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DEMOCRACY FELLOWS AND GRANTS PROGRAM DEMOCRACY, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND GOVERNANCE (DRG) RESEARCH AND INNOVATION GRANTS ANNUAL PROGRAM STATEMENT: 2013

MODIFICATION TO GRANT SOLICITATION

Program: Democracy Fellows and Grants Program

Modification Number: 1

Grant Solicitation: Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG) Research and Innovation Grants
Annual Program Statement: 2013

Purpose of Modification: Allow organizations who have applied for but not yet received a DUNS number to be eligible applicants.

Modification:

Modification 1 replaces the eligibility criteria on page 2 of the APS with the following:

Applicant

- Is a public or private university, research institution, think tank, or other non-profit organization.
- Is a legally registered entity, according to the laws of the country in which it operates.
- Is eligible for assistance under US Government laws.
- Has a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number or has applied to receive a DUNS number by the solicitation closing date (proof of application for DUNS number must be submitted with technical and cost applications; DUNS number must be attained prior to award).

I. SUMMARY OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Institute of International Education (IIE)—on behalf of the Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights, and Governance (DRG Center) at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)—is issuing this Research and Innovation Grants Annual Program Statement (APS) to invite applications for innovative research that will enhance both a deep theoretical and an applied understanding of the dynamics of democracy, human rights, and good governance. This APS is issued under IIE’s Democracy Fellows and Grants (DFG) program, funded by the DRG Center.

The DRG Center is a global resource for evidence-based research on what works best in promoting, protecting, and deepening democracy (for more on the DRG Center, see Attachment 1). The DRG Center seeks to support research that is most likely to generate information, findings, or recommendations that can inform or be applied to USAID DRG foreign assistance projects, approaches, frameworks, and strategic planning. Research awards of \$10,000 to \$100,000 are available.

The DRG Center’s research interests are diverse. The Center is interested in applications that promise a significant advance in its understanding of any of the myriad issues on which it works (see *Section III*). Research can be basic or applied, qualitative or quantitative, although all must be theoretically motivated, methodologically rigorous, and capable of passing peer review at the highest level.

The research to be supported under this APS is one element of a much broader effort by the DRG Center to expand its knowledge base and better link its strategic planning to academic research and data. The centerpiece of this broader effort is an initiative to design new DRG projects that employ impact evaluations using experimental and quasi-experimental design. Other elements of the DRG Center’s learning agenda include increased use of survey data, developing better and disaggregated democracy indicators, undertaking more case studies, and research in theories of democratic change.

For this year’s APS, the DRG Center is partnering with USAID’s **Bureau for Africa; Office of Sustainable Development; Conflict, Peacebuilding, and Governance Division (CPG)**. CPG provides technical advice and support to USAID missions in Africa on issues related to Peace and Security and to DRG and will be looking for applications that combine a theoretical focus of interest in DRG with an empirical focus on sub-Saharan Africa. CPG will sit with the DRG Center on the APS Evaluation Committee (see *Section V*), but applicants need not propose an African focus to be considered for, or to receive, an award under this APS.

IIE will award grants to conduct research, according to the specifications presented in *Section III*. The maximum amount available for each grant will be \$100,000, for a period of twelve (12) months. The amount of award is subject both to the availability of funds and to the quality and viability of applications received. IIE reserves the right to make one award, multiple awards, or no awards at all under this APS.

This APS is issued worldwide as a public notice to ensure that all interested, qualified institutions have a fair opportunity to submit applications for funding. IIE will accept applications from US and non-US colleges, universities, research institutions, think tanks, or other non-profit organizations that conduct research in relevant fields. Both public and private colleges and universities are eligible, provided they are not formed primarily for commercial or business purposes. Only institutions eligible for assistance under US laws will be accepted.

II. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DETAILS

Funding mechanism: Grants awarded will be either cost reimbursable or fixed obligation, based on the scope of work. Apparently successful applicants will be informed of grant type when they are notified that they have been selected to receive funding under this APS. Apparently successful applicants will be provided appropriate templates for the grant type and support in finalizing the grant (see *Section VI*).

APS Issuance Date: October 18, 2013

Final Closing Date: October 17, 2014

Submission: electronic, to dem.grants@iie.org

Questions: Questions on this APS may be submitted at any time, but applicants will benefit most from submitting questions early. Questions should be submitted to dem.grants@iie.org; IIE will post questions (without attribution) and answers on the DFG website: www.iie.org/DFG. Applicants should check the DFG website frequently as no notice of postings will be issued.

Deadline to submit applications for first round of review: November 22, 2013, at 11:59 PM EST

Estimated grant size: \$10,000 – \$100,000

Maximum grant size: \$100,000

Maximum grant period: 12 months

Estimated total number of awards: around 10; number of awards is subject to available funding and funding level requested by top-ranked applicants.

Currency of grant award: US Dollars (USD) for US organizations; local currency for non-US organizations, with an established, not-to-exceed ceiling amount in USD.

Eligibility Criteria: Applicant

- Is a public or private university, research institution, think tank, or other non-profit organization.
- Is a legally registered entity, according to the laws of the country in which it operates.
- Is eligible for assistance under US Government laws.
- Has a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number.

Individuals must apply through their affiliated institution, which will be the legal entity to which the grant is issued.

Notice to applicants: Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply by the first deadline, on November 22, 2013. IIE will announce on the DFG website when all funds currently dedicated to this APS have been awarded. Step 2 applicants (see *Section V*) which are not initially selected for funding may remain under consideration throughout the open period of the APS, should additional funding become available.