

USDOL Responses to Technical Questions

November 18, 2010

Responses to Egypt SGA 10-09

1. **Q:** In the development of the Overall budget, should we identify the separate grantee(s) budget?

A: Subgrantees' budgets must be reflected in the overall budget on a "Subgrants" budget line. There is no need to submit a separate budget for individual subgrantees.

2. **Q:** Are sub-grantee(s) subject to auditing?

A: Yes. Page 13 of the SGA states that: "Applicants' (including subgrantees and subcontractors, if applicable) most recent audit reports must be submitted in Annex G of the Technical Proposal." Additionally, section H.5. states that "Subgrants and subcontracts are subject to audit, in accordance with the requirements of 29 CFR95.26(d)". For more information on audit requirements, please see page 26 of the SGA.

3. **Q:** How can we check that our DUNS number is still valid

A:

- Please visit the following link and input your DUNS number:
<https://www.bpn.gov/CCRSearch/Search.aspx>
- Other helpful information can be found at: <http://www.ccr.gov> and section E.1 (page 17) of the SGA.

4. **Q:** Please confirm whether subgranting is allowable for the current SGA.

A: Subgranting is allowable. Subgrantees are subject to the rules outlined in section D (page 16).

5. **Q:** Where can I find rules of subgranting?

A: Subgrantees are subject to the rules outlined in section D (page 16). All subgrantees are bound by the rules included in section D (page 16). As stated on page 29 of the SGA, "...Subgrants and subcontracts are subject to audit, in accordance with the requirements of 29 CFR 95.26(d)."

6. **Q:** Can part of the proposed project budget be used to support micro-credit and income generating activities/projects? Is it currently allowable?

A: Yes. As noted on page 1 of SGA 10-09, microcredit and income generating activities are allowable.

7. **Q:** SGA Application Evaluation Criteria (Section IV A) state: “The criteria outlined below will be used to evaluate applications submitted in response to this solicitation on the basis of 100 points, with up to a possible 5 extra points.”

A: Please note that an amendment to the SGA clarifying that no extra points will be awarded has been published on [Grants.gov](http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/grants/main.htm) and the USDOL website (<http://www.dol.gov/ILAB/grants/main.htm>).

8. SGA Technical Proposal Requirements (Section III. C.) state:
“Applicants must coordinate with and seek to complement or build upon existing USDOL-funded child labor activities, including data collection efforts conducted through an ILO SIMPOC survey and support the current World Food Program (WFP) child labor elimination project to enhance the standard of living of targeted families by linking them to appropriate income-generating and microfinance activities.

Applicants must seek to continue to connect the poorest families with available pension benefits and services from governmental and nongovernmental sources in their communities, enhance appropriate apprenticeship opportunities, and support other recommendations highlighted in those projects’ evaluations.”

- a) **Q:** Since Applicants are required to coordinate with the existing WFP project, are the WFP and its partners (ILO and UNICEF) eligible to bid on this project? If they are, and given the competitive nature of the procurement, what incentive do they have to coordinate with other Applicants during the design phase?

A: As stated in section III.D. of the SGA, eligible Applicants include: “[a]ny commercial, international, educational, or non-profit organization(s), including any faith-based, community-based, or public international organization(s) capable of successfully withdrawing and preventing children from exploitative child labor and developing and implementing educational and livelihoods programs to serve them is eligible to apply.” Any organization that meets these requirements is eligible to apply. USDOL encourages its grantee organizations to coordinate and collaborate with other organizations in order to avoid duplication of efforts and to enhance the impact of efforts to combat exploitative child labor. Applicants are similarly encouraged to develop and demonstrate a strong knowledge of ongoing efforts, coordinate where possible to enhance impact and take other steps necessary to build upon previous or ongoing efforts and to avoid duplication of efforts in target countries.

- b) **Q:** Is June 2011 the end date for the USDOL-funded project implemented by WFP? Will there be a Phase 2 of this project? What are USDOL’s expectations for collaboration between the existing WFP child labor project and the *Combating Exploitative Child Labor by Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods and Educational Opportunities for Children in Egypt* Project?

A: The project being implemented by WFP is scheduled to end in June 2011. Project summaries for the two current child labor activities in Egypt are available at: <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/map/countries/egypt.htm>. As noted previously, Applicants are encouraged to develop a strong knowledge of ongoing efforts, coordinate where possible to enhance impact and take other steps necessary to

build upon previous or ongoing efforts and to avoid duplication of efforts in target countries.

- c) **Q:** Is USDOL's intention that the successful Applicant will provide services to the families/ households of the direct beneficiaries of the WFP's existing USDOL-funded child labor elimination project? Can there be overlap of direct beneficiaries between the existing WFP USDOL-funded child labor elimination project and the new project to be awarded?

A: USDOL is not requiring Applicants to provide services to the families/households of the direct beneficiaries of the existing USDOL-funded, WFP-implemented, child labor elimination project in Egypt. Applicants may propose to provide additional assistance to children and their families who were direct beneficiaries of the existing WFP, USDOL-funded Project. As stated on page 32 of the SGA, "Applicants will be evaluated on the overall quality, effectiveness, relevance, and clarity of their proposed project design and strategy..."

- d) **Q:** On October 7, 2010, the WFP issued a RFP to local organizations in Egypt to implement "Research on Child Labor in the Agricultural Sector in Egypt: Economic, Culture, Political and Legal Aspects". The RFP states that "...the WFP, ILO and UNICEF *shall* implement the Project "Combating Exploitive Child Labor Through Education in Egypt". The funding for this project was provided by the USDOL." This RFP has caused some confusion among local partners about whether the WFP is referring to its existing program or if it has already received approval for the upcoming *Combating Exploitative Child Labor by Promoting Sustainable Livelihoods and Educational Opportunities for Children in Egypt*. This confusion may prejudice some local organizations not to partner with other Applicants. If the WFP is eligible to apply for this project, will USDOL confirm this project has not already been awarded to the WFP and its partners (ILO and UNICEF) and that this SGA process is a full and open competition? Furthermore, if the WFP is an Applicant in this competitive process, can USDOL be of assistance in clarifying this status to WFP and to those organizations in receipt of the attached WFP RFP?

A: In 2010, USDOL has issued only one Solicitation for Grant Agreement Applications for Egypt (SGA 10-09), which will remain open for submission of applications until November 22nd and for which a cooperative agreement(s) will be awarded no later than December 31, 2010. All Applicants that meet the eligibility criteria outlined in section III.D. may apply. All responsive applications submitted by the deadline of November 22, 2010 will be considered. The WFP's RFP does not pertain to SGA 10-09.

9. **Q:** The Performance Monitoring section (section III, A. 5. d.) of the SGA states: Applicants must propose an effective strategy for monitoring direct beneficiaries (both children and households) at regular intervals and for specified periods of time (throughout the period of service provision and/or until the end of the project). Please clarify if target households receiving livelihood interventions will be considered direct or indirect beneficiaries?

A: Target households receiving livelihood services may be counted as either direct or indirect beneficiaries depending on the type of services they will receive. As

stated on page 9-10, “When designing the project strategy, Applicants must identify the specific needs of direct beneficiaries, namely, children and members of their households...” Please note the number and criteria for determining direct and indirect beneficiaries will be refined following award and completion of the baseline survey. This will be done in consultation with the USDOL external contractor, as noted in the SGA.

10. **Q:** Section H 5. of the SGA states that sub-grants and subcontracts are allowable. Does this include third-tier sub-agreements?

A: Subgranting is allowable and this could include third-tier subagreements. Please note that subgrantees are subject to the rules outlined in section D (page 16). All subgrantees are bound by the rules included in section D (page 16). As stated on page 29 of the SGA, “...Subgrants and subcontracts are subject to audit, in accordance with the requirements of 29 CFR 95.26(d).”