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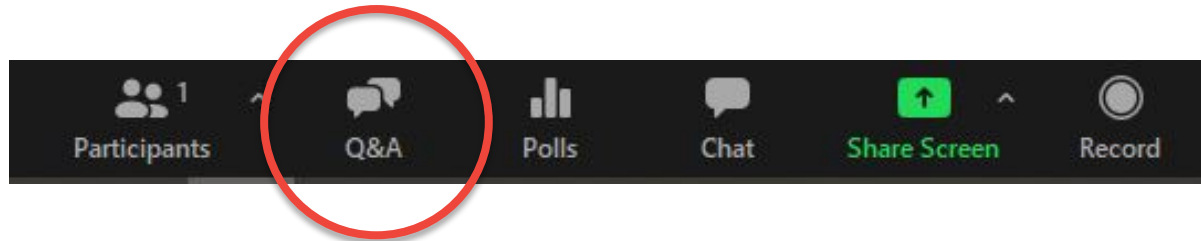
**IDEAL**

# Orientation to IDEAL's Qualitative M&E Program Improvement Award RFA

February 4, 2021

# Before we begin...

- Introduce yourself in the chat box with your name and where you're calling from
- Post your questions in the **Q&A box** at the bottom of your screen (do not include your questions in the chat box)



# Meet our Presenters



**Chris Caspar-Riggs**  
Organizational  
Learning Specialist  
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**Austen Musso**  
Small Grants Manager  
IDEAL



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Qualitative Research and  
Resilience Specialist  
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**Hilary Cook**  
M&E Advisor  
USAID/BHA



**Nancy Peek**  
Regional M&E Advisor  
USAID/BHA



# Agenda

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- IDEAL Activity
- IDEAL Small Grants Program
- BHA Qualitative M&E Policy and Guidance
- Focus Areas for Learning
- Qualitative M&E PIA RFA Highlights
- Question and Answer Session



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**Funded by:** USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA)

**Duration:** 5 years (2018-2023)

**Consortium:** Save the Children, The Kaizen Company, Mercy Corps, TANGO International

**Goal:** Improved overall effectiveness of BHA-funded emergency and non-emergency food security activities



Capacity  
Strengthening



Stakeholder  
Consultations



Small  
Grants



Peer-to-Peer  
Learning

# IDEAL Small Grants Program

**Objective:** Offer Implementers access to resources to support design, testing and sharing of food security and nutrition promising practices, resources and systems

**Focus:** Address knowledge and capacity gaps surrounding IDEAL's Content Focus Areas and BHA Policy & Guidance for USAID Title II Implementers beyond any single activity or organization

**Dissemination and Utilization:** Implement grant-funded dissemination plan during award and support IDEAL-led dissemination after the award

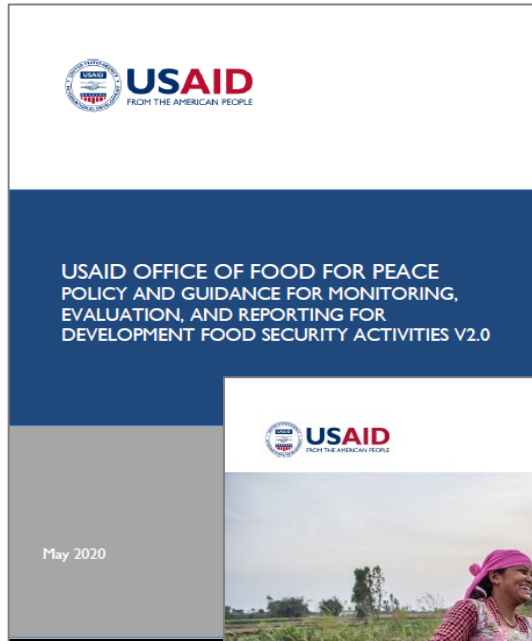
RFAs Released: **4**

Grant Values: **\$50,000 / \$100,000 / \$300,000**

Total Apps Received: **343**

Subawards Made: **15**

Apps under review: **10**



## Why Qual M&E? Why Now?

- IDEAL focus on qualitative M&E: A call from FSN Network and partners
  - Example: [FAQ on Qualitative M&E during COVID-19](#)
- Release of USAID BHA qualitative M&E guidance

## RFA Purpose

To “strengthen the design, implementation, and utilization of qualitative data used in program monitoring and discrete studies.”

# BHA M&E Guidance

## Non-Emergency

- Updated [“Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting Policy & Guidance for Development Food Security Activities”](#)
  - Legacy FFP information for RFSAs is provided on the [“Implementation and Reporting”](#) page and the [“Implementation Tools”](#) page

## Emergency

- Draft [“BHA Guidance for Monitoring, Evaluation, and Reporting for Emergency Activities”](#)
  - BHA Emergency award information provided on the [“BHA Emergency Application Guidelines”](#) page



# Reasoning

- Support for the collection and use of qualitative information
- Reasoning and challenges:
  - Rigor in qualitative methods
  - Challenges integrating qualitative methods in monitoring
  - Analyzing and using qualitative information
  - Applying qualitative information for process, context, and outcome monitoring

# Highlighted Guidance, RFSA

## Qualitative data collection as part of the monitoring strategy

- Qualitative Monitoring (QM); p. 54
- Qualitative Studies (QS); p. 55

## Addressing rigor in qualitative data collection

- Sampling for qualitative; p. 56
- Analysis and interpretation of qualitative data; p. 57

## Tools to help incorporate qualitative monitoring into the M&E system

- Qualitative Inquiry Planning Sheets (QuIPS); p. 46
- Added qualitative to LogFrame; p. 30

### ANNEX V. QUALITATIVE INQUIRY PLANNING SHEET (QUIPS) TEMPLATE

QM/QS #: [Insert title of qualitative study or monitoring inquiry]	
PURPOSE and OBJECTIVES:	
Research/inquiry question(s):	
Data type (Process/Output/Outcome/Impact/Context/Cross-cutting theme):	
DESIGN and METHODOLOGY:	
Data source(s) and research methods:	
Sampling strategy & selection criteria:	
Data collection tools, and implementation plan:	
Frequency and timing:	
Training requirements:	
Data recording, data management, and quality assurance:	
DATA ANALYSIS PLAN:	
Disaggregated by (e.g. gender, age, degree of poverty, family composition):	
DELIVERABLES:	UTILIZATION/ APPLICATION:
LIMITATIONS AND RISKS:	
ETHICAL REVIEW STATUS/ INFORMED CONSENT:	
IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE:	

# Highlighted Guidance, Emergency

## **Qualitative methods included in data collection methods**

- Qualitative data methods; p.18

## **Integration of qualitative methods throughout document**

- Throughout, applied to different components of M&E system
- Monitoring, PDM, Baseline/Endline Study, Evaluation

# RFA Focus Areas

Applications must address knowledge and capacity gaps to fully operationalizing qualitative analysis in line with the BHA P&G for Monitoring, Evaluation and Reporting

## 8 Priority Areas (see p. 4-5 of RFA, also noted in P&G)

Process monitoring	Unexpected and unexplained achievements
Outcome monitoring	Post-distribution monitoring
Unintended affects	Sequencing, layering, integration
Monitoring sustainability	Secondary adoption

# Scoring Criteria

Criteria	Points
Activity Objectives and Review of Secondary Literature	20 Points
Design, Implementation Plan, and Implementation Timeline*	20 Points
Deliverables and Plan for Utilization and Socialization	25 Points
Contributions to RFA and BHA Objectives	15 Points
Applicant Role and Background	10 Points
Budget and Budget Narrative	5 Points
Developing Country Preference	5 Points

\*Demonstrates adaptation for COVID-19 recommendations and regulations

# Key Details & Unique Aspects

- Up to 5 awards of <\$100,000 will be granted
- Fixed Amount Subawards will be utilized, so payment is based on achievement of milestones and not costs-incurred
- Food security and nutrition implementing organizations can only lead one application
- Preference for lead or collaborating organizations headquartered in developing countries as defined by USAID
- Award for stand alone activity or incorporated with another activity

# Eligibility

## Lead Applicant Must Have:

- USAID funding in past three years as prime or sub
- Capacity to manage comparable awards
- Relevant past performance
- DUNS/SAM registration
- Activity implemented in countries where BHA funded Title II activities in FY 2019, 2020 or 2021
- Lead or collaborating applicant must be legally recognized in country(ies) of implementation
- Activity approach must be feasible during COVID-19 pandemic and follow USAID and country guidance

## The following are not eligible to apply for grants under this RFA:

- Members of the IDEAL consortium: Save the Children, The Kaizen Company, Mercy Corps, and TANGO International
- Individuals and/or sole proprietorships
- Government entities, including ministries
- Multilateral organizations
- Firms operating as commercial companies or other organizations (including non-profit and non-governmental organizations) that are wholly or partially owned by foreign governments or agencies

# Important Dates to Consider

**Question Period Ends:**  
February 5, 2021

**Application Package Due:**  
March 5, 2021

**Target Award Date:**  
July 2021

**Maximum Award Period:**  
12 months







# Poll Questions

The background is a solid teal color. In the center, there are two overlapping speech bubbles. The bubble on the left is a light teal color and has a tail pointing towards the top-left corner. The bubble on the right is a slightly darker teal color and has a tail pointing towards the bottom-right corner. The text is centered within the overlapping area of these two bubbles.

# Question and Answer Session

Please type questions in the Q&A box



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# Thank you!

Please complete our brief event evaluation:  
[www.ideal.events/smallgrants](http://www.ideal.events/smallgrants)

Email [IDEAL\\_PIA@savechildren.org](mailto:IDEAL_PIA@savechildren.org)  
to submit questions until Feb 5

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