

**Functional Series 200
Programming Policy**

INTERIM UPDATE 05-07

SUBJECT: Increased Utilization of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses

NEW MATERIAL: On October 20, 2004, the President signed Executive Order 13360 to increase Federal contracting and subcontracting opportunities to Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses (SDVOBs). In light of the dedicated service and the sacrifices that our Veterans have made to the advance of freedom throughout the world, we are pleased to see that revisions to the law and the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) provide Contract Officers with significant authorities to enable achievement of the Government-wide goal of three percent of our procurement dollars awarded to SDVOBs annually.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 03/29/2005

ATTACHMENTS: 1. **Training Requirement**
2. **Strategy for Expanded Utilization**

ADMINISTRATOR

USAID/General Notice
OSDBU
03/29/2005

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I call to the attention of all USAID Contract, Technical, and Program Officers recent provisions of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (Subchapter D, Part 19.14) which granted new authorities for awards to SDVOSBs. Further information on these provisions may be found in the one hour online course developed by the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) titled: Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Program. DAU has developed this course for Federal Contract Officers and made it available to us at no cost. I have asked that successful completion be made a requirement for all USAID Contract Officers. Additional information is attached and may

also be found at: http://clc.dau.mil/kc/no_login/portal.asp as well as on USAID's internal website for Acquisition Assistance: <http://inside.usaid.gov/M/OP/>

The achievement of the goal of three percent of contract dollars earned by SVDObS equates to less than \$20 million in awards made by USAID, exclusive of the subcontracting activities of our prime contractors. Our colleagues at the Department of State have already affirmed publicly that they will achieve the goal of three percent this year, in spite of the unique difficulties in overseas procurement activities faced by the Department, as well as USAID.

I cannot over-emphasize the significance that achieving this goal represents for USAID. This is particularly so given the high public profile that USAID has experienced in recent years. The Acting Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Management, Steve Wisecarver, has been designated as the senior level official responsible for development of our strategy as well as implementation. Designation of a project manager at the level of Assistant Administrator level is consistent with the level of attention that this initiative is receiving throughout the Government.

Our formal strategy for utilizing SDVOBs is attached herewith and may also be found at the public website for the Center for Veterans Enterprise, <http://www.vetbiz.gov/library/agency.htm> This website is also the home of the register for over three thousand SDVOBs seeking business with the Government.

Our success in achieving this initiative will also be posted on this website for public review, along with the performance of all Executive Branch entities.

I ask everyone to work towards success in this regard.

Andrew S. Natsios

Attachments: a/s

Point of Contact: Any questions concerning this Notice may be directed to Robert Egge, OSDBU, (202) 712-1875.

Notice 0382

File Name	Notice Date	Effective Date	Editorial Revision Date	ADS CD No.	Remarks
IU2_0507_033005_cd39	03/29/2005	03/29/2005		CD 39	This IU will remain valid for one year.

Training Requirement

Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Initiative

Course Information

Course Title: Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Program

Platform: Internet – online training

Time: Approximately 1 hour

Host: Defense Acquisition University

Cost: None

Credit: 1 Learning Credit for those who register (as opposed to auditing)

Directions

1. Go to: <http://clc.dau.mil>
2. Click on “Learning Center”
3. Click on “Course Information and Access”
4. Scroll down in the frame titled “Self-paced modules” and look for “Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Program.”

USAID Strategy

For

Expanded Utilization of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses

Policy

America honors the extraordinary service rendered to the United States by Veterans with disabilities incurred or aggravated in the line of duty during active service with the armed forces. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) shall provide the opportunity for service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOBs) to significantly increase their share of Agency contracting and subcontracting activities. To achieve this objective, USAID shall vigorously implement policies, training, and other affirmative activities to assure that the portion of the Small Business Act which directs the establishment of a goal of not less than three percent for participation by service-disabled veteran business in Federal contracting is achieved by USAID. Such actions shall include application of the provisions of Section 36 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 657f) which gives Agency Contract Officers the authority to reserve certain procurements for service-disabled businesses.

Responsibilities

The Deputy Administrator for the Agency has designated the Acting Assistant Administrator for the Bureau for Management as the Senior Official responsible for achievement of this objective. This Official is responsible for supervision of the Agency's Procurement Executive and also the Director, Office of Acquisition Assistance.

Action Items – Fiscal Year 2005

- 1) Issue a worldwide Notice conveying the Administrator's intention to see USAID meet this goal.
- 2) Publicize the availability of the recently designed on-line course available from the Defense Acquisition University to USAID Contract Officers: *Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Business Program*. Include successful completion of this course as a mandatory requirement in the performance plans of Contract Officers.
- 3) Attendance by USAID at the SDVOB National Conference hosted by the U.S. Department of the Army the week of June 20th.
- 4) Target SDVOBs for participation in one or more of the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) monthly Sectoral Briefings bringing vendors and Agency Contract, Program and Technical personnel together at Agency headquarters.

- 5) Encourage the identification of SDVOBs qualified to perform against appropriate items in the Agency's procurement plan utilizing the resources available in the Center for Veterans Enterprise resource database (www.VetBiz.gov) as well as the Agency's internal database, the Small Business Resource Database (SBRD).
- 6) The USAID OSDBU staff will conduct rigorous review of all subcontracting plans to assure that goals are consistent with this initiative.
- 7) The USAID OSDBU will access the Agency's internal, automated Procurement Planning module for purposes of identifying suitable procurement actions for SDVOBs.
- 8) Utilize the set-aside authority when appropriate matches between SDVOBs and procurement opportunities are found. Use of this authority may be reviewed by the Deputy Administrator on a case-by-case basis to assure that set aside actions represent meaningful, realistic opportunities for both the Agency and the vendor.
- 9) Periodic briefings of the Deputy Administrator by the Acting Assistant Administrator for Management regarding the Agency's progress.

The USAID public Website: www.usaid.gov

The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization: (202) 712-1500