



USAID | WEST BANK/GAZA

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

November 15, 2006
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To: All USAID Contractors and Grantees

Subject: Operational Security

Dear Contractors and Grantees,

Events world wide have heightened a collective interest in ensuring the proper security and protection of contractor and grantee staff performing work under USAID funded awards. In this regard, USAID has published new guidance entitled "Operational Security General Information" under the recently revised ADS 303.

While not prescriptive nor to be interpreted as a directive to incur additional costs or an approval of the allowability of any such costs, the "Operational Security General Information" (available at <http://www.usaid.gov/policy/ads/300/303sac.pdf>) includes topics and information which may be of interest to your and your staff, such as:

- organizational security and safety planning,
- emergency planning and evacuation procedures,
- trip planning and situational awareness in the area of travel, and
- effective and reliable voice communication systems, including telephone trees.

Among additional information resources available to you, you may find:

- incident and activity reports available on a daily basis from the Overseas Security Advisor Council (OSAC). You can subscribe to these Updates by contacting OSAC Jerusalem at (972)(02) 622-7260. Additional information on OSAC is available at www.ds-osac.org
- information and maps regarding access, closures and barriers from the United Nations Office of the Coordinator of Humanitarian Affairs – Occupied Palestinian Territory at <http://www.humanitarianinfo.org/opt/>
- periodic security updates published by the Ministry of Defense, Coordination of Government Activities in the Territories (COGAT) – Foreign Relations Branch. You can request being added to distribution list for the security update by calling COGAT at (972)(03) 697-7621.

Sincerely,

Roy Plucknett
Contracting Officer
USAID/West Bank & Gaza