

**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**USAID/BANGLADESH OFFICE OF ACQUISITION & ASSISTANCE**

**ADDENDUM**

**CALL FOR PARTNERSHIP CONCEPT PAPERS FOR COX'S BAZAR CONFLICT PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY RESILIENCE PROGRAM (OUTSIDE OF THE REFUGEE CAMPS)**

**UNDER EXISTING**

**NEW PARTNERSHIPS INITIATIVE (NPI): CONFLICT PREVENTION AND RECOVERY PROGRAM ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT (CPRP)**

**Annual Program Statement No.: 7200AA19APS00012**

All interested organizations should carefully review both this Addendum AND Annual Program Statement No.7200AA19APS00012 (APS), which can be found here: [LINK](#). Important information contained in the APS announcement is not repeated in this specific Addendum.

This program is authorized in accordance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

**Through this Addendum to the New Partnerships Initiative: Conflict-Prevention and Recovery Program (NPI:CPRP) Annual Program Statement (APS), No. 7200AA19APS00012 (the NPI:CPRP APS), USAID/Bangladesh is making a special call for the submission of Concept Papers focused on conflict prevention, peacebuilding and crisis governance assistance in Cox's Bazar District. After the arrival of more than 700,000 Rohingya refugees since August 2017, violence and tensions have increased in Cox's Bazar. Local government representatives and community members' views towards the refugees and the international organizations responding to the needs of the refugees are increasingly negative, sparking fear and resentment. This Addendum is also intended to diversify and broaden USAID's partner base, as described in the APS announcement.**

Subject to the availability of funds, USAID may allocate up to \$7,000,000 over the course of the next fiscal year to fund a portfolio of programs, with funding for individual program proposals estimated in the range of \$500,000 to \$7,000,000. The proposed period of performance can be two to five years. Priority will be placed on supporting the most promising approaches to the objective described herein.

All terms and conditions of this Addendum and the NPI:CPRP APS apply ([link](#)).

## **I. Overview of Funding Opportunity**

USAID/Bangladesh is seeking applications that incorporate interventions that will mitigate conflict and/or drivers of conflict emerging from the influx of Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazar district. Interventions should include developing local capacity to respond, with durable solutions, to emerging changes and needs in the district through a conflict sensitive approach. Key areas of interest are tied to the conflict drivers. Illustrative examples are local governance, service delivery, livelihoods, youth development, and environmental resource management.

USAID seeks partners who can mobilize communities, tap into existing productive efforts at the grassroots level, rapidly scale programming on the ground, address drivers of social behavior, and draw out the entrepreneurial spirit and strengths of civil society. These activities should catalyze sustained, positive change in the lives of people living in conflict-affected societies with particular emphasis on women and children, and youth. At the community level, USAID seeks to strengthen families, the core building block of all societies. All activities must be carried out recognizing, in the first instance, the universal dignity of the human person.

Through this Addendum, USAID is prioritizing proposals that enable USAID to partner with new and under-utilized development actors as described below and in the APS, based on the belief that a larger and more diverse partner base will expand the available ideas, capabilities and networks to address shared development challenges. Any proposed intervention or activity must have an explicit and direct link to the achievement of USAID/Bangladesh programmatic objectives as defined herein. Concept Papers should outline briefly how interested organizations plan to conceptualize, test, assess, and apply solutions to conflict prevention and community resilience.

## **II. Eligible Organizations**

The Global NPI:CPRP APS provides details on the type of organizations eligible to apply for awards under the Addendum, including requirements for: defining a measurable impact; having an implementation plan that will achieve the proposed programmatic objectives within a 60 month period; and a commitment to the principles of Collaborating, Learning and Adapting. To be eligible, all implementing partners must be legally registered entities under applicable law and eligible under the relevant laws to receive funding from a foreign source. In addition to any requirements listed in the NPI:CPRP APS, this Addendum further requires the following:

<b>Type of Partnership</b>	<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>
<b>1. New and Underutilized Local Entities</b>	No additional requirements
<b>2. New and Underutilized Locally Established Partners (LEP)</b>	No additional requirements

<b>3. Prime Partner Award with sub-awards to LEPs and Local Entities</b>	No additional requirements
<b>4. Leverage Partner Award</b>	No additional requirements

### III. Award Types

USAID/Bangladesh intends to make the following types of awards as a result of this call for concept papers:

<b>Type of Partnership</b>	<b>Eligibility Requirements</b>
<b>1. New and Underutilized Local Entities</b>	Fixed Amount Award
<b>2. New and Underutilized Locally Established Partners (LEP)</b>	Cooperative Agreement or Grant
<b>3. Prime Partner Award with sub-awards to LEPs and Local Entities</b>	Cooperative Agreement
<b>4. Leverage Partner Award</b>	Cooperative Agreement or Grant

### IV. Additional Information on Targeted Sector/Development Objective

Background: The speed and scale of the refugee flows since August 2017 has resulted in a critical emergency and is a strain on already stretched resources in the region. The displacement has resulted in serious concerns regarding social cohesion between the refugees and the host communities. The presence of nearly one million Rohingya refugees has had a dramatic effect on the host communities surrounding the camps, especially in the *upazilas* (sub-districts) of Ukhiya and Teknaf, which are bearing the brunt of the burden of the crisis. While host communities in Ukhiya and Teknaf are acutely affected, other upazilas in Cox's Bazar are also severely impacted by the displacement of the refugees. Accounts from the field describe a deterioration of the situation, such as increases in crime and security-related threats, loss of livelihoods, increase in child marriage, increased risk of drug and human trafficking, inflated prices for basic goods and services, increased resentment and insecurity in the area, community concerns about overcrowding, the rapid deforestation in the area, and impact of closing the Naf River fishery.

The magnitude of the aid reaching the Rohingya camps is causing a sense of deprivation and disparity to boil among the local population, who are also disadvantaged and struggling.

Location: While activities can cover both host communities and refugee communities, to the extent practicable, all interventions should be physically located in areas outside of the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar district.

Coordination: Given the sheer scale and complexity of the response, applicants should demonstrate coordination and communication with local actors and implementing organizations to ensure that interventions proposed in the application compliment planned or active initiatives.

## **V. Strategy**

The overarching goal of USAID/Bangladesh's Special Development Objective (under development) is to protect the lives of, and foster peace, dignity, health, opportunity and prosperity for the people who have been affected by the Rohingya crisis in Bangladesh. New strategy documents, including a new CDCS, are now under development. One expected result towards achievement of this goal includes reducing the risks of conflict caused by the Rohingya displacement and increase opportunity in impacted communities in Cox's Bazar.

This NPI:CPRP APS Addendum seeks applications that mitigate conflict in Cox's Bazar, addressing conflict drivers emerging from the influx of refugees. In all programming efforts, priority is placed on: (a) improving the capacity of local actors, including civil society and local government to mitigate/prevent conflict, build resilience, and respond to citizen needs; (b) approaches that work with local communities in a holistic fashion, for example, by building trusted relationships with faith leaders and Bangladeshi faith based organizations or organizations that have experience working with faith leaders to affect long term development; and (c) partnership with new and underutilized organizations (as defined in the Global NPI:CPRP APS).

This NPI:CPRP APS Addendum seeks partners with which it can collaboratively identify new approaches to accelerate change that can prevent or reduce the likelihood of conflict and build resilience. USAID is most interested in concepts that mobilize local communities, work with local partners and existing networks as well as across international borders, elicit positive societal change, are evidence-based, cost-effective and show promise of applicability and potential to scale across diverse geographies. Pathways for partnering can involve working with the private sector but particularly with local communities and organizations which can increase the communities' resilience and their capacities and commitments to self-reliance.

In order to source new ideas and a diverse set of partners in this effort, USAID invites eligible organizations to submit concept papers for partnering with USAID to achieve our shared development objectives. USAID is focused on collaboration and partnerships that address the following objectives:

In order to reinforce USAID's vision of conflict mitigation and community resilience, the applicant must be flexible, bring socially innovative strategies that elicit change, and are replicable and sustainable. When designing programs, the applicant must have experience with and be alert to cultural sensitivities and ethno-religious realities within the universal framework of the dignity of the human person. Approaches to conflict mitigation and community resilience would be appropriate to include private sector engagement as broadly outlined in <https://www.usaid.gov/work-usaid/private-sector-engagement>

To guide the applicant, the following ideas and principles for partnership may be helpful:

- The applicant must recognize that one size does not fit all when it comes to engagement with communities outside of Cox's Bazar. The applicant must be able to demonstrate how it will secure buy-in from and mobilize local communities, harness private sector resources and expertise where appropriate, engage both local and regional governments and have experience in addressing socio-economic, religious and ethnic sensitivities in conflict zones.
- Considering conflict prevention and resilience, activities must improve the economic and social conflict drivers within the targeted communities as well as address social behavior and draw out the entrepreneurial spirit and strengths of civil society with an emphasis on women, youth and families.

Program Objectives: The purpose of this activity is to prevent conflict and foster community resilience for communities affected by the Rohingya crisis in Cox's Bazar district.

#### Other Considerations

- Producing a multiplier effect through private sector engagement in communities in Cox's Bazar district;
- Furnishing and empowering underutilized development partners to amplify the impact of American tax dollars;
- Pinpointing development solutions that will be family, community, country- and partner-driven for maximum long-term effect in Cox's Bazar district;
- Working to ensure that learning is passed on and continue beyond the award period.
- Local private sector, faith-based organizations, women's, youth, family and community groups are not excluded from the process.

Efforts to improve the quality of approaches to conflict mitigation and resilience are often marked by unique constraints such as weak local institutions and poor communication support. In those contexts, efforts aimed to improve the quality of engagement and other objectives of this Addendum are best understood and led by organizations with trust and credibility in the host communities.

The Concept Papers may include activities that address inclusion, social cohesion, dispute resolution, access to resources and community dialogue:

- Promoting leadership and diversity in leadership, including but not limited to:
  - Reducing discrimination and chronic marginalization;
  - Empowering women and youth as well as families and communities;
  - Promoting fairer allocation of social resources and power.
- Strengthening social cohesion, including but not limited to:
  - Building respect and trust between groups and individuals;
  - Supporting family stability and self-care;
  - Advancing inter-faith and inter-ethnic dialogue;
- Encouraging more equitable access to state and non-state resources, including but not limited to:
  - Promoting transparent and equitable allocation of state resources, including to neglected areas; reducing corruption;
  - Supporting capable and effective private sector and non-state actors;
  - Facilitating private sector engagement to improve business enabling environments and reduce barriers to trade and investment.

**VI. Merit Review Criteria**

Proposed partnerships will be evaluated based on the merit review criteria set forth in the NPI:CPRP APS in Section V: Application Review Information, as well as the following Merit Review Criteria:

<b>Merit Review Element</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<p><b>1. Form of Engagement Improves the Likelihood of Measurable Programmatic Success (25%)</b></p>	<p>The extent to which the proposed concept demonstrates one or more of the following forms of engagement to increase the likelihood of accomplishing the program objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) No additional benefit towards accomplishment of program objective is achieved through the use of the proposed form of engagement.</li> <li>2) Some additional benefit toward accomplishment of program objective is achieved through the use of the proposed form of engagement.</li> <li>3) Significant additional benefit toward accomplishment of program objective is achieved through the use of the proposed form of engagement.</li> </ol>

<p><b>2. Advancing the NPI's Principles (25%)</b></p>	<p>The extent to which the proposed concept advances the principles of the New Partnerships Initiative (scale of 1 - 5; 1 represents none/minimal advancement, 5 represents significant advancement).</p> <p>The principles of NPI are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Leveraging private development assistance to respond to shared USAID priorities and strengthen long-term partners for the Journey to Self-Reliance;</li> <li>2) Equipping and empowering new and underutilized development partners to maximize the impact of American tax dollars;</li> <li>3) Supporting solutions to near and long-term Administration priorities that will advance the National Security Strategy and support the foreign assistance realignment;</li> <li>4) Identifying development solutions that will be country- and partner-driven for maximum long-term impact; and</li> <li>5) Creating incentives for expanding and diversifying USAID's partner base so that we help to equip more resource partners to support country progress</li> </ol>
<p><b>3. Building Partner Country Capabilities and Commitment toward advancing the journey to self-reliance (15%)</b></p>	<p>The extent to which the proposed Concept Note's proposed forms of engagement increase the likelihood that local and locally established partners or the affected communities themselves, will be able to continue the program's activities and/or maintain its achievements without funding from USAID (on a scale of 1 - 3; 1 represents none/minimal advancement, 2 represents some advancement, and 3 represents significant advancement):</p> <p>The use of the proposed form of engagement is likely to achieve</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) No or minimal chance of sustainment</li> <li>2) Some chance of sustainment; or</li> <li>3) Significant chance of sustainment.</li> </ol>
<p><b>4. Technical Approach (25%)</b></p>	<p>Applications will be evaluated for their innovation, practicality and potential effectiveness in achieving the goal of the</p>

	Addendum and the proposed activity's goals and objectives.
<b>5. Gender Integration and Inclusive Development (10%)</b>	The extent to which the applicant's technical approach and management plan demonstrate understanding of USAID's principles on gender and inclusive development.

Proposed programs should be consistent with USAID legal and policy restrictions, including those set forth in USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS) and in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

## VII. Application Instructions and Review Process

USAID/Bangladesh's Regional Contracting Office (RCO) will be responsible for the review process and management of any awards issued under this addendum. Applicants are required to follow the Application and Submission Information instructions set forth in Section IV of the NPI:CPRP APS and submit Concept Papers using the Concept Paper Template (available at: [LINK](#)). Information provided in the Concept Paper should address the objectives and criteria presented above.

Applicants should become familiar with the USAID/Bangladesh strategy and priorities and consult with the Mission prior to submitting a concept paper. The Mission can discuss the extent to which a proposed idea is appropriate and aligns with USG goals in Bangladesh. Prospective applicants can ask questions regarding this Addendum to the NPI:CPRP APS POC Abdullah Akbar, Agreement Officer at abakbar@usaid.gov. For inquiries and consultations with USAID/Bangladesh, please indicate in the e-mail subject line "USAID/Bangladesh NPI:CPRP APS Consultation."

The completed Concept Paper (including any Supporting Information) should be submitted to dhakaoaadg@usaid.gov.

Concept papers can be submitted based on the below timeline:

<b>All Concept Papers received:</b>	<b>Will be reviewed by USAID/Bangladesh Selection Committee convening o/a:</b>
After Addendum issuance and before June 30	July 8



For Concept Paper submission, please indicate in the e-mail subject line “USAID/Bangladesh NPI:CPRP APS Concept Paper Submission.” USAID/Bangladesh will confirm receipt of Concept Paper within three (3) business days.

While USAID/Bangladesh will review concept papers on a rolling basis, applicants under the NPI:CPRP APS will receive an initial response from USAID within 20 business days.

After a Concept Paper is reviewed by USAID, the Agency will inform the applicant whether further development discussions are warranted, and, subsequent to those discussions, whether a full application will be requested. Concept Papers must be submitted by the deadline in order to be considered.

### **PHASE 1: CONCEPT PAPER SUBMISSION.**

A Concept Paper is a short, five (5) page document where the Applicant provides an overview of their idea. USAID has provided a template below.

Applicants may submit a Concept Paper in response to an active Addendum at any time. The USAID Operating Unit that issued the Addendum will acknowledge Concept Paper submission within 3 business days. Each Addendum will review Concept Papers against merit review criteria detailed in the Addendum. Each Addendum will provide a time-table for reviewing Concept Papers against merit review.

USAID Addendum managers will provide individual results to each applicant within 20 work days following the Selection Committee meeting. USAID will notify potential Applicants of significant changes in the review process timeline through a written amendment to the Program Statement. USAID, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to review Concept Papers out of cycle.

Concept Papers MUST be in English and submitted electronically via e-mail in Word 2000 or Word 2003 text accessible or Adobe PDF.

Concept Papers shall be written in English and shall not exceed five (5) pages, using 1” page margins with 12 point font. Applicants must follow the format below.

Clarity and specificity are important as is ensuring that Concept Paper narratives address the points outlined in the Addendum used to review the Concept Paper. During the merit review process, USAID/Bangladesh may reject for funding those Concept Papers that are vague or merely restate language found in the Addendum.

Concept Papers more than five (5) pages will not be accepted.

USAID anticipates two (2) possible results from the Concept Paper merit review process:

- **Conditional Acceptance** - Invited for Co-Creation: Concept Paper generally meets Addendum objectives and receives strong ratings against the Program Statement merit review criteria. Additional clarity is needed. USAID/Bangladesh invites Applicant to engage in Co-Creation to address the weaknesses identified by the Mission in its Invitation for Co-Creation letter to the Applicant. If Co-Creation process is successfully

concluded, USAID/Bangladesh will follow with a request for submission of a full application.

- **Rejection:** Concept Paper does not meet Addenda objectives and receives average to low ratings against the Program Statement merit review criteria. USAID/Bangladesh rejects the Concept Paper.

## **PHASE 2: CO-CREATION.**

Applicants whose Concept Papers are invited for Co-Creation will engage with USAID/Bangladesh to work through areas of weakness and to respond to USAID questions and clarify aspects of the concept that are not clear. The Co-Creation process builds on a Concept Paper that has strength and potential; it is not intended to supplant Applicant initiative or build new concepts from the ground up. During this phase, Applicants will work with USAID technical teams to address issues such as environmental concerns, impact indicators, and evaluation of their application. USAID/Bangladesh envisages a product of the Co-Creation process is a strong draft project description for the full application phase, as well as quantitative and/or qualitative indicators or performance milestones.

If an Applicant does not succeed at the Co-Creation phase, the process ends for that Applicant.

## **PHASE 3: FULL APPLICATION.**

If Applicants successfully complete Co-Creation, a full application will be requested based on the consensus reached during Phase 2. At this point, USAID/Bangladesh will issue a Request for Application (RFA) to the Applicant. The RFA will provide complete instructions for submission of a full application. The full application will detail and expand upon the concept developed through co-creation. The full application also requires the Applicant to complete specific USG forms and to provide some additional information that USAID/Bangladesh will forward with an appropriate implementing instrument.

There are reasons why an Applicant may be unsuccessful at the full application phase. For example:

- The detailed program does not satisfy the criteria and definitions provided in the Concept Paper;
- A Resource Partner drops out or does not materialize and the partner no longer meets the partner eligibility criteria in Section I.B of the NPI:CPRP APS;
- The Applicant cannot provide evidence that it is a legal entity; or
- USAID/Bangladesh has other concerns after conducting due diligence or pre-award surveys.

USAID reserves the right to make no award under this Program Statement at any stage of the process.

## **VIII. Questions and Further Assistance**

Questions regarding the substance and objectives of this addendum should be directed to Abdullah Akbar, Agreement Officer at [abakbar@usaid.gov](mailto:abakbar@usaid.gov).

Questions regarding the substance and terms of the NPI:CPRP APS should be directed to:

Joy Burriss, Agreement Specialist

U.S. Agency for International Development

Office of Acquisition and Assistance

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, SA-44

Washington, DC 20523

Tel: 202-567-4174

Email: [jburriss@usaid.gov](mailto:jburriss@usaid.gov)

For additional information regarding guidelines and procedures to submit a concept paper, please refer to the NPI:CPRP APS which can be found at the following website: [[link](#)].

**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (USAID) NEW  
PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (NPI): CONFLICT-PREVENTION AND  
RECOVERY PROGRAM (CPRP)**

**A. Application Overview – (please complete the following questions below:)**

**(For Partners That Are Applying as “New” or “Underutilized” “Local” Partner)**  
We certify that, in line with the criteria enumerated in Section III, Sub-Section A of the NPI/CPRP APS, our organization has not received more than \$25 million cumulatively in direct or indirect funding from USAID over the last five (5) years.

*(For Partners That Are Applying as a “New” or “Underutilized” “Locally Established” Partner)* We certify that, in line with the criteria enumerated in Section III, Sub-Section A of the NPI/CPRP APS, our organization has not received more than \$25 million cumulatively in direct or indirect funding from USAID over the last five (5) years and can demonstrate non-Federal funding equal to or greater than the USAID funding received by our organization over the last five years.

*(For Partners That Are Applying for a Limited Mentorship Award)* We certify that, in line with the criteria enumerated in Section III, Sub-Section A of the NPI/CPRP APS, our organization will use Modality 3a or Modality 3b to provide sub-awards to local or locally established partners.

*(For Partners That Are Applying as Leverage)* We certify that, in line with the criteria enumerated in Section III, Sub-Section A of the NPI/CPRP APS, our organization can demonstrate a match in additional leveraged funds worth a minimum of 50 percent of the total value of the award we seek from USAID; we certify further that this amount does not include in-kind contributions, but could include non-Federal grants and external awards.

1. **Proposed Activity Name/Title:** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Certification, with Explanation, of Eligibility Under USAID Priority/ Programmatic Focus Area** (from Section I/Appendix B of the Program Statement):  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. **Proposed Period of Performance** (i.e., start date and end date): \_\_\_\_\_
4. **Total Program Amount** (in USDs): \_\_\_\_\_
5. **Total Amount of Funding Requested from USAID and total amount leveraged** (if applicable), including from what source(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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6. **Applicant Organization Name:** \_\_\_\_\_
  7. **Applicant Contact Person** (*name, phone, e-mail*): \_\_\_\_\_
  8. **Full Address for Applicant Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_
  9. **Type of Organization** (*e.g., U.S., non-U.S., multilateral, private, for-profit, non-profit*) *date of incorporation, etc.*): \_\_\_\_\_
  10. **(If Applicable) Name(s) of Partner(s) Organization(s)** (*Applicants that are applying as Mentors will name Subpartners here:* \_\_\_\_\_

**B. Concept Introduction** (*approximately ½ page*): *Identify the problem you will address, link it to one or more of the focus areas or an Addendum to the NPI/CPRP APS and briefly describe your work for tackling this problem. Describe why there is a need for your concept, how it differs from alternatives, and any relevant partner-specific considerations for the problem or solution. Explain how the program advances the Journey to Self-Reliance of the country or countries.*

**C. Beneficiaries** (*approximately ½ page*): *Describe the types of benefits your work will produce and the types and range of people who will benefit from this work. Was the concept designed with input from beneficiaries? Has it been, or can it be, adapted to reach women and men, indigenous people, ethnic and/or religious minorities, and youth? How can the concept be scaled up to reach more people?*

**D. Geographic Location** (*approximately ½ page*): *In what location(s) (e.g., Province, city) are you proposing to operate? Describe key elements of, and actors in, the geographic location(s) in which you propose to work. What are the biggest challenges and opportunities? Please provide a brief description of previous work experience in this geographic location.*

**E. Intervention approach** (*approximately one [1] page*): *Building on the introduction, describe how this intervention will produce the desired impact in the focus area(s) identified. Briefly describe critical barrier(s) or problem(s) related to your focus area(s) that your concept addresses. Be sure to include information to describe why the approach is creative or innovative, how it is potentially scalable, and evidence to support it as a tested solution or as an intervention likely to have a significant development impact, and how it will be sustained. Include discussion of the resiliency of this idea to conflict, the potential for this idea to create and/or resolve conflicts, and how the idea and partners can adapt to these circumstances.*

**F. Intervention Results** (*approximately one [1] page*): *As specifically as possible, describe the anticipated results and/or impact of your activity. What are the key, quantifiable metrics related to your project's performance or expected performance? What is the scale needed to achieve results sufficient to address the problem? What are the baselines you will measure before the project begins?*

**G. (If applicable) Roles of Partners** (*approximately ½ page*): *Describe and define the role of*

*other entities in the partnership. This must include a description of the leveraged funding, if necessary, or sub-partners if submitting a mentorship program proposal. Describe how the partnership meets the criteria for outline in Section I.B of this Program Statement. If your organization is not proposing any partners, this section can be empty.*

**H. Capacity of the Applicant(s)** (approximately 1/2 page): *Describe your organization's technical, financial, and managerial capacity to carry out the proposed work and that of any consortium partners. Have you previously done similar work, or worked in the same location(s)?*

*Signature of individual with authority to obligate your organization*