

Responses to Questions on the Notice of Funding Opportunity

1. To what extent must organizations provide specific CVs for key personnel in their proposals?

Under “Organizational Capacity and Staffing”, the guidance states that the applicant must submit a CV for the Chief of Party or Country Director but that CVs for other key personnel (e.g., for Monitoring and Evaluation, Finance) are not required as part of the proposal submission. The organizational chart must however include the following key personnel positions: Chief of Party/Country Director, Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, and Finance Director.

2. Is a cost-share arrangement required or recommended?

While cost sharing is not required, it is encouraged to maximize program impacts and make progress towards achieving in-country sustainability. Applicants must identify and explain any cost sharing in the budget narrative. Applicants must document any non-Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) cash or non-cash contributions accordingly on the Standard Form 424 (SF-424) with their proposal submission, as per 7 CFR 1599.4(d) (7). If an award is made, the applicant will be responsible for providing these resources. These resources will not be borne by CCC funding.

3. Are both Food for Education and Food for Progress award solicitations due on January 19th or January 24th 2017? The solicitation synopses differ from the actual solicitation.

The grants.gov synopses of the funding opportunities display both an original closing date and a current closing date. Please follow the current closing date of “Jan 19, 2017.” This date applies to both Food for Education and Food for Progress solicitations.

4. Per FFE solicitation, Part III – Eligibility Criteria on p.9 of the RFA states: “In accordance with the McGovern-Dole Regulations (7 CFR 1599.3), a private voluntary organization, a cooperative, or another organization that is not an intergovernmental organization is eligible to submit an application to become a recipient under McGovern-Dole.” Are UN agencies considered “intergovernmental organizations,” and therefore not eligible to apply under this opportunity?

UN agencies are considered intergovernmental organizations. The solicitation is being amended to be consistent with the statute for the McGovern-Dole program, which allows intergovernmental organizations to participate in McGovern-Dole solicitations.

5. On page three of the notice it says that FAS “anticipates awards ranging from \$20-30 million” (for five year durations), but then says that the “award figures reflect the total amount of the award, while the operating budgets for proposed cooperative agreements should be based on the anticipated monetization proceeds and any administrative funds requested by the recipient.” Hypothetically, if an applicant submitted a budget grand total

of \$25 million comprising \$22.5 million in estimated proceeds and \$2.5 million in administrative costs would this be considered within the \$20–\$30 million range? Or, does the \$20–\$30 range cover only USDA’s costs for (both) purchase of commodities and ocean freight?

The \$20–\$30 million range includes all costs—commodities, ocean freight, and any CCC funds awarded for administrative costs—not just the operating budget.

6. What is the overall cap for administrative costs in the FY 2017 Food for Progress solicitation?

FAS estimates that approximately \$10 million will be available for administrative funds under the Food for Progress awards.