

and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system; and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest; and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Commission finds good cause for approving the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the date of the publication of notice thereof in the **Federal Register**, and is granting approval retroactively to June 5, 2003, the effective date of the Commission's extension of the ITS exemption so that the proposed rule change coincides with the Commission's extension of its *de minimis* trade-through exemption for certain ITS securities. The Commission believes that by extending the Exchange's proposed exemption for its members, the Exchange removes the specialist's obligation to provide trade-through protection in situations where it will not be permitted to seek satisfaction through ITS from the primary market.

This obligation was one the CHX assumed voluntarily in order to make its market more attractive to sources of order flow, not an obligation the Act imposes on a market. The Commission believes that the business decision to potentially forego order flow by no longer providing print protection is a judgment the Act allows the CHX to make.¹²

V. Conclusion

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act,¹³ that the proposed rule change (SR—CHX—2003–20) is approved on an accelerated basis and is effective retroactively to June 5, 2003.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁴

Jill M. Peterson

Assistant Secretary

[FR Doc. 03–19085 Filed 7–25–03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010–01–P

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4421]

Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs; Gulf Educational Reform Program

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice.

Introduction

The Office of Public Diplomacy (NEA/PD) announces an open competition for a proposal for Gulf Educational reform program in the following countries: Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, UAE, Oman and Yemen. One award will be made with this announcement.

Proposals may address any area or sector within a broad range of educational reform initiatives in the aforementioned countries, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Designing and mapping curriculum,
- Developing critical thinking skills,
- Introducing modern and innovative teaching methods to the classroom,
- Consulting on accreditation for Ministries of Education for both secondary and university-level institutions.

In order to optimize the impact of the educational reform program, initiatives should target the following groups:

- Ministry of Education supervisors and inspectors,
- Curriculum developers,
- Senior teachers and staff members from as many educational districts as possible,
- Teacher trainers.

The list is not intended to be exclusive or binding, and the office of Public Diplomacy in the bureau of Near Eastern Affairs (NEA/PD) remains open to considering a broad range of educational-related NGO activities and innovative projects designed to support and encourage educational reform in the region.

Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is educational reform in the Gulf, Chapter 4 of part II of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended (PL 107–206). Projects should focus on Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman and Yemen. Regional initiatives are encouraged where appropriate (depending on local situation/level of education system). Due to staffing constraints, Public Affairs Sections of U.S. Embassies in the region will be very limited in the assistance they can provide. Organizations should, therefore, have their own network of contacts, infrastructure and resources in-country and be prepared to carry out their programs with a minimum of official support. Public Affairs Officers will be available for consultations and program planning. NEA/PD encourages direct cooperation with Ministries of Education to ensure the successful completion of the program and to foster continuing linkages to American educational institutions.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants include all non-governmental and non-profit organizations.

Legislative Authority

This program is authorized by the 2002 Supplemental Appropriations Act for Further Recovery From and Response To Terrorist Attacks on the United States. PL 107–206.

Availability of Funds

The funding level for this program is \$290,000.00. NEA/PD reserves the right to award less, or more, than the funds described, in the absence of worthy applications, or under such other circumstances as may be deemed to be in the best interest of the government. Program funds will be available until September 30, 2003.

Review Criteria

Eligible applications will be competitively evaluated according to the following criteria:

Results or Benefits Expected—The applicant clearly describes the results and benefits to be achieved. The applicant identifies how improvement will be measured on key indicators and provides milestones indicating progress. Proposed outcomes are tangible and achievable within the grant project period. (30 points)

Approach—The applicant must demonstrate that its strategy and plan are likely to achieve the proposed results; the proposed activities and timeframes are reasonable and feasible. The plan describes in detail how the proposed activities will be accomplished as well as the potential for the project to have a positive impact on the quality of education in the region. (25 points)

Organization Profiles—Where sub-contractors are proposed, the applicant describes the rationale for the collaboration, each partner agency's respective role, and how the sub-contractor will enhance the accomplishment of the project goals. In all cases, the applicant describes planning consultation efforts undertaken. The proposed sub-contractor is appropriate with respective roles and financial responsibilities delineated. Evidence of commitment by sub-contractors in implementing the activities is demonstrated, *i.e.*, by letters or the terms of the signed agreement among participants. The applicant or sub-contractor provide documented experience in performing the proposed services as well as adequate gender balance and constituent representation on the proposed project's advisory

¹² The Commission notes that the CHX's proposed rule change will remain in effect only until the expiration of the extension of Commission's ITS Exemption Order on March 4, 2004.

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(2).

¹⁴ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).

board. Assurance is provided that proposed services will be delivered in a manner that is linguistically and culturally appropriate to the target population. Individual organization staff must be well-qualified. The administrative and management features of the project, including a plan for fiscal and programmatic management of each activity, is described in detail with proposed start-up times, ongoing timelines, major milestones or benchmarks, a component/project organization chart, and a staffing chart. (25 points)

Budget and Budget Justification—The budget and narrative justification are reasonable in relation to the proposed activities and anticipated results and the plan for services is realistic. (20 points)

Application/Proposal Submission and Deadline

An application (Standard Form 424) with an original signature and two clearly identified copies is required. The application form (Standard Form 424) and instructions can be obtained from either:

(1) The following Web sites:

<<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/#forms>>

<http://www.usaid.gov/procurement_bus_opp/procurement/forms/SF-424/>

Jessica Davies and Lavenia Holland, U.S. Department of State, NEA/PD, Room 6247, 2201 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20520, telephone (202) 647-6489, fax (202) 647-6448, e-mail DaviesJX@state.gov and Hollandly@state.gov.

Application materials must be submitted to the U.S. Department of State, Jessica Davies and Lavenia Holland, U.S. Department of State, NEA/PD, Room 6247, 2201 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20520, on or before close of business (4:30 P.M. EST) August 18, 2003. Due to delays in regular mail delivery to the State Department, applicants are strongly encouraged to hand-carry or use couriers to deliver applications to NEA/PD, between the hours of 8:30-4:30 P.M., to the attention of Jessica Davies and Lavenia Holland. Express or overnight mail services may also be used, though applicants are cautioned that express/overnight mail services do not always deliver as agreed and other delays may occur until regular mail delivery is resumed.

Applicants must also provide an electronic copy of the proposal by e-mail to Jessica Davies and Lavenia Holland at e-mail address DaviesJX@state.gov and

Hollandly@state.gov. Proposals must be submitted in both hard copy and by e-mail; proposals submitted only by e-mail, or only in hard copy, will not be considered. NEA/PD must be aware that the proposal is on its way, or the package risks being considered late or turned away by Diplomatic Security.

Applications submitted by e-mail and either (1) mail (including express mail or overnight mail services), or (2) hand-carried by applicant couriers or by other representatives of the applicant, shall be considered as meeting an announced deadline if they are received on or before close of business (4:30 PM EST) August 18, 2003.

Late Applications

Applications received after the closing date and time will be classified as late. Applications which do not meet the criteria above are considered late applications. PD shall notify each late applicant that its application will not be considered in the current competition.

General Instructions for Preparing a Full Project Description

The project description provides a major means by which an application is evaluated and ranked to compete with other applications for available assistance. The project description should be concise and complete and should address the activity for which Federal funds are being requested. Supporting documents should be included where they can present information clearly and succinctly. Applicants are encouraged to provide information on their organizational structure, staff, related experience, and other information considered relevant. Awarding offices use this and other information to determine whether the applicant has the capability and resources necessary to carry out the proposed project. It is important, therefore, that this information be included in the application. However, in the narrative the applicant must distinguish between resources directly related to the proposed project from those that will not be used in support of the specific project for which funds are requested.

Length of Applications

Each application narrative should not exceed 25 double-spaced pages in a 12-pitch font. Attachments and appendices should not exceed 25 pages and should be used only to provide supporting documentation such as administration charts, position descriptions, resumes, and letters of intent or partnership agreements. Each page should be numbered sequentially, including the

attachments or appendices. This limitation of 25 pages plus the SF 424 should be considered as a maximum, and not necessarily a goal.

Introduction

NEA/PD is particularly interested in specific factual information and statements of measurable goals in quantitative terms. Project descriptions are evaluated on the basis of substance, not length. Extensive exhibits are not required. (Supporting information concerning activities that will not be directly funded by the grant or information that does not directly pertain to an integral part of the grant funded activity should be placed in an appendix.) Applicants shall prepare the project description statement in accordance with the following instructions.

Project Summary/Abstract

Provide a summary of the project description (a page or less) with reference to the funding request.

Results or Benefits Expected

Identify the results and benefits to be derived.

Approach

Outline a plan of action which describes the scope and detail of how the proposed work will be accomplished. Account for all functions or activities identified in the application. Cite factors which might accelerate or decelerate the work and state your reason for taking the proposed approach rather than others. Describe any unusual features of the project such as reductions in cost or time, or extraordinary social and community involvement.

Provide quantitative quarterly projections of the accomplishments to be achieved for each function or activity. When accomplishments cannot be quantified by activity or function, list them in chronological order to show the schedule of accomplishments and their target dates.

List organizations, cooperating entities, consultants, or other key individuals who will work on the project along with a short description of the nature of their effort or contribution.

Staff and Position Data

Provide a biographical sketch for each key person appointed and a job description for each vacant key position. A biographical sketch will also be required for new key staff as appointed.

Organization Profiles

Provide information on the applicant organization(s) and cooperating partners

such as organizational charts, financial statements, audit reports, documentation of experience in the program area, and other pertinent information.

Third-Party Agreements

Include written agreements between grantees and subgrantees or subcontractors or other cooperating entities. These agreements must detail scope of work to be performed, work schedules, remuneration, and other terms and conditions that structure or define the relationship.

Budget and Budget Justification

Applicants must submit a comprehensive budget for the entire project. There must be a summary budget as well as breakdowns reflecting both administrative and program budgets. Applicants may provide separate sub-budgets, sub-grant, or contract budgets for each program component, phase, location, or activity to provide clarification. Provide line item detail and detailed calculations for each budget object class identified. Detailed calculations must include estimation methods, quantities, unit costs, and other similar quantitative detail sufficient for the calculation to be duplicated. The detailed budget must also include a breakout by the funding sources identified in Block 15 of the SF-424. Provide a narrative budget justification that describes how the categorical costs are derived. Discuss the necessity, reasonableness, and allocability of the proposed costs. The following guidelines are for preparing the budget and budget justification.

Personnel

Description: Costs of employee salaries and wages. Justification: Identify the project director or principal investigator, if known. For each staff person, provide the title, time commitment to the project (in months), time commitment to the project (as a percentage or full-time equivalent), annual salary, grant salary, wage rates, etc. Do not include the costs of consultants or personnel costs of delegate agencies or of specific project(s) or businesses to be financed by the applicant.

Fringe Benefits

Description: Costs of employee fringe benefits unless treated as part of an approved indirect cost rate. Justification: Provide a breakdown of the amounts and percentages that comprise fringe benefit costs such as health insurance, FICA, retirement insurance, taxes, etc.

Travel

Description: Costs of project-related travel by employees of the applicant organization (does not include costs of consultant travel or travel by local program participants for training—i.e. teachers, Ministry of Education employees travel to the U.S. for seminars/workshops). Justification: For each trip, show the total number of traveler(s), travel destination, duration of trip, per diem, mileage allowances, if privately owned vehicles will be used, and other transportation costs and subsistence allowances.

Equipment

Description: Costs of tangible, non-expendable, personal property, having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or more per unit. However, an applicant may use its own definition of equipment provided that such equipment would at least include all equipment defined above. Justification: For each type of equipment requested, provide a description of the equipment, the cost per unit, the number of units, the total cost, and a plan for use on the project, as well as use or disposal of the equipment after the project ends. An applicant organization that uses its own definition for equipment should provide a copy of its policy or section of its policy which includes the equipment definition.

Supplies

Description: Costs of all tangible personal property other than that included under the Equipment category. Justification: Specify general categories of supplies and their costs. Show computations and provide other information which supports the amount requested.

Contractual

Description: Costs of all contracts for services and goods except for those which belong under other categories such as equipment, supplies, construction, etc. Justification: Attach a list of proposed contractors, indicating the names of the organizations, the purposes of the contracts, the estimated dollar amounts, and the award selection process.

Other

Enter the total of all other costs. Such costs, where applicable and appropriate, may include but are not limited to insurance, professional services costs, space and equipment rentals, printing and publication, computer use, and administrative costs. Justification: Provide computations, a narrative

description and a justification for each cost under this category.

Total Direct Charges, Total Indirect Charges, Total Project Costs: Self explanatory.

Reporting Requirement

Quarterly progress and financial reports are required for all funded projects. Final reports will be due 90 days after end of project period (which should begin no later than September 30, 2004).

Where To Obtain Additional Information

Questions regarding this Request for Proposals should be directed to Jessica Davies and Lavenia Holland, U.S. Department of State, NEA/PD, Room 6247, 2201 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20520, telephone (202) 647-6489, fax (202) 647-6448, e-mail DaviesJX@state.gov and Hollandly@state.gov.

Dated: July 21, 2003.

James Larocco,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 03-19108 Filed 7-25-03; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4420]

Determination Pursuant to Section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as Amended

Pursuant to section 2(b)(2) of the Migration and Refugee Assistance Act of 1962, as amended, 22 U.S.C. 2601(b)(2), and the functions and authorities delegated to the Secretary of State, or his or her delegate, by Presidential Determination 99-6 of November 30, 1998, and subsequently redelegated to me by Delegation of Authority of January 5, 1999, I hereby designate migrants displaced from Côte d'Ivoire as qualifying for assistance under Section 2(b)(2) of that Act, and determine that such assistance will contribute to the foreign policy interests of the United States.

This determination shall be transmitted to the President and published in the **Federal Register**.

Dated: July 22, 2003.

Richard L. Greene,

Acting Assistant Secretary of State, Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 03-19107 Filed 7-25-03; 8:45 am]

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