

and will report on a specific set of indicators developed in collaboration with CDC GAP India. This report must be provided to the CDC GAP office in New Delhi.

These reports must be mailed to the Grants Management Specialist listed in the "Agency Contacts" section of this announcement.

VII. Agency Contacts

We encourage inquiries concerning this announcement.

For general questions, contact: Technical Information Management Section, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341, telephone: 1-770-488-2700.

For program technical assistance, contact: Michael Friedman, MD, HHS/CDC, Global AIDS Program (India), Country Team, c/o U.S. Consulate General, 220 Mount Road, Chennai, India 600 006, telephone: 91-44-2811-2000, e-mail: FriedmanM@gapcdcin.org; or Nancy Hedemark Nay, MPH (Project Officer), HHS/CDC, Global AIDS Program (India), Country Team, c/o U.S. Embassy, Shantipath, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi, India 110 021, telephone: 91-11-2419-8000, e-mail: NHN1@cdc.gov.

For financial, grants management, or budget assistance, contact: Shirley Wynn, Grants Management Specialist, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341, telephone: 770-488-1515, e-mail: zbx6@cdc.gov.

VIII. Other Information

Applicants can find this and other HHS/CDC funding opportunity announcements on the HHS/CDC Web site, Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov> (Click on "Funding," then "Grants and Cooperative Agreements"), and on the Web site of the HHS Office of Global Health Affairs, Internet address: <http://www.globalhealth.gov>.

Dated: August 9, 2005.

William P. Nichols,

Director, Procurement and Grants Office,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services.

[FR Doc. 05-16170 Filed 8-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Strengthening the Delivery of Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care, Support, and Treatment in the Republic of Ethiopia as Part of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

Announcement Type: New.

Funding Opportunity Number: AA119.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number: 93.067.

Dates: Application Deadline: September 9, 2005.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Authority: This program is authorized under Sections 307 and 317(k)(2) of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. Sections 242l and 247b(k)(2)], as amended and under Public Law 108-25 (United States Leadership Against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2003) [22 U.S.C. 7601].

Purpose: President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief has called for immediate, comprehensive and evidence-based action to turn the tide of global HIV/AIDS. The initiative aims to treat more than two million HIV-infected people with effective combination anti-retroviral therapy by 2008; care for ten million HIV-infected and affected persons, including those orphaned by HIV/AIDS, by 2008; and prevent seven million infections by 2010, with a focus on 15 priority countries, including 12 in sub-Saharan Africa. The five-year strategy for the Emergency Plan is available at the following Internet address: <http://www.state.gov/s/gac/rl/or/c11652.htm>.

Over the same time period, as part of a collective national response, the Emergency Plan goals specific to Ethiopia are to treat at least 210,000 HIV-infected individuals; and care for 1,050,000 HIV-affected individuals, including orphans.

Purpose: The purpose of this funding announcement is to progressively build an indigenous, sustainable response to the national HIV epidemic through the rapid expansion of innovative, culturally appropriate, high-quality HIV/AIDS prevention and care interventions, increase and strengthen the role of PLWHA in prevention, care, and treatment activities and improved linkages to HIV counseling and testing and HIV treatment to target rural and other underserved populations in Ethiopia.

Under the leadership of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, as part of the President's Emergency Plan, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) works with host countries and other key partners to assess the needs of each country and design a customized program of assistance that fits within the host nation's strategic plan.

HHS focuses on two or three major program areas in each country. Goals and priorities include the following:

- Achieving primary prevention of HIV infection through activities such as expanding confidential counseling and testing programs, building programs to reduce mother-to-child transmission, and strengthening programs to reduce transmission via blood transfusion and medical injections.

- Improving the care and treatment of HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) and related opportunistic infections by improving STD management; enhancing care and treatment of opportunistic infections, including tuberculosis (TB); and initiating programs to provide anti-retroviral therapy (ART).

- Strengthening the capacity of countries to collect and use surveillance data and manage national HIV/AIDS programs by expanding HIV/STD/TB surveillance programs and strengthening laboratory support for surveillance, diagnosis, screening, disease-monitoring and HIV screening for blood safety.

This announcement is only for non-research activities supported by HHS, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If an applicant proposes research activities, HHS will not review the application. For the definition of research, please see the HHS/CDC web site at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/ads/opsoll1.htm>.

Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with one (or more) of the following performance goal(s) for the numerical goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and HHS/CDC National Center for HIV, STD and TB Prevention (NCHSTP): Increase the proportion of HIV-infected people who are linked to appropriate prevention, care and treatment services, and strengthen the capacity nationwide to monitor the epidemic, develop and implement effective HIV prevention interventions and evaluate prevention programs.

Activities: The recipient of these funds is responsible for activities in multiple program areas designed to target underserved populations in Ethiopia. Either the awardee will

implement activities directly or will implement them through its subgrantees and/or subcontractors; the awardee will retain overall financial and programmatic management under the oversight of HHS/CDC and the strategic direction of the Office of the Global AIDS Coordinator. The awardee must show a measurable progressive reinforcement of the capacity of indigenous organizations and local communities to respond to the national HIV epidemic, as well as progress towards the sustainability of activities.

Applicants should describe activities in detail as part of a four-year action plan (U.S. Government Fiscal Years 2005–2008 inclusive) that reflects the policies and goals outlined in the five-year strategy for the President's Emergency Plan.

The grantee will produce an annual operational plan in the context of this four-year plan, which the U.S. Government Emergency Plan team on the ground in Ethiopia will review as part of the annual Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Country Operational Plan review and approval process managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator. The grantee may work on some of the activities listed below in the first year and in subsequent years, and then progressively add others from the list to achieve all of the Emergency Plan performance goals, as cited in the previous section. HHS/CDC, under the guidance of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, will approve funds for activities on an annual basis, based on documented performance toward achieving Emergency Plan goals, as part of the annual Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Country Operational Plan review and approval process.

Specific awardee activities for this program are as follows:

1. Conduct needs assessment to determine risk factors, target behaviors, barriers, facilitators, reinforcement mechanisms, communication channels, availability of services, family demographics/situations, etc. to inform the development prevention, care and treatment programs among people living with HIV/AIDS.

2. Develop/adapt or organize tools such as operations manuals, training manuals, and guidelines in the areas of, prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) of HIV, confidential voluntary counseling and testing (VCT), sexually transmitted infections (STI), tuberculosis (TB), laboratory, and other technical areas as deemed appropriate for provision of interventions, trainings, and targeted monitoring and evaluations.

3. Institute the needed administrative and functional arrangements to coordinate the day-to-day activity of the project to guarantee effectiveness, efficiency, transparency and accountability.

4. Organize and procure necessary equipment and supplies in a transparent and competitive process, and coordinate services, trainings in local languages and targeted monitoring and evaluations.

5. Provide trainings on counseling and home-based care to PLWHA to improve the provision of care at the community level.

6. Establish self-care and anti-retroviral (ARV) treatment information resource center/section within the network of people living with HIV/AIDS to update members on current development including in ARV treatment.

7. Establish peer-support system among the network of people living with HIV/AIDS to facilitate health-seeking behavior and adherence to ARV treatment.

8. Engage PLWHA to closely work with public and private health facilities to strengthen adherence to care and treatment, including ARV drug adherence, such as linkage of health facilities to community/household activities.

9. Undertake activities geared towards prevention among HIV positives by following the "ABC" (Abstinence; Be faithful; and, for populations engaged in high-risk behavior,¹ correct and consistent condom use) strategies and prevention and control of sexually transmitted infections. Awardees may not implement condom social marketing without also implementing abstinence and faithfulness behavior change interventions.

10. Conduct culturally and age-appropriate workshops, seminars and popularization events in local languages related to HIV/AIDS prevention, control, and treatment.

11. Conduct targeted monitoring and evaluations of projects and in identified priority areas that require evidence for

¹ Behaviors that increase risk for HIV transmission include engaging in casual sexual encounters, engaging in sex in exchange for money or favors, having sex with an HIV-positive partner or one whose status is unknown, using drugs or abusing alcohol in the context of sexual interactions, and using intravenous drugs. Women, even if faithful themselves, can still be at risk of becoming infected by their spouse, regular male partner, or someone using force against them. Other high-risk persons or groups include men who have sex with men and workers who are employed away from home. Awardees may not implement condom social marketing without also implementing abstinence and faithfulness behavior-change interventions.

perusal in programs implementation, according to the strategic information guidance established by the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

Administration

Winning applicants must comply with all HHS management requirements for meeting participation and progress and financial reporting for this cooperative agreement. (See HHS Activities and Reporting sections below for details.) Winning applicants must comply with all policy directives established by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

In a cooperative agreement, HHS staff is substantially involved in the program activities, above and beyond routine grant monitoring.

HHS Activities for this program are as follows:

1. Organize an orientation meeting with the grantee to brief it on applicable U.S. Government, HHS, and Emergency Plan expectations, regulations and key management requirements, as well as report formats and contents. The orientation could include meetings with staff from HHS agencies and the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

2. Review and approve the process used by the grantee to select key personnel and/or post-award subcontractors and/or subgrantees to be involved in the activities performed under this agreement, as part of the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Country Operational Plan review and approval process, managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

3. Review and approve grantee's annual work plan and detailed budget, as part of the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief Country Operational Plan review and approval process, managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

4. Review and approve grantee's monitoring and evaluation plan, including for compliance with the strategic information guidance established by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

5. Meet on a monthly basis with grantee to assess monthly expenditures in relation to approved work plan and modify plans as necessary.

6. Meet on a quarterly basis with grantee to assess quarterly technical and financial progress reports and modify plans as necessary.

7. Meet on an annual basis with grantee to review annual progress report for each U.S. Government Fiscal Year, and to review annual work plans and budgets for subsequent year, as part of the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief review and approval process for

Country Operational Plans, managed by the Office of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

8. Provide technical assistance, as mutually agreed upon, and revise annually during validation of the first and subsequent annual work plans. This could include expert technical assistance and targeted training activities in specialized areas, such as strategic information, project management, confidential counseling and testing, palliative care, treatment literacy, and adult learning techniques.

Please note: Either HHS staff or staff from organizations that have successfully competed for funding under a separate HHS contract, cooperative agreement or grant will provide technical assistance and training.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Cooperative Agreement. HHS involvement in this program is listed in the Activities Section above.

Fiscal Year Funds: 2005.

Approximate Total Funding: \$1,250,000 (This amount is an estimate, and is subject to availability of funds).

Approximate Number of Awards: One.

Approximate Average Award: \$250,000 (This amount is for the first 12-month budget period, and includes direct costs).

Floor of Award Range: None.

Ceiling of Award Range: \$250,000.

Anticipated Award Date: September 15, 2005.

Budget Period Length: 12 months.

Project Period Length: Five years.

Throughout the project period, HHS' commitment to continuation of awards will be conditioned on the availability of funds, evidence of satisfactory progress by the recipient (as documented in required reports), and the determination that continued funding is in the best interest of the Federal Government, as determined by the annual review and approval of Country Operational Plans, managed by the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator.

III. Eligibility Information

III.1. Eligible Applicants

Public and private non-profit and for-profit organizations may submit applications, such as:

- Public, non-profit organizations.
- Private, non-profit organizations.
- For-profit organizations.
- Small, minority-owned, and women-owned businesses.
- Colleges.
- Universities.

- Hospitals.
- Community-based organizations.
- Faith-based organizations.

In addition, applicants must meet the criteria listed below:

1. Be indigenous to Ethiopia.
2. Have the ability, and credibility to support culturally and age-appropriate prevention, care, support, and treatment activities by PLWHA in local languages at the community and facility level.
3. Documented experience in working with national and regional/local PLWHA associations and support groups.
4. Experience working with the Ethiopian Government, international organizations and community- and faith-based groups societies in the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia.

III.2. Cost-Sharing or Matching Funds

Matching funds are not required for this program. Although matching funds are not required, preference will go to organizations that can leverage additional funds to contribute to program goals.

III.3. Other

If you request a funding amount greater than the ceiling of the award range, HHS/CDC will consider your application non-responsive, and will not enter into the review process. We will notify you that your application did not meet the submission requirements.

Special Requirements: If your application is incomplete or non-responsive to the special requirements listed in this section, it will not enter into the review process. We will notify you that your application did not meet submission requirements.

- HHS/CDC will consider late applications non-responsive. See section "IV.3. Submission Dates and Times" for more information on deadlines.
- Note: Title 2 of the United States Code Section 1611 states that an organization described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engages in lobbying activities is not eligible to receive Federal funds constituting an award, grant, or loan.

IV. Application and Submission Information

IV.1. Address To Request Application Package

To apply for this funding opportunity use application form PHS 5161-1.

HHS strongly encourages you to submit your application electronically by using the forms and instructions posted for this announcement at <http://www.grants.gov>.

Application forms and instructions are available on the HHS/CDC Web site, at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/forminfo.htm>.

If you do not have access to the Internet, or if you have difficulty accessing the forms on-line, you may contact the HHS/CDC Procurement and Grants Office Technical Information Management Section (PGO-TIM) staff at: 770-488-2700. We can mail application forms to you.

IV.2. Content and Form of Submission

Application: You must submit a project narrative with your application forms. You must submit the narrative in the following format:

- Maximum number of pages: 25. If your narrative exceeds the page limit, we will only review the first pages within the page limit.
- Font size: 12 point un-reduced.
- Double-spaced.
- Paper size: 8.5 by 11 inches.
- Page margin size: One inch.
- Printed only on one side of page.
- Held together only by rubber bands or metal clips; not bound in any other way.

- All pages should be numbered.
- Your application MUST be submitted in English.

Your narrative should address activities to be conducted over the entire project period, and must include the following items in the order listed:

- Project Context and Background (Understanding and Need).
- Project Strategy—Description and Methodologies.
- Project Goals.
- Project Outputs.
- Project Contribution to the Goals and Objectives of the Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief.
- Work Plan and Description of Project Components and Activities.
- Performance Measures.
- Timeline (e.g., Gantt Chart).
- Management of Project Funds and Reporting.

You may include additional information in the application appendices. The appendices will not count toward the narrative page limit. This additional information includes the following:

- Project Budget and Justification.
- *Curriculum vitae* of current staff who will work on the activity.
- Job descriptions of proposed key positions to be created for the activity.
- Quality-Assurance, Monitoring-and-Evaluation, and Strategic-Information Forms.
- Applicant's Corporate Capability Statement.

- Letters of Support.
- Evidence of Legal Organizational Structure.
- Applicants must provide documentation that substantiates their well-developed management and financial controls and ability to implement HIV activities with reach to rural areas of Ethiopia. Such proof could include, but is not limited to, annual, financial, and audit reports, etc.

The budget justification will not count in the narrative page limit.

Although the narrative addresses activities for the entire project, the applicant should provide a detailed budget only for the first year of activities, while addressing budgetary plans for subsequent years.

You must have a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number to apply for a grant or cooperative agreement from the Federal Government. The DUNS number is a nine-digit identification number, which uniquely identifies business entities. Obtaining a DUNS number is easy, and there is no charge. To obtain a DUNS number, access <http://www.dunandbradstreet.com> or call 1-866-705-5711.

For more information, see the HHS/CDC Web site at: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/pubcomm.htm>. If your application form does not have a DUNS number field, please write your DUNS number at the top of the first page of your application, and/or include your DUNS number in your application cover letter.

Additional requirements that could require you to submit additional documentation with your application are listed in section "VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements."

IV.3. Submission Dates and Times

Application Deadline Date:
September 9, 2005.

Explanation of Deadlines:
Applications must be received in the HHS/CDC Procurement and Grants Office by 4 p.m. Eastern Time on the deadline date.

You may submit your application electronically at <http://www.grants.gov>. We consider applications completed online through Grants.gov as formally submitted when the applicant organization's Authorizing Official electronically submits the application to <http://www.grants.gov>. We will consider electronic applications as having met the deadline if the applicant organization's Authorizing Official has submitted the application electronically to Grants.gov on or before the deadline date and time.

If you submit your application electronically with Grants.gov, your application will be electronically time/date stamped, which will serve as receipt of submission. You will receive an e-mail notice of receipt when HHS/CDC receives the application.

If you submit your application by the United States Postal Service or commercial delivery service, you must ensure the carrier will be able to guarantee delivery by the closing date and time. If HHS/CDC receives your submission after closing because: (1) Carrier error, when the carrier accepted the package with a guarantee for delivery by the closing date and time, or (2) significant weather delays or natural disasters, you will have the opportunity to submit documentation of the carriers guarantee. If the documentation verifies a carrier problem, HHS/CDC will consider the submission as received by the deadline.

If you submit a hard copy application, HHS/CDC will not notify you upon receipt of your submission. If you have a question about the receipt of your application, first contact your courier. If you still have a question, contact the PGO-TIM staff at: 770-488-2700. Before calling, please wait two to three days after the submission deadline. This will allow time for us to process and log submissions.

This announcement is the definitive guide on application content, submission address, and deadline. It supersedes information provided in the application instructions.

If your submission does not meet the deadline above, it will not be eligible for review, and we will discard it. We will notify you that you did not meet the submission requirements.

IV.4. Intergovernmental Review of Applications

Executive Order 12372 does not apply to this program.

IV.5. Funding Restrictions

Restrictions, which you must take into account while writing your budget, are as follows:

- Funds may not be used for research.
- Needle Exchange—No funds appropriated under this Act shall be used to carry out any program of distributing sterile needles or syringes for the hypodermic injection of any illegal drug.
- Funds may be spent for reasonable program purposes, including personnel, training, travel, supplies and services. Equipment may be purchased and renovations completed if deemed necessary to accomplish program objectives; however, prior approval by

HHS/CDC officials must be requested in writing.

- All requests for funds contained in the budget shall be stated in U.S. dollars. Once an award is made, HHS/CDC will not compensate foreign grantees for currency exchange fluctuations through the issuance of supplemental awards.

- The costs that are generally allowable in grants to domestic organizations are allowable to foreign institutions and international organizations, with the following exception: With the exception of the American University, Beirut, and the World Health Organization, Indirect Costs will not be paid (either directly or through sub-award) to organizations located outside the territorial limits of the United States or to international organizations, regardless of their location.

- The applicant may contract with other organizations under this program; however, the applicant must perform a substantial portion of the activities (including program management and operations, and delivery of prevention services for which funds are required) relating to the management of sub-grants to local organizations and improving their capacity.

- You must obtain an annual audit of these HHS/CDC funds (program-specific audit) by a U.S.-based audit firm with international branches and current licensure/authority in-country, and in accordance with International Accounting Standards or equivalent standard(s) approved in writing by HHS/CDC.

- A fiscal Recipient Capability Assessment may be required, prior to or post award, to review the applicant's business management and fiscal capabilities regarding the handling of U.S. Federal funds.

Prostitution and Related Activities

The U.S. Government is opposed to prostitution and related activities, which are inherently harmful and dehumanizing, and contribute to the phenomenon of trafficking in persons.

Any entity that receives, directly or indirectly, U.S. Government funds in connection with this document ("recipient") cannot use such U.S. Government funds to promote or advocate the legalization or practice of prostitution or sex trafficking. Nothing in the preceding sentence shall be construed to preclude the provision to individuals of palliative care, treatment, or post-exposure pharmaceutical prophylaxis, and necessary pharmaceuticals and commodities,

including test kits, condoms, and, when proven effective, microbicides.

A recipient that is otherwise eligible to receive funds in connection with this document to prevent, treat, or monitor HIV/AIDS shall not be required to endorse or utilize a multisectoral approach to combating HIV/AIDS, or to endorse, utilize, or participate in a prevention method or treatment program to which the recipient has a religious or moral objection. Any information provided by recipients about the use of condoms as part of projects or activities that are funded in connection with this document shall be medically accurate and shall include the public health benefits and failure rates of such use.

In addition, any recipient must have a policy explicitly opposing prostitution and sex trafficking. The preceding sentence shall not apply to any "exempt organizations" (defined as the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the World Health Organization and its six Regional Offices, the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative or to any United Nations agency).

The following definition applies for purposes of this clause:

- Sex trafficking means the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for the purpose of a commercial sex act. 22 U.S.C. 7102(9).

All recipients must insert provisions implementing the applicable parts of this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities," in all subagreements under this award. These provisions must be express terms and conditions of the subagreement, must acknowledge that compliance with this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities," is a prerequisite to receipt and expenditure of U.S. government funds in connection with this document, and must acknowledge that any violation of the provisions shall be grounds for unilateral termination of the agreement prior to the end of its term. Recipients must agree that HHS may, at any reasonable time, inspect the documents and materials maintained or prepared by the recipient in the usual course of its operations that relate to the organization's compliance with this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities."

All prime recipients that receive U.S. Government funds ("prime recipients") in connection with this document must certify compliance prior to actual receipt of such funds in a written statement that makes reference to this document (e.g., "[Prime recipient's name] certifies compliance with the section, 'Prostitution and Related

Activities.'") addressed to the agency's grants officer. Such certifications by prime recipients are prerequisites to the payment of any U.S. Government funds in connection with this document.

Recipients' compliance with this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities," is an express term and condition of receiving U.S. Government funds in connection with this document, and any violation of it shall be grounds for unilateral termination by HHS of the agreement with HHS in connection with this document prior to the end of its term. The recipient shall refund to HHS the entire amount furnished in connection with this document in the event HHS determines the recipient has not complied with this section, "Prostitution and Related Activities."

You may find guidance for completing your budget on the HHS/CDC web site, at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/budgetguide.htm>.

IV.6. Other Submission Requirements

Application Submission Address: HHS/CDC strongly encourages you to submit electronically at: <http://www.grants.gov>. You will be able to download a copy of the application package from <http://www.grants.gov>, complete it offline, and then upload and submit the application via the Grants.gov site. We will not accept e-mail submissions. If you are having technical difficulties in Grants.gov, you may reach them by e-mail at support@grants.gov, or by phone at 1-800-518-4726 (1-800-518-GRANTS). The Customer Support Center is open from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

HHS/CDC recommends that you submit your application to Grants.gov early enough to resolve any unanticipated difficulties prior to the deadline. You may also submit a back-up paper submission of your application. We must receive any such paper submission in accordance with the requirements for timely submission detailed in Section IV.3. of the grant announcement.

You must clearly mark the paper submission: "BACK-UP FOR ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION." The paper submission must conform to all requirements for non-electronic submissions. If we receive both electronic and back-up paper submissions by the deadline, we will consider the electronic version the official submission.

We strongly recommended that you submit your grant application by using Microsoft Office products (e.g.,

Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, etc.). If you do not have access to Microsoft Office products, you may submit a PDF file. You may find directions for creating PDF files on the Grants.gov web site. Use of files other than Microsoft Office or PDF could make your file unreadable for our staff.

or:

Submit the original and two hard copies of your application by mail or express delivery service to the following address: Technical Information Management—AA119, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341.

V. Application Review Information

V.1. Criteria

Applicants must provide measures of effectiveness that will demonstrate the accomplishment of the various identified objectives of the cooperative agreement. Measures of effectiveness must relate to the performance goals stated in the "Purpose" section of this announcement. Measures must be objective and quantitative, and must measure the intended outcome. Applicants must submit these measures of effectiveness with the application, and they will be an element of evaluation.

An objective review panel appointed by HHS will evaluate each application against the following criteria:

1. Plans for Administration and Management of the Project (30 Points)

Does the applicant provide a clear plan for the administration and management of the proposed activities, to manage the resources of the program, prepare reports, monitor and evaluate activities and audit expenditures?

2. Technical and Programmatic Approach (20 Points)

Does the applicant's proposal demonstrate an understanding of how to develop, promote, implement, monitor and evaluate activities listed above? Does the applicant describe strategies that are pertinent and match those identified in the five-year strategy of the President's Emergency Plan and activities that are evidence-based, realistic, achievable, measurable and culturally appropriate in Ethiopia to achieve the goals of the Emergency Plan?

3. Ability To Carry Out the Project (20 Points)

Does the applicant demonstrate the local experience and capability to achieve the goals of the project?

4. Personnel (20 Points)

Are staff involved in this project qualified to perform the tasks described? CVs provided should include information that they are qualified to perform HIV/AIDS, prevention, care, support and treatment activities in the local languages? Are the staff roles clearly defined? Are professional personnel involved in this project qualified, including evidence of experience in working with HIV/AIDS, sexually transmitted infections, and tuberculosis?

5. Understanding the Problem (10 Points)

Does the applicant demonstrate an understanding of the national cultural and political context and the technical and programmatic areas covered by the project? Does the applicant display knowledge of the five-year strategy and goals of the President's Emergency Plan, such that it can build on these to develop a comprehensive, collaborative project to reach underserved populations in Ethiopia and meet the goals of the Emergency Plan? Does the applicant demonstrate a clear and concise understanding of the general AIDS epidemic situation, the policy environment and current training and research needs in Ethiopia?

6. Budget (Not Scored)

Is the itemized budget for conducting the project is reasonable and well-justified? Is the budget itemized, well-justified and consistent with the five-year strategy and goals of the President's Emergency Plan and Emergency Plan activities in Ethiopia?

V.2. Review and Selection Process

The HHS/CDC Procurement and Grants Office (PGO) staff will review applications for completeness, and HHS Global AIDS program will review them for responsiveness. Incomplete applications and applications that are non-responsive to the eligibility criteria will not advance through the review process. Applicants will receive notification that their application did not meet submission requirements.

An objective review panel will evaluate complete and responsive applications according to the criteria listed in the "V.1. Criteria" section above. All persons who serve on the panel will be external to the U.S. Government Country Program Office in Ethiopia. The panel can include both Federal and non-Federal participants.

In addition, the following factors could affect the funding decision:

It is possible for one organization to apply as lead grantee with a plan that

includes partnering with other organizations, preferably local. Although matching funds are not required, preference will be go to organizations that can leverage additional funds to contribute to program goals.

Applications will be funded in order by score and rank determined by the review panel. HHS/CDC will provide justification for any decision to fund out of rank order.

V.3. Anticipated Announcement and Award Dates

September 15, 2005.

VI. Award Administration Information**VI.1. Award Notices**

Successful applicants will receive a Notice of Award (NoA) from the HHS/CDC Procurement and Grants Office. The NoA shall be the only binding, authorizing document between the recipient and HHS/CDC. An authorized Grants Management Officer will sign the NoA, and mail it to the recipient fiscal officer identified in the application.

Unsuccessful applicants will receive notification of the results of the application review by mail.

VI.2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

45 CFR part 74 and part 92.

For more information on the Code of Federal Regulations, see the National Archives and Records Administration at the following Internet address: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfr-table-search.html>.

The following additional requirements apply to this project:

- AR-4 HIV/AIDS Confidentiality Provisions
- AR-5 HIV Program Review Panel Requirements
- AR-7 Executive Order 12372
- AR-8 Public Health System Reporting Requirements
- AR-14 Accounting System Requirements
- AR-15 Proof of Non-Profit Status

Applicants can find additional information on these requirements on the HHS/CDC Web site at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/ARs.htm>.

You need to include an additional Certifications form from the PHS 5161-1 application in your Grants.gov electronic submission only. Please refer to <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/funding/PHS5161-1-Certificates.pdf>. Once you have filled out the form, please attach it to your Grants.gov submission as Other Attachment Forms.

VI.3. Reporting Requirements

You must provide HHS/CDC with an original, plus two hard copies, of the following reports (in English).

1. Interim progress report, due no less than 90 days before the end of the budget period. The progress report will serve as your non-competing continuation application, and must contain the following elements:

a. Current Budget Period Activities Objectives.

b. Current Budget Period Financial Progress.

c. New Budget Period Program Proposed Activity Objectives.

d. Budget.

e. Measures of Effectiveness, including progress against the numerical goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief for Ethiopia.

f. Additional Requested Information.

2. Annual progress report, due no more than 60 days after the end of the budget period. Reports should include progress against the numerical goals of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief for Ethiopia.

3. Financial status report, due no more than 90 days after the end of the budget period.

4. Final financial and performance reports, no more than 90 days after the end of the project period.

Recipients must mail these reports to the Grants Management or Contract Specialist listed in the "Agency Contacts" section of this announcement.

VII. Agency Contacts

We encourage inquiries concerning this announcement.

For general questions, contact: Technical Information Management Section, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341. Telephone: 770-488-2700.

For program technical assistance, contact: Tadesse Wuhib, MD, MPH, Country Director, HHS/CDC-Ethiopia, P.O. Box 1014, Entoto Road, Addis Ababa. Telephone: (Office) 251-1-66-95-33; (Cell) 251-9-228543. E-mail address: wuhibt@etcdc.com.

For financial, grants management, or budget assistance, contact: Shirley Wynn, Grants Management Specialist, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341. Telephone: 770-488-1515. E-mail: SWynn@cdc.gov.

VIII. Other Information

Applicants can find this and other HHS funding opportunity

announcements on the HHS/CDC Web site, Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov> (Click on "Funding" then "Grants and Cooperative Agreements"), and on the Web site of the HHS Office of Global Health Affairs, Internet address: <http://www.globalhealth.gov>.

Dated: August 9, 2005.

William P. Nichols,

*Director, Procurement and Grants Office,
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
U.S. Department of Health and Human
Services.*

[FR Doc. 05-16173 Filed 8-15-05; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4163-18-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Rapid Expansion of Access to HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care, and Treatment Interventions in the Underserved Northern and Western Regions of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire Under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief

Announcement Type: New.

Funding Opportunity Number: CDC-RFA-AA070.

Catalog of Federal Domestic

Assistance Number: 93.067.

DATES: *Application Deadline:* September 9, 2005.

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Authority: This program is authorized under Sections 307 and 317(k)(2) of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. Sections 242l and 247b(k)(2)], as amended, and under Public Law 108-25 (United States Leadership against HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Act of 2004) [22 U.S.C. 7601].

Background: President Bush's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief has called for immediate, comprehensive and evidence-based action to turn the tide of global HIV/AIDS. The initiative aims to: treat more than two million HIV-infected people with effective combination anti-retroviral therapy (ART) by 2008; care for ten million HIV-infected and affected persons, including those orphaned by HIV/AIDS, by 2008; and prevent seven million infections by 2010, with a focus on 15 priority countries, including 12 in sub-Saharan Africa. The five-year strategy for the Emergency Plan is available at the following Internet address: <http://www.state.gov/s/gac/rl/c111652.htm>.

Over the same time period, as part of a collective national response, the Emergency Plan goals specific to Côte d'Ivoire are to treat at least 77,000 HIV-

infected individuals; care for 385,000 HIV-affected individuals, including orphans; and prevent 265,000 new HIV infections.

Purpose: The purpose of this funding announcement is to progressively build an indigenous, sustainable response to the national HIV epidemic through the rapid expansion of innovative, culturally appropriate, high-quality HIV/AIDS prevention and care interventions, improved linkages to confidential HIV counseling and testing (CT), prevention of mother-to-child HIV transmission (PMTCT), and HIV treatment services that target underserved populations, prioritizing those in the northern and western regions of Côte d'Ivoire, where health care has been disrupted since a 2002 armed rebellion, and remains difficult because of the ongoing politico-military crisis.

Under the leadership of the U.S. Global AIDS Coordinator, as part of the President's Emergency Plan, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) works with host countries and other key partners to assess the needs of each country and design a customized program of assistance that fits within the host nation's strategic plan.

This announcement is only for non-research activities supported by HHS, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). If an applicant proposes research activities, HHS will not review the application. For the definition of research, please see the HHS/CDC Web site at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/ads/opspoll1.htm>.

Measurable outcomes of the program will be in alignment with the numerical goals of the President's Emergency Plan and the following performance goals for the National Center for HIV, STD, and TB Prevention (NCHSTP) of CDC, within HHS: By 2010, work with other countries, international organizations, the U.S. Department of State, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), and other partners to achieve the United National General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS goal of reducing prevalence among persons 15 to 24 years of age.

The goals of the Emergency Plan include the following:

A. Prevention

Number of individuals trained to provide HIV prevention interventions [Abstinence and Be Faithful (A/B); and for populations engaged in high-risk

behavior,¹ correct and consistent condom use; other prevention; PMTCT].

1. Abstinence (A) and Be Faithful (B)

a. Number of community outreach and/or mass-media (radio) HIV/AIDS prevention programs that are A/B focused.

b. Number of individuals reached through community outreach and/or mass-media (radio) HIV/AIDS prevention programs that are A/B focused.

2. PMTCT

a. Number of service outlets that provide the minimum package of PMTCT services (*i.e.*, confidential antenatal counseling and testing (CT); anti-retroviral prophylaxis; nutritional guidance; and support, with links to voluntary family planning and supportive basic social services).

b. Number of pregnant women provided with PMTCT, including confidential CT.

c. Number of pregnant women provided with a complete course of anti-retroviral prophylaxis in a PMTCT setting.

d. Number of health workers newly trained or retrained in the provision of PMTCT.

B. Care and Support

1. Confidential Counseling and Testing (CT)

a. Number of CT service outlets that provide CT.

b. Number of clients who receive CT.

c. Number of people trained in CT.

2. Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC)

a. Number of service outlets/programs.

b. Number of clients (OVC) served.

c. Number of persons trained in caring for OVC.

3. Palliative Care: Basic Health Care and Support

a. Number of service outlets/programs that provide general HIV-related palliative care.

b. Number of service outlets/programs that provide malaria care and/or referral.

¹ Behaviors that increase risk for HIV transmission include engaging in casual sexual encounters, engaging in sex in exchange for money or favors, having sex with an HIV-positive partner or one whose status is unknown, using drugs or abusing alcohol in the context of sexual interactions, and using intravenous drugs. Women, even if faithful themselves, can still be at risk of becoming infected by their spouse, regular male partner, or someone using force against them. Other high-risk persons or groups include men who have sex with men and workers who are employed away from home.