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PRE-APPLICATION
CONFERENCE
PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE
PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE
FUND GRANTS ACTIVITY

Notice Of Funding Opportunity
(NOFO) Annual Program Statement
(APS) Number 72029423APS00001

— AGENDA

- Welcome Remarks
- MEPPA Overview
- Application Process
- Programmatic Discussion and Guidance
- Concept Paper - Technical Section
- Merit Review Evaluation Criteria
- Break
- Q&A



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Nita M. Lowey Middle East Partnership for Peace Act (MEPPA)



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Partnership for Peace Fund (PPF)

People-to-People
Partnership for Peace
Grants Activity



Creating Space
for Dialogue



Grassroots
linkages



People to
People

Building Regional
Economic Bridges
(BREB)



Business alliances



Strengthening
Economic Ties



Cross-Border
Partnerships



U.S. International
Development
Finance Corporation

Joint Investment for Peace Initiative

Joint Investment
for Peace Initiative



Attracting Private
Investment



Cross-Border
Economic
Cooperation



Systemic Economic
Integration

MEPPA VISION & GOAL

The overall goal of MEPPA is to build the foundation for peaceful co-existence between Israelis and Palestinians and enable a sustainable two-state solution.

MEPPA's People-to-People Partnership for Peace Fund strengthens people-to-people grassroots linkages to address common challenges and enhance peacebuilding momentum to affect institutional and policy change.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- How to Apply
- Eligibility
- Application Process
- Phase 1
- Submission Information
- Types of USAID Awards
- Additional Resources
- Timeline and Communication Expectations



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HOW TO APPLY - TIPS

- **Grants.gov; Amendments**
- **Read, read, read the APS**
Sections A-H, but focus on sections A, D and E; successful applicants are usually those that pay close attention to the details in these sections
- **Get registered in SAM.GOV** (see Section D)
- **Apply on Time:** Round Two concepts due February 9, 2024



ELIGIBILITY



- Submit required info and meet Section C
- Qualified:
 - U.S. and Non – U.S. Non-Profit Organizations (NGOs);
 - U.S. and Non-U.S. For-Profit Organizations;
 - U.S. and Non-U.S. Colleges and Universities;
 - Private Voluntary Organizations (PVO); and
 - Public International Organizations (PIOs)
- New Partners - Risk Assessment

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Concept Paper

2. Co-Creation

3. Full Application

Phase 1: Concept Paper is the First Step

- Concept Paper Submission - Streamlined Application
- Judged based on merit review criteria
- If conditional acceptance, advances to co-creation
- Conditional acceptance is not a commitment to fund

APPLICATION PROCESS: PHASES 2 & 3

Phase 2: Co-creation, if conditional acceptance

- Two-way conversation with applicant;
- May include additional partners
- Detailed design discussions
- Objective is to explore and validate key challenges and problems, and then jointly develop promising solutions or adapt and expand upon existing solutions.

Phase 3: Full application from successful applicant/concept

- Apparently successful applicants will be requested to submit a full application, finalize the Program Description and submit a full budget application. The objective is to meet all pre-award requirements.

CONCEPT APPLICATION FORMAT

- Must be in English
- 7 page limit
- Calibri 12-point font on standard 8.5" x 11" paper
- Single spaced with no less than one-inch margins and consecutively numbered pages
- Figures, graphics, and tables may have less than Calibri 12-point font.
- Applications more than seven (7) pages in total may not be evaluated

CONCEPT PAPER CONTENT & MERIT REVIEW CRITERIA

Review the merit criteria, which guide the requirements.

I. Cover Page – Limited to one (1) page

- Specify Award Category: Small Grant (\$100K-500K) or Regular Award (\$500,000 to \$5M)

II. Technical Section

- Concept Introduction
- People-to-People Approach and Implementation Plan
- Intervention Results
- Risks/Assumptions
- Beneficiaries

III. Institutional Capability

SUBMISSION INFORMATION

Agency Point of Contact: wbg-ocm-submissions@usaid.gov

Questions:

- Submit in writing to email above by **January 5, 2024**
- Subject line should begin with “APS 72029423APS00001 Questions”

Applications:

- **Submit Concept Paper no later than February 9, 2024 at 5:00 PM Jerusalem time.**
- Applications must be submitted with the name of the Applicant and the APS number in the subject line of the email to wbg-ocm-submissions@usaid.gov

Amendments to this APS will announce any changes to USAID review timelines.

TYPES OF USAID AWARDS

- **Cooperative Agreements**
- **Fixed Amount Awards**

The Agreement Officer makes the final decision regarding the award type, based on Co-Creation discussions, for a particular assistance program. The key factors in determining the type of assistance instrument are:

- nature of USAID's relationship with the recipient,
- the nature of the program, and
- the management capabilities of the recipient.

APS Timeline - Round 2 (Annex 2 of APS)

| Milestone | Anticipated Timeline |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Virtual Pre-Application Conference | December 19, 2023 |
| Deadline for Questions under Round 2 | January 5, 2024 |
| Round 1: Deadline for receipt of Applications | February 9, 2024 |
| Decision Notifications to Applicants under Round 2 | April – May, 2024 |
| Awards resulting from Round 1 | June -August 2024 |

Additional Applicant Resources

Annex 1: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Annex 2: APS Timeline and Communication Expectations

Email: wbg-ocm-submissions@usaid.gov

- Questions and Responses;
- Submission of Applications;
- Status updates of applications under review;
- Feedback Requests

Annex 3: Applicant Resources

- MEPPA Resources
- How to work with USAID
- UEI and SAM Resources

Amendment No. 3 to the APS - Help Documents on Theory of Change and Indicators Guidance

PROGRAMMATIC DISCUSSION AND GUIDANCE



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PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- 1. Increase and improve partnership between Palestinians and Israelis, and Arab and Jewish Israelis, to address issues of common interest or concern.**
- 2. Bolster efforts by Palestinians and Israelis to address internal divisions that must be overcome to foster peaceful coexistence.**
- 3. Improve the enabling environment for cross-border partnership, particularly in development sectors, such that policies, procedures, and structures allow Palestinians and Israelis to engage in meaningful interactions across sectors without any barriers and fear of intimidation.**
- 4. Strengthen the resilience of peacebuilding constituencies and institutions.**

THEORY OF CHANGE

USAID supports civil society organizations and other institutions in promoting a culture of peace, mutual respect, and trust between Israelis and Palestinians at all levels



Working together across communities yields positive development outcomes



There will be an expanded population supporting a peaceful resolution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict

PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH

- People-to-People Definition

For the purposes of this solicitation, the term “people-to-people” is broadly defined as programming designed to reduce political, social, and economic barriers to peaceful interactions between Israeli and Palestinian societies and promote sustainable institutions and relationships for peaceful co-existence and a two-state solution.

Activities that connect Israelis and Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza to achieve these goals are strongly encouraged and will be prioritized. Initiatives within societies that contribute to peaceful co-existence and mitigate the impacts of conflict will also be considered.



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PROGRAMMATIC APPROACH 2

- Local Capacity Strengthening
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility
- Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment
- Youth
- Climate Change and Environmental Compliance
- Building Linkages
- Integrate Conflict Sensitivity and Do No Harm

ILLUSTRATIVE FOCUS AREAS

- Empowering women and youth to take part in peacebuilding efforts.
- Engaging community leaders and encouraging joint advocacy efforts.
- Engaging faith leaders to build trust and deepen cooperation across religious communities.
- ***Healing, dialogue, and reconciliation. Programming may integrate psychosocial support that addresses trauma resulting from recent events and the long-term conflict.***
- Building the capacity of mental health service providers to expand access to psychosocial support.
- Enhancing economic opportunities for marginalized groups.
- Addressing shared environmental concerns and promoting sustainable solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

— CONCEPT PAPER: TECHNICAL SECTION

Present an overall strategic approach, with proposed activity components and specific interventions, that will effectively and efficiently contribute to achieving the activity goal and anticipated results.

- **Concept Introduction**
- **People-to-people Approach and Implementation Plan**
- **Intervention Results**
- **Risks/Assumptions**
- **Beneficiaries**

FROM THEORY TO PRACTICE

Successful concepts:

- Focused and realistic
- Clear description of activities (number of participants, locations), overall objectives, and results to be achieved.
- Implementation of activities and interventions flows from the concept introduction.
- Activities build on one another in a logical, well-sequenced manner and are organized consistent with resources and scope of activities.
- Thoughtful consideration of risks and explanation of risk mitigation measures.

Unsuccessful concepts:

- Do not demonstrate how their proposed program meets the APS's goals and objectives.
- Do not clearly include a people-to-people component.
- Primarily academic or research focus.
- Remove participants from the country of operation without discussing why relocation of an activity or activities is/are essential.

CONCEPT PAPER: INSTITUTIONAL CAPABILITY

The applicant must provide information regarding its performance within the past 10 years, citing up to 3 awards relevant to this Concept Note. You may refer to contracts, grants, or cooperative agreements, as appropriate.

If your organization is newly established, please describe the past experience and efforts that resulted in its formation. Additionally, if newly established, please describe the experience and capabilities of the team and individual experts assembled to implement the proposed activity.

Merit Review Evaluation Criteria - Section E of APS

Selection Criterion # 1: Technical Approach

The extent to which the Applicant's proposed technical approach comprehensively describes convincing, sound, realistic, and sustainable approaches which will achieve the goal and objective(s) specified in the Program Description.

Selection Criterion # 2: Institutional Capacity

The extent to which the applicant demonstrates experience in implementing similar activities in terms of scope, magnitude, and complexity OR has a clear approach and potential to successfully implement the proposed technical approach with appropriate resources.

***Criterion #1 is more important than Criterion # 2**

MYTHBUSTING & FAQs



- Will Activities that connect Israelis and Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza still be prioritized?
- Is any particular sector preferred for MEPPA over others?
- Is Cost Sharing a requirement?
- Do we need to be registered in SAM to apply?
- Are coalitions or joint ventures permitted?
- Is level of funding a factor of consideration during evaluation?
- Is there a preference for smaller or larger awards?
- Will USAID provide applicants with any feedback?
- Do applicants need to be a part of particular coalition to be eligible to apply?

Questions?



— Contact us at

wbg-ocm-submissions@usaid.gov

THANK YOU



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