

AEIF 2015 Call for Proposals

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) is pleased to announce the FY2015 Alumni Engagement Innovation Fund (AEIF) competition. AEIF offers alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs the opportunity to propose innovative projects that address strategic foreign policy themes. Alumni are invited to submit project ideas through the International Exchange Alumni website (<https://alumni.state.gov>) from February 3 to February 24, 2015. Finalists will be announced by March 10, and the list of winning proposals for funding in early May.

Now in its fifth year, the AEIF competition increases the leadership capacity of alumni and their associations to develop and implement projects that benefit their communities, in addition to promoting use of the International Exchange Alumni website (alumni.state.gov). Alumni may request up to \$25,000 for project proposals that address strategic foreign policy themes. There are two phases of AEIF: the project submission phase and the finalist phase. In FY2014, more than 1,000 proposals were submitted during phase 1, with 181 projects continuing to the finalist round; 66 projects were funded worldwide.

Project teams must be comprised of at least five alumni of U.S. government-sponsored exchange programs who are registered members of the International Exchange Alumni website by February 24, 2015. At least one team member must be from an ECA-sponsored exchange and at least three members must be non-U.S. citizens. All projects must be submitted by non-U.S. citizen alumni and be executed outside the borders of the United States.

All submitted projects must address one of the eight global themes below.

- Empowering Women and Girls
- Social Inclusion/Alternatives for Vulnerable Populations
- Entrepreneurship and Youth Employment
- Access to Education
- Climate Change and Environmental Protection
- Global Health Awareness
- Civic Participation
- Conflict Resolution

No individual alumnus may submit more than one proposal per category. Alumni are welcome to submit projects that involve partnership across borders and activities in multiple countries in a region.