



JUNE 13, 2008

Dear Newsletter Recipients,

This week, Mrs. Bush traveled to Afghanistan to show her support of the good work the US and other international donors are doing there. In Mrs. Bush's words, "The Afghan people have shown me their determination to see their country succeed. And now it's up to the international community to do our part to help make that success possible." For more information on Mrs. Bush's trip to Afghanistan, go to <http://www.whitehouse.gov/firstlady/>.

Also, please note below an invitation to the next White House Faith-Based and Community Initiatives conference, here in Washington, D.C. The conference is coming up quickly, so if you plan to attend (and it's free!), sign up soon. Workshops and plenary sessions will bring together many of the Nation's top researchers, Federal and state officials, social entrepreneurs, and other experts and innovators in the field to "explore the vibrant intersection of American compassion and American ingenuity." It's sure to be an enlightening event, especially if you or your organization partner with the U.S. Government as a result of the Faith-Based and Community Initiative.

Warmest regards,

Terri

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White House Faith-Based and Community Initiatives' Innovations in Effective Compassion Conference

Thursday, June 26 and Friday, June 27
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Washington, DC

Omni Shoreham Hotel
2500 Calvert Street NW (at Connecticut Ave)
Washington, DC 20008
(202) 234-0700
[Omni Shoreham Hotel](#)

On June 26 and 27 the White House Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives will host the *Innovations in Effective Compassion Conference*. This national event will be held in Washington, DC June 26-27, 2008.

The Faith-Based and Community Initiative has sought to transform the way government engages human need. It

has worked to place front-line community groups, faith-based charities, and other social entrepreneurs at the center of responses to critical issues ranging from addiction, homelessness, prisoner reentry, domestic HIV/AIDS at-risk youth, orphan care, and malaria around the world. From the first days of his administration, President Bush has pushed the Federal government to support these locally-rooted solutions both at home and abroad, removing barriers to government's support for them, and expanding promising new strategies.

Over the course of the two-day conference, attendees—including many of the Nation's top researchers, Federal and state officials, social entrepreneurs, and other experts and innovators in the field—will explore together the vibrant intersection of American compassion and American ingenuity. Presentations and discussion will include the latest data, original research, promising innovations, and future opportunities for the “quiet revolution” advanced by the Faith-Based and Community Initiative. Break-out sessions, meals, and roundtables will also provide opportunities for you to share and learn with others national and regional leaders.

The conference is free, but pre-registration is required. Registration is granted on a first-come, first-served basis. Please register online at www.fbc.gov by Monday, June 16. While online registration is strongly encouraged, those who are unable to register online may print and complete the attached form and fax it to 703-299-4589. If you are not able to view this file, please call 202-456-6708 to have a form faxed to you. To cancel a registration, please send an email to fbc@dtihq.com or a fax to the number listed above so we may accommodate as many people as possible.

Visit the conference section of www.fbc.gov to learn more about the conference workshops.

For more information, please send an email to fbc@dtihq.com, visit www.fbc.gov, or call 202-456-6708.

We very much hope you will be able to join us in Washington, D.C.!



Deadline: June 27 at 5 p.m. Eastern Time

The U.S. Chamber Business Civic Leadership Center wants to know: Have you sent in your nomination yet for the *Ninth Annual Corporate Citizenship Awards*?

BCLC is seeking nominations about strategic, innovative corporate citizenship programs that are addressing social challenges in the U.S. and around the world.

BCLC is accepting nominations across four awards categories:

- **The U.S. Community Service Award** for a specific community service program in the U.S.
- **The International Community Service Award** for a specific community service program outside of the U.S.

- **The Partnership Award** for a company and a charitable organization that have exemplified success working together
- **The Corporate Stewardship Awards** (*one to a Small/Midsize Company and one to a Large Company*) for a company's overall values, strategies, and operational practices

BCLC will announce the finalists in September and will showcase each one at the Awards Dinner on November 18 in Washington, DC. Make sure you join us for the Dinner, where one outstanding corporate citizen from each category will receive an award.

Don't miss this opportunity to recognize an exemplary businesses, trade associations and/or chamber of commerce!

For more details on the categories and process, information on past winners, or to download a 2008 nomination kit, visit our [Corporate Citizenship Awards Web site](#).

Mrs. Bush's Remarks at International Conference in Support of Afghanistan

*Centre de Conférences Internationales
Paris, France*

10:40 A.M. (Local)

MRS. BUSH: Thank you very much. Thank you for including me in this wonderful support conference. And I want to thank especially President Sarkozy and the government of France for hosting us today, and, of course, our co-chairs, the government of Afghanistan, the United Nations.

President Karzai, thank you. I had a really wonderful visit to your country this weekend. Ban Ki-moon, the Secretary General, thank you for all your good work. And the Special Representative, Kai Eide, thank you very much as well. Foreign Minister Kouchner, thank you very much for being our host today.

Earlier this year at the White House, I met with some Afghan women whose report has weighed on my mind ever since. These government officials and professional women told me that they live in daily fear that the Taliban's violence will reverse Afghanistan's progress toward freedom. Their message was that we must take advantage of this time, or as one woman put it: "This is our only chance."

When the Taliban was driven from power in 2001, they left the Afghan people to build a society from nothing. Amid the wreckage of three decades of war, the people of Afghanistan remain determined. After only seven years, girls are participating in classrooms, new roads are being built, and women are assuming government leadership, including my host in Bamiyan, Afghanistan's first female governor, Habiba Sarabi.

In Bamiyan province, I saw how these new developments are offering Afghans hope. Yet many hurdles lie ahead, and my trip was a reminder of these, too. The new schools and roads I visited stood in the shadow of Bamiyan's sandstone cliffs where the hollow caves are all that remain of Afghanistan's ancient Buddhas, blown up by the Taliban in 2001.

Those scars in the cliffside are a remainder of the danger lurking in the Afghan hills. Female elected officials remain targets for attack. Women training to be police officers are afraid to tell their families. And teachers and students at new schools are faced with the violence that has devastated their country.

This conference is our chance to help the people of Afghanistan build the civic and economic institutions that can withstand these forces of oppression. We all know that success will not be easy, but Afghanistan has reached a decisive moment for its future. We must not turn our backs on this opportunity.

Today the United States is dedicating \$10.2 billion to help the people of Afghanistan implement their National Development Strategy over the next five years. If Congress approves all of this funding, it will add to the more than \$26 billion in U.S. humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan since 2001.

Educating Afghanistan's men, women, and children is critical to this nation's long-term success. The number of Afghan students in school has increased from 900,000 under the Taliban to nearly 6 million students -- including one and a half million girls.

In Kabul, I met with students from Kabul University, the American University of Afghanistan, the International School of Kabul, and the Women's Teacher Training Institute. I spoke with young women planning careers in science and international relations. A student from American University told me how his school offers new courses in liberal arts. But even as they described progress, these students shared a long list of needs -- from updated materials to qualified teachers.

Representatives from the Women's Teacher Training Institute told me that many potential students do not have the education necessary to prepare them for university classes. Their organization has been responding to this need through the Learning and Community Empowerment program. On Sunday, I announced that USAID will support

this and other educational initiatives with a \$40 million grant to the Afghan Ministry of Education's National Literacy Center.

Government commitments can be supplemented by donations from the private citizens, corporations, and foundations. The U.S.-Afghan Women's Council, established by President Bush and Karzai in 2002, is encouraging individual American citizens to contribute to the Afghan people's success. Today the Council supports more than 30 programs worth \$70 million in private sector funding.

I saw one of these programs in Bamiyan, at the construction site of the Ayenda Foundation's new learning center. This school, funded by Afghan and American citizens, will provide a safe place to live or study for more than 200 children who were orphaned by the Taliban.

The ARZU program is another Council effort that's helping women and children who were denied even basic education under the Taliban. Through this initiative, women are given access to education and health care as they earn money by selling hand-crafted carpets.

Mohamad is the father of two girls who participate in this program. They go to school in the mornings and weave in the afternoons. "I'm very proud that my daughters are learning to read," he says. "I don't want them to be illiterate like I am."

Citizens from every country can support Afghanistan's progress by sharing the benefit of our experience. General Jeff Schloesser, the Commanding General of Combined Joint Task Force 101 and Regional Commander East, told me this weekend about National Guard members from Texas, farmers who are supporting agricultural development in eastern Afghanistan's Ghazni province. And Afghan potato farmers in Bamiyan have learned storage methods from an Idaho potato farmer that are making their crops more profitable.

NATO's 26 provincial reconstruction teams are helping implement similar infrastructure and security projects throughout Afghanistan. In Bamiyan, I was welcomed by Kiwi troops from New Zealand's provincial reconstruction team. They greeted me with a traditional "Powhiri" ceremony, led by three soldiers in traditional warrior dress. Even though New Zealand's national defense force is not large, its PRT has been providing security and promoting development in Bamiyan since 2003. Their work shows the power of international collaboration in securing Afghanistan's progress.

The Afghan people have shown me their determination to see their country succeed. And now it's up to the international community to do our part to help make that success possible.

I'm encouraged that this delegation of 80 countries and organizations has gathered here in Paris today. As the Afghan woman told me, this is our only chance. Today, it's our chance to reaffirm our commitment to Afghanistan's success.

Thanks to each and every one of you for your support. (Applause.)

END 10:48 A.M. (Local)

Partner Spotlight Development Gateway Foundation

“Development Gateway Foundation is an international nonprofit organization with the mission to reduce poverty and enable change in developing nations through information technology.

To this end, Development Gateway Foundation provides Web-based platforms that make aid and development

efforts more effective around the world. We focus our resources in three areas where even small investments in information and communications technology (ICT) can make a major difference:

- Effective government – enabling better aid management and coordination, and more efficient and transparent government procurement.
- Knowledge sharing and collaboration – leveraging the Internet for online communications among development practitioners worldwide.
- Local partner programs in nearly 50 countries – connecting developing country organizations into our mission and helping empower them to use ICT to scale up local development efforts.”

For more information, [click here](#).

DG Communities of Development Gateway Foundation

“dgCommunities is provided by the Development Gateway Foundation ([DGF](#)) as part of its mission to reduce poverty and enable change in developing nations through information technology. Knowledge sharing and cooperation at the local and international level has become much easier with the spread of the Internet. dgCommunities helps make this happen, aggregating thousands of content resources from members, and providing an online connection to professional peers.”

“dgCommunities is a collaborative space for professionals working to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development worldwide. Members in more than 200 countries share knowledge resources, tools, contact information, and more. Each online community is centered on specific themes and guided by experts in the field.“

For more information, [click here](#).

U.S. and U.K. Announce \$60 Million Agriculture Stimulus Program for Afghanistan

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 11, 2008

Press Office: 202-712-4320

Public Information: 202-712-4810

www.usaid.gov

PARIS - Henrietta Fore, Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and Director of U.S. Foreign Assistance, announced today during the International Support Conference for Afghanistan, an agricultural stimulation program, valued at up to \$60 million. The Afghanistan Vouchers for Increased Production in Agriculture (AVIPA) program has been designed in close cooperation with Afghanistan's Ministry of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock and is jointly funded by the Government of Afghanistan, USAID, the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) and other donors to address the current food crisis.

AVIPA is a key component to an overall multi-donor, Afghan government led approach to mitigate the impact of this food crisis through an agricultural voucher program designed to increase cereal production and 2009 harvests. Under this program, farmers will be able to go into private sector agricultural supply stores and buy bags of seed, fertilizer or other inputs at greatly reduced costs. They will use these inputs quickly to grow more food.

Complementing this effort, food aid programs through the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Government of Afghanistan, USAID and the World Food Program will target the most vulnerable rural and urban households. Together these programs are expected to proactively address emergency food security issues in Afghanistan brought about by rising food prices, lower harvests in the country, and worldwide shortages of cereals such as wheat.

"The implementation of this program will help to stimulate the production of critical food crops, providing increased grain harvests in 2009," said Administrator Fore. "In addition, by improving roads, irrigation, electricity and transport services, we help Afghan farmers and markets build a stronger nation."

UK Secretary for International Development Douglas Alexander said, "I can today announce that the UK will provide \$3.5 million to allow drought affected farmers access to seeds and fertilizer to increase food production in Afghanistan. I am delighted that the UK Government and others in the international community have been able to support the lead taken by the Government of Afghanistan in responding to the humanitarian crisis caused by high food prices and low rain fall."

Limited snow and rainfall over the 2007-08 wheat-growing season means Afghanistan's wheat deficit is expected to increase significantly, requiring greater imports in 2008-09 when global suppliers such as Pakistan and Russia have drastically restricted exports. Following global increases, the price of wheat and bread, the national staple, has increased by over 130 percent, on average, in the past year alone.

For more information about USAID and its programs in Afghanistan, please visit: www.usaid.gov.

The American people, through the U.S. Agency for International Development, have provided economic and humanitarian assistance worldwide for nearly 50 years.

Federal Funding Opportunities

USAID

Brazil USAID-Brasilia is seeking applications from U.S. NGOs, non-U.S. NGOs and PVOs to implement a three-year program to conserve biodiversity in indigenous areas of the Brazilian Amazon. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 17, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

El Salvador USAID-San Salvador is seeking applications for an estimated twelve month program aimed at promoting public dialogue directed at reducing political polarization on key economic issues in El Salvador. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 7, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

USAID Regional Development Mission for Asia (RDMA) based in Thailand USAID-Bangkok is seeking applications from U.S. educational institutions or non-governmental organizations to implement a US-China Clean Energy Partnership program, pursuant to section 634(h) of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Act, 2008. The chosen recipient(s) will be responsible for ensuring achievement of the program goal and objectives to promote clean energy use in China, in coordination with other regional activities of USAID/RDMA. Funding for this activity is to be allocated over a three-year period. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 17, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Liberia USAID-Monrovia is seeking applications from qualified non-governmental organizations to assist the Ministry to Health to Rebuild Basic Health services in Liberia. The integrated activity would partner with the Government of Liberia's efforts to expand the coverage of Basic Package of Health Services, including HIV/AIDS, Maternal and Child Health, Family Planning and Reproductive Health, Improved Environmental Health (e.g. Water Supply, Hygiene and Sanitation), and Control of other infectious Diseases through support to some 105 health facilities, expand community Outreach, and enhanced Behavior Change Communication Program which support and promote healthy behaviors. As of June 11, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 22, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the Dominican Republic is seeking applications from qualified national non-governmental organizations and not-for-profit and for-profit entities (including NGOs, business associations, and universities and academic institutions) to participate in its Batey Community Development project providing development support in publicly owned bateyes. Considering the multi-sectored scope of the project, the formation of manageable and cost effective consortia of qualified organizations is encouraged. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 21, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Kenya USAID-Nairobi seeks qualified U.S. and non U.S. organizations and institutions, in the form of partnerships or consortia that include Somalia organizations, interested in providing the services described in this solicitation to provide basic Education and Water services while supporting Government institutions and community groups. The integrated activity is expected to improve access to quality education, water and sanitation services. This activity will also furnish an Education advisor to the Transitional Federal Government. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 21, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

USAID/Vietnam is currently seeking concept papers from qualified non-governmental organizations capable of designing and implementing model projects that will provide support to people with disabilities in Da Nang and surrounding areas. Programs and activities could include, but are not limited to enhancing earlier intervention for those who are disabled, providing support to existing rehabilitation clinics and services, expanding access of people with disabilities to essential health and education services, initiating or strengthening community based rehabilitation services and support, improving income generation and employment opportunities, strengthening the capacity of local organizations to provide services, improved community-based information around reducing risk exposure, and surveillance and prevention of disability. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Dec 04, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Iraq USAID-Baghdad is seeking applications from qualified organizations to implement the next phase of the Iraq Community Action Program (CAP III). CAP will promote diverse and representative citizen participation throughout Iraq, will engage and assist local government in articulating and acting on needs identified by communities and will assist innocent victims of military operations. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Sep 30, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Public Private Alliances. USAID is currently requesting applications for PPAs in Kosovo, Nigeria, India, Indonesia, and other Mission locations. For more information, [click here](#).

US Agency for International Development has posted an unrestricted grant announcement seeking partners to meet the critical basic needs of internally displaced people and returnee populations (both old and new caseload) in Kabul Province. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is June 21, 2008.

US Agency for International Development has posted a cooperative agreement for registered U.S. and non-U.S. NGOs, non-profit, and for profit organizations willing to forego profit. The purpose of the Annual Program Statement is to solicit applications for funding. The United States Government, through USAID/Washington and in close collaboration with USAID/Cotonou, USAID/Nairobi, USAID/Pretoria, and USAID/Lusaka, is seeking full applications from prospective partners to implement activities in support of creative and timely responses to the USAID-related components of the Presidential Women's Justice and Empowerment Initiative (WJEI). To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is July 23, 2008.

Ethiopia USAID-Addis Ababa has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement to solicit applications for funding from prospective new partners to support implementation of the United States Government's President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (hereafter referred to as Emergency Plan or also referred to as PEPFAR) in Ethiopia. The United States Government, through USAID/Ethiopia, is seeking, from prospective partners, concept papers to be followed by full applications (if concept papers are selected) to implement activities in support of the Prevention for at Risk Populations in High Prevalence Urban Areas in Ethiopia. The U.S. Government Mission in Ethiopia anticipates awarding a limited number of grants or cooperative agreements (hereafter called Agreements) for a period of no less than one year and no more than three years. Meanwhile, depending on successful implementation, needs and availability of funds, the period of performance could be extended by one or two additional years. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is July 31, 2008.

USAID has posted a grant notice for conflict mitigation and reconciliation programs (with possible multiple awards). The Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (DCHA/CMM) within USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA) invites applications from U.S. and non-U.S. non-profit or for-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs), international organizations (IOs) and other qualified non-U.S. Government (USG) organizations (including faith-based organizations and community based organizations) to carry out activities, under grants or cooperative agreements, that support conflict mitigation and reconciliation programs and activities that bring together individuals of different ethnic, religious or political backgrounds from areas of civil conflict and violence. A program performance period of up to twenty-four (24) months is anticipated for each award -- between \$100,000 and \$600,000 each. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is August 12, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

USAID has posted a grant notice for Public Private Partnerships in Ethiopia. The USAID/Nigeria Economic Growth, Partnership and Private Sector (PPS) Team is strongly committed to building public-private partnerships that mobilize resources, expertise, creative approaches, and technologies that address development issues in Nigeria under the Global Development Alliance (GDA) Annual Program Statement (APS). [Click here](#) to view the entire announcement. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is September 30, 2008. For more

information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Nigeria USAID-Abuja has posted a cooperative agreement for registered Nigerian indigenous organizations, U.S. and non-U.S. non-governmental organizations (NGO), faith-based organizations (FBO), community-based organizations (CBO), foundations, private organizations affiliated with public academic institutions, parastatals, professional organizations, non-profit organizations, and for-profit organizations willing to forego profit. They are looking for proposals to strengthen civil society to combat HIV/AIDS in Nigeria. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is January 31, 2009. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Department of State

The Office of Environmental Policy of the Bureau of Oceans, Environment, and Science (OES) at the Department of State (DOS) announces the Requests for Applications for Management of the Small Grants program in the Dominican Republic-Central American—United States Free Trade Agreement countries (CAFTA-DR). The purpose of the Small Grants Program is to promote public participation in environmental issues by engaging local organizations in the CAFTA-DR countries (Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua), such as non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academic institutions, professional organizations, and other civil society organizations, in the public participation opportunities and mechanisms that the CAFTA-DR Environment Chapter and Environmental Cooperation Agreement provide. NGOs and International Organizations (IO) with strong regional presence in the region may submit applications to manage the Small Grants Program. The applicants must demonstrate the ability to manage and coordinate all aspects of the program, including open competition process, review and selection of the sub-grantees, monitoring, reporting, and dissemination of the results in coordination with CAFTA-DR government points of contact and the DOS. For the purpose of this document, the CAFTA-DR countries or region include Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. One grant will be awarded in the amount of \$396,000 in Economic Support and Development Assistance FY 2007 funds. As of June 6, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is June 20, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

As part of the U.S. Government's (USG's) participation in the **Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate (APP)**, the **Department of State (DOS)** is issuing this Request for Assistance (RFA) seeking proposals from U.S. and Chinese organizations interested in contributing to the Partnership's goals through innovative public-private partnerships. These goals include reducing greenhouse gas emissions; advancing sustainable economic growth; reducing poverty; creating new investment opportunities; building local capacity; and improving economic and energy security. This RFA seeks proposal submissions, from U.S. and Chinese organizations, based on the Concept Papers provided in Attachment B of this RFA. An interested lead grant applicant organization may submit a total of two proposals in response to this RFA, which address the specific issue as noted in the problem statement of a selected Concept Paper. Funding of the selected proposals is totally dependent on, and subject to, availability of Department of State funding for the Asia-Pacific Partnership on Clean Development and Climate. To qualify for DOS funding under this RFA, a submitted proposal must demonstrate that the applicant and any partnering organizations will contribute resources to the proposed program that are at least equal to the level of resources sought from DOS in the grant application. Grants or Cooperative Agreements will be awarded in the range of US\$250,000 - US\$2,000,000. All proposals must be received electronically, NO LATER than 17:00 hours U.S. Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) on July 11, 2008, at the following electronic address: APP_US@state.gov. Any submissions received after that time will be deemed invalid. Submissions will not be accepted by mail or courier. For more information, [click here](#).

Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration provides assistance to Colombian refugees in the Andean region as well as the first 90 days of emergency assistance to IDPs in Colombia (mid and long-term assistance to IDPs is provided by USAID). Priority countries in the Andean region include Colombia, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Venezuela,

and Panama. PRM funding available for these projects generally ranges between \$100,000 and \$750,000. Each project will be funded for a period not to exceed 12 months. Project objectives should therefore be achievable within a 12-month time frame. Proposals must list other sources from which you are seeking or have already obtained funding, such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the host government, other US government agencies, and international donors, including funding and in-kind contributions from your own organization. As of June 6, the closing date for this announcement is Jul 10, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

For all federal grant notices, visit grants.gov.

If this newsletter was forwarded to you and you would like to sign up to receive regular updates from the USAID Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, or if you would like to discontinue receiving the newsletter, please [click here](#).