

THE UNITED STATES EMBASSY IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

RFA ADDENDUM

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
PUBLIC NOTICE**

**BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT (INL)
FUNDING PROJECT TITLE: PROGRAM TO TO PROVIDE TRANSITION SUPPORT AND
JOB SKILLS TO AT RISK YOUNG ADULTS**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 24 2013

ANTICIPATED AWARD DATE: December 10, 2013

ANTICIPATED START DATE: January 1, 2014

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY: SCO-200-14-GR003

ANNOUNCEMENT TYPE: REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

CFDA: 19.704 COUNTERNARCOTICS

AMOUNT OF AWARD: Not to exceed \$450,000 for the program(d) listed below. Applicants are encouraged to solicit additional funding sources to accomplish the aforementioned objectives

NUMBER OF AWARDS: 1 (One)

TYPED OF AWARD: Grant

**ANTICIPATED AWARD DATE: Within four weeks of the closing of this announcement.
Organizations will be notified if the anticipated award date will be later than December 20, 2013.**

ANTICIPATED START DATE: January 1, 2014

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: Complete proposals must be received by November 24, 2013 via email to the following:

**Cheryl Price, Grants Officer
International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs
PriceCH@state.gov**

INTRODUCTION

The mission of the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), of United States Embassy in Bogota, is to minimize the impact of international crime and illegal drugs on the United States, its citizens, and partner nations by providing effective foreign assistance and

fostering global cooperation. This mission includes supporting host nations in their efforts to reduce drug demand in their countries as part of the global fight against drug trafficking.

INL combines forces with other USG and international agencies and takes a regional approach to widespread problems. INL also encourages more developed governments to take responsibility as equal partners in global efforts to combat transnational crime, including drug trafficking and drug demand. As higher drug demand is related to drug trafficking and related crimes an objective is to lower drug demand, focusing on at risk youth in Colombia through various means.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- 1) Applicants must be a registered local non-profit organization (NGO) based in Colombia. Local organizations must be registered in-country or submit proof that they are seeking registration in Colombia at the time of proposal submission
- 2) Must have demonstrated experience working in drug demand prevention and job skills training in Ciudad Bolivar.

AND

- 3) Provide INL with a Dun and Bradstreet (D&B) Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number -- per the OMB policy directive published in the Federal Register on June 27, 2003, which requires all organizations applying for Federal grants and cooperative agreements to provide the sponsoring agency with a DUNS number. Applicant organizations that do not have DUNS number, may obtain one at *no cost* by calling the toll-free DUNS request line at 1-866-705-6711 or visiting the D&B website at: <https://iupdate.dnb.com/iUpdate/viewiUpdateHome.htm>
- 4) Be registered with the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) – www.SAM.gov and maintain active registration throughout the period of performance. Organizations must have a DUNS number in order to complete the registry process. Applicant organizations can obtain assistance for this process using the following link: <https://www.fsd.gov> or 1-866-606-8220 (US calls)/ 1-324-206-7828 (International calls)

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

For questions regarding the RFA, please contact Dean Peterson or Alexandra Paez, U.S. Embassy, Narcotics Affairs Section at Email: PetersonDR@state.gov and PaezA@state.gov

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM

The U.S. Embassy in Bogota announces a new request for proposals to complete a project to prevent the involvement of around 350 teenagers from Ciudad Bolivar. The program has two phases. The first phase is to develop social programs such as anti- drug consumption, anti-gang recruitment and anti criminal behavior through art and sports programs held during non school and non work time for 200 teenagers. These 200 youth will be going through the first phase of a program moving them from current at risk behavior to skills which will lead to employment. Concurrently with phase I 150 teenagers will go through phase II. Phase II is to provide year long vocational job skill training in the areas outlined below.

THEMES AND ACTIVITIES

Grants for this program will be awarded to a local Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). Grant applicants must submit proposals that address all of the project themes and activities listed below. Proposals may include new and/or expanded ideas but must, at a minimum, complete the themes and activities listed in Section I, below (unless the paragraph explicitly uses “should” when describing a particular item). *

INL invites the NGO to submit a proposal that will address the following:**

1. Create and run a program for 200 teenagers of Ciudad Bolivar to arts and sport schools (break, rap, mini soccer, soccer, capoeira and salsa) during one year as part of a transition from street life to regular disciplined training.
2. Vocational training for one year of 150 teenagers, who are at social risk, as certified technicians terminating in a formal certification as an apprentice in the following fields:
 - 2.1 Welding: 30 skilled working technician in welded metal products. 1520 hours
 - 2.2 Gastronomy: 30 in the area of gastronomy and culinary arts. 1600 hours
 - 2.3 Plumbing: 30 technicians in the area of plumbing. 1520 hours
 - 2.4 Circus arts: 30 skilled in the area of circus arts. 1520 hours
 - 2.5 Accounting and finance: 30 skilled in the area of accounting and finance. 1120 hours

3. No less than 15% of the students in both phase I and phase II must be females.

The Project Duration shall be Twelve (12) months. The two programs listed above will run concurrently. The award may be extended for up to an additional 12 months based on INL’s program priorities, good performance on the award, and pending funding availability. The INL NAS Office will accept requests for renewals that are made a minimum of 60 days prior to the expiration of the award.

REVIEW PROCESS

Proposals should contain clearly formulated goals and target groups, and show the ability of the applying organization to carry out the project aims. The proposal must contain a section explaining how the impact of the project will be evaluated. While lack of sustainability will not disqualify a project from selection, projects that are sustainable and create lasting positive effects will be evaluated based on the Review Criteria as listed below.

The U.S. Embassy shall review all proposals for eligibility. Eligible proposals will be subject to compliance of Federal and Bureau regulations and guidelines and may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Adviser or by other Department elements. Final technical authority for assistance awards resides with INL’s Grants Division. INL reserves the right to request any additional programmatic and/or financial information regarding the proposal. Panelists may make conditions and recommendations on any given proposal in order to enhance the proposed program.

Proposals will be funded based on an evaluation of how the proposal meets the solicitation review criteria, U.S. foreign policy objectives, and the priority needs of INL. A State Department Review Committee will evaluate proposals submitted under this request. Proposals will be scored based on the applicants response to each Review Criteria listed below. Review criteria will include:

1) Quality of Program Idea (20 POINTS)

Proposals should address the objectives outlined above and will be evaluated for originality, substance, precision, and relevance to the Bureau's/INL' mission.

2) Program Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives (20 POINTS)

A relevant work plan should demonstrate substantive undertakings and logistical capacity of the organization. The work plan should adhere to the program overview and guidelines described above. Objectives should be ambitious, yet measurable and achievable. For complete proposals, applicants must provide a monthly timeline of project activities.

3) Multiplier Effect/Sustainability (20 POINTS)

Proposed programs should address long-term institution building demonstrating capacity-building results.

4) Program Evaluation Plan (20 POINTS)

Programs should demonstrate the capacity for engaging in impact assessments and providing objectives with measurable outputs and outcomes.

5) Institution's Record and Capacity (10 POINTS)

INL will consider the past performance of prior recipients and the demonstrated potential of new applicants. Proposals should demonstrate an institutional record of successful programs, including responsible fiscal management and full compliance with all reporting requirements. Proposed personnel and institutional resources should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the project objectives. Roles and responsibilities of primary staff should be provided.

6) Cost Effectiveness (10 POINTS)

The overhead and administrative components of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, should be kept as low as possible. All other items should be necessary and appropriate. Cost sharing is strongly encouraged but not required. (NOTE: In reviewing similar projects, the Review Panel will evaluate proposals that request lower budgets based on the Review Criteria of Cost Effectiveness).

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

Recipients MUST submit quarterly financial and performance progress reports. Reports are required as a means of evaluating the recipient's progress and utilization of resources. They are divided between a performance progress report and a financial status report.

A performance progress report compares actual to planned performance and indicates the progress made in accomplishing each assistance award task. The report should include relevant details for assessing the status of performance (i.e., a brief, factual summary description of the progress made). The performance progress reports must be accompanied by the *Performance Progress Report (SF-PPR) Coversheet, Page 1*.

Financial status reports provide a means of monitoring expenditures and comparing costs incurred with progress. Recipients must utilize the *SF-425 Federal Financial Report*, to report the status of funds for all non-construction projects or programs.

A copy of all quarterly financial and performance progress reports shall be emailed to the Grants Officer and the Grants Officer Representative as listed in the Grant/Cooperative Agreement, once awarded. Quarterly reports with a computer-based English translation will not be accepted.

Please note: It is the Department of State's policy that English is the official language of all documents. If quarterly reports are provided in both English and a foreign language, it must be stated in each version that the English language version is the controlling version.

DEADLINE AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

This RFA is limited to organizations based in Colombia. INL will not fund projects related to partisan political activity, charitable activity and humanitarian aid, fundraising campaigns, commercial projects, those involving individuals not affiliated with an organization that can provide sustainability to the project, and those that duplicate existing projects.

Proposals should be submitted in English, or be accompanied by an English translation. (Applications with a computer-based English translation will not be accepted.) Proposals must include a project narrative, short descriptions of past relevant projects, and a detailed budget. Supporting documents may be in Spanish. **All submissions must be forwarded to the INL Grants Office contact by November 24, 2013.**

U.S. Embassy, Narcotics Affairs Section
Carrera 45 No. 24B-27
Bogota, Colombia
Email: Pricech@state.gov Contact Persons: Cheryl Price

Please retain a time stamped copy of the proposal at the time submitted to ensure that you retain evidence that the grant was submitted ahead of the deadline. Proposals are requested at the earliest and applicants are requested not to wait for the deadline prior to submission. Grant application forms are attached. If you have additional questions or need consultation on your project proposal, please contact INL through the emails above. If you do not receive a timely response, you can contact the alternative contact, and she will help you get assistance.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION TO APPLICANTS

The information contained in this solicitation is binding and may not be modified by any Bureau/INL representative. Explanatory information provided by INL that contradicts this language will not be binding. Issuance of the solicitation does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government, nor does it commit the Government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals. INL reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program evaluation requirements.

Once the Request for Proposals deadline has passed, U.S. Government officials - including those in the Bureau, the Department and at embassies/missions overseas - must not discuss this competition with applicants until the entire proposal review process is completed. Applicants will be notified by the INL Grants Officer only with regard to the status of an application. **Funding commitments can only be made by an INL Grants Officer. All other commitments from any representative other than an INL/ Grants Officer will be deemed unauthorized.**

**Pre-award costs are costs incurred by a grants recipient at the recipients own risk before the authorized start of an award. A grants officer is authorized, at their option, to permit pre-award costs. These costs are represented in the award as a separate line-item in the budget. Authorization of the pre-award costs does not change the award/project period. Grants officers are not/not authorized to cause applicants to encourage pre-award costs and*

nothing in this explanation of pre-award costs should be construed as encouraging applicant(s) to incur such costs. In those cases where pre-award costs are authorized at a grant officer's discretion, such costs must have been necessary for the effective and economical conduct of the project and otherwise allowable in accordance with both U.S. Government-wide cost principles and bureau-specific cost principles.

*** The maximum award amount is \$450,000.00, this is a maximum and award amounts may be less than this. Applicants are encouraged to solicit additional funding sources to accomplish the aforementioned objectives.*