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**A GRANTS PROGRAM
FOR PRIVATE
ORGANIZATIONS**

IN SUPPORT OF
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL
AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

OFFICE
OF
PRIVATE SECTOR PROGRAMS
BUREAU OF
EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY



USIA

PURPOSE

The Office of Private Sector Programs is responsible for developing cooperative projects with private sector institutions to support, complement and enhance the goals and objectives of the United States Information Agency. These projects are designed to promote a better understanding of the United States abroad by means of educational and cultural exchange between Americans and citizens of other nations.

The Office of Private Sector Programs may provide selective assistance, encouragement, and grant support to nonprofit activities of U.S. organizations and institutions that satisfy this purpose, with special emphasis on international educational and cultural exchanges.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Funding for this program is authorized by the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, as amended.

GUIDELINES

Projects proposed for grant support should be designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the U.S. and other countries, and strengthen the ties which unite our societies. The project should include an international people-to-people exchange component and clearly support mutually reinforcing activities designed to have a lasting impact on the participants. When appropriate, the project may promote U.S. participation in international events relevant to the mission of the Agency.

Proposals for grant assistance are considered for nonprofit projects undertaken by U.S. organizations. Requests for grant support to projects that are basically scholarly in purpose should be directed to USIA's Office of Academic Programs, not to the Office of Private Sector Programs.

USIA grant assistance will normally constitute only a portion of total project funding. Proposals should list other anticipated sources of support – both financial and in-kind. The project should be completed during the duration of the grant, which does not normally exceed one year.

USIA grant assistance is designed to support specific program activities. Grant requests may include rea-

sonable and necessary administrative costs integrally related to those program activities. In most cases, grants are not awarded for general financial support.

Grants are not ordinarily given to projects that are essentially research in nature, or primarily to fund publications.

Grants are not assigned to projects designed to advocate the policy views or positions of foreign governments, nor the views of a particular political faction (as distinguished from projects designed to enhance understanding abroad of one or more aspects of American society).

PROCEDURES

The USIA fiscal year is from October 1 through September 30. Grant proposals are reviewed periodically (at least every 45 days) by a USIA panel and should be submitted in written form at least two months prior to a panel meeting to be eligible for consideration. Inquiries are welcome prior to submission of formal applications.

Initial proposals should be limited to a concept paper of not more than five typewritten pages, including the following information (if additional information is required an Agency officer will contact the person in charge of the project):

- The name of the organization; its aims, general program, and experience with international exchanges.
- Names, titles, addresses, and telephone numbers of the executive officer(s) of the organization and of the person directly responsible for the project.
- A brief statement of what the project is designed to accomplish; how it is consistent with the purpose of the grant program and in particular, how it relates to USIA's mission.
- A concise but complete description of the project, spelling out who the participants will be, where they will come from, and how they will be selected.
- A statement of what follow-up measures are proposed, how impact will be measured, and what groups, beyond the direct participants, will benefit from the project. How will they benefit?

ATTACHMENTS

Along with your proposal, please include the following:

- A detailed budget, giving a breakdown of project costs and listing separately the amount of the requested grant, as well as the sources and amounts of other funding. The budget should be endorsed by your organization's budget or contract officer.
- Brochures and general information on your organization, including your number of employees, the names of your board members (or similar group) and your sources of support and major contributors.
- A statement of tax-exempt status and/or letters of incorporation.
- An indication of other Federal Government grants which your organization has received.
- A statement ascertaining the capability of your organization to generate nongovernmental funding for the project.
- The name and title of the individual(s) authorized to commit the organization to participate in the project.

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Inquiries should be addressed to:

Office of Private Sector Programs
Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs
United States Information Agency
400 C Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20547

(202) 485-7348



USIA

E/P INITIATIVE PROGRAM CONCEPT PAPER

U.S. ELECTION OBSERVATION PROJECT

Summary

USIA plans to support a highly substantive project for post-selected participants which will expose them to and explain the U.S. election system and process during the final weeks of the 1984 national elections.

Background

Two major U.S. activities in 1984 of particular interest to USIA are the Olympics and the national elections. USIA plans to work with the private sector to develop a program which will expose carefully selected international participants to the logic and emotion of our election system, its raison d'etre, structure, process, and implications for U.S. domestic and international policies.

These programs should combine institutional expertise in the analysis of American cultural and political traditions, and include briefing sessions on the U.S. election system, the role of finances, the media, interest groups and volunteer organizations, as well as political polling in the election process. However, active participation in campaign activities would take precedent over analytically oriented presentations. A small number of universities and institutions have the capability to address these subject areas with a high degree of scholarship and hands-on expertise. Through competitive evaluation, one or two regional programs will be developed. An archetypical program is outlined below.

USIA is planning one or two group projects with approximately 12 participants each. Each group would participate in a separate program in a different region of the U.S. USIA will select participants who are high-level government and political party officials, scholars, and other experts who are already quite familiar with the U.S. political process, particularly the election system. Participants must be fluent in English and prepared and willing to engage in active and informed discussions with other experts on unique and comparative aspects of the U.S. political process. Previous work or study in the U.S. is preferred.

Program Description

This two-week program would begin on October 28, 1984, with the arrival of participants at the host institution; focus would be on the conceptual analysis and hands-on observation of national (Presidential and Congressional), state, and local elections. The university or institution would develop an inter-departmental program with representative experts in American Studies, Political Science, and Survey Research.

Agenda (Illustrative)

10/29 (Monday) -- AM Lecture on the national and local context of the elections; PM Lecture on the basic distinction between Congressional, state, and local elections; and a discussion of the role of the electoral college in the Presidential race.

10/30 -- AM briefing on each of the major candidates (Federal, state and local); PM field visit to the campaign HQ of the Democratic or Republican Presidential candidate.

10/31 -- AM meeting with several leading pollsters who have conducted surveys for various candidates in the state and have done a series of statistical analyses on factors motivating public participation in the election process.

-- PM field visit to Congressional headquarters and state/local election centers where appropriate

11/1 -- AM visit to other campaign sites; PM group meeting at the institution to discuss the role of the media and financing in the campaigns.

11/2 -- AM meeting to discuss the role of volunteer organizations and interest groups in the campaign process, followed by media and political pollster election predictions; PM individual break for home stay visit with active campaign participants--logistics assisted by local volunteers, perhaps from the National Council of International Volunteers (NCIV).

11/3 (Sat.) -- continuation of home stay

11/4 (Sun.) -- AM continuation of home stay; PM return to the host institution.

11/5 (Mon.) -- Final campaign blitz to include additional site and field visits

11/6 (Tues.) -- AM discussion of the regulations designed to avoid voter fraud, disappearing ballots, cemetery votes; followed by visit to a polling station.

-- PM groups gather for personal predictions and evaluation of campaign techniques, PM election watch party and visit to winner's celebration party.

11/7 -- AM review of election results and comparison with predictions, PM travel on to Washington D.C.

11/8 (Wed.) -- Day-long colloquium coordinated and attended by one or two representatives from the host institution to discuss the impact of the election on U.S. international economic, foreign and security policies.

11/9 and 11/10 (Thurs. and Fri.) -- Debriefing of participants and beginning of follow-on group and individual appointments (coordinated with USIA's Office of Voluntary Visitors).

Funding

As stated in the Federal Register announcement (Vol. 49, No. 87, May 3, 1984):

USIA is most interested in working with organizations that show promise for innovative and cost effective programming; and with organizations that have substantial potential for obtaining third party private sector funds in addition to USIA support. Organizations must also demonstrate a potential for designing programs which will have a lasting impact on their participants.

Competition for USIA funding support is keen. Final selection is based not only on cost effectiveness, institutional in-kind contributions, third party funding, and minimal overhead; but also on the substantive nature of the program and professional capability to carry it through to a successful conclusion.

USIA will separately cover the following cost items: international travel; per diem (for each international participant at a maximum of \$94.00 per day); and cultural allotments of \$120 per international participant.

The project proposal budget (USIA's direct funding to the private sector institution or university) should include the following cost items: U.S. travel; direct administrative expenditures; and, minimal (if any) indirect costs as a percentage of administrative costs.

This project proposal budget will conceivably cost between \$15,000 and \$20,000. USIA will grant partial funding. Because of the competitive nature of this solicitation, guidance in proposal development from the Office of Private Sector Programs (E/P) will be restricted to technical issues (202-485-7319).

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Grants Program for Private Not-For-Profit Organizations; International Educational and Cultural Activities

The United States Information Agency (USIA) announces a program of limited grant support to non-profit activities of United States institutions and organizations in the Private Sector. The primary purpose of the program is to enhance the achievement of the Agency's international public diplomacy goals and objectives by stimulating and encouraging increased private sector commitment and activity.

Private sector organizations interested in working cooperatively with USIA on the following concept are encouraged to so indicate:

U.S. Election Observation Project.—USIA is interested in establishing a two-week international exchange program for foreign scholars, high-level government and political party officials, and other qualified persons. The program will begin on or about October 28, 1984. The program focus will be on a conceptual analysis and observation of National (Presidential and Congressional), State, and Local elections. The pre-election program will take place in a metropolitan area and its environs with a post-election series of discussions in Washington, D.C. Programs should provide in-depth analysis of the election structure and processes (to include the role of the media, finances, volunteer organizations, interests groups, etc.) and of public opinion polling and evaluation. Interested private sector organizations should have demonstrated expertise in the analysis of American electoral processes, political polling and survey research, American intellectual and cultural traditions, and substantive knowledge and sensitivity to international regional areas and cross-cultural communication.

Your submission of a letter indicating interest in the above project begins the consultative process. This letter should further explain why your organization has the professional expertise and logistical capability to successfully design, develop and conduct the above project.

Emphasis during the preliminary consultative process will be on identifying organizations whose goals and objectives clearly complement or coincide with those of USIA. Furthermore, USIA is most interested in

working with organizations that show promise for innovative and cost effective programming; and with organizations that have substantial potential for obtaining third party private sector funding in addition to USIA support. Organizations must also demonstrate a potential for designing programs which will have a lasting impact on their participants. In your response, you may also wish to include other pertinent background information.

This is not a solicitation for a grant proposal. Following the receipt of your letter, and an internal review, USIA may invite your organization to examine and further develop USIA's initiative program concept (summarized above). USIA would then consider your fully developed proposal for limited financial assistance. To be eligible for consideration, organizations *must* postmark their general letter of interest within 20 days of the date of this notice.

Office of Private Sector Programs, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (Attn: Initiative Programs), United States Information Agency, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, D.C. 20547

Dated: April 30, 1984.

Charles N. Canestro,
Management Analyst, Federal Register Liaison.

[FR Doc. 84-11864 Filed 5-2-84; 8:43 am]
BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Veterans Administration Medical Center, Clinical Addition, Atlanta, Georgia; Finding of No Significant Impact

The Veterans Administration (VA) has assessed the potential environmental impacts that may occur as a result of the proposed construction and operation of a clinical addition at the VA Medical Center (VAMC), Atlanta, Georgia, and has determined that they will be minimal.

The project is a multi-level addition to the existing main hospital building with approximately 100,000 gross square feet (GSF) of new construction and 200,000 GSF of interior renovation of existing space. Several architectural alternatives are being evaluated to determine the best solution for space layouts and construction phasing.

Construction and operation of the project will cause minor impacts on the human and natural environment; affecting noise levels, ambient air quality (dust and fumes), onsite traffic and parking. The project will remove asbestos insulation from the base floors of the existing hospital. This solid waste will be handled and disposed of in compliance with all applicable local, State, and Federal requirements. Also, the project will have little or no impact on the existing 100-year flood hazard area of South Fork Peachtree Creek. New construction is intentionally sited outside of the floodway and will have a finished ground floor elevation well above normal flood hazard conditions. The VA will comply with Executive Order 11988 for flood hazard/floodplain public notification. The Agency will also adhere to all applicable Federal, State, and local environmental regulations during construction and operation of this project.

The significance of the identified impacts has been evaluated relative to the considerations of both context and intensity, as defined by the Council on Environmental Quality (Title 40 CFR 1508.27).

An Environmental Assessment has been performed in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act Regulations, Sections 1501.3 and 1508.9. A "Finding of No Significant Impact" has been reached based upon the information presented in this assessment.

The assessment is being placed for public examination at the Veterans Administration, Washington, D.C. Persons wishing to examine a copy of the document may do so at the following office: Mr. William F. Sullivan, Director, Office of Environmental Affairs (088C), Room 423, Veterans Administration, 811 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, D.C. 20420, (202) 389-3316. Questions or requests for single copies of the Environmental Assessment may be addressed to the above office.

Dated: April 25, 1984.

By direction of the Administrator.

Everett Alvarez, Jr.,
Deputy Administrator.

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