

2003 Making Cities Work Partnership Grant Program

Making Cities Work (MCW) Partnerships promote and demonstrate that multi-sectoral, collaborative approaches are the best way to address the myriad issues that converge in urban areas. The fund supports the goal of the USAID Making Cities Work strategy to help enable cities to function well.

The Urban Challenge--How can we make cities work for people?

Well-functioning cities....

*...promote participatory democracy ,
with high levels of citizen satisfaction
with local institutions*

*...feature robust economies with
ample opportunities for employment*



*...offer safe and healthy places to
live; with a sustainable environment*

*...provide basic infrastructure and
housing that serve all inhabitants*

*...foster strong regional
development complementing
surrounding rural areas*

The urban population in the developing world will double in the next 30 years from 1.9 to 3.9 billion. 90 percent of this increase in world population will be in rapidly expanding cities and towns. More than half the population of Africa and Asia will live in urban areas by then. More than 75% of Latin Americans already do. This fast rate of urbanization in the developing world will only intensify its implications for urban poverty. Sustained urbanization led to the rapid expansion of slums and shantytowns, often on marginal land on the urban periphery or in areas that subject these poor populations to unnecessary risk. Poor urban dwellers suffer overcrowding in inadequate housing, little access to clean water and sanitation, growing amounts of uncollected waste and deteriorating air quality and are more vulnerable to at-risk behavior.

The Office of Urban Programs of USAID is attempting to help the Agency prevent future problems and address current ones through technical support, contract mechanisms, awareness raising activities, collaboration with pillar bureaus and field missions, cooperative agreements and – the Making Cities Work Partnership Grant Program.

Among the most pressing problems of urban poverty are:

- Large populations that don't have access to basic services such as water, sanitation, housing, transportation, energy, food, education or health services;
- Increased vulnerability to HIV/AIDS and other contagious disease, toxic and biological solid waste;
- Dangerous areas which become breeding grounds for violent crime, terrorism and various forms of extremism;
- Slum areas that are located in places that are vulnerable to natural disaster hazards;
- Marginalization of large populations from the benefits of economic and political participation; and,
- Local governments that are incapable of delivering adequate services, particularly to the urban poor due to the lack of resources, skills and/or poor management.

To combat these and other urban problems, the 2003 Making Cities Work Partnership Grants Program will match Mission contributions on carefully selected projects with up to \$100,000 in funds that can work toward solving these problems.

The Making Cities Work Partnership Grant Program was created to assist USAID missions to:

- ✓ Analyze and strategically address urban issues in their portfolio, and
- ✓ Build partnerships (among USAID SO teams, national and municipal governments, private sector, NGOs) to address urban development in a comprehensive manner, thereby leveraging benefits in multiple sectors.

The Urban Programs Office is available, upon the request from a USAID Mission, to provide technical assistance that can help Missions develop strategies, enhance programs or develop MCW project proposals that can work to address such problems.

For more information on approaches to address these urban issues and examples of activities awarded in previous years, please visit the Office or Urban Programs Website at: www.makingcitieswork.org.

MCW Grants provide support to USAID Missions to help cities:

- **Encourage local economic development and alleviate poverty**
In addition to national efforts, local governments can promote economic growth in a wide variety of ways. How can we help you promote such growth for urban areas?
- **Address the issues of urban youth, particularly training and employment**
Strengthening the potential of urban youth can prevent conflict and many social problems and solve many economic ones. The gravity of this problem will dramatically increase as the job gap grows in developing countries. How can we address this?
- **Promote good governance at the city level through the provision of services in an efficient, transparent and participatory manner**
Strengthening local government to be responsive to their community's needs, particularly the provision of basic services to the urban poor remains a high priority for USAID and Urban Programs. What effective development tools are available to promote participatory city and metropolitan governance?
- **Offer safe, healthy places to live, and address HIV/AIDS**
Since the majority of the developing world will soon live in urban areas, the means to keep them healthy will become increasingly important. How can we develop and support urban-based solutions that will both treat and prevent disease and unhealthy conditions for urban dwellers?
- **Provide links between urban and rural economies**
As rural-urban migration increases dramatically, the distinction between rural-urban will decrease and the economic integration of these dependent economies will become more important. Are there opportunities to strengthen this integration so that both sides can benefit from economic prosperity?
- **Provide basic infrastructure and housing that serve all inhabitants**
The urban poor suffer disproportionately in terms of inferior shelter. How can the private sector and government work together to facilitate shelter construction and financing for the increasing number of urban poor?
- **Promote food security and the nutrition of impoverished urban dwellers**
We are looking for innovative means to achieve this through local governments, community groups, the private sector or civil society. Urban agriculture, food policy, food distribution, safety nets, stabilization of higher incomes for food purchase and other means to achieve this objective will be supported. Are there innovative and effective ways of promoting safe and nutritious food programs food to urban dwellers in developing countries?

NEW

Making Cities Work Partnership Fund Youth and Conflict Grants

In collaboration with DCHA's Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation, proposals will be accepted this year for the prevention, mitigation or management of conflict in urban areas. Proposed activities should be linked to Missions Conflict Assessments, and should represent part of an integrated Mission strategy to address conflict. Proposals that address conflict through working with youth, e.g. through employment, awareness, participation in political processes, community strengthening, leadership development, training, entrepreneurship, sports or other innovative means will be accepted. Technical support for developing proposals is available. All selection criteria mentioned below remain valid, except the budget ceiling which has been raised to \$200,000.

Please contact Alfred Nakatsuma (anakatsuma@usaid.gov), Sharon Morris (smorris@usaid.gov) or Marcia Glenn (marciaglenn@usaid.gov) for more information.

Application and Review Process

Applications (**maximum five written pages plus one page of budget/procurement/management plan**) should include the following information:

- ✓ A brief problem definition, description of project, target beneficiaries;
- ✓ Describe how the activity builds cross sectoral partnerships to address urban issues *and* impacts the mission's strategic engagement to make cities work;
- ✓ Relationship of activity to current mission portfolio and strategic framework, as well as to medium and long term plans of the mission to engage in making cities work;
- ✓ Results expected, follow on activities, and how they will impact the urban poor; and
- ✓ Amount of funding requested (not to exceed \$100,000 per proposal); mission and other matching funding; and how funds will be used

Budget, Procurement and Management Plan (maximum one page) should include:

- ✓ Illustrative budget including the source of USAID Mission matching funding
- ✓ Timeline for obligation and implementation;
- ✓ Brief description of the Reporting timeline and Management plan; and
- ✓ Procurement mechanism; name and contact information of the officer responsible for project management and procurement.

ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00pm (EST) May 30, 2003. APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL BE RETURNED AND NOT REVIEWED. NO EXCEPTIONS!

Review Process and Criteria:

Final applications will be reviewed and evaluated by a panel including technical staff familiar with urban issues. Applications will be reviewed in June, 2003 and ranked according to the following evaluation criteria:

1. **Integrating an "Urban Focus" into Mission Portfolio (25 points):** The activity contributes to substantial future mission strategy or existing activities to address urban development issues.
2. **Funding/Leveraging (25 points):** The panel will consider the level of resource match from the USAID Mission or whatever leverage it obtains for the project from other sources. The USAID Mission **must provide** a match to the grant at a ratio of 1 to 1. This match can include leveraging of additional sources of funds outside the Mission, however, Mission investment in the project is highly encouraged and the level of this investment will weigh heavy in the evaluation. Those proposals that can demonstrate outside leveraging and Mission match that exceeds the 1 to 1 ratio will be highly valued.
3. **Making Cities Work as a Multi-sectoral Partnership (20 points):** Proposals should explicitly identify how the activity: a) promotes the understanding of synergies across sectors; b) strengthens or forges partnerships between SO teams, municipal, national and regional governments, private sector interests, PVOs, NGOs, CBOs.
4. **Potential for Success and Spread/Replication (15 points):** Many urban problems are complex and can only be overcome with well-conceived and designed plans. Points will be awarded for proposals that have a high likelihood of achieving success in solving the problems and are replicable and can serve as models of expansion for other similar efforts.
5. **Innovation (15 points):** New, viable approaches to solving difficult urban-based problems will be highly valued.

Award, Implementation and Reporting

Successful applicants will be notified no later than June 30, 2003 that they have received a MCW Partnership Fund grant. USAID sponsoring unit should be prepared to obligate the awarded funding **by the end of FY 2003 (September 30, 2003)**. In addition, the sponsoring unit must provide documentation (Mission U-102 Flash report) confirming the obligation of both MCW and mission matching funding. MCW Partnership Grant funds may be obligated through existing Mission or agency grants, cooperative agreements, contracts or other mechanisms managed by the Urban Programs Office, such as the Sustainable Urban Management (SUM) IQC, the Resource Cities Cooperative Agreement or the City to City Partnerships Leader w/Associates. In addition, Missions will be responsible for reporting on the implementation of the project. These reports should include financial information on expenditures, regular progress reports and results reporting.

Contact information

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ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO: dgredler@usaid.gov