Dear Partners,

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has issued interim guidance regarding the use of USAID funds to procure essential medical supplies necessary for implementing partners to proceed with critical programs.

Implementing partners may now use USAID’s funding to procure “Covered Material” *without further approvals* in either of the following two situations:
For the protection of, and use by, staff under both acquisition and assistance awards, (including contracts, grants and cooperative agreements) from USAID.

In this situation, implementing partners may procure Covered Material from any source.

When procuring Covered Material for the safe and effective continuity of USAID-funded programs, including the protection of beneficiaries (but not the protection of their staff, which is covered in #1 above), implementing partners may procure Covered Material manufactured locally or regionally, provided the Covered Material is not, and could not reasonably be intended, for the U.S. market.

“Covered Material” includes the following supplies: N95 filtering facepiece respirators; other filtering facepiece respirators; elastomeric, air-purifying respirators and appropriate particulate filters/cartridges; PPE surgical masks; PPE gloves or surgical gloves; ventilators; or COVID-19 test kits that are meant for the U.S. market.

All other PPE and COVID-19 test kits not listed above as “covered material” are not restricted from procurement or subject to limitations pursuant to this guidance.

For the full interim policy guidance on Covered Material, including grant/contract language, please see the guidance document here.

For additional information on this guidance, please see answers to frequently asked questions here, or email questions directly to CoveredMaterials@usaid.gov.

For a full list of Implementing Partner FAQs related to COVID-19, please see the COVID-19 Implementing Partner Resource Page.

Wishing you all continued health and safety.