

AGENCY: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA)

TITLE: **Partnership for Clean Indoor Air Outreach, Communication and Education**

ACTION: Request for Proposals (RFP)

RFP: EPA-OAR-ORIA-08-03

CFDA: 66.034

SUMMARY: Formal Agency responses to questions regarding the subject RFP

DATE: **February 28, 2008**

Q1: Concerning this RFP, is Mexico considered a developing country? Will another opportunity present itself anytime soon and are there somewhat similar projects that would fit with our minority border community?

A1: Yes, Mexico is considered a developing country for this RFP. As far as pending and future grant opportunities, we really can not say because of the uncertainty of our budget resources. However, you can find all Federal Agency's grant opportunities on www.grants.gov and also you can contact our EPA Region 6, the El Paso Border Office located in Dallas, Texas at (214) 665-3102.

Q2: Would Thailand be qualified as a developing country of interest in this solicitation?

A2: Yes, Thailand would be qualified as a developing country of interest in this solicitation since according to the World Health Organization, more than 50% of the households in Thailand use solid fuel for cooking.

Q3: Clarify whether our Non-Profit Organization operating in North West Tanzania would be eligible for this RFP?

A3: Eligible non-profits are listed in the above referenced RFP as the following,

Non-profit organization, as defined by OMB Circular A-122, located at 2 CFR Part 230, means any corporation, trust, association, cooperative, or other organization which: (1) is operated primarily for scientific, educational, service, charitable, or similar purposes in the public interest; (2) is not organized primarily for profit; and (3) uses its net proceeds to maintain, improve, and/or expand its operations. For this purpose, the term "non-profit organization" excludes (i) colleges and universities; (ii) hospitals; (iii) state, local, and federally-recognized Indian tribal

governments; and (iv) those non-profit organizations which are excluded from coverage of this part in accordance with § 230.20(c)

Your organization must meet the definition of a 501c3 non-profit as described above. As stated in the RFP, USEPA anticipates awarding a cooperative agreement to one organization to increase the exchange of information and action among the diverse group of more than 160 international organizations that are members of the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air.

Q4: Do you have any criteria for selecting a developing country for partnership for this grant?

A4. The selection criteria can be found in the RFP's Section V. Proposal Review Information. There is no specific criterion for the country location of the host organization. EPA anticipates selecting one organization to promote the exchange of information and action among the network of 160 international Partner organizations through electronic media (e.g., quarterly news bulletins, website), capacity building workshops, and global forums. For more information on the activities of the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air, please visit www.PCIAonline.org.

Q5: I am an Environmental Director which serves 22 tribes and operates in the US, am I off-base in considering this grant?

A5: While Indian Tribes are eligible to apply for this grant in accordance with CFDA 66.034 (see Section III Eligibility Information as listed in the RFP), the mission of the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air is to reduce indoor air pollution from home cooking practices in developing countries. This grant opportunity supports the U.S. Government's global environmental health commitment made at the United Nations World Summit on Sustainable Development to address the burning of biomass and coal indoors, often in open fires or rudimentary, unvented stoves, in developing countries. EPA anticipates selecting one organization to promote the exchange of information and action among the 160 international Partner organizations working in more than 50 countries through electronic media (e.g., quarterly news bulletins, website), capacity building workshops, and global forums. For more information on the activities of the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air, please visit www.PCIAonline.org.

While the above request for proposals supports work in developing countries, the EPA recognizes that indoor air pollution is also of concern here in the United States, and has resources and grant opportunities available to support domestic programs. You can learn more about these resources on the following EPA websites:

- Indoor air quality (e.g., asthma, schools, radon) at <http://www.epa.gov/iaq>
- Community Action for Renewed Environment which is currently seeking request for proposals at <http://www.epa.gov/care/>
- American Indian Tribal Portal at <http://www.epa.gov/tribal/>

- Wood Stove Changeout Campaign at <http://www.epa.gov/woodstoves/how-to-guide.html>

Q6: I am a Director at a research and development organization in India which is a registered NGO working in the field of environmental conservation and management. I just want to know whether we are eligible to apply for this RFP?

A6: Yes, international organizations are eligible to apply for this grant (see Section III Eligibility Criteria in the RFP). EPA anticipates selecting one organization to promote the exchange of information and action among the network of 160 international Partner organizations working in more than 50 countries, including India. The selected host organization will provide support through electronic media (e.g., quarterly news bulletins, website), capacity building workshops, and global forums. For more information on the activities of the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air, please visit www.PCIAonline.org.

Q7: Can you please suggest to me any other funding sources to promote clear Indoor Air outreachspecially among poor women from India?

A7: The public, private Partnership for Clean Indoor Air (PCIA) offers many opportunities for collaboration and networking to strengthen household energy and health programs. The PCIA has many members in India with whom you might be able to collaborate. The PCIA website (www.PCIAonline.org) also includes information on funding opportunities on its' message board. In addition, the HEDON network publicizes funding opportunities and resources for household energy programs. I encourage you to collaborate with these two initiatives.

Q8: Does the EPA intend this cooperative agreement to be used to support the existing PCIAonline.org website and the PCIA Bulletin or to launch new partnership resources?

A8: Activities under this cooperative agreement would support both existing and new resources (e.g., website, quarterly bulletin) and activities (e.g., forums, workshops, meetings), as appropriate.