

Supporting Rural Lebanese Agriculture, Livelihoods, and Food Security

Agriculture and Rural Empowerment (ARE) program

Request for Applications (RFA) No.12

Issuance Date: April 26, 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 fifteen months intervention entitled **“Supporting Rural Lebanese Agriculture, Livelihoods, and Food Security”** to support rural Lebanese livelihoods by 1) Providing orchard (Olive, Pome and Stone fruits) growers with a supported source of labor ensuring their profitability and income and 2) Offering rural Lebanese residents a consistent source of employment and income throughout the 12 months agricultural calendar. The proposed intervention will work with seasoned and experienced local partner(s) with significant employment intensive works and agricultural experience, prioritizing high elevation orchards (Above 700 meters) and coastal olive groves of 7 dunums or less.

ARE has allocated a maximum of \$500,000 for this intervention to cover direct support (laborer salaries, minor tools and equipment), and implementation costs for partner(s). ARE is seeking to support at least 135 small farmers, 750 dunums of orchards and groves and 750 Lebanese residents with at least 37,500 employment days over 15 months.

The grant(s) 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 **May 12, 2022** 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. 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 **May 11, 2022 at 5:00 PM**. Applicants may also submit questions to grants@lebanonare.org prior to the virtual workshop. Deadline for submission of clarification questions is **May 16, 2022**.

Applications are due not later than 05:00 pm Beirut time on May 27, 2022. Only electronic submissions to 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.

Annexes included with this Request for Applications:

- **Annex A** – Grant Application Form
- **Annex B** – Grant Application Budget Form
- **Annex C** – Detailed Implementation Plan
- **Annex D** – Required Certifications

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- **Annex E** – Applicant Self-Assessment Form
- **Annex F** – 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 support rural Lebanese livelihoods by 1) Providing orchard (Olive, Pome and Stone fruits) growers with a supported source of labor ensuring their profitability and income and 2) Offering rural Lebanese residents a consistent source of employment and income throughout the 12 months agricultural calendar.

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, 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

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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.¹ As the economic crisis deepens with no solution in site, it’s expected that the struggles of Lebanese households will increase.

Unable to pay upfront for agricultural inputs, farmers are either switching to low-quality inputs or forgoing them entirely. Regular orchard maintenance and fruit harvesting, especially in remote areas, is suffering due to either labor shortages or high labor costs as transportation costs to these areas drive up wages or restrict the availability of laborers. ARE through interviews calculated the costs of production for 5 dunums orchard production. For orchard production, labor is by far the highest cost accounting for 46% of the total cost of production. These increased labor costs are detrimental to the livelihoods of small farmers and are especially devastating if laborers are unavailable and fruits, like apples, remain unpicked.

Approximate % cost for 5 du of orchard production	
Description	Percentages
Labor: Skilled Seasonal	12%
Labor: Unskilled Seasonal	34%
Fertilizer	26%
Pesticide	7%
Fuel pumps and tractor	21%

Intervention approach:

ARE is seeking applications for a \$500,000 agricultural labor support activity prioritizing high elevation orchards (Above 700 meters) and coastal olive groves of 7 dunums² or less. ARE intends to work with seasoned and experienced local partner(s) with significant employment intensive works and agricultural experience supporting at least 135 small farmers, 750 dunums of orchards and groves and 750 Lebanese residents with at least 37,500 employment days over 15 months.

Applicants should propose a mix of labor (long-term vs short-term) according to their proposed agricultural labor calendar (See below). Each worker can be employed throughout the proposed agricultural calendar or for a specific agricultural activity/period e.g., harvesting.

The selected partner(s) shall hold a dual outreach and application process; one for Lebanese residents interested in employment and another for farmers who would like support on their orchards. Outreach to additional farmers and/or workers may happen regularly (e.g., every two months) due to dropouts which are common in employment intensive programming.

Workers shall be organized into small groups with a supervisor. Appropriate training shall be provided depending on experience and skillset shall be carried out for skilled and semi-skilled tasks such as pruning, thinning, harvesting and safety precautions to ensure the appropriate practices are applied. Tools (listed below in crop calendars) can be provided as part of the labor activities and can be donated to the local implementing partner(s), farmers, or workers at the end of the program. Equipment like tractors should be covered as a contribution by the partner(s) or farmers.

Following current USAID labor intensive programming guidelines, unskilled and semi-skilled workers will be paid \$8/day and skilled workers including supervisors at \$10/day including insurance in case of injury. Workers will be at least 18 years of age and paid either at the end of their scheduled activity or every 2 weeks. Workers will be allowed to work 6 days a week but must have at least 36 hours off every 7 days.

¹ 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>

² Average orchard size in Lebanon per 2010 agricultural census

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The payment modality will be strictly through a third party. The implementing partner is required to have an agreement to transfer payment to workers either through a bank or OMT with the partner including any fees in their budget. The activities should include women and youth with ARE targeting a 35% inclusion rate.

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Illustrative Labor Schedule for Selected Agricultural Value Chains

The intervention can work off the agricultural labor schedule for orchards and is expected to start with the pome fruit harvesting season in September to late- October. However, implementing partners may propose to start earlier and can suggest amendments to the proposed schedule and activities.

The below crop labor calendars illustrate the labor activities that will take place throughout the year along with the estimated number of laborers needed per donum and the tools and equipment needed. RFA applicants shall confirm or propose the regions, modified labor schedule and tools required for the proposed area based on the tables below.

Pome Fruits – Mt. Lebanon/North

Activities	Laborers needed Per Donum/Day	Interventions Count	Total Labor Needed Donum/Year	Tools/Machinery Required	September	October	November	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Soil Preperation/Maintainace	0.05	5	2.5	eg. Tractor, Rotovator, Cultivator, Plow, spade fork										
Pruning	4	2	8	Shears, Wood chipper, ladder										
Weeding	1	8	8	Eg. Rake Shovel, Hoe, spade fork										
Fertilizer Application	0.1	4	0.4											
Pesticide Application	0.1	7	0.7	Backpack Sprayer 0.1 (1 Labor) Carry on sprayer 0.05 (2 to 4 labors)										
Thinning	3	2	6											
Harvesting	10	1	10	Ladders, Bucket, Stepper										
Irrigation Installation/Maintenance	1	10	10											
Pome Fruits total labors per Donum a year			45.6											

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Stone Fruits – Mt. Lebanon/North

Activities	Laborers needed Per Donum/Day	Interventions Count	Total Labor Needed Donum/Year	Tools/Machinery Required	September	October	November	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Soil Preparation/Maintenance	0.5	5	2.5	eg. Tractor, Rotovator, Cultivator, Plow, spade fork										
Pruning	5	2	10	Shears, Wood chipper, ladder										
Weeding	1	8	8	Eg. Rake Shovel, Hoe, spade fork										
Fertilizer Application	0.1	4	0.4	Bowl, Bag, Bucket										
Pesticide Application	0.1	7	0.7	Backpack Sprayer 0.1 (1 Labor) Carry on sprayer 0.05 (2 to 4 labors)										
Thinning	4	2	8											
Harvesting	12	1	12	Ladders, Bucket, Stepper										
Irrigation Installation/Maintenance	1	10	10	Shovel, Hoe										
Stone Fruits total labors per Donum a year			51.6											

Olives – North/South

Activities	Laborers needed Per Donum/Day	Interventions Count	Total Labor Needed Donum/Year	Tools/Machinery Required	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August
Soil Preparation/Maintenance	1	5	5	Tractor equipped with plowing tools-Soil shredder, weed trimmer												
Pruning	3	3	9	saws, scissors, pruning shears												
Fertilizer Application	1	5	5	Buckets (For Manual fertilization)												
Pesticide Application	1.5	5	7.5	sprayers with accessories/pheromone traps												
Harvesting	5	3	15	Plastic crates, nets, mechanical harvesters												
Olives total labors per Donum a year			41.5													

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Intervention Timetable:

	Implementation Timeline																	
	April	May	June	July	August	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	
Develop and Release RFA																		
Review applications and finalize selection of partners																		
Develop Grant package																		
Submit to USAID for approval																		
Outreach to farmers																		
Outreach to workers																		
Beneficiary and worker Selection and validation																		
Implement Crop Labor Schedule																		
Monitoring and Reporting																		

ARE EXPECTED RESULTS AND RELATIVE INDICATORS

The proposed activity 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
6. Percentage of YOUTH participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic resources who are youth (15-29) [IM-level]
7. Proportion of female participants in USG assisted programs designed to increase access to productive employment resources
8. Number of full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs created with USG assistance
9. Number of Jobs preserved as a result of USG assistance (PMP)
10. Number of USG-assisted organizations with improved performance [IM-level]
11. Value of incremental sales (domestic and export) collected at the farm level for small holders as a result of USG assistance [contractual]
12. Number of people with improved incomes as a result of USG assistance
13. Percentage change in volume of production at the Firm and Farm level attained as a result of USG assistance [contractual]
14. Percent change in cost of production at the Firm and Farm level attained as a result of USG assistance [contractual]

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

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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 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 **\$500,000** to entities 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 beneficiary 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 **15 months**. The estimated start date of grants awarded under this solicitation is June 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.

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- Applicants must sign certain required certifications prior to receiving a grant. The certifications are attached to this solicitation (Annex D) 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 Unique entity Identifier (UEI) number at the time of award. If the applicant already has a UEI number it should be included in their application. Otherwise, applicants will be expected to get a UEI number before an award is made. ARE will assist successful applicants with this process. UEI numbers can be obtained online at <https://sam.gov/content/entity-registration>
- 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

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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 E.

IVA2. GRANT APPLICATION

Templates to be utilized when developing the grant application are provided in Annex A-C. 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 commodities³, 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.
- Prior obligations of and/or, debts, fines, and penalties imposed on the Grantee.
- Creation of endowments.

³ For this intervention, ARE intends to secure a waiver from USAID for the purchase of the restricted commodities included herein.

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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 and should reference in the Subject Line: “RFA No.12”. Applications must be submitted no later than 05:00 PM Beirut local time, on May 27, 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 D.
- 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 Ministeries based on nature of legal entity and a copy of the latest audited financial statements).

Please submit all questions concerning this solicitation, via email to 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.

Merit Review Category	Rating (Points)
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	15
Cost Effectiveness	10
Past Performance	20
Impact on ARE goals and indicators	10
Overall Rating (out of 100 points)	100

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**

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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. **15 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. **20 points**

F. Impact on ARE goals and indicators: The extent to which the proposed activity targets ARE expected results and relative indicators. **10 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** – Grant Application Budget Form
- **Annex C** – Detailed Implementation Plan

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- **Annex D** – Required Certifications
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<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>