FY 2016, 2nd Quarter Business Forecast Questions and Responses

Background
USAID's Business Forecast is published each quarter throughout the fiscal year. The Agency's Business Forecast is an informational resource on potential funding and partnership opportunities at USAID. It is an advanced look at grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements that USAID is in the process of developing and plans to issue in the coming year. Two separate Forecasts are developed each quarter – one for USAID Missions overseas and one for USAID in Washington, DC. Organizations interested in working with USAID can use this tool to plan for proposal or application submissions.

General Business Forecast Questions

1. How often does USAID release the forecast?
USAID Response: The Business Forecast is released 4 times a year. It is released once each FY quarter.

2. Can USAID please consider convening these calls closer to the beginning of each quarter of the FY calendar rather towards the end (like today's March 3rd call) as the timing will be more productive for participating implementers and partners regarding their internal procurement planning, etc.?
USAID Response: Yes, we have been discussing internally how we can get both the Forecast and the call's completed early in the quarter. This past quarter there were a variety of factors, including new personnel, that moved the Forecast and the conference call to later in the quarter.

3. Does USAID anticipate utilizing any IDIQ mechanisms for M&E awards for Mission-wide M&E opportunities? For example, we have recently seen the Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova Analytical Services IDIQ, and the USAID/Mali M&E Platform IDIQ.
USAID Response: Yes, we do. USAID uses and anticipates continued use of the EVAL ME IDIQ for many of its M&E activities from Washington and Mission-wide.

4. We have analyzed the Forecast by Solicitation Date and note that over 80 have dates **before** February 23, 2016. Of similar concern, of those programs with dates before April 1, 2016 – **16** have "TBD" listed as the Type of Award to be chosen; There is concern that any award so close to release should already have received a well-defined assistance/award review – please explain this inconsistency.
USAID Response: It is important to remember that the Forecast is snapshot in time. As a result, there is a lag when data is entered, pulled, and posted. In the future, we hope to decrease the lag time to ensure that you are getting information in a more timely manner. In addition, understanding the importance of making sure that the choice of instrument is as accurate as possible on the Forecast, we have encouraged AO/COs to state "TBD" until the activity is better defined.

Small Business Questions:

5. What are USAID's Small Business goals for FY 2016? Can you share USAID's goals for disadvantaged businesses and/or women-owned businesses?
USAID Response: USAID/Washington and Mission small business prime contract goal for FY 2016 is 11 percent and the subcontracting goal is 20 percent. The small business program areas goals are the same for prime and subcontracting. The small business programs' goals are:

- Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) 5.00%
- Small Disadvantaged Businesses (includes Section 8(a) Program) 5.00%
- Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) 3.00%
- Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) Zone Small Business 3.00%

The information will be posted on USAID/OSDBU website shortly.

6. Are bidders be required to certify their small business size upon submission or before award of contracts that are designated as small business set aside?
USAID Response: Offerors/bidders are required to confirm that their business size is accurate prior to submission of their proposal. All firms interested in Federal contracting opportunities, regardless of size, are required to complete an electronic representations and certifications. The representations and certifications must be updated annually via System for Award Management (SAM) (FAR Subpart 4.12)

7.   On February 17, nine days after this forecast, Liberia SHINE was released as a small-business set aside (SBSA). However, it is listed as "N/A" in the small business set aside column. As the forecast contains other, similarly-sized projects that are marked as "N/A" in the SBSA column, could USAID provide greater scrutiny or advanced notice on what will be considered an SBSA in this or future forecasts?
USAID Response: The Agency has taken additional steps to ensure that awards set aside for small businesses are identified on the Business Forecast. Often, market research must be conducted to first determine or finalize the acquisition strategy (full set-aside, partial set-aside, full and open). The OSDBU provides comment for each iteration of the Business Forecast before it is posted.

Changes to the Business Forecast:

8. Once a USAID has determined that an activity is to be in the form of a Task Order/Delivery Order under an IDIQ, would it be possible for USAID to specify on the Business Forecast which vehicle is being used to issue the Task Order or the Delivery Order?
USAID Response: COs have been instructed to include the title of the planned IDIQ in the award description. When reviewing future Forecasts we will add a check to ensure that IDIQ

information will be included. We will issue additional reminders to COs around the world to ensure that this information is captured.

9. More generally, if USAID does cancel a procurement, could USAID please mark it as such on the subsequent forecast? Rather than delete it.
USAID Response: COs/AOs have been instructed to include "cancelled" as the change for the next forecast posting. We will issue additional reminders to COs around the world to ensure that this information is captured.

10. Some entries have disappeared from the forecast. We are not sure whether the solicitation has already been released or whether the requirement is no longer needed. Is it possible for the forecast to show why entries have been removed?
USAID Response: The forecast only includes opportunities that have not been released. If the requirement was cancelled, COs/AOs have been instructed to include "cancelled" as the change for the next forecast posting.

11. Some missions are missing entries. We are not sure if they have not provided their updates on time or if they have no upcoming needs in FY16. Is it possible to have a note about each mission, even if they are not anticipating any solicitations to be released within the fiscal year?
USAID Response: We are looking into how we can communicate when a new a Mission has no new funding opportunities. As we are examining how to do this, we would encourage you to ask questions during the Business Forecast review conference call or e-mail ombudsman@usaid.gov with questions.

12. During the last conference call, USAID explained that the forecast will list some Task Orders that are expected to come out. Will USAID do the same with associate awards that are expected to come out under Leader with Associations? If so, will the LWA mechanism be specified?
USAID Response: All or almost all are under single Leader awards and thus would not be a further competition. Accordingly, these would not be posted.

13. When the Business Forecast information is updated, could USAID highlight the change to indicate what the change has been?
USAID Response: USAID has taken additional steps beyond other federal agencies' forecasts to include a "changes column" to address changes being made from the last forecast to the next.

Washington Business Forecast Questions

1. **DCHA:** Please address the following questions about the Active Communities Effective States (ACES) Award listed on the Washington Business Forecast:

    a. The designation of "Small Business Reserve" in the "Small Business Set Aside" column: Can USAID please confirm that this indicates that this is expected to be a multiple-award procurement with one or more of the awards reserved for small businesses, and that it is <u>not</u> expected that ACES would be a <u>total</u> small business set-aside?

    USAID Response: ACES is anticipated to be a multiple-award procurement with one or more awards reserved for small businesses. ACES is not expected to be a total or partial small business set-aside.

    b. Do you anticipate releasing a draft SOW or pre-solicitation announcement for ACES prior to issuing the full solicitation?

    USAID Response: USAID expects to issue a pre-solicitation notice on FedBizOpps prior to issuing the full solicitation.

    c. Do you anticipate any problems with the anticipated solicitation release dates for the Active Communities Effective States (ACES) and Analytical Services IV solicitations? If so, what could be some possible delays?

    USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation release date for ACES is an estimate and may be adjusted as necessitated by internal processes and requirements.

    d. Will there be a debriefing for Active Communities Effective States and Analytical Services IV after the awards are made? Yes, No and if not, why not. What is process for requesting a debriefing?

    USAID Response: Post-award debriefings for ACES will be handled in accordance with the applicable FAR Part 15.

2. **DCHA:** Please address the following questions about the Analytical Services IV solicitation:

    a. What are some new services/task orders due you anticipate with the new Analytical Services IV solicitation?

    USAID Response: The services for the AS-IV are more or less the same as the current AS-III IDIQ

    b. Has the USAID conducted research for this solicitation?

    USAID Response: This is the fourth IDIQ for Analytical Services. In addition to historical information and information provided by Missions, USAID held an Industry Day in April 2015 and issued an RFI in July 2015.

    c. How many Small Businesses do you anticipate will be awarded for the Award Titled Analytical Services IV listed on the Washington Business Forecast?

USAID Response: It is anticipated that up to three awards will be made.

    d.   Will USAID consider a small business reserve mechanism? If not, could USAID provide information on why the contract will be completed exclusively among small business concerns?

USAID Response: This will be a small business set-aside. This USAID business decision adheres to the Agency policies. Following both the Industry Day and input from the RFI, it was determined that there are a significant number of small businesses with salient capabilities, many of which have past performance with the U.S. government, including USAID.

    e.   The forecast states that Analytical Services IV RFP will come out on February 29, is this still correct?

USAID Response: It was anticipated that the RFP would come out by that date, however, it will most likely be in March 2016. The Business Forecast will be updated to reflect a new date.

    f.   Can we get a list of services conducted or task orders made under the last Analytical Services contract? Is the information listed on the USAID website, and if so, how can I locate this information?

USAID Response: Last Analytical Services contract provided the full range of support and services in the following areas: General and Sectoral Democracy & Governance (DG) Assessments, DG Strategy Development, Managing for DG Results, DG Program and Activity Design, DG Evaluation, Research and Special Studies, Survey Research and New Methodologies, USAID Training and DCHA/DG Networking, etc.

    g.   In the original USAID forecast for FY2016, USAID indicated that the Small Business Set Aside for the Analytical Services IV IDIQ was TBD. The current IDIQ is a partial small business set aside. Under this quarter's update, USAID changed the set aside to "total set aside". In doing so, USAID not only precludes all of the incumbent large business but also both of the previous small business incumbents from priming the award. Given the complexity and size of the award, by releasing it as a full set aside USAID risks losing the continuity, strong past performance, and technical leadership capabilities by precluding all of the incumbents from priming. Moreover, USAID has a very strong record of supporting small businesses to grow and graduate into medium-sized businesses; however, by precluding recently graduated small businesses from competing as primes, USAID inhibits the long-term sustainability of these business it worked to develop. Would USAID reconsider its decision to issue the solicitation as a total set aside?

USAID Response: No – this is a USAID business decision adhering to Agency policies. There is nothing precluding other than small businesses from partnering with other businesses.

3. **DCHA:** During the last responses to procurement questions, USAID informed prospective bidders that the status of the FEWS NET IDIQ would be announced in the Qtr 2 Washington Business Forecast. However, the forecast issued on February 8th does not mention it. We would appreciate if USAID could provide information about the anticipated RFP release date.

USAID Response: USAID now anticipates the IDIQ RFP release date late in FY16. An Industry Day will be announced soon on FedBizOpps to describe the plans in detail and receive comment from industry.

4. **DCHA:** Based on the December 2015 OFDA/Haiti NFO and conversations with OFDA staff, we understand that going forward, OFDA will likely award country-specific Disaster Risk Reduction funds through a competitive process. Does USAID/DCHA plan to include competitive OFDA opportunities in forecasts, and if so, will they be included in the Mission or the DC forecast?

USAID Response:USAID is reviewing its requirements and subsequent acquisition strategy. No information is available at this time

5. **DCHA/Middle East:** The forecast does not include anything for Syria. Does USAID anticipate any new opportunities involving Syria?

USAID Response: OFDA is currently evaluating requirements and has no information to provide at this time

6. **E3:** Is Ed Data II going to be re-competed within the next year?

USAID Response: USAID/E3 is not planning a direct follow-on or re-compete for the EdData II Blanket Purchase Agreement (BPA).

7. **E3:** What can we expect regarding trade facilitation projects in FY16 Qtr2?

USAID Response: E3/TRR is not planning on procuring any new Trade Facilitation activities in FY16 Q2.

8. **E3:** The Focus on Results: Enhancing Capacity Across Sectors in Transition (FORECAST II) IDIQ is set to end in early 2017. Does USAID plan to compete a follow-on to this IDIQ?

USAID Response: USAID is not planning a follow-on to this IDIQ at this time.

9. **E3:** Please confirm the status of the E3/Office of Water SUWASH procurement which was cancelled last year. Will it be re-released?

USAID Response: SUWASH will not be re-released. USAID/E3 is planning a similar, but different procurement under the Making Cities work IDIQ on urban water, sanitation and hygiene finance (WASH-FIN).

10. **E3:** Does USAID/E3 intend to re-procure the Public Financial Management IDIQ? If so, when?

USAID Response: USAID/E3 is planning on Public Financial Management II IDIQ. Release of solicitation is anticipated Q4 FY 16.

11. **Food Security:** The Washington forecast, it provides a release date of 1/29/16 for the *Marketing to Scale for the Bureau for Food Security solicitation*. We would like to know if there is a revised release date, given that we are well beyond 1/29/16.
    a. The RFI issued March 2015 indicated this was intended as a small business set aside. The current forecast entry under Small Business Set Aside states N/A. Can USAID please clarify if this is intended as a small business set aside?

USAID Response: It is anticipated that the RFP will be posted o/a March 31, 2016. It is intended that the RFP will identify this as a small business set aside.

12. **Global Health:** Is there an expectation for a great deal of attention to be paid on the Zika Virus that we should all be on the lookout for this season?

USAID Response: At this time we are not anticipating any new awards related to the Zika Virus as the work involved falls under existing awards.

13. **Global Health:** USAID's Sources Sought Announcement for the Global Health Technical Professionals Program (GHTP) Solicitation No. SOL-OAA-16-000012 indicates that the GHTP contract will need to "transition and maintain approximately 110 positions that are currently established and funded under the Global Health Fellowship Program (GHFP) mechanism." (p.2) Given the connection of GHTP to GHFP as well as other projects, would USAID please confirm that Camris International is not the sole incumbent for GHTP as currently listed in the Forecast?

USAID Response: The incumbent for GHTP is the Public Health Institute.

14. **Global Health:** Would USAID please provide an updated solicitation release date for the Global Health Technical Professionals Program (GHTP) Solicitation No. SOL-OAA-16-000012? (The Forecast currently states an anticipated RFP release date of 1/30/2015).

USAID Response: We are still working on defining the requirement and expect that the solicitation will be released during the next quarter of the FY.

15. **Global Health:** In reference to the WASHPaLS opportunity listed on the forecast, under which IDIQ mechanism will it be released as a task order?
    a. Will it be released under WADI? TRAC4? Or some other mechanism?
    b. When will this solicitation be released?
    c. Would the WASHPals activity preclude an organization from pursuing future WASH-related Mission opportunities?

USAID Response:
    a. This will be a task order under WADI
    b. The RFTOP was released on March 2.

c. The technical assistance portion of the anticipated contract ***may*** require the contractor to provide design and/or evaluation services which would prevent the contractor from implementing awards resulting from such participation. Please see CIB 99-17 for further information regarding USAID policy relating to Organizational Conflicts of Interest.

16. **Global Health:** What is the anticipated solicitation release date for the *Pharmaceutical System Strengthening for Improved Health Outcomes* award listed in the Washington Forecast? If there is no anticipated release date, please provide a range for when release is expected.
USAID Response: The program is in a design stage and we expect that the notification will be posted during the next quarter of this FY.

17. **Global Health:** Does USAID anticipate posting Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs) for any of the health bilaterals listed?
USAID Response: USAID posts all Notice of Funding Opportunities for upcoming activities. The Mission and Washington Forecasts have the most up-to-date information.

18. **Global Health:** The Addendum to the Global Health Broad Agency Announcement has an anticipated release date of 2/22/2016. Could USAID provide a new anticipated release date?
USAID Response: We are currently working on defining the requirement and hope to release the notification by the end of April.

19. **Global Health:** The Coordinating Implementation Research to Communicate Learning and Evidence (CIRCLE) solicitation has an anticipated release date of 1/29/2016. Could USAID provide a new anticipated release date?
USAID Response: This requirement is procured through the GSA schedule. The Solicitation was released on February 10, 2016.

20. **Global Health:** What is the relationship between (a) the CIRCLE Contract, (b) the Health Evaluation Research and Development Project (Cooperative Agreement), and the (c) Addendum the Global Health BAA for HaRP 2.? Are there additional components or information available regarding the HaRP Program.
USAID Response: HaRP 2.0 will be carried out through the following mechanisms:

1) Applied Research Project (HERD Project): to support evaluation and accelerated research and development (R&D); designed to develop new and improved interventions and technologies that address bottlenecks impeding improved health status for newborns, children and women and other health and development priorities (as needed).

2) Implementation Research and Research/Technology Utilization (BAA): leading to new and

innovative mechanism(s) and initiatives focusing on implementation research as well as impactful research and technology introduction and utilization/translation efforts.

3) Research Management, Translation and Technical Assistance (CIRCLE Project): The CIRCLE Project will support mechanisms 1 and 2 described above.

For additional information on the current HaRP, please visit www.harpnet.org.

21. **Global Health:** Will there be an RFA issued under the Child Survival and Health Grants Program?
USAID Response: No, there will not be an RFA issued.

22. **Middle East Bureau:** In the June 2015 Q&A, USAID provide the following update regarding the MENA Supporting Sustainable Transition Initiatives IDIQ: "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." What is the status of this IDIQ and what is the likely scope of work?
USAID Response: The bureau is still discussing any possible efforts in this regard. There is no FY16 action.

23. **Middle East Bureau:** The forecast does not include any countering violent extremism (CVE) programs for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. Is USAID planning any new awards for CVE projects in the MENA region, and if so for what specific countries in MENA?
USAID Response: No new award is anticipated for FY16.

Mission Business Forecast Questions

1. **General Mission Question:** Is it possible to encourage missions to update their home pages with information regarding partners days/events in their respective countries in order to facilitate meeting new partners?

   USAID Response: Yes, we will work with our Bureau for Legislative and Public Affairs to send a notice out to Missions requesting that they maintain and update their websites with the latest details.

2. **Afghanistan:** In the J&A to extend the Public Financial Management (PFM) IDIQ task order period of performance (issued 12/3/2015), USAID mentions upcoming PFM task orders in five missions: Afghanistan, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Mozambique, and Liberia (page 4 of the J&A). Aside from Liberia, which has already been released, can implementing partners expect to see these opportunities included in the business forecast?

   USAID Response: Information for new planned activities for USAID/Afghanistan will be included in the business forecast, as appropriate. Market research will include consideration of all sources available for implementing this activity.

3. **Afghanistan:** The HICD Pro IDIQ was awarded in September 2013. While HICD Pro has seen very little activity, numerous opportunities that fall within the scope of the IDIQ are being released as full and open. For instance, would USAID consider releasing the RFP for Afghanistan Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Mining opportunity under the HICD Pro IDIQ Mechanism?

   USAID Response: This activity is in the design phase. Market research will include consideration of all sources available for implementing this activity.

4. **Afghanistan:** Can USAID provide more information about the Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to the Ministry of Mining & Petroleum Activity listed?
   a. Is this intended as a follow-on to the MIDAS project?
   b. When does USAID intend to tender the project?

   USAID Response: This activity is in the design phase and will consider lessons learned from USAID's ongoing and past activities which includes the Mining Investment and Development for Afghan Sustainability (MIDAS) activity and the Sheberghan Gas Generation Activity (SGGA). The solicitation will not be issued until design activities are completed and the anticipated date will be updated in the next business forecast.

5. **Afghanistan:** *Kandahar 10MW Solar Power Plant* -- Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?

   USAID Response: No, this is a construction contract award type. Please refer to SOL-306-16-000003 on www.fbo.gov.

6. **Afghanistan:** *Strengthening Watershed and Irrigation Management (SWIM)* -- Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?

USAID Response: Yes, grants under contract are included. Please refer to SOL-306-16-000004 on www.fbo.gov.

7. **Afghanistan:** *Anti-Corruption (AMANAT)* -- Could you please address the following questions?
    a. Could USAID provide an updated solicitation release date given that the listed date has passed?
    b. Which ministries will be involved in the AMANAT activities?
    c. Will the program extend to the provinces or only at the national level? If it extends to provinces, which provinces?
    d. What key positions are required to be provided by the contractor?
    e. What is the contract type? (IDIQ, contract, cooperative agreement)?
    f. On page 5 of SOO, it states under objective 2 that the contractor will support government institutions with technical and financial assistance. What financial assistance would be needed to provide to ministries and where would that funding come from?
    g. Will the contractor have access to government ministry personnel, processes, and financial documents?
    h. Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?

USAID Response: The anticipated solicitation release date will be updated in the next release of the business forecast. Other questions related to this planned award will be addressed within the solicitation or may be asked during the question and answer period of the solicitation.

8. **Afghanistan:** *Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to the Ministry of Mining & Petroleum Activity*:
    a. Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?
    b. Could USAID please provide the anticipated NAICS code for the Technical Assistance and Capacity Building to the Ministry of Mining and Petroleum Activity? In a recent pre-solicitation, the NAICS code was listed as 213112. If possible to provide additional information regarding the scope and timing of this activity, it would be much appreciated.

USAID Response: This activity is in the design phase. The solicitation will not be issued until design activities are completed and the anticipated solicitation release date will be updated in the next business forecast.

9. **Afghanistan:** *Afghanistan Financial Sector Development Project (AFDS)*:
    a. Could USAID please provide additional information regarding the scope of the project?
    b. Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?

USAID Response: This award anticipates including a grants under contract component. Additional information regarding the scope of the activity will be found in the solicitation when

it is released. The anticipated solicitation release date will be updated in the next release of the business forecast.

10. **Afghanistan:** *OED Capacity Building in the Ministry of Education*:
    a. Given the recent release of the OED Capacity Building in the Ministry of Education RFI, could USAID please confirm if the anticipated release date for this RFP has been updated or will remain as stated on the most recent Mission Business Forecast released on February 8, 2016?
    b. Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?

USAID Response: This activity is in the design phase. The anticipated solicitation release date will be updated in the next business forecast. No determination has been made thus far regarding grants under contracts.

11. **Afghanistan:** *Gender Legacy Initiatives - Gender Development Studies Institute and Kabul University (CEGADS)*:
    a. Could USAID provide additional detail regarding the scope of the Gender Legacy Initiatives: Gender and Development Studies Institute and Kabul University?
    b. Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?

USAID Response: This activity is in the early design phase. All aspects of this activity have yet to be determined.

12. **Afghanistan:** *Capacity Building for the Ministry of Public Work (MOPW)*:
    a. Will the Contractor be responsible for managing grants under contract?
    b. Could USAID provide additional detail regarding the scope of the Capacity Building of Ministry of Public Works?

USAID Response: This activity is in the design phase and USAID is unable to provide further details on the scope of the planned activity at this time. The anticipated solicitation release date will be updated in the next business forecast.

13. **Afghanistan:** The entry for <u>Monitoring Support Project (MSP) Task Order 4 Component 2</u> shows an Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity Contract (IDIQ) award type.
    a. Is this to be an IDIQ or a task order (TO) to be released under an IDIQ?
    b. If it's a TO, is it possible to show which the vehicle under which that TO would be released?

USAID Response: This activity will be a task order issued under the Management Support Project IDIQs. The implementing mechanism contract type is still to be determined.

14. **Angola:** When does USAID expect to release the Angola "Supervision and Capacity Building Malaria and HIV/AIDS Activity" solicitation? The forecast lists the date 2/15/16, but the deadline for comments on the RFI for this activity is 2/19/16.

USAID Response: The NFO for this activity will most likely be released in April 2016.

15. **Bangladesh:** Could USAID/Bangladesh provide the award mechanism types for its opportunities listed on the most recent Business Forecast?

USAID Response: All Business Forecast actions at up to date except the following which do not yet have a choice of instrument: 1. Anti Corruption (Good Governance); 2. Missionwide Video Documentation activity; and 3. Civil Society Engagement in Political Processes

16. **Bangladesh:** For the Bangladesh "M&E Umbrella Evaluation Contract", please address the following questions:
    a. Could USAID please provide more information on the SOW for this activity?
    b. Based on the contract's size and description, is this anticipated to be a Meta evaluation?
    c. Under which mechanism does USAID anticipate releasing the RFTOP for Bangladesh M&E Umbrella Evaluation? Is it possible to show which the vehicle under which that TO/DO would be released?

USAID Response:
a. This M&E Umbrella IDIQ is intended to cover mission wide M&E requirements for all new awards.
b. No, it is not intended to be a meta evaluation.
c. It is expected to be a bilaterally issued IDIQ with task orders for M&E evaluations as needed.

17. **Bangladesh:** Could USAID clarify if the Bangladesh Human Rights Activity is a follow on project? Could you please update the activity description to provide more information about the scope of the technical activities?

USAID Response: This action is not intended to be a follow-on. Mission would like to capture the lessons learned from existing activity and create a new PD based on the current activity success/failure.

18. **Bangladesh:** Could USAID please clarify whether the Bangladesh Feed the Future BAA is a different project than the Bangladesh Feed the Future RFA communicated previously? Can USAID please provide any additional details on the topic of the BAA proposed?

USAID Response: FtF BAA is different from FtF RDC activity. Please note that the BAA activity is scheduled for FY 2017.

19. **Bangladesh:** Is the new Health Service Delivery Activity (NHSDP Next Iteration) project an amalgamation of/follow-on to the Mayer Hashi II (MHII), NGO 1 (Smiling Sun Franchise Program (SSFP))? Is it possible to get additional information on this upcoming procurement? Will USAID release RFI before the RFA?

USAID Response: No. It is an iteration (not a follow on) to the current NHSDP activity AID-388-C-13-00002. The instrument type has not yet been determined.

20. **Bangladesh:** Questions for the "DG Activity Evaluation":
    a. Could USAID please confirm if this task order is still planning on being issued on March 1st, 2016 or if there is an update on the estimated release date?

b. Could USAID please provide more information on the SOW for this activity?

c. Is it possible to show which the vehicle under which that TO/DO would be released?

USAID Response: The anticipated award date is shifted to June 1, 2016. Any updates related to this action will be posted in the business forecast. The SOW is still under review.

21. **Bangladesh:** Are the two activities: Multisectoral Nutrition Programming and Nutrition Activity Limited to Local the same thing? If not, can you provide more details about the two expected procurements and how they are related?

USAID Response: The two nutrition programs are different.
The Multisectoral Nutrition program is intended to be a CA with full and open competition
The other Nutrition activity is intended to be a FAA and limited to local organizations only.
Any other updates related to these actions will be posted in the business forecast.

22. **Barbados:** Are there any updates as to when we could expect to see procurement opportunities listed from Barbados back on the forecast? Several solicitations out of the mission no longer appear on the forecast, would USAID please provide updated timing? We continue to hear rumors that there are possible projects due for release.

USAID Response: At this moment there are no competitive procurement opportunities from Barbados to add to the forecast.

23. **Barbados:** "At-Risk Youth Program" was originally scheduled to be released on 3/31/2015. However it does not appear on the Q2 summary. Do you have an updated timeframe for the release of the solicitation? Also, has the instrument type (Assistance or Acquisition) been determined?

USAID Response: This action has been identified to be implemented through a Task Order under one of USAID's IDIQs.

24. **Benin:** Advancing Safe Learning Environment for Girls': Given the size and scope of this opportunity, is it possible to solicit this via total small business set aside contracts?

USAID Response: No, it is not part of the activity design.

25. **Benin:** The Private Sector Service Delivery Bilateral solicitation is included in the Forecast.

a. Could USAID please confirm if this opportunity is a follow-on to the Accelerating the Reduction of Malaria Morbidity and Mortality (ARM3) Cooperative Agreement?

b. What does USAID mean by bilateral?

c. Is this an award for the Government of Benin? If not, will it be slated for local organizations or may international organizations also apply?

USAID Response:
a. This is not a follow on to ARM3.
b. Bilateral is meant to indicate a direct agreement between the USAID Office in Benin and a non-Federal entity.

c. This determination has not yet been made.

26. **Benin:** The Accelerating the Reduction of Malaria Morbidity and Mortality (ARM3) Cooperative Agreement is anticipated to end in September 2016. Will an ARM3 Follow-on be re-competed? If so, could USAID please provide a possible procurement timeline?
USAID Response: No. Currently, there is no follow-on to ARM3 anticipated.

27. **Brazil:** Would USAID consider releasing the RFTOP for Brazil M&E, Outreach and Communication and Community Org. Strengthening as Full and Open to allow a range of competitors, including recently graduated small businesses, to compete as prime offerors?
USAID Response: The request for RFTOP for Brazil M&E, Outreach and Communication and Community Organization Strengthening was eventually cancelled and re-issued to now include Monitoring and Evaluation and Outreach and Communication under the Agency's M-EVAL IQC. Under this mechanism, USAID/Brazil will send an RFTOP to all IQC holders which include US small businesses.

28. **Burma:** Can USAID please provide the updated anticipated release date for Defeat Malaria for Burma? It is currently listed as 2/16/16.
USAID Response: RFA posted on grants.gov: 02/26/2016

29. **Burma:** What is the expected scope of the Burma Maternal Newborn Child Activity?
    a. Is this expected to be a national level policy support project or will be it focused on community level interventions?
    b. Would USAID consider releasing a RFI in advance of the solicitation to solicit input into the design of the project?
    c. Does USAID still intend to release the solicitation on its listed date: 3/31/2016?
    d. Can USAID provide any further details on this project?
USAID Response:
    a. Not yet determined.
    b. To the extent practicable, USAID Burma will maximize use of RFIs on its new programming.
    c. No, this has been delayed. Date will be updated in the next business forecast
    d. Not at this time.

30. **Burma:** The Burma "HIV/AIDS Project" contract is anticipated to be released on March 15, 2016.
    a. Does USAID still intend to release the solicitation on that date?
    b. Is it possible to get additional information on the upcoming Burma "HIV/AIDS Project" procurement?
    c. Does USAID intend to release a pre-sol or RFI before the RFP is released?
    d. Does USAID anticipate that the contract will be released under a full-and-open competition or as a Task Order under an IDIQ?
USAID Response:

a. No, this has been delayed. Date will be updated in the next business forecast
b. No further information available at this time
c. To the extent practicable, USAID Burma will maximize use of RFIs on its new programming
d. No final determination has been made

31. **Cambodia:** Could USAID please provide more information about the expected activities for the Cambodia "New Activity to meet WASH Earmark"?
    a. Also, could USAID please clarify the type of mechanism? It was previously listed as a RFA and RFP, and is now listed at TBD.
    b. Will there be any funding restrictions (i.e. set asides for local organizations) associated with these opportunities?

USAID Response:
    a. The Mission has not decided on the implementing instrument for this opportunity.
    b. The Mission has not decided whether there will be funding restrictions associated with these opportunities.

32. **Central America:** Can USAID please provide information on Central America regional opportunities?

USAID Response: USAID/El Salvador's regional activities/projects are in pre-design phase. We'll have more updated data in quarter 3, and the awards have a target date for FY17.

33. **Central Asia:** Could USAID please clarify if there are additional opportunities forecasted for the regional Central Asia Mission? If there are additional opportunities, could USAID please add them to the USAID Business Forecast?

USAID Response: USAID/Central Asia included all currently planned opportunities in the Business Forecast.

34. **Central Asia:** The award type for the Land Reform and Farm Restructuring Program is listed as a Task Order. Could USAID/Central Asia please specify under which IQC the Land Reform and Farm Restructuring Task Order/Delivery Order will be released?

USAID Response: USAID/Central Asia is currently considering the Strengthening Tenure and Resource Rights (STARR) Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Contract for the Land Reform and Farm Restructuring Project in Tajikistan solicitation.

35. **Colombia:** Could you please identify whether the Colombia Resilience Program (April 13 est. release date) will be released as an RFA, RFP or Task Orders under IDIQ?
    a. Is USAID planning on releasing a pre-solicitation, a request for information (RFI), a draft statement of work, or some other correspondence to share information and offer opportunities for input before the release of the solicitation?

USAID Response: We are in the process of finalizing the choice of instrument for the Colombia Resilience Program. Please continue to monitor Fedbizopps and Grants.gov for any presolicitation notices.

36. **Colombia:** The Youth Power IDIQ was awarded in April 2015. While Youth Power: Evidence and Evaluation IDIQ has seen very little activity, numerous opportunities that fall within the scope of the IQC are being released as full and open or otherwise. Would USAID consider releasing the Colombia CHS Evaluation under the Youth Power IQC?
USAID Response: The CHS Evaluation is currently being planned as an action under the CMM Peace IQC. That being said, no final decision has been made and nothing is certain or set in stone until a solicitation has been issued.

37. **Colombia:** Regarding the Colombia Producers to Markets Alliance, the recent forecast has an anticipated solicitation release date of 03/31/2016, but we have heard that USAID/Colombia might delay the release of this solicitation. Can USAID confirm the current anticipated solicitation release date?
USAID Response: The current business forecast is a reflection of the Mission's planned dates for the solicitation for the Producers to Market Alliance. Any changes to our timeline will be reflected in future business forecasts.

38. **Colombia:** Regarding the Colombia Afro-Colombian and Indigenous Inclusion Program, the recent forecast has an anticipated solicitation release date of 05/31/2016, but we have heard that USAID/Colombia might release the solicitation soon. Can USAID confirm the current anticipated solicitation release date?
USAID Response: The current business forecast is a reflection of the Mission's planned dates for the release of the NOFO for the Inclusion Activity. Any changes to our timeline will be reflected in future business forecasts.

39. **Colombia:** The entry for CHS Evaluation indicates that the award type will be a task order/delivery order (TO/DO). Is it possible to show which the vehicle under which that TO would be released?
USAID Response: The CHS Evaluation is currently being planned as an action under the CMM Peace IQC. That being said, no final decision has been made and nothing is certain or set in stone until a solicitation has been issued.

40. **Côte d'Ivoire:** Regarding Ivory Coast, does USAID have any more information about upcoming solicitations for Ivory Coast?
USAID Response: Ivory Coast's portion of the Agency Business Forecast is accurate and is listed under USAID/West Africa since it is a Limited Presence Country Office supported by USAID/West Africa.

41. **DRC:** Can we confirm that the *"Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Activity"* listed on the latest mission competitive forecast for DRC is intended to be released as a RFP, not an RFA, in or around September 2016?
     a. Can USAID please share some background on the delay in soliciting proposals for the activity? It was previously scheduled to be released in November 2015.

USAID Response: The choice of instrument is to be determined. An RFP or an RFA will be issued by April 2017. The background of the delay is that we extended the current activity, based on performance; and also our desire is to do a deeper assessment of the sector.

42. **DRC:** Could USAID please indicate if it will issue a revised scope of work or other pre-solicitation material based on comments received on the Statement of Objectives released in August 2015 for USAID Democratic Republic of the Congo's *Integrated Health Program*?

USAID Response: No other pre-solicitation materials will be issued based on comments received, because USAID did not receive substantial comments. So, there is no need to substantially revise the Statement of Objective that was released in August 2015.

43. **DRC:** Given the intensive coordination required for the DRC DFAP and Eastern Congo Agricultural Value Chain Project, can USAID confirm whether the anticipated solicitation date of April 15th, 2016 and the project start date of January 16, 2017 of the value chain project is accurate as the DFAP is expected to be awarded sooner.

USAID Response: USAID confirms that both the anticipated solicitation date of April 15th, 2016 and the project start date of January 16th, 2017 have not changed. However, the activity now is named "Feed the Future DRC Kivu Value Chains."

44. **DRC:** We note that the recent mission business forecast has flipped the Democratic Republic of the Congo Integrated HIV/AIDS Program (IHAP) from a contract to a cooperative agreement. Is it correct to assume that this change in mechanism implies USAID's intention to reduce its substantial involvement in the direction of IHAP's activities?

USAID Response: Yes. In other words, USAID will renounce operational control, and reduce USAID substantial involvement.

45. **East Timor:** On the November 30, 2015 Forecast, the East Timor Agricultural Processing – Oil Nuts opportunity was listed as a contract. However, on the February 8, 2016 Forecast, this opportunity is listed as a cooperative agreement.
     a. Does USAID anticipate issuing a cooperative agreement or contract for this opportunity?
     b. Or is this intended to be release as/under a GDA?

USAID Response: The Agricultural Processing - Oil Nuts is still at the planning stage. The award is anticipated to be in FY 2017. Currently the award type as well as the specific information regarding this procurement action is TBD. Once the planning stage is finalized, more information will be shared via the future business forecast.

46. **East Timor:** With regard to the "Tourism Capacity Building - Private Sector Development Project" in East Timor that is currently noted as a Task Order/Delivery Order, would USAID consider issuing the solicitation as an open call (RFA or RFP) instead of through an IDIQ mechanism in order to allow more interested and experienced bidders the opportunity to apply?
    a. No period of performance is listed. Is USAID able to share an anticipated period of performance?

USAID Response: The "Tourism Capacity Building - Private Sector Development Project" is at the planning stage. The award is anticipated to be in FY 2017. Once the planning stage is finalized, more information will be shared via the future business forecast.

47. **Egypt:** Will NGOs not registered under the umbrella of The Egyptian Ministry of Social Solidarity be eligible to access the funds?

USAID Response: It is up to each implementing partner to do what they feel is necessary to operate within Egypt. USAID does not opine on local legal matters. We encourage every implementing partner to seek local legal counsel if they have questions.

48. **Egypt:** Questions about the "Trade Facilitation and Promotion" solicitation:
    a. Can USAID please clarify the relative weight of efforts to be directed at SMEs national (particularly women-owned SMEs) vs. those to be focused on factories in Upper Egypt?
    b. Will the principal focus of the activity be on internal competitiveness or strengthening the ability of firms to produce for export?

USAID Response: The Trade Facilitation and Promotion opportunity will be removed from the business forecast at this time. It is still under development. The Business Forecast will be updated if and when this opportunity will be made available.

49. **Egypt:** The Egypt Governance Decentralization & Local Administration opportunity is listed as a task order. However, we heard from the Mission that it will be either an RFA or RFP. Can you please confirm the Award/Action Type the Mission intends to use?

USAID Response: It has not yet been determined if this opportunity will be made under a Task Order or as a full and open. It will not be made under assistance.

50. **Egypt:** Could USAID please provide updated release dates for Egypt Adult Literacy? The release date is slated for March 1, 2016.

USAID Response: USAID anticipates that a Notice of Funding Opportunity will be released by April 15, 2016.

51. **Egypt:** The STEM Teacher Preparation Program (STPP) is a new opportunity appearing on the Q2 forecast, with an estimated solicitation date of Feb 21, 2016.
    a. Given that the solicitation date has passed, does USAID have an updated estimated solicitation date for this procurement?
    b. Does USAID anticipate issuing a pre-solicitation or RFI for this program?

    c.   Does USAID have an update to the anticipated contract/award type for this program?

USAID Response: (a) USAID anticipates that the RFA/RFP will be released by June 15, 2016. (b) USAID is not currently anticipating an RFI for this opportunity. (c) there is no update on the anticipated award type for this opportunity.

52. **Egypt:** Under the Egypt Mission listing, the Literate Village opportunity is said to target women and primary school aged children. Is there an age group or grade level range for the primary school aged children which the solicitation is targeting?

USAID Response: At this stage, the focus is on primary school aged children.

53. **Egypt:** *Macroeconomic Reform* -- this is listed as a contract in the latest forecast. Could USAID/Egypt please confirm this will be a full and open competition and not released under an IQC mechanism?

USAID Response: the Macroeconomic Reform opportunity will be removed from the business forecast at this time. It is still under development. The Business Forecast will be updated If and when this opportunity will be made available.

54. **Egypt:** *Decentralization* -- The mechanism is listed as a Task Order. Could the mission specify under which IQC this RFTOP will be released?

USAID Response: This opportunity will be made as a contract under a Task Order or a full and open. There is no further information beyond this at present.

55. **El Salvador:** Could USAID please clarify if El Salvador Competitive and El Salvador Regional Trade and Investment Competitiveness program are two separate or the same programs?
    a.   Does USAID intend to release this as a full and open procurement? We have come across information that indicates USAID/El Salvador may be exploring restricting the bidding to small business.
    b.   Could USAID update the business forecast accordingly? We would like to know the status of this procurement including when to expect the RFP release.

USAID Response: It is the same program; which includes Regional Trade and Investment Competitiveness, however the activity has been named "El Salvador Competitive"
    a.   USAID performed market research to determine if there were qualified small businesses capable of implementing and managing this multifaceted activity; as a result of this research USAID intends to solicit via full and open competition.
    b.   An update will be provided o/a March 4, 2016

56. **Ethiopia:** Can USAID advise as to whether there are any expected revisions to the information provided for Ethiopia TRANSFORM: DRS? Is the anticipated release date still 3/1/2016?

USAID Response: The release date has been changed to April 1, 2016.

57. **Ethiopia:** *TRANSFORM -- M&E Large Monitoring and Evaluation award for TRANSFORM IPs*

a. Please confirm that the solicitation will be released on 3/1/2016
b. Please confirm that the TRANSFORM: M&E Large Monitoring and Evaluation award is a new opportunity.
c. Please confirm that the TRANSFORM: M&E Large Monitoring and Evaluation award is intended to be a 5 year contract.
d. Does USAID anticipate that the contract will be released under a full-and-open competition or as a Task Order under an IDIQ (for example the EVAL-ME IDIQ or TASC IV)?

USAID Response:
a. The Solicitation release date has been changed to 4/15/2016.
b. Yes, TRANSFORM M & E is a new opportunity.
c. Yes, it will be a 5 year contract.
d. It will be a full and open competition.

58. **Ethiopia:** SAID Ethiopia has not included a procurement on OVCs although the Mission staff have made references to it on several occasions. Could USAID please provide an update on release date for this procurement?

USAID Response: This has been previously in discussion and the Procurement Approval Package is under process. It is now listed under the business focus.

59. **Ethiopia:** The forecast indicates that there will be a major PHCU award in Ethiopia However, we have now learned from USAID/Ethiopia that this will be a two stage process, the first stage being a concept note and the second a full proposal. Will the forecast be updated to reflect this new process?

USAID Response: This is still under discussion between the technical office and OAA Ethiopia. Solicitation date has been adjusted to 4/1/2016 to allow for sufficient time to put together required documentation.

60. **Ethiopia:** Strengthening Participation and Accountability for Community Engagement (SPACE) RFI issued November 20th, 2015 is not listed in the February 8, 2016 Mission Forecast.
a. When is the RFP/NOFO expected to be released? USAID/Ethiopia held a bidders conference in January 2016. Can USAID state when the full procurement is expected?

USAID Response: This activity is still in the design phase.The RFI was intended to inform the design phase. Discussions between the mission and the national government on project content, government buy in etc., are still ongoing. At this stage it is premature to list it under the procurement plan.

61. **Georgia:** There are no opportunities listed for Georgia on the most recent forecast. Are new opportunities expected to be added to future forecasts?

USAID Response: If new opportunities are planned in Georgia, they will be added to future forecasts.

62. **Ghana:** There were no opportunities for Ghana on the most recent forecast. Are new opportunities expected to be added to future forecasts?
USAID Response: New opportunities will be added to future forecasts as they become known.

63. **Ghana/West Africa Regional Mission:** What are USAID's plans with respect to the follow-on program for Peace through Development II (PDEV II)? When will USAID release the expected PDEV III program, and in what countries will program activities take place?
USAID Response: Any follow-on to the PDEV II activity will be included on future business forecasts if the Mission chooses to pursue this strategy.

64. **Ghana:** In the February Mission Forecast, the Ghana Impact Evaluation opportunity was dropped—does USAID anticipate releasing this RFTOP at a later date?
USAID Response: There is currently no plan to to release this RFTOP at a later date.

65. **Ghana:** In the J&A to extend the Public Financial Management (PFM) IDIQ task order period of performance (issued 12/3/2015), USAID mentions upcoming PFM task orders in five missions: Afghanistan, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Mozambique, and Liberia (page 4 of the J&A). Aside from Liberia, which has already been released, can implementing partners expect to see these opportunities included in the business forecast?
USAID Response: No, not for Ghana.

66. **Guatemala:** Why do we see no procurements listed for Guatemala? Is it because nothing is in the pipeline, or because USAID has not yet updated its list? Does USAID/Guatemala have plans to procure any contracts? We note that most recent opportunities have been released as RFAs with the exception of the ROL RFTOP.
USAID Response: We have several procurements coming up in USAID Guatemala, with the increase in funding due to the Alliance for Prosperity.

We anticipate having two Task Orders coming out, along with the results of a BAA (which may be acquisition and may be assistance) and one contract to be full and openly competed. In 2017 we have 2 assistance instruments and one acquisition instrument that will be expiring. So, we intend to make new solicitations..As more detailed are finalized, we will be sure to include them on the Business Forecast.

67. **Guatemala:** Could USAID please provide an updated release date for Guatemala Roots? The release date is slated for February 29, 2016.
USAID Response: The updated release date is 3/31/2016 for the Guatemala Community Roots Project.

68. **Guinea:** In the Guinea Health Service Delivery RFA (RFA-OAA-15-000024) that was released last year, USAID mentioned that it plans to also award a multi-year Guinea Health Systems

Strengthening (HSS) activity. This opportunity was not listed on the February 8th Mission Business Forecast. Can USAID provide an update on this HSS opportunity, including an anticipated release date?

USAID Response: There is no plan for a bilateral health system strengthening project as of today; it is not on the table.

69. **Guinea:** USAID's Country Development Cooperation Strategy focuses on youth and the sectors of health, education and economic opportunity. However, for this quarter we only see 3 projects which are unrelated to these areas. In which quarterly forecast for this year does Guinea expect to focus on these areas?

USAID Response: Youth and training are cross-cutting issues in all awards; economic opportunity will be covered in the Feed the Future awards.

70. **Guinea:** Could USAID please provide additional information on the scopes of the anticipated New FTF Activities in Guinea?
    a. There are two Guinea Feed the Future projects listed with the same anticipated award and solicitation dates, one a contract and one a cooperative agreement. Could USAID please explain what will differentiate the two projects?
    b. Will USAID release pre-solicitation materials, a RFI, a draft SOW, or some other correspondence to share information and offer opportunities for input prior to their respective releases?
    c. Can USAID provide any details on the technical and/or geographic scope of the activities, and/or the expected relationship/complementarity between the two activities?

USAID Response: In Sierra Leone, we are pursuing Associate Awards under Farmer to Farmer Leaders with Associates. In Guinea, we are pursuing Associate Awards under existing Farmer to Farmer Leaders with Associates and possibly working under the VEGA LWA if there is sufficient ceiling. In addition, we are planning two shared awards for Guinea and Sierra Leone through field support buy-ins (Africa LEAD and SPRING) and one M&E contract for both countries under $5 million. The activities will focus on achieving outcomes in agricultural development and nutrition in Tonkolili district and up to two others.

    a. The team has since reconsidered this approach and are expecting to work under two Farmer to Farmer LWAs through Associate Awards with one M&E contract and one Field Support Buy-in.
    b. The team has since chosen to explore all options to pursue work under already solicited agreements.
    c. Learning across countries is possible and encouraged, the team believes the approach to use three agreements that work across countries, specifically in M&E, Policy, and Nutrition BCC will be of great benefit to the agency.

71. **Haiti:** For all the Haiti opportunities, the Award Title and the Award Description are the same. Would it be possible to get an award description for the Haiti solicitations listing?

USAID Response: We are working to add more detailed Award Titles to the Business Forecast. Once this information has been updated we will notify organizations.

72. **Haiti:** Will the current political situation in Haiti effect the release date of the Room to Learn recompete?
    a. Are the original solicitation documents available to the public, or upon request?
    b. The anticipated solicitation release date is Feb 12 -- What is the new anticipated solicitation release date?

USAID Response: No, the political situation is not affecting the release of the RFTOP. The choice of instrument has been refined; this will now be released as an RFTOP.
    a. The original solicitation was posted publicly to grants.gov.
    b. The solicitation will be released on or before March 15, 2016.

73. **Haiti:** For Haiti, "Protection of Vulnerable Groups" (BAA-521-DG-2015-02), can you tell us whether any awards have been made under this BAA to date?

USAID Response: No awards have been made to date.

74. **Haiti:** On the November 30th Mission's Business Forecast, Haiti listed an award titled "Financial Inclusion/Mobile Solutions". Was this solicitation released on Grants.gov or FBO.gov?

USAID Response: This solicitation closed September 2015; it was on the November forecast in error.

75. **Haiti:** *Ports Civil Works* – We are interested to learn more about this upcoming project which is scheduled to be posted as an RFP in just two months. Please provide a description of the project's scope of work and period of performance.

USAID Response: We will add the description to the A&A Plan on/before March 4, 2016.

76. **Honduras:** Given that the release dates of the solicitations associated with the Honduras mission have passed, would USAID please provide updated timing for their release?

USAID Response: All actions listed in the A&A Plan with Anticipated Solicitation Release Dates in February, 2016 can be assumed to be targeted for release in March - April, 2016.   The A&A Lifecycle Position for these actions is currently Planning/Design.

77. **Honduras:** "Municipal Governance Activity for Western Honduras": Though it is under the Democracy and Governance sector this activity is currently labeled as a Task Order/Delivery Order (probable IQC). As the FY2016 Omnibus Report Language (Page 45) Sec. 7032, Democracy Programs (Modified) notes that "…subsection (f)(1) requires the development of guidelines for the use of contracts vs grants and cooperative agreements for the unique objectives of democracy programs," can USAID/Honduras provide insights as to why a task order/delivery order was chosen vs an assistance mechanism and potentially modify the mechanism of choice given the Omnibus language

USAID Response: The A&A Lifecycle Position for this action is Planning/Design and the award/action type listed in the A&A Plan is subject to change. Task Order / Delivery Order was listed as the expected Award/Action Type based on what was known at the time of the update to the A&A Plan. The Contracting Officer has not yet made a choice of instrument determination. Choice of instrument will be determined in accordance with law and policy in effect at the time the decision is required.

78. **Honduras:** The Q2FY16 forecast lists the Action Type for the Municipal Governance Activity for Western Honduras as 'Task Order/Delivery Order'. Would USAID please confirm the master contract under which this TO/DO will be issued?

USAID Response: This action is currently planned for release as a Request for Task Order Proposals (RFTOP) under the Making cities Work Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract. Task Order / Delivery Order was listed as the expected Award/Action Type based on what was known at the time of the update to the A&A Plan and is subject to change.

79. **Honduras:** The Honduras Biodiversity opportunity has been listed as an imminent release in the past two Mission Forecasts. Does USAID still expect to be able to release this RFP soon?

USAID Response: Yes. The current estimated solicitation release date is March, 2016.

80. **Honduras:** Regarding the Honduras Building Resilience in Ecosystems & Livelihoods (BREL) opportunity, while we understand the implementing mechanism is projected and subject to change, can USAID indicate which umbrella agreement is being considered for this TO/DO and provide an update on the anticipated solicitation release date?

USAID Response: Restoring the Environment through Prosperity, Livelihoods and Conserving Ecosystems (REPLACE) Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract. The current estimated solicitation release date is March, 2016. The A&A Lifecycle Position for these actions is currently Planning/Design.

81. **Honduras:** Can USAID please clarify the difference between the "Basic Reading and Education Activity (BREA)" and the "TBD school-based violence prevention activity" in Honduras since the description and amounts of these anticipated programs are almost identical?
    a. Since they are both anticipated to be solicited in March and the procurement mechanism is still TBD, can USAID provide some further insight on the expected procurement mechanism and confirm that the anticipated solicitation dates are still correct?
    b. What is the funding source for the Honduras- School Violence Prevention Activity?
    c. The sector is identified as education, but is this funding coming from the CARSI funding stream?

USAID Response: The Basic Reading and Education Activity is expected to be a $40 million activity focusing on the DO1 and DO2 communities and will target children attending primary

school. The School-based Violence Prevention is expected to be a $20 million activity focusing on the DO1 targeted communities and will work with youth attending primary and secondary schools.

    a. The A&A Lifecycle Position for these actions is currently Planning/Design. Further details will be released as soon as possible.

    b. The A&A Lifecycle Position for this action is Planning/Design. The Mission endeavors to update its listings in the A&A Plan on a regular basis and will do so as soon as the information is sufficiently crystallized. Funding for the Honduras- School Violence Prevention Activity is anticipated to be primarily CARSI funds; however, this could change as the activity is planned/designed and depending on other Mission requirements.

    c. Anticipated funding for the SBVP program is CARSI. Anticipated funding for the BREA Activity is Basic Education funds. The A&A Lifecycle Position for these actions are Planning/Design, and so this could change depending on mission requirements.   The Mission endeavors to update its listings in the A&A Plan on a regular basis and will do so as soon as the information is sufficiently crystallized.

82. **Honduras:** Could you please identify whether the Municipal Governance Activity for Western Honduras (March 31 est. release date) will be released as an RFA, RFP or Task Orders under IDIQ?

USAID Response: This action is currently planned for release as a Request for Task Order Proposals (RFTOP) under the Making cities Work Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract.   Although, the A&A Lifecycle Position for this action is Planning/Design and the award/action type listed in the A&A Plan is subject to change.

83. **Honduras:** Could you please identify whether the Honduras Community and Municipal Development for Citizen Security Program – (June 30 est. release date) will be released as an RFA, RFP or Task Orders under IDIQ?

USAID Response: The A&A Lifecycle Position for this action is Planning/Design and no additional information is available at this time regarding the type of instrument.

84. **India:** Is the India Partnerships Program truly restricted to local organizations, or can international organizations partner with local ones?

USAID Response: Please refer to page 7 of the current APS under the section entitled Eligible Partners "While this APS is open to worldwide competition, USAID/India is particularly interested in working with the Indian private sector. This includes non-traditional partners such as: 1) private businesses, 2) business and trade associations, 3) foundations, 4) financial institutions, as well as more traditional non-profit, non-governmental organizations and for-profit development firms."

85. **Indonesia:** Could USAID provide additional details about the award description for the forecasted BUKA program?

USAID Response: USAID/Indonesia will update the status of this procurement. BUKA (Bukti Untuk Kebijakan dan Advokasi or Evidence for Policy and Advocacy) is still under design. This activity is to support Development Objective (DO) 4: Collaborative Achievement in Science, Technology, and Innovation Increased, under the USAID/Indonesia's Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) 2014-2018.

86. **Indonesia:** In the forecast there is an opportunity listed from Indonesia, the Maternal and Neonatal Health activity. The "Award/Action Type" is listed as "TBD." We have heard that it might come out as a BAA. Can you please confirm that or provide more specific information as to the Award/Action Type the Mission intends to use? If USAID has not decided, could you please indicate when this decision might be made?

USAID Response: USAID/Indonesia intends to make a contract for this MNH program. We will update the Business Forecast.

87. **Indonesia:** Could USAID/Indonesia please confirm if the Workforce Development Technical Assistance DO2 opportunity would come out of the most recent Indonesia Youth Workforce Development Accelerator? If not, does USAID/Indonesia anticipate releasing a stand-alone procurement for the Indonesia Workforce Development program?

USAID Response: USAID/Indonesia intends to issue task order under the Youth Power IDIQ for this program.

88. **Iraq:** *Iraq Rapid Response Mechanism: Questions for USAID*
    a. Please confirm that the scope of the Iraq Rapid Response Mechanism will encompass the following tasks: 1) Performance management, 2) Support for project monitoring, 3) Evaluation, 4) Research, 5) Organizational learning, and 6) Knowledge management. If these components have changed, please identify the specific changes.

USAID Response: Due to internal Mission strategy, the procurements design and composition has materially changed.

Activities will advance effective, accountable, and transparent governance in Iraq. The effort will work with the Government of Iraq (GOI) at all levels to better respond to citizen needs by supporting reform initiatives and Iraqi change agents on inclusive governance and public sector transparency, accountability and economy. Reform initiatives includes support to improve service delivery functions, public financial management, and open government initiatives, the pace of which will be dictated by the GOI. This activity will support the GOI and the citizens of Iraq in forming partnerships and collaborative efforts, particularly in light of the ongoing fiscal and security crises, to jointly solve problems. This activity will be infused with the principles of equity, representation, and participation. These principles are required to support efficient, effective, and inclusive governance aimed improving the lives of Iraq's citizens and advancing political accommodation through the function of service delivery and the transparent, accountable stewardship of public funds.

b. When does the Mission expect to release a pre-RFP?

USAID Response: The Mission anticipates releasing the pre-solicitation notice/synopsis in the either the late second quarter or third quarter of this fiscal year.

c. Please confirm that this mechanism is a new opportunity, and not a follow-on to the Advancing Performance Management (APM) contract.

USAID Response: This is a new opportunity with a significantly different set of objectives.

d. Please confirm that the intent of the Iraq Rapid Response Mechanism is to help the Mission meet Agency requirements, make better informed strategic and management decisions, and advance USAID learning on effective development approaches.

USAID Response: Please see response to Part A. of this question.

e. Please confirm that this mechanism is intended to be a 5 year contract.

USAID Response: The award is currently still under design.

f. Please define the term "organizational learning" -- a term used in the USAID forecast.

USAID Response: Please see response to Part A. of this question.

g. Does the Mission intend to use the mechanism to integrate input, technical contributions, and other pertinent work from relevant Iraqi stakeholders into the Mission's planning process?

USAID Response: Please see response to Part A. of this question.

h. Does the Mission expect the mechanism solicitation to function as a hybrid contract made up of both Firm-Fixed Price and Cost-Plus-Fixed Fee components?

USAID Response: The award is currently still under design however currently a hybrid CPFF-IDIQ is currently being contemplated but is subject to change.

i. Will the mechanism be used to manage grants under contract?

USAID Response: The award is currently still under design but no grants under contracts are currently anticipated.

89. **Jamaica:** The "Jamaica Civil Society Capacity Building Program" (listed in the November 2, 2015 forecast) -- As this was not listed in the most recent forecast, could USAID please provide an update on the status of this opportunity, or if it has been cancelled?

USAID Response: This opportunity has not been cancelled. However, this activity is still under development and the Mission has decided to hold it until it is more fully developed and approved. Once that process has been completed, the forecast will be updated accordingly.

90. **Jordan:** The current forecast for Jordan has an opportunity entitled, "PFH - TBD (Health Systems Strengthening)". Is this the same opportunity as the Jordan Health Finance and Governance, SOL-278-16-000006 (for which a program description was posted in January 2016), or will an additional solicitation notice be posted covering other aspects of health systems strengthening?

USAID Response: They are different! The Health Financing and Governance and the TBD Health Systems Strengthening do indeed belong on two separate actions; however, the TBD Health Systems Strengthening is very low priority, and we will be bumping to next year given competing priorities.

91. **Jordan:** Can USAID provide any additional details on the Jordan program entitled "EDY - Teaching & Community Engagement at Newly Constructed Schools" and how this program will interact with the Youth and Pre-Service Teacher Training programs also listed on the forecast?
    a. Please confirm that the solicitation will be released on 8/15/16.
    b. Please confirm that this is a new opportunity.
    c. Please confirm the award is intended to be a 4 year contract.

USAID Response: There are no details to provide at this time. This procurement is on hold and will not appear on the next business forecast.

92. **Jordan:** The latest forecast has changed the Jordan EDY - Pre-service Professional Development for grades 4-12 mechanism from a grant to a contract. Could USAID please provide the rationale for this change?

USAID Response: The Mission has determined that a contract is the most suitable implementing instrument for the required services. In all cases, this opportunity will not appear on the next business forecast since the solicitation will not be released in the timeframe previously anticipated.

93. **Jordan:** Can USAID please provide an updated release date for the *Municipal Governance Strengthening Project under the Making Cities Work IDIQ*? A presolicitation notice was issued to holders in August, but we have not yet heard anything else. Can USAID provide any background on the factors that might be affecting the release of the procurement? Does USAID intend to issue a new pre-solicitation notice?

USAID Response: We anticipate releasing the solicitation in third quarter of FY 2016.

94. **Kenya:** The current Mission Business Forecast lists multiple projects for USAID Kenya under the Global Health sector as TBD. Could USAID indicate which, if any, of the awards may incorporate the release of pre-solicitations materials, such as a draft SOW or RFI? Can USAID please clarify whether these procurements will be released as Contracts or Cooperative Agreements and explain the reasoning behind each decision?

USAID Response: The listed projects for USAID Kenya under the Global Health sector are currently in the design phase during which it will be determined if the procurements will be

95. **Kenya:** In the Mission Business Forecast for Kenya, an award for HIV/AIDS Clinical Services 1,2,3,4, and 5 is listed.
    a. Can USAID provide more clarity on this award, including the significance of the use of numbers 1-5?
        i. Does USAID plan on issuing multiple awards under this bid that are broken-up by geographical region?
            1. If so, could USAID provide details on which geographical regions this would include?
        ii. How will the award values be handled- splitting the $150-200M listed across all five?
        iii. Can USAID provide any insight into the planned mechanism for these procurements?
        iv. How will the project be divided by region and value?

USAID Response:
    a. The Mission is planning on issuing up to 5 awards by geographic focus.
        i. Yes.
        ii. The award values will be split across all 5 awards.
        iii. The Mission is currently in the design phase and is not in the position to provide comprehensive information at the moment. (iii & iv)

96. **Kenya:** In the Mission Business Forecast for Kenya, the award description for the RMNCAH project lists RMNCAH 1,2, and 3.
    a. Can USAID provide more clarity on this award, including the significance of the use of numbers 1-3?
    b. Does USAID plan on issuing multiple awards under this bid that are broken-up by geographical region?
        i. If so, could USAID provide details on which geographical regions this would include?
        ii. Will each award have a value of $50-74.99M, or will that value be split across all three awards?
    c. Can USAID provide any insight into the planned mechanism for these procurements?
    d. How will the project be divided by region and value? Please clarify if the 3 listed awards will be split geographically. And if so, which regions will be covered?

USAID Response:
    a. The Mission is planning on issuing up to 3 awards by geographic focus.
    b. Yes.
        i. The award values will be split across all 3 awards.
    c. The Mission is currently in the design phase and is not in the position to provide comprehensive information at the moment. (c&d)

97. **Kenya:** For the Kenya CVE Activity listed in the Mission Forecast, could USAID further specify the funding mechanism (i.e., PEACE IQC, YouthPower, SWIFT, etc.)?
    a. Does USAID have a target IDIQ in mind for the CVE activity listed for Kenya?
    b. Under which IDIQ does USAID anticipated this Task Order coming out? PEACE IDIQ.

USAID Response: The intent is to use the PEACE IDIQ issued out of Washington. However, no final decision has been made.
    a. Yes, the intent is to use the PEACE IDIQ issued out of Washington. However, no final decision has been made.
    b. The intent is to use the PEACE IDIQ issued out of Washington. However, no final decision has been made.

98. **Kenya:** Regarding the Kenya Strategic Information County Level Activity, is this a follow-on to a current project or is this a new activity?

USAID Response: The Kenya Strategic Information Country Level Activity is a continuation of USAID supported activities.

99. **Kenya:** Regarding the Kenya Regional Resilience Learning Project, can USAID please clarify if this is intended to solicit and award a NEW indefinite quantity (IDIQ) type contract, or if this will be a TO/DO under an existing IDIQ type contract?

USAID Response: USAID intends to issue a Task Order (TO) under an existing IDIQ.

100. **Kenya:** Is the Kenya Private Sector Development Initiative considered a follow-on to the current Feed the Future Kenya Innovation Engine and/or the Financial Inclusion for Rural Microenterprises program?

USAID Response: The purpose of the anticipated PSDI project is to promote private sector growth for development gains. The intended project will promote private sector growth through a comprehensive and integrated focus on finance, investment, entrepreneurship, and innovation to support the objectives of the United States Presidential Initiatives including: agriculture's Feed the Future (FTF), Power Africa, Trade Africa, and Global Climate Change, as well as the USAID's Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH); Resilience; and Enhancing Capacity for Low Emissions Development Strategies (EC-LEDS). For more information, please review a recent Request for Information (RFI) exercise completed to inform the intended project: https://www.fbo.gov/index?tabmode=form&subtab=step1&tabid=c3dc36c70258080ee9fe76491b6406b0

101. **Kenya:** Could you please clarify if the Civic and Voter Education for 2017 included in the 2016 Pipeline is different from the tender named KEAP Kenya launched on December 8, 2015 and due in January 22, 2016? If they are in fact 2 different opportunities, could you please provide information of the scope of work of the forecasted opportunity?

USAID Response: *Civic and Voter Education for 2017* and *KEAP Kenya* are the same program. Civic and Voter Education for 2017 was the general name before we knew the specific name of

the election activity. The application deadline for this opportunity is closed as of January 22, 2016.

102. **Kenya:** The entry for *Health Informatics, Governance and Data Analytics (HIGDA)* lists the anticipated award/action type as TBD but the solicitation release date is 3/1/2016. Two questions:
    a. Since the release of the solicitation is imminent, could USAID provide an updated award/action type or an updated solicitation release date?
    b. Is USAID planning on releasing a pre-solicitation, a request for information (RFI), a draft statement of work, or some other correspondence to share information and offer opportunities for input before the release of the solicitation?

USAID Response: The Mission is still in the design phase for the Health Informatics, Governance and Data Analytics (HIGDA) project. As work on this procurement is ongoing, the solicitation release date will be delayed.

103. **Kenya:** OVC is not mentioned in the Q2 forecast. Is OVC programming expected to be rolled into one of the forecasted health opportunities or does USAID expect to issue a stand-alone OVC opportunity in the areas where APHIA programs are ending in December 2015 (Rift, Western, and Central)?

USAID Response: The Mission is planning to issue up to 2 OVC awards by geographic focus in areas that are to be determined. Information on the OVC programs will be included in the Business Forecast.

104. **Kosovo:** USAID/Kosovo released an RFI for the Transparent, Effective and Accountable Municipalities (TEAM) Activity on January 29, 2016. Can USAID please confirm that this is the same program as the Accountable Governance contract that is listed on the most recent Forecast?

USAID Response: Yes, it is the same program.

105. **Lebanon:** Could USAID please provide more detail about the scope of work for the Lebanon Investment Finance and Entrepreneurship project? We also note that the project value has increased to $25-$50M.

USAID Response: We appreciate the interest in USAID Lebanon's LIFE procurement. The solicitation will be released in its entirety once all USAID's internal clearance processes are complete, which we hope will be very soon.

106. **Lebanon:** Investment Finance and Entrepreneurship (LIFE), listed in the February 8, 2016 Mission Business Forecast:
    a. Could USAID please provide more information about the anticipated scope of work and the extent of entrepreneurship that is anticipated to be part of this program?
    b. Since the total estimated cost/amount range for Lebanon LIFE has been increased up to $50 million in the February 8, 2016 Mission Forecast, what does

USAID anticipate the project's distribution will be between grants and technical assistance?

USAID Response: We appreciate the interest in USAID Lebanon's LIFE procurement. The solicitation will be released in its entirety once all USAID's internal clearance processes are complete, which we hope will be very soon. Any release of information prior to the internal clearances being obtained may mislead potential offerors about the requirement as changes in the subject areas above may be required by those currently reviewing the requirement.

107. **Liberia:** Is the same organization eligible to implement both the *Benchmarking Assessment* and *READ Liberia!* Opportunities?

USAID Response: That decision is still being finalized but it is likely that the organization that implements the *Benchmarking Assessment*, would not be eligible for the *READ Liberia!* procurement.

108. **Liberia:** There have been no opportunities listed for the Global Health, Environment, or Agriculture and Food Security sectors for several iterations of the forecast. Can USAID confirm that there are no planned procurements in those sectors this fiscal year?

USAID Response: New as of this quarter, it is expected there will be a new RFTOP under the Global Architect-Engineer Services II IDIQ for IDIQ holders. This has been added to the business forecast.

109. **Liberia:** *Local Roads Construction in Liberia* -- Under which IDIQ does USAID anticipate this Task Order coming out?

USAID Response: The Mission is planning on issuing an IDIQ, which at this time will be restricted to local firms.

110. **Madagascar:** There is a general perception that a number of IDIQ task orders are expected from USAID/Madagascar that are not listed on the current forecast. Could USAID provide more information on the release of those task orders?

USAID Response: Current planned IDIQ RFTOPs are listed in the Business Forecast. Items may be subject to change depending on changes in Mission strategy.

111. **Madagascar:** Collection of the Health Outcome Monitoring Survey data in the Community Capacity for Health zones - North and Western regions of Madagascar: Given the size and scope of this opportunity, is it possible to solicit this via total small business set aside contracts?

USAID Response: USAID will consider this request but does not have an answer at this time.

112. **Madagascar:** It is our understanding that USAID is planning two opportunities in Madagascar—one focused on Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and one on the Environment and Biodiversity Conservation. However, no information is provided in the USAID Mission Forecast about these opportunities.
    a. Does USAID/Madagascar have plans for these two solicitations?

      b. If so, will USAID please release an updated version of the Forecast with information on these opportunities, including description of the award, estimated dollar amount, anticipated date of award, anticipated award type, location, and point of contact at USAID?

USAID Response: USAID anticipates release of 2 Environment and Biodiversity Conservation RFPs and one WASH NFO. These actions are still in the final design stages, however. As we definitize our requirements, we will update the Business Forecast.

113. **Madagascar:** Regarding the <u>Annual data collection for the Health Outcome Monitoring Survey</u>, is this activity planned solely for data collection or will there also be design/analysis services associated. It is listed twice, both as a 3-year activity. Is this period of performance correct? If so, is the estimated cost/amount correct?

USAID Response: These actions are still in the final design stages. It is anticipated that they will be solely for data collection, but we will update the Business Forecast as needed.

114. **Malawi:** The <u>Local Government Accountability and Performance (LGAP) Activity</u> entry indicates that the award type will be a task order/delivery order (TO/DO). Is it possible to show which the vehicle under which that TO/DO would be released?

USAID Response: The Making Cities Work IDIQ.

115. **Malawi:** ASPIRE Mid-term Performance Evaluation: Given the size and scope of this opportunity, is it possible to solicit this via total small business set aside contracts?

USAID Response: The Mission is considering the use of the small business set aside option.

116. **Malawi:** Malawi Decentralization Activity: Under which IDIQ does USAID anticipated this Task Order coming out? What is the updated anticipated release date?

USAID Response: The Mission anticipates using the Making Cities Work IDIQ with a release date in March, 2016.

117. **Malawi:** Can USAID please provide an updated anticipated release date for Malawi ONSE A Thanzi? An RFI was released in August 2015, and the anticipated solicitation release date of February 5, 2016, has already passed.

USAID Response: ONSE Athanzi solicitation was issued on February 25, 2016.

118. **Malawi:** For Malawi, the TBD (HIV Treatment) solicitation from November 2015 forecast did not appear in this version. Can USAID please confirm that this solicitation is still forthcoming? Or please confirm the reason why it has been removed?

USAID Response: The Mission is considering the of an existing mechanism for this activity.

119. **Malawi:** The mission forecast lists the Feed the Future Malawi Ag Diversification for Incomes and Nutrition RFP as being released on February 15, 2016. Given that this date has passed without the release of an RFP, can USAID please provide an updated timeline estimate?

USAID Response: The Mission intends to issue this solicitation in March, 2016.

120. **Malawi:** Can USAID please indicate which IDIQ it is planning to use for the Local Government Accountability and Performance project?
USAID Response: The Mission intends to use the Making Cities Work IDIQ.

121. **Malawi:** ONSE A Thanzi (Organized Network of Services for Everyone's Health) in Malawi has an anticipated solicitation date of 2/5/2016.
    a. As this date has passed, could USAID please provide an updated anticipated solicitation date?
    b. Would USAID be able to share whether malaria diagnostics will be supported as part of ONSE A Thanzi.
USAID Response: The Mission issued this solicitation on February 25, 2016, please access it on FedBizOpps.

122. **Mali:** The Mali *Girl's Leadership Empowerment through Education (GLEE)* opportunity is scheduled to be released on March 31, but this is a new opportunity for the forecast and the procurement mechanism is still TBD.
    a. Since March 31 is only a month away, can USAID provide additional details on the procurement mechanism and confirm that the March 31 timeline is still accurate?
    b. What is the anticipated award mechanism for the program? Does USAID have any further clarification on whether this will be an NOFO or an RFP?
USAID Response: The March 31 timeline will not be met as this action is still in the design phase. We will update the Forecast to reflect that the anticipated solicitation and award date is still TBD. No Choice of Instrument has been made nor has the PAD been amended to include this action.

123. **Mali:** USAID's "Performance and Impact Evaluation M&E":
    a. Could USAID please confirm if this task order has already been issued or if there is an update on the estimated release date?
    b. Is it possible to show which the vehicle under which that TO/DO would be released?
    c. The anticipated solicitation release date is 2/22/16. Is there a revised anticipated release date?
    d. What is the difference between this activity and the MALI PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) PLATFORM (Award Number AID-688-I-15-00006), awarded to Management Systems International on 6/22/2015?
USAID Response: This action is a Task Order against an IQC. Task Order has not been issued and we do not have an estimated release date at this time. This action is a Task Order against the MALI PERFORMANCE MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) PLATFORM IQC. Also please note that the title will be modified to reflect a new name, Education Performance and Impact Evaluation.

124. **Mali:** What is the anticipated award mechanism for the Mali All Children Reading Program?
USAID Response: This action is still in the design phase. We will update the Forecast to reflect that the anticipated solicitation and award date is still TBD. No Choice of Instrument has been made nor has the PAD been amended to include this action.

125. **MERP (Frankfurt):** The Middle East Region (MERP) was recently added to the forecast. Are any additional opportunities for this region expected to be added on future forecasts?
USAID Response: Opportunities for MERP are already included in the Business Forecast. MERP opportunities are included under the following: (1) MERP - Regional programs; (2) Tunisia; and (3) Libya.

126. **Mexico:** Umbrella – Civil Society Activity – there is no award description – can USAID/Mexico please provide any additional details.
USAID Response: The purpose of this activity is to strengthen human and institutional capacity development of targeted intermediate support organizations and civil society organizations (CSOs) and to strengthen the advocacy, evaluation, monitoring, and service delivery capacity of targeted CSOs through small grants.

127. **Mexico:** "M&E Platform" is missing award descriptions. Can you please provide an award description if possible? Who is the current implementing partner performing this work, or is this a new opportunity? Will this be an IT-based contract to establish an M&E platform, or a mission-wide contract to provide M&E services?
USAID Response: The purpose of this activity is to provide Monitoring and Evaluation services for USAID/Mexico. This will be a new award. It will be a USAID/Mexico Monitoring and Evaluation award for services.

128. **Moldova:** Regarding the "Local Government Support Project" listed for Moldova, is it possible that this will be released through an IDIQ? If so, which IDIQ does USAID have in mind? Will an RFI be released in advance of the RFP? Can USAID provide any insight on the expected contracting mechanism for the project?
USAID Response: This requirement will be implemented under a contract and competed on a full and open basis.

129. **Morocco:** The description of the Morocco Reading for Success opportunity has changed from non-formal education to formal education. Will another opportunity be forthcoming to cover non-formal education in Morocco?
USAID Response: The Non-Formal Education activity was cancelled. On February 11, 2016 a notice was posted to grants.gov and an email was issued to all pre-bidders conference participants advising of this cancellation. It is anticipated that some components of this activity design will be included in an upcoming Reading For Success activity.

130. **Mozambique:** Previous versions of the forecast included an opportunity called "community clinical care of HIV." Is this opportunity still anticipated?

USAID Response: No. The opportunity can be deleted. It is cancelled due to the extension of the Clinical Health Services Strengthening (FHI360-CHASS).

131. **Mozambique:** In the J&A to extend the Public Financial Management (PFM) IDIQ task order period of performance (issued 12/3/2015), USAID mentions upcoming PFM task orders in five missions: Afghanistan, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Mozambique, and Liberia (page 4 of the J&A). Aside from Liberia, which has already been released, can implementing partners expect to see these opportunities included in the business forecast?
USAID Response: RFTOP issued on February 09/2016 and proposals due on March 11, 2016.

132. **Mozambique:** *Integrated Malaria Program*
    a. Is this opportunity a follow on to the Malaria Care project?
    b. Is the anticipated release date of March 18, 2016 still valid?
USAID Response:
    a. No. It will be a new NFO, full and open competition locally procured by the Mission.
    b. Yes, The REQ is expected to be circulating this week (first of March). REQ in GLAAS by 10-18 of March.

133. **Mozambique:** We observed that the Mozambique FORSSAS II Health System Strengthening award that showed on the previous USAID Business Forecast (Anticipated Solicitation Release Date : Jan 2016) is not included any longer in the current forecast.
    a. Is it a result from activities reprioritization?
    b. If it will be included in a different activity or project, could USAID please provide additional information?
USAID Response:
    a. No, but due to uncertainty of PEPFAR funds for follow-on.
    b. The activity continues to be a priority for the Mission. The continuation of this activity is pending PEPFAR funding availability and final budget from COP 2016 (Country Operational Plan).

134. **Namibia:** There are no opportunities listed for Namibia on the most recent forecast. Are new opportunities expected to be added to future forecasts?
USAID Response: No, there are no new activities planned that will be added to future business forecasts.

135. **Nepal:** USAID announced a pre-solicitation for the Nepal Reconstruction IDIQ, but it is missing from the business forecast. Can USAID provide an update on the status of this solicitation?
USAID Response: Mission is awaiting confirmation of any funding availability. It will be added to the business forecast shortly with a very rough estimated date for solicitation.

136. **Nicaragua:** Are there any upcoming opportunities for the Nicaragua mission?
USAID Response: The Nicaragua Mission does not anticipate any upcoming opportunities for now.

137. **Nigeria:** Is there an updated release date for the RMNCH IDIQ?
USAID Response: We are currently targeting late March or early April.

138. **Nigeria:** Can USAID kindly confirm whether they plan to release a pre-solicitation for the Strengthening Delivery of Malaria Case Management? If yes, can USAID confirm whether the March 7th anticipation solicitation date is still accurate?
USAID Response: A pre-solicitation for the Malaria Project will not be released. Instead the Mission anticipates releasing a joint solicitation/synopsis. We are currently targeting late March or Early April.

139. **Nigeria:** We noted from the last Q&A that RFTOPs under IDIQs are now available on the mission forecast. Can USAID confirm if any Water and Development (WADI) task orders will be released in the next quarter in Nigeria?
USAID Response: We anticipate issuing an RFTOP, however, the timing is dependent upon internal reviews and clearances. At this time we do not have a projected date for solicitation release.

140. **Nigeria:** The New HIV/AIDS-TB Monitoring & Evaluation Activity is expected to be released this week (2/26/16). Is this correct? If not, is there a revised date?
USAID Response: The anticipated release date is now the week of March 14, 2016. The project has been renamed "Support for Strategic Information and Project Management Services (S4SIPMS)".

141. **Nigeria:** Does USAID/Nigeria intend to procure a follow-on project to the Nigeria Expanded Trade and Transport (NEXTT) Project? If so, on what timeline? What is the proposed total estimated cost/amount? Will the technical focus areas remain the same?
USAID Response: No follow-on award is being considered at this time.

142. **Nigeria:** Does USAID/Nigeria intend to procure a follow-on project to the Nigeria MARKETS Project? If so, on what timeline? What is the proposed total estimated cost/amount? Will the technical focus areas remain the same?
USAID Response: This project is currently being evaluated and the Mission is anticipating a different programming approach which has not been finalized.

143. **Nigeria:** Does USAID/Nigeria intend to procure a project on local governance/decentralization? If so, on what timeline? What is the proposed total estimated cost/amount? Can USAID/Nigeria elaborate on the proposed scope of work?

USAID Response: Yes, we intend to procure a new activity on local government/decentralization. This activity is currently in the design phase and further information will be provided once this phase is complete.

144. **Nigeria:** We noted from the last Q&A that RFTOPs under IDIQs are now available on the mission forecast. Can USAID confirm if any Youth Power IDIQ task orders will be released in the next quarter in Nigeria?

USAID Response: We currently do not have any information to share on this project.

145. **Pacific Islands:** As you know, Fiji was hit by a devastating cyclone over the weekend. Many of the regional organizations in the Pacific Islands are based in Fiji and are now focusing their efforts on relief and recovery. Under these circumstances, will USAID be delaying release of the RFP for the Pacific Adaptation Program - READY?

USAID Response: March 15, 2016 is the new release date for the Pacific READY RFP.

146. **Pakistan:** Can USAID provide any insight on the expected contracting mechanism for the Pakistan Let Girls Learn opportunity?

USAID Response: The USAID/Pakistan Office of Education is still in the design phase for the Let Girls Learn opportunity, and a decision has yet to be made between acquisition and assistance options.

147. **Pakistan:** The Punjab Youth Workforce Development project in Pakistan, which is currently under review, has disappeared from the forecast. Could USAID please provide an update on the procurement?

USAID Response: Proposals have been received and are under evaluation. We anticipate making the award by end of April.

148. **Pakistan:** Could USAID/Pakistan please confirm if there will be any funding restrictions associated with the "Read Pakistan" program listed in the new business forecast (i.e. local or small business set aside)

USAID Response: USAID/Pakistan no longer intends to procure the Read Pakistan activity.

149. **Peru:** USAID's answers to questions received with regard to the FY15 Q3 Forecast included the following statement: "*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".* Is there any additional information about the timing of any new projects, given that Peru has not been featured on either of the FY16 Forecasts?

USAID Response: USAID/Peru's project designs have been delayed. Therefore, we are not yet able to accurately anticipate any of the new actions that will arise as a result of these project designs. USAID/Peru will update the Business Forecast with information regarding upcoming activities as soon as practicable.

150. **Philippines:** There used to be an opportunity on the forecast for an "Early Grade Reading and TA Support" opportunity scheduled to be released on 6/17/2016, however on the most recent forecast this opportunity is no longer there.
   a. Could USAID provide any feedback for why this opportunity is no longer found on the forecast?
   b. If it will be released, can USAID please clarify under which type of mechanism, and when?

USAID Response: The Missions PAD (Project Appraisal Document) has been delayed (due to staffing shortages) and thus, there would be an anticipated delay in the procurement process. Our hope is that it would be advertised by the end of 2016. Updates will be made available via the USAID business forecast. The size and number of procurements may change based on the Education funding that we actually receive.

151. **Philippines:** Could USAID/Philippines please confirm if the listed March 1st release date for the Pacific READY project remains accurate?

USAID Response: March 15, 2016 is the new release date for the Pacific READY RFP.

152. **RDMA:** USAID/RDMA/Thailand has recently issued RFI's for a bilateral counter-trafficking program for Thailand as well as a regional counter-trafficking program for Asia. Can USAID please provide additional information as to the timeline, amounts, and scope of any anticipated programs that may result from these RFIs?

USAID Response: These counter-trafficking programs are still in the planning stage. Updated information will be added in the business forecast.

153. **RDMA:** USAID/RDMA released a Request for Information for the "Counter Trafficking in Persons in Asia" on February 10th on both Grants.gov and FBO. However, this opportunity does not appear on the recent forecast. Could USAID please provide insight to the updated timing of solicitation release and the award type?

USAID Response: The Counter Trafficking in Persons in Asia is still in the planning stage. The activity will not be awarded before Fiscal Year 2017. Updated information will be added in the future business forecast.

154. **RDMA:** USAID/RDMA is considering development of a Regional Innovation Mechanism to support the delivery of prizes and challenges, open innovation activities, and other activities to strengthen innovation ecosystems and support Asian innovators across a broad range of development objectives. The solicitation is scheduled to be released on 31 March 2016. Has USAID/RDMA decided on the Award type for this activity, and if so, can it share this information with prospective bidders?

USAID Response: All information currently known has been included in the Business Forecast.

155. **RDMA:** Could USAID/RDMA/Thailand please confirm if there will be a new "Urban Resilience" program that appeared in previous versions of the new business forecast but not in the most recent version?

USAID Response: As stated in the Business Forecast Q&A form dated November 20, 2015: "USAID/RDMA is in the early design stages of new Adaptation/Urban Resilience activity/activities which will not be awarded before Fiscal Year 2017. More information will be provided when available."

156. **RDMA:** Could USAID/Thailand please specify the award mechanism types for the Investment for Sustainable Landscapes in the Asia Region and the Regional Innovation Mechanism opportunities?
    a. When will the forecast be updated with USAID/RDMA's planned activities for climate adaptation and resilience?

USAID Response: All information currently known has been included in the Business Forecast.

157. **Rwanda:** The Rwanda Increased Protein for Dietary Diversity program is no longer included on the Mission forecast. Does USAID still anticipate releasing this program? If so, can USAID please provide details on anticipated timing and procurement mechanism?

USAID Response: This program is still in development and it is not possible to provide any further information on timing or procurement mechanism at this time.

158. **Rwanda:** The Rwanda Sustainable partnership for Education and Economic development (SPEED) opportunity was scheduled to be released in February, but was not. Can USAID please update on a new anticipated release date?

USAID Response: This program is still in development and, at this point in time, it is not possible to provide a new anticipated release date.

159. **Rwanda:** *LEARN Impact Evaluation* -- Questions for USAID:
    a. Please confirm that the solicitation will be released on 4/1/16.
    b. Please confirm that this is a new opportunity.
    c. Please confirm that it is intended to be a 5 year contract.

USAID Response:
    a. This cannot be confirmed at this time, although this remains the goal.
    b. Yes, it is a new opportunity.
    c. It is expected to be a five-year task order at this point in time.

160. **Senegal:** The "Basic Education and Reading Opportunity" (not on the forecast) -- Could USAID please confirm whether there has been any related task orders issued out of ABE/ARC mechanism or a similar one, or whether one is still in planning?

USAID Response: GOAL is indeed on the procurement plan. A release date to all IQC holders is planned for March 14, 2016.

161. **Sierra Leone:** Legislative Strengthening – In the June 2015 business forecast call, USAID mentioned a Sierra Leone legislative strengthening opportunity. However, we have not seen this opportunity on the mission forecast. Does USAID still anticipate releasing a legislative strengthening project in Sierra Leone?

USAID Response: No, USAID does not.

162. **Sierra Leone:** The Mission forecast for Sierra Leone lists two upcoming Feed the Future opportunities. What will be difference between the contract and the cooperative agreement?
   a. Can you please provide additional scopes of information?
   b. Will USAID release pre-solicitation materials prior to their respective releases?
   c. Can USAID provide any details on the technical and/or geographic scope of the activities, and/or the expected relationship/complementarity between the two activities?

USAID Response: See the response for Guinea above.

163. **Somalia:** Will a draft solicitation or a more detailed award description for the Somalia Education RFP be shared for feedback prior to the release of the RFP?

USAID Response: This cannot be confirmed since the activity is still in the design stage; however, we always strive to issue an RFI.

164. **Somalia:** Somalia Edu opp $50-75M, will be released as 1 or multiple awards? RFP or IDIQ? Will there be RFI?

USAID Response: This activity is still in the design stage, and it is not possible to provide any further information on procurement mechanism at this time.

165. **Somalia:** Education contract $50-75M – This is listed as a contract on the latest forecast. Is this expected to be released as one or multiple awards?
   a. Will this be released as an RFP or IDIQ?
   b. Will there be an RFI released before the call drops?

USAID Response: a)This activity is still in the design stage, and it is not possible to provide any further information on procurement mechanism at this time. b) This cannot be confirmed as this depends on timing; however, we always strive to issue an RFI.

166. **Somalia:** Somalia "New Education" solicitation. Can USAID explain the reasoning for issuing this opportunity as a contract?

USAID Response: USAID has determined that the principle purpose of the award is to acquire services as part of the Agency's direct assistance to the Federal Government of Somalia.

167. **Somalia:** Related to the "New Education" project in Somalia, can USAID disclose whether this be released as an RFP or as a TO under an existing IDIQ?
   a. If an IDIQ, can USAID share which IDIQ it intends to use?
   b. Will this be a single award or multiple awards?

c. Will there be an RFI released before the call drops in order to allow interested bidder sufficient time to prepare?

USAID Response: a) This activity is still in the design stage, and it is not possible to provide any further information on procurement mechanism at this time. b) At this point in time, we anticipate one award, but since the activity is still in the design stage, this may change. The business forecast will be updated if anything changes. c) This cannot be confirmed as this depends on timing; however, we always strive to issue an RFI.

168. **South Africa:** *Acquisition and Assistance Support Services* was not posted on this forecast. A sources sought notice was issued on October 26, 2015 -- Could USAID please confirm if this opportunity is still in planning, or if it has been cancelled?

USAID Response: USAID's request for information was published for the purpose of conducting market research.   If a requirement is eventually defined, it will be published on the Business Forecast.

169. **South Africa:** Will the focus of the PERFORM opportunity be: a) early grade reading or b) a broader age/grade level group and topic area?

USAID Response: The focus will be on early grade (known in South Africa as foundation phase) the topic area will be reading.

170. **South Africa:** Are there Request for Information (RFI), or similar documents available yet for the Expansion of Power Africa Activities?

USAID Response: RFI with draft RFP and SOO for Task Order 1 released 2/19 with comment received 2/29

171. **South Africa:** Are there Request for Information (RFI), or similar documents available yet for the Southern Africa Energy Program?
   a. Can USAID please provide better clarity on how the Southern Africa Energy Program will align with the Expansion of Power Africa Activities?

USAID Response: The RFI for SAEP was released on FBO on January 16, 2016 with responses due on January 26, 2016.
   a. SAEP is a separate procurement for USAID/Southern Africa though its goals are aligned and complementary to the Power Africa Expansion Activities.

172. **South Africa:** Will the new Voluntary Medical Male Circumcision project on the forecast be open to international NGOs or just locals organization?

USAID Response: This is planned as a full and open competitive solicitation.

173. **South Sudan:** Community Resilient Livelihoods Program (CRLP) – The solicitation date for this call is listed as March 18, 2016.
   a. Please confirm if this will be released as an RFP or NOFO next month.
   b. Can you also provide more program scope information as there is also no award description on the forecast?

      c.   Can USAID provide any details regarding geographic focus of this activity?

      d.   Could USAID also indicate if this program is a formal replacement of MAGIC, which appeared in previous forecasts? Would USAID also please provide additional information on why the mission decided to pursue a cooperative agreement rather than a contract for CRLP?

USAID Response:

      a.   The CRLP will be released as an APS and the solicitation will go out requesting for Concept Papers as a first step. Then the Mission will review the concept papers and the selected applicants will be contacted to submit full applications.

      b.   The timing of the APS release is o/a end of March.

      c.   The objective of the CRLP is to improve livelihoods by promoting recovery with resilience in stressed, crisis and emergency levels food insecure regions of South Sudan.

      d.   The uncertain political and economic coupled with a resurgence in violence in 2015 and during 2016 forced the Mission to review its overall development framework for South Sudan and replace with a transitional Framework that focuses on: 1- Promote recovery with resilience by facilitating community-led response, delivering critical services and increasing disaster preparedness and risk reduction, and 2- Enable a lasting peace through support to an inclusive peace process, strengthening inter and intra communal relations and reconciliation, and improving mechanisms for conflict management. Under the current circumstances, the Mission cannot pursue the procurement of the MAGIC programs which was announced earlier, thus the new CRLP APS. The Mission has no specific geographic focus but will consider regions with stressed, crisis and emergency levels. The Mission will welcome any criteria with in depth analysis to identify regions, payams, that applicants would develop for USAID consideration.

174. **Sril Lanka:** In the J&A to extend the Public Financial Management (PFM) IDIQ task order period of performance (issued 12/3/2015), USAID mentions upcoming PFM task orders in five missions: Afghanistan, Ghana, Sri Lanka, Mozambique, and Liberia (page 4 of the J&A). Aside from Liberia, which has already been released, can implementing partners expect to see these opportunities included in the business forecast?

USAID Response: RFTOP issued 2/29/2016 to the small business holders under the PFM IDIQ. Task Order Proposals due 3/30/2016.

175. **Tanzania:** What upcoming opportunities are there in Tanzania in FY16?

USAID Response: You can find the latest opportunities for Tanzania in the Business Forecast posted online. No additional opportunities are currently anticipated.

176. **Tanzania:** Can USAID provide any insight on the expected contracting mechanism for the Tanzania Youth Entrepreneurship Program?

      a.   Does USAID anticipated this opportunity to be full and open vs. part of an IDIQ?

b. Will YEP be limited to the FTF targeted value chains of rice, maize and horticulture?

c. What number of youth will be expected to be reached by increased economic opportunities in the agriculture value chains / sector related field?

d. How will youth be defined? What will be the age range?

e. Could you please confirm the anticipated award date. (Is it correct that award date is anticipated to be 1 year after solicitation date?)

USAID Response: This activity is in the design phase and the answers to your questions are subject to the final statement of work and is currently still being finalized. In addition, this activity will be solicited in 2016 and awarded in 2017.

177. **Tanzania:** We understand that the USAID/Tanzania mission will issue a follow-on activity related to the Tanzania SERA Project. This procurement does not appear in the forecast. Could USAID kindly confirm if this procurement is indeed under development? If so, can USAID please indicate the anticipated release date and whether the solicitation will be full-and-open?

USAID Response: There will be no follow-on to SERA. However, a new award will be issued under a LWA.

178. **Tunisia:** Does USAID/Tunisia intend to competitively procure a successor project to the Tunisia Tax and Customs Reform project? If so, along what timeline and will this procurement be full and open?

USAID Response: A decision has not been made. The current program is active until September 2017.

179. **Uganda:** In the FY15 3rd Quarter Mission Forecast, a Voucher Scheme award was listed for Uganda (NAICS Code 541990). This award has been removed from the February 8th Mission Business Forecast. Will this project be placed back on the Mission Forecast or has the Mission already programmed these resources for the original activity?

USAID Response: It will not be back on the plan.

180. **Uganda:** Some opportunities which were previously included in the forecast for Uganda do not appear in this version (e.g., long-acting family planning). Should we consider these opportunities cancelled or may they come back on in the future? When will the forecast reflect a more comprehensive list of anticipated opportunities for Uganda?

USAID Response: USAID/Uganda is currently revitalizing its Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) for which many activities are undergoing a strategic review. No further information is available at this time. Mission will update the plan at the appropriate time

181. **Uganda:** Does USAID/Uganda anticipate any new programs in health? If so, could USAID please add them to the forecast?

USAID Response: Yes. The Uganda Sanitation Project is on the plan and will be released shortly. Regarding other programming, USAID/Uganda is currently revitalizing its Country Development

Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) for which many activities are undergoing a strategic review. No further information is available at this time. Mission will update the plan at the appropriate time.

182. **Uganda:** Could USAID confirm that the anticipated solicitation date for the Uganda Sanitation Activity is March 31, 2015 and that this will not be a WADI TO?
USAID Response: Mission anticipates the release of the Uganda Sanitation Project this quarter as a full and open competition.

183. **Uganda:** With USAID Uganda's Strengthening Decentralization for Sustainability closing in 2016, could USAID please indicate if it will issue a related follow-on program since a related entry is not included in the current Missions Business Forecast? If so, could USAID please indicate when this solicitation is anticipated to be released?
USAID Response: USAID/Uganda is currently revitalizing its Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) for which many activities are undergoing a strategic review. No further information is available at this time. Mission will update the plan at the appropriate time.

184. **Uganda:** We understand that a new program may follow USAID's Northern Uganda Health Integration to Enhance Services (NU-HITES) program, which ends in 2017. Could USAID please indicate if it is considering a related follow-on program? If so, could USAID please provide an anticipated release date?
USAID Response: USAID/Uganda is currently revitalizing its Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) for which many activities are undergoing a strategic review. No further information is available at this time. Mission will update the plan at the appropriate time.

185. **Ukraine:** The latest edition of the Business Forecast includes the Ukraine Pravosuddya Program (Rule of Law) with an anticipated solicitation release date of 2/29/2016. Given the complicated political situation in Ukraine, should we expect a significant delay and/or a revised scope? If so, what is a realistic estimate for a solicitation release date?
USAID Response: The RFTOP for the referenced requirement will be released approximately in the second half of March 2016.

186. **Ukraine:** The Energy Efficiency and Energy Investment procurements, listed in the November forecast, has been removed from the February forecast. Could USAID clarify whether the procurement has been canceled or if it was rolled up into the competitive Energy Markets Project?
USAID Response: The referenced procurements were rolled up into the competitive Ukraine Competitive Energy Markets (U-CEM) Project.

187. **Ukraine:** Could USAID please clarify which IQCs/IDIQs are available or being considered for Ukraine Financial Sector Stability? Would USAID considering releasing a full and open RFP so as to not limit competition?

USAID Response: USAID/Ukraine considers all available options and information in designing projects and activities, including the method of implementation. IQCs/IDIQs are the products of full and open competitive processes, and should not be viewed as limiting competition. They afford USAID/Ukraine streamlined access to a pool of qualified and experienced contractors. The Business Forecast will be updated as soon as the decision regarding IDIQ is finalized.

188. **Ukraine:** Can USAID please provide an update to the description of the Ukraine Through E-Governance Activity?

USAID Response: The scope of the planned e-governance anti-corruption activity remains very similar to the Request for Information (RFI-121-16-000001) issued in November, 2015, with three main components focused on public procurement reform through electronic procurement, increased public sector transparency through open data, and reduced corruption through automation of services. The activity title will be Transparency and Accountability in Public Administration and Services (TAPAS) and the Notice of Funding Opportunity is planned for early March.

189. **Ukraine:** Regarding the "Competitive Energy Markets Project" listed for Ukraine, can USAID share more information about the different areas that this project will focus on? Is it possible that this will be released through an IDIQ? If so, which IDIQ will be used?

USAID Response: The Ukraine Competitive Energy Markets (U-CEM) will enhance Ukraine's energy security, by improving the energy legal and regulatory environment and enhancing the resilience of energy supply. U-CEM will help the Mission achieve broad-based, resilient economic development as a means to sustain Ukrainian democracy.

The scope of work of U-CEM includes the design and implementation of a business enabling framework, institutional capacity building, and performance improvement projects. U-CEM shall address the challenges of electricity rates, energy import dependencies, supply diversifications, degraded energy infrastructure, corruption and low transparency, sector governance, and business enabling environment. U-CEM shall be fully consistent with the Ukraine's Energy Strategy through 2035 and USAID's Ukraine energy sector assistance strategy.

U-CEM is a new activity and the technical services in the scope of work will be acquired through a competitively negotiated, full and open, acquisition process. USAID will hire professional services from a contractor that will ensure that U-CEM provides the appropriate expertise, advice, and interventions to improve Ukraine's energy security.

190. **Ukraine:** Under Ukraine, the Mission Business Forecast contains several important updates and changes. Firstly, the OEG: Agriculture and Rural Development Support Project award has been changed in title, size, and timing, as well as now includes a statement that it will be issued as a Task Order under the STARR IQC. Second, the OEG: Financial Sector Stability and Transformation (FAST) Project award has been changed in size, timing, and mechanism, with the mission now indicating that it will be a Task Order under a TBD IDIQ vehicle. Third, the OEG: Competitive Energy Markets Project award has been changed in

size and timing, and now appears to reflect a consolidation of programming in the energy sector as the prior forecast listed two such projects. Could USAID please clarify or provide as much additional information as possible on the following:

    a. How was the decision reached to utilize the STARR IQC for the Agriculture and Rural Development Support Project?

    b. How was the decision reached to utilize a TBD IDIQ for the Financial Sector Stability and Transformation (FAST) Project, and can any additional information be made available as to which mechanism is being considered? Is the change in timing and size related to the term of an existing IDIQ vehicle and if so, how was that factored into the competitive decision? Was or is any consideration being given to a full-and-open process with tight deadlines or perhaps the use of a broader GSA schedule vehicle that promotes a more rigorous competition of ideas and best value?

    c. Why has the mission opted to expand the size and delay the timing of the Energy Sector project? Will the previously listed Energy Efficiency RFP no longer be procured? Can any information be provided on the potential mechanisms being considered for this program?

USAID Response:

    a. It is not USAID/Ukraine's practice to share its internal deliberations and project and activity planning discussions with potential offerors/applicants. If appropriate, at times we may invite planning input from the contractor and recipient communities through the RFI process in order to better inform our decision-making process.

    b. See previous answer (a).

    c. The Mission's energy portfolio supports the development of a competitive energy market according to EU directives, and addressing Ukraine's energy security challenges. This focus was defined based on several factors – including the mission's CDCS, energy sector problem analysis, USAID comparative advantage in the sector. USAID's current approach is coherent with the immediate priorities - such as energy efficiency - and with other longer-term development needs - such as the integration of Ukraine with the European markets. The new energy sector activity focuses efforts and results on the areas of greatest development and energy security impact, including ongoing efforts to improve energy efficiency indicators and reduce the energy intensity level in the country.

       Activities to lessen external pressure on Ukraine in the short-term include (1) strengthening Ukraine's electric power system to maintain operation while facing fuel supply disruptions; (2) improving the legal and regulatory framework; and (3) strengthening key energy institutions.

       Medium to long-term activities focus on upgrading Ukraine's energy sector to modern standards, and moving Ukraine into European Union energy markets to offer protection from supplier disruptions. Specific activities aim at (1) improving the investment environment for energy supply diversification and energy

efficiency; (2) promoting anti-corruption practices and improving transparency with regulatory accounting; and (3) conducting public information campaigns in coordination with other donors and Ukrainian government agencies to deliver crucial messages on energy conservation and available social safety net assistance.

The program was expanded in size to systematically and meaningfully address the urgent needs in the sector. The current timing of the RFP reflects the appropriate time needed to design and procure the activity.

The previously listed Energy Efficiency RFP will be designed and possibly procured later in October 2017, following the lessons learned from the existing energy interventions, and with a revised strategy for a more comprehensive approach to energy efficiency, including private sector investments, economic growth, rationalization of energy rates, and market efficiency. We do not yet have information on potential mechanisms.

191. **Vietnam:** <u>The Climate Change and Biodiversity Program</u>:
    a. Since the release of the solicitation is imminent, could USAID provide an updated award/action type or an updated solicitation release date?
    b. Is USAID planning on releasing a pre-solicitation, a request for information (RFI), a draft statement of work, or some other correspondence to share information and offer opportunities for input before the release of the solicitation?
    c. Can USAID confirm the Action Type for the program? It is currently listed as 'TBD' but is due to be released in less than a month.

USAID Response: This procurement is still at the planning stage. We do not plan to issue an RFI associated with this opportunity. The current planned solicitation issuing date is March/15/2016. However, there may be further changes to this date. The Mission will update the information accordingly in the next business forecast (Q.3).

192. **West Bank/Gaza:** Is the Global Competencies program that was on the November 30, 2015 forecast and now off the new forecast gone?

USAID Response: Yes, it has been removed from the forecast at this time.

193. **Zambia:** Given the multi-sectoral focus on the Reducing Stunting and Improving Incomes through Integrated Agriculture, Nutrition, Health, Water and Sanitation program, would USAID/Zambia consider the Water and Development IDIQ as a potential procurement mechanism, as the project seems to line up with WADI's dual goals of water for food and water for health?

USAID Response: This planned procurement is still at the activity design stage. Once the activity is approved, the Mission will determine the best mechanisms for this activity. Recently, the Mission is revisiting the integrated strategy and it is not clear whether this will be one integrated activity or multiple activities that are closely coordinated.

194. **Zambia:** The new forecast still indicates that SPLASH2 will come out in Zambia, a follow-on of the WASH in Schools programming that FHI360 was leading. However, we have heard multiple rumors that the activity has been cancelled. So we would also like to confirm if SPLASH 2 in Zambia is still planned to be released as a task order, and which IDQ contract it is intended to be under.
       a. Could USAID provide information on the overlap between the SPLASH 2 Task Order and the Reducing Stunting and Improving Incomes through Integrated Agriculture, Nutrition, Health, Water and Sanitation programs?
       b. Can USAID provide anticipated release date(s)?

USAID Response: SPLASH 2 has been removed from the list of planned procurements. In consequence, there are no plans to continue with that activity.

195. **Zambia:** *Increasing Citizen Demand for Accountable and Transparent Service Delivery in the Health Sector through Enhanced Community-Based Monitoring* -- Is the anticipated release date still 4/1/2016?

USAID Response: No, the updated release date is August 1, 2016.

196. **Zambia:** Is the Zambia Reducing Stunting and Improving Incomes through Integrated Agriculture, Nutrition, Health, Water and Sanitation Activity considered a follow-on to a current FtF project in Zambia?

USAID Response: No, it is not. This is a new activity; however, in recent days the Mission is revisiting the integrated strategy and it is not clear whether this will be one integrated activity or multiple activities that are closely coordinated.

197. **Zambia:** For the "Evaluation for Improved Impact", the award description refers to providing assistance to USAID's health office, IPs, and Government of Zambia stakeholders to improve data systems and utilization. Does USAID anticipate any additional activities, such as a Mission-wide M&E under this 5-year, $10-24.99 million award?

USAID Response: The Evaluate for Improved Impact mechanism is meant to improve data monitoring, quality, utilization, and research for the health office, Ministry of Health, and cooperating stakeholders. It is not meant to be a Mission-wide mechanism.

198. **Zambia:** The Zambia Expanding Ag Opportunities in the Eastern Province program is no longer included on the Mission forecast. Does USAID still anticipate releasing this activity?

USAID Response: The Mission is revising its strategy for this activity. For now, we do not anticipate releasing this activity.

199. **Zambia:** *Sustainable and Effective Education Delivery (SEED 1)*
       a. Can USAID clarify whether this will be an RFP or a RFTOP?
       b. Can USAID provide an update on the anticipated release date (currently listed as 2/19/2016)?

USAID Response: An RFP will be issued. Anticipated release date has been updated to 3/31/2016

200. **Zambia:** *Sustainable and Effective Education Delivery (SEED 2)* -- USAID Questions:
   a. Please confirm that the scope of the Sustainable and Effective Education Delivery (SEED 2) will encompass the following tasks: 1) Assist the Ministry of General Education to institutionalize learners performance assessment and the school, zone, district and provincial levels, and 2) Conduct baselines, midlines, end-line assessments, and impact as well as performance evaluations of education interventions. If these components have changed, please identify the specific changes.
   b. Please confirm the solicitation will be released on 4/29/2016.
   c. Please confirm it is a new opportunity.
   d. Please confirm it is intended to be a 5 year contract.

USAID Response:
   a. The Sustainable and Effective Education Delivery (SEED2) activity encompasses the referenced tasks except the 'impact and performance evaluations of ed interventions.' Everything else remains unchanged. Please note that the activity has been renamed to: Research, Assessments, and Data (READ).
   b. Anticipated Solicitation Release Date has been updated to 6/30/2016
   c. This is a new opportunity
   d. It is intended to be a 5-year contract

201. **Zimbabwe:** Can USAID please indicate which IDIQ it is planning to use for the Good Governance Policy project?
   a. Will it be issued as an IDIQ or as a Task Order under an existing IDIQ, and if so, which one?
   b. Does USAID intend to place any bidding restrictions on Zimbabwe Good Governance or will this be full and open?

USAID Response:
   a. The Mission is planning to issue a Task Order under an existing IDIQ, which is still to be determined.
   b. Considering this will be a Task Order under an existing IDIQ, we will provide for fair opportunity to all the IDIQ holders.