



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

EAST AFRICA

Insurance Date:	June 24, 2011
Deadline for submission of Questions:	July 12, 2011 08:00 am, Nairobi-Kenya Time
Anticipated date of response to Questions:	On or about July 15, 2011
Closing Date for Application Submission:	July 27, 2011
Closing Time:	08:00 am Nairobi-Kenya Time
Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates:	September 2011
Place of Performance:	Somalia

Subject: Request for Application (RFA) Number RFA-623-11-000008: “Somali Youth Leaders” Initiative.

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) East Africa is seeking applications to fund one or more organizations through a Cooperative Agreement for a five year program entitled “Somali Youth Leaders” initiative in Somalia as described in Section I of this RFA. The authority for the RFA is found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

This is a full and open competition, under which any type of organization, large or small, commercial (for profit) firms, faith-based, and non-profit organizations in partnerships or consortia from geographical code 935, are eligible to compete. In accordance with the Federal Grants and Cooperative Agreement Act, USAID encourages competition in order to identify and fund the best possible applications to achieve program objectives.

The Recipient will be responsible for ensuring achievement of the program objectives from the anticipated **September 30, 2011 award date until September 29, 2016**. Please refer to the Program Description for a complete statement of goals and expected results.

Pursuant to 22 CFR 226.81, it is USAID policy not to award profit under assistance instruments. However, all reasonable, allocable, and allowable expenses, both direct and indirect, which are related to the grant program and are in accordance with applicable cost standards (22 CFR 226, OMB Circular A-122 for non-profit organizations, OMB Circular A-21 for universities, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31 for-profit organizations), may be paid under the grant.

Applicant under consideration for an award that has never received funding from USAID will be subject to a pre-award audit to determine fiscal responsibility, ensure adequacy of financial controls and establish an indirect cost rate.

Subject to the availability of funds, USAID intends to provide approximately within the range of \$16 million to \$18 million in total USAID funding to be allocated over a five year period. USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted and expects **one** award as a result of this solicitation; however, up to three awards may result.

Award will be made to that responsible applicant whose application best meets the requirements of this RFA and the selection criteria contained herein. Issuance of this RFA does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government, nor does it commit the Government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. In addition, final award of any resultant cooperative agreement(s) cannot be made until funds have been fully appropriated, allocated, and committed through internal USAID procedures. While it is anticipated that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for award.

This RFA and any future amendments can be downloaded from <http://www.grants.gov>. Select "Find Grant Opportunities," then click on "Browse by Agency," and select the "U.S. Agency for International Development" and search for the RFA. In the event of an inconsistency between the documents comprising this RFA, it shall be resolved at the discretion of the Agreement Officer.

Any questions concerning this RFA should be submitted in writing to Marcelline Ochola, via email at mochola@usaid.gov by the date stated above. Questions sent to any other e-mail address will not be responded to. The e-mail transmitting the questions must reference the RFA number and title on the subject line of the e-mail. The deadline for receiving questions is **July 12, 2011 at 8.00 a.m. Nairobi, Kenya Time**. If there are problems in downloading the RFA from the Internet, please contact the Grants.gov help desk at 1.800.518.4726 or support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

For the purposes of this RFA, the term "Grant" is synonymous with "Cooperative Agreement"; "Grantee" is synonymous with "Recipient"; and "Grant Officer" is synonymous with "Agreement Officer".

Applicants are requested to submit both Technical and Cost Proposals of their applications in separate volumes. Award will be made to that responsible applicant whose application offers the greatest value. Please note however that, Technical proposals will be significantly more important than the Cost proposals.

If you decide to submit an application, please note that electronic submission is required. Applications should be sent as email attachments to mochola@usaid.gov and cc: lmcelroy@usaid.gov; dharter@usaid.gov and jamay@usaid.gov.

Issuance of this RFA does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government, nor does it commit the Government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. Further, the Government reserves the right to reject any or all applications received. In addition, final award of any resultant grant cannot be made until funds have been fully appropriated, allocated, and committed through internal USAID procedures. While it is anticipated that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for award. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. Should circumstances prevent USAID from making an award, all preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

The required method of distribution of USAID RFA's is electronically via Grants.gov which provides a single source for Federal government-wide competitive grant opportunities. This RFA and any future amendments can be downloaded from this website. The World Wide Web Address is <http://www.grants.gov>. In order to use this method, an applicant must first register on-line with Grants.gov. If you have difficulty registering or accessing the RFA, please contact the Grants.gov Helpdesk at 1-800-518-472 or via e-mail at support@grants.gov for technical assistance.

Applications must be received by the closing date and time indicated at the top of this cover letter. Late applications will not be considered for award. Applications must be directly responsive to the terms and conditions of this RFA. Telegraphic or fax applications (entire proposal) are not authorized for this RFA and will not be accepted.

Sincerely,



Linda McElroy
Regional Agreement Officer.

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SECTION I – FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Summary

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has embarked on an ambitious reform effort, USAID *FORWARD*¹, to change the way the Agency does business—with new partnerships, an emphasis on innovation and a relentless focus on results. It gives USAID the opportunity to transform its agency and unleash its full potential to achieve high-impact development.

USAID is requesting applications from qualified organizations to implement the **Somali Youth Leaders initiative**, as described fully below. At the end of the agreement(s), USAID/East Africa expects the implementer(s) to have achieved the following results:

1. Somali youth, community members and education officials have improved secondary education services that are perceived as more fair and equitable;
2. Youth are better able to be economically self-reliant with supportive systems; and
3. Youth participate and contribute more positively and productively to society.

B. Context

Youth² are the future leaders, workers and citizens of their nation. Yet in Somalia, youth lack basic education, employment opportunities and connectedness to civil society. This fuels the common perception that an increasing youth population is a potentially destabilizing force. This is manifest in the recruitment of boys and men by extremist organizations and piracy networks. Girls and women may also be recruited, but they also face social barriers, such as forced early marriage, which prohibit them from participating in education and civic activities. In order for youth to transition to adults, and to have a positive alternative to negative groups, they need education, employment, and social support.

USAID has been supporting primary education in Somalia since 2004. USAID has achieved significant results in the last four years alone:

- Increased access for 257,194 Somali students, of which an estimated 43% are girls, to primary education through enrollment, and construction or rehabilitation of 796 classrooms and learning centers;
- Increased quality by training 10,824 teachers, of which 22% are females, and distribution of 129,024 supplemental teaching and learning materials; and

¹ <http://forward.usaid.gov/about/overview>

² USAID generally considers youth as the populace between the ages of 15 to 24, and considers them to be an important and highly vulnerable part of the human resource base in developing countries. The same age bracket is applied by the United Nations and World Bank.

- Improved local capacity to better manage and sustain education services by training 1,415 community education committees.
- Created first-time access for 44,414 children and local communities to improved sanitation facilities.

Because of such low gross enrollment rates in primary school; 42% for boys and 23% for girls³, the majority of international efforts are geared towards increasing access and improving quality in primary school. Only a handful of partners are working on secondary education, despite the fact that secondary education is associated with improved health, economic and social conditions and civic values.

To determine the best direction on the future of its education and youth programs, USAID held a series of strategic planning discussions beginning in January 2011 led by a technical team from USAID Washington's Office of Sustainable Development and the Education Office of the Bureau for Economic Growth Agriculture and Trade. Somali Ministries of Education, education donors, UN and international and national NGOs from Somaliland, Puntland and south central Somalia participated in the discussions and provided guidance on the current gaps in education and youth programming and on opportunities for increased investments. **Secondary education, non-formal education, economic opportunities, especially for out-of-school youth, and civic participation were identified as critical gaps.**

Furthermore, USAID reviewed existing analysis and successes and lessons learned from its funded programs.

- According to the World Bank, "building and harnessing the values, attitudes, and skills of young people [is] through quality secondary education, thus ensuring that they will become active and productive citizens of their communities." Furthermore, "economies increasingly need a more sophisticated labor force equipped with competencies, knowledge, and workplace skills that cannot be developed only in primary school or in low-quality secondary school programs."⁴
- The UNESCO Survey of Secondary Education in Somalia published in 2008 concluded that 50,513 students, or 6.1 percent of the total population, are enrolled in 195 existing secondary schools. Not only are these enrollment rates dismal, but due to overcrowding, some schools have up to 49 students per classroom. Furthermore, the study showed that boys outnumbered girls by a ratio of 3:1. Teachers are also few; there are only 2,718, resulting in a student teacher ratio of 19:1.
- USAID focus group discussions with youth revealed that young people find jobs through family members or friends. Without strong connections to business or government,

³ UNICEF, Multiple Cluster Index Survey, 2007/2008

⁴ "Expanding Opportunities and Building Competencies for Young People: A New Agenda for Secondary Education," June 2005.

<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/TOPICS/EXTEDUCATION/0..contentMDK:20543206~menuPK:738179~pagePK:148956~piPK:216618~theSitePK:282386~isCURL:Y,00.html>

getting a job is very difficult. Youth also feel excluded from civic discussions, and have minimal opportunities to participate.

Based on planning discussions and analytical evidence, it has been determined that USAID should shift its focus to secondary education, workforce development for youth and civic participation to address some of the current gaps and to have a greater impact on stability. This direction is in line with the USAID Somalia stabilization strategy which underlines the need to provide alternatives to young people to reduce the appeal of joining extremist or piracy networks, and to help them to make a positive contribution to society that is recognized by the community.⁵ It is also clearly grounded in the new global USAID education strategy, finalized in February 2011, which promotes a vision of “opportunity through learning”. http://inside.usaid.gov/EGAT/offices/edu/education_toolkit/upload/USAID_ED_Strategy_feb2011-2.pdf

Of the over 70 million primary school-aged children not in school, nearly 40 million live in countries affected by armed conflict. Tens of millions more are living in situations where they have been displaced or otherwise affected by natural disaster. Finally, untold numbers of children and youth are at risk every day in their communities or neighborhoods from lawlessness, crime and gang activity. There is a growing recognition in the international community of the need to address these complex problems. Because education is not only a human right, but also can mitigate the effects of fragility and conflict, it is critical to restore education venues, services and system capacity for children and youth – and especially older youth.

More than one-half of the out-of-school children live in conflict-affected and crisis contexts. The US clearly recognizes the link between its national security and the need for US to show leadership in promoting global peace and security. Research has shown that inequitable, poor quality education can directly contribute to factors that cause conflict in countries, such as in Rwanda, Kosovo or Nepal. However, studies have shown that increased levels of quality primary and secondary education in a country reduce conflict.

Among donors, USAID has already demonstrated innovation and leadership in education work in conflict and emergency contexts. USAID has 32% of its education programs in conflict-affected countries and more than 50% of its funds are expended in these countries. Research and policy centers have commended USAID’s work in these difficult contexts and call for deepening of such capability within the Agency. Given these factors, USAID’s education strategy has focused its third goal on increasing equitable access to education for children and youth in these contexts.

USAID will seek to increase equitable access to education in environments affected by crisis and conflict—including at the national, subnational or regional levels. We will focus on access,

⁵ There is new evidence in 2011 from the Global Peace Index that shows that secondary education enrollment is the most significant correlation with peace and stability at a 0.48 correlation, compared to primary school enrollment correlation at a 0.44 correlation. Adult literacy rate (% of population over 15) correlation is 0.43. <http://www.visionofhumanity.org/gpi-data/#/2011/scor>

especially equity of access, because inequity of access to social services, including education, along identity lines such as religious, ethnic, and geographic, is a key risk factor of social unrest. In addition, selecting geographic areas of interventions (whether selected by government or donors) that favor one zone over others can fuel ethnic and class tensions and result in widespread discontent and possible violence. Beyond access to educational services for children and youth, USAID will also focus on strengthening the institutional capacity of school systems, especially in the area of crisis prevention. As in all cases, the quality of the education services is also essential. While the principal focus under this goal will be on access, it is expected that programs will insist that the education provided is of the best quality possible under the particular circumstances. In addition, USAID development assistance programs will need to closely coordinate and collaborate with humanitarian assistance providers to provide quality education early in crisis and conflict circumstances.

Though the precise nature of USAID efforts will depend on the local context and needs, the following illustrative results exemplify the type of activities USAID will continue to support in crisis and conflict affected states.

Youth programming is an area of special concern for USAID and cuts across this strategy. The demand by host country governments, civil society, USAID country missions and other donors for youth focused programming is rapidly growing. There are approximately 1.5 billion young people around the world making up the largest youth generation in history. About 1.3 billion youth are in the developing world. Investments today in youth development will pay future dividends in economic growth and positive social change. Youth should be treated as partners, valuable assets, leaders, entrepreneurs and innovators in finding the right solutions to global challenges. At the same time, this “youth bulge” places significant pressure on labor markets, may potentially contribute to social instability and requires educational content relevant to employment opportunities.

USAID strives to promote gender equality, in which both men and women have equal opportunity to benefit from and contribute to economic, social, cultural, and political development; enjoy socially valued resources and rewards; and realize their human rights. Accordingly, USAID must take into account gender roles and relationships in all stages: planning, implementation and assessing and learning⁶. USAID’s Disability Policy Paper⁷ articulates the Agency’s commitment to advocate for, outreach to, and include of people with physical and mental disabilities, to the maximum extent feasible, in the design and implementation of USAID programming.

C. Project Goal and Objectives

Goal: The goal of the program is to **provide Somali youth with increased education, economic and civic participation opportunities with the aim of increasing stability in targeted areas, particularly Somaliland, Puntland and Galmudug, and possibly in other south and central regions.** Doing so will empower Somali youth, reduce the appeal of joining extremist groups and piracy networks, help them contribute more positively and productively to society, and build a future generation of Somali leaders.

⁶ <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/>

⁷ <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/302.pdf>

This program will support the overarching goal of increasing Somalia's stability through targeted interventions that foster good governance, economic recovery and reduce the appeal of extremism, and will support larger US foreign policy objectives of bringing about security and stability. It will improve livelihoods through social service delivery and will improve economic opportunities in targeted areas where local administrations are providing relative stability.

USAID held discussions with an array of Somali stakeholders to define stabilization in the Somalia context. Stakeholders identified a number of factors that contribute to stabilization: public confidence in governance, economic growth, basic security, Somali culture, values and mutual respect, Somali ownership and improved partnerships between governance structures, private sector and civil society. Delivering basic services, providing opportunities for youth, and countering violent extremism contribute to a number of these factors, and in turn, contribute to stabilization.

The guiding principles underlying this new activity are to provide services to Somali youth that will mitigate the drivers of instability and promote stability in target areas, while fostering youth participation and ownership. Drivers of instability in Somalia are multiple and interrelated: poverty; hopelessness, which is manifested through support to illegal activities and engagement in violent behavior, especially by youth; continuous conflict; armed groups; and increasing pressure from extremist elements to become more radical. Education and youth empowerment can mitigate these drivers by:

- Providing education and enrolling youth in safe learning spaces to prevent idleness and vulnerability to radicalization and recruitment and promote critical thinking and confidence in the future.
- Providing relevant formal and non-formal education that will promote economic survival, employment and self-employment to ensure livelihoods for the students and trainees.
- Developing capacities in non-violent conflict resolution and mediation, peace education and organizing and networking within the school community and amongst other groups, such as diaspora, to empower youth to contribute to peace building in their own communities. Developing skills in analyzing and problem solving, listening, communicating and motivating others to help youth to become leaders.
- Building the capacity of ministries of education to provide fair, equitable and safe services that will strengthen the perception of the legitimacy of the government. This will mitigate the risks of political instability and corruption and contribute to a decrease in grievances and a rebuilding of governance structures in Somalia. Greater involvement of the community, especially youth and educators, in program implementation, also improves the perception of equity and fairness and improves attitudes towards youth.
- Increasing the visibility of the delivery of education services by the government mitigates the infiltration of radicalized groups that fragment and manipulate the system.
- Playing a protective and empowering role, especially for girls and women to reduce gender-based violence.

USAID will work closely to support Somali authorities, educators and communities to provide a comprehensive package of opportunities to empower young people, ranging from formal and

non-formal education to workforce development to civic engagement, and to promote Somali ownership for longer term impact.

***** Note to Applicants:**

The following are USAID’s projected measurable results. Applicants should state specific results that they feel can be accomplished in a cost-effective manner using the funding estimates and timeframe of the program as indicated in the cover letter, and the approach that will be used to achieve the targets and initial performance measurements. Some initial assessment and analysis may be needed before implementation of activities begins. This should all be included in the proposal and the work plan which requires USAID approval. For example, “Organization X will increase access by 1% or 99% by doing Y and Z.” The Recipient will be expected to provide data to USAID and partners contracted by USAID to conduct monitoring and evaluation.

Projects results:

1. Somali youth, community members and education officials have improved secondary education services that are perceived as more fair and equitable⁸:
 - Increased *access* to secondary education (formal), including for girls and young women, using culturally appropriate approaches;
 - Improved *quality* of secondary education;
 - Improved *systems and management* of secondary education⁹; and
 - Improved *Somali ownership* of education services.
2. Youth are better able to be economically self-reliant with supportive systems:
 - Increased *access* to non-formal education and vocational training;
 - Increased *access* to livelihoods opportunities¹⁰;
 - Improved *standardization and certification* of technical and vocational education training (TVET); and
 - Improved *linkages* with private sector and support networks, including with, but not limited to, existing diaspora initiatives.
3. Youth participate and contribute more positively and productively to society:
 - Increased *civic participation* among youth through provision of safe spaces for youth to network and dialogue; and
 - Increased *youth-led advocacy*.

D. Management Approach and Key Personnel

⁸ While fairness and equity is not defined here, a balance in clan, geographic, male/female, rural/urban, etc. should be taken into consideration in achieving the result.

⁹ Activities need to be planned and implemented in coordination with other donor funded initiatives, such as the EU- and UNICEF-funded Integrated Capacity Development for Somali Education Administrations (ICDSEA) program, and UN-led efforts on curriculum development.

¹⁰ Livelihoods opportunities should be based on market analysis, some of which could be provided by USAID’s Partnership for Economic Growth program. Additional program linkages need to be developed with the Partnership for Economic Growth program which will be providing business skills development training and small grants to entrepreneurs, which may include youth.

The application must include a detailed description of the management approach for implementing the proposed program, describing each team member's role. Applications must also include detailed descriptions of proposed Key Personnel as follows:

- **Chief of Party** who provides overall technical and administrative leadership and expertise in the Somali Youth Leaders initiative and who serves as the primary liaison with USAID/East Africa on management and technical matters, with at least 12 years of relevant management, supervisory, technical experience working with programs that are of a similar scope and scale to the this program; experience in preparation of project designs, strategic planning and implementation of related activities; a minimum of a Master's Degree in a relevant field, such as education, social services, international development or a related field; and at least 8 years' experience working in developing countries, including in conflict-affected environments; Somali language skills are a plus. The Chief of Party should have demonstrated ability to work in complex, politically charged, unstable environments, work across different cultures, and manage diverse teams to deliver impact within agreed timelines.

Note that one of the following two positions shall be proposed as Deputy Chief of Party.

- **One Education Specialist** who provides overall technical expertise on the formal education component, with at least 7 years' experience in the education sector; preparation of project designs; and implementation of teacher training, curriculum development, gender in education, young adult literacy, or other related areas. Must demonstrate at least 5 years' work experience in developing countries, including in conflict-affected environments; Somali language skills are a plus.
- **One Youth Development Specialist** who provides overall technical expertise on the young development component, with at least 7 years' experience in youth development; preparation of project designs; and implementation of cross-sectoral youth assessments, youth livelihoods, technical and vocational education training, youth civic participation or other related areas. Must demonstrate at least 5 years' work experience in developing countries, including in conflict-affected environments; Somali language skills are a plus.

Other key personnel positions:

- **One Communications Specialist** who provides overall technical expertise on strategic communications, outreach and advocacy to local government and stakeholders, with at least 7 years' technical experience in developing and implementing communications plans in culturally, politically and security sensitive environments, using social media and video and press outreach, etc. to ensure understanding and information sharing beyond the reporting requirements to include provision of human interest reports to USAID/ East Africa on programmatic impacts. Must have excellent communications skills (oral and written) and demonstrate at least 5 years' work experience in developing countries, including in conflict-affected environments; Somali language skills are a plus.

- **One Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist** who is responsible for all monitoring and evaluation, with at least 5 years' technical experience in developing and implementing monitoring and evaluation plans and results-based management. The M&E Specialist must ensure that all activities are in line with the Agency Learning, Evaluation and Research policy¹¹ ensuring that impact reporting includes cost/benefit analysis of interventions. Must demonstrate at least 3 years' work experience in developing countries, including in conflict-affected environments; Somali language skills are a plus.

All personnel must be willing and able to travel to Somalia, security conditions permitting.

Other personnel required include a Project Finance and Administrative Manager, an Engineer, a Gender Specialist and short-term technical experts in education (with expertise in teacher training, curriculum development, gender in education or young adult/adult literacy), youth development (youth livelihoods, technical and vocational education training or youth civic participation) and other areas to be determined by the program. Such personnel positions (not considered key for the grant) may not require full-time equivalents and should only be deployed as indicated and approved in the work plan.

To ensure local ownership and a transfer of skills and knowledge, at least two of all the above positions (including key personnel) should be gradually occupied by Somali nationals. In lieu of providing resume information to demonstrate qualifications, the bidder may explain institutional procedures for hiring qualified Somali personnel directly or through subcontracts for up to two required personnel positions.

E. Cross-cutting issues and Cost Share

USAID is especially interested in sustainability of activities and in seeing that routine operational and maintenance costs of the services to be strengthened through this program are already covered. Therefore applicants are required to state how services will continue beyond the five years of USAID funding. A 10% cost share is required; applications that do not include this cost share will not be considered.

Applicants should take into account the following considerations when designing and implementing the program:

Environmental Review:

All USAID activities must be in compliance with environmental impact monitoring and mitigation regulation ('Reg. 216'). The Somalia Initial Environmental Examination (IEE) was approved by the Bureau of Environmental Officer on February 2, 2011. Based on the analyses presented, the IEE recommends three threshold determinations for Investing in People activities: Categorical Exclusion, Negative Determination with Conditions and Positive Determination and has overarching guidelines that must be applied to all activities under these activities. The Implementing partner **MUST** seek the Mission Environmental Officer's approval before implementing activities in this program.

¹¹ http://www.usaid.gov/evaluation/USAID_Evaluation_Policy.pdf

New construction must be pre-approved by a USAID contracted partner. This is to ensure that new construction meets quality assurance and safety standards that are in compliance with local design and safety standards.

Gender:

The program will take particular care to promote gender sensitivity and empowerment through all stages. Traditionally, girls and young women face social barriers, such as forced early marriage, which prohibit them from participating in education. Education also plays a protective and empowering role, especially for girls and women, and can reduce gender based violence. Specific strategies to promote girls' empowerment and equal opportunities for girls and young women should be reflected in the proposal.

Participation:

The responsibility for providing education services lies with the respective Ministries of Education. The responsibility for providing opportunities to youth and for including them in decisions that affect their own lives lies with parents, communities, institutions and the private sector. The program cannot circumvent this. Therefore, USAID intends to make every effort to ensure that this program is participatory, and that Somali capacities at all levels are strengthened to deliver quality education services and to provide opportunities to young people. Linkages with the existing Diaspora initiatives should be considered. Specific strategies to ensure participation and Somali ownership should be reflected in the proposal.

Coordination with USAID and other donor activities

The Recipient once selected and with guidance from USAID, should build upon successes and lessons learned from USG funded activities, and leverage new activities to the extent appropriate, including:

- **Somali Interactive Radio Instruction Program (SIRIP), Education Development Center (EDC):** Develops and broadcasts primary education programs for Grades 1-5 in primary schools, Quranic schools and informal learning centers. It also provides teacher training and supplemental educational materials and carries out small-scale rehabilitation of educational centers.
- **School Environment and Education Development for Somalia (SEEDS), Mercy Corps:** Improves the overall educational environment for primary and secondary education, through improvements to infrastructure, water and hygiene, management and instructional quality, as well as through targeted technical assistance to education officials and community groups.
- **Somali Youth Livelihoods Program (SYLP), EDC:** Known locally at *Shaqodoon* (or job seeker in Somali), provides quick-impact, market-driven skills training and employment opportunities to 8,700 youth using innovative technology and working closely with the business community.

- **Transition Initiative for Somalia (TIS), IOM and DAI:** Promotes stability through the implementation of small grants and activities that focus on supporting relevant regional and local governance institutions and communities through light community infrastructure, technical assistance and livelihood support projects. TIS also includes a "Migration for Development in Africa" (MIDA) component, which helps to recruit qualified Somali diaspora.
- **Partnership for Economic Growth, DAI:** A new program that works with a broad range of government authorities and private sector to provide economic opportunities in the most productive Somali value chains, including livestock, fisheries and gums and resins. The Partnership will improve access to business development services, especially for women entrepreneurs. It will support the development of regulatory policies to do business better and ultimately attract more investment.

In addition to USAID, other donors are contributing to the education sector, namely, the EU, DFID, Italian Cooperation, Japan, Norway and the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA). USAID plays a lead role in the coordination of the education sector, and prioritizes coordination with other USAID funded activities, other donors, UN agencies and non-governmental organizations involved in the provision of social services in Somalia.

AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION

The authority for this RFA is found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the resulting award(s) will be administered in accordance with OMB Circulars, 22 CFR 226, and USAID's Automated Directives Systems (ADS) Chapter 303, "Grants and Cooperative Agreements with Non-Governmental Organizations" as applicable. These policies and regulations can be viewed or downloaded from USAID's Web Site <http://www.usaid.gov/business/regulations/>.

Pursuant to 22 CFR 226.81, it is USAID policy not to award profit under assistance instruments. However, all reasonable, allocable, and allowable expenses, both direct and indirect, which are related to this program and are in accordance with applicable cost standards (22 CFR 226, OMB Circular A-122 for non-profit organization, OMB Circular A-21 for universities, and the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31 for-profit organizations), may be paid under the cooperative agreement. **USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.**

[END OF SECTION I]

SECTION II – BASIC AWARD INFORMATION

- 1) **ESTIMATED FUNDING:** Subject to the availability of funds, USAID intends to provide approximately **\$16,000,000 to \$18,000,000** in total funding for the **Somali Youth Leaders initiative**. USAID may make one or more award(s) without discussions to responsible applicants whose applications offer the greatest value to the extent they are necessary, negotiations will be conducted with the Apparently Successful Applicant(s). Award(s) will be made to the responsible applicant(s) whose application(s) offers the greatest value, cost and other factors considered. **USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted.**
- 2) **PERFORMANCE PERIOD:** The anticipated program start date is **September 30, 2011 for a five year period through September 29, 2016.**
- 3) **AWARD TYPE:** USAID anticipates the award will be a **Cooperative Agreement. Substantial Involvement** under the award is expected to be as follows:
 - Approval of the Recipient's Implementation Plans (“Work Plans”).
 - Approval of Recipient's Specified Key Personnel.
 - Agency and Recipient Collaboration or Joint Participation. This may include: concurrence on the provision of sub-awards and M&E plans and re-direction of the program as/when appropriate.
 - Agency authority to immediately halt a construction activity.
- 4) **AUTHORIZED GEOGRAPHIC CODE:** The Authorized Geographic Code is 935 for the procurement of goods and services.
- 5) **BRANDING STRATEGY AND MARKING PLAN:** The successful applicant(s) will be required to submit a Branding Strategy and Marking Plan to be evaluated and approved by the Agreement Officer with concurrence from the Agreement Officer Technical Representative. A Branding Implementation Strategy and Marking Plan shall be in accordance with USAID Branding and Marking plan as required per ADS 320. Refer to ADS 320, (<http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/>) specifically 320.3.3.3 for more information. The Recipient shall comply with the requirements of the USAID “Graphic Standards Manual” available at www.usaid.gov/branding, or any successor branding policy. Pending formal Mission guidance, activity with a government entity will be branded, as appropriate, for the program's stabilization goals (USAID Graphic Standards Manual 4.10).

[END OF SECTION II]

SECTION III – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

- 1) USAID policy encourages competition in the award of Grants and Cooperative Agreements. In response to this RFA, any U.S. or non-U. S. organisations, non-profit, or for-profit entity is eligible to apply.
- 2) USAID encourages applications from potential new partners.
- 3) The minimum cost sharing element under this RFA is **10%** of total estimated funding and is required in order for applicants to receive consideration. Type of costs acceptable for cost share are consistent with 22 CFR 226, including overhead and/or indirect costs.

[END OF SECTION III]

SECTION IV - APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

SUBMISSION AND PREPARATION GUIDELINES

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS VIA E-MAIL IS REQUIRED.

Please submit your applications to all of the email addresses below by **08:00 am, Nairobi, Kenya Time, July 27 2011**. Receipt by either one of these two addresses by the deadline for submission will constitute timely receipt of your application. RECEIPT TIME IS WHEN THE APPLICATION IS RECEIVED BY THE AID/EAST AFRICA INTERNET SERVER. Paper copies of the applications are not required. The addresses for the receipt of proposals are: mochola@usaid.gov and cc: lmcelroy@usaid.gov; dharter@usaid.gov and jamay@usaid.gov. Applications which are submitted late or do not follow the instructions contained herein run the risk of not being considered in the review process.

All applications received by the deadline will be reviewed for responsiveness to the specifications outlined in these guidelines and the application format. Note this RFA includes a mandatory minimum cost share percentage of 10% of the total proposed USAID contribution to the program. Per ADS 303.3.10.3, applications that do not meet this minimum cost sharing requirement are not eligible for award consideration.

Applications should take into account the evaluation criteria provided in **Section VI** and must include the Representations and Certifications provided in **Section IV**. In the event Representations and Certifications are not submitted with the Application, they must be completed before final award is made.

Please note that Technical and Cost Applications should be kept separate; however one of the technical evaluation criteria is cost sharing. USAID wants to leverage its assistance and applicants must make a clear commitment to provide cost sharing and a statement of how much (in percentage terms) of the budget they are going to raise from other sources. The Cost Application must contain a clearly identified section on cost sharing including sources for those funds.

Applicants should retain for their records one copy of the application and all enclosures which accompany their application. Erasures or other changes must be initialed by the person signing the application. To facilitate the competitive review of the applications, USAID will consider only applications conforming to the format prescribed below.

Technical Application Format

Applications must be submitted electronically in MS Word and .pdf (Adobe Acrobat) versions. In case of any conflicts between the MS Word and .pdf versions of the application, the .pdf version will govern as it will be the version presented to the Technical Evaluation Panel.

Applicants are advised that any pages exceeding any of the prescribed limits below will not be considered for evaluation.

Applications must be legible and must *not* require **MAGNIFICATION** (!). Please be kind to the evaluators and keep the technical application clear, concise, easy to follow, while also in complete compliance with the instructions herein.

THE TECHNICAL APPLICATION HAS A STRICT TWENTY FIVE (25) PAGE LIMIT.

The technical application should clearly and concisely outline how the Applicant proposes to meet the critical needs identified in the objective(s) and how the Applicant will achieve its expected results. The application must include a detailed description of the management approach for implementing the proposed program, which includes specifying the composition and organizational structure of the entire implementation team (including home office support); describing each team member's role and level of effort.

THREE (3) ANNEXES SHOULD BE SUBMITTED WITHIN THE PAGE LIMITS INDICATED; ANY PAGES EXCEEDING THE LIMITS FOR EACH ANNEX WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

ANNEX I. CVS OF KEY PERSONNEL – FIVE (5) PAGES MAXIMUM

A more detailed description of proposed key personnel, which in this case are: the Chief of Party, Education Specialist, Youth Development Specialist, Communications Specialist and Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist, as well as any other personnel for whom the Applicant wishes to provide CVs.

ANNEX II. FIRST 18-MONTH WORKPLAN – FOUR (4) PAGES MAXIMUM

The applicant must submit a first 18-months work plan which displays expected activities per month to achieve the annual performance targets (as specified in the Performance Management and Evaluation Plan) and results required under each objective. The work plan will describe activities to be conducted at a greater level of detail than in the Program Description, but shall be cross-referenced with the applicable sections in the Program Description. All work plan activities must be within the Program Description and shall not change the Program Description.

ANNEX III. PAST PERFORMANCE REFERENCES AND INFORMATION – ONE (1) PAGE MAXIMUM

Please provide a list of current U.S. Government and/or privately-funded contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, etc., and the name, address, and telephone number of the Contract/Agreement Officer or other contact person, who we may contact if we need to. A narrative description of accomplishments under these should be provided. References do not necessarily need to be from USAID.

Cost Application Format

The Cost Application is to be submitted via a separate email from the Technical Application. This is due to the strict page limitations for the Technical Application. Certain documents are required to be submitted by an applicant in order for the Agreement Officer to make a determination of responsibility. However, it is USAID policy not to burden applicants with undue reporting requirements if that information is readily available through other sources. A Cost Application consists of:

- The **SF-424**, Application for Federal Assistance; **SF-424A**, Budget Information – Non-Construction Program; and **SF-424B**, Assurances – Non-Construction Programs. These forms may be downloaded from the following website:
http://www.grants.gov/agencies/aapproved_standard_forms.jsp);
- a summary budget;
- a detailed/itemized budget;
- a budget narrative explaining costs to be incurred; and
- other administrative documentation as required.

The following sections describe the documentation that applicants for Assistance award must submit to USAID prior to award. While there is no page limit for this portion, applicants are encouraged to be as concise as possible, but still provide the necessary detail to address the following:

The required budget format is embedded here (please double click on the Figure 1 icon):



Somalia Youth
Initiative RFA Budget

Figure 1 - RFA Budget Template

Please be sure that the budget includes at least the following elements:

- the breakdown of all costs associated with the program according to costs of, if applicable, headquarters, regional and/or country offices;
- the breakdown of all costs according to each partner organization involved in the program, in the same detail and format as the budget template;
- potential contributions of non-USAID or private commercial donors to this Cooperative Agreement, including, the breakdown of the financial and in-kind contributions (cost sharing) of all organizations involved in implementing this Cooperative Agreement.
- Summary of program vs administrative costs. Indirect costs should be included in administration costs even if it relates to a program item.

NOTE: The award will not provide for the reimbursement of pre-award costs.

Also include:

- a) Information that confirms and ensures that the proposed cost sharing will materialize.
- b) Details of sub-award arrangements to the extent they are known at the time of application development: In case there are multiple organizations and partners, please explain as clearly as possible the management structure and how the parties are going to interact. If there are formal legal arrangements such as sub awards or sub contracts please clearly explain how these are to be structured and list past experience between the organizations.

NOTE: If sub-awards are anticipated and not explained in the original application, the agreement officer's approval (after award) may be required before the sub-agreement may be executed.

- c) A copy of the self-certification for compliance with USAID policies and procedures for personnel, procurement, and travel.
- d) A copy of the organization's U.S. Government Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement (NICRA), if applicable.
- e) Applicants should submit additional evidence of responsibility they deem necessary for the Agreement Officer to make a determination of responsibility. The information submitted should substantiate that the Applicant:
 - 1. Has adequate financial resources or the ability to obtain such resources as required during the performance of the award.
 - 2. Has the ability to comply with the award conditions, taking into account all existing and currently prospective commitments of the applicant, non-governmental and governmental.
 - 3. Has a satisfactory record of performance. Past relevant unsatisfactory performance is ordinarily sufficient to justify a finding of non-responsibility, unless there is clear evidence of subsequent satisfactory performance.
 - 4. Has a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics; and
 - 5. Is otherwise qualified and eligible to receive a cooperative agreement under applicable laws and regulations (e.g., EEO).

REQUIRED REPRESENTATIONS AND CERTIFICATIONS (ADS 303.3.8)

CERTIFICATIONS, ASSURANCES, AND OTHER STATEMENTS OF THE RECIPIENT (MAY 2006)

NOTE: When these Certifications, Assurances, and Other Statements of Recipient are used for cooperative agreements, the term "Grant" means "Cooperative Agreement".

PART I - CERTIFICATIONS AND ASSURANCES

1. ASSURANCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING NON-DISCRIMINATION IN FEDERALLY ASSISTED PROGRAMS

Note: This certification applies to Non-U.S. organizations if any part of the program will be undertaken in the United States.

(a) The recipient hereby assures that no person in the United States shall, on the bases set forth below, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity receiving financial assistance from USAID, and that with respect to the Cooperative Agreement for which application is being made, it will comply with the requirements of:

(1) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352, 42 U.S.C. 2000-d), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin, in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(2) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance;

(3) The Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (Pub. L. 95-478), which prohibits discrimination based on age in the delivery of services and benefits supported with Federal funds;

(4) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681, et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving Federal financial assistance (whether or not the programs or activities are offered or sponsored by an educational institution); and

(5) USAID regulations implementing the above nondiscrimination laws, set forth in Chapter II of Title 22 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

(b) If the recipient is an institution of higher education, the Assurances given herein extend to admission practices and to all other practices relating to the treatment of students or clients of the institution, or relating to the opportunity to participate in the provision of services or other benefits to such individuals, and shall be applicable to the entire institution unless the recipient establishes to the satisfaction of the USAID Administrator that the institution's practices in

designated parts or programs of the institution will in no way affect its practices in the program of the institution for which financial assistance is sought, or the beneficiaries of, or participants in, such programs.

(c) This assurance is given in consideration of and for the purpose of obtaining any and all Federal grants, loans, contracts, property, discounts, or other Federal financial assistance extended after the date hereof to the recipient by the Agency, including installment payments after such date on account of applications for Federal financial assistance which was approved before such date. The recipient recognizes and agrees that such Federal financial assistance will be extended in reliance on the representations and agreements made in this Assurance, and that the United States shall have the right to seek judicial enforcement of this Assurance. This Assurance is binding on the recipient, its successors, transferees, and assignees, and the person or persons whose signatures appear below are authorized to sign this Assurance on behalf of the recipient.

2. CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal Cooperative Agreement, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, United States Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that: If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

3. PROHIBITION ON ASSISTANCE TO DRUG TRAFFICKERS FOR COVERED COUNTRIES AND INDIVIDUALS (ADS 206)

USAID reserves the right to terminate this Agreement, to demand a refund or take other appropriate measures if the Grantee is found to have been convicted of a narcotics offense or to have been engaged in drug trafficking as defined in 22 CFR Part 140. The undersigned shall review USAID ADS 206 to determine if any certifications are required for Key Individuals or Covered Participants.

If there are COVERED PARTICIPANTS: USAID reserves the right to terminate assistance to or take other appropriate measures with respect to, any participant approved by USAID who is found to have been convicted of a narcotics offense or to have been engaged in drug trafficking as defined in 22 CFR Part 140.

4. CERTIFICATION REGARDING TERRORIST FINANCING IMPLEMENTING EXECUTIVE ORDER 13224

By signing and submitting this application, the prospective recipient provides the certification set out below:

1. The Recipient, to the best of its current knowledge, did not provide, within the previous ten years, and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that it does not and will not knowingly provide, material support or resources to any individual or entity that commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated, or participated in terrorist acts, as that term is defined in paragraph 3.

2. The following steps may enable the Recipient to comply with its obligations under paragraph 1:

a. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will verify that the individual or entity does not (i) appear on the master list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons, which list is maintained by the U.S. Treasury's

Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) and is available online at OFAC's website: <http://www.treas.gov/offices/eotffc/ofac/sdn/t11sdn.pdf>, or (ii) is not included in any supplementary information concerning prohibited individuals or entities that may be provided by USAID to the Recipient.

b. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient also will verify that the individual or entity has not been designated by the United Nations Security (UNSC) sanctions committee established under UNSC Resolution 1267 (1999) (the "1267 Committee") [individuals and entities linked to the Taliban, Usama bin Laden, or the Al Qaida Organization]. To determine whether there has been a published designation of an individual or entity by the 1267 Committee, the Recipient should refer to the consolidated list available online at the Committee's website:

<http://www.un.org/Docs/sc/committees/1267/1267ListEng.htm> .

c. Before providing any material support or resources to an individual or entity, the Recipient will consider all information about that individual or entity of which it is aware and all public information that is reasonably available to it or of which it should be aware.

d. The Recipient also will implement reasonable monitoring and oversight procedures to safeguard against assistance being diverted to support terrorist activity.

3. For purposes of this Certification-

a. "Material support and resources" means currency or monetary instruments or financial securities, financial services, lodging, training, expert advice or assistance, safehouses, false documentation or identification, communications equipment, facilities, weapons, lethal substances, explosives, personnel, transportation, and other physical assets, except medicine or religious materials."

b. "Terrorist act" means-

(i) an act prohibited pursuant to one of the 12 United Nations Conventions and Protocols related to terrorism (see UN terrorism conventions Internet site:

<http://untreaty.un.org/English/Terrorism.asp>); or

(ii) an act of premeditated, politically motivated violence perpetrated against noncombatant targets by subnational groups or clandestine agents; or

(iii) any other act intended to cause death or serious bodily injury to a civilian, or to any other person not taking an active part in hostilities in a situation of armed conflict, when the purpose of such act, by its nature or context, is to intimidate a population, or to compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act.

c. "Entity" means a partnership, association, corporation, or other organization, group or subgroup.

d. References in this Certification to the provision of material support and resources shall not be

deemed to include the furnishing of USAID funds or USAID-financed commodities to the ultimate beneficiaries of USAID assistance, such as recipients of food, medical care, micro-enterprise loans, shelter, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that one or more of these beneficiaries commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.

e. The Recipient's obligations under paragraph 1 are not applicable to the procurement of goods and/or services by the Recipient that are acquired in the ordinary course of business through contract or purchase, e.g., utilities, rents, office supplies, gasoline, etc., unless the Recipient has reason to believe that a vendor or supplier of such goods and services commits, attempts to commit, advocates, facilitates, or participates in terrorist acts, or has committed, attempted to commit, facilitated or participated in terrorist acts.

This Certification is an express term and condition of any agreement issued as a result of this application, and any violation of it shall be grounds for unilateral termination of the agreement by USAID prior to the end of its term.

5. CERTIFICATION OF RECIPIENT

By signing below the recipient provides certifications and assurances for (1) the Assurance of Compliance with Laws and Regulations Governing Non-Discrimination in Federally Assisted Programs, (2) the Certification Regarding Lobbying, and (3) the Certification Regarding Terrorist Financing Implementing Executive Order 13224 above.

RFA/APS No. _____

Application No. _____

Date of Application _____

Name of Recipient _____

Typed Name and Title _____

Signature _____

Date _____

PART II - KEY INDIVIDUAL CERTIFICATION NARCOTICS OFFENSES AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

I hereby certify that within the last ten years:

1. I have not been convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, any law or regulation of the United States or any other country concerning narcotic or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances.

2. I am not and have not been an illicit trafficker in any such drug or controlled substance.

3. I am not and have not been a knowing assistor, abettor, conspirator, or colluder with others in the illicit trafficking in any such drug or substance.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Name: _____

Title/Position: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

NOTICE:

1. You are required to sign this Certification under the provisions of 22 CFR Part 140, Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers. These regulations were issued by the Department of State and require that certain key individuals of organizations must sign this Certification.

2. If you make a false Certification you are subject to U.S. criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

PART III - PARTICIPANT CERTIFICATION NARCOTICS OFFENSES AND DRUG TRAFFICKING

1. I hereby certify that within the last ten years:

a. I have not been convicted of a violation of, or a conspiracy to violate, any law or regulation of the United States or any other country concerning narcotic or psychotropic drugs or other controlled substances.

b. I am not and have not been an illicit trafficker in any such drug or controlled substance.

c. I am not or have not been a knowing assistor, abettor, conspirator, or colluder with others in the illicit trafficking in any such drug or substance.

2. I understand that USAID may terminate my training if it is determined that I engaged in the above conduct during the last ten years or during my USAID training.

Signature: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

NOTICE:

1. You are required to sign this Certification under the provisions of 22 CFR Part 140, Prohibition on Assistance to Drug Traffickers. These regulations were issued by the Department of State and require that certain participants must sign this Certification.

2. If you make a false Certification you are subject to U.S. criminal prosecution under 18 U.S.C. 1001.

PART IV - CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE STANDARD PROVISIONS ENTITLED "CONDOMS" AND "PROHIBITION ON THE PROMOTION OR ADVOCACY OF THE LEGALIZATION OR PRACTICE OF PROSTITUTION OR SEX TRAFFICKING."

Applicability: This certification requirement only applies to the prime recipient. Before a U.S. or non-U.S. non-governmental organization receives FY04-FY08 HIV/AIDS funds under a grant or cooperative agreement, such recipient must provide to the Agreement Officer a certification substantially as follows:

"[Recipient's name] certifies compliance as applicable with the standard provisions entitled "Condoms" and "Prohibition on the Promotion or Advocacy of the Legalization or Practice of Prostitution or Sex Trafficking" included in the referenced agreement."

RFA/APS No. _____

Application No. _____

Date of Application _____

Name of Applicant/Subgrantee _____

Typed Name and Title _____

Signature _____

PART V - SURVEY ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

Applicability: All RFA's must include the attached Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants as an attachment to the RFA package. Applicants under unsolicited applications are also to be provided the survey. (While inclusion of the survey by Agreement Officers in RFA packages is required, the applicant's completion of the survey is voluntary, and must not be a requirement of the RFA. The absence of a completed survey in an application may not be a basis upon which the application is determined incomplete or non-responsive. Applicants who volunteer to complete and submit the survey under a competitive or non-competitive action are instructed within the text of the survey to submit it as part of the application process.)

PART VI - OTHER STATEMENTS OF RECIPIENT

1. AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUALS

The recipient represents that the following persons are authorized to negotiate on its behalf with the Government and to bind the recipient in connection with this application or grant:

Name	Title	Telephone No.	Facsimile No.

2. TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN)

If the recipient is a U.S. organization, or a foreign organization which has income effectively connected with the conduct of activities in the U.S. or has an office or a place of business or a fiscal paying agent in the U.S., please indicate the recipient's TIN:

TIN: _____

3. DATA UNIVERSAL NUMBERING SYSTEM (DUNS) NUMBER

(a) In the space provided at the end of this provision, the recipient should supply the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number applicable to that name and address. Recipients should take care to report the number that identifies the recipient's name and address exactly as stated in the proposal.

(b) The DUNS is a 9-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet Information Services. If the recipient does not have a DUNS number, the recipient should call Dun and Bradstreet directly at 1-800-333-0505. A DUNS number will be provided immediately by telephone at no charge to the recipient. The recipient should be prepared to provide the following information:

- (1) Recipient's name.
- (2) Recipient's address.
- (3) Recipient's telephone number.
- (4) Line of business.
- (5) Chief executive officer/key manager.
- (6) Date the organization was started.
- (7) Number of people employed by the recipient.
- (8) Company affiliation.

(c) Recipients located outside the United States may obtain the location and phone number of

the local Dun and Bradstreet Information Services office from the Internet Home Page at <http://www.dbisna.com/dbis/customer/custlist.htm>. If an offeror is unable to locate a local service center, it may send an e-mail to Dun and Bradstreet at globalinfo@dbisma.com.

The DUNS system is distinct from the Federal Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) system.

DUNS: _____

4. LETTER OF CREDIT (LOC) NUMBER

If the recipient has an existing Letter of Credit (LOC) with USAID, please indicate the LOC number:

LOC: _____

5. PROCUREMENT INFORMATION

(a) Applicability. This applies to the procurement of goods and services planned by the recipient (i.e., contracts, purchase orders, etc.) from a supplier of goods or services for the direct use or benefit of the recipient in conducting the program supported by the grant, and not to assistance provided by the recipient (i.e., a subgrant or subagreement) to a subgrantee or subrecipient in support of the subgrantee's or subrecipient's program. Provision by the recipient of the requested information does not, in and of itself, constitute USAID approval.

(b) Amount of Procurement. Please indicate the total estimated dollar amount of goods and services which the recipient plans to purchase under the grant:

\$ _____

(c) Nonexpendable Property. If the recipient plans to purchase nonexpendable equipment which would require the approval of the Agreement Officer, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types, quantities of each, and estimated unit costs. Nonexpendable equipment for which the Agreement Officer's approval to purchase is required is any article of nonexpendable tangible personal property charged directly to the grant, having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION (Generic) QUANTITY ESTIMATED UNIT COST

(d) Source, Origin, and Componentry of Goods. If the recipient plans to purchase any goods/commodities which are not of U.S. source and/or U.S. origin, and/or does not contain at least 50% componentry, which are not at least 50% U.S. source and origin, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each, estimated unit costs of each, and probable source and/or origin, to include the probable source and/or origin of the components if less than 50% U.S. components will be contained in the commodity. "Source" means the country from which a commodity is shipped to the cooperating country or the

cooperating country itself if the commodity is located therein at the time of purchase. However, where a commodity is shipped from a free port or bonded warehouse in the form in which received therein, "source" means the country from which the commodity was shipped to the free port or bonded warehouse. Any commodity whose source is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing. The "origin" of a commodity is the country or area in which a commodity is mined, grown, or produced. A commodity is produced when, through manufacturing, processing, or substantial and major assembling of components, a commercially recognized new commodity results, which is substantially different in basic characteristics or in purpose or utility from its components. Merely packaging various items together for a particular procurement or relabeling items do not constitute production of a commodity. Any commodity whose origin is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing. "Components" are the goods, which go directly into the production of a produced commodity. Any component from a non-Free World country makes the commodity ineligible for USAID financing.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION QUANTITY ESTIMATED GOODS PROBABLE GOODS
 PROBABLE (Generic) UNIT COST COMPONENTS SOURCE COMPONENTS ORIGIN

(e) Restricted Goods. If the recipient plans to purchase any restricted goods, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each, estimated unit costs of each, intended use, and probable source and/or origin. Restricted goods are Agricultural Commodities, Motor Vehicles, Pharmaceuticals, Pesticides, Rubber Compounding Chemicals and Plasticizers, Used Equipment, U.S. Government-Owned Excess Property, and Fertilizer.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION QUANTITY ESTIMATED PROBABLE INTENDED USE(Generic)
 UNIT COST SOURCE ORIGIN

(f) Supplier Nationality. If the recipient plans to purchase any goods or services from suppliers of goods and services whose nationality is not in the U.S., please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the types and quantities of each good or service, estimated costs of each, probable nationality of each non-U.S. supplier of each good or service, and the rationale for purchasing from a non-U.S. supplier. Any supplier whose nationality is a non-Free World country is ineligible for USAID financing.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION QUANTITY ESTIMATED PROBABLE SLUPPIER NATIONALITY
 RATIONALE (Generic) UNIT COST (Non-US Only) for NON-US

(g) Proposed Disposition. If the recipient plans to purchase any nonexpendable equipment with a unit acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more, please indicate below (using a continuation page, as necessary) the proposed disposition of each such item. Generally, the recipient may either retain the property for other uses and make compensation to USAID (computed by applying the percentage of federal participation in the cost of the original program to the current fair market value of the property), or sell the property and reimburse USAID an amount computed by applying to the sales proceeds the percentage of federal participation in the cost of the original program (except that the recipient may deduct from the federal share \$500 or 10% of the proceeds, whichever is greater, for selling and handling expenses), or donate the property to a host country institution, or otherwise dispose of the property as instructed by USAID.

TYPE/DESCRIPTION (Generic) QUANTITY ESTIMATED UNIT COST PROPOSED
DISPOSITION

6. PAST PERFORMANCE REFERENCES

On a continuation page, please provide past performance information requested in the RFA.

7. TYPE OF ORGANIZATION

The recipient, by checking the applicable box, represents that -

(a) If the recipient is a U.S. entity, it operates as a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of, an individual, a partnership, a nongovernmental nonprofit organization, a state or local governmental organization, a private college or university, a public college or university, an international organization, or a joint venture; or

(b) If the recipient is a non-U.S. entity, it operates as a corporation organized under the laws of _____ (country), an individual, a partnership, a nongovernmental nonprofit organization, a nongovernmental educational institution, a governmental organization, an international organization, or a joint venture.

8. ESTIMATED COSTS OF COMMUNICATIONS PRODUCTS

The following are the estimate(s) of the cost of each separate communications product (i.e., any printed material [other than non- color photocopy material], photographic services, or video production services) which is anticipated under the grant. Each estimate must include all the costs associated with preparation and execution of the product. Use a continuation page as necessary.

[END OF SECTION IV]

SECTION V – APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

Overview

The Technical Evaluation Criteria are tailored to the requirements of this particular RFA and are set forth below based on a **100 points** scale. Applicants should note that these criteria serve to: (a) identify the significant matters which applicants should address in their applications and (b) set the standard against which all applications will be evaluated. To facilitate the review of applications, applicants must organize the narrative sections of their applications with the same headings and in the same order as the selection criteria.

USAID East Africa intends to evaluate the applications and award an agreement without discussions with the applicants. However, USAID reserves the right to conduct discussions if the latter is determined by the Agreement Officer to be necessary. Therefore, the initial offer should contain the applicant's best terms from a Technical and Cost/Price stand point.

TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

A. Technical Approach (55 points)

Part 1: Creativity, Analysis and Communications (30 points)

- Proposed technical approach is feasible, state-of-the-art, creative and innovative, evidence-based, relevant and appropriate.
- Proposed approach demonstrates potential for long-term sustainability, beyond the five year support from USAID and includes a discussion of cost-sharing proposed and assurances of how it will be obtained.
- Applicant shows a comprehensive understanding of the education sector, including secondary education, in Somalia and provides a thorough analysis of the situation facing Somali youth, including livelihoods opportunities.

Part II. Projected Results and Accomplishments (25 points)

- Applicant clearly conveys how the proposed program will meet, or exceed, the goal and expected results for the Somali Youth Leaders initiative.
- Applicant proposes priority interventions and illustrative targets that are ambitious, realistic, measurable and cost-effective.
- Applicant shows how it will build local institutional capacity and promote Somali ownership in all aspects of the application, including how youth, communities and educators will be involved and how Somali authorities will be engaged. Linkages with the existing Diaspora initiatives that support education, youth and livelihoods sectors should be explored.
- Applicant demonstrates how strategic communications and outreach will be done throughout the life of the program, including how the partnership between USAID

and Somali stakeholders will be promoted, and the role of the Applicant in fostering such relationships.

B. Key Personnel and Management Plan (25 points)

- Proposed 5 key personnel (Chief of Party, Education Specialist, Youth Development Specialist, Communications Specialist, and Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist) have the qualifications to effectively manage this project and achieve expected results. Somali speakers are preferred. References should be included.
- Management plan proposed is logical, organized and appropriately staffed to effectively achieve the stated objectives.
- Management plan proposed is cost-effective, maximizing use of local Somali institutions and organizations, and minimizing high overhead costs and excessive use of external short-term consultancies. The proposal includes a primary office plan for Somaliland, with a field office in Puntland and a flexible deployment plan for other regions of Somalia. A small liaison office may or may not be needed in Nairobi. Any non-Somalia/land presence to be minimal and justified.

C. Organizational Capability and Past Performance (20 points)

- Applicant demonstrates solid technical expertise and the ability to provide a wide range of services needed to effectively achieve the stated objective(s), either through existing technical capabilities or by partnering with other organizations.
- Applicant demonstrates successful experience and a proven track record of developing and implementing effective solutions that achieve results in the educator sector and youth development, with experience in conflict-affected environments.

D. Cost Effectiveness and Cost Realism, including Cost Share

- Overall costs proposed in the application are realistic for the work to be performed
- The Applicant's costs reflect a clear understanding of the requirements
- The Applicant's costs are consistent with the various elements of the technical application
- The Applicant makes efficient use of cost share to maximize program impact. The cost share will be evaluated as a percentage of the total USAID funded amount.

COST EVALUATION

Cost has not been assigned a score but will be evaluated for cost reasonableness, allocability, allowability, cost effectiveness and realism, adequacy of budget detail and financial feasibility and cost sharing. While cost may be a determining factor in the final award(s) decision, especially between closely ranked applicants, the technical merit of applications is substantially more important under this RFA. The percentage of funds spent on programming versus administrative costs will be taken into consideration, i.e. the cost of staff salaries, equipment, and facilities vs. costs of field activities and interventions that directly impact the target beneficiaries.

Applications providing the best value to the Government, including cost share, will be more favorably considered for award.

Applications will be ranked in accordance with the selection criteria identified above. USAID reserves the right to determine the resulting level of funding for the agreement being selected for award.

[END OF SECTION V]

SECTION VI – AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

- 1) Following selection for award, a successful applicant will receive an electronic copy of the notice of award signed by the Agreement Officer which serves as the authorizing document. USAID will issue the award to the contacts specified by the applicant in its application documents and/or the Authorized Individuals submitted by the applicant in accordance with **Section IV.B, Part VI** above.
- 2) The applicable Standard Provisions that will apply in any resulting award document can be viewed or downloaded from USAID's Web Site:
<http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303.pdf>.
- 3) The following programmatic reporting requirements shall be made part of any award issued under this RFA:

Program Reporting

The Recipient shall submit one original, two (2) hard copies and an electronic copy of the following reports in English to the USAID/East Africa AOTR for approval:

1. Annual Work Plans and Budgets

First Work Plan

- Due no later than **30 days after the effective date of this award**.
- Shall cover the period from the effective date of award through eighteen (18) months.
- Shall describe planned activities arranged by the overall objectives of the Program Description and further broken down by sub-activities and tasks and by geographic location. Also include budgetary forecasts and notes tied to proposed activities.

Annual Work Plans

- Due no later than **30 days after the period covered by the prior year's Work Plan**.
- Shall contain the same information as described above covering the fiscal year.

2. Performance Monitoring and Management Plan (PMP)

- Due no later than **90 days after the effective date of this award**.
- Shall cover the entire period of performance of this Award and may be adjusted based on any changes in planned activities. Requires USAID approval.
- Shall include relevant indicators to measure performance annually and at the end of the program, with baselines and targets for each indicator. Indicators shall be quantitative and qualitative and used to track program impact, including related to stability, with less importance on tracking outputs. Where applicable, indicators should be disaggregated by gender, age cohorts, and geographical location. Program management and cross-cutting indicators are encouraged. The data collection process and tools to be used, and proposed plans for periodic evaluations, assessments, studies, etc. shall also be included.
- Because access to Somalia is limited for USAID, it will rely extensively on a third-party implementing partner to provide continued, on-the-ground performing monitoring,

verification and evaluation of the impact, output and activities. This is not a substitution for the role of the Recipient with regard to monitoring and evaluation of this activity. The Recipient is also required to fully collaborate with the third-party monitors. The PMP will be designed with USAID and the M&E partner to ensure that USAID's stabilization framework is built in. This will be discussed in more detail during the post-award meeting.

3. Strategic Communications and Community Outreach Plan

- Due no later than **30 days after the effective date of this award**.
- Shall detail how the Recipient will create public awareness for the initiative to demonstrate positive gains to Somali communities as well as the international community, sensitive of the local operating environment. Shall incorporate social media, photography and video and press outreach at a minimum, as well as regularly developing impact stories. Translation into Somali will be required. The strategic communication and community outreach plan requires the approval of the AOTR and should be budgeted.

4. Branding and Marking Plan

- Due no later than **30 days after the effective date of this award**. Requires the approval of the Agreement Officer and the concurrence of the Agreement Officer Technical Representative.

5. Reports

Quarterly Progress Reports

- Due to the AOTR every three months, no later than **30 days after the end of each calendar quarter**.
- Shall be no longer than 20 pages summarizing, at minimum: (1) progress to date, per the agreed-upon deliverables; (2) identification of specific problems and delays and recommendations for adjustments and corrective action; (3) any high-level meetings held and field visits; (4) planned activities for the next reporting period; (5) assessment of the validity and efficacy of progress against the goal and results; (6) progress against cross-cutting issues, including but not limited to, any environmental compliance issues.
- Shall be in English. A simplified version by zone should be prepared for Somali government officials, no later than 45 days after the end of each calendar quarter.

Financial Reports

- *Accruals*: Shall be due **one week before the end of each quarter per year**; i.e. December 31, March 30, June 30, and September 30.
- *Quarterly Financial Reports*: 30 days after the end of each calendar quarter along with the progress report. Shall include a report on expenditures accrued during the report period and projected accrued expenditures for the next quarter, against Award line items.
- *Annual Financial Reports*: The July-September Quarterly Financial Report will constitute the Annual Financial Progress Report.

Final Report

- Shall be electronically to the AOTR. A draft shall be submitted 45 days after the award end date, and a final copy **60 days after the end date**. The final report shall be in English. It shall cover the entire five-year period of the award and include the cumulative results achieved, an assessment of the impact of the program, lessons learned and recommendations, any particularly notable impact stories, and detailed financial information. It should be grounded in evidence and data. A copy of the final results shall be filed with the Development Experience Clearinghouse at: <http://dec.usaid.gov> or <http://www.DocSubmit@usaid.gov>. A simplified version by zone should be prepared for Somali government officials 90 days after the award end date.

6. Exit Plan

- Shall be submitted **90 days prior to the Award end date**.
- Shall describe all actions to be completed to demobilize the Recipient's operations, and including steps taken to transfer capacity and knowledge to local stakeholders. The plan will designate dates for all actions. It will include an inventory of all commodities procured under the project and a plan for disposition of the same commodities.

7. Any Other Deliverables

- Shall be required as outlined and approved by the AOTR related to the above.
- Shall provide the USAID/East Africa AOTR electronic copies of all publications, final program reports and public communications materials produced under this award.

[END SECTION VI]

SECTION VII – AGENCY CONTACTS

See cover letter for appropriate contacts within USAID/East Africa. Please note: Only the Agreement Officer is authorized to make commitment on behalf of USAID.

[END SECTION VII]

SECTION VIII – OTHER INFORMATION

Resulting awards to U.S. Non-government Organizations will be administered in accordance with Chapter 303 of USAID’s Automated Directives System (ADS 303), 22 CFR 226, applicable OMB Circulars (i.e., A-21 for Universities or A-122 for Non-Profit Organizations, and A-133), and Standard Provisions for Non-Governmental Organizations.

ADS 303 is available at: <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303maa.pdf>. 22 CFR 226 is available at: http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_06/22cfr226_06.html. Applicable OMB Circulars are available at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/OMB/circulars/index.html>. Standard Provisions for U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations are available at: <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303maa.pdf>.

Resulting award to Public International Organizations (PIOs, or IOs) will be administered in accordance with Chapter 308 of USAID’s ADS including the Standard Provisions set forth in ADS-308.5.15.

Potential for-profit applicants should note that USAID policy prohibits the payment of fee/profit to the prime recipient under grants and cooperative agreements. However, if a prime recipient has a subcontract with a for-profit organization for the acquisition of goods or services (i.e., if a buyer-seller relationship is created), fee/profit for the subcontractor is authorized.

Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations are available at: <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303mab.pdf>. ADS-308 is available at: <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/308mab.pdf>.

The USAID Inspector-General’s “Guidelines for Financial Audits Contracted by Foreign Recipients” is available at: <http://www.usaid.gov/oig/legal/audauth/rcapguid.pdf>.

[END SECTION VIII]