable. The mission is still rethinking its approach to this requirement.

Tanzania: Could USAID provide an estimated solicitation date and value for USAID/Tanzania's Mboga Matunda project, which was listed through an RFI on <u>fbo.gov</u> in April 2015? USAID/Tanzania has listed limited opportunities on recent forecasts.

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> Mboga Matunda is a \$20-25M dollar Feed the Future horticulture program. The estimated solicitation date is the end of June/July.

Thailand/RDMA: The RDMA Mission forecasts a cooperative agreement for 1 to 3.99 M for M&E services. However, there are more than 5 WOSB that can do this work. Would the mission consider doing this as a WOSB set aside?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> There is no present requirement in the RDMA/Thailand Business Forecast for M&E Services.

134. <u>Thailand/RDMA</u>: In its Regional Development Cooperation Strategy for Asia (2014-2018) USAID proposes to strengthen CSOs to work cooperatively and network effectively as well as to encourage more sustainable NGOs with stronger regional partnerships and access to diverse sources of funding. Does USAID anticipate supporting Thailand-based CSOs and NGOs through new programs?

<u>**USAID Response:**</u> Potentially, through public health activities. If so, it will be added to the Forecast once known.

Thailand/RDMA: Regarding the entry marked "Improving Childhood Nutrition and Health in Key Vulnerable Areas in Laos" the anticipated solicitation date is 4/24/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO) (Request for Applications (RFA)) No. AID-486-15-000002 was posted on May 1, 2015 on Grants.Gov, on the following link: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=276266 **Thailand/RDMA:** Can you elaborate on the expected capacity and experience of the implementer for ""Local Capacity initiative for implementation in Thailand and Laos"? Also, the release date says January 30th. Has this been released already and, if not, can you update the release date?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Notice of Funding Opportunity (Request for Applications (RFA)) No. SOL-486-15-000001 was posted on Grants.gov on February 20, 2015, the closing date was April 20, 2015. Details concerning the selection criteria may be found within.

Thailand/RDMA: In the most recent iteration of the Forecast the "A new HIV project/activity: A new Control and Prevention of Infectious Diseases (CAP-3D) project" was dropped from the Forecast? Can USAID confirm if this was intentional/permanent or if it was an omission?

USAID Response: USAID is no longer planning this activity.

Thailand/RDMA: Under Thailand it says the "FTF-Asian Farm Innovation Activity" will be released April 30th. Can you provide an updated release date?

<u>USAID Response:</u> The Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO -- formerly known as a Request for Applications) was issued on May 1, 2015 with the closing date of June 1, 2015. NFO Amendment No. 1 was issued on May 19, 2015. Please see the following link: http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=276280

opportunities for WOSB. However, this SBA program has not ceiling and there are more than 5 WOSB that can do the work of improving HIV/AIDS and TB services and PEPFAR activities as well as activities that strengthen the health system. Several RFAs are listed by the mission in Uganda. Would the mission accept a sources sought application?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Mission has moved very far in the planning process. It will not be possible to re-examine the instrument selection and consider SB. It is something that will continue to examine at earlier points in the design process for new activities.

140. <u>Uganda</u>: "Private Not for Profit Comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention Care and Treatment services," has been on the forecast since last year with various release dates. Each mission forecast since December pushes back the release date. The most recent Mission Forecast lists a release date of July 24, 2015. Does USAID expect this solicitation to be issued and, if so, when does USAID anticipate it will be released? Additionally, does USAID still anticipate the contract award date will be February 29, 2016, as listed on the May 2015 Business Forecast?

USAID Response: The private not for profit has a new target award date of November 2015

141. Uganda: The Northern Uganda Health Integration for Enhanced Services (NU-HITES) Project is not listed, and yet we have heard from other implementing partners that it is expected to be re-issued in the near future. If possible, can you confirm when the Nu-HITES procurement will appear on the forecast to assist with planning purposes?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Details of the NU-HITES project are still to be determined. At this point, USAID cannot provide any additional updates.

142. Uganda: If possible, regarding Uganda, please clarify the timing of the REGIONAL HEALTH INTEGRATION TO ENHANCE SERVICES – EAST CENTRAL UGANDA to appear on a future forecast, again for planning purposes.

<u>**USAID Response**</u>: Details of the RHITES EC project are still to be determined. At this point, USAID cannot provide any additional updates.

Uganda: Uganda, Financial Inclusion for Agriculture Activity: the release date for this program is listed as September 2015 with an award date of June 2015. Can USAID clarify the anticipated release and award dates for this program?

<u>**USAID Response**</u>: This will be removed from the forecast. The Mission is planning to buy into a field support mechanism.

144. <u>Uganda</u>: Expanding Access to Long Term Family Planning Methods: Is this a follow on to an existing project in Uganda? If yes, what is the name of the existing project? What is the new anticipated solicitation release date as the current anticipated award release date has expired? The description indicates a "wide range of contraceptive methods" or will the project focus on "Long-Term Family Planning Methods" as the title indicates? How much private sector involvement will the project entail?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The new long term family planning activity will be a follow on to the current award with MSI. It is scheduled for award in summer 2016. Its focus will primarily be on long term and permanent methods, with a significant private sector involvement, just as it was under its predecessor.

Ukraine: Regarding the entry marked "PCS: Monitoring and evaluation services/analytical IQC (TBC)" the anticipated solicitation date is 4/30/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: Monitoring and evaluation services/analytical IQC (TBC) solicitation date will be June 30, 2015.

Ukraine: Given the present level of unrest in Ukraine, does USAID anticipate additional procurements in the next several months beyond what is listed in the May 2015 Mission Forecast?

<u>USAID Response</u>: No additions in the next several months. The updated information in the Ukraine forecast is current.

147. <u>Zambia</u>: The mission Zambia has not forecasted any small business set aside opportunities for WOSB. However, there are more than 5 WOSB that can do the work of making pregnancy safer and finally decrease MCH mortality and improving the quality of HIV/AIDS health services. Several RFPs are listed by the mission in Zambia. Would the mission accept a sources sought application?

<u>**USAID Response**</u>: We encourage the women owned small businesses to provide their application/proposal to USAID.

Zambia: Zambia Open Doors for Key Populations- there appears to be a duplicate of this opportunity that has the same description but they have different release and award dates, both of which have passed. Can you confirm that just one RFA will be released and an update on the solicitation release dates?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Open Doors RFA went out on Grants.Gov on May 25, 2015. The closing date for applications is June 26, 2015.

Zambia: USAID/Zambia's Traditional and Community Leadership Response to HIV/AIDS Activity, the expected solicitation date in the most recent Mission Forecast was given as 5/4/2015, which has already passed. When does USAID anticipate this solicitation will be released? Please advise on the status of this RFA

USAID Response: This activity has been canceled.

Zambia: The award "Increasing Citizen Demand for Accountable and Transparent Service Delivery in the Health Sector through Enhanced Community-Based Monitoring" in Zambia is listed as having an anticipated award date of 11/30/2016, despite the solicitation release date being listed as 6/30/15. Please advise which one is correct, the anticipated award date or anticipated solicitation release date?

USAID Response: The anticipated award date is 11/30/2015.

151. Zambia:Regarding the entry marked "Discover-H (District Coverage of Health Services)" the anticipated solicitation date is 3/20/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

USAID Response: The actual date of solicitation date turned out to be 4/17/2015.

152. Zambia: Regarding the entry marked "Maternal Newborn and Child Health Project" the anticipated solicitation date is 1/19/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

USAID Response: The actual date of solicitation was 1/14/2015.

153. Zambia:Regarding the entry marked "Community HIV Prevention Project" the anticipated solicitation date is 2/20/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

USAID Response: The actual date of solicitation date turned out to be 3/6/2015.

154. Zambia: The Zambia IMPACT solicitation was released and proposals were submitted in December 2014. The opportunity has dropped off the tracker. Are there new award dates for this opportunity?

USAID Response: The anticipated award date for this activity is August 2015.

155. <u>Zambia:</u> Regarding the entry marked "Strengthening Oversight and Accountability of Resources in Zambia (SOAR-Zambia)," the anticipated solicitation release date is 3/27/2015 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

<u>USAID Response</u>: The Mission is in the process of updating the anticipated dates. However note that this activity has been renamed "Accountable Governance for Improved Service (AGIS) Delivery"

Zimbabwe: Regarding the entry marked "Zimbabwe Assistance Program in Malaria (ZAPIM)" the anticipated solicitation date is 5/8/15 which is in the past. What is the revised anticipated solicitation date?

USAID Response: The Request for Applications (RFA) was posted on May 20, 2015.