

**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
USAID/Uganda  
ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT  
APS No. 617-09-001**

**INCREASE PARTICIPATION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

USAID/Uganda is seeking applications to increase participation of people with disabilities (PWDs) in USAID activities and strengthen the capacities of disabled people's organizations (DPOs).

Funds should be used to support projects and programs that will increase the participation of people with disabilities within the programs and strategies of the mission. Program areas could include, but are not limited to, education, health, government, civil society building, rule of law, HIV/AIDS, and employment opportunities. Capacity building programs for DPOs may include organizational capacity, advocacy efforts, coordination, and leadership. The programs awarded under this APS must be performed in the Republic of Uganda.

All awards (grants or cooperative agreements) under this request for concept papers will be administered through USAID/Uganda.

Subject to the availability of funds, USAID/Washington (DCHA/DG/SPANS) has a total estimated level of funding available for all awards under this request (worldwide) of approximately \$2,000,000 over an 18-24 month period. This APS forms only the USAID Uganda portion of the total USAID/Washington effort. Two million USD is the total amount available for all awards **worldwide**.

USAID/Uganda is requesting applications in amounts ranging from \$20,000 to \$300,000. Applications should be from qualified U.S. or non-U.S. entities, such as private, non-profit organizations (or for-profit companies willing to forego profits), including private voluntary organizations, universities, research organizations, professional associations, and relevant special interest associations. Awards to U.S. organizations will be administered in accordance with (1) 22 C.F.R. 226, (2) OMB Circulars and (3) the USAID Standard Provisions for U.S. Nongovernmental Recipients. Awards to non-U.S. organizations will be administered in accordance with USAID Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Non-governmental Recipients.

Additional information on funding and the concept paper process can be found at the end of this solicitation.

**A. BACKGROUND**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), approximately 10% of any population has some form of disability with a higher incidence of disability in countries that are post conflict. Therefore, it is estimated that 600 million people throughout the world have a disability and 400 million of those are living within developing nations.

People with disabilities have been marginalized from traditional development activities due to discrimination or inadvertent barriers, which have limited their access to health care services, education, employment, and civil society integration.

Previously, emphasis was put on developing separate programs for persons with disability rather than trying to integrate them into existing development activities. Although it may be necessary at times to develop separate programs designed to address some specific needs of people with disabilities, it is also extremely important to find innovative ways to include people with disabilities in general development cooperation in order to ensure access to and benefit from a wider variety of services.

In September 1997, USAID adopted a policy that advanced a clear vision and framework for the Agency's efforts in the area of disability. The policy states that USAID will not discriminate against people with disabilities and will work to ensure the inclusion of people with disabilities in USAID-funded programs and activities. The policy also calls on USAID missions to reach out to partners, host country counterparts, and other donors to lead a collaborative effort to end discrimination against, and promote equal opportunity for, persons with disabilities.

In early 2008, a similar request for concept papers was circulated and resulted in over 100 concepts and roughly 30 programs funded around the world. Though many programs are still underway, the mechanism of engaging Missions has been positive. **PLEASE NOTE: In order to streamline flow of information, there are new application and reporting formats.**

## **B. AREAS OF INTEREST**

The two main objectives are to increase participation of people with disabilities in current USAID programs and strengthen the capacity of disabled people's organizations (DPOs). The lists provided under each heading are only illustrative - other innovative ideas are welcome.

### **A. Increase participation of people with disabilities in current USAID programs.**

Examples:

- 1) Promote participation of people with disabilities in the democratic process and elections.
- 2) Promote inclusion of participation of people with disabilities in HIV/AIDS awareness raising and education programs.
- 3) Foster inclusion of children with disabilities in education programs.
- 4) Increase employment and economic opportunities for people with disabilities.
- 5) Build capacity of humanitarian relief workers and first responders to better incorporate the needs of people with disabilities in all disaster relief planning.
- 6) Improve laws and policies within country that better reflect the inclusion of people with disabilities.

### **B. Strengthen the capacity of disabled persons organizations (DPOs).**

Examples:

- 1) Improving the organizational capacity, financial management, human/material resources, strategic planning, fundraising, leadership and coordination of DPOs.

- 2) Building advocacy skills of DPOs to increase the inclusion of people with disabilities in programs funded by USAID, host government and other donors.

### **C. AVAILABLE FUNDING**

Approximately \$2,000,000 has been set aside for projects that address the program objectives as noted above.

Concept papers of \$20,000 to \$300,000 will be considered. Any requests over \$300,000 for the total project period will not be reviewed.

Funds will be allocated to Missions as a result of successful concept paper review and approval. Concept papers will be considered only for “one time grants”, with no expectations for follow-on funding. Concept papers that cite additional funding requirements will not be reviewed.

### **D. CONCEPT PAPER EVALUATION PROCESS**

Concept papers transmitted and received by the deadline and responsive to this solicitation will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set forth in Section E of the APS using the process outlined below.

#### Step 1:

- a) USAID/Uganda will **solicit and review concept papers** in accordance with the “Evaluation Criteria” set forth in the following section. Concept papers must be submitted in English and use the *attached concept paper application form*, an 8-page limit.
- b) USAID/Uganda will **send qualifying concept paper(s)** to Washington (DCHA/DG/SPANS) for review.

At the completion of Step 1 review, USAID will notify all applicants if their concept paper was or was not forwarded to the DCHA/DG/SPANS/Washington Office for further review under Step 2.

#### Step 2:

Upon receipt of the Mission’s report, a technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) convened by DCHA/DG/SPANS in Washington shall complete the second step in the evaluation process. The DCHA/DG/SPANS/Washington TEC shall review all recommended concept papers per the APS “Evaluation Criteria” and make final recommendations for negotiation and award.

The final selection for awards will be made based on the Step 2 review of the concept papers and selections recommended by the DCHA/DG/SPANS/Washington TEC. At the completion of Step 2 review, USAID will notify each successful and unsuccessful applicant from Step 2 by mail. The successful applicant will be requested to submit a full application for negotiation and award.

## **IMPORTANT:**

**The Deadline for submission is November 30, 2009.** They will be reviewed in accordance with the evaluation criteria, and any papers meeting that criteria will be sent to USAID Washington for final selection.

**Non-conforming concept papers will not be reviewed.** Due the volume of anticipated concept papers, the standard concept paper application form must be used, respecting the 8-page limit.

## **E. EVALUATION CRITERIA**

USAID/Uganda and USAID/Washington will use the following criteria in reviewing concept papers. USAID Uganda will submit all concept papers achieving a score of 80 or more.

### **I. INFORMATION ABOUT THE APPLICANT (20 points)**

To receive a full score of 20 points the organization will have:

1. Extensive involvement in disability or be a Disabled People's Organization.
2. Previous experience in project management or managing activities related to those proposed in the concept paper.
3. An organizational mission, objectives and orientation that is in line with proposed activities.

### **II. PROJECT DESCRIPTION (60 points)**

To receive a full score of 60 points the project must:

1. Show a clear link between the described need and the proposed activities.
2. Describe the impact on existing USAID programs, activities or strategies.
3. Define who will benefit from the project (able-bodied, persons with disability, sex).
4. Provide an activity schedule that is well-defined and realistic.
5. Specify what indicators (beyond the core indicators under IIP 3.3.2) will be used to show the project was a success.

### **III. INTEGRATION OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITY (20 points)**

To receive a full score of 20 points the organization will:

1. Show evidence of linkages with existing disability programs or organizations.
2. Illustrate how people with disabilities have been/will be involved in the design, implementation and evaluation of the program.
3. Ensure that women with disability will participate in and benefit from activities.

## **F. DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS**

Applicants should submit their concept papers to the mission point of contact, Geraldine Kyazze, via email at [@gkyazze@usaid.gov](mailto:@gkyazze@usaid.gov) with a copy to Bruce McFarland at [bmcfarland@usaid.gov](mailto:bmcfarland@usaid.gov) and Christian Smith at [chsmith@usaid.gov](mailto:chsmith@usaid.gov).

[Note: Because funds are limited, organizations are encouraged to submit concept papers expeditiously to ensure that their concepts will be considered.]

**G. GENERAL INFORMATION**

1) This program is authorized in accordance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended. All awards to US organizations will be made in accordance with Chapter 303 of USAID's Automated Directives System (ADS-303), 22 CFR 226, applicable OMB Circulars A-21 (for universities), A-122 (for non-profit organizations), A-133 (for both), and applicable USAID Standard Provisions. Awards to Public International Organizations (PIOs or IOs) will be administered in accordance with Chapter 308 of USAID's ADS (ADS-308) and applicable Standard Provisions.

2) Issuance of this APS does not constitute an award or commitment on the part of the U.S. Government, nor does it commit the U.S. Government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application.

3) Subsequent to the final selection of awards, USAID/Uganda will be responsible for the negotiation, award, and administration of each agreement.