NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY - OFFICE OF RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT

Limited Submission Funding Opportunity

Department of State

Request for Research Concept Notes to Strengthen Evidence-Based Humanitarian Decision Making by PRM and its Partners Worldwide

http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=273129

Please note the very short timeline.

FOA#: PRM-PRMOAPGL-15-003

The Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration’s (PRM) mission is to provide protection, ease suffering, and resolve the plight of persecuted and uprooted people around the world on behalf of the American people by providing life-sustaining assistance, working through multilateral systems to build global partnerships, promoting best practices in humanitarian response, and ensuring that humanitarian principles are thoroughly integrated into U.S. foreign and national security policy.

Concept notes must respond to one of the following research questions:

1. **Access to education for urban refugee children**: What are innovative approaches to promoting education for urban refugees in protracted settings – including but not limited to distance learning models? In what contexts are community schools a best practice, and in what contexts should children be integrated into local schools, even if there is a difference in language and curriculum? How do we work toward avoiding parallel schooling systems for refugees, particularly in cases where the refugees’ stay might extend beyond their school years?

2. **Costs/benefits of cash assistance in acute emergencies**: What are the financial and programmatic costs and benefits of cash assistance programs implemented through local NGO partners in insecure and/or low-resource environments?

3. **Economic impact of refugees on host communities**: What is the extent of refugees’ economic impact, both positive and negative, on host communities across a range of contexts?

4. **Environmental impact of refugee camps**: How can refugees themselves, UNHCR, NGOs, and host governments better manage the environmental impact of refugee camps including water, energy, deforestation, and solid waste management to improve health and sanitation? How can humanitarian partners work with refugees and their host communities to incorporate environmental management both into the design of new camps and in protracted situations where camps were not designed with environmental management in mind? Can innovative environmental management programs promote self-reliance of refugees in a cost-effective manner?
PRM will prioritize funding concept notes that aim to produce practical policy or programmatic recommendations that are applicable to more than one specific population or country. Research should produce recommendations that are concrete, actionable, and directed to specific actors.

Proposed concept notes should build on previous bodies of work and advance the knowledge base on global humanitarian policies and programs. PRM understands the full research team may not be known during the drafting of the concept note. If invited to submit a full proposal, applicants will then identify all individuals who would conduct the research, describe their qualifications, and include their CVs.

To ensure that research findings inform policy and programs, PRM encourages academic institutions seeking funding to identify partners presently providing protection and/or humanitarian assistance in refugee settings to formulate and conduct the research and to inform programmatic recommendations.

**LIMIT ON NUMBER OF PROPOSALS PER ORGANIZATION**
Organizations may submit a maximum of two concept notes only.

**KEY DATES**
Internal Letter of Intent Due: February 23, 2015 (by midnight)
Sponsor Concept Letter Due (Required): March 6, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. ET
Sponsor Proposal Due (by Invitation): 30 calendar days after they are notified of their selection

**SUBMITTING A MANDATORY LETTER OF INTENT**
Faculty members interested in applying are required to submit a letter of intent (LOI). An LOI is required but not binding.

1. Click here to access the LOI form.
2. Name the LOI as follows: “LastName-FirstInitial-LOI-DoS-PRM-2015”, replacing “LastName” with your last name and “First Initial” with your first initial.
3. Click on the Vault ticket: [https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6471640_1-t_03eBmHMh](https://vault2.northwestern.edu/xythoswfs/webui/_xy-e6471640_1-t_03eBmHMh)
4. Click the Upload button.
5. Click the Browse button and navigate to your file on your hard drive or network.
6. Click the OK button.

Note: You will get a tiny confirmation message upon upload. If you do not see it, you may contact Karen Cielo k-cielo@northwestern.edu for a confirmation.

**COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES**
The Office of Research Development offers assistance in identifying and facilitating collaborations, putting together interdisciplinary teams, programmatic and administrative development of large, cross-school proposals, and leveraging institutional resources for outreach and education. Contact Fruma Yehiely (yehiely@northwestern.edu), Director of ORD, for more information.

**CONTACT AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**
Fruma Yehiely, Director of ORD, 847-491-1074, yehiely@northwestern.edu
Limited Submissions web site: [http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/](http://www.research.northwestern.edu/ord/funding/limited-submissions/)