

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS - Part 2

CALL FOR PROPOSAL REF: 22199/2024/01

Integrated Refractive Error and Children's Eye Health Services through a National Approach

10 December 2024

Q.#	Question	Clarification
Q.15	Government offices are typically closed for 2-3 weeks during the Christmas holidays, which may pose challenges for timely coordination. Could the deadline be extended, perhaps to January 31st?	The deadline is extended to January 24, 2025.
Q.16	What does the national approach entail? Does it mean that the project must encompass the entire population of the country (0-19 years old), considering both geographical and age-related aspects?	A national approach entails that project activities must address refractive error services across the lifespan and children's eye health (aged 0-19) with the aim of reaching national scale. Activities should be designed to integrate into government systems so that they can expand over time to reach national scale. It is not expected that activities within the three year agreement reach national scale.
Q.17	On page 4, under "Targeted Impact of the Grant/Funding," it is mentioned that proposed solutions should be locally owned and based on proven models. Could you clarify what "locally owned" entails? Does it refer to the involvement of local technology or local implementation partners?	"Locally owned" is referring to government ownership. It is expected that activities are locally owned and integrated into health, education, and social services and systems.
Q.18	Is there an expectation that proposed program approaches will more comprehensively support activities outlined in the Strategic Guidance under the "Technology" Strategic Approach? Or would these be seen as a lower priority and/or falling beyond the primary scope of the grant?"	It is expected that applicants "submit proposals that leverage specifically the strategic guidance on children's eye health more broadly, and integrate effective and evidence-based models to improve access to RE services for children and adults." It is not expected that every element of the strategic guidance is comprehensively implemented within the three year award.
Q.19	Is there an expectation that proposed program approaches will more comprehensively support activities outlined in the Strategic Guidance under the Strategic Approaches of "Evidence Generation" and "Knowledge Management" (ex. generating evidence via research activities and supporting knowledge management hubs) or would these be seen as a lower priority and/or falling beyond the	It is expected that applicants "submit proposals that leverage specifically the strategic guidance on children's eye health more broadly, and integrate effective and evidence-based models to improve access to RE services for children and adults." It is not expected that every element of the strategic guidance is comprehensively implemented within the three year award.

	primary scope of the grant?"	
Q.20	The Proposal Form contains Section 8 (CV or resume) and Section 9 (Statement of exclusivity and availability). The former says to complete it 'if identified in the CFP Document' - which it is not (only brief description of roles and responsibilities is required) but the latter does not specify - is it required for each of the 1-3 key personnel named to sign Section 9?	CVs are required for all key personnel listed in the proposal. In addition, all key personnel must complete Section 9 (Statement of Exclusivity and Availability) to confirm their commitment and availability for the proposed project.
Q.21	The solicitation states, "At the end of the grant period, an audit is required. The cost for the audit must be included within the financial proposal (budget), and the cost must be covered within the grant." Could UNOPS confirm whether this audit can be incorporated into the organizational audit or if a separate, project-specific audit is required?	Applicants shall include a cost for a project-specific audit in the project budget.
Q.22	Could UNOPS provide guidance on whether there is a standard audit firm required/preferred for the project, or if the applicant may propose an audit firm based on the country of implementation?	Grantees are not limited in their selection of an audit company.
Q.23	Page 2 of the Annex 1- Proposal Form, Section 2: Past Experience asks for details of similar agreements executed in the last 10 years, including ongoing agreements. Could UNOPS clarify whether this information should pertain specifically to the applicant country or to the organization as a whole? Could UNOPS also clarify whether this information should pertain to just the lead applicant or whether we may include programs conducted through joint venture / consortium / association members as well?	Past experience should reflect the organization as a whole. Additionally, applicants are welcome to include details of projects where they were involved as part of a joint venture/consortium.
Q.24	What parties constitute the applicant? Are subgrantees considered 'all parties to the applicant'? Article 1b of Instructions to Applicants says: "The applicant, and all parties constituting the applicant, shall be registered in, or have the nationality of, a country that is included in the CFP Document. The applicant shall be deemed to be registered in a country if it is constituted, incorporated, or registered in such country and operates in conformity with the provisions of the laws of such country. If the applicant is an individual, the applicant shall be deemed to have the nationality of a country if it is a citizen under the laws of such country."	The applicant and all its constituting parties are those directly forming the consortium or lead organization submitting the application. Therefore subgrantees are not considered part of "all parties to the applicant" as defined by the instructions.

Q.25	Can a specific list of countries eligible for this award be provided?	<p>Countries eligible for Overseas Development Assistance (ODA), as listed by the OECD, are specifically targeted, meaning applications from countries outside this designation may not be considered.</p> <p>For the latest classifications and detailed data, you can consult the OECD's data portal here.</p> <p>Please also refer to Q.2 of the Q&A document - Part 1, which was published on 5 December 2024.</p>
Q.26	Does the grant permit the procurement of diagnostic equipment and assistive low vision devices (e.g., magnifiers, lenses, large-scale print books) for children under 7 years of age? Additionally, would the inclusion of training, capacity development, and social and behavior change (SBC) components be acceptable within the proposal?	Please refer to section 1.6. of the CFP.
Q.27	Do the preliminary interventions we are considering - such as school-based vision screenings, procurement of screening equipment, and scaling free eyeglasses for children in vulnerable groups - align with the goals of this Call for Proposals (CFP)?	Please refer to section 1.6. of the CFP.