

Amendment No. 1 to Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Technical Support Services

The proposal due date is hereby revised to **July 8, 2022**, in order for to offerors to review the questions and answers submitted below:

1. *Please provide some specifics on the project in each of the four countries, the inputs provided to the participating GFB's/SMEs and consumers in each country. Please also include timeline- when were the interventions initiated and when were they fully implemented in each country?*

Project details will be provided after selection, here is project brief theory of change: The BD4FS theory of change proposes that by 1) co-creating with GFBs how to address their food safety challenges and 2) delivering training, providing technical assistance, and promoting business-to-business facilitation programs, GFBs will adopt improved food safety practices that reduce the risk of food safety hazards. This in turn will result in less food products being rejected at the market and improved incomes for businesses.

The proposed program will focus effort on facilitating and strengthening the role of key actors in adopting innovative best practices to accelerate development of food safety systems and engender the promotion of a food safety culture along specific value chains.

BD4FS is proposing an approach whereby changes in food safety knowledge and awareness of improved food safety practices amongst value chain actors can lead to an improved food safety culture along the value chain for specific food products. The first hypothesis is that such changes need to occur and in turn will have an impact on the food safety culture of that value chain.

The second hypothesis is that such changes can spillover to SMEs that are not part of the project.

The third hypothesis is that through such spillovers, the project can accelerate the adoption of food safety practices more quickly and in a sustainable way amongst others in the local market not currently part of the project.

A fourth hypothesis, which is a long-term outcome and not part of the scope of this project, is that the adoption of food safety strategies and the spillover through business-to-business relationships will have a positive impact on value chain actor's welfare through improved nutrition and incomes from improved market access.

2. *Was there a baseline study and/or mid-term evaluation completed in this project? If so, please provide us with a copy.*

Project Baseline study will be provided after the award.

3. *If FES has an existing data collection mechanism and/or MEL system, please provide us with a list of relevant indicators for assessing project success.*

FES MEL system will be shared during the award. FES uses a combination of Feed the Future standard and custom indicators.

4. *According to the RFP, the duration MEL Technical support services is 23 months during the base period. Do you expect the consultant(s) to be fully engaged throughout this period? Please provide us with your estimate of level of effort expected from the consultant(s).*
Based on the announced RFP, the firm needs to propose the appropriate level of effort.
5. *If FES expects the data to be collected through your existing MEL mechanism, how frequently do you expect the consultant team to analyze the data, such as monthly, quarterly, or bi-annually? Only for the specified period and agreed upon activities will the selected firm assist FES with data analysis.*
6. *Please explain what do you mean by “Monitor database upload” ?*
During data collection by developed tools the selected firm will monitor incoming data.
7. *Please confirm that you expect the consultant team to visit all the four countries.*
FES will do the field level work. Travel by the consulting team is not required.
8. *Under Instruction for submission of Application, you mentioned “investigator” implying one consultant and in the same line you mentioned CVs, implying more than one. Please clarify if you are looking for one single consultant or a multidisciplinary team?*
The applying firm can decide on level of effort, experts, consultants, and the team. Final configuration will be negotiated during the award.
9. *You expect the consultant team to support qualitative research on GFBS through case studies. Please explain what “support” means. Is it through conducting case studies?*
Consultant team will provide FES with guidance on qualitative analysis through the use of analytical tools; such as NVIVO, for example, and others.