



Fostering Agricultural Markets Activity II (FARMA II)

RFP No. AID-168-C-16-00001/Sub-004-2016 Request for Proposal

Support to women empowerment in rural areas by promoting women entrepreneurship through MAP farming and MAP processing

Date of Issue: August 23, 2016

Closing Date for Proposal: September 23, 2016

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Conflict of Interest Statement

The offerors should not have an existing or potential conflict of interest in making the offers to USAID/Sweden FARMA II.

Submission Details

Submission Deadlines and Details

All submissions for responding to this request must be submitted (via email to grants@farmabih.ba and in hard copy to one of the USAID/Sweden FARMA II offices) no later than:

September 23, 2016, at 04:00 pm ET

Ouestions and Clarifications

All questions or clarifications must be submitted in writing (via email to the contact person(s) below), no later than

September 14, 2016, at 04:00 pm ET

No questions will be answered by phone. If any questions are submitted, a written response will be circulated to all offerors.

Contact Person: Meriha Manojlovic

Contact person title: DCOP/Grants Manager

Email: grants@farmabih.ba

On **September 15, 2016, at 02:00 pm**, USAID/Sweden FARMA II will organize an information session to discuss the Scope of Work and to provide instructions for submitting proposals to interested bidders. The session will take place at USAID/Sweden FARMA II office in Sarajevo, Fra Anđela Zvizdovića 1, Tower B, 18th floor. All organizations interested in submitting proposals are encouraged to participate. Please confirm your presence at the Information Session latest by **September 12, 2016** at grants@farmabih.ba.

Validity of the proposal: Proposal will be valid for 30 days from the closing date of submission.

Document standards:

- Must be in Microsoft Word format
- Price or Budget must be in Excel with formulae showing

Introduction and Executive Summary

In January 2016, USAID and the Government of Sweden have launched a five-year project called Fostering Agricultural Markets Activity II (FARMA II) in Bosnia & Herzegovina (BiH).

The purpose of the USAID/Sweden FARMA II Project is to create agricultural and agribusiness economic opportunities for BiH farmers and entrepreneurs. USAID/Sweden FARMA II will achieve this by assisting agricultural producer organizations to adopt European Union (EU) and international agricultural and food standards and new production techniques, produce new high value products and expand their access to foreign and domestic markets. The USAID/Sweden FARMA II team will support the BiH government to implement new and revised laws and regulations that comply with EU and international requirements.

Project Background

Demand for different medicinal and aromatic plants in BiH is significant. Many MAP processing companies are forced to import raw materials due to the shortages on the local market. The value of raw materials for MAP processing industry that has been imported during 2015 was BAM 2.5 million or 131.2 tons. This shows that there is a room to increase the cultivation and production of MAPs in Bosnia and Herzegovina and improve potential for income generation, especially among women, as the practice has showed - women are more susceptible to MAPs industry than men. Many women from rural areas are already involved in MAP cultivation and production of dried MAPs and that activity contributes significantly to their household incomes. Besides traditional farming, some of them are engaged in collection of wild MAPs while the others show an interest to shift from traditional farming and MAPs collection to MAPs cultivation. Considering the fact that there is a great market demand, they see this as an opportunity to provide steady income for their families and self-sustained full time employment.

Detailed Scope of Work

To facilitate the involvement and professional development of women, the previous USAID/Sida FARMA activity has developed several training programs specifically targeting women, including one on women's empowerment through MAP cultivation. Over the life of the project, USAID/Sida FARMA funded eight schools to support women's entrepreneurship through MAP cultivation, MAP processing, and beekeeping throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina. The goal of these schools was to provide theoretical and practical training to at least 400 women from rural areas in the cultivation and processing of medicinal and aromatic plants and beekeeping, with the goal of encouraging them to start commercial production. The participants had been linked to markets, so they are set to become independent and sustainable producers who generate income for their families. As a direct result of these activities over 500 rural women from throughout BiH have been taught to cultivate MAPs while 72 of these women are now actively involved in the cultivation and processing of MAPs, from which they derive new income. These women have established associations which are active. Having completed these schools, the women have established plantations under MAPs (e.g., mint, melissa, marigold, basil, lavender, thyme, etc.),

which in total cover 11.85 ha of land. Drying kilns were installed in Ahmici (Vitez municipality), Kaloševići (Doboj Jug municipality) and Novi Grad. The kilns are positioned to be accessible to a large number of participants of USAID/Sida FARMA cultivation schools. These schools proved to be an excellent way to promote MAP cultivation, since the women participating in schools were, in many cases, pioneers in MAP cultivation in their areas and have served as a role model for others, encouraging them to start with cultivation. The income they earned through MAP cultivation was a way to reward their innovative and ground-breaking efforts and encouraged them to take a more active approach in creating a sustainable source of income for them and their families.

Purpose of the activity

The purpose of this activity is threefold:

- To support women empowerment in rural areas by promoting entrepreneurship through medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) cultivation and processing with the ultimate goal to create sustainable full time jobs for rural women;
- To increase the production of raw materials and final MAP based products to substitute imports, thus increasing overall sector's competitiveness with the goal to increase profitability and income for rural women.
- In cooperation with the government institutions and/or local governments (where possible) to support selected women to apply for and obtain subsidy for registration of craft organization and/or company and to apply for subsidies for support in payment of fringe benefits during the startup period. Government institutions that have such programs are entity and cantonal employment bureaus, entity and Brcko District ministries of agriculture, Federation Ministry for Veterans.

USAID/Sweden FARMA II will continue supporting women empowerment efforts through organizing trainings in cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants as well as in drying technologies. An upgrade of the previous activity is training of women on production of value added products such as essential oils, natural soaps, creams etc. This activity will contribute to the USAID/Sweden FARMA II indicators related to creation of new jobs, sales and export increase but also to the application of the new management practices and technologies.

Goals and Objectives of the Activity

The ultimate goal of the activity is to create preconditions for empowerment of rural women and self-sustained full time employment. Main objectives are listed below:

- Promotion of environmentally sustainable and more productive cultivation of medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) in compliance with the Code of Good Agricultural Practices;
- Initiate activities to incorporate climate change adaptation and risk reduction strategies into appropriate actions and promote environmental best practices including practices that reduce the pressure from the plants that are collected in the nature;
- Increased competitiveness of the MAP sector in BiH by improving yields, production and processing of value added products and in accordance to the EU standards;
- Improvement of marketing, packaging and branding of final products;

- Introduction of new technologies to increase quality and improve productivity of existing and new women farmers and producer organizations;
- Employment generation;
- Promotion of cooperation and facilitation of business linkages with potential buyers

The main rationale for this activity is to empower large number of most vulnerable groups; unemployed women from rural areas, to become business oriented and to be able to provide income for their families. The program will have selection criteria set up for the women to participate such as:

- To have basic knowledge about agriculture/MAPs;
- To have at least 0.1 ha or more of their own land for cultivation or to have signatory/permission of at least 0.1 ha of land for cultivation;
- To have intention, interest and good will to do cultivation / processing of MAPs;
- To have interest to accept and promote GACP and GMP.

Activities:

USAID/Sweden FARMA II envisions organizing these trainings (MAP Cultivation Schools) as described below:

- Three drying kilns have been purchased and installed in Ahmici, Kalosevici (Federation) and Novi Grad (RS) as a result of the activities supported during the previous project. There is an increased interest from women living in these villages to expand their production and to include additional women from the same villages into MAP cultivation. Drying kilns are not fully utilized so there is a space to improve production of dried MAPs. During the training, existing plantations can serve as demonstration plots and used for practical learning for those women who want to start production of different plants. Increased production of different plants will lead to full utilization of existing drying kilns that will contribute to production effectiveness and increased profitability. In addition, raw materials will be of better quality and increased quantity plays an important role in the process of negotiation with a potential buyer;
- For women that have already established MAP production (resulted from previous MAP Cultivation Schools) and who want to enter into the production of value added products organize trainings on how to make final products, such as creams, balms, tinctures, soaps, based on natural ingredients (essential oils, herbs, hydrolates);
- Organize trainings in MAPs cultivation in locations where these training were not previously held and where there is an interest for MAPs cultivation;
- After the trainings are completed, encourage women to apply for and obtain subsidy for registration of craft organization and/or company and to apply for subsidies for support in payment of fringe benefits during the startup period. Government institutions that have such programs are entity and cantonal employment bureaus, entity and Brcko District ministries of agriculture, Federation Ministry for Demobilized Soldiers and War Veterans;
- After the trainings are completed encourage women to establish an association and/or cooperative to better articulate and advocate their needs;

• Approach to the municipalities and/or other donors to provide funds to support these women in their endeavor by supporting them to acquire seedling material, small cultivation and harvesting equipment; which may represent their cost share in the activity;

Illustrative activities are set as listed below:

- Preparatory phase: Define new municipalities/villages where there is a critical number of
 women willing to participate in the activity; create a list of interested women (contact
 women and ensure their participation in the project);contact with women may be
 established through the respective municipalities; through existing associations or
 cooperatives and/or through local business development service providers; special
 attention will be given to contact vulnerable groups of women, through women's
 organizations and/or projects/initiatives working on women's empowerment in selected
 municipalities/villages;
- Prepare a training curriculum for theoretical trainings, tailored to the needs and learning styles of participants which will be held during winter months; theoretical trainings will be consisted of the following topics:
 - 1. Introduction to the MAPs
 - 2. Cultivation of most economically valuable MAPs, maximum 10
 - Agro techniques
 - Cost calculation and financial management- farming as a family business
 - Plan of sowing
 - Nursing
 - Protection
 - Harvesting
 - Post harvest treatment
 - 3. Production of seedlings from the seeds and from the seedlings
 - 4. Ecology and basics of organic production/cultivation
- Prepare a training curriculum for practical trainings which will be held during the agricultural season; practical lessons to be organized in the field during autumn and spring (for land preparation), and summer. The subcontractor will establish relations with several MAP companies in different locations (depending of identified location of groups of women) willing to offer practical part of education. Other field locations/lecturers and number of lessons will be defined by the subcontractor, with special attention to consult with participants on venue and time of the training During the Project lifetime, at least 5 small experimental fields will be established by the women itself in order to practice lessons learned and eventually produce seedlings for the rest of the interested women;
- Organize study tour for the most advanced farmers / most interested in MAP cultivation among women in order to establish business contacts with the MAP industry. At least one study tour to be organized;

- A written final exam will be administered after the school is completed. A certificate of completion will be issued that identifies the participant as capable to cultivate MAPs. A woman attending the school is awarded with a certificate stating that they have "completed all course requirements" or is not awarded a certificate if all course requirements have not been met. Certificates to be created in coordination with USAID/Sweden FARMA II staff;
- At least two public promotional events to be organized in order to promote/present results gained through this School. Organization of the events/production of any printed or other materials for distribution is to be coordinated with USAID/Sweden FARMA II staff;
- Wherever needed, engage highly qualified expert(s) with practical experience in MAPs cultivation, processing, production of final products, marketing, business management and on farm record keeping to provide assistance to selected women farmers;
- Prepare calculation on potential yields and income for crops that will be planted to be distributed among training participants;
- Prepare small business plans for women that are interested to commercialize / finalize their production;
- Make sure that all agro-technical measures such as sowing, planting, nurturing, plant protecting, harvesting, drying and selling of MAPs are completed on time and in accordance with good agriculture practices;
- Organize trainings on the production of natural ingredients based products;
- Organize trainings on marketing / business management including financial management/ on farm record keeping;
- Assist women who decide to start producing final products to start using some of the marketing tools to promote their products;
- Facilitate contacts with municipal authorities and government institutions in order to obtain subsidies for registering the craft organization and/or to obtain matching funds for acquiring equipment such as drying kiln, cultivation and/or harvesting equipment;
- As needed provide mentoring to women from other locations that were part of two previous MAP schools who continue to cultivate MAPs;
- Provide assistance to women wishing to register as agricultural households / on farm producers / craft business
- Organize promotional event to present the result of the project, especially with benefits of economic empowerment of women to households, producers and processors;
- Organize participation in at least one local trade fair to promote final products;
- Organize at least two in country study tours to observe good practices, using positive examples of previously organized schools;
- Make sure that all project goals are met and completed as planned;
- Provide printed training material following USAID/Sweden FARMA II branding;

- Ensure USAID/Sweden FARMA II visibility in all activities;
- Closely coordinate with USAID/Sweden FARMA II project on all activities;
- Submit monthly programmatic reports to USAID/Sweden FARMA II;
- Submit the final report at the end of the activity implementation.

This program will be implemented over the period of two years, where some of the activities will be done in parallel while some will be done separately. The important thing is that all of the activities will contribute the overall project goals for MAP subsector such as: increased sales and exports, decrease of imports of raw plant material, women empowerment, jobs creation, preserving plants in their natural habitat.

Business Development Service Provider (s), non-profit NGOs, for profit organization that will be selected to implement these activities will strengthen its capacities, through the set of activities, and will be able to transfer know-how to the beneficiaries once FARMA II project has finished. Business Development Service Provider, non-profit NGOs, for profit organization may apply to implement one or all above listed Activities.

All of the above activities are in line with USAID/Sweden FARMA II objectives: to empower women, generate employment and to facilitate implementation of new technologies. The project should last 2 years. During the first year trainings on MAPs cultivation will be held, including practical trainings and establishing of demonstration plots where there is no MAPs cultivation, while in parallel with MAPs cultivation trainings, the technical trainings on how to make natural products will be held. During the first year women from all groups will also be trained on how to apply for funds, resulting in at least 3 successful applications. This will enable women to commercialize their production. The second year would include mentoring on MAPs cultivation, natural products production, business registration, promotion, branding, record keeping, business management, resulting in at least 5 new full time jobs.

Beneficiaries:

The beneficiaries of this activity will be unemployed women from rural areas of BiH. It is expected that MAPs cultivation schools will be organized in a following way:

- 1. Group 1 MAP cultivation school to be organized on at least three new locations.
- 2. Group 2 It is expected that MAP cultivation schools will be organized in Ahmici, Kalosevici, Jablanica (group 2) for new women who expressed their interest to start with MAP cultivation and adhere to existing producers who jointly use drying kilns.
- 3. Group 3 It is expected that at least 15 women who are already engaged in cultivation and drying of MAPs receive technical assistance on how to make natural ingredients based cosmetics to be able to improve their income and access higher paying markets.

The Results of the Activity are set as listed below:

- At least 100 women trained on MAPs cultivation, simple processing (drying), on farm record keeping, of which at least 45 will become commercial producers;
- At least 2 ha of land cultivated with MAPs and at least 5 t of dried raw material produced in the second year of the project;

- At least 30 women are trained on how to make final products;
- At least 30 women trained on marketing, business management, with gender equality issues fully integrated in training content and methodology;
- At least 3 associations/cooperative/POs successfully apply for grant funds; municipality and / or participants to provide matching funds;
- At least 5 full time jobs created; 3 businesses registered (crafts and / or farming household);
- The group of women will be linked with potential buyers who will sign a letter of intent and/or contract with them to initiate developing their own small businesses in future;
- Educate and encourage women towards business oriented behavior and market oriented production;
- Promote economic sustainability (income generation) and viability of this production to other interested women and members of their households;
- Create a critical number of women who are commercially oriented cultivators/processors of MAPs;
- Provide additional source of raw material for the local MAP processing industry.

Deliverables:

- List of women participants will be made for each of the municipalities and submitted to USAID/Sweden FARMA II. Signed statement by each women participant on their willingness to participate in the program;
- Training curriculum will be submitted to USAID/Sweden FARMA II and will include detailed description of content and methodology of both practical and theoretical training;
- Monthly programmatic reports including the description of all activities implemented. The report will include written confirmation that both practical and classroom training sessions were held including topics, locations, dates and lists of participants (with attendees' signatures). Training Evaluation sheets will be submitted to USAID/Sweden FARMA II with other required documents. Photos are added to monthly reports;
- Written confirmation that study tour for the most advanced farmers / most interested in MAP cultivation among women in order to establish business contacts with the MAP industry is organized. At least one study tour to be organized. Photos enclosed;
- At least two public promotional events to be organized in order to promote/present results gained through this School. Organization of the events/production of any printed or other materials for distribution is to be coordinated with USAID/Sweden FARMA II staff;
- Letter of intent or contract signed between new women interested to continue with the program and potential buyer/s;
- Annual report, detailing all activities, improvements and potential problems in the implementation and recommendation is provided;

- Final Report including calculation sample of the best result achieved to show economic viability;
- Proof of registration of a commercial business (agricultural household or crafts business or cooperative).

All the documents should be prepared in English. The documents which will refer to the assessments of the situation and the provided recommendations for complying with the respective standards for the POs should be prepared in BHS languages as well.

Environmental considerations

Assistance provided under this SOW must comply with USAID environmental requirements in accordance with CFR 216, and specifically the Initial Environmental Examination (IEE, DCN: 2016-BOS-008). Specifically, any technical assistance (TA) must comply with the following:

- USAID/Sweden FARMA II Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA, DCN: 2010-BOS-010), Section 7.3.1. (b), where all TA must promote Good Agricultural Practices (GAP's), including but not limited to: increased reliance on organic fertilizers, manure and mulch to maintain soil health; more efficient irrigation methods (drip irrigation); and maximum reliance on natural, renewable and non-farm inputs. This document was prepared specifically to address the required environmental action under the IEE.
- All pest management advices must comply with USAID/Sweden FARMA II approved Pesticide Evaluation Report and Safer Use Action Plan (PERSUAP, DCN: 2016-BOS-009). Only pesticides approved in the PERSUAP may be used and recommended during training events, including any written material prepared by the implementer. It is USAID policy that all pest management advices must follow the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM). The approved pesticide list, in addition to the full PERSUAP, will be provided to the selected implementer prior to the signing of the contract and shall be fully complied with.

In addition, USAID/Sweden FARMA II encourages applicants to consider and address in the application necessary measures that proposes mitigation against environment and climate related risks.

Gender Equality Consideration:

Special attention must be paid to gender equality issues and the inclusion of women and young farmers in this activity. USAID/Sweden FARMA II places an emphasis on providing support to women participants and farmers in this training program to the largest extent possible, especially within the MAP sector. USAID/Sweden FARMA II Gender Advisor will provide advice and assist sub-contractor to integrate gender equality principles in their work. Women's participation and benefits from sub-contractor's activities will be tracked separately and evaluated. Narrative reports on project implementation and the final technical report should contain specific information on how sub-contractor(s)' activities influence gender equality. Women participation will be incorporated in the proposal evaluation criteria.

Offeror Qualifications and Experience

Eligibility Requirements:

USAID/Sweden FARMA II Fixed Award Grant may be awarded to local not-for-profit, for-profit, and non-governmental organizations (NGO), educational institution, business service development provider, providing they are legally registered and recognized under the laws of BiH.

Required Qualifications:

To be eligible for funding, the Applicant must:

- A. Have a minimum of 5 year experience in relevant business activities or working with vulnerable population groups;
- B. Submit copies of financial records for at least two last year of operations;
- C. Submit reference list that includes the names of women organizations and/or individual women assisted in the past to implement similar activities;
- D. Submit budget that is part of the grant application that will also be reviewed for accuracy and congruity with the activities proposed in the technical application.
- E. Submit training program/curriculum, training agenda, and key personnel for each proposed field separately.
- F. Have the ability to engage experts (if needed) with proven experience in MAPs cultivation, processing and making MAPs based final products.
- G. Have the ability to engage experts (if needed) with proven experience in on farm record keeping, business management and marketing;
- H. Have contacts with potential MAPs buyers and processors to be able to link women with them;
- I. Have the ability and experience to organize and work with farmers / POs of all ethnic groups, including women all over Bosnia and Herzegovina Eligibility Requirements:

The Applicant may apply to implement one or all of the activities listed above.

Contents and Structure of Proposal

The structure of proposal should follow the structure as described below:

- Technical Approach
- Detailed Implementation Plan
- List of Key Personnel
- List of current and past clients (not more than 3 years old)
- Names and contact information of at least 3 references
- Declaration of financial stability and conflict of interest (financial records)
- Detailed price structure (detailed budget)

- Attach samples of prior work (relevant when writing skills are highly important);
- Attach registration documents;

Assumptions & Constraints

This will be a fixed price subcontract with payments made against specific deliverables. The budget may show necessary and allowable costs expected to occur during a course of the activity and be linked to the execution of the deliverables such as organization' and trainers fees, trainer(s) per diem, travel expenses (if any), logging, training materials and other direct costs.

Terms and Conditions

- A. The award of a subcontract to procure the services related to this Request for Proposal (RFP) is subject to the availability of funds.
- B. The USAID/Sweden FARMA II project reserves the right to reject any and all proposals. No obligations either expressed or implied exist on the part of contractor (USAID/Sweden FARMA II) or USAID/Sweden Government to make an award for the work or for the cost incurred in the preparation of proposal in response to this RFP.
- C. The Proposal shall be submitted in accordance with the instructions set forth herein. Applicant shall submit its Proposal in two (2) hard copies and an electronic copy (CD) in a sealed envelope marked as follows:

RFP No. AID-168-C-16-00001/Sub-004-2016

The Proposal shall be submitted by mail or personally to any **ONE** of the following addresses:

USAID/Sweden FARMA II	USAID/Sweden FARMA II
71000 Sarajevo, Fra Anđela Zvizdovića 1B/18	78000 Banja Luka, Prvog Krajiškog korpusa bb
USAID/Sweden FARMA II	USAID/Sweden FARMA II
75000 Tuzla, Maršala Tita 34A/III	88000 Mostar, Kneza M. Viševića Humskog 11

- D. Applicants may submit Proposals for the work described in the Scope of Work. An Applicant may join with a partner organization(s) to perform the Work. However, the Proposal must be submitted in the name of one company only, and in the event the Proposal is accepted, USAID/Sweden FARMA II will subcontract with that company only.
- E. Ownership of Proposals: All Proposals received in response to the RFP will be the property of the USAID/Sweden FARMA II project and will not be returned.

F. USAID/Sweden FARMA II expects that work will start in October 2016 and be completed no later than October 2018.

Type of Resulting Contract

This will be fixed price subcontract with payments against specific deliverables.

Selection Criteria

A. The Applicant shall assume that there is only one opportunity to submit a Proposal in response to this RFP. Therefore, careful attention is required in order to insure that all of the technical documentation and other information necessary to support the Proposal are included therein.

The level of responsiveness to the details of this proposal as well as the overall quality and clarity of the proposal will be considered by USAID/Sweden FARMA II as an indicator of the work quality that the Applicant is likely to provide during project implementation assuming award.

- B. The evaluation will result in a determination that the Applicant's Proposal is acceptable or unacceptable. When the Proposal is determined to be unacceptable, no further consideration will be given to the offer.
- C. Proposals will be evaluated according to following criteria:
 - Clarity and logical coherence
 - Understanding of Scope of Work
 - How implementation and results of the proposed activities will support USAID/Sweden FARMA II objectives
 - Documented past performance consistent with type and scope of proposed activities
 - Competency of proposed staff
 - Feasibility of proposed activities considering proposed budget

Example of Criteria Evaluation Form

		Score (From 1		
	Criteria	to 5)	Weight	Total
	Technical Proposal (understanding of			
	Scope of Work, how implementation			
	and expected results of the proposed	5.00	25%	1.25
	activities support USAID/Sweden			
1	FARMA II objectives)			
	Proposed Staff (experience			
	implementing similar activities,	5.00	30%	1.50
2	competency of proposed staff)			

	Cost (cost proposal is realistic, and includes necessary cost for	3.00	25%	0.75
3	implementation of SOW)			
	Women participation in the activity			
	(includes clear explanation of how 5.00		20%	1.00
4	women will benefit from the activity)			
	Score			4.50

Kev Dates

RFP No. AID-168-C-16-00001/Sub-004-2016: Support to women empowerment in rural areas by promoting women entrepreneurship through MAP farming and MAP processing

Description	Dates / times	Note
RFP Issue	August 23, 2016	
Deadline for RSVP Info Session	September 12, 2016	via grants@farmabih.ba
Deadline for questions	September 14, 2016	via grants@farmabih.ba
	at 4:00 PM	
Info session	September 15, 2016	Fra Anđela Zvizdovića 1, Sarajevo –
	at 2:00 PM	FARMA II office at UNITIC
		Business Center, Tower B, 18th
		floor
Closing Date for Proposal	September 23, 2016	via grants@farmabih.ba AND via
	by 4:00 PM	mail to one of the USAID/Sweden
		FARMA II offices
Expected implementation	Oct 2016 – Oct 2018	

Disclaimer

Issuance of this RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of USAID/Sweden FARMA II, USAID or the Government of Sweden, nor does it commit USAID/Sweden FARMA II, USAID or the Government of Sweden to pay cost incurred in the submission of proposals.

Nothing in this document shall be construed as an offer by USAID/Sweden FARMA II, USAID or the Government of Sweden and no terms, discussions or proposals shall be binding on either party prior to execution of a definitive agreement. USAID/Sweden FARMA II reserves the right to accept or reject any offer in part or full or to cancel the procurement without any obligation to any offeror.