SOUTH ASIA REGIONAL INITIATIVE FOR ENERGY (SARI/Energy)

SARI/Energy
Small Grants Program
Agenda:
The Program
Objectives
Criteria for award – Eligibility, Usage
Fund & Cost Sharing
  Grant Flowchart
  Application Structure
  Application Evaluation
Schedule (tentative)
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The Programme seeks to build the capacity of local institutions and to increase the number of institutions engaged in regional energy issues. This is expected to be one of the main vehicles for public participation in SARI/E projects, among others, by community organisations and is expected to raise awareness and involvement at grassroots, local, national and regional levels by improving business and/or livelihood practices in SARI/E countries.
SMALL GRANTS Programme

Funding for direct disbursement of small grants:

• Base Period (Present to July 31, 2010):
  USD$ 400,000

• Option Period (August 01, 2009 to July 31, 2010):
  USD$ 200,000

USAID/SARI/Energy has budgeted USD$ 10,000 to USD$ 15,000 per grant to organisations in South Asia to assist small-scale endeavours of qualified non-governmental and community groups implementing relevant programs in the SARI/E geographic areas being targeted by USAID/SARI/Energy.
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GUIDING PHILOSOPHY:

- Promote *good* ideas / initiatives
  - That are *valuable and replicable* in the *regional context*
  - That *demonstrably engage* (have a stake) and mobilise community
  - Work *across and among geographies and cultures* (‘concept of twining’ - collaboration of organisations across SARI/E countries)
  - Which accrue *benefits to a broad number of beneficiaries*
  - Which *scale up* from conceptualisation, testing, through to commercialisation
OUR COMMITMENT:

• *Handhold organisations/teams to develop fundable proposals*
What sort of activities might fall within the ambit?

INDICATIVE ACTIVITIES:

• Addressing impediments to trade and investments; trade regulations;
• Coordinating standards across the region (energy efficiency labelling);
• Feasibility studies for trans-national electricity exchange;
• Improved access to and quality of rural energy;
• Development in renewable energy technologies and usages (domestic/ commercial / industrial) – Solar-Powered ECG, anyone!
• Demonstrable ideas for energy efficiency and conservation;

The application of funds need not be restricted to the above activities.
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GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

- be in existence for at least two years
- be non-profit
- be non-political, non-police and non-military in purpose and organisation
- should have the minimum attributes of a formal organisation (e.g., elected officers; receive dues from members or receive revenues in other ways; has a written charter, constitution or by-laws for its operations)
- demonstrate financial soundness; and be responsible and accountable for all monies distributed under this activity
Who is eligible?

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS INCLUDE:

• be organised to serve legitimate and socially desirable community functions, particularly those that promote women-in-energy issues

• If a school, must be a non-government school

• If a religious or church organization, the activity for which funds are requested must be a community-based activity that serves all people in the community without regard for membership in that religious organization (e.g., a day-care centre that is open to all children of the community)

• Requesting organisation cannot be a second recipient of a small grant
Funds may be used for (Indicative list)

1. Buy commodities (materials, equipment, machinery, etc.)

2. Pay for specialised construction work that the community cannot easily do; and/or

3. Pay for selected services (e.g. outreach)
What can’t funds be used for?

Funds may not be used for:

• sponsorship, salaries, honoraria or fees to officers of the applying organisation
• operating costs of the applying organization
• purely religious, police or military activities
• surveillance equipment
• abortion equipment and services
• luxury goods and services
• luxury goods and gambling equipment
• weather modification equipment
• toxic or otherwise unsafe products, such as certain pesticides, pharmaceuticals, hazardous chemicals (without a waiver); or
• used equipment
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APPLICANT TO ESTABLISH CLEAR REASONABLE BUDGET FOR GRANT

• Itemise cost of commodities (materials, equipment, machinery, etc.)
  – price quotations
  – source origin
  – names and addresses for at least three potential suppliers of equipment or materials

• Show cost of specialised construction work that the endeavour cannot easily do

• Define a monetary value on the endeavour’s contribution (cash or in-kind), including:
  – the self help contribution (in cash or kind), and
  – the nature and value of the contribution
ACCEPTANCE OF ACCOUNTABILITY BY INCLUSION OF

- Describe competently the endeavour’s involvement
- Provide other donor agencies contacted
- List the number of beneficiaries
- List the responsible parties for managing the small grant
- Describe how the results of the project will be sustained once USAID funding is complete
COST SHARING CONTRIBUTION

- A minimum of 50% grantee contribution is required.
- Grantee is highly encouraged to provide higher grantee contribution whenever feasible

- Applicant cost-sharing can take a number of forms:
  - direct expenditures to be made by the applicant
  - value of employee and contract labor
  - value of buildings dedicated to the project
  - value of materials and other supplies provided by the applicant to support the project
  - value of transportation serviced provided by the applicant
  - other (non-USAID) sources of funding.
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**APPLICATION Solicitation process…**

**GRANT FLOWCHART**

1. Request for Application
2. Proposals received; initial screening by Project Manager
3. Selection Committee (SAG) Review
4. Finalists submitted to USAID
5. Grantees selected and awards made
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In addition, applicants should provide information related to the new or expanded business e.g. business plan, feasibility study.
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### CRITERIA AND SCORING USED:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Maximum Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of USAID/SARI/Energy SAWIE Objectives</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization status and community impact</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project funding</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feasibility and innovativeness of implementation plan</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Management</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A minimum ‘threshold’ of 70 points (out of a possible 100) for further consideration of an application
- Applications scoring less that 70 will be returned to the applicant with appropriate feedback.
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# TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appointment of a Small Grants Administrator</td>
<td>End of November 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobilisation of Small Grants Administrator</td>
<td>December 2008</td>
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<tr>
<td>First round of inviting proposals</td>
<td>Q1, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Second round of inviting proposals</td>
<td>Q2, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third round of inviting proposals</td>
<td>Q3, 2009</td>
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Q & A / Discussion