AGGREGATED Q&As ON INAUGURAL SOLICITATION

● Eligibility
  ○ If we have received grants, but not from government nor multilateral organizations, and if we have 2 years of audited financials for subsidiary operations but not for our US 501c3, do we meet the criteria for application?
    ■ Unfortunately this does not meet GFEMS’ current eligibility requirements.
  ○ As a US-based NGO can we apply for any of the Current Opportunities?
    ■ GFEMS will consider US and non-US organizations with existing legal authorization to operate in any of the countries named in the Current Opportunities.
  ○ My organization is an international NGO based in Europe, who works in close collaboration with CSOs globally -- all of whom are legally registered to work in their respective countries of operation. When we carry out joint activities (e.g. training), my organization’s staff always have proper working visas. Is that sufficient legal authorization to be eligible as a lead applicant?
    ■ Yes, provided that in-country implementation partner(s) named in your organization’s Concept Note already have existing legal authority to operate in the relevant country themselves.

● Current Opportunities
  ○ Is this the only chance to receive GFEMS grant funding this year?
    ■ No, GFEMS anticipates additional rounds of grantmaking later this year, with exact timing TBD. Additionally, Concept Notes not selected this round may be considered for funding in subsequent rounds.
  ○ Can an organization submit several concept notes if they address different opportunities (e.g., both opportunities under the "migrant labor" section)? Can we combine proposals to two different Current Opportunities into one Concept Note?
    ■ Yes, applicants may apply to multiple of the Current Opportunities. Where your intervention model addresses more than one Current Opportunity concurrently, this can be submitted as a single, combined Concept Note; otherwise please submit separately.
  ○ Can an organization submit proposals to serve as the lead implementation partner on one (or more) Concept Notes, and as subrecipient or subcontractor on others?
    ■ Yes.
  ○ It is not entirely clear which countries named throughout the Current Opportunities are eligible for funding in this current round. For example, in once place it seems
that Vietnam may be the only country for which funding is currently available. Can you clarify which countries qualify for funding in this current round?

- Eligible countries are as noted on https://www.gfems.org/current-opportunities/.

- Regarding Filipino migrant labor, GFEMS is interested in programs that help Filipinos both inside and outside of the Philippines, correct?
  - Yes, so long as they are transnational migrants or intending transnational migration.

- Regarding combating online-enabled sex trafficking, does GFEMS have further information on the specific social media to be tracked (e.g., Twitter, Facebook or other specific types of social media)?
  - No, the grantee should propose which specific social media channels are most relevant to the given context and why.

- Regarding Construction, would the recruitment corridor of workers migrating from South Asia to work in the Gulf and particularly in Qatar fall within your remit?
  - Yes.

- Regarding Construction, could this Opportunity also cover Brick Kiln worksites in India where there are also high migrant population on the move?
  - While GFEMS is open to any innovative proposal that fits within the parameters of our Current Opportunities, we are not prioritizing brick kiln worksites at this time.

- Regarding Apparel & Footwear, a suggestion is made that there could be the quantifying of data from spinning or weaving operations to estimate the value of eliminating forced labor. Would GFEMS have access to this spinning and weaving operations data or other data from the operations itself, or would applicants be providing this data along with the technological solution?
  - In your Concept Note, please indicate whether your proposed approach assumes you will source the data directly -- and how that will be achieved -- or if the data would need to be provided.

- Regarding Apparel & Footwear, are we correct in understanding that US funding is not available for India? Can US organizations apply for grants for work in India in the Apparel and Footwear sector as funds will come from non-US sources?
  - Yes, US organizations can apply for funding in India under Apparel & Footwear.

- Regarding Apparel & Footwear, the language in the solicitation in the Apparel and Footwear section references different parts of the supply chain in different countries; i.e., CMT in Bangladesh and Vietnam and cotton production in India. Does this imply that only those parts of the supply chain should be addressed in those countries? Are proposals addressing multiple or all parts of the supply chain in a given country – i.e., India – welcome?
  - Yes, proposals may address multiple or all parts of the supply chain.
○ Regarding Apparel & Footwear and Construction, both apply to “Multiple countries” but encourage applicants proposing work in India and/or Vietnam. Would GFEMS be amenable to funding concept note submissions that are aligned with the GFEMS theory of change and stated programmatic priorities but focused on another country in the region?
  ■ We will prioritize the countries specifically mentioned; however, we are open to innovative proposals in these two sectors in other locations as well.

● Prevalence Reduction and Impact
  ○ How does GFEMS measure “prevalence in target communities” and "prevalence in target industries/segments"? Is there a standard or is it expected that the applicant will define how it’s measured?
    ■ GFEMS is developing cost-effective prevalence measurement methodologies that will be adapted to specific geographies and industries. GFEMS will work with applicants to determine appropriate adaptations for a given context.
  ○ Can you provide further clarity on what metrics will be measured by the applicant versus GFEMS or a third party? For instance, if our proposed 3-5 metrics or indicators include indicators around prevalence (which we understand GFEMS will measure), as well as other non-prevalence indicators, would the applicant only be responsible for tracking and measuring the non-prevalence related indicators?
    ■ Measuring prevalence will primarily be the responsibility of GFEMS (and its external partners), with input from and coordination with the implementing organization. GFEMS will help implementing partners identify appropriate metrics related to drivers of prevalence reduction (i.e. vulnerability and profit); however, it will be the responsibility of the implementing partner to execute the necessary data collection and monitoring over the life of the grant.
  ○ Can you provide additional details about the role of the independent measurement teams that GFEMS will engage?
    ■ GFEMS will engage independent research and measurement teams for prevalence baselines and endlines on a given sector, and for validating and analyzing programmatic metrics related to addressing drivers of prevalence reduction during the middle and at the end of the grant.

● Budgeting
  ○ What total budget range should we aim for? Is there any floor or ceiling applicants should take into consideration?
GFEMS is planning to provide up to $15 million in grants for this cycle, split across each of the Current Opportunity areas. The total funding requested in the Concept Note should reflect reasonable costs and value for money related to program impact.

- Do we need to provide a budget at this time?
  - No, shortlisted applicants who are asked to submit a full proposal will submit detailed budgets at that time.

- Given that the applicant may be asked to adjust its concept, expand its scope, or incorporate additional partners if a Concept Note proceeds to the Full Proposal stage, could the funding request be adjusted accordingly at that time?
  - Yes.

- What costs are unallowable?
  - For grants supported in part or in whole through US Government Assistance Agreements, the allowability of costs will be assessed using the guidance provided in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards as outlined in the 2 CFR 200. It is our expectation that the majority of awards made in response to this solicitation will be of this type.

- Do you have targets for cost-share?
  - No, we do not have specific targets.

- Can you provide more detail on exactly what is included in the caveat that for-profit organizations are not permitted to generate profit from grant-funded activities?
  - For grants supported in part or in whole through US Government Assistance Agreements, the allowability of costs will be assessed using the guidance provided in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards as outlined in the 2 CFR 200. 2 CFR 200.307 provides additional detail on the treatment and allowability of Program Income. It is our expectation that the majority of awards made in response to this solicitation will be of this type.

- The Call for Concept Notes does not provide guidance for indirect costs. Please confirm that an applicant’s Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA) with the United States Government would be honored on any awarded programs.
  - Grants supported in part or in whole through US Government Assistance Agreements will allow for the reimbursement of indirect costs in accordance with the entity’s federally approved indirect cost rate agreement. It is our expectation that the majority of awards made in response to this solicitation will be of this type.

**Timeline**

- Does the fund consider, or does it prefer, multi-year projects?
- GFEMS will consider any timeline up to 24 months (as stated in the Concept Note template), with no preference on timeline per se, as long as the proposed timeline is feasible to deliver results.

○ What should applicants assume is an expected target start-date for activities?
  - September 2018