

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT			1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE OF PAGES 1 5	
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 03	3. EFFECTIVE DATE	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO N/A		5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)	
6. ISSUED BY US Agency for International Development Office of Acquisition and Assistance, RRB 7.09-92 1300 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20523		CODE	7. ADMINISTERED BY (IF OTHER THAN ITEM 6) Same as Item 6		CODE
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (No., Street, County, State, and Zip Code) TO ALL PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. : RFP No.: M-OAA-GH-09-336 (IRS2)	
				9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) 3/18/2009	
CODE:			<input type="checkbox"/>	10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.	
				10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11)	
FACILITY CODE:					
11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS					
<input type="checkbox"/> The above numbered, solicitation is amended as set forth in item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers <input type="checkbox"/> is extended <input type="checkbox"/> is not extended.					
Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended by one of the following methods:					
(a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning _____ copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers, FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.					
12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If Required) N/A					
13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO., AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14					
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify Authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.				
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43,103 (b).				
<input type="checkbox"/>	C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:				
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. OTHER (Specify type of modification and authority)				
E. IMPORTANT: Contractor <input type="checkbox"/> is NOT <input type="checkbox"/> is required to sign this document and return _____ copies to the issuing office.					
14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible. The purpose of this Amendment is to provide answers to additional questions received before the due date for receipt of questions.					
Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.					
15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER			16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER Bruce Baltas, Contracting Officer		
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR (Signature of person authorized to sign)		15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (Signature of Contracting Officer)		16C. DATE SIGNED

41. When considering the RFP and the division of “regions/countries”, would USAID/PMI consider an approach towards dividing countries between unstable epidemic prone areas and countries recovering or prone to crises (conflict, natural disasters), and those that are stable. This would include countries like Kenya with high risk areas for flooding and challenging environments like north eastern province along the Somali border, and Liberia and Angola who are coming out of crises.

Answer: PMI is not ruling out any approaches or looking for any one specific approach to categorizing countries. What we are asking is that Offerors propose and justify their approach to meet the goal of the RFP. If the approach can achieve the stated purpose and accomplish the scope of work as outlined in the RFP and is based on sound IRS implementation guidelines and strategies, then the approach will be considered.

42. Would it be possible to extend the deadline for proposals? With the current deadline for the questions and the given date in which the answers to those questions will be posted, it would be extremely difficult to make changes to the proposals. USAID may receive better quality proposals if they considered extending the deadline.

Answer: USAID has extended the deadline for proposals to May 13th, 2009.

43. Over the past couple of years of IRS1, RTI has gained experience working in almost all of the PMI countries. Wouldn't this experience give RTI an advantage over any potential awardees of the IRS2 IQC?

Answer: In the new award, heavy emphasis has been placed on management capacity, and not necessarily on the strength of existing IRS institutional experience. Offerors must demonstrate experience managing complex public health programs of comparable size and complexity. All Offerors must also have demonstrated that they have on staff or access to staff with experience in IRS. Experience in Africa will be viewed favorably. The website www.pmi.gov has a substantial amount of documentation from the current IRS IQC, including quarterly reports, end of spray round reports, and country work plans.

44. Existing contractor (RTI) obviously has experience with 14 countries. Doesn't this give them an advantage in the RFTOP1? How will USAID level the playing field?

Answer: Please see answer to question # 43 above.

45. The RFTOP 1 ceiling is listed as \$100 to \$125 million. Which is it?

Answer: For acquisition, a specific task order ceiling can not be specified.

46. It is hard to develop a budget when the RFTOP 1 indicates that the estimated cost range is \$100 – \$125 million. Is there more specific guidelines on this that will help prepare more reasonable budget proposals?

Answer: Please see answer to Question #45 above.

47. Will RFTOP 1 be Mission funded or core funded? Will Missions have to buy into TO1 or will they have an option?

Answer: Historically, the IRS IQC has been predominately mission funded with very limited core funds and this pattern is expected for TO1 under IRS 2. . We expect TO1 to be primarily Mission funded with a limited amount of core funding to be provided. Generally, PMI funds are primarily mission funds and focused on implementation of the 4 key malaria interventions, including IRS.

No mission is required to buy into TO1. Historically, the majority of PMI countries have accessed TO1 through field support funding. 12 of the 15 PMI countries have been using TO1 under the current IRS project. Kenya has a separate task order under the IQC1 and Tanzania has a bilateral agreement. Liberia's first spray operations will be underway very soon, the 13th country utilizing TO1. Going forward, Missions have the option of competing their own bilateral, issuing their own mission task order under the IRS2 IQC, or accessing the central task order through field support. We anticipate many Missions who are using TO1 under the current IRS project will use TO1 under the IRS2 project for the first year.

48. Has USAID determined which (if any) countries are (or will be) included in TO1?

Answer: USAID has not determined which Missions will use TO1 at this time. Missions/PMI teams make decisions of which mechanisms to utilize for their PMI activities annually during the PMI Malaria Operational Planning exercise and these plans (MOPs) are made public in the fall (sometime between the October 1 start of the fiscal year and the end of the calendar year). To assist Offerors with cost proposal preparations, Amendment 1 to the RFP has been issued. Please refer to that Amendment 1.

49. Please clarify the period of performance for TO1?

Answer: Five years.

50. Could you please clarify the reference to Fixed Daily Rates (FDR) in a CPFF contract?

Answer: Task Order 1 will be CPFF, therefore there will be no functional labor categories.

51. Will the current Supplemental Environmental Assessments completed under IRS1 still be valid under IRS2?

Answer: SEAs in countries using DDT must be revised every year, while SEAs for countries using other classes of insecticides only need to be revised if new areas are to be targeted for spraying (expansion of the IRS program or change in target area) or if the class of insecticide changes. The Pesticide technical area on the PMI website <http://www.pmi.gov/technical/pest/index.html> has all existing SEAs posted as well as the programmatic environmental assessment that all SEAs fall under, and other related information.

52. Please clarify the rationale for Geographic Code 000 for commodities.

Answer: As was the practice for IRS1, we are planning to put in place a contract waiver for unrestricted commodities to be purchased from Geographic Code 935. A contract waiver has already been approved for services for Geographic Code 935. Offerors should prepare cost estimates with the assumption that commodities will be available from Geographic Code 935 countries.

53. So that USAID may evaluate costs on an equal basis, please clarify what is included in the plug figures for subcontracts, grants, and commodities.

Answer: USAID will remove the plug figures for subcontracts and grants from the RFP. The commodity plug figure includes the estimated costs associated with the purchase of IRS commodities, including insecticides, spray pumps, personal protective equipment, etc. It includes freight/shipping costs, but does not include in-country logistics costs.

54. Please clarify the past performance review requirement. Does that mean 5-10 for each member of the potential consortium?

Answer: For both the IQC and TO1, Offerors should provide up to 5 PPRs for the prime and 1-3 PPRs for each proposed subcontractor or potential consortium member.

55. Should the project offices and key personnel be located in Washington, DC or in a regional office?

Answer: There are no specific requirements for either a Washington, DC office or a regional office. USAID must have access to project staff but this does not mean they have to be located in Washington, DC.

56. May we propose more than three staff people?

Answer: Yes. As specified in the RFP, Offerors must propose three key personnel. Offerors may also propose any additional number of staff.

57. Even if the proposal evaluation emphasizes management capacity, the incumbent will have a comparative advantage when responding to the two case studies.

Answer: This is not unique to any contract. There is a tremendous amount of information from the current project publicly available at www.pmi.gov. There is no requirement that an organization has previously implemented IRS.

58. Isn't institutional experience with IRS required?

Answer: No. Offerors must have experience with implementation of complex public health programs and access to staff with experience in IRS, but need not have institutional experience with IRS. .

59. The Tanzania Malaria Operating Plan was the only MOP to include larviciding. Do you think that support for this intervention will increase?

Answer: Not in the near future. Right now the very specific support for larviciding under PMI is all operational research in nature and is outside the scope of IRS2.

60. Do you have any guidance on insecticide rotation?

Answer: The PMI does not decide alone which insecticide to use in any given country; there is a very specific process that is followed for insecticide selection with representatives from the national malaria control program, the PMI in-country team, etc. involved in the review of data and in the evidence-based decision making process for selection of the class of insecticide to be used annually in spraying. This process takes into account the transmission season and vectors as well as any resistance data that is available at country level. The country SEAs are specific to the class of insecticide to be used for IRS in a given country.

61. President Obama was quoted during his campaign as wanting to eradicate malaria. Is the PMI altering its strategy in light of this goal?

Answer: The PMI's goals remain focused on the reduction of mortality by 50% in PMI countries and reach 85% coverage of the key malaria control interventions among vulnerable groups (children under five and pregnant women).