

ACCESSING ACDI/VOCA EXPERTISE

Through GSA'S Multiple Award Schedule (MAS)

ACDI/VOCA provides a range of business consulting solutions for federal agencies through MAS, including the following:

- Value chain / market system analysis
- Targeted technical assistance
- Literature reviews and multi-country landscape analysis
- Tool development and multimedia training
- Strategy development and evaluations
- Program management for research and learning initiatives
- Large-scale, multi-year, field-based development programs

WHAT IS MAS?

The **Multiple Award Schedule (MAS)** allows any federal agency to procure goods and services through a **streamlined and simplified** acquisition process. **MAS offers many benefits to federal buyers**, including the following:

- Access to pre-vetted contractors
- Standardized labor categories that minimize the burden of cost analysis
- The ability to target requests for quotes to a limited source list.
(Agencies that utilize MAS include USAID, USDA, and MCC.)

Agencies can use their traditional procurement systems, though many appreciate the ease of **eBuy**—the government's simple, online procurement tool—, where they can prepare and post an RFQ/RFP for specific products and services, select vendors to personally notify, electronically receive quotes from contractors (sellers), and select and contract quickly.

ABOUT ACDI/VOCA

ACDI/VOCA is a global development design and delivery partner that has implemented effective economic and social development projects in nearly 150 countries since 1963. Learn more at www.acdivoca.org.

More on MAS at www.gsa.gov/buying-selling/purchasing-programs/gsa-schedules/about-gsa-schedules.

More on ACDI/VOCA's MAS Schedule at <https://www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov>, search "ACDI/VOCA".

KEY ORDERING INFORMATION:

ACDI/VOCA's Contract No.:

GS-10F-189AA

Professional Services Category. SINs:

- **541611** (Management and Financial Consulting, Acquisition and Grants Management Support, Business Program and Project Management Services)

- **611430** (Professional & Mgmt Training Services)

- **Order Level Materials**

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For more information,

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Spotlight on MAS Nutrition-Sensitive Agriculture Workshop in Tanzania

USAID/Tanzania and USDA collaborated to bring ACDI/VOCA's custom workshop on **Integrating Nutrition into Agricultural Design** to over 50 pivotal stakeholders in 2019. ACDI/VOCA organized and conducted three tailored, participatory, and practice-focused workshops, for USAID implementing partners, government stakeholders, and USAID/Tanzania. Each training was highly interactive, with minimal PowerPoints, high levels of group work and case studies, a "speed dating" exercise to enhance networks key to integration, and a visit to a fortified maize processor. Participants noted **"this was a practical course"** and **"easy to link to own work."** A post-workshop **assessment showed a significant increase in overall knowledge** of core concepts; **98 percent said it was useful/very useful** for increasing knowledge. Importantly, **94% said they were likely /very likely to apply what they learned** to their work during the next six months.

Spotlight on MAS Task Order *Leveraging Economic Opportunities (LEO)*

LEO served as USAID's primary vehicle for learning in market systems approaches from 2013 to 2016 via a MAS task order funded through USAID's Bureau for Food Security, E3's Office of Trade and Regulatory Compliance, and direct buy-ins from missions. LEO had a diverse learning agenda, including the following:

- M&E for Market Systems
- Market Facilitation Approaches
- Women's Economic Empowerment
- Resilience and Sustainable Poverty Escapes
- Scaling Impact through Agricultural Markets
- Labor in Agriculture
- Understanding & Measuring Systemic Change
- Youth in Agriculture
- Private Sector Engagement



LEO undertook work in **26** countries, developed **72** publications (e.g. toolkits, frameworks, literature reviews, multi-country trend analyses), produced **32** case studies and learning events, and conducted **15** assignments for USAID and missions. Select work included the following:

- **Analysis of rice, horticulture, and aquaculture** with an emphasis on **political economy** for USAID/Cambodia
- **Climate change-sensitive study** of 10 agricultural crops to inform value chain selection for USAID/DRC
- **Literature review** on evidence linking **wage work** in agricultural economics to pathways out of poverty
- Provided a **post-harvest handling and storage expert** for a USAID/East Africa evaluation
- **Assessment of women's economic empowerment data collection and analysis methods** at USAID/Bangladesh and USAID/Tanzania with complementary **job aides**
- **Mixed-methods research into sustainable poverty escapes** in three Feed the Future countries for USAID's Center for Resilience
- **Investment plan** to launch an abattoir system with PPPs for USAID/Guinea
- **Assessment of the SME sector**, targeting agribusinesses and finance, for USAID/Malawi
- **Field-based peer-to-peer learning and exchange events** with USAID and implementers around market facilitation
- **SME competitiveness assessment, political economy analysis, and network analysis** for USAID/Serbia
- **Training on the value chain facilitation approach** for mission and implementers for USAID/Afghanistan.

