

### Answers to Questions RFA – B.3 RFA.1 Competitiveness

1. We are ready to forgo profit and can also explore the idea of own-source contribution. Are we eligible to submit?

**ANSWER:** No. ECP grant support is only extended to not-for profit firms. Forgoing the fee does not automatically make an organization eligible for a grant.

2. Will there be an orientation session to all interested bidders / grantees?

**ANSWER:** The answers to questions received will be posted to the website. There will not be an orientation session for interested bidders/grantees.

3. Is private sector company eligible to apply for the grant with a condition to forgo profit?

**ANSWER:** Private Egyptian organizations (not-for-profit) are eligible to apply for the grant. Private Egyptian organizations (for-profit) are not eligible even if they forgo profit.

4. I will appreciate all available or possible information concerning your project (ECP) Egypt's Competitiveness Project.

**ANSWER:** The relevant information regarding the Egypt's Competitiveness Project (ECP) is found in Section B. Program Description, of the RFA and on the website: [www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants](http://www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants)

5. Please contact us on the idea of the proposed method and the title of submission

**ANSWER:** Please refer to Section G.2 Full Grant Application for the submission details.

6. we need more information about the grants published in El Ahram last 6th of December

**ANSWER:** The relevant information regarding the Egypt's Competitiveness Project (ECP) is found in Section B. Program Description, of the RFP and on the website: [www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants](http://www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants)

7. just asking about the dead time for application submission, and if I can take the Hard copy next week, it is listed in the website that dead time is Jan, 2010, I guess it an old copy,

**ANSWER:** Please refer to Section G.2 Full Grant Application for the submission details. The deadline for submissions is January, 6, 2011.

8. May I ask if it is applicable to go to the address you've mentioned any other day away from Wednesday or Thursday because I'll be AL MANSOURA 150km north to Cairo. I'll be in Cairo Saturday, Sunday, Monday.

**ANSWER:** Please refer to Section G.2 Full Grant Application for the submission details. The deadline for submissions is January, 6, 2011. Submission may be submitted earlier than the submission due date, however, late submissions will not be accepted

9. we need more Detail upon project and Geographical places of work - and Target

**ANSWER:** The relevant information regarding the Egypt's Competitiveness Project (ECP) is found in Section B. Program Description, of the RFA and on the website: [www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants](http://www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants)

10. we need details concerning what published in "Ahram"

**ANSWER:** The relevant information regarding the Egypt's Competitiveness Project (ECP) is found in Section B. Program Description, of the RFA and on the website: [www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants](http://www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants)

11. Possibility of writing a proposal covering canal zone " Network " Promote partnerships and networking among government and private sector business associations in canal zone or & and other expected project : Activate SMEs Law and its enhancing the SMEs finance in port-said , isiamila , Damietta , and Suez.

**ANSWER:** Please refer to the RFP for the Objective and Scope of Work for the activities we are seeking to accomplish under this grant.

12. we need copy of budget format & Implementation Plan & Program Description

**ANSWER:** The relevant information regarding the Egypt's Competitiveness Project (ECP) is found in Section B. Program Description, of the RFA and on the website: [www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants](http://www.usaideconomic.org.eg/grants).

13. Deadline of providing full proposal to ECP & there are Max Pages or not limited in proposal writing

**ANSWER:** Application submission information is located in Section G.3 of the RFA

14. Could the NGO that will win this grant use part of its funds to contract international experts?

**ANSWER:** . No. Contracting international experts is not an eligible expense under this grant.

15. Can we propose multiple ideas and proposals?

**ANSWER:** Yes

16. Is it possible that a single NGO be granted multiple approvals for different proposals bearing in mind the total grants is below the ceiling (\$1.2 M)?

**ANSWER:** Yes

Will it be possible to calculate the efforts and time devoted by the Association's employees and members for the project as the 20% contribution?

**ANSWER:** Yes, a portion of the staff salaries may be considered a contribution

17. If we mention the name of the subcontractor in our proposal with its experience, will this add up to our evaluation points?

**ANSWER:** These factors will be evaluated as part of your overall technical evaluation. The grant shall not include sub-awards.

18. Should we mention exactly how much will we pay the subcontractor? Or could it be a budgetary figure?

**ANSWER:** Yes, an offeror's cost proposal should contain detailed cost information. The grant shall not include sub-awards.

19. After concluding project, will we keep the licenses or will it transfer to the ECP project?

**ANSWER:** At the end of the activity commodities procured under the grant will be distributed in accordance with a property disposition plan approved by the project.

20. Who will have the ownership of such intangible assets (data and info), will it be public and can be used for other development projects?

**ANSWER** The organization may retain ownership, however, USAID retains a lifelong 'right of access and fair use'.

21. I understand from the following paragraph that you have only one whole grant of \$1.2 million only for one NGO to monitor and promote competitiveness. Or there are other smaller grants for the NGOs implementing actions to improve the competitiveness of the SMEs.  
**Quoted paragraph:** "Chemonics will provide up to \$1.2 million funding to one Egyptian NGO to monitor and promote competitiveness in the Egyptian economy under this RFA. The duration of the activity is expected to be no more than 2.5 -3 years."

**ANSWER:** A single award is contemplated; however, the total number of awards will depend on the quality of the proposals received.

22. Kindly advise if the international organizations (specialized agencies of the UN such as the International Labour Organization/Cairo Office) are eligible to apply or not?

**ANSWER:** . No. Please refer to Section A. Objective of the RFA. This specific grant will be awarded to Egyptian NGOs.

23. Is it possible for several organizations all united together in one organization "Consortium" to apply for this (RFA) ?

**ANSWER:** Yes, as long as there will be no subawards.

24. Is it possible for an organization that seeks profit to apply for this this (RFA)?

**ANSWER:** No. For-Profit organizations are not eligible to receive funds under this grant.

25. Do you mean by "NGO's" an organization that doesn't seek profit only as well as not being governmental or could be non governmental and seeks profit ?

**ANSWER:** NGO refers to 'non-governmental organization', no 'fee' or profit will be recoverable under this grant

26. If I do have some miss understanding to some points mentioned in "OMB Circular A-122 & OMB Circular A-133" and I need to clarify these points , can you help me with that or direct me where to go , since this will be useful for us within this RFA or any next up coming RFA's ?

**ANSWER:** All communications should be directed through the e-mail address listed in the RFA. We are not accepting inquiries by telephone or in person.

27. From today till the date to submit this (RFA) , would be any chance to get any advice or help in case we needed any answers to any questions that might pops up while working on this (RFA) ?

**ANSWER:** All communications should be directed through the e-mail address listed in the RFA. The deadline for submissions is January 6, 2011.

28. We would like to seek clarification as to whether one or multiple awards will be made under this RFA and if for-profit companies are eligible applicants.

**ANSWER:** A single award is contemplated, however, the total number of awards will depend on the quality of the proposals received.

29. The last day is 12 December 2010 the RFA just received this day Can you give 4 hours to fill the RFA and send back to you

**ANSWER:** Please refer to Section G.2 Full Grant Application for the submission details. The deadline for submissions is January, 6, 2011.

30. I want a number of your mobil or deed line for a head office as I want to ask about somethings and i have a problem in regstration.could you help me

**ANSWER:** All communications should be directed through the e-mail address listed in the RFA. We are not accepting inquiries by telephone or in person.

31. I want to know the final date to send my hard copy

**ANSWER:** Please refer to Section G.2 Full Grant Application for the submission details. The deadline for submissions is January, 6, 2011.