

and draft a syllabus for the training of local teachers during follow-on activities. In addition to these workshops, proposals should also include a plan for other follow-on activity (without Bureau support) ensuring that Bureau supported programs are not isolated events.

7. *Cost-effectiveness*: The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate.

Authority

Overall grant making authority for this program is contained in the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961, Public Law 87-256, as amended, also known as the Fulbright-Hays Act. The purpose of the Act is "to enable the Government of the United States to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries * * *; to strengthen the ties which unite us with other nations by demonstrating the educational and cultural interests, developments, and achievements of the people of the United States and other nations * * * and thus to assist in the development of friendly, sympathetic and peaceful relations between the United States and the other countries of the world."

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFGP are binding and may not be modified by any Bureau representative. Explanatory information provided by the Bureau that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFGP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Bureau reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal Bureau procedures.

Dated: April 17, 2003.

C. Miller Crouch,

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

[FR Doc. 03-10176 Filed 4-23-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-U

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 4340]

Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs Request for Grant Proposals (RFGPs): Tibet Development, Professional, Educational and Cultural Exchange Projects

SUMMARY: The Office of Citizen Exchanges of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for the Tibet Development, Professional, Educational and Cultural Exchange Projects. U.S.-based public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in Internal Revenue code section 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) may submit proposals that promote understanding between the people of the United States and the people of the Tibetan ethnic group living in China, through professional, educational and cultural projects.

To be eligible for consideration under this competition, proposals *must* provide a minimum of 30 percent cost sharing of the amount of grant funds sought from ECA, although proposals with higher cost sharing levels are welcome.

Interested applicants should read the complete **Federal Register** announcement before addressing inquiries to the Office of Citizen Exchanges or submitting their proposals. Once the RFGP deadline has passed, the Office of Citizen Exchanges may not discuss this competition in any way with applicants until after the Bureau program and project review process has been completed.

Announcement Name and Number: All correspondence with the Bureau concerning this RFGP should reference the "Open Competition for Tibet Development, Professional, Educational and Cultural Exchange Projects" and reference number: ECA/PE/C/ WHAEAP-03-48. Please refer to title and number in all correspondence or telephone calls to the Office of Citizen Exchanges.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Interested organizations/institutions may contact the Office of Citizen Exchanges, room 216, SA-44, U.S. Department of State, 301 4th Street, SW., Washington, DC 20547, telephone number 202/260-5491, fax number 202/260-0440, or rharvey@pd.state.gov to request a Solicitation Package. The Solicitation Package contains detailed award criteria, required application forms, specific budget instructions, and standard guidelines for proposal preparation. Please specify Bureau Program Officer, Raymond H. Harvey,

on all other inquiries and correspondence.

To Download a Solicitation Package Via Internet: The entire Solicitation Package also may be downloaded from the Bureau's Web site at <http://exchanges.state.gov/education/RFGPs>. Please read all information before downloading.

Program Information

Overview: The Office of Citizen Exchanges welcomes proposals that directly respond to the thematic areas listed below. Projects for other themes will not be eligible for consideration under the FY-2003 Tibet Development, Professional, Educational and Cultural Exchange Project announcement.

Approximately \$1.7 million is expected to be available to support projects under this competition. Approximately \$500,000 is being provided from the Bureau's FY-2003 Appropriation for a project or projects focusing on the themes of Vocational Education and Cultural Preservation. It is anticipated that the balance of funding will be provided to the Bureau via an Economic Support Fund (ESF) transfer to support a project or projects focusing on Public Health Management, Sustainable Development and Eco-Tourism and Entrepreneurship Development. Please note: The award of ESF funded grants is subject to transfer of valid funding authority to the Bureau.

Public Health Management

Projects submitted in response to this theme would be aimed at engaging public health leaders to combat the debilitating health problems ethnic Tibetans face in China, from malnutrition to fatal pneumonia, tuberculosis and diarrhea. The program would focus on developing and implementing appropriate public health policies, through seminars, training programs (especially in the areas of inoculations, child nutrition, midwifery, cataract surgery, or cleft palate repair) and outreach to public and private health planners and practitioners, to ensure the optimal welfare and economic viability of ethnic Tibetan communities. (Formal medical education and dispensing of medications are outside the purview of this theme and will not be accepted activities for funding based on exchange guidelines.)

Sustainable Development and Eco-tourism

Exchanges and development activities funded under this theme would help American and ethnic Tibetan conservationists, tourism planners, and