



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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# The Center for Faith-Based & Community Initiatives NEWSLETTER

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**By J. Mark Brinkmoeller**

*Center for Faith-Based & Community Initiatives*

Dear Friends,

I cannot think of better words to open this month's newsletter than these from President Obama's State of the Union Address:

*We also know that progress in the most impoverished parts of our world enriches us all. In many places, people live on little more than a dollar a day. So the United States will join with our allies to eradicate such extreme poverty in the next two decades: by connecting more people to the global economy and empowering women; by giving our young and brightest minds new opportunities to serve and helping communities to feed, power, and educate themselves; by saving the world's children from preventable deaths; and by realizing the promise*

## INSIDE

**Letter from the Director**

**News and Events**

- \$20 million in new support for Somalia
- Q & A with USAID Administrator at National Prayer Breakfast International gathering
- Jewish Journal USAID: America, the Mensch

**Grant Opportunities**

- USAID
- State Department



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## News and Events

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### \$20 million in new support for Somalia

Last week USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah joined Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in Mogadishu to announce USAID's commitment of \$20 million in new humanitarian investments in health, education, agriculture, and for addressing critical food security needs. "This work is deeply a part of our national security, in addition to being the morally right thing to do. The United States helped end a famine, save tens of thousands of kids from dying, and today we're holding hands with a partner that is trying to fight corruption, do the right things and build a viable state in a country that has been a challenge from a security perspective for our country for nearly two decades." said Shah, in a follow-up interview. Administrator Shah is the most senior U.S. official to visit Somalia in over 20 years; in January the U.S. recognized the Somali government for the first time since 1991. Over the past two years, the CFBCI has played an active role in USAID's convening with Somali diaspora groups,



USAID Administrator Shah appears with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud at a press conference in Mogadishu, Photo Credit: MSNBC

- WATCH: ["US continues to strengthen ties with Somalia."](#) Administrator Shah's interview with MSNBC's Andrea Mitchell regarding USAID's ongoing commitment to the nation and people of Somalia (February 25, 2013)
- READ: [Administrator Shah's remarks at a press conference in Mogadishu, Somalia on February 21, 2013.](#)

### Q & A with USAID Administrator at National Prayer Breakfast International gathering



USAID Administrator Shah interviewed by Ward Brehm at the National Prayer Breakfast

On February 6, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah spoke at the National Prayer Breakfast's International Luncheon in Washington, DC—a gathering of 1,000 global leaders held in conjunction with the annual prayer breakfast. He was interviewed by Ward Brehm, who serves on the board of the U.S. African Development Foundation. "The gathering of International leaders at the National Prayer Breakfast were deeply impressed by Dr. Shah's willingness to share from his heart what drives his lifetime dedication to assist those among the poorest people in the world," said Brehm, reflecting on the Administrator's remarks. Dr. Shah also underscored the critical role of faith based and community groups in addressing humanitarian needs around the world. In addition to this gathering, Dr. Shah attended in the National Prayer Breakfast the following morning. The CFBCI convened a roundtable discussion with faith leaders from the private, social and government perspectives, focused on global development.

### Jewish Journal USAID: America, the Mensch

The Jewish Journal of Greater Los Angeles, recently reported on USAID's work on the occasion of a meeting between Administrator Shah and entertainment industry leaders at Hollywood's Creative Artists Agency and hosted by the Foreign Policy Roundtable. "...at a time when America's reputation abroad could use repair, and its foreign aid budget at home needs support — it's time to shine a light on USAID."

- READ: [USAID: America, the mensch;](#) Jewish Journal, January 2, 2013

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## Select Grant Opportunities

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### USAID

**NEW! USAID Pakistan Rapid Response to Pakistanis Affected by Disasters - Phase Two (RAPID II)**- The United States Government(USG), as represented by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) is seeking to support or stimulate the activities described in this Annual Program Statement (APS).The scope and objective of the Rapid Response to Pakistanis Affected by Disasters - Phase Two(RAPID II) program to be funded under the award(s) resulting from this APS are to establish a funding mechanism for the award of sub-grants to local and international non-government organizations (NGOs) so they will be able to address urgent humanitarian and early recovery needs of persons affected throughout Pakistan whether due to natural disasters or conflict. The framework created will thus support quick impact, innovative responses to emergency situations appropriate to needs identified immediately after the occurrence of a natural disaster or as the result of new or ongoing displacement due to conflict. It will be flexible and responsive to constantly changing needs. It will reflect an understanding and sensitivity to the real or perceived impact that gender and other personal attributes such as disability or age may have on personal security and access to relief assistance.

Please note: The closing date for this announcement is August 12, 2013, however concept papers are due March 8, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! CMM Reconciliation Fund Annual Program Statement (APS)**- The Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance (DCHA), Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation (CMM), invites applications for funding from qualified U.S. and non-U.S., nonprofit or for-profit non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international organizations (PIO or IO) to carry out activities that mitigate conflict and promote reconciliation by bringing together individuals of different ethnic, religious or political backgrounds from areas of civil conflict and war in the countries listed.

The closing date for this announcement is March 11, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Draft Annual Program Statement for International Emergency Food Assistance**- USAID's Office of Food for Peace (FFP) is the U.S. Government leader in international food assistance. FFP manages two programs to support emergency food assistance efforts: the Title II program, which provides in-kind commodities and associated costs, and the Emergency Food Security Program (EFSP), which provides cash that can be used for local and regional purchase of food and other interventions such as food vouchers and cash transfers. Title II is authorized by the FFA, while EFSP is authorized under the FAA. Both programs provide emergency food assistance to address needs arising from natural disasters, such as floods or droughts, and complex emergencies often characterized by insecurity and population displacement.

The closing date for this announcement is March 14, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! USAID Philippines—Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for Development (STRIDE) Program** - USAID/Philippines, is seeking applications from a U.S. and local nongovernmental organization, academic institutions, for-profit organizations, or a consortium of such organizations. USAID/Philippines proposes to enter into a Cooperative Agreement with one organization or a consortium of such organizations to support USAID/Philippines' Office of Education's program entitled "Science, Technology, Research and Innovation for Development (STRIDE)" specifically, described in Section I of this RFA. The authorities for this RFA are found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and the Grants and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977. This RFA is also being issued in accordance with the established format outlined in ADS 303.3.5.2 and the Office of Federal Financial Management Policy Directive on Financial Assistance Program Announcements.

The closing date for this announcement is March 18, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! USAID Philippines— Disaster Preparedness for Effective Response (PREPARE)** - PREPARE Project's objectives are to strengthen disaster preparedness and expedite the delivery of appropriate emergency and reconstruction assistance in the event of severe U.S. Presidentially declared natural disasters in either of two Pacific Island nations – the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) or the Republic of Marshall Islands (RMI). The closing date for this announcement is March 21, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Farmer to Farmer Program** - The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)'s Bureau for Food Security (BFS) under the management of the Office of Country Strategy and Implementation Support (CSI) is continuing USAID's long-term support for the Farmer-to-Farmer (F2F) Program. This RFA is issued to solicit applications to manage F2F volunteer programs under Leader with Associate Cooperative Agreements (LWAs). The LWAs resulting from this RFA will enable USAID to continue its support for US voluntary assistance for economic growth in the agricultural sector at regional and country levels. The LWA mechanism will facilitate USAID Mission funding to expand volunteer assistance and impact on agricultural program element objectives. The closing date for this announcement is March 25, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Innovative Partnerships for Enhancing End to End Early Warning Systems for Hydrometeorological Hazards in South Asia-** The program is expected to bring significant new, non-public resources - whether money, ideas, technologies, experience or expertise - to address current weaknesses in early warning systems. OFDA intends to provide the catalytic resources needed to bring partners together, coordinate their involvement, and develop a better understanding of each partner's role as well as how each partner might benefit or further its own objectives through the proposed partnership. The proposed partnership should be able to continue beyond the duration of this program seeking new and innovative solutions to improving the effectiveness of early warning content and dissemination; and further enhancing community resilience without additional external donor resources. The closing date for this announcement is March 27, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! USAID South Sudan—USAID South Sudan Safer Schools Support (5S) Project-** USAID mission to South Sudan is seeking applications from qualified U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Non- U.S. Non-Governmental Organizations (Non U.S. NGOs), and U.S. for profit firms (provided they forgo profit) to implement a program entitled “USAID South Sudan Safer Schools Support (5S) Project”, as fully described in this funding opportunity. Applicants are encouraged to utilize local expertise and local institutions whenever possible in implementing the program. The 5S Project looks to: 1) Improve and expand safer education services for children and youth ; 2) Enhance relevance and promote learner well-being; 3) Strengthen quality and management at the payam level to support basic education; and 4) Respond to crisis affecting the primary education sector (Program Modifier/Rapid Response Mechanism). The closing date for this announcement is March 28, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! USAID Uganda— Political Competition and Consensus Building-** The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Uganda is seeking applications to fund one or more organizations through a Cooperative Agreement for a four-year USAID/Uganda Political Competition and Consensus Building activity. The activity will build the capacity of viable political parties and entities with the aim of accelerating political consolidation by assisting the parties to develop national to local party structures, strengthen their organizational bases, and develop responsive, issue-based platforms. The closing date for this announcement is April 5, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**FY 2013 American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA) Program Worldwide-** The United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Office of American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA), is accepting funding applications from U.S. Organizations that assist schools, libraries and medical centers outside the United States to serve as study and demonstration centers for American ideas and practices. The closing date for this announcement is April 15, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**Cambodia— Annual Program Statement (APS) for MATERNAL&CHILD HEALTH, TUBERCULOSIS, HIV/AIDS, AND Malaria-** Annual Program Statement enables support to local civil society organizations to implement small and concrete activities in the areas of MCH, TB, HIV/AIDS and Malaria. The closing date for this announcement is May 17, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

## U.S. Department of State

**NEW! Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)— Request for Proposals for International Labor Rights Programs in Cameroon and Pakistan-** The DRL announces a Request for Proposals from organizations interested in submitting proposals for projects that promote democracy, human rights, and rule of law in Cameroon and Pakistan.

The closing date for this announcement is March 15, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)— Request for Proposals for Democracy, Human Rights and Rule of Law in Sub-Saharan Africa-** DRL seeks innovative proposals for Sub-Saharan Africa for programs in Kenya, Nigeria, Sudan, Zimbabwe and a regional program on women's access to justice.

The closing date for this announcement is March 18, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)— International Religious Freedom Statement of Interest-** The DRL invites organizations to submit statements of interest outlining program concepts and organizational capacity to manage projects that will advance DRL objectives to allow and protect religious freedom for all citizens and non-citizens, including those of minority faiths and non-believers, which can be a means to reduce sectarian violence and improve social stability. Programs should empower civil society to urge governments to advocate and speak out for the rights of other religious communities as well as for non-believers.

The closing date for this announcement is March 22, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)— Sri Lanka Human Rights Programs-** The DRL announces a Request for Proposals from organizations interested in submitting proposals for projects that promote democracy, human rights, and rule of law in Sri Lanka.

The closing date for this announcement is March 29, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)—Middle East and North Africa Regional Freedom of Expression Program-** DRL's objective is to increase and expand freedom of expression and the media in the Middle Eastern and North African region within the following countries: Morocco, W. Sahara, Algeria, Jordan, Tunisia, and Egypt. DRL seeks proposals that will expand the space for freedom of expression (FOE) and media for traditional journalists, bloggers, and citizen journalists through an improved legal and professional enabling environment. Program activities may include support for: 1. facilitating the creation of legal and regulatory frameworks for media that are consistent with international standards of press freedom or the analysis of existing and draft codified or proposed laws and regulations to ensure their consistency with international standards; 2. advocacy for FOE and media reforms, especially through joint action and collective advocacy; 3. and/or media professionalization that will strengthen the ability of journalists and media outlets to self-regulate. Competitive proposals must: 1. engage a wide array of stakeholders in government and civil society; 2. include partnerships with local media advocacy groups and civil society who monitor the state of media freedoms in the selected countries, including the implementation of any laws regulating freedom of expression and the media. The program may address the following categories of legislation: freedom of information; freedom of expression; freedom of assembly; copyright laws; information and communication technology; laws regulating journalism or journalists; and laws, regulations and non-legislated industry standards governing the relevant media organizations.

The closing date for this announcement is March 29, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).

**NEW! Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor (DRL)—Promoting Land Rights Through Implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights-** DRL's goal is to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations to work on land rights and tenure issues as it relates to the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (GPs). DRL seeks proposals that will develop pilot projects in at least two countries within one region that show sector or region-specific best practices for respecting rights related to land tenure using the GPs. Activities may include, but are not limited to the following: (1) Educational workshops for civil society organizations, government(s) and companies on the Guiding Principles and best practices as they relate to land tenure, and (2) Advocacy training for civil society organizations on how to build stakeholder outreach and implement the Guiding Principles into companies' existing guidelines. The program should enable civil society organizations to network in order to exchange ideas and share lessons-learned and best practices. Program country activities may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following: the Lower Mekong region, Ghana, Liberia, Colombia and Peru.

The closing date for this announcement is March 29, 2013. For more information and a full description, click [here](#).