



USDA Local and Regional Food Aid Procurement Pilot Project





What is the USDA LRP Project?

- The *USDA LRP Project* is a five-year pilot program that was authorized in The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (the Farm Bill).

The Three Goals of the *USDA LRP Project* are:

- To evaluate the methods by which local and regional procurement can be used as a tool to *expedite* the provision of food aid to populations affected by food crises and disasters;
- To provide development assistance; and
- To ensure that local and regional procurement does not cause any harmful secondary effects on producers, low-income consumers or fragile market systems in purchase and recipient countries.



Four Phases of the USDA LRP Project

- The *USDA LRP Project* will consist of four phases, as outlined in the Farm Bill:
 - A *pre-implementation phase* to conduct a *study* on past experiences and lessons learned from local and regional procurement (FY 08-09),
 - A *pre-implementation phase* to develop *guidelines and proposal evaluation criteria* (FY 09),
 - An *implementation phase* for field-based projects (FY 09-11), and
 - An *evaluation phase* during which an independent third party will be hired by USDA to evaluate the field-based projects (FY 11-12).



How much funding is available for the USDA LRP Project?

USDA will receive \$60 million over four years for the implementation and evaluation of the program.

The \$60 million will be allocated as follows:

- \$5 million: FY 09
- \$25 million: FY 10
- \$25 million: FY 11
- \$5 million: FY 12



What types of organizations are eligible for USDA LRP Project funding?

- Private Voluntary Organizations (PVOs),
- Intergovernmental Organizations (IGOs), and
- Cooperatives are eligible to participate in the USDA LRP Project.
- Priority consideration will be given to proposals from U.S.-based organizations.



Which countries are eligible for funding?

- Emergency program proposals may be submitted for countries on the OECD DAC List of ODA Recipients.
- Development program proposals will be considered with the Global Hunger and Food Security Initiative Focus Countries (Phases I and II) in mind.



How will USDA prioritize proposals for funding?

- USDA is required to allocate the majority of the funding for emergency programs, as well as programs in Sub-Saharan Africa.
- A portion of the funding will also be provided for development assistance programs and programs in other regions of the world.
- In order to receive consideration for funding, qualified organizations must demonstrate that there is a genuine need for food assistance in the proposed recipient country.
- For development assistance programs, qualified organizations should also demonstrate that the proposed food security intervention will complement both regional and host country food security and agricultural development strategies.



What types of activities are eligible for funding?

- Emergency interventions may include responses to both natural and man-made disasters (e.g. floods, droughts, earthquakes, civil strife, etc.), as well as economic shocks (e.g. spike in food prices).
- Development interventions may include activities aimed at strengthening food and agricultural market systems, strengthening productive safety nets, increasing the purchasing power of targeted vulnerable groups, improving and expanding food processing capacity, and improving the nutritional status of chronically malnourished populations or those with special nutritional needs.

How long can eligible organizations apply for qualification and funding?

- Applications for qualification will be accepted until April 1, 2011.
- Applications for funding will be accepted until June 1, 2011.



What is the status of the USDA LRP Project?

- January 2009: The USDA study was delivered to Congress.
- September 2009: Interim guidelines were published in the Federal Register for a 30-day public comment period; and \$4.75 million was provided to the UN World Food Program for local procurement programs in Mali, Malawi, and Tanzania.
- October 2009: Public comments were received.
- November – Present: USDA has been preparing final guidelines and reviewing applications for qualification and funding. Multiple awards will be made between March and September 2010.