

RESPONSES TO RFA QUESTIONS

Question 1: - Can an organisation choose to focus on only one or two thematic areas of the project for example private sector engagement and still access funding?

Response: -The applicant should focus on all the areas. See Section 1-under overview of the request for application which clearly states the community mobilization themes or objectives.

Question 2: Does funding cater for things like rentals and staff salaries working on the project?

Response: -Yes as you prepare the budget this cost should be included. However, this should not be more than 15% of the total grant.

Question 3: Does an organisation need to contribute a certain percentage to be eligible? Or everything will be funded at 100%?

Response: - Page 9 of the RFA states:

A3-Cost Share

Cost sharing is not required. However, a commitment to provide in-kind support to the proposed activities e.g., volunteer/staff time, use of the organisation's equipment and free use of office space will be considered as co-funding and is an indication of commitment to the project.

Question 4: Do you have targeted regions?

Response: - Page 4 of the RFA states the following

USAID Expanding WASH program geographic focus is as follows:

- **Focus on water:** Lunte and Mungwi districts in Northern Province; Kalomo and Kazungula in Southern Province; and Nakonde in Muchinga Province.
- **Focus on sanitation:** Nalolo, Kalabo, Sesheke, Mongu, and Kaoma districts in Western Province; and Chinsali and Mpika in Muchinga Province.

Additionally, the objective is to maintain and expand sustainable WASH services in peri urban, rural growth centers and rural areas.

Question 5: - Is there provision for service delivery as a way to demonstrate and use the same for advocacy?

Response: There is no provision for service delivery under this grant.

Question 6: -Can a joint proposal be accepted?

Response: No. Joint proposal submission will not be accepted

Question 7: Can loose Alliances with community-based structures acceptable.

Response: No proposal submission from loose alliance will be accepted. Alliances of community-based organisations must have a formal memorandum of understanding

Question 8: -Will you provide word proposal template as well as Excel for budget?

Response: -All templates can be download from www.rti.org/rfp

Question 9: - Who are eligible to benefit from this Grant's?

Response: - For entities or organizations that can apply for funding, please refer to SECTION III- ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION of the RFA, the section on "Eligible Organizations/Entities that may Apply". On beneficiaries of the grant activities, please refer to SECTION I –BACKGROUND of the RFA.

Question 10: -We're also requesting for the documents related to the request for application,

Response: - All templates can be downloaded from www.rti.org/rfp Annex A, Annex B, Annex C and Annex D

Question 11: - Is USAID Expanding Water and Sanitation Project going to be operating in ALL the wards of Kazungula and Kalomo or it will be in selected project?

Response: - Activity implementation will be in any of the named districts as outlined in the RFA document

Question 12: -Is the project document going to be shared with us so that when application will be done enough information about the project is available?

Response: - The RFA copy is available and can be downloaded from www.rti.org/rfp

Question 13: -Can a company apply in all the districts or its one per district?

Response: - If the organisation has the capacity to implement the activities in all the 12 districts, they are free to apply

Question 14: -The RFA refers to three objectives for the overall USAID Expanding WASH Project, can you confirm that the focus of interventions for applications is on Objective 2 only?

Response: - The call is specifically for

- Objective **2.1**- improve Citizens' Capacity to Hold WASH service providers, policymakers, and civic leaders accountable for quality service delivery
- Objective 2.1.2- Deploy rigorous and user-friendly local governance tools

Question 15: -Baseline survey: The outcomes of the Expanding WASH project refer to baseline values - "Increased access to safe drinking water by 15% over the baseline" and "Increased access to basic sanitation by 25% over the baseline". Please could we request RTI to share the baseline survey?

Response: - The baseline value for access to basic drinking water is 36% overall (across all the 12 target districts). Baseline value for access to basic sanitation is 9% overall (across all the 12 target districts)

Question 16:

(a) What is - objectives of this project?

Response: - refer to section 1 Background Page 4 and 5 on objectives of the project

(b) Target districts and population size? **Response:** -See below Table.

Projected Mid-year Population, Total (Zambia Statistics Agency)

Year	Chinsali	Mpika	Nakonde	Lunte	Mungwi	Kalomo	Kazungula	Kalabo	Kaoma	Mongu	Nalolo	Sesheke	Total Pop.
2027	210,132	414,727	302,826	97,423	244,841	519,067	213,661	158,391	247,639	215,933	83,163	150,482	2,858,286
Rural Pop.	132,383	261,278	190,780	78,913	198,321	373,728	153,836	139,384	217,922	190,021	73,184	132,424	2,142,175

Rural/Urban Population Ratios		
	Rural	Urban
Western	88%	12%
Muchinga	63%	37%
Southern	72%	28%
Northern	81%	19%

The projected total population for the 12 target districts in the Year 2027 is 2,858,286.

The target beneficiaries covering only the rural and growth areas of the 12 target districts is 2,142,175.

(c) Anticipated Results

Response: - Refer to Page 6 of the RFA under expected outcomes

(d) Project design - project document The RFA provides enough details about the project which will enable organisations prepare the technical and cost proposals.

Response: - RTII will not be able to share the project document as the RFA contains detailed information relating to this call

Question 17: -As CaDev Zambia, we wish to express our interest in submitting a concept for the USAID Expanding water and sanitation grants. We meet all the qualifications except for the fact that we are a social enterprise. We would therefore like to clarify if we can still proceed with our application.

Response: - Please refer to SECTION III- ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION of the RFA, the sub-part on “Eligible Organizations/Entities that may Apply”.

Question 18 (a): -The RFA Specifies two outcomes: “Increased access to safe drinking water by 15% over the baseline” and “Increased access to basic sanitation by 25% over the baseline.” Please confirm there are no infrastructure elements expected from interventions under this RFA?

Response: - There is no infrastructure element on this call for application

Question 18 (b): - For “Objective 2.1.2 - Deploy Rigorous and User-Friendly Local Governance Tools”:

I. Will the applying organization need to deploy tools?

Response: - Yes

II. Or, is it just the campaign? This is unclear.

Response: - The applying organisation will need to deploy the tools as part of the campaign

III. Are there tools that the government is already using?

Response: - No

Question 18 (c): Geographic & technical focus areas: All districts in Western province focus increasing access to basic sanitation, does that mean that the campaign strategy/intervention only focuses on sanitation messaging/community engagement or water and sanitation collectively?

Response: - The campaign should focus on both water and sanitation

Question 18(d): District clarification: In Western province, 5 districts were specified as target districts. Please clarify if this includes Mongu and Nalolo in Western Province.

Response: - Yes

Question 18(e): Where can the Organizational Control Environment Questionnaire (Attachment C) be found?

Response: - This was not mentioned in the RFA neither is it part of the annex on the website

Question 18(f): Where can the logical framework format/template be found as referenced in Area of Assessment 3.1?

Response: - This has been included as Annex D on www.rti.org/rfp

Question 18(g): - Are the past performance references and the anti-terrorism certification included in the 15-page limit in the application form or should these be included as annexes?

Response: - No. Refer to SECTION IV: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION in the RFA

Question 18(h): Referring to Area of Assessment 1.1:

- I. Are we being assessed on the three past performance references in the table in the application form or should we provide more information in an annex on major WASH or health-focused projects implemented by the organization within the last three years? If the latter, how many are required?

Response: - Provide information on maximum of 3 WASH /Health projects your organization has implemented in the last three years.

- II. What evidence of stable and sufficient sources of funding other than the award is RTI looking for? For example, is an annual report and audited financial statement for 2021 for the organization sufficient?

Response: - It is up to the organization to determine what evidence would demonstrate a stable financial background. Audited financial statements are acceptable evidence.

Question 19: -According to this statement "USAID Expanding WASH -Districts Focus The grants under USAID Expanding WASH will support organizations to implement activities in any four districts in the target provinces of Zambia: Kalabo, Kaoma, Mongu Nalolo and Sesheke in Western, Chinsali, Mpika and Nakonde in Muchinga, Kalomo and Kanungula in Southern and Lute, and Mungwi in Northern." Does this mean an organisation awarded the contract, for instance \$150,000 will have to implement this budget in four (4) Districts or each District has got its own budget of up to \$150,000?

Response: - SECTION II- AWARD INFORMATION provides more information on the maximum number of Awards RTII may make.

Question 20: -In Southern Province, there are only two Districts. Does this means each District can apply up to \$150,000 and this can be awarded to different organisations implement the WASH Project in each District?

Response: - In the RFA document on page 8-Estimated Funding level, Grant Ceilings and Geographical coverage, it states: USAID Expanding WASH expects to award a maximum of four (4) Awards. The number of awards and amount of available funding is subject to change and RTII reserves the right to make no awards under this RFA.