

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY:
Monday, June 10, 2019

Program Office: Public Affairs Office
U.S. Embassy Gaborone, Botswana

Funding Opportunity Title: *Stronger Together: Health, Prosperity, and Security*

Announcement Type: Grant

Funding Opportunity Number: AFPAS-19-GR-001-AF-06/10/2019

Funding Amount: Up to \$25,000

Deadlines for Applications: 5:00 pm on June 28, 2019
5:00 pm on September 27, 2019
5:00 pm on December 27, 2019
5:00 pm on March 27, 2020

Program Description

The U.S. Embassy, Public Affairs Section is pleased to announce the *Stronger Together: Health, Prosperity, and Security* program to support innovative projects that address one of three U.S. foreign policy objectives. U.S. Alumni and the public are encouraged to submit proposals and request up to \$25,000 for implementation. All proposals must be submitted by 17:00 on the last Friday of March, June, September, or December of each year and according to the timetable stipulated in this notice.

Strategic Priorities:

All submitted proposals must address one of the three U.S. foreign policy objectives below.

1. **Empowering Women and Girls** – Projects enhance or support empowerment of women and girls through educational, entrepreneurship, health, or professional development opportunities.
2. **Supporting Civil Society Organizations** – Projects (1) strengthen management and public engagement capacity of civil society organizations and promote political and civil participation; (2) enhance government accountability and information access for the public; or (3) promote exchange and cooperation with U.S. higher education institutions.
3. **Enabling Business Environment** – Projects (1) promote or develop best practices in business and entrepreneurship for youth and create or strengthen networking among youth entrepreneurs; (2) promote Botswana’s transition to a knowledge-based economy, including activities in research and development; or (3) increase Botswana’s awareness and utilization of the African Growth and Opportunity Act.

The role of the grantee will be the following:

- Organize logistics, present information, and host a series of events or educational/cultural sessions, each focused on at least one of the priority areas listed above. Additionally:
 - Admittance to the events must be free of charge.
 - Events should be tailored to the information needs of an audience while supporting the priority areas of engagement.
- The award amount is inclusive of venue, travel, speaker, media, refreshment or any other fees. No funding above or beyond the \$25,000 award ceiling will be considered.

Federal Award Information

- The type of assistance instrument will be a grant that will be awarded if applications are successful.
- The Public Affairs Office will only contact those who are selected for funding.
- The total amount of funding is up to \$25,000 per project and the anticipated total number of awards is one per cycle, contingent upon availability.
- The award duration is twelve (12) months.

Guidelines and Eligibility Information

- The award is open ONLY to registered not-for-profit groups, associations, non-governmental organizations, faith- or community-based organizations. The groups must be well established, operating for at least one year, and have a history of accomplishments.
- We CANNOT fund or sponsor government schools, prizes for school competitions, individuals, private or for-profit businesses, company start-up costs, direct employee compensation or one-time events.
- Recipients can demonstrate their commitments by either contributing to the project financially, or providing labor or supplies to carry out the project. Cost-sharing is not required but highly encouraged.
- Proposals involving U.S. Alumni will receive preference during the review process.

Application and Submission Information

Content and Form of Application Submission

To be considered for funding, applicants must submit the following documents:

- Narrative, not longer than five pages total and should include, at minimum:
 - Project description (goals, implementation plan and timeline, activities)
 - Projected results, anticipated beneficiaries, and monitoring and evaluation criteria
 - Details about U.S. Alumni involvement (if applicable)
- Budget, including any cost-sharing, in USD
- Application for Federal Assistance ([SF-424](#))

Submission Dates and Times

Proposals are accepted until 17:00 on the last Friday of March, June, September, or December of each year. All proposals must be submitted according to the following timetable.

If the project will start during:	Please submit application by:
September 1, 2019 – November 31, 2019	5:00 pm on June 28, 2019
December 1, 2019 – February 29, 2020	5:00 pm on September 27, 2019
March 1, 2020 – May 30, 2020	5:00 pm on December 27, 2019
June 1, 2020 – August 31, 2020	5:00 pm on March 27, 2020

Funding Restrictions – Requests must be no more than \$25,000 per proposal.

Other Submission Requirements

Proposals should be submitted by email to GaboronePASAllStaff@state.gov. Applications are accepted in English only. Final grant agreements will be concluded in English.

Application Review Information

Each application submitted under this notice will be evaluated and rated on the basis of the criteria outlines below. The criteria listed are designed to assess the quality of the proposed project and to determine the likelihood of its success. The criteria are closely related and are considered as a whole in judging the overall quality of an application.

Criteria

- **Organizational Capacity:** The applicant has expertise in the stated project field and Public Affairs Section is confident of its technical capacity to undertake the project (30%).
- **Description and Results:** The project is well-planned, addresses a U.S. foreign policy objective, and has clear identifiable and reasonable results that benefit a significant number of people and can be attained successfully within the grant duration (50%).
- **Coherence:** The application is complete, coherent, clear, and detailed (20%).

Review and Selection Process

Proposals will be reviewed in the month following a deadline by a committee comprised of U.S. Embassy employees and a decision will be rendered one month following the deadline at the latest. Preparation for grant programming will commence immediately after selection.

Federal Award Administration Information

Award Notice

The grant award shall be written, signed, awarded, and administered by the Grants Officer. The Grants Officer is the U.S. government official delegated the authority by the U.S. Department of State Procurement Executive to write, award, and administer grants. The assistance award agreement is the authorizing document and it will be provided to the recipient.

Administrative and National Policy Requirement

If a proposal is selected for funding, the Department of State has no obligation to provide any additional future funding in connection with the award. Renewal of an award to increase funding or extend the period of performance is at the discretion of the Department of State. Grants are subject to terms and conditions.

Reporting Requirements

Awards issued under this announcement will require program and financial reports on a frequency specified in the award agreement. The disbursement of funds may be tied to submission of these reports in a timely manner. All other details related to award administration will be specified in the award agreement as well. Final programmatic and financial reports are due 90 days (unless otherwise specified) after the close of the project.

Federal Awarding Agency Contact

Proposals should be submitted by email to GaboronePASAllStaff@state.gov. Applications are accepted in English only. Final grant agreements will be concluded in English.