

—Facilitation of information sharing among a network of ELT providers in the improvement of English skills among refugees.

Review Criteria—English Language Training

1. *Organizational Profiles.* The capacity of the applicant to achieve the project's objectives is clearly demonstrated. Organizational expertise and experience in the provision of technical assistance and information sharing to English training service providers assisting refugees. (30 points)

2. *Approach.* The technical assistance plan is clearly described and appropriate, and the proposed activities and time frames are reasonable. The technical assistance plan describes clearly and in detail the manner in which the applicant will assess the need for technical assistance, the proposed activities, and how the proposed activities are expected to address known English language skills needs of various refugee groups. (20 points)

3. *Staff and Position Data.* Staff qualifications are clearly presented and are appropriate to achieving the project's objectives. The description of staff qualifications demonstrates experience in providing technical assistance to ELT instructors and service providers. (20 points)

4. *Results or Benefits Expected.* The results or benefits expected are clearly explained and are appropriate to the technical assistance activities proposed. (15 points)

5. *Budget and Budget Justification.* The budget is clearly presented and is detailed, reasonable, and cost effective. (15 points)

Program Area 4—Technical Assistance for Economic Development Programs

Purpose and Scope

ORR invites eligible entities to submit competing applications for a cooperative agreement to develop a project to provide technical assistance for economic development services for refugees including Individual Development Account programs, Microenterprise development programs, and special self sufficiency and employment initiatives. Under this cooperative agreement, the grantee will implement various activities intended to assist ORR-funded IDA and Microenterprise grantees in the organization and administration of their projects. The grantee may also provide similar technical assistance to special self-sufficiency and employment grantees and to any other types of economic development grantees as designated by the Director of ORR.

Approximately \$500,000 has been allocated for this program area. Through this cooperative agreement, the grantee will submit a technical assistance plan for economic development programs that includes the following: (1) Site visits and technical assistance activities; (2) written materials developed prior to the release of such documents; (3) locations of proposed workshops, topics, formats, and agendas; and (4) the maintenance and facilitation of database and reporting mechanisms. ORR intends to review and approve a technical assistance plan for economic development activities in these areas and other activities that are proposed by the grantee related to the allowable activities listed below. ORR will also carefully evaluate the implementation of the technical assistance plan by providing direction and feedback to ensure the effective administration of microenterprise and IDA programs and the proper utilization of technologies compatible with IDA, Microenterprise and other economic development activities.

Allowable Activities

- Allowable activities include:
- Institution and implementation of on-site visits to assess technical assistance needs, provide technical assistance and training directly to grantees, and to ascertain best practices in administering IDA, Microenterprise, and other types of economic development programs, and to address the specific needs of refugees participating in these and related programs;
 - Preparation of a variety of reports to be distributed to IDA, Microenterprise, and other economic development grantees to assist them in administering their programs, including site visit reports and best practices reports;
 - Organization and operation of workshops for IDA, Microenterprise, and other grantees that have economic development programs for refugees. Workshop activities include facilitated discussions, presentations, and training in economic development and self-sufficiency activities;
 - Provision of technical assistance in writing, by e-mail and by telephone, to IDA and Microenterprise grantees;
 - Facilitation of a network of IDA and Microenterprise grantees to share information and to resolve problems, through, for example, the maintenance of a listserve, conference calls, etc.; and
 - Maintenance of a database of characteristics and achievements of

IDA, Microenterprise, and other economic development grantees and preparation and dissemination of program characteristics and achievements.

Applicants may propose additional techniques justifying their usefulness for providing technical assistance and information sharing activities to IDA, Microenterprise, and other economic development grantees.

Review Criteria—Economic Development

Proposed projects to provide technical assistance and information-sharing activities to Individual Development Account, Microenterprise and other economic development activities will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. *Approach.* The technical assistance plan is clearly described and appropriate. The proposed activities and timeframes are reasonable, feasible and reflective of the spread and variety of ORR-supported refugee economic development activities. The plan describes in detail how the proposed activities will be accomplished. (30 points)

2. *Staff and Position Data.* Staff qualifications are clearly presented and are appropriate to achieving the project's goals. Staff qualifications show experience in providing technical assistance and information-sharing activities in the areas of administering financial, economic development and self-sufficiency programs. (20 points)

3. *Organization Profiles.* The applicant demonstrates the capacity to achieve the project's objectives. Organizational expertise and experience in the provision of technical assistance and information-sharing activities in refugee economic development areas are fully and clearly described. (20 points)

4. *Results or Benefits Expected.* The results or benefits expected are clearly explained and are appropriate to the technical assistance activities proposed. (15 points)

5. *Budget and Budget Justification.* The budget is reasonable, cost-effective and clearly presented. (15 points)

Program Area 5—Technical Assistance for Child Welfare Services for Refugee Families and Communities

Purpose and Scope

The state of well-being of refugee families is an important contributing factor to family self-sufficiency and their initial resettlement. ORR proposes to award one cooperative agreement to assist in the development of a technical assistance project to help public and