

# Agriculture and Rural Empowerment (ARE) program

## Request for Applications (RFA) No.11

Issuance Date: February 03, 2022

Dear Applicant:

The USAID-funded Agriculture and Rural Empowerment (ARE) activity, implemented by Chemonics International, is seeking grant applications for the implementation of a six to eight-month intervention entitled “**Strengthening Lebanese Livelihoods by Supporting Agricultural Production**” to help address the food access problems that rural, agricultural families face in the short term (Spring/Early Summer planting), supporting them with the ability to grow, consume and if desired sell the production of healthy and nutritious crops. The proposed intervention will work with one or more local partners across Lebanon to distribute vegetable seeds, seedlings and/or compost to **at least 5000 small-holder open-field farmers** that grow in both unirrigated and irrigated production systems, are nutritious, easily stored, and, with any surplus, are easily sold for income.

The initial list of potential seeds to be distributed includes Lentils, Chickpeas, Beans, Okra, Mikte (Armenian Cucumber), and Potatoes. Additional crops may be added as a result of an early-stage farmer mapping that will be conducted by ARE’s implementing partner(s). Vegetable seedlings may be considered depending on the farmer mapping exercise and planting calendar proposed by the applicant. In addition to seeds, 1,500 tons of locally produced, laboratory tested organic soil amendment/compost (maximum of 1 ton/farmer) will be provided. Also, to increase germination rate and improve crop management practices for the distributed material, ARE partners will produce and distribute informational (hard copy and through messaging apps) posters and materials to the beneficiaries.

ARE has allocated a maximum of \$600,000 for this intervention to cover direct support (seeds, seedlings, and/or compost) and implementation costs for partner(s). ARE is expected to support at least 5,000 agricultural families throughout Lebanon, planting at least 11,000 dunums of agricultural land yielding at least 3,500 tons of healthy and nutritious crops. Applicants may apply for grants at less than the maximum amount with a proportional reduction in support accordingly.

The grants will be awarded and implemented in accordance with USAID and US Government regulations governing grants under contracts and ARE’s internal grant management policies.

ARE activity will hold a pre-application workshop on **Tuesday, February 15** on MS Team from **10 AM till 12 PM**. This workshop will allow eligible and interested applicants the chance to ask questions about the RFA and receive guidance on how to complete the application form. Interested applicants that meet the eligibility requirements defined in Section III below and would like to attend this workshop must confirm their attendance by sending the participant’s name and the organization’s name to [grants@lebanonare.org](mailto:grants@lebanonare.org). Up to two persons may attend from each organization. No reimbursement for costs of attendance will be met. The deadline for confirming attendance of the pre-application workshop is on **Monday, February 14 at 5:00 PM**. Applicants may also submit questions to [grants@lebanonare.org](mailto:grants@lebanonare.org) prior to the virtual workshop. Deadline for submission of clarification questions is **February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022 at 5PM**.

***Applications are due not later than 05:00 pm Beirut time on March 4, 2022. Only electronic submissions to [grants@lebanonare.org](mailto:grants@lebanonare.org) will be accepted. No hard copy applications will be accepted.***

ARE activity and Chemonics employees may not ask for, and applicants are prohibited from offering, any money, fee, commission, credit, gift, gratuity, thing of value, or compensation to obtain or reward improper favorable treatment regarding this solicitation. Any improper request from a project employee should be reported to the chief of party or [BusinessConduct@chemonics.com](mailto:BusinessConduct@chemonics.com).

Annexes included with this Request for Applications:

- **Annex A** - Grant Application Form
- **Annex B** – Detailed Implementation Plan
- **Annex C** – Required Certifications
- **Annex D** – Applicant Self-Assessment Form
- **Annex E** – Mandatory and Required As Applicable Standard Provisions:
  - Standard Provisions for U.S. and Non-U.S. Nongovernmental organizations receiving a fixed amount award can be accessed through the following URL:  
<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/303mat.pdf>
  - Standard Provisions for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental recipients receiving all other types of grants can be accessed through the following URL:  
<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/303mab.pdf>

## **SECTION I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

### **IA. OBJECTIVE**

This intervention’s objective is to mitigate the adverse effects of rising food costs and decreased purchasing power on rural Lebanese livelihoods by 1) Decreasing monthly expenditures by supporting Lebanese families with seeds, seedlings and compost that can provide nutritious, healthy food and 2) Improving annual earnings by providing families with a source of income if they choose to sell the surplus crops into the market.

### **IB. BACKGROUND**

The Lebanon Agriculture and Rural Empowerment (ARE) Activity is a five year activity financed by USAID and implemented by Chemonics International through its local branch Chemonics Beirut S.A.R.L, that aims to develop rural economies in Lebanon by equipping agribusiness sector and rural communities (non-agriculture value chains) with the technical and financial resources/support, to unlock local and export sales potential while also creating/preserving jobs and increasing farmers’ and worker’s incomes. ARE will preserve/increase jobs; improve incomes; improve female participation and employment opportunities; increase domestic and export sales; increase private sector investment; improve access to finance; link value chain actors to domestic and international markets; and improve farm production through improved practices, technology, increased volume, and/or decreased cost.

Specifically, under this intervention, ARE intends to achieve the following two objectives:

**Objective 1:** Increased Domestic and Export Sales;

**Objective 3:** Improve the Productivity of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs)

### **IC. DETAILED PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

## ***Overview:***

The economic crisis and the subsequent lira devaluation have taken a drastic toll on rural, agricultural livelihoods in Lebanon. Food prices have skyrocketed, imported items are out of reach for many rural residents, while input costs for basic production supplies such as seeds, seedlings, fertilizers, pesticides, and plastic sheeting imported from abroad have skyrocketed driving up the costs of locally grown and supplied food.

As wages remain stagnant or decline, food costs are making up a significant percentage of many rural families' monthly expenses, leaving very little to cover for other basic services. Regular food security and livelihoods surveys are being conducted by universities, NGOs and UN organizations like WFP. In one of the latest reports from September 2021, a study found that nearly 9 in every 16 households were eating less than 2 meals per day while more than 70% of them considered this pattern as "usual pattern". Furthermore, apparent large percentages (70%) of the respondents from all governorates reported skipping their meals to spare food in the 30 last days.<sup>1</sup> As the economic crisis deepens with no solution in site, it's expected that the struggles of Lebanese households will increase.

## ***Intervention approach:***

ARE designed a **six to eight-month intervention** to help address the food access problems that rural, agricultural families face in the short term (Spring/Early Summer planting), supporting them with the ability to grow, consume, and, if desired, sell the production of healthy and nutritious crops. The proposed intervention will work with one or more local partners across Lebanon, distributing seeds and/or seedlings to small-holder growers that thrive in both unirrigated and irrigated production systems, are nutritious, easily stored, with any surplus, easily sold for income. The initial list of potential seeds to be distributed includes Lentils, Chickpeas, Beans, Okra, Mikte (Armenian Cucumber), and Potatoes. Additional directly seeded crops or seedlings may be added as a result of an early-stage farmer mapping that will be conducted by ARE's implementing partner(s). To ensure high quality production and improve crop management practices for the distributed material, ARE partners shall produce and distribute informational (hard copy and through messaging apps) posters and materials to the beneficiaries.

Importantly, ARE will include areas that lack irrigation access, which generally are poorer with limited agricultural production options for residents. Therefore, to ensure high quality production and alleviate the need for inputs such as fertilizers, ARE will provide locally manufactured soil amendments such as compost. It's estimated that each dryland grower will receive up to 1 ton of compost with 1500 tons in total being distributed.

ARE has allocated a maximum \$600,000 for this intervention to cover direct support (seeds, seedlings, and/or compost) and implementation costs for partner(s), ARE is expected to support at least 5000 agricultural families throughout Lebanon, planting at least 11,000 dunums of agricultural land yielding at least 3,500 tons of healthy and nutritious crops.

## ***Illustrative Distribution Plan***

The below **Table 1** highlights an illustrative distribution with the open-field crops that can be directly seeded and grown in irrigated and non-irrigated production systems along with ARE's estimates of the

---

<sup>1</sup> Exploring the Impact of Crises on Food Security in Lebanon: Results from a National Cross-Sectional Study Citation: Hoteit, M.; Al-Atat, Y.; Joumaa, H.; Ghali, S.E.; Mansour, R.; Mhanna, R.; Sayyed-Ahmad, F.; Salameh, P.; Al-Jawaldeh, A. Exploring the Impact of Crises on Food Security in Lebanon: Results from a National Cross-Sectional Study. Sustainability 2021, 13, 8753. <https://doi.org/10.3390/su13168753>

average farm size that will be supported. **Table 2**, shows the amount of agricultural production from the distribution scheme in Table 1. ARE estimates between 3,606 to 5,388 tons of agricultural production coming from this intervention. The production is dependent on the number of irrigated and non-irrigated farmers supported. At a minimum, applicants should propose their geographic coverage and detailed distribution timeline (Annex b – Implementation Plan) based on Governorates and Cazas with estimated beneficiaries and crops. The distribution period should cover the Late Spring/Early Summer distribution in its entirety.

*Table 1 Illustrative Distribution Scheme*

<b>Illustrative Distribution Scheme</b>			
<b>Crop</b>	<b>Farmers</b>	<b>Quantity of Seeds needed per dunum (Kg)</b>	<b>Average Farm Size (dn)</b>
Fava Beans Local	1,500	25	2.5
Beans Flat and similar Local	1,200	5	2.5
Wild Cucumbers Local	500	0.15	2.5
Chick Peas Local	500	12	2.5
Lentils Local	300	15	2.5
Okra Local	500	3	1.5
Potato Local	500	250	1.5
Compost	1,500		1
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,000</b>		

*Table 2. Illustrative Agricultural Production*

<b>Illustrative Agricultural Production</b>						
<b>Crop</b>	<b>Farmers</b>	<b>Average Farm Size</b>	<b>Estimate production per dunum (Kg) Irrigated</b>	<b>Total Production Irrigated ( Tons)</b>	<b>Estimate production per dunum (Kg)Non Irrigated</b>	<b>Total Production Non Irrigated/Tons</b>
Fava Beans Local	1500	2.5	400	1500	250	937
Beans Flat and similar Local	1200	2.5	200	600	100	300
Wild Cucumbers Local	500	2.5	800	1000	500	625
Chick Peas Local	500	2.5	150	187.5	75	93.75
Lentils Local	300	2.5	100	75	50	37.5
Okra Local	500	1.5	200	150	150	112.5
Potato Local	500	1.5	2500	1875	2000	1500
<b>Total</b>	<b>5000</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>5388</b>		<b>3606</b>

***Technical guideline:***

Implementing partners (IP) will be responsible for the farmer outreach, mapping and selection. IPs should send proposed beneficiary names to ARE for approval prior to finalization. The procurement of planting material and soil amendments will be done by the partner in collaboration with ARE providing the quantities, types and minimum specifications for seeds. Applicant should ensure that local businesses are included in the procurement process in order to support local economic opportunities in the targeted areas.

Applicant should suggest a strict verification and validation approach to be implemented to ensure that distributed seeds are going to their intended beneficiary and planted. This may include but is not limited to the use of a mobile application with QR codes, in-person visits, and photos. This approach will be explored by ARE prior to the grant award and finalized in coordination with the selected applicants.

Under this intervention direct field seeding is expected to occur in May/June 2022 illustrated in the Implementation Timeline table below. Applicants should propose the distribution methodology for ensuring the schedule will be met, including any contingency plans.

*Table 3 Intervention Tentative Implementation Table*

Implementation Timeline								
	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
Grant Signed								
Outreach and Map Beneficiaries								
Finalize Support package ( Seeds ; Seeds/Compost								
Beneficiary Selection								
Beneficiary Validation								
Procure Seeds, Compost								
Distribution of Seeds and Compost								
Verification of Delivery and Planting								
Monitoring and Reporting								

**At a minimum, applications will be required to cover the following:**

- **Geographic targeting (Governates and Cazas) for the proposed intervention with justification for the geography(ies) proposed**
- **Outreach approach including farmer mapping, seeds/seedlings recommendations, application process and selection**
- **Distribution approach including capacity building (eg. posters, brochures, mobile messaging)**
- **Seeds, seedlings and compost procurement approach**
- **Verification and validation approach in distributing seeds, seedlings and compost**
- **Monitoring and Reporting approach**

**ARE EXPECTED RESULTS AND RELATIVE INDICATORS**

ARE aims to provide at least 5,000 farming families with seeds and compost which will include the following indicators.

1. (PSD IR1.a) Number of for-profit enterprises, producer organizations, water users’ associations, women’s groups, trade and business associations, and community-based organizations that applied improved organization-level technologies or management practices as a result of USG assistance.
2. (PSD IR 1.b) Number of MSMEs, including farmers, and other organizations benefiting from new horizontal & vertical linkage.
3. (PSD IR 2.2.a (IR 2.1a)) Number of farmers and microenterprises who have applied improved technologies or management practices with USG assistance.
4. (custom) Increase in volume (and/or decrease in cost) of production at the farm level as a result of USG assistance.
5. . [PSD 2a] Number of people with improved incomes as a result of USG assistance.

## ID. AUTHORITY/GOVERNING REGULATIONS

ARE grant awards are made under the authority of the U.S. Foreign Affairs Act and USAID's Advanced Directive System (ADS) 302.3.5.6, "Grants Under Contracts." Awards will adhere to guidance provided under [ADS Chapter 303](#), "Grants and Cooperative Agreements to Non-Governmental Organizations" and will be within the terms of the USAID Standard Provisions as linked in the annexes, as well as the ARE grants procedures.

ADS 303 references two additional regulatory documents issued by the U.S. Government's Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the U.S. Agency for International Development:

- 2 CFR 200 [Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, Subpart E](#) (U.S. applicants are subject to 2 CFR 200 in its entirety)

Full text of 2 CFR 200 can be found at [http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200\\_main\\_02.tpl](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl) and 2 CFR 700 at <http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=531ffcc47b660d86ca8bbc5a64eed128&mc=true&node=pt2.1.700&rgn=div5>. ARE is required to ensure that all organizations receiving USAID grant funds comply with the guidance found in the regulations referenced above, as applicable to the respective terms and conditions of their grant awards.

Under the ARE grant program, USAID retains the right at all times to terminate, in whole or in part, ARE grant-making authorities.

## SECTION II. AWARD INFORMATION

ARE anticipates awarding up to **\$600,000** to firms through one or multiple grants. Funding will be disbursed as grants through one or more anticipated grant awards to be made within the context of the grant agreement. Applicants may submit applications for only a portion of the maximum budget ceiling if desired, with support scaled proportionally. The final number of awards made and their value will be dependent upon grant interventions proposed and final negotiation with the successful applicant. The type of grants will be determined during the negotiation process. The duration of any grant award under this solicitation is expected to be no more than **8months**. The estimated start date of grants awarded under this solicitation is March 15, 2022.

## SECTION III. ELIGIBILITY

### IIIA. ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

- Applicants must be a registered *Lebanese company/organization/association/cooperative/ NGO (or other legal entity)* formally constituted, recognized by and in good standing with appropriate Lebanese authorities, and compliant with all applicable civil and fiscal regulations.
- Applicants may only submit one application per prime organization under this RFA.
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate successful past performance in implementation of integrated development programs related to ARE's priority areas.
- Applicants must have established outreach capabilities with linkages to the beneficiary group(s) identified in the program description. This should be reflected by the incorporation of the beneficiary perspective in the application.

- Applicants must display sound management in the form of financial, administrative, and technical policies and procedures and present a system of internal controls that safeguard assets; protect against fraud, waste, and abuse; and support the achievement of program goals and objectives. *ARE* will assess this capability prior to awarding a grant.
- Applicants must sign certain required certifications prior to receiving a grant. The certifications are attached to this solicitation (Annex C) and applicants must sign the following certification as part of their application package in response to this RFA.
  - Prohibition on Providing Federal Assistance to Entities that Require Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements – Representation (May 2017)
  - Representation by Organization Regarding a Delinquent Tax Liability or a Felony Criminal Conviction
  - Certification on Lobbying
  - Certification Regarding Terrorist Financing Certification of Recipient
- For any grant award(s) resulting from this solicitation that is other than in-kind and equivalent to \$25,000 USD or more, grantees will be required to provide a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number at the time of award. If the applicant already has a DUNS number it should be included in their application. Otherwise, applicants will be expected to get a DUNS number before an award is made. *ARE* will assist successful applicants with this process. DUNS numbers can be obtained online at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/pages/CCRSearch.jsp>
- *ARE* will work with the successful grantee to draft a marking and branding plan which will be annexed to the grant agreement.
- Faith-based and community groups will receive equal opportunity for funding in accordance with the mandated guidelines laid out in ADS 303.3.28 except for faith-based organizations whose objectives are for discriminatory and religious purposes, and whose main objective of the grant is of a religious nature.
- Grantees are subject to and must pass U.S. government partner vetting requirements per Executive Order 13224

*ARE* encourages applications from new organizations who meet the above eligibility criteria.

*ARE* will prioritize applicants who have not received extensive support from other past or current USAID-funded activities. This priority will guide outreach efforts but will not mean necessarily that previously funded firms or partners shall be excluded from participation in the RFA process for selection. For firms that have been previously supported by USAID, they will need to fully demonstrate how the new proposed interventions will be complementary to, and build upon, past support, how the proposed interventions create even greater additive value within the larger value chain (VC), and shall prove that any new intervention will not duplicate or repeat past USAID support.

## **SECTION IV – APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

### **IVA. INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS**

Applicants must propose strategies for the implementation of the program description described above, introducing innovations that are appropriate to their organizational strengths.

## **IVA1. PRE-AWARD RISK ASSESSMENT**

All organizations selected for award are subject to a pre-award risk assessment conducted by ARE, to ascertain whether the organization has the minimum management capabilities required to handle US government funds. The Applicant Self-Assessment Form is contained in Annex D.

## **IVA2. GRANT APPLICATION**

Templates to be utilized when developing the grant application are provided in Annex A-B. Applicants shall present their technical application and budget in the formats provided and shall follow the instructions and guidelines listed in these annexes.

All grant activity costs must be within the normal operating practices of the Applicant and in accordance with its written policies and procedures. For applicants without an audited indirect cost rate, the budget may include direct costs that will be incurred by the Applicant to provide identifiable administrative and management costs that can be directly attributable to supporting the grant objective.

The application must be signed by an authorized legal representative of the Applicant.

## **IVA3. INELIGIBLE EXPENSES**

ARE grant funds may not be utilized for the following:

- Construction or infrastructure activities of any kind is not eligible for reimbursement under grants resulting from this solicitation. Construction also includes improvements, renovation, alteration, and refurbishment.
- Ceremonies, parties, celebrations, or “representation” expenses.
- Purchases of restricted goods, such as: restricted agricultural commodities<sup>2</sup>, motor vehicles including motorcycles, pharmaceuticals, medical equipment, contraceptive products, used equipment; without the previous approval of ARE, or prohibited goods, prohibited goods under USAID regulations, including but not limited to the following: abortion equipment and services, luxury goods, etc.
- Covered telecommunication and video surveillance equipment or services – per ADS 303.3.35.2 and as further explained in 2 CFR 200.216 for U.S. organizations and the standard provision entitled, “Prohibition on Certain Telecommunication and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment” applicable to non U.S. organizations, grant funds including direct and indirect costs, cost share and program income may not be used to purchase covered telecommunications equipment and services produced by or provided by the companies listed in the referenced provisions. The definition of “covered telecommunication equipment or services” is provided in the referenced provisions. Note that there is a temporary waiver in place that allows for the purchase of covered internet and phone service through September 30, 2022.
- Alcoholic beverages.
- Purchases of goods or services restricted or prohibited under the prevailing USAID source/nationality (Cuba, Iran, North Korea and Syria).
- Any purchase or activity, which has already been made.
- Purchases or activities unnecessary to accomplish grant purposes as determined by the ARE activity.

---

<sup>2</sup> For this intervention, ARE intends to secure a waiver from USAID for the purchase of the restricted commodities included herein.



- Prior obligations of and/or, debts, fines, and penalties imposed on the Grantee.
- Creation of endowments.

#### **IVB. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION**

Grant applications shall be submitted in English .

Grant Applications including the budget and relative supporting documents specified in the Annexes should be submitted in electronic format ONLY to the ARE grants team email address: [grants@lebanonare.org](mailto:grants@lebanonare.org) and should reference in the Subject Line: “RFA No.11. Applications must be submitted no later than 05:00 PM Beirut local time, on March 4, 2022. Late or unresponsive applications will not be considered.

In addition to the application forms, applicants should submit the following attachments to the submitted application:

- Signed and dated Required Certifications included in Annex C.
- Implementation Plan.
- Applicant Self-Assessment
- A copy of the Applicant’s valid legal registration (Commercial Circular, Commercial Register, and Ministry of Finance Registration **OR** equivalent from other ministries based on nature of legal entity and a copy of the latest audited financial statements).

Please submit all questions concerning this solicitation to the attention of *Nicole Tager, Senior Grants and Procurement Manager*, via email to [grants@lebanonare.org](mailto:grants@lebanonare.org). Emails will be answered within 10 working days. **ARE will not accept phone calls or in-person inquiries.**

ARE will assist applicants in understanding the application process, and can provide coaching in application development at the request of applicants.

#### **SECTION V. APPLICATION MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA**

Full applications will be evaluated against the merit review criteria in the table below.

<b>Merit Review Category</b>	<b>Rating (Points)</b>
Feasibility of Design & Technical Approach and methodology (including impact on gender and youth inclusion)	25
Management, Administrative & Programmatic Capacity	20
Delivery time/ speed of implementation	20
Cost Effectiveness	10
Past Performance	10
Impact on ARE goals and indicators	15
<b>Overall Rating (out of 100 points)</b>	<b>100</b>

These merit review criteria elements are described in more details below.

**A. Feasibility of Design & Technical Approach and methodology:** The quality and feasibility of the application in terms of the reason and rationale used in the proposed technical approach and outreach methodology, adequacy and reasonableness of the proposed areas of focus and farmer identification methodology. The technical approach must directly contribute to the achievement of the ARE Program’s expected results and performance under the activity and must be measurable under one or more of the ARE Program’s indicators as indicated in the RFA. Moreover the gender and youth

inclusion component will measure the extent to which the proposed activity includes a gender and youth component or represents a strong commitment to women and young people as beneficiaries (refer to **ARE EXPECTED RESULTS AND RELATIVE INDICATORS**). **25 points**

**B. Management and Programmatic Capacity:** Evidence of the capability to undertake and accomplish the proposed activities and cover the whole targeted areas efficiently. The application should demonstrate the organization's success in terms of internal structure, technical capacity, and key personnel, in meeting economic development goals. In addition, the organization must demonstrate satisfactory financial management capability, especially in procurement and mass delivery of goods. Applicant should describe any systems or processes within the organization to ensure that activity results are met. The evaluation will be based principally on the background, qualifications, reputation, suitability and skills of its key personnel; and the "track record," reputation, and achievements of the organization. This category will also review the extent to which the funded intervention will result in building and strengthening the capacity of the community and local organizations. **20 points**

**C. Delivery time, speed of implementation:** The extent to which the applicant is able to mobilize quickly and deliver the suggested project taking into consideration the timeframe required for this activity. **20 points**

**D. Cost Effectiveness:** The degree to which budgeting is clear, reasonable and reflects best use of organizational and grant resources. Applications with financial contribution will be scored more favorably on this criterion. **10 points**

**E. Past Performance:** Successful previous or ongoing experience implementing similar activities. This section examines the applicant's references and experience, which is a critical factor in assessing the capacity of the organization to implement the activity. **10 points**

**F. Impact on ARE goals and indicators:** The extent to which the proposed activity targets ARE expected results and relative indicators. **15 points**

Additionally, ARE will ensure environmental soundness and compliance in design and implementation as required by 22 CFR 216.

## **SECTION VI. AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION**

All grants will be negotiated, denominated and funded in USD. In any time throughout the life of the award, if USAID revokes the right to pay in USD, the contract or remaining amount of the contract will be paid in local currency per Lebanon's Central Bank official exchange rate.

All costs funded by the grant must be allowable, allocable and reasonable.

Issuance of this RFA and assistance with application development do not constitute an award or commitment on the part of ARE, nor does it commit ARE to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. Further, ARE reserves the right to accept or reject any or all applications received and reserves the right to ask further clarifications from the offerors. Applicants will be informed in writing of the decision made regarding their application.

### **LIST ANNEXES**

The following Annexes are included with this RFA:

- **Annex A** – Grant Application Form
- **Annex B** – Detailed Implementation Plan
- **Annex C** – Required Certifications
- **Annex D** – Applicant Self-Assessment Form
- **Annex E** – Mandatory and Required As Applicable Standard Provisions:
  - Standard Provisions for U.S. and Non-U.S. Nongovernmental organizations receiving a fixed amount award can be accessed through the following URL:  
<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/303mat.pdf>
  - Standard Provisions for Non-U.S., Nongovernmental recipients receiving all other types of grants can be accessed through the following URL:  
<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/303mab.pdf>