



Issue Date: November 21, 2019

Deadline for Addendum #1 Questions: December 06, 2019

Closing Date: January 17, 2020

Closing Time: 23:59 EST

Subject: **ADDENDUM #1 (No. 7200AA20RFA00002)** to the Agricultural Biotechnology for Global Food Security Annual Program Statement (APS)

Title: **Global Feed the Future Agricultural Biotechnology Program**

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 98.001

Dear Applicants:

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is seeking applications from qualified entities to implement the Global Feed the Future Agricultural Biotechnology program described in this Addendum (#1) to the Agricultural Biotechnology for Global Food Security Annual Program Statement (APS). Eligibility for awards is not restricted.

Eligible parties interested in applying for this funding opportunity are encouraged to read this Addendum thoroughly, as well as its overarching APS, in order to understand the type of program sought, the application submission requirements, and the award selection process. USAID intends to issue multiple awards to the applicant(s) who best meet the objectives of the program, based on the merit review criteria described in this Addendum. Prospective awardees are also subject to a risk assessment.

To be eligible for award, the applicant must provide all information as required and meet eligibility standards in Section C of this Addendum. This funding opportunity is posted on www.grants.gov, and may be amended. It is the responsibility of the applicant to regularly check the website to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to this notice of funding opportunity and to ensure that the relevant Addendum information has been received from the internet in its entirety. USAID bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion process. If you have difficulty registering on www.grants.gov or accessing the APS or Addendum, please contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-4726 or via email at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

USAID may not award to an applicant unless the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and System for Award Management (SAM) requirements detailed in Section D.V.f. of the overarching APS. The registration process may take many weeks to complete. Therefore, applicants are encouraged to begin registration early in the process.

Please send any questions to the point(s) of contact identified in Section D. The deadline for questions is shown above. Responses to questions received prior to the deadline will be furnished to all potential applicants through an amendment to this notice posted to www.grants.gov.

Issuance of this funded Addendum to the Agricultural Biotechnology for Global Food Security Annual Program Statement does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government nor does it commit the Government to pay for any costs incurred in preparation or submission of comments/suggestions or an application. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

Thank you for your interest in USAID programs.

Sincerely,
Paul Burford
Agreement Officer

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SECTION A: BACKGROUND AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

This Addendum is authorized under the Foreign Assistance Act (FAA) of 1961, as amended. Any resulting awards from Addenda will be subject to 2 CFR 200 – Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, and USAID’s supplement, 2 CFR 700, as well as the additional requirements found in Section F.

1. Purpose of this Addendum

This Addendum (#1) to the Feed the Future Agricultural Biotechnology for Food Security Annual Program Statement (“Agricultural Biotechnology APS”) describes a funding opportunity and associated co-creation process supported by the USAID Bureau for Food Security, Office of Agriculture Research and Policy (USAID/BFS/ARP).

The purpose of this Addendum is to allow USAID/BFS/ARP to develop and implement a global program of agricultural biotechnology activities consistent with the purpose and objectives described in the overarching Agricultural Biotechnology APS, as well as the geographic and technical scope indicated in this Addendum. To accomplish this, the Addendum establishes a co-creation process whereby USAID seeks extensive communication with prospective partners in order to jointly explore and define key challenges and problems, identify new and existing solutions, build consensus around areas for action, and/or refine plans to move forward with programs, projects, and activities pertaining to agricultural biotechnology.

In particular, the co-creation process described under this Addendum provides an entry point for prospective new awardees to seek USAID support, as well as for current and past awardees to compete for continued support for ongoing activities.

2: Background and Context

Please refer to the overarching Agricultural Biotechnology APS (Section A) for details. No further background information is provided in this Addendum.

3: Program Description

a. Technical scope

Activities developed under this Addendum (#1) will conform to the Purpose, Theory of Change and Program Objectives described in the overarching Agricultural Biotechnology APS (*see APS Sections A.II.a.- A.II.c*).

As stated in the APS, although USAID/BFS/ARP intends for the *cumulative* portfolio of activities procured under this Addendum to address all technical program objectives, it does not expect every award to emphasize all objectives to an equal extent; individual awards may

contribute to one or more program objectives or key program elements, as relevant to the proposed approach.

b. Geographic scope

BFS/ARP's global biotechnology program aims to advance food security objectives according to the country and regional priorities outlined in the GFSS.¹ The bulk of resources, effort, and impact of activities developed under this Addendum should therefore accrue to countries and regions consistent with GFSS priorities. However, where appropriate, USAID programming may strategically engage additional countries or regions beyond those identified as GFSS target or aligned countries, in order to access relevant resources and expertise that help address country-level constraints and/or catalyze broader regional and global food security impacts.

Consistent with a program of global scope, approaches and activities that engage multiple countries or regions, or that have a clear pathway to achieve widespread impact at a multi-country scale, will be viewed favorably under this Addendum.

As stated in the overarching Agricultural Biotechnology APS, consistent with USAID's strategic emphasis on local ownership of food security priorities, partner-country demand is a crucial element of the geographic scope of USAID's Agricultural Biotechnology for Food Security program. Activities may only be conducted in partner countries interested in accessing agricultural biotechnology; all activities must comply with applicable local biosafety laws and regulations; and relevant local partners should play an active role in any activity or approach proposed for USAID investment.

Implementation of proposed activities in a given country is ultimately contingent on concurrence from the relevant USAID Mission. (However, note that prospective applicants should not approach Missions directly; USAID/BFS/ARP will facilitate engagement with other B/M/IOs as part of the co-creation process.)

c. Focal crop and livestock commodities

As part of its strategic leadership of the broader GFSS food security research and innovation agenda, USAID/BFS/ARP has identified a subset of crop and livestock commodities for prioritized investment and programming across all of its global research activities. This is intended to focus and concentrate limited resources on commodities with the greatest potential to impact target beneficiaries under the GFSS, as well as to enhance strategic alignment with country-led priorities and other development donors. Commodities were selected based on:

¹ See <https://www.feedthefuture.gov/about/> for a list of GFSS target countries, and links to further country-specific information.

- Prioritization studies conducted by IFPRI and USDA-ERS showing the potential for impact to future regional trade and farm income among various crops if yield increases were accelerated year after year through 2030;²
- Findings from USAID’s previous investments in crop research and their program evaluations (which included recommendations for future research priorities); and
- USAID’s interest in advancing crops and livestock of local importance to the communities, countries, and regions targeted by Feed the Future, as evidenced by their selection as focal value chains under GFSS Country and Regional Strategies.

Based on the above considerations, commodities that will receive prioritized consideration for BFS/ARP funding, including under this Addendum to the Agricultural Biotechnology APS, include:

Cereals (**maize, rice, wheat, sorghum, millet**)

Legumes (**common bean, cowpea, peanut/groundnut, soya**)

Roots, tubers, and bananas (**potato, cassava, banana**)

Horticulture crops (*emphasis on horticultural species of broad global or regional relevance to smallholders*)

Livestock (**poultry, cattle, small ruminants, fish, dairy**)

By aligning agricultural biotechnology investments around these prioritized commodities in GFSS target and aligned countries, USAID/BFS/ARP aims to leverage complementary USAID, donor, and partner-country investments already focused on the relevant input systems, value chains, and underlying innovation and market systems—thereby maximizing the impact of any global agricultural biotechnology awards USAID/BFS/ARP issues under this APS.

Where an exceptionally strong development or strategic rationale exists, USAID may choose to consider activities involving commodities or production systems other than those specified above. However, the majority of resources under this APS are expected to focus on the above commodities.

SECTION B: FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

By way of this Addendum, USAID seeks to develop and make multiple awards for activities within the scope of USAID’s Agricultural Biotechnology program. This Addendum is a source of funding via the related APS and is/will be posted on www.grants.gov.

² Data not publicly available. These studies highlighted the importance of the crops prioritized for USAID global research investment. Results are discussed here: https://www.cgiar.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/SC7-B_Breeding-Initiative-1.pdf

1. Estimate of Funds Available and Number of Awards Contemplated

The precise number, scope, award amount, and assistance mechanism of any potential awards will be determined through the co-creation process detailed in this Addendum, and will depend on a number of factors—primarily availability of funding and the scope of proposed activities. Depending on the proposed activities, the level of interest from other B/M/IOs, and availability of funds, awards issued under this Addendum may also have the potential to receive additional funds from other USAID or U.S. Government units, through buy-ins or Associate Awards to the lead BFS award.

USAID/BFS/ARP anticipates supporting multiple awards under this Addendum, with a tentative combined value of up to \$70-100 million over an award period of up to five years. This figure includes:

- An estimated \$50-60 million in USAID/BFS/ARP funding
- Depending on the level of interest from other USAID B/M/IOs, an estimated \$40-50 million in additional USAID funds through supplemental buy-ins (Note that prospective applicants should not approach Missions directly. USAID/BFS/ARP will facilitate engagement with other B/M/IOs as part of the co-creation process.)

As a purely illustrative example, over a five-year period, BFS/ARP might aim to fund between five and 11 activities to meet the objectives of the Agricultural Biotechnology for Food Security Program:

- a. *Technical Objective 1: Biotechnology Product Development*
 - 3-5 awards of ~\$0.5-10 million each, for research proof-of-concept and product development activities, or for USAID contributions to larger multi-donor projects.
 - 1-3 awards of ~\$10-20 million each, for multi-country activities at the advanced product development, regulatory, or scaling/dissemination phases.
- b. *Technical Objective 2: Biotechnology Enabling Environment*
 - 1-3 awards of ~\$1-20 million each, for activities that address the agricultural biotechnology enabling environment.

All awards are contingent upon availability of funds.

2. Start Date and Period of Performance for Federal Awards

The estimated start date is undetermined, as awards can be made on a rolling basis under this Addendum. Award periods will be determined based on the proposed activities, but are not expected to exceed five years.

3. Substantial Involvement

Any awards issued under this Addendum could consist of all or a combination of the following elements of Substantial Involvement:

- a. Approval of the Recipient's Implementation Plans
- b. Approval of Specified Key Personnel
- c. Agency and Recipient Collaboration or Joint Participation
- d. Agency Authority to Immediately Halt a Construction Activity

4. Authorized Geographic Code

The geographic code for the procurement of commodities and services under this program is Code 937 (the United States, the recipient country, and developing countries other than advanced developing countries, but excluding any country that is a prohibited source).

5. Nature of the Relationship between USAID and the Recipient

The principal purpose of the relationship with the Recipient and under the subject program is to transfer funds to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation of the Agricultural Biotechnology for Global Food Security Addendum which is authorized by Federal statute. The successful Recipient will be responsible for ensuring the achievement of the program objectives and the efficient and effective administration of the award through the application of sound management practices. The Recipient will assume responsibility for administering Federal funds in a manner consistent with underlying agreements, program objectives, and the terms and conditions of the Federal award.

SECTION C: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. Eligible Applicants

All types of organizations, including public, private, for-profit, or nonprofit organizations; public international organizations; non-governmental organizations; U.S. and non-U.S. governmental organizations; or multilateral or international donor organizations are eligible to submit Concept Notes in response to this Addendum. To lead the final award, all organizations must be determined to be responsive to this Addendum to which the Concept Note is being submitted and it must come from organizations that can be determined sufficiently responsible.

Eligibility to respond to this Addendum is not restricted.

USAID welcomes applications from organizations that have not previously received financial assistance from USAID.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching

See overarching APS for considerations regarding cost-share and leverage.

3. Other

New USAID partners are encouraged to participate in co-creation process under this Addendum. Prior to making an award under this competition, USAID may perform a pre-award survey for organizations that are new to working with USAID (“NUPAS”) or for organizations with outstanding audit findings. Accounting systems, audit issues and management capability questions may be reviewed as part of this process. If notified by USAID that a pre-award survey is necessary, applicants must prepare in advance the required information and documents. A pre-award survey does not commit USAID to make an award to any organization.

The recommendation or selection of an Application for award does not in any way guarantee the award. In accordance with the principles established by USAID and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) (see 2 CFR 200.205), the AO must evaluate the risks posed by applicants and make an affirmative determination that the Applicant is “responsible,” as discussed in ADS 303.3.9, before making an award.

SECTION D: APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

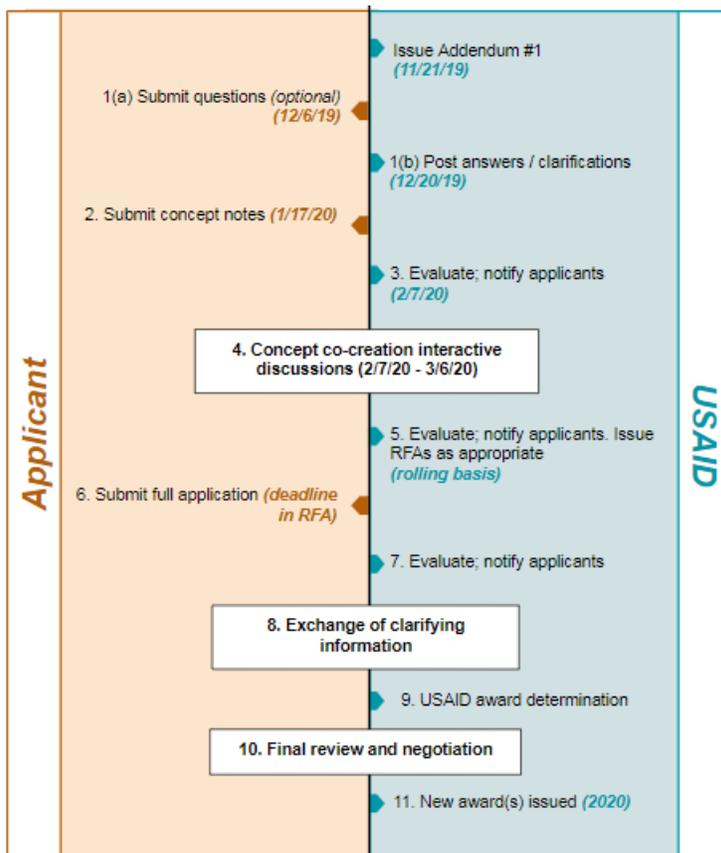


Figure 1. Co-creation and award process under Addendum #1 (numbered according to the corresponding section below).

1. Exchange of Written Questions and Answers

If prospective Respondents or Applicants have questions regarding the contents of this Addendum or relevant portions of the overarching Agricultural Biotechnology APS, they must submit them in writing to biotechaps@usaid.gov no later than **23:59 EST, Monday, December 6, 2019.**

Questions regarding this Addendum should be submitted by email to the email contact listed above. Any information given to a prospective applicant concerning this Addendum or subsequent Addenda will be furnished promptly to all other prospective applicants if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective applicant. All questions submitted should explicitly state whether it is in response to the APS or an Addendum. If a question is in regards to a specific Addendum, the title of that Addendum should be listed in the subject line.

USAID will respond in writing by **23:59 EST, Wednesday, December 20, 2019** by posting answers and relevant clarifying information on grants.gov

2. Concept Note Submission

Interested applicants may submit one or more Concept Notes (CNs). In addition to conforming to the general requirements specified in the overarching APS, Applicants must conform to the following submission guidelines:

- a. Applicants must submit CNs using the prescribed Concept Note Template document ([Annex 1](#)). Both sections of the template must be completed, including:
 - Cover Page (1 page limit)
 - Technical Concept Narrative (3-5 page limit)Detailed instructions for each section are included in the CN Template
- b. The completed CN must conform to the template format of 8.5' x 11" page size, 11pt font or larger, and 1" margins.
- c. The submitted CN file name should be formatted as follows:
 - BiotechAPS1_CN_[Institution]_[Last Name of CN Primary POC]
- d. The concept note must be submitted via e-mail as a PDF or Word attachment, addressed to biotechaps@usaid.gov with the e-mail subject heading "Ag-Biotech APS, Addendum 1: *Concept Note Submission*".
- e. The complete Concept Note must be submitted by the deadline of **23:59 EST, Friday, January 17, 2020.**

3. Concept Note Review and Selection (Round 1)

The USAID selection panel will review the submitted Concept Notes according to the criteria described below under "Evaluation Criteria for Concept Notes" (*see Section E.1*).

USAID's initial review of Concept Notes may result in four potential outcomes:

- a. USAID decides to forego further consideration of the approach proposed in the Concept Note. **Note:** Due to the large number of Concept Notes anticipated, USAID may not provide detailed justification for a negative determination at this stage of the process.
- b. USAID provides the Applicant an opportunity to submit a revised Concept Note (*though only in rare cases*).
- c. USAID invites the Respondent to participate in a co-creation process under a different Addendum of this Agricultural Biotechnology APS.

- d. USAID invites the Applicant to engage in more in-depth and specific co-creation discussions aimed at further developing the proposed approach and determining whether to request a full application.

USAID will respond by e-mail by **23:59 EST, Monday, February 2, 2020**, to notify those who submitted CNs of the review outcome.

If USAID identifies opportunities to strengthen or fund a Concept Note by connecting with other USAID mechanisms, other potential funders, and/or external partners, USAID may make the Concept Note available internally or externally for appropriate consideration, with the consent of the applicant and partners.

A decision to engage in more in-depth and specific co-creation discussions is NOT a commitment to funding, nor is it a commitment that USAID will request a Full Application.

4. Concept Co-Creation Interactive Discussions

If an Applicant is invited to engage in further concept co-creation, USAID will schedule one or more interactive discussions, such as a teleconference or online videoconference. The purpose of these discussions is to collaboratively discuss potential partnerships and approaches; explore and refine initial concepts; exchange questions, answers, and clarifying information; and ultimately, to inform USAID's decision whether or not to engage in further co-creation.

Details regarding the format and agenda of interactive discussions will be provided upon scheduling. USAID will only request a meeting with an Applicant if/when the selection panel determines a meeting is appropriate; applicants should not contact USAID to schedule a meeting unless requested.

5. Concept Note Review and Selection (Round 2)

Based on information and feedback gained during interactive co-creation discussions with Applicants, the USAID selection panel will revisit their initial evaluation of relevant CNs according to the "Evaluation Criteria for Concept Notes" described below (*see Section E.1*), and adjust their assessment as appropriate.

Based on the Selection Panel's evaluation of CNs after interactive discussions, USAID may pursue four potential outcomes:

- a. USAID foregoes further consideration of the approach proposed in the Concept Note.
- b. USAID provides the Applicant an opportunity to submit a revised Concept Note (*though only in rare cases*).

- c. USAID invites the Respondent to participate in a co-creation process under a different Addendum of this Agricultural Biotechnology APS.
- d. USAID issues a Request for Application (RFA), inviting the applicant to submit a Full Application.

Applicants will be notified as early as practicable, on a rolling basis, whether USAID wishes to engage in further co-creation of a submitted Concept. *There is no guarantee that participation in the concept co-creation phase will lead to an award from USAID.* This is a collaborative process and the outcome may be that all, some, or none of the participants will be asked to submit a Full Application.

6. Full Applications

If the Selection Panel decides a Full Application is warranted, the Agreement Officer will issue a Request for Application (RFA) to the Applicant. The RFA will include Full Application instructions and/or templates, which are expected to vary based on activity objectives.

USAID may issue one or more RFAs on a rolling basis, depending on the pace of co-creation discussions, the quality of submitted concepts, and availability of funding. There is no set deadline for USAID issuance of an RFA, though RFAs are generally expected to be issued within one year of publication of this Addendum.

7. Review and Selection of Full Application

Upon receipt, Full Applications will be reviewed by an appropriate USAID selection panel according to the criteria described below under “Evaluation Criteria for Full Applications” (Section E.2) and the specific guidelines described in the RFA. Consistent with the co-creation focus of this Addendum, USAID will continue to have robust communication with the Applicant regarding the technical substance of the evolving approach, as well as the identity and roles of proposed or additional partners, during preparation of a Full Application.

In some cases, USAID may request Applicants to present their full Application to the selection panel via teleconference or videoconference, or to travel to USAID (if local/within 50 miles of the awarding M/B/IO). The decision panel will only request a presentation or meeting with an Applicant if/when the panel determines a meeting is appropriate; applicants should not contact USAID to schedule a presentation.

If USAID identifies opportunities to strengthen or fund a Full Application by connecting with other USAID mechanisms, other potential funders, and/or external partners, USAID may make the Full Application available internally or externally for appropriate consideration, with the consent of the applicant and partners.

USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the Full Applications submitted. USAID will not fund Applications that, in its view, will result in the use of U.S. taxpayer funding in a duplicative or redundant manner. This includes activities determined to not be in the best interest of the United States Government.

8. Exchange of Additional Information

Consistent with the co-creation objectives of this Agricultural Biotechnology APS, the selection panel may suggest revisions and additions to the proposed activity, as well as potential partners and resources. The selection panel may also seek additional information regarding the technical approach, the capacity of the applicant and partners, management and organization, past performance, budget, representations, certifications, or other information required to inform USAID's statutory analytical requirements pertaining to environmental, gender, youth or other impacts of the proposed activity.

9. Award Determination by Agreement Officer

If the Selection Panel recommends an Application for funding, its review will be shared with the USAID/BFS Agreement Officer (AO) for award instrument negotiation and finalization. Depending on the nature of the lead partner and the activities to be conducted under the award, agreements and/or awards may take the form of grants, fixed obligation grants, cooperative agreements, leader with associate awards, collaboration agreements, or other appropriate assistance mechanisms.

10. Final Review and Negotiation

The AO will engage in final review, negotiation, and determinations of assistance award instrument type, responsibility, and cost realism, and will craft an assistance award instrument with the Apparently Successful Applicant. Organizations are encouraged to consider providing reasonable cost sharing, leverage, or other exchange of resource arrangements, and are encouraged to suggest creative approaches to resourcing projects.

Information regarding award clauses and provisions will be offered to the Apparently Successful Applicant when the award instrument is drafted. Standard clauses or provisions for awards are generally prescribed by law and regulation.

If the Apparently Successful Applicant and USAID cannot arrive at a mutually agreeable arrangement, the AO will cancel the activity at no cost to the U.S. Government.

11. Award Issuance and Implementation

The USAID AO will award the instrument, and the Awardee will begin implementation, in collaboration with the USAID M/B/IO, according to the terms and scope of the award instrument. If a Full Application progresses to award, the AO will appoint an Agreement

Officer's Representative (AOR) at that time to provide technical and administrative oversight of the specific award.

SECTION E: APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria for Concept Notes

CNs must comply with the basic submission criteria described in the overarching APS (*see Section D.III. of APS No.7200AA20APS0003, as well as Section D.2 of this Addendum*) in order to be considered by the USAID Selection Panel. The panel will rate each successfully submitted CN against the following three evaluation factors:

Factor 1. Strategic Alignment with USAID Priorities. The proposed concept is consistent with the geographic and technical scope of this Addendum. It contributes significantly to Agency priorities and approaches outlined in the overarching APS, this Addendum, and cited reference materials. The concept mobilizes complementary resources that increase the impact, reach, efficiency, or effectiveness of USAID's development assistance investments—including significant ideas, technologies, or partners; leveraged or cost-shared resources; or noteworthy synergies with other programs, projects, or initiatives. The concept represents a distinctive contribution to global agricultural biotechnology efforts.

Factor 2. Potential to Achieve Development Impact. The proposed concept clearly identifies and convincingly addresses one or more Technical Objectives (and relevant Key Elements) described in the overarching Agricultural Biotechnology APS. The proposed concept is designed to generate outputs, outcomes and impacts that are clear, measurable, achievable, and sustainable. The concept demonstrates an evidence-based plan and partner capacity for ensuring gender and youth integration in programming and fostering female and youth empowerment within the context of the proposed concept.

Factor 3. Structure and Design. The proposed concept clearly describes the project organizational structure, including proposed partners, roles, and responsibilities. Proposed project leaders and partner organizations possess outstanding knowledge, skills, experience, and capacity relevant to the proposed activity. The concept presents a convincing approach for efficient, effective, adaptive management of the proposed activity to deliver the stated results, in a manner that streamlines USAID award management burden relative to proposed activities. The concept embraces knowledge-driven approaches to monitoring, evaluation, learning, knowledge management, and stakeholder communications.

2. Evaluation Criteria for Full Applications

Evaluation criteria for full applications will be provided upon issuance of a Request for Application. The criteria will build upon the three general evaluation factors used for Concept Notes (Strategic Alignment with USAID Priorities, Potential to Achieve Development Impact, and Structure and Design), but will provide further details to reflect activity-specific priorities and considerations that emerge during concept co-creation discussions.

USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted. The Agreement Officer is the only individual who may legally commit the Government to the expenditure of public funds. Any award and subsequent incremental funding will be subject to the availability of funds and continued relevance to Agency programming.

SECTION F: FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Federal Award Notices

Award of the agreement contemplated by this Addendum cannot be made until funds have been appropriated, allocated and committed through internal USAID procedures. While USAID anticipates that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for the award.

2. Administrative & National Policy Requirements

The resulting award from this Addendum will be administered in accordance with the following policies and regulations.

For US organizations: [ADS 303](#), [2 CFR 700](#), [2 CFR 200](#), and [Standard Provisions for U.S. Non-governmental organizations](#).

For Non US organizations: [Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Non-governmental Organizations](#).

Please refer to the overarching Agricultural Biotechnology APS (Annex 2) for list of the Standard Provisions that will be applicable to any awards resulting from this Addendum.

3. Reporting Requirements

Reporting requirements shall be in keeping with 2 CFR 200 and 2 CFR 700. Refer to Section E of the APS for reporting requirements.

4. Program Income

Refer to the APS for guidance and information regarding Program Income.

5. Environmental Compliance

Refer to the APS for guidance and requirements regarding Environmental Compliance.

SECTION G: FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY CONTACT(S)

Additional information can be found at www.grants.gov. For questions, please contact the USAID staff named in the specific Agricultural Biotechnology APS Addendum.

For questions regarding this Addendum #1 (Global Feed the Future Agricultural Biotechnology Program) or its overarching APS, contact the AO, Paul Burford, and Assistance Specialists, Olivia Ricks and Teena Curry, in USAID's Office of Acquisition and Assistance (OAA) in the Bureau for Management. If a Full Application is awarded, the AO will appoint an Agreement Officer's Representative at that time to provide technical and administrative oversight of the specific award. Additional information can be found at www.grants.gov.

SECTION H: INFORMATION PROTECTION

Refer to the overarching APS on considerations for information protection.

SECTION I: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON AWARD ADMINISTRATION

Refer to the overarching APS for additional information on award administration.

ANNEX 1 – CONCEPT NOTE TEMPLATE (See template in Word Format to download)

CONCEPT NOTE **TEMPLATE**

This Concept Note (CN) template is a document consisting of (1) a cover page, and (2) a narrative description. As you enter your CN into the template, please follow the instructions provided in red, and then delete the red text when you are done. Refer to Addendum #1 (Section D.2) for detailed Concept Note submission guidelines and deadlines.

Concept Note Title:	Insert Concept Note Title
Primary Objective Addressed: (At right, please tick the one box that best reflects your proposed concept; see APS Section II.B)	<input type="checkbox"/> Objective 1: Product Development Product phase(s): _____ If you checked Objective 1, please list which phase(s) of the Product Life Cycle your proposed concept will address <u>within the proposed award period</u> (see APS Annex 1 for details).
	<input type="checkbox"/> Objective 2: Enabling Environment
Lead Institution:	Name of the institution that would receive the primary award from USAID
Budget Range:	Predicted budget range of the proposed concept. ³ Please also note any anticipated leveraged or cost-shared support (e.g., co-funding or estimated in-kind contributions from other donors, private-sector partners, partner countries, related projects etc.).
Primary Contact:⁴	Name of proposed project leader / primary correspondent Title, Institution Mailing address E-mail address Phone number
Secondary Contact:² (optional)	Name of second co-creation participant (optional) Title, Institution Mailing address E-mail address Phone number

³ Development of final budgets will occur during co-creation and Full Application development; this is a preliminary, indicative figure.

⁴ This person should be available to participate in subsequent co-creation discussions if the Concept Note is selected to advance in the procurement process

Narrative Description

The Narrative Description must not exceed 3-5 pages (excluding the cover page). Instructions for each of the 3 required narrative sections are provided below, with parenthetical references to relevant sections of the Agricultural Biotechnology for Food Security APS and Addendum #1. Within each section of the CN Narrative Description, feel free to use whatever organizational approach best conveys your proposed concept.

I. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Provide contextual information to explain the strategic rationale for the proposed concept. In particular, address how the concept most strongly supports USAID’s food security and development priorities, as outlined in the APS (Sections A.I and A.II), Addendum #1 (Section A.3), and their cited reference materials. Describe the proposed geographic scope (Addendum #1, Section A.3.b.), and, if relevant, any commodity focus (Addendum #1, Section A.3.c.); explain the rationale for why these were chosen.

➤ ***Evaluation:*** *The selection panel will primarily consider the “Background & Context” narrative section when rating the CN against **Evaluation Factor 1** (“Strategic Alignment with USAID Priorities,” described in Addendum #1, Section E.1.)—though information from other sections of the CN may also be used to inform scoring against Factor 1.*

II. TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION

Describe the planned objectives, activities, and outputs/outcomes/impacts of the proposed concept—particularly as they relate to relevant Technical Objectives and Key Elements of the Program (APS Section A.II.b), as well as relevant Cross-Cutting Programmatic Objectives (particularly APS Section A.II.c.).

➤ ***Evaluation:*** *The selection panel will primarily consider the “Technical Description” narrative section when rating the CN against **Evaluation Factor 2** (“Potential to Achieve Development Impact,” described in Addendum #1, Section E.1.)—though information from other sections of the CN may also be used to inform scoring against Factor 2.*

III. STRUCTURE AND DESIGN

Describe how the proposed activity will be structured and managed in order to efficiently, effectively deliver the planned technical results, as well as to address relevant cross-cutting programmatic objectives (APS Section A.II.c.). Provide relevant information regarding partner organizations and/or key project personnel with respect to their roles and responsibilities in the proposed concept.

➤ ***Evaluation:*** *The selection panel will primarily consider the “Structure and Design” narrative section when rating the CN against **Evaluation Factor 3** (“Structure and Design,” described in Addendum #1, Section E.1.) —though information from other sections of the CN may also be used to inform scoring against Factor 3.*

ANNEX 2 - ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

USAID - United States Agency for International Development
BFS - Bureau for Food Security
APS - Annual Program Statement
GE - Genetically Engineered
GFSA - Global Food Security Act
PSE - Partnership and Private Sector Engagement
RFA - Request for Application
RFP - Request for Proposal
SOI - Statement of Interest
AO - Agreement Officer
M/B/IO - Mission/Bureau/Implementing Office
OMB - Office of Management and Budget
GFSS - Global Food Security Strategy
PSE - Private Sector Engagement
CN - Concept Note

[END OF ADDENDUM #1]