



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Center for Faith-Based & Community Initiatives

MARCH 7, 2008

Dear Newsletter Recipients,

Spring is the season of new beginnings and of continued growth. It is in that spirit that USAID is pleased to announce a number of new efforts and initiatives to help the world's neediest communities. Perhaps the most exciting news this week is the possible expansion of PEPFAR through a House Foreign Relations Reauthorization bill. The bill provides \$50 billion over the next five years. The President had originally asked for \$30 billion. This newsletter has provided all of the necessary information, as well as a few reactions to this piece of legislation.

The Center is also pleased to invite you to a complimentary workshop titled "Effective Strategies for Partnership." This workshop will be held in conjunction with the International Food Aid Conference in Kansas City, Missouri and will include a panel of experts that will discuss partnering with the United States Government on international assistance projects.

While new beginnings and continued growth are the focus of this week's newsletter, we are also pleased to announce that USAID is celebrating International Women's Day, a tradition we are proud to keep. Since March 8, 1909, the world has been celebrating women and the valuable roles they play in their societies. USAID will host First Lady Laura Bush to speak at an event Friday celebrating women all across the globe. Later in the month, the First Lady will travel to Haiti and to Mexico to discuss breast cancer and education initiatives.

Warmest regards,

Terri

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USAID Celebrates International Women's Day

Press Release

On International Women's Day, March 8th, USAID proudly stands with women and men around the world to acknowledge women's essential roles and celebrate their critical contributions to economic, social, and political advancement.

USAID's long-standing and dedicated commitment to improving women's status and removing constraints on their economic, social, and political potentials continues unabated. USAID welcomes and reaffirms its continuing leadership role in addressing the many remaining challenges women face in development and in identifying and addressing evolving ones.

Over the last several decades, the world has rallied to the struggle for women's equality and rights, often

led by courageous women, who endeavor to build a better world for their children, families, societies, and themselves.

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) will host the First Lady of the United States, Mrs. Laura Bush, and honored guests at an International Women's Day celebration on Friday, March 7. International Women's Day is an opportunity to celebrate the advancement of women throughout the world and inspire all women to achieve their full potential. This day also serves as a reminder of the continued action that is required to ensure women's equality in every country.

USAID is committed to improving women's equality and empowerment around the globe. The Agency supports programs in areas such as girls' education, women's legal rights and political participation, economic opportunity, maternal and child health, and anti-human trafficking, all of which help to advance the status of women.

To view the entire press release, please [click here](#).

Committee Approves Landmark Renewal of U.S. Global AIDS Prevention Effort

Washington, DC – Acting Chairman Howard L. Berman today led the House Foreign Affairs Committee in approving ground-breaking legislation to extend and to expand the U.S.-funded global HIV/AIDS initiative that, during the past five years, has saved millions of lives -- but has also shown to be in need of changes to adjust to the realities of implementation.

With a bipartisan voice vote, the committee passed the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act (H.R. 5501). It renews the mandate of an initiative first proposed by the President in January 2003, which was then hammered out and approved by the committee and signed into law that May. An initial draft of the new legislation circulated by the committee majority for the past month, and under discussion on all sides since, then was revised last night in a three-way meeting with members of the committee minority and representatives of the White House; the compromise bill was introduced this morning.

"This bill is not perfect, but no compromise ever is," Berman noted at the start of a full committee meeting to consider the legislation. "However, this agreement ... is in the best spirit of the great leaders of this committee who guided the 2003 act into law, Chairman Lantos and Chairman Hyde. It's appropriate and fitting that this legislation is named for them.

"Twenty million innocent men, women and children, we must remember, have perished from HIV/AIDS – 20 million," Berman continued. "Forty million around the globe are HIV-positive. Each and every day, another 6000 people become infected with HIV. We have a moral imperative to act, and act decisively."

The legislation passed by the committee today includes more than 95% of the language contained in the original Democratic draft of the five-year reauthorization legislation. It provides \$50 billion over the next five years, the amount stipulated in the original Democratic draft. The President previously had called for \$30 billion.

The new measure contains provisions that move the global HIV/AIDS program beyond the "emergency" phase of implementation under the President's Emergency Program for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and seeks to make the programs that it supports more sustainable over the long term. It dramatically boosts HIV/AIDS programming related to women and girls; strengthens health systems in countries hard-hit by the virus that causes AIDS; authorizes HIV/AIDS programs to include linkages to food and nutrition, education and health care programs; and increases U.S. contributions to the Global Fund for HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.

The legislation overturns the controversial and ineffective 1/3 abstinence-only requirement that applies to

global HIV/AIDS prevention funding, which was included in the 2003 law over the objections of the then-Democratic minority. This restriction has subsequently proven to hamper the effectiveness of health care efforts in the field, as documented in recent, independent reports by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). Instead, the Executive Branch will be directed to promote a “balanced” prevention program in all countries where the program operates, including every element of the Abstinence, “Be Faithful,” and Condoms (ABC) approach toward HIV transmission prevention.

“The 2003 legislation worked well, but it now must be modified to reflect the changing nature of the HIV/AIDS crisis,” Berman told his colleagues. “We also have five years of experience under our belts; we know what works and what doesn’t.”

[Click here](#) for Washington Post coverage.

[Click here](#) for New York Times editorial.

Responses to PEPFAR Expansion Bill

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Global Health Program released the following statement today on the passage of the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria Reauthorization Act (H.R. 5501) by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs:

“This bipartisan bill is an important step toward renewing and strengthening the U.S. commitment to fighting AIDS, TB, and malaria - diseases that, together, kill nearly five million people every year.

The fact that this bill is named after two great champions of global health, one a Democrat and the other a Republican, shows the critical importance of bipartisan leadership that has been a beacon of hope to millions...

... It is extraordinary that this bill authorizes \$50 billion for PEPFAR - which would more than double U.S. authorization for the program. Such an increase would help bring global resources in line with the need.”

To read the article, please [click here](#).

The AIDS Institute applauds the leadership of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, stating:

“The AIDS Institute strongly encourages the reauthorization of the PEPFAR program at the level of \$50 billion over five years. PEPFAR is critical for the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, TB, and malaria. Our hope is that the bi-partisan spirit that has always characterized the approach to PEPFAR will continue in Congress as the House and Senate processes move forward. PEPFAR saves lives and that is what we all need to keep as the focus”.

To read the article, please [click here](#).

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA) President and CEO Billy Tauzin today released the following statement:

"America's pharmaceutical research companies commend the House Committee on Foreign Affairs for passing the Tom Lantos and Henry J. Hyde United States Global Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Reauthorization Act (H.R. 5501)...

... "We are committed to fighting the global HIV, TB and malaria epidemics and we look forward to continuing to work with the partnerships created by PEPFAR and PMI to find new, innovative solutions to fight these diseases.

"The reauthorization of these initiatives is a groundbreaking step in worldwide efforts. Already, PEPFAR has provided care or treatment for over 6.6 million people infected or affected by HIV/AIDS, including 2.7 million orphans and vulnerable children.”

To read the press release, please [click here](#).

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) welcomes the House Committee on

Foreign Affairs' February 27 approval of a new, bipartisan bill to combat HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. House debate is expected in March.

"We welcome this strong reaffirmation of U.S. leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria on behalf of millions of the world's most vulnerable people and communities," Bishop Wenski said.

Cardinal Rigali further commented, "The new bill reflects a commitment to saving human lives as well as our solidarity with those suffering overseas. It is vital to preserve and expand proven life-saving programs -- especially abstinence and fidelity education - - while refusing to dilute and distort a successful AIDS relief program with family planning and 'reproductive health' activities."

"I join Bishop Wenski in urging Congress to build upon a consensus that maintains **PEPFAR**'s compassionate, life-saving focus," Cardinal Rigali said.

To read the press release, please [click here](#).

Laura Bush To Visit Haiti, Mexico

First Lady Laura Bush will visit Haiti and Mexico March 13-14 to highlight US assistance to fight HIV/Aids and breast cancer, and promote education, a White House spokeswoman said.

The First Lady will visit a US Agency for International Development (USAID) education program and an HIV/Aids clinic - Haiti gets help under U.S. President George W. Bush's President's Emergency Plan for Aids Relief (**PEPFAR**) program.

In Mexico City, Laura Bush will attend the launch of the U.S.-Mexico partnership for breast cancer awareness and research, and meet with breast cancer awareness educators and volunteers, said Dana Perino.

To read this article, please [click here](#).

The 10th Annual USAID and USDA International Food Aid Conference



You are cordially invited to a complimentary workshop

“EFFECTIVE STRATEGIES FOR PARTNERSHIP”

In conjunction with the [International Food Aid Conference](#), USAID and USDA will be offering a

workshop on how to effectively partner with the United States Government (USG). A panel of experts from USAID, USDA, and the NGO community will share strategies for organizations interested in partnering with the USG and sub-partnering with large NGOs already receiving government funding. The workshop is also intended to build collaboration among participants, so we encourage you to bring literature regarding your organization.

APRIL 14, 2008
9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Westin Crown Center
Washington Room
1 East Pershing Road
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI 64108

For more information on the IFAC Conference, hotel reservations, and directions please visit http://www.fsa.usda.gov/Internet/FSA_File/2008_ifac.pdf

RSVP

As space is limited, please be sure to RSVP by April 11, 2008 to mtepera@usaid.gov
Participation is on a first-come, first-serve basis

If you have questions or suggestions, call (202) 712-4080

To view the Conference agenda, topics, and website, please [click here](#).
To visit USDA's website for more information, please [click here](#).

Federal Funding Opportunities

USAID

USAID has posted a cooperative agreement for US Nongovernmental or Non-US Nongovernmental Organizations that meet Eligibility Requirements as described in the Request For Applications (RFA). The request for applications should focus program objectives to: (1) improve housing through financial services targeted to the poor and very poor in the developing world and (2) through participation in a learning network, generate replicable processes, tools and methodologies for scaling up the housing microfinance sector. Subject to the availability of funds, USAID intends to award approximately 4 to 8 cooperative agreements, valued between \$400,000- \$1.2 Million, for a total value of \$4 Million over a three-year performance period. USAID reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 25, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Jordan USAID-Amman has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for a community mobilization School Construction and Rehabilitation Program. The primary stakeholders (students, teachers, principals, parents and other community members) are involved in the implementation of school construction by providing their insight, opinions, specific needs, expectations and also available skills. For more details, please refer to Section I of the RFA. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 26, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Kazakhstan USAID-Almaty has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for a human rights program in Uzbekistan. USAID is seeking applications from all qualified organizations for a human rights program that benefits Uzbekistan. Under this two year program, USAID/Central Asian Republics (USAID/CAR) seeks to support activities which protect, promote and enforce human rights. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 26, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

USAID has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for food and technical assistance activities. To access the RFA, read more about FANTA II activities, or obtain contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 28, 2008.

Guinea USAID-Conakry has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement seeking RFAs. They are seeking full applications from prospective partners to implement activities to enhance democratic governance, foster economic growth and improve natural resource management to the benefit of the people of Sierra Leone. The program is to be designed and implemented with an integrated, comprehensive, multi-sector approach, addressing the U.S. Foreign Assistance Framework Objectives. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 31, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Hungary USAID-Budapest has posted unrestricted cooperative agreement to maintain a low number and possibly even reduce the current number of victims of trafficking. The purpose is to improve the long-term reintegration services and increase participation of community stakeholders in prevention activities. The program will support the Government of Kosovo activities to implement the future action plan to combat trafficking in human beings. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is April 14, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Madagascar USAID-Antananarivo has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement for social marketing programs for child, maternal, and reproductive health products and services. The purpose of this program is to expand and build upon the achievements of USAID's previous Social Marketing and Behavior Change program in Madagascar. The overall aim of this program is to contribute to the improvement of the health status of the Malagasy people, especially women and children. This will be accomplished through a social marketing project designed to improve health among key target groups by ensuring widespread access to affordable, high-quality family planning, reproductive health, HIV prevention, malaria prevention and treatment, diarrhea disease prevention and treatment, STI treatment, and safe water treatment products. Special focus will be given to social marketing activities designed to expand the reach of essential health products and services further into rural and underserved areas. The solicitation will also target youth age 15-24 in order to assist them to delay onset of sexual debut, delay pregnancy, and protect themselves from unwanted pregnancy and STIs including HIV. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is April 14, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Senegal USAID-Dakar has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement seeking applications from organizations for a cooperative agreement to fund a program entitled "Enabling Quality, Access, and Transparency in Education for Senegal". As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is April 28, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

Dominican Republic USAID-Santo Domingo has posted an APS announcing USAID's intention to awarding multiple grants. Eligible applicants are Dominican NGOs operating legally under Dominican law, foreign organizations operating under the relevant Dominican laws and that have the required clearance to operate in the Dominican Republic from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The RFA is seeking project proposals to administer aid for the Out of School and At Risk Children and Youth program. Applicants must specify the length of time and requested funding level in the submitted concept paper. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is April 30, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

The US Agency for International Development Food for Peace grant announcement has been posted on Grants.gov. Eligible applicants include U.S. non-profit organizations and Public International Organization (PIO). Applications may request a maximum of 75 metric tons (MT) of commodities (currently valued at approximately \$173,000) and up to \$100,000 of funding. It is not mandatory, however, that these exact levels be requested or in this proportion. (Note: Funding is available for costs directly associated with the movement, management and monitoring of IFRP commodities. Funding will not be considered for the following costs: vehicle purchase, project materials, tools and office equipment.) To read more about USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) and to obtain a link to fiscal year 2008 IFRP Guidelines and Procedures, [click here](#). To access the announcement on Grants.gov and for contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is June 2, 2008.

US Agency for International Development has posted an unrestricted cooperative agreement to solicit partners to implement activities in support of creative and timely responses to encourage the abandonment of traditional practices that promote and condone gender-based violence. USAID is specifically interested in those traditional harmful practices that have received limited attention from the development community. The geographic focus under consideration is USAID's geographic definitions of Africa and Asia & the Near East (ANE). To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is June 12, 2008.

US Agency for International Development has posted an unrestricted grant announcement seeking partners to meet the critical basic needs of internally displaced people and returnee populations (both old and new caseload) in Kabul Province. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is June 21, 2008.

US Agency for International Development has posted a cooperative agreement for registered U.S. and non-U.S. NGOs, non-profit, and for profit organizations willing to forego profit. The purpose of the Annual Program Statement is to solicit applications for funding. The United States Government, through USAID/Washington and in close collaboration with USAID/Cotonou, USAID/Nairobi, USAID/Pretoria, and USAID/Lusaka, is seeking full applications from prospective partners to implement activities in support of creative and timely responses to the USAID-related components of the Presidential Women's Justice and Empowerment Initiative (WJEI). To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is July 23, 2008.

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. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is July 31, 2008.

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 in the countries listed below. 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 March 7, 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](#).

Department of State

The Bureau of Cultural and Educational Affairs has posted two grants for nonprofits having 501(c)(3) status and private institutions of higher education. They are seeking proposals to administer this semester-long program for Chilean pre-service teachers. Post-secondary educational institutions may apply independently or in a consortium with other post-secondary institutions. The program will include academic coursework and practicum/student teaching for Chilean EFL student teachers in their penultimate year of undergraduate study. The program will take place during the fall semester of 2008. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 13, 2008.

The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has posted a cooperative agreement for nonprofits having 501(c)(3) status with the IRS (other than institutions of higher education) and international organizations. Proposed activities should support refugees in Chad, primarily the 280,000 refugees from Sudan and the CAR. Proposals may include work in the following sectors: protection, health, nutrition, water and sanitation, education, camp management, community services, micro-enterprise and livelihoods development, humanitarian air services, humanitarian information services, gender-based violence prevention and support, and psychosocial support. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 14, 2008.

The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has posted a cooperative agreement seeking organizations to provide refugee assistance. Limited funding is available to support NGOs working with UNHCR to address the needs of Liberian refugee returnees. Proposed activities should support Liberian refugee reintegration via programs in the health sector (including both physical and mental health). Proposals should target areas of high refugee return (e.g., Lofa County) where refugee returnees make up at least 50% of targeted beneficiaries. Evidence of a well-developed transition/exit strategy from the project activity will be especially important. Priority will be given to proposals from organizations that can demonstrate: (1) a working relationship with UNHCR and 2008 UNHCR funding and/or support for the proposed activities and/or overall country program; (2) a proven track record in providing proposed assistance (both in the health sector and specified location) to Liberian refugee returnees; (3) evidence of coordination with development organizations and/or host government entities that could take on support of any ongoing efforts; and (4) appropriate targeting of beneficiaries in coordination with UNHCR and other relevant organizations. As of March 7, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 14, 2008. For more information as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

The Bureau Of Educational and Cultural Affairs has posted a cooperative agreement for nonprofits having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS (other than institutions of higher education), for private institutions of higher education, and others. They are seeking applications to administer The Rhythm Road-American Music Abroad program. The program will consist of up to ten tours for a selected number of professional American artists in jazz, urban music, and American roots music (e.g. country-western, bluegrass, zydeco, Cajun, etc.) The musicians selected for this program must demonstrate high artistic ability and be conversant with the broader aspects of contemporary American society and culture. Tours will include workshops, master classes, and outreach activities, in addition to concerts. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#). As of February 22, 2008 the closing date for this announcement is March 20, 2008.

PRM Thailand has posted a cooperative agreement for nonprofits having 501(c)(3) status and international organizations. They are accepting applications from non-governmental organizations and

international organizations for assistance to refugee populations in Thailand. This program will have three deadlines: Dec. 16 for proposals for health care/other assistance in Ban Mae Nai Soi and Ban Mae Surin camps (Mae Hong Son sites 1&2); Feb. 1 for proposals for food assistance; and Apr. 1 for health care services/water/sanitation/other assistance in Umpiem Mai, Nu Po, and Ban Don Yang camps. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

The Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration has posted a cooperative agreement for nonprofits with 501 (C)(3) status that are not institutions of higher learning and for international organizations. They are seeking applications from non-governmental organizations and international organizations for assistance to Afghan refugees in Pakistan and recent returnees in Afghanistan. This program will have two deadlines: February 25 for projects beginning in May and June, and April 18 for projects beginning in July through September. Please consult the full announcement for additional details and priority areas in Afghanistan and Pakistan. To access the announcement as well as contact information for the acquisition specialist, [click here](#).

[Click here](#), to read more about grants USAID currently has listed on [grants.gov](#).

[Click here](#), to read more about grants the US Department of State currently has listed.

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