

availability of fiscal year (FY) 2003 funds for a cooperative agreement with Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) for programs that support HIV, Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD) and Tuberculosis (TB) prevention and control activities in Zambia.

The purpose of this program is to build monitoring and evaluation (M&E) capacity to effectively monitor and analyze program activities in the areas of HIV/AIDS and STDs, as well as TB, the most common opportunistic infection associated with HIV in Zambia. Funds in this agreement will be used to support collection and analysis of information on these diseases and enhancements in information technology and capacity to analyze and disseminate findings. Collaborative activities between CDC and reference laboratories are intended to profoundly improve the effectiveness of HIV/AIDS, STD and TB program activities in Zambia.

The United States Government (USG) seeks to reduce the impact of HIV/AIDS in specific countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia and the Americas through its Leadership and Investment in Fighting an Epidemic (LIFE) initiative. To carry out this initiative, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has organized its Global AIDS Program (GAP) to strengthen capacity and expand activities in the areas of (1) HIV prevention; (2) HIV care, support and treatment; and (3) capacity and infrastructure development, especially for HIV/AIDS surveillance activities.

Targeted countries represent those with the most severe epidemics and the highest number of new infections. They also represent countries where the potential for impact is greatest and where U.S. Government agencies are already active. Zambia is one of these targeted countries.

Through CDC, HHS is working in a collaborative manner with national governments and other agencies to develop programs of assistance to address the HIV/AIDS epidemics in LIFE Initiative countries. In particular, CDC's mission in Zambia is to improve surveillance for HIV, TB and STIs and to strengthen and make more effective programs for preventing and treating these diseases.

Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with one or more of the following performance goals for the National Center for HIV/AIDS/STD/TB Prevention: Strengthen the capacity nationwide to monitor the epidemic, develop and implement effective HIV prevention interventions and evaluate prevention programs, and improve HIV/

AIDS information management and decision making by developing well coordinated databases by 2005.

C. Eligible Applicants

Applications may be submitted by agencies of the GRZ that implement or coordinate programs designed to control HIV, STDs and TB. Programs should have national impact. Applicants must have a mandate from the Government of the Republic of Zambia (GRZ) to provide these services.

D. Funding

Availability of Funds

Approximately \$200,000 is available in 2003 to fund approximately two awards. It is expected that the average award will be \$100,000, ranging from \$90,000 to \$110,000. It is expected that the awards will begin on or about September 1, 2003 and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to five years. Funding estimates may change.

Continuation awards within an approved project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress as evidenced by required reports and the availability of funds.

Use of Funds

Funds May Not Be Used For:

1. Funds received from this announcement will not be used for the purchase of antiretroviral drugs for treatment of established HIV infection (with the exception of AZT and nevirapine in Prevention of Mother to Child Transmission (PMTCT) cases and with prior written approval), occupational exposures, and non-occupational exposures.

2. Funds will not be used for the purchase of machines and reagents to conduct the necessary laboratory monitoring for patient care.

3. No funds appropriated under this Act shall be used to carry out any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.

Funds May Be Used For:

1. Funds may be spent for reasonable program purposes, including personnel, travel, supplies and services. Equipment may be purchased if deemed necessary to accomplish program objectives; however, prior approval by CDC officials must be requested in writing.

2. The costs that are generally allowable in grants to domestic organizations are allowable to foreign institutions and international organizations, with the following exception: With the exception of the

American University, Beirut, and the World Health Organization, Indirect Costs will not be paid (either directly or through sub-award) to organizations located outside the territorial limits of the United States or to international organizations regardless of their location.

3. The applicant may contract with other organizations under this program; however the applicant must perform a substantial portion of the activities (including program management and operations, and delivery of prevention services for which funds are required.)

All requests for funds contained in the budget shall be stated in U.S. dollars. Once an award is made, CDC will not compensate foreign grantees for currency exchange fluctuations through the issuance of supplemental awards.

You must obtain annual audit of these CDC funds (program-specific audit) by a U.S.—based audit firm with international branches and current licensure/authority in-country, and in accordance with International Accounting Standards or equivalent standard(s) approved in writing by CDC.

A fiscal Recipient Capability Assessment may be required, prior to or post award, in order to review the applicant's business management and fiscal capabilities regarding the handling of U.S. Federal funds.

Recipient Financial Participation

Matching funds are not required for this program.

E. Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the recipient will be responsible for the activities listed in 1. Recipient Activities, and CDC will be responsible for activities listed in 2. CDC Activities.

1. Recipient Activities

- a. The applicant will plan and implement activities to build information technology capacity that supports M&E work. This may include a local area network and Internet access that will be used to disseminate information and communicate with public health officials within and outside of Zambia. This may also include training in the analysis and handling of data.

- b. The applicant will plan and implement activities to monitor the impact or assist in controlling HIV, STDs or TB in Zambia. This may include collecting and evaluating data on HIV, STIs and TB, and infrastructure building and training in the area of M&E.