

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

Transparency Small Grants Competition for YALI Mandela Washington Fellow and Regional Leadership Center 2014-16 Alumni

AF/PDPA requests proposals for projects that advance transparency, accountability, integrity and/or ethics in business, public management or civil society.

INTRODUCTION:

Lack of transparency stymies U.S. efforts to promote equality of opportunity and chokes vitality from Africa's political and socioeconomic development. The continent's 70% youth population is best represented by the YALI program participants - the 2500 Mandela Washington Fellow alumni, 3000 Regional Leadership graduates, and 420,000 YALI Network members.

All three strands of YALI represent a deep pool of impressive young people, in whom the U.S. Government has invested heavily. Many YALI members are enthusiastic about taking a stand on ethics and accountability, be it in civil society, business or public management, but lack the resources to do so. RLCs have focused on ethical behavior, which is passionately discussed at the MWF summer institutes and in online courses, such as the YALI Network's Human Rights course. The campaign would rely on combining YALI's three separate strands, taking advantage of the distinct strengths of each, in order to support collective and effective action.

DESCRIPTION:

Projects must directly address the topic of transparency, ethics, and/or accountability. Initiatives can be aimed at developing, expanding or strengthening existing programs or be focused on developing and implementing new programs. For example:

- n public education campaigns
- n curriculum development for schools
- n civic education initiatives in schools or universities
- n tax education for citizens
- n education on tracking government expenditures
- n seminars or workshops with community/religious leaders
- n training in investigative journalism
- n academic or community courses on ethical behavior
- n research on electoral transparency
- n raising awareness of successes in citizen-based, business- based, or public management- based efforts to promote integrity
- n celebrating and recognizing "heroes of integrity."

FUNDING RANGE: \$5000-\$20,000 per project

DURATION: Projects must be implemented and completed by July 31, 2017

REQUIREMENTS:

ELIGIBILITY: Only 2014-16 Mandela Washington Fellow alumni and Regional Leadership Center graduates may apply. Their proposals can include provision for participation of YALI Online Network members, but only proposals from MWF/RLC graduates will be accepted.

This project is, in part, an effort to coalesce the disparate strands of the Young African Leaders Initiative and encourage members to work together to improve their communities. Therefore, awardees must include at least one Mandela Washington Fellow alumni AND one Regional Leadership Center graduate. Posts will give extra consideration to proposals that also include at least one members of the online YALI Network.

Deadline for proposals to be received by post: Monday, January 23.

Deadline for post recommendations to AF/PDPA: Wednesday, February 1.

Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Applications first are vetted for relevance and feasibility by the Public Affairs section of the U.S. Embassy in the Fellow's home country. Once approved, PAS ranks the applications and forwards to AF/PDPA, who determine finalists and level of funding.

Projects must be clearly defined (see guidelines below) and support the goals of the U.S. Mission and the goals of the Young African Leaders Initiative.

Priority will be given to projects that

- n Demonstrate substantial impact on the participants' home institution or community;
 - n Are not "one-offs" but are part of a larger effort to promote transparency, accountability, ethics
 - n Show engagement between the Fellow and RLC alumni (and YALI Network member, if applicable) in project design and implementation
 - n Leverage the use of other YALI or USG initiatives (TechCamps, YALI Network courses, American Spaces, existing DRL or INL programs at post)
 - n Provide concrete goals and objectives, outline major activities, and provide a specific timeline of all activities.
- Requirements for participants: Proposals must include:

1. Names and MWF/RLC alumni information (dates of program completed)
2. Post
3. Sector of project focus (Public Management, Business, Civil Society)
4. Project Title
5. Elevator Pitch: A short, clear, concise and compelling description of the project
6. Goals and Objectives: clearly articulate how the proposal will address policy priorities and advance Mission goals
7. Project Description: A clear description of the program and implementation plan, with anticipated start and end dates; must identify target audience (students, media, community organizations, entrepreneurs, religious leaders, etc.)
8. Cost Sharing: contribution by partner organization or post; can be in-kind (e.g. equipment, food, facility) or monetary
9. Desired outcomes
10. Budget: Top-line budget; proposals with in-kind or other cost-share will be more compelling
11. Resumes for all participants on the project

12. Letter of support from any participating institutions, if applicable

13. Follow-on activities

14. Impact/Measurement and Evaluation

Please send proposals to Michelle Jones JonesML@state.gov