

information, training and concrete plans for self-sustainability. Examples include: A "train the trainers" model (a program that includes practice presentation sessions, followed by activities coordinated and implemented by the participants in Kosovo); support for in-country training/resource centers; plans to create professional networks or professional associations; regularly published newsletters; and ongoing Internet communication.

Project funding: The total funding available for the Kosovo mayors and local leaders project is approximately \$200,000. The Bureau anticipates awarding one grant under this theme.

Regional Programs

Media Training

Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Serbia and Montenegro—Multi-country projects for all six countries only.—The Bureau is looking for proposals that will provide training for journalists, editors and media managers. The program should include an orientation session lasting approximately four days; an internship assignment of approximately five weeks in a small- to medium-sized media organization; and a two- to three-day debriefing. Projects should include both English-speaking and non-English-speaking participants; proposals should clearly describe what provisions would be made for non-English speakers. ECA will consider proposals to shorten the internships assignment in order to accommodate interpreting services for non-English speakers. ECA strongly encourages the use of locally hired interpreters. Those applicants that opt to find their own interpreters should submit a budget reflecting those costs and should demonstrate in their proposal narrative the ability to competently address interpreting requirements.

Proposals should outline hands-on, practical internships for the participants. A list of media establishments willing to host the participants as well as tentative letters of commitment should be included in the proposal. A sample program schedule or outline of a similar program that the organization has conducted in the past should also be submitted.

Participant Selection: Please note that the winning applicant must consult closely with the Public Affairs Offices at the respective U.S. embassies during program implementation. Embassies will nominate participants for the program.

The Bureau anticipates funding no more than three grants for this theme,

averaging approximately \$180,000 each. There will be a total of approximately 40 participants funded through this RFGP. Each proposal should accommodate approximately 12–15 participants and should be regional in focus. ECA will consider proposals that include several distinct exchanges during the life of the grant, but all exchange groups should include participants from at least three countries.

Tentative participant numbers and needs are:

Albania: Four participants. English-speakers only.

Bosnia-Herzegovina: Four participants. Two English and two non-English speakers.

Bulgaria: Five participants.

Croatia: Four participants. English-speakers only.

Macedonia: Twelve participants. Six English and six non-English speakers.

Serbia and Montenegro: Fourteen participants. Seven English and seven non-English speakers.

Once projects are funded, ECA will work with the grantees to solicit more detailed information on the needs and interests of individual participants.

Prevention of Trafficking in Persons in Southeastern Europe

Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro, Kosovo—Multi-Country Projects for all Nine Countries/Regions Only

Trafficking in persons continues to be a widespread problem in Southeastern Europe (SEE). In June 2002 the United States Department of State released its second report on the issue of trafficking in persons worldwide. (Please see <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2002/>.) Many SEE countries included in the study are classified as countries that have not taken adequate steps to quell trafficking in persons or to recognize the severity of the problem. The need to educate and inform communities and lawmakers has become imperative to prevent trafficking in the SEE region.

The Bureau seeks proposals that provide training to individuals and communities in the SEE region to help combat trafficking in persons. Programs should be regional in focus and should include cross-border efforts to ensure integration of efforts and cooperation among SEE countries. To avoid duplication of initiatives, applicants should be familiar with international organizations' programs and indigenous SEE non governmental organizations' (NGO) programs to combat trafficking. Applicants should outline relevant

thematic and regional expertise in the proposal. Priority will be given to programs that propose to reach high-risk groups where anti-trafficking initiatives have been limited or nonexistent. Proposals must include a timeline for the entire grant period, a schedule for each program activity, subcontract agreements, resumes of trainers and proposed personnel, and letters of support from SEE and U.S. partners. Proposals may address either of the themes listed below. To be competitive, proposals should outline how participants will be selected. Participants should be from the SEE countries listed above and should be afforded networking and information sharing opportunities throughout the grant period. Priority should be given to foreign participants who have not traveled to the U.S. previously. Language and interpreting issues should also be addressed in the proposal. Applicants should expect to work closely with the Public Affairs Sections of the U.S. Embassies in SEE on coordination of all activities, including participant selection.

Pursuant to the Bureau's authorizing legislation, programs must maintain a non-political character. Proposals must demonstrate an understanding of the principles behind the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (the "ACT") and current U.S. government policy, as expressed through Trafficking in Persons National Security Presidential Directive of 2/2/5/03 (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2003/02/20030225.html>) and Executive Order 13257 (http://nodis3.gsfc.nasa.gov/library/displayEO.cfm?id=EO_13257)

Areas of focus:

(1) Two-way exchanges and training programs that may address public awareness, victim assistance, reintegration and/or occupational training.

The Bureau is seeking two-way exchange programs that will educate the U.S. and SEE citizenries on the issue of trafficking. Many nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) in SEE have been confronting the issue of trafficking and have much to share with their U.S. counterparts. (Given that many women are now being trafficked into the United States, it is important that U.S. relief and assistance organizations are exposed to effective prevention and assistance programs in SEE.) SEE participants in turn will benefit from exposure to U.S. models for job training and life skills management programs, peer education and economic assistance programs as well as models for successful advocacy and fundraising