**Cold Chain Market Assessment RFP – Questions and Responses**

1. Do we still need to register ourselves and complete the LEIA prequalification questionnaire for this particular RFP if we have already done so in the past RFPs?

*No.*

1. Can you submit a proposal covering only one of the focus regions?

*No, We are looking for one principal implementer who will be awarded the contract for this work across the three geographies*. If when we review the proposals we do not identify a partner who can adequately cover all regions we may broker a partnership, but that is not the preference.

1. Should we focus on any particular agriculture products when assessing the cold chain technologies and operations? The RFP states to focus on ‘Fresh Fruit and Vegetables, Fish, Meat, and Dairy’ but the cold chain operations vary significantly depending on the specific product in question (e.g., some products require precooling operations before being transported).

*We have not specified this as we expect the initial research findings will inform products to focus on across the different geographies.*

1. The project envisages a significant focus on policy review. Should we focus only on domestic policies (meant to support the usage of cold chain technologies)? Or should we also analyze the export policies (export/import tariffs, duties, etc.)?

*We recommend looking into both domestic and export market focused policies. We do not expect that a lot of activity has taken place on policies in most of the select markets and this an area where the CLASP team will provide support and inputs*.

1. 3.If so, which export markets should we focus on? Ones identified by the client or those we identify as of most interest?

*Those markets identified as of most interest based on the research findings.*

1. Is the assignment to be purely based on academic research or do you require our research methodologies to be more scientific?

*Combination of both approaches is recommended.*

1. Would request you to please let us know, the contract under this assignment will be signed with which entity of CLASP?

*CLASP, 1401 K Street NW, STE 1100, Washington DC 20005*

1. Kindly confirm whether consulting firms can participate in this RFP.

*Yes, consulting firms are eligible to submit proposals for this RfP.*

1. Please let us know expected budget for this assignment.

*Please provide a realistic budget for what it would take to deliver the scope of work, and then if there will be need to negotiate or revise the scope and/or budget- this can be done once a partner has been selected*

1. Please let us know whether any travel is anticipated in this project.

*We do not encourage travel due to the COVID- 19 pandemic. However, in case travel is deemed necessary, approval will be given based on the recommendation of the travel risk advisor and CLASP management.*