



CFBCI NEWSLETTER

JULY 25, 2008

Letter from the Director

Dear Newsletter Recipients,

USAID and Sister Cities International launched a new program with the help of Administrator Henrietta H. Fore and Senator Brownback in Kansas City, MO. Also, this week is Captive Nations week and was marked with President Bush speaking at USAID on the Freedom Agenda.

Over the next few weeks we are excited to be focusing on Sustainability and will be providing tools to help assess and increase sustainability within an organization. There are a number of other helpful links and tools in this week's newsletter so be sure to check them out. And as always there is a long list of grant opportunities from USAID and the U.S. State Department.

Warmest regards,

Terri

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USAID Press..... President Bush's Freedom Agenda, USAID Launches Community Connector with Sister Cities International

Helpful Links..... BetterAid.org

Helpful Tools.....HHS Sustainability Program

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Articles of Interest..... East Africa Faces 'Catastrophe' as Food Prices Rise, Oxfam Says, UN says 14 Million in African Horn Need Food Aid, Newborn Vitamin A Reduces Infant Mortality

Grant Opportunities..... USAID and U.S. Department of State

If 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](#).

USAID PRESS

ADVANCING THE

Today, President Bush observed Captive Nations week and discussed the progress of his Freedom Agenda while calling on future

FREEDOM AGENDA: President Bush Discusses Freedom Agenda, Lays out Plans to Ensure that America Continues to Offer Hope to those Languishing in Tyranny



White House Photo by Chris Greenberg

[Click here](#) to view the Freedom Agenda Fact Sheet in its entirety.

To view President Bush's remarks on the Freedom Agenda, [click here](#).

USAID Launches Community Connector with Sister Cities International

Click [here](#) for more information on Sister Cities International.

presidents and Congresses to continue leading the cause of freedom worldwide. Different presidents, from different eras and parties, have acted to defend and advance the cause of liberty. Because we were steadfast in liberty's defense, the cause of freedom has prevailed, and we will prevail again. It is in our interest to continue liberty's advance – because we know from history that the advance of freedom is necessary for our security and peace.

Leading the Cause of Freedom Requires Combating Hopelessness in Struggling Nations

To protect America, we must defeat the ideology of hatred by spreading the hope of freedom. Over the past seven years, this is exactly what the Administration has done. Recently, the President issued National Security Presidential Directive 58; Institutionalizing the Freedom Agenda to offer a guidepost to future Administrations, codifying many of the policies and practices he has put in place to promote freedom worldwide. The challenge for America in the years ahead is to continue to help people in struggling nations achieve freedom from corruption, disease, poverty, hunger, and tyranny. In the years ahead, America must continue to:

1. Use our foreign assistance to promote democracy and good government...
2. Promote free trade and open investment...
3. Lead the fight against disease...
4. Lead the fight against global hunger...
5. Lead the cause of human rights...

The Best Way to Defeat the Terrorists is to Offer a Hopeful Alternative Based on Human Liberty

We have seen a hopeful beginning for the cause of liberty at the start of the 21st century. Over the last seven years, we have seen citizens in Afghanistan and Iraq emerge from tyranny to establish representative governments. We have seen citizens in Georgia and Ukraine stand up for their right to free and fair elections. We have seen people in Lebanon take to the streets to demand their independence. We have seen strides toward democracy taken by nations such as Kuwait, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, and Pakistan.



KANSAS CITY, MO – Henrietta Fore, Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), formally launched Community Connector at the Sister Cities International (SCI) annual conference today in Kansas City. Senator Sam Brownback and SCI Executive Director Patrick Madden helped to kick-off this new, international community partnership program.

“Community Connector exemplifies the great work that can be achieved when government partners with the private sector,” said Administrator Fore. “This type of collaboration is essential to

For more information about USAID and its programs, 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.

sustainable development.”

Community Connector is a web-based platform that will focus on pairing U.S. non-governmental organizations (NGOs), communities of faith, and businesses interested in delivering development assistance with reputable organizations abroad. Community Connector will allow organizations to form effective partnerships, exchanging knowledge and resources, to meet specific needs abroad, and will help to build long-term relationships for sustainable development at a grassroots level. The program will be funded by USAID and will be an extension of SCI’s already well-known, global network of citizens.

Through the program, international partner organizations will be able to register in an SCI online database. U.S. organizations will then be able to search the database by location, type of need, amount of funding, and many other variables to determine which group or program abroad will best match with their available resources and skills.

HELPFUL LINKS

BetterAid.org

To visit the Better Aid site, [click here](#).

[Click here](#) for more information on the registration process for the CSO Aid Effectiveness Parallel Forum on August 31-September 1, 2008 in Accra, Ghana.

To read the ISG Policy Paper, “Better Aid: A Civil Society Position Paper for the 2008 Accra, Ghana High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness,” [click here](#).

To read IBON’s “Primer on Development and Aid Effectiveness,” [click here](#).

The Civil Society International Steering Group (ISG) believes CSOs play a critical role in the development arena, which is why they recently launched a campaign website called betteraid.org. This site was created to serve as an information resource concerning international aid effectiveness.

Betteraid.org focuses more specifically on the parallels of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) towards the Third High Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness, held in Accra, Ghana in early September 2008, reviewing the Paris Declaration. The site reaches out to local, national, regional and international NGOs to more effectively communicate and combat barriers of aid effectiveness worldwide.

Betteraid.org offers many interactive features to engage the NGO community in dialogue about the ISG aid effectiveness agenda. Blog posts, online forums, and related articles can all be found on the site.

Some active partners with ISG include the International Trade Union Confederation, Third World Network, and Interaction. ISG currently runs under the chairmanship of IBON, a Philippines think tank.

HELPFUL TOOLS

Sustaining Grassroots Community-Based Programs: A Toolkit for Community- and Faith-Based Service Providers

“The stability of a house depends on the strength of its foundation.”



Upcoming Topics:

- ✓ Organizational Assessment and Readiness
- ✓ Effective Marketing Strategies
- ✓ Financial Management
- ✓ Sustainability Strategies: Funds Development and Fund Raising
- ✓ Results- Oriented Evaluations

Over the next few weeks we will be covering multiple steps that deal with the issue of sustainability. This week we will give a general overview on the definition of sustainability and why it is important to an organization.

Grassroots organizations, with meager budgets and volunteer staff, don't have so many resources, but can attract diverse funding partners.

Sustainability is the capacity of an organization to achieve long-term success and stability and to serve its clients and consumers without the threat or loss of financial support and the quality of services. Sustainability is about maintaining and continuing program services after a funding period is over and ensuring that the organization has become a permanent part of community resources.

Building a foundation for the long-term growth and health of an organization is critical. The stability of a house depends on the strength of its foundation. The same holds true for grassroots, NGOs. Sustainable community organizations have solid, strong foundations. Organizations need healthy, realistic, and effective organizational structures; sustainable plans or strategies; solid and continuous financial support; adequate and qualified staff; and ongoing effective strategies for marketing and fund development.

Good sustainability plans help developers of programs and initiatives clarify where they are and where they want to go. Sustainability plans also give program managers a roadmap for where they are going and the benchmarks for determining whether they are successfully reaching goals.

For more information on the HHS Toolkit, [click here.](#)

SUCCESS STORIES

Africa Trade Hubs

Robert Ellis is the founder of Tritete African Works, providing for more than 1,000 workers, including sub-contracted vendors- through production and export of Ghanaian home décor.

He is also an agent for large U.S. corporations such as Target and Cost Plus World Market, managing large-volume orders from his own and other production facilities around Ghana.

After many hardships while trying to fulfill large-volume orders without success, Ellis turned to the West Africa Trade Hub for advice in production and financing. The Trade Hub provided Ellis with an international handcrafts consultant and a financial expert.



Robert Ellis shaking hands with President George W. Bush

In February 2008 Ellis had the opportunity to display two tables of his goods for President Bush, First Lady Laura Bush, and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice at an export showcase arranged by the West Africa Trade Hub. Mrs. Bush was so impressed that she wrote him a letter of encouragement when she returned home.

In response to the note Ellis says, "This is more than a souvenir—this is business advice," Ellis said, holding the note fondly. "This is such an inspiration to me."

The West Africa and South Africa Trade Hubs are funded and managed by the USAID Regional Missions to promote trade throughout each region and "help African exporters compete in the international market, especially through the duty-free status created by African Growth and Opportunities Act (AGOA)."

Projects within the hubs are implemented by the CARANA Corporation, a leading provider of global economic development services to government, private business, individuals, and international donor agencies. With the signing of the AGOA and Acceleration Act of 2004, all exports from Sub-Saharan Africa enter the United States duty-free and quota-free until September 30, 2015. Some of these exports include apparel, footwear, luggage, handbags, and watches.

USAID Regional Missions and the individual hubs work to target trade barriers that private businesses cannot overcome on their own, such as bribes or delays in road transport. Many trade corporations, information sources, intercommunication websites, and NGOs collaborate with the hubs to expand international trade, eradicate poverty, and promote economic development in Africa. Some of these partners include the World Trade Organization, Business Action for Africa, and Cyber Trade Center.

HIPPO KNITTING

USAID Southern Africa Trade Hub's support for the participation of Hippo Knitting in the Material World show in New York has resulted in increased employment for workers in Lesotho. Material World is one of the premier trade shows held annually in the United States bringing together buyers and producers in the apparel industry.



The West Africa Trade Hub is located in Accra, Ghana. To visit the website, [click here](#).

The South Africa Trade Hub is located in Gaborone, Botswana. To visit the website, [click here](#).

ARTICLES OF INTEREST

East Africa Faces 'Catastrophe' as Food Prices Rise, Oxfam Says

Bloomberg

By Ryan Flinn

July 24 (Bloomberg) -- East Africa is in urgent need of humanitarian assistance as droughts, violence and rising food prices wrack the region, Oxfam International said today.

An estimated 4.6 million people in Ethiopia need emergency aid, almost double the amount who needed help at the start of the year, according to a statement by Oxfam, the U.K.-based aid agency. In Somalia, 2.6 million people require emergency assistance, a figure that may rise to 3.5 million, or half the population, by year-end, the group said.

"This is a catastrophe in the making," said Rob McNeil, a spokesman for Oxfam, in the statement. "We have time to act before it becomes

“We need to act to save lives in the short term, but without investment in the long term as well, scenes of destitution will continue to haunt our shared conscience,” Barbara Stocking, Oxfam's chief executive, said in the statement.

a reality.”

McNeil, who visited Somali and Afar regions of Ethiopia, said people in one village were pounding animal food pellets into porridge to feed their families, while some roads “were littered with dead livestock,” because of a lack of pasture and water.

Oxfam joins aid organizations including Doctors Without Borders and the United Nations that have issued warnings about the worsening situation in East Africa this year.

Aid agencies trying to alleviate the problem are facing a \$211 million shortfall and may be forced to cut food rations for hungry families, the UN's humanitarian agency said this week. The U.S. Agency for International Development pledged to provide \$112 million in assistance two days ago, in addition to the \$400 million the U.S. government has already given this year.

Doctors Without Borders

Doctors Without Borders, based in Geneva, said on June 26 that Somalia is facing a humanitarian “catastrophe” as an escalating conflict restricts aid agencies' efforts to provide food and medical supplies.

Somalia has been riddled with violence since the government ejected Islamic fighters from southern and central areas in January 2007. The UN estimates 1 million Somalis are displaced within the country as people flee fighting between the Islamists and government forces, which are supported by Ethiopian soldiers.

East Africa is heavily dependent on food imports, though the cost of food has risen by 500 percent in some regions, according to Oxfam.

UN Says 14 Million in Africa's Horn Need Food Aid

AP

By Mohamed Olad Hassan and Elizabeth A. Kennedy

Dahir Abdi Salah used to feed his children three meals a day - pancakes for breakfast, spaghetti for lunch and beans for dinner.

Now, due to a global food crisis that is hitting this impoverished country especially hard, the family eats one meal a day. Other times they drink tea or water to ward off the inevitable hunger pangs.

“They eat porridge once a day,” Salah said of his children, ages 2, 5 and 6, who live on the outskirts of Somalia's shattered capital, Mogadishu. “A kilogram (2 pounds) of beans used to cost a few cents - now it's a dollar. You can imagine the difference and how it has affected our lives.”

More than 14 million people across the Horn of Africa are relying on food aid and other assistance to survive a devastating drought and rising food prices, aid officials said Tuesday. The crisis is especially dire in Ethiopia and Somalia, two of the poorest countries in the

world.

Many are surviving on one meal a day; others choose between feeding their children and sending them to school.

"This had led to more than belt-tightening," Mark Bowden, the U.N.'s aid chief for Somalia, told journalists in Nairobi, Kenya. "People are reducing their food intake ... We have only months before we go into a major crisis."

Bowden estimates that 3.5 million people - half of Somalia's population - will need food assistance by the end of 2008. The U.N. has issued an aid appeal for \$637 million for Somalia, but so far has gotten about a third of that.

The worldwide food crisis is threatening to push the number of hungry people in the world toward 1 billion - despite a recent U.N. summit pledge to reduce trade barriers and boost agricultural production.

In the Horn of Africa, food production is also hampered by drought - a double blow for Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia, Kenya and Djibouti. In Ethiopia, more than 80 percent of people live off the land.

Peter Smerdon, Nairobi-based spokesman for World Food Program, said there are fears the September-October rains, crucial to ease the crisis here, will not come.

"If those rains fail," he said, "the number in need in those regions may well explode."

Responding to the crisis in Somalia is particularly dangerous because the arid, impoverished country has not had a functioning government since warlords overthrew a socialist dictator in 1991. The warlords then turned their clan-based militias on each other, plunging the country into chaos.

Violence against aid workers in Somalia also has dramatically increased this year, with at least five workers killed and several others kidnapped for ransom.

The food problem in the Horn is also spreading further west. Several West African nations across the high desert-like region called the Sahel, just below the Sahara Desert, are experiencing a decline this year in food reserves just as global food prices are soaring.

The so-called "lean season" that begins around June has been marked by near-empty grain stores there, with the next harvest not due until around September. Invasions of locusts and poor rains in recent years have only worsened the condition, which leads to deadly malnutrition among the area's young children.

Newborn Vitamin A Reduces Infant Mortality, Study Finds

Johns Hopkins Gazette

By Tim Parson, School of Public Health

A single oral dose of vitamin A given to infants shortly after birth in the developing world can reduce their risk of death by 15 percent, according to a study conducted by researchers at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. The study is published in the July edition of the journal *Pediatrics*.

"It has long been known that vitamin A supplementation can reduce mortality in children over 6 months of age. Our study showed that vitamin A given at birth can also improve infant survival within the first 6 months of life," said Rolf D.W. Klemm, the study's lead author and a researcher with the Bloomberg School's Center for Human Nutrition.

The study enrolled 15,937 newborns from rural communities in northwest Bangladesh, where more than 90 percent of babies are born at home. Half were randomly selected to receive a 50,000 IU dose of vitamin A, while the other half received a placebo. A 200,000 IU dose of vitamin A is recommended semi-annually for older children. The vitamin A was given orally to the infants within a few days of birth, usually by seven hours after delivery. The mortality rate for the vitamin A group was 38.5 deaths per 1,000 births compared to 45.1 deaths per 1,000 births for the non-vitamin A group.

Although vitamin A reduced infant deaths from all causes, lives were likely saved by reducing the severity of potentially fatal infections, which are responsible for most deaths in early infancy in South Asia.

"This study supports the findings of previous vitamin A studies in Southern Asia, where the evidence is now strong that vitamin A given to newborns can dramatically reduce mortality," said study co-author Keith West, the George G. Graham Professor in Infant and Child Nutrition at the Bloomberg School. "More studies are urgently needed to determine if newborn vitamin A supplementation would reduce mortality among infants in other regions, especially Africa."

Kent R. Hill, assistant administrator for Global Health at the U.S. Agency for International Development, said, "We are excited by the results of this study that build on two previous studies in South Asia, confirming this low-cost intervention can significantly contribute to reducing mortality in the first six months of life. A key next step," he said, "is to consider the operational issues for using this intervention." In conjunction with other partners, USAID is conducting operations research in Nepal and Bangladesh to determine possible approaches for delivering vitamin A to newborn infants.

In the 1980s, Alfred Sommer demonstrated that vitamin A deficiency dramatically increased the risk of child mortality. Sommer, along with West and colleagues from Johns Hopkins, further demonstrated that a single dose of vitamin A given twice a year, could reduce child mortality by 34 percent. The control of vitamin A deficiency is a

global goal of the World Health Organization and is considered one of the most cost-effective of all health interventions for saving young lives.

"Because childhood mortality is greatest during the first few months of life, a single dose of vitamin A administered by mouth to a newborn child can save the lives of an additional 300,000 children in Asia every year," said Sommer, professor and dean emeritus of the Bloomberg School. "That is on top of the 1 million lives a year that would be saved by dosing all vitamin A-deficient children twice a year from 6 months through 5 years of age."

The research was supported by grants from USAID and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Additional support was provided by the Sight and Life Research Institute, Nutrilite Health Institute, Canadian International Development Agency, and National Integrated Population and Health Program of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh.

The study was written by Klemm, Alain B. Labrique, Parul Christian, Mahbubur Rashid, Abu Ahmed Shamin, Joanne Katz, Sommer and West.

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Development Grants Program

USAID is seeking comments on draft Annual Program Statement (APS) that will be released in final in summer 2008 to implement the Development Grants Program (DGP). The authority for the DGP is found in Section 674 of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008. USAID invites comments from Non-Governmental Organizations (hereafter referred to as NGOs) interested in the newly established Development Grants Program. The United States Government, through USAID, will seek applications from prospective NGO partners to implement development activities in support of USAID programmatic goals in specified countries. It is anticipated that selected USAID Missions in Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and Europe and Eurasia regions will participate. Please see draft APS (pdf file) document attached to this synopsis. As of July 25, 2008, this announcement is inviting comments until the closing date of August 15, 2008. To view this announcement, [click here](#).

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USAID FUNDING

Thailand USAID-Bangkok With this request for applications, USAID/RDMA seeks innovative proposals for a rule of law project (or projects) which correspond to the fluid environment in China and that ensure sufficient flexibility to provide assistance appropriately. This RFA focuses on the area of Administrative Law and Procedure. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 21, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Thailand USAID-Bangkok With this request for applications, USAID/RDMA seeks innovative proposals for a rule of law project (or projects) which correspond to the fluid environment in China and that ensure sufficient flexibility to provide assistance appropriately. This RFA focuses on Criminal Justice and Procedure. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 21, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Hungary USAID-Budapest seeks innovative proposals for the Kosovo Partnership for Sustainable Resettlement of Roma, Ashkali, and Egyptian (PSR-RAE) Communities Program. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is September 3, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Peru USAID-Lima The USAID Peru Mission intends to support an associate award to strengthen civil society's understanding of corruption and improve its capacity to monitor transparency and accountability in public administration and the fight against corruption. Civil society, as defined in this award, includes not only non-governmental organizations (NGOs), but the media, business associations, professional organizations, universities, private sector institutions, etc. The award will be made to one local Peruvian organization identified as the lead civil society representative. The organization chosen as the award recipient will ensure funding is appropriately allocated to other partners, results are achieved, and deliverables are met. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 18, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Bangladesh USAID-Dhaka is requesting applications to restore livelihoods and provide increased and sustained livelihood opportunities for the cyclone-affected population in southern Bangladesh. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is January 15, 2009. For more information, [click here](#).

Ethiopia USAID- In recognition of the many changes in today's development assistance environment, and in the context of USAID's new Global Development Alliance (GDA), USAID/Ethiopia strongly encourages (but does not require) the formation of public-private alliances in the implementation of its programs. By "public-private alliance" USAID/Ethiopia means activities that leverage material and significant non-federal resources offered in their proposals. Approximately \$250,000 total is set aside for public-private-alliances

to support USAID/Ethiopia's market-led livelihoods and economic growth programming to improve agricultural productivity and watershed management through improved water access. USAID/Ethiopia encourages submission of concept papers to support public-private alliances. Particular focus should be placed on multi-use water access for production, livestock, and drinking water and sanitation. Please see full announcement and attachments details. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 1, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Kazakhstan USAID-Almaty This USAID/Central Asian Republics (CAR) Annual Program Statement (APS) solicits applications from prospective partners to implement maternal and child health activities in Tajikistan. USAID expects that the total level of funding available under this APS for activities in Tajikistan would be up to \$3.5 million. Based on these figures, funding requests are expected to range from a minimum of \$200,000 up to a maximum of \$3.5 million (if activities are proposed to cover all program objectives), for expenditure over a period of up to five years. Funding will not exceed \$700,000 per year; awards for projects of more than one year will be funded incrementally. All awards are subject to the availability of funding. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is June 24, 2009. For more information, [click here](#).

El Salvador USAID-San Salvador The overall purpose of this agreement is to strengthen the capacity of the national response for the prevention and provision of HIV/AIDS services, by improving the National AIDS Program (NAP) capability in these areas, especially for Most at Risk Populations (MARPs). As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is July 30, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Ukraine USAID-Kiev The primary goal of the USAID Ukraine SCSU program will be to strengthen and assist leading pro-reform Ukrainian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to sustain and consolidate democratic gains. The program will address systemic sector-wide challenges to civil society as well as support NGO monitoring and advocacy initiatives from various spheres of public life which are essential in advancing Ukraine's reform process. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 04, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Georgia USAID-Tbilisi is seeking applications for a Cooperative Agreement to fund a program that will address the challenge of the extreme shortage of professionally qualified staff needed to effectively manage the new, predominantly private sector health services and the dramatic expansion of private health insurance companies by expanding graduate level opportunities for training in health and insurance management in Georgia. Implementation of the activity will increase supply of professionally qualified health service and health insurance managers needed to manage Georgia's newly privatized health care sector and the public health sector in Georgia.

Program implementation will begin around September 15, 2008. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 04, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Hungary USAID-Budapest The goal of this program is to improve the enabling environment for civil society and strengthen civil society's role in advocating for and influencing the development and effective implementation of public policy. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 01, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

El Salvador USAID-San Salvador The overall purpose of this agreement is to strengthen the capacity of the national response for the prevention and provision of HIV/AIDS services, by improving the National AIDS Program (NAP) capability in these areas, especially for Most at Risk Populations (MARPs). As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is July 30, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Thailand USAID-Bangkok 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 Danang 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 July 25, 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 July 25, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is Sep 30, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

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. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is July 31, 2008. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

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 to \$600,000 each. As of July 25, 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 July 25, 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 July 25, 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](#)

USAID Office of Natural Resources Management, located in the

Bureau of Economic Growth, Agriculture and Trade (EGAT/NRM) in Washington, is seeking to engage with interested parties to develop an initiative that can pool funds, talent and resources from both USAID and the private sector to address global threats to forests and biodiversity. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is August 15, 2008. Please see full announcement for details. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT FUNDING

The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL) announces a Request for Proposals (RFP) from organizations interested in submitting proposals to support the advancement of democracy and human rights inside Iran. Due to current sanctions on Iran, United States Government funds may not be used for activities involving the Government of Iran. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date of this announcement is August 6, 2008. For more information, [click here](#).

Youth Ambassadors Program-The Department of State's Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs, Office of Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs (WHA/PDA) is pleased to announce an open competition for a federal assistance award through this Request for Grant Proposals (RFGP) for the 2009 Youth Ambassadors Program. The Youth Ambassadors Program is a two-week educational exchange opportunity in the U.S. for disadvantaged high school students from the public school system with good English skills, outstanding profiles, great leadership skills, and who are engaged in volunteer work in their communities. WHA/PDA invites all accredited U.S. educational institutions, and non-profit/non-governmental organizations with substantial and proven successful experience in working with comparable youth exchange programs and which can effectively develop a program as described below to submit proposals to administer a U.S.-based two-week cultural and educational immersion program for 8-12 public high school students, and an appropriate number of adult chaperones from each of the following countries: Venezuela, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina, and Paraguay. WHA/PDA anticipates providing one federal assistance award to support this program; however, the applicant must be capable of increasing the number of youths included in the Youth

Ambassadors Program accordingly if additional funds become available. Should an increase in funding occur one or more of the following countries should be included in the program: Colombia, Nicaragua, Peru, Ecuador, Uruguay, with 8-12 additional public high school students and an appropriate number of adult chaperones per country. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is August 8, 2008. For more information about this grant opportunity, as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

International Religious Freedom Programs- The Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) announces a Request for Proposals from organizations interested in submitting proposals for projects that promote international religious freedom as part of overall good governance in the countries in: Near East, with a particular interest in Bahrain, Egypt, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen; South/Central Asia, with a particular interest in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan; East Asia and the Pacific, with a particular interest in Burma, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, North Korea, and Vietnam; Africa, with a particular interest in Eritrea, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Sudan; and Europe, with a particular interest in Azerbaijan, Kosovo, the Russian Federation, and Turkey. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is September 2, 2008. For more information about this grant opportunity, as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

The Office of the Middle East Partnership Initiative (NEA/PI) announces an open competition for proposals to support women's empowerment, political leadership, and social participation in the Middle East. Through the Women Leaders Program, NEA/PI seeks to strengthen the ability of women leaders in selected MENA countries to engage effectively with counterparts regarding issues related to enhancing women's rights, legal status, political participation, and economic empowerment. This is a request for applications (RFA) from organizations with functional and regional experience in the areas of women's empowerment, civil society strengthening, and leadership development in the Gulf, as well as in North Africa, to include the countries of Algeria, Libya, and Tunisia. Applications should specify organizations' key competencies in specific areas of women's empowerment and outline their regional and country-specific expertise. As of July 25, 2008, the closing date for this announcement is August 15, 2008. For more information about this grant opportunity, as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).