



## FACT SHEET ABOUT THE 8(a) CONTRACTING MECHANISM

An SBA Program that allows any USAID department or mission to award a sole-source contract (without any competition) up to \$3,500,000 in less than 10 days

### What are the benefits of the 8(a) certification?

- 8(a) certification allows for a company to receive **non-competitive, sole-source contracts of up to \$3.5 million dollars for goods and services**, and up to \$5.5 million dollars for manufacturing contracts (13CFR 124.506.a).

### What are the benefits of using an 8(a) certified company for a contract?

- **For contracts under \$3.5 million dollars, an 8(a) firm can be given a sole-source, non-competitive contract.** The entire process from beginning to end can take as little as 1 week to complete. If an agency has a contract of pressing concern and wishes to avoid the open bid process, the agency may simply contact the 8(a) company directly to initiate contract talks.

### What is an 8(a)-certified business?

- An 8(a) business is certified by the U.S. Small Business Administration as **a socially or economically disadvantaged business**, and allows contracting offices increased flexibility when designating and awarding contracts.

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LTL Strategies is an 8(a)-certified small business working in international development. The company specializes in Economic Growth & Competitiveness, Conflict Management, Democracy & Governance, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Global Project Management.

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