

experience with U.S. journalists and medial outlets. Inquiries should be directed to Program Specialist Christina Miner, (202) 619-5319, Internet CMINER@USIA.GOV

East Asia

USIA requests proposals in the following areas:

- Projects that address the North-South dialogue in Korea;
- Regional or subregional projects on the role and use of conflict resolution to address and resolve social issues. Projects might deal with women's issues, labor rights or ethnic/tribal tensions. Inquiries should be directed to Program Specialist Elroy Carlson, (202) 619-5326, Internet ECARLSON@USIA.GOV

Eastern and Central Europe and the NIS

USIA will accept proposals for the development of an exchange program to support conflict resolution in Eastern and Central Europe and the NIS. Proposals may not include support for conferences and symposia. Proposals should address reduction of tension among ethnic groups by (1) development of national or regional indigenous institutions through training of trainers in negotiation and conflict resolution or by (2) implementation of specific projects designed to encourage cooperation among ethnic communities. The latter might include issues related to local government administration or civic education at the secondary level. Inquiries should be directed to Program Specialist Steve Sutton, (202) 619-5326, Internet SSUTTON@USIA.GOV

South Asia

Proposals are invited for an exchange program to develop pilot projects in the field of human rights education and conflict resolution in selected South Asian countries. A thorough consciousness of and respect for universal human rights as declaimed by the United Nations General Assembly is fundamental to peaceful conflict resolution and to the establishment and operation of genuinely democratic institutions. This project would develop educational programs for human rights activists which would focus not, as has usually been the case, on reacting to human rights violations but rather on preventing violations and conflict through instilling a general awareness of and insistence upon human rights as a point of commonality. The operating assumption is that when people insist on the recognition of their own and others' rights, conflict is resolved more constructively and democracy can be developed as a truly popular movement.

The project should include theoretical and experiential training in the United States, lasting several weeks, for a group of not less than eight human rights activists from South Asia and a follow-on, reinforcement visit to South Asia by American specialists to collaborate in conducting workshops, developing institutes, etc. Inquiries should be directed to Program Specialist Thomas Johnston, (202) 619-5319, Internet TJOHNSTO@USIA.GOV

Program Parameters

The Office of Citizen Exchanges strongly encourages the coordination of activities with respected universities, professional associations, and major cultural institutions in the U.S. and abroad, but particularly in the U.S. Projects should be intellectual and cultural, not technical. Vocational training (an occupation other than one requiring a baccalaureate or higher academic degree; i.e., clerical work, auto maintenance, etc. and other occupations requiring less than two years of higher education) and technical training (special and practical knowledge of a mechanical or a scientific subject which enhances mechanical, narrowly scientific, or semi-skilled capabilities) are ineligible for support. In addition, scholarship programs are ineligible for support.

The Office does not support proposals limited to conferences or seminars (i.e., one to fourteen-day programs with plenary sessions, main speakers, panels, and a passive audience). It will support conferences only insofar as they are part of a larger project in duration and scope which is receiving USIA funding from this competition. USIA-supported projects may include internships; study tours; short-term, non-technical training; and extended, intensive workshops taking place in the United States or overseas. The themes addressed in exchange programs must be of long-term importance rather than focused exclusively on current events or short-term issues. In every case, a substantial rationale must be presented as part of the proposal, one that clearly indicates the distinctive and important contribution of the overall project, including where applicable the expected yield of any associated conference. No funding is available exclusively to send U.S. citizens to conferences or conference-type seminars overseas; neither is funding available for bringing foreign nationals to conferences or to routine professional association meetings in the United States. Projects that duplicate what is routinely carried out by private sector and/or public sector operations will not

be considered. The Office of Citizen Exchanges strongly recommends that applicants consult with host country USIS posts, *prior* to submitting proposals.

Selection of Participants

All grant proposals should clearly describe the types of persons who will participate in the program as well as the process by which participants will be selected. It is recommended that programs in support of U.S. internships include letters tentatively committing host institutions to support the internships. In the selection of foreign participants, USIA and USIS posts retain the right to nominate all participants and to accept or deny participants recommended by grantee institutions. However, grantee institutions are often asked by USIA to suggest names of potential participants. The grantee institution will also provide the names of American participants and brief (two pages) biographical data on each American participant to the Office of Citizen Exchanges for information purposes. Priority will be given to foreign participants who have not previously travelled to the United States.

Additional Guidance

The Office of Citizen Exchanges offers the following additional guidance to prospective applicants:

1. Except where noted in the text, the Office of Citizen Exchanges encourages projects proposals involving more than one country. Pertinent rationale which links countries in multi-country projects should be included in the submission.

2. Proposals for bilateral programs are subject to review and comment by the USIS post in the relevant country, and pre-selected participants will also be subject to USIS post review.

3. Bilateral programs should clearly identify the counterpart organization and provide evidence of the organization's participation.

4. The Office of Citizen Exchanges will consider proposals for activities which take place exclusively in other countries when USIS posts are consulted in the design of the proposed program and in the choice of the most suitable venues for such programs.

5. Office of Citizen Exchanges grants are not given to support projects whose focus is limited to technical or vocational subjects, or for research projects, for publications funding, for student and/or teacher/faculty exchanges, for sports and/or sports related programs. Nor does this office provide scholarships or support for