

(SSA)

Social Security Administration,
DCFAM, Attn: Nicholas E. Tagliareni,
1-A-21 Operations Bldg., 6401
Security Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21235.

To receive a copy of any of the forms or clearance packages, call the SSA Reports Clearance Officer on (410) 965-4125 or write to him at the address listed above.

Date: January 22, 1998.

Nicholas E. Tagliareni,

Reports Clearance Officer, Social Security Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2657

Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs; Anti-Crime Training and Technical Assistance Program (ACTTA)

AGENCY: Office of Europe, NIS, and Training; Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, State.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: State Department's Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) developed the Anti-Crime Training and Technical Assistance Program (ACTTA) in 1994 to bring U.S. Federal law enforcement agencies together to provide training and technical assistance in consultation with their counterparts in Russia, the NIS, and Eastern/Central Europe. Training continues to focus on combating international organized crime, financial crimes, and narcotics trafficking. The goal of the program is to increase professionalism and develop the technical capabilities of law enforcement institutions to combat organized crime and to assure that through international law enforcement cooperation, U.S. agencies and their foreign counterparts succeed in intercepting the movement of transnational organized criminal elements into the U.S.

The ACTTA program is being expanded to include the participation of non-Federal agencies (e.g., universities, state/local government agencies, private non-profit organizations, etc.) in the delivery of law enforcement training and technical assistance to Russia, and the Newly Independent States (NIS). This non-Federal component of the ACTTA program has a timeframe of 1998-1999.

DATES: Strict deadlines for submission to the FY 1998 process are: Letters of Intent must be received no later than Friday, February 27, 1998. Letters of Intent (LOI) are mandatory; full proposals will not be reviewed unless they are requested following the LOI review process. Projects deemed unsuitable during LOI review will not be encouraged to submit full proposals. Full proposals must be received at INL no later than Friday, April 10, 1998. Applicants who have not received a response to their letter of intent by Friday, March 13, 1998 should contact Linda Gower at 202-776-8774. We anticipate that review of full proposals will occur during late April 1998 and funding should begin during the spring of 1998 for most approved projects. July 1, 1998 should be used as the proposed start date on proposals, unless otherwise directed by a program manager. Applicants should be notified of their status within 6 months. All proposals must be submitted in accordance with the guidelines below. Failure to heed these guidelines may result in proposals being returned without review.

ADDRESSES: Proposals may be submitted to: U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, SA-44 South, Room 105, Washington, DC 20520, Attn: Linda Gower.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Linda Gower at above address, TEL: 202-776-8774, FAX: 202-776-8775.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Funding Availability

This Program Announcement is for projects to be conducted by agencies/programs outside the Federal government, over a period of up to two years. Actual funding levels will depend upon the final FY 1998 budget appropriations, current plans are for up to a total of \$5.0 million to be available for new (or renewing) ACTTA awards. The funding instrument for extramural awards will be a grant. Funding for non-U.S. institutions and contractual arrangements for services and products for delivery to INL are not available under this announcement. Matching share, though encouraged, is not required by this program.

Program Authority

Authority: Section 635(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act, as amended.

Program Objectives

The goal of the ACTTA program is to increase the technical capabilities of foreign country law enforcement institutions to control organized crime,

combat corruption, institute democratic practices, and to assure that through international law enforcement cooperation, U.S. agencies succeed in intercepting the movement of transnational organized criminal elements into the U.S. and Eastern/Central Europe.

The ACTTA program has been designed to generate assistance to foreign governments which will complement that training and assistance provided by Federal agencies. All training and assistance of the ACTTA program should be focused on city or local police forces.

The program objectives of the ACTTA program are: (1) Combat the growing threat to U.S. national security posed by the broad range of organized crime activities, (2) help emerging democracies strengthen their national and law enforcement institutions to counter illegal criminal activities, (3) help emerging democracies develop laws and prosecutorial frameworks to counter organized crime activities, and (4) provide foreign law enforcement institutions with the skills to detect, arrest, and prosecute major transnational criminal offenders.

Program Priorities

The primary focus of this program is concentrated in Russia and the Newly Independent States.

All training conducted under this program must utilize a "training-of-trainers" format.

The FY 1998 ACTTA Program Announcement invites training and technical assistance program proposals in the following areas:

- (1) Community policing methods,
- (2) Curriculum development for national police training academies,
- (3) Domestic violence/violence against women and children,
- (4) Program evaluations (process and impact) of USG-funded international law enforcement training academies,
- (5) Combating organized crime, and
- (6) Anti-corruption measures.

Eligibility

Extramural eligibility is limited to non-Federal agencies and organizations, and is encouraged with the objective of developing a strong partnership with the state/local law enforcement community. Non-law enforcement proposers are urged to seek collaboration with state/local law enforcement institutions. State and local governments, universities, and non-profit organizations are included among entities for funding under this announcement. Funding for non-U.S.

institutions is not available under this announcement.

Letters of Intent

Letters of Intent (LOI): (1) Letters should be no more than two pages in length and include the name and institution of project director, a statement of the problem, brief summary of work to be completed, and approximate cost of project. (2) Facsimile is acceptable for letters of intent only. (3) Letters of Intent are mandatory; full proposals will not be reviewed unless they are requested following the LOI review process. (4) Projects deemed unsuitable during LOI review will not be encouraged to submit full proposals.

Evaluation Criteria

Consideration for financial assistance will be given to those proposals which address one or more of the Program Priorities identified above and meet the following evaluation criteria:

(1) *Relevance (20%)*: Importance and relevance to the goal and objectives of the ACTTA program identified above.

(2) *Methodology (25%)*: Adequacy of the proposed approach and activities, including development of relevant training curricular, training methods proposed, evaluation methodology (for training academy evaluation proposals only), project milestones, and final products.

(3) *Readiness (25%)*: Relevant history and experience in conducting program evaluations (for training academy evaluation proposals only) or training/technical assistance in the program priority areas identified above, strength of proposed training/technical assistance or evaluation teams, past performance record of proposers.

(4) *Linkages (15%)*: Connections to existing law enforcement agencies in Russia and the NIS, in addition to previous training or related assistance experience in these countries.

(5) *Costs (15%)*: Adequacy/efficiency of the proposed resources; appropriate share of total available resources; prospects for joint funding.

Selection Procedures

All proposals will be evaluated and ranked in accordance with the assigned weights of the above evaluation criteria by independent peer panel review composed of INL and other Federal USG agency law enforcement experts. Their recommendations and evaluations will be considered by the program managers in final selections. Those ranked by the panel and program as not recommended for funding will not be given further consideration and will be notified of

non-selection. For the proposals rated for possible funding, the program managers will: (a) Ascertain which proposals meet the objectives, fit the criteria posted, and do not duplicate other projects that are currently funded by INL, other USG agencies or foreign governments, or international organizations (note: proposals or elements that duplicate existing activities of USG agencies will not receive awards); (b) select the proposals to be funded; (c) determine the total duration of funding for each proposal; and (d) determine the amount of funds available for each proposal.

Unsatisfactory performance by a recipient under prior Federal awards may result in an application not being considered for funding.

Proposal Submission

The guidelines for proposal preparation provided below are mandatory. Failure to heed these guidelines may result in proposals being returned without review.

(a) Full Proposals

(1) Proposals submitted to INL must include the original and two unbound copies of the proposal. (2) Applicants are not required to submit more than 3 copies of the proposal, however, the normal review process requires 5 copies. Applicants are encouraged to submit sufficient proposal copies for the full review process if they wish all reviewers to receive color, unusually sized (not 8.5" x 11"), or otherwise unusual materials submitted as part of the proposal. Only three copies of the Federally required forms are needed. (3) Proposals must be limited to 30 pages (numbered), including budget, personnel vitae, and all appendices, and should be limited to funding requests for one to two year duration. Appended information may not be used to circumvent the page length limit. Federally mandated forms are not included within the page count. (4) Proposals should be sent to INL at the above address. (5) Facsimile transmissions of full proposals will not be accepted.

(b) Required Elements

(1) *Signed title page*: The title page should be signed by the Project Director (PD) and the institutional representative and should clearly indicate which project area is being addressed. The PD and institutional representative should be identified by full name, title, organization, telephone number and address. The total amount of Federal funds being requested should be listed for each budget period.

(2) *Abstract*: An abstract must be included and should contain an introduction of the problem, rationale and a brief summary of work to be completed. The abstract should appear as a separate page, headed with the proposal title, institution(s) name, investigator(s), total proposed cost and budget period.

(3) *Prior training experience*: A summary of prior law enforcement training experience should be described, including training related to program priorities identified above and/or conducted in Russia and the NIS. Reference to each prior training award should include the title, agency, award number, period of award and total award. The section should be a brief summary and should not exceed two pages total.

(4) *Statement of work*: The proposed project must be completely described, including identification of the problem, project objectives, proposed training methodology, relevance to the goal and objectives of the ACTTA program, and the program priorities listed above. Benefits of the proposed project to U.S. law enforcement efforts should be discussed. A year-by-year summary of proposed work must be included clearly indicating that each year's proposed work is severable and can easily be separated into annual increments of meaningful work. The statement of work, including and excluding figures and other visual materials, must not exceed 15 pages of length.

(5) *Budget*: Applicants must submit a Standard form 424 (4-92) "Application for Federal Assistance," including a detailed budget using the Standard Form 424a (4-92), "Budget Information—Non-Construction Programs." The form is included in the standard INL application kit. The proposal must include total and annual budgets corresponding with the descriptions provided in the statement of work. Additional text to justify expenses should be included as necessary.

(6) *Vitas*: Abbreviated curriculum vitae are sought with each proposal. Vitae for each project staff person should not exceed three pages in length.

(c) Other Requirements

(1) Applicants may obtain a standard INL application kit from the Program Office.

Primary Applicant Certification—All primary applicants must submit a completed Form CD-511, "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements and

Lobbying." Applicants are also hereby notified of the following:

1. Non procurement Debarment and Suspension—Prospective participants (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 105) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, "Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension," and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

2. Drug Free Workplace—Grantees (as defined at 15 CFR part 26, section 605) are subject to 15 CFR part 26, Subpart F, "Government Wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)" and the related section of the certification form prescribed above applies;

3. Anti-Lobbying—Persons (as defined at 15 CFR part 28, section 105) are subject to the lobbying provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1352, "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions," and the lobbying section of the certification form prescribed above applies to applications/bids for grants of more than \$100,000; and

4. Anti-Lobbying Disclosures—Any applicant that has paid or will pay for lobbying using any funds must submit SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," as required under 15 CFR part 28, appendix B.

Lower Tier Certifications

(1) Recipients must require applicants/bidders for subgrants or lower tier covered transactions at any tier under the award to submit, if applicable, a completed Form CD-512, "Certifications Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion—Lower Tier Covered Transactions and Lobbying" and disclosure Form SF-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities." Form CD-512 is intended for the use of recipients and should not be transmitted to Department of State (DOS). SF-LLL submitted by any tier recipient or subrecipient should be submitted to DOS in accordance with the instructions contained in the award document.

(2) Recipients and subrecipients are subject to all applicable Federal laws and Federal and Department of State policies, regulations, and procedures applicable to Federal financial assistance awards.

(3) Preaward Activities—If applicants incur any costs prior to an award being made, they do so solely at their own risk of not being reimbursed by the Government. Notwithstanding any verbal assurance that may have been received, there is no obligation to the applicant on the part of Department of State to cover preaward costs.

(4) This program is subject to the requirements of OMB Circular No. A-110, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Other Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-Profit Organizations," OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of Institutions of Higher Education and Other Non-Profit Institutions," and 15 CFR part 24, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Cooperative Agreements to State and Local Governments," as applicable. Applications under this program are not subject to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

(5) All non-profit applicants are subject to a name check review process. Name checks are intended to reveal if any key individuals associate with the applicant have been convicted of, or are presently facing criminal charges such as fraud, theft, perjury, or other matters with significantly reflect on the applicant's management, honesty, or financial integrity.

(6) A false statement on an application is grounds for denial or termination of funds and grounds for possible punishment by a fine or imprisonment as provided in 18 U.S.C. 1001.

(7) No award of Federal funds shall be made to an applicant who has an outstanding delinquent Federal debt until either:

(i) The delinquent account is paid in full,

(ii) A negotiated repayment schedule is established and at least one payment is received, or

(iii) Other arrangements satisfactory to the Department of State are made.

(8) Buy American-Made Equipment or Products—Applicants are encouraged that any equipment or products authorized to be purchased with funding provided under this program must be American-made to the maximum extent feasible.

(9) The total dollar amount of the indirect costs proposed in an application under this program must not exceed the indirect cost rate negotiated and approved by a cognizant Federal agency prior to the proposed effective date of the award or 100 percent of the total proposed direct cost dollar amount in the application, whichever is less.

(d) If an application 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 total discretion of the Department of State.

(e) In accordance with Federal statutes and regulations, no person on grounds of race, color, age, sex, national origin or disability shall be excluded from participation in, denied benefits of or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving assistance from the INL ACTTA program.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person is required to respond to nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act unless that collection of information displays a current valid OMB control number. The standard forms have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act under OMB approval number 0348-0043, 0348-0044, and 0348-0046.

Classification: This notice has been determined to be not significant for purposes of Executive Order 12866.

Dated: January 20, 1998.

Thomas M. Browne Jr.,

Deputy Director, Office of Europe, NIS, and Training, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, U.S. Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2717]

Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy; Notice of Closed Meeting

The Advisory Committee on International Economic Policy will meet from 9:00-1:00 pm on Thursday, February 5, 1998 in Room 1107, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20520. The Closed Meeting will be hosted by Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs, Alan Larson.

Pursuant to Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1), 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(4), and 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(9)(B), it has been determined the meeting will be closed to the public. Matters relative to classified national security information as well as privileged commercial information will be discussed.

For further information, contact Sharon Rogers, ACIEP Secretariat, U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs, Room 6828, Main State, Washington, DC 20520. She may be reached at telephone number (202) 647-5968 or fax number (202) 647-5713.