

an understanding of how to plan and mobilize forces to accomplish these goals. Proposals should build a valued working relationship between Americans and Africans that is likely to continue after grant support is finished.

East Asia and the Pacific (EAP)

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1. Increase regional cooperation to fight terrorism, and to prevent disruption of regional trends toward peace, prosperity, and democracy:

Proposals should outline exchange activities that engage non-governmental organizations and key citizen groups active in raising public awareness of the danger of terrorism and addressing the serious negative impact that terrorism and its practitioners have on countries in the region and on the conditions—financial, economic and political—that increase the vulnerability of the region to terrorism. Emphasis should be placed on the need to secure the active cooperation of other publics and governments in the region, bilaterally and multilaterally within ASEAN, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and APEC. Proposals for exchange activities in Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Malaysia would be welcome.

2. Continue the development of democracy in the region by focusing on efforts to reinforce educational opportunity, domestic demand for honest government and greater respect for individual human rights:

Proposals should strengthen institutions of government whose efforts have a direct impact on the quality of a country's democracy and increase transparency, accountability, responsiveness and effectiveness of government operations. Especially welcome would be proposals that address efforts to fight corruption in public and private institutions. Projects might focus on strengthening local non-profit organizations that advocate transparency and equal treatment of all before the law. Local government officials or elements of executive branches, legislatures, or judicial systems may also be appropriate program participants. One example might be an exchange for local mayors to exchange views with U.S. counterparts on innovations in city government and citizen participation in municipal affairs, with a return visit by a group of U.S. mayors and city managers and municipal experts to hold local workshops on the same theme. Also welcome would be proposals that engage organizations and individuals actively involved in developing or

supporting strategies that promote increased formal and informal educational opportunities. Emphasis should be on providing essential tools and support to educators for classes and leadership activities. Potential topics for activities include, but are not limited to, creating & reconstructing educational opportunities, modernizing teaching methodology & practice, curriculum development, promoting an appreciation through the educational system of the vital role of women & girls in society and the importance of teaching leadership, civic responsibility and peaceful conflict resolution in the primary and secondary school classroom. Proposals for exchange activities in Indonesia and Malaysia would be welcome.

3. Creating awareness and changing behavior to keep ahead of the advancing trends that have internationalized once-local problems such as HIV/AIDS, narcotics trafficking, the epidemic of infectious diseases, especially SARS, malaria and TB:

The office would welcome proposals that promote better understanding of the threat posed by HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases. Projects should explore the need to develop and reward leadership in these efforts, to improve community health education, and to remove barriers that impede a cooperative multi-sectoral response to these issues. Projects should address some of following topics: prevention and stigma reduction strategies for people living with HIV/AIDS, especially women and youth; engagement of political, religious, cultural and other leaders in public education efforts; grassroots mobilization and advocacy. Proposals for exchange activities in Vietnam and Thailand would be welcome. Note: proposals must clearly support the "U.S. Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2003" and promote accomplishment of the goals set forth in the U.S. Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief. Details on U.S. policy to combat HIV/AIDS can be found at <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/hiv aids/>.

4. Promotion of open markets and pro-growth policies to help restore long-term growth prospects by strengthening Asian financial systems, improving corporate governance and restructuring, promoting regulatory reform, and pressing for trade and investment liberalization:

Proposals should focus on promoting greater understanding of the impact of globalization on national economies, with emphasis on both the benefits of globalization and the inherent risks involved in participating in the global

economy. Themes could include orderly market compliance (WTO entry and responsibilities), intellectual property rights (IPR) enforcement, regulatory transparency, sector reforms and measures that government and business can take to ease the displacement of workers in the process of economic liberalization. Proposals may also address the public administration of trade regimes, such as training for customs officials, product promotion of both exports and imports, port administration, accountability, tracking systems development, etc. Projects that assist in the design and funding of a social welfare net for those at the bottom of the economic ladder are also solicited. We would welcome proposals for projects in Vietnam and The People's Republic of China.

Near East and North Africa (NEA)

South Asia (SA)

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The countries/entities comprising the NEA and SA Areas are listed. Currently there is no U.S. mission in Iran, Iraq, or Libya. Note that project foci suggested below may be appropriate for single country, multi-country or regional proposals.

Countries/Entities of the Near East and North Africa—Algeria; Bahrain; Egypt; Iran; Iraq; Israel; Jordan; Kuwait; Lebanon; Libya; Morocco; Oman; Qatar; Saudi Arabia; Syria; Tunisia; the United Arab Emirates (UAE); the West Bank and Gaza; Yemen.

Countries of South Asia—Afghanistan; Bangladesh; Bhutan; India; the Maldives; Nepal; Pakistan; Sri Lanka.

1. Address factors that contribute to extreme political orientation through programs that increase educational opportunity, accelerate economic reform, and promote the development of civil society in the region:

Proposals should lead to enhanced and broadened educational opportunities for youth, to greater possibilities for professional development leading to economic independence and self respect, or to integrating into elementary and secondary education curricula civic education concepts such as citizen awareness, participation, volunteerism, and community service. Projects that contribute to educational development through train-the-trainer, in-service skills enhancement, and curriculum and methodology orientation for teachers are