V. Application Review Information

V.1 Review Process

ECA will review all proposals for technical eligibility. Proposals will be deemed ineligible if they are not submitted by a U.S. citizen, U.S.-owned corporation or U.S.-based organization, and do not fully adhere to the General Regulations of Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea and the guidelines stated herein. Eligible proposals will be subject to compliance with Federal and Bureau regulations and guidelines.

The ECA program office will review all eligible proposals, as well as relevant elements of the U.S. Mission in the Republic of Korea and a panel of senior U.S. Government employees. Proposals may also be reviewed by the Office of the Legal Adviser or by other Department elements, including but not limited to the State Department Bureaus of East Asian and Pacific Affairs and Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs, as well as U.S. diplomatic officers in Korea, and private sector experts. The final decision on which proposal is most advantageous to the U.S. Government will be at the sole discretion of the Department’s Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs.

V.2 Review Criteria

Technically eligible proposals will be reviewed according to the criteria stated below. These criteria are not ranked and all carry equal weight in the evaluation.

1. Program planning to achieve Pavilion objectives: Proposals should clearly demonstrate how the planned Pavilion will: Educate and inform foreign audiences about the United States and its scientific and technological innovations relating to the oceans and coasts; promote broad U.S. commercial interests around the world, and specifically address the theme and General Regulations of the Expo. The proposal should also include a clearly articulated media engagement plan and communications strategy for the Pavilion. Pavilion objectives should be reasonable, feasible, and flexible. The proposal should contain a detailed timeline and budget that demonstrate substantive undertakings and logistical capacity.

2. Institutional Capacity/Record/Ability: Proposals should describe personnel and institutional resources, which should be adequate and appropriate to achieve the Pavilion’s goals. Proposals should demonstrate an institutional record of successful Pavilion activities, including responsible fiscal management and governance practices, and full compliance with all applicable BIE Expo requirements.

3. Multiplier effect/impact: Proposals should clearly state how Pavilion content and related activities will strengthen long-term mutual understanding between the United States and Korea.

4. Support of Diversity: Proposals should demonstrate involvement of participants from traditionally underrepresented groups including, but not limited to, women, racial and ethnic minorities, and people with disabilities.

5. Monitoring and Project Evaluation Plan: Proposals should include a plan to measure the impact of the proposed U.S. Pavilion, cultural programs, and information programs.

6. Sponsorship Management: Proposals should include a plan to manage sponsor engagement and sponsorship fulfillment.

7. Cost-effectiveness: Proposals should include a proposed action plan and timeline for all aspects of the project with associated, detailed budget estimates based on a $10 (ten) million budget, as well as a second alternate plan showing the ability for the project to be scaled back to $7 (seven) million.

VI. Award Administration Information

Award Notices

The successful proposer will sign an MOA with the Department. Unsuccessful proposers will receive notification of the results of the application review from the ECA program office coordinating this competition.

Reporting Requirements

The project manager must provide ECA with a hard copy original plus two copies of the following reports:

1. Program and financial reports every 90 (ninety) calendar days after the signature of the MOA.

2. Program and financial reports no more than 90 (ninety) calendar days after the expiration of the award.

VII. Agency Contacts

For questions about this announcement, contact: The Office of Citizen Exchanges, ECA/PE/C, Yeosu Expo, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, U.S. Department of State, SA–5, 2200 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20522; Fax: 202–632–9355; E-mail: Yeosu2012@state.gov.

Correspondence with ECA concerning this Request for Proposals (RFP) should reference Citizen Exchanges Yeosu Expo.

Please read the complete announcement before sending inquiries or submitting proposals. Once the RFP deadline for submission of proposals has passed, ECA staff may not discuss this competition with applicants until the proposal review process has been completed.

VIII. Other Information

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this Request for Proposals are binding and may not be modified orally by any ECA representative. Amendments to this RFP, if any, will be issued in writing. Explanatory information provided by ECA that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of this RFP does not constitute an intention to agree to work with any private sector project manager at Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea. ECA reserves the right to select the successful proposer for Expo 2012 Yeosu Korea and to approve all elements of the Pavilion and project. All decisions made based on indications of interest submitted in response to this RFP will be made solely by ECA and are final.

Dated: January 14, 2011.

Ann Stock,
Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice: 7242]

The Advisory Committee on the 100,000 Strong Initiative

AGENCY: Department of State.

ACTION: Notice of intent to establish an advisory committee.

The Secretary of State announces the intent to establish the Advisory Committee on the 100,000 Strong Initiative, in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

Nature and Purpose: The Committee will provide information and advice on the implementation of the 100,000 Strong Initiative in the private sector through recommendations on program standards, promotion of the initiative and commercial diplomacy pertaining to increasing the number of students studying abroad in China and encouraging increasing access to these programs for underrepresented groups. The objective of the Committee is to bring to the United States Government an additional source of expertise, knowledge and insight to deepen and broaden the knowledge base available to the State Department and elsewhere in
the government on these issues. The Committee will advise exclusively on the 100,000 Strong Initiative and will not advise on Congressionally-funded State Department educational or cultural exchange programs.

Other Information: It is anticipated that the advisory committee will meet twice per year. More information on the 100,000 Strong Initiative may be found at http://www.state.gov/p/eap/regional/100000_strong/index.htm. The Department of State affirms that the advisory committee will meet at

For Further Information, Please Contact: Carola McGiffert at (202) 647–1029.

Dated: January 12, 2011.

Carola McGiffert, Senior Advisor.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Transportation for potential transportation improvements along the Interstate 64 corridor in Virginia. The approximate limits of the study are Interstate 664 in Hampton and Interstate 95 in Richmond. The EIS will evaluate the no-build alternative as well as a range of alternatives to meet the purpose and need.

The FHWA and VDOT are seeking input as part of the scoping process to assist in determining and clarifying issues relative to the study. Letters describing the study and soliciting input will be sent to the appropriate federal, state, and local agencies, and other interested parties as part of the scoping process. An agency scoping meeting as well as a public scoping meeting are planned and will be announced by VDOT. Notices of public meetings and public hearings will be given through various forums providing the time and place of the meeting along with other relevant information. The Draft EIS will be available for public and agency review and comment prior to the public hearings.

To ensure that the full range of issues related to this study is identified and taken into account, comments and suggestions are invited from all interested parties. Comments and questions concerning this study should be directed to FHWA at the address provided above.

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Program Number 20.205, Highway Planning and Construction. The regulations implementing Executive Order 12372 regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this proposed action.)


Issued on: January 13, 2011.

John Simkins, Senior Environmental Specialist.

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