Questions regarding context/scope:

1. **Does USIP have a preferred duration for data collection activities in Iraq?** USIP would prefer the data collection to be conducted over a 6-week period, from mid-April to late May.

2. **What is the rationale behind excluding Track 3 from the evaluation?** The exclusion of track 3 is because this track is still within its early phases of being implemented and therefore evaluation will not be productive in this round of evaluation.

3. **Does the maximum budget of 44,000 USD include all costs (both expenses and consulting fees) or just consulting fees?** The maximum budget of 44,000 includes all fees.

Available of data

1. **Was there a baseline or Mid-term Evaluation undertaken for the program, and if so, can USIP share the reports?** An evaluation was conducted in 2013, which will be shared with the team that has a proposal accepted.

2. **Has monitoring data related to the program been collected on an ongoing basis?** Yes, there is a monitoring plan and within that activity quarterly monitoring reports have been conducted. Include content analysis of proposals, meeting minutes of board member meetings, content analysis of policies from AIM and direct follow-up interviews with AIM.

3. **Can USIP share the theory of change for the program, and any evaluation frameworks related to the program?** This will also be shared with the team after an evaluation proposal is accepted.

Teaming and other

- **Does USIP have a preference for the team size and structure?** USIP sees value in having members of the team come from minority groups within Iraq. This will help the evaluation team better contextualize the findings, however, is not a requirement.

- **Where will the learning session facilitated by USIP’s Planning, Learning, and Evaluation Team take place? Is it expected to be in-person?** Ideally, this would be in-person in Washington, with remote participation with USIP’s staff in Iraq and potentially partners. USIP is flexible, though, on the exact location, format and having participants join remotely from the evaluation team.

- **Will USIP provide support in-country during data collection, specifically, will they assist with scheduling FGDs and KIIs?** USIP will assist the evaluation team throughout the process and provide logistical support with arranging meetings required. Additionally with USIP provide housing or local transportation while undertaking data collection in Iraq? Yes, USIP will assist with accommodation and transportation, however this will come from the $44,000 budget.

- **Should bidders budget for accommodation and per diem costs for the field visit?** If so, what rates should bidders use to allow for comparability between budgets? Yes, bidders should consult the State department per diem rates listed on their website.
Would USIP be interested in pairing me with a local evaluator as a team for this evaluation? USIP would consider proposals which include local evaluators should a local evaluator be identified in the proposal, with a strong background in such evaluation projects. USIP is not positioned to select local evaluators separately to pair with an international evaluator.

Is there any room for flexibility into July/August? Sadly, there is no room for an extension to the deadline due to the inter-agency agreement (IAA) end date of June 30th, 2017.

To help us decide whether it is safe to send our Iraq team to Nineveh, please can you confirm the locations of your project in this area. If it is in Mosul, we will need to use telephone interviews, Skype or Whatsapp. Can you kindly provide us with more information about the locations, so that we can make decisions about the methods to be used for data collection. Evaluating teams are not expected to travel to Mosul or its environs. Many of those involved in AIM activities in Nineveh are based in Erbil. The interviews can be conducted in Erbil, Dohuk or from a distance over Skype/Whatsapp.