

The purpose of the additional \$2 million in funds is to expand the project to include two additional countries—the Dominican Republic and Panama—that are currently being negotiated for inclusion in the Central America Free Trade Agreement (CAFTA). Because Funpadem is the only organization to have developed and validated the strategy to achieve the objectives outlined in the original SGA, is currently recognized as the entity that will be implementing the USDOL-funded project, and has developed relationships with the necessary stakeholders and partners to ensure successful implementation, Funpadem is uniquely qualified to perform the type of activity to be funded. In addition, starting a new project with a new implementer would incur unnecessary costs for the Government and a delay in the time of completion of the project. Funpadem has already established a regional office and interviewed and hired personnel who will coordinate the project activities on a regional level. These regional staff have agreed to add to their portfolios these two additional countries, and the regional office will continue to be managed out of Funpadem's current office space. If a new project was established, it would mean two additional project offices, two directors, additional technical staff for each component, as well as two additional offices with their overhead, all to achieve what the current regional office has agreed to do with no additional staff costs.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Harvey, Grant Officer, U.S. Department of Labor, Procurement Services Center, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room N-5416, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693-4570. E-mail address: harvey.lisa@dol.gov. All inquiries should make reference to the USDOL Central America Labor Strengthening Grant Comply and Win.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project funded under the current grant (currently titled "Cumple y Gana" or "Comply and Win") has the following four objectives:

- Increase understanding of target audience in each country about national labor laws and norms.
- Create more effective and reliable Labor Ministry Inspection Systems to enforce labor laws.
- Increase and improve use of conciliation and mediation by the Ministries of Labor.
- Increase knowledge among interested parties of conciliation and mediation.

During a regular meeting of the Labor Ministers of the region, the Technical Director for this project presented the project strategy and objectives to the Labor Ministers of the region, including representatives of the Ministries of Labor of the Dominican Republic and Panama. The project strategy has also been developed with USDOL and other stakeholders in the region.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 31st day of August, 2004.

Valerie Veatch,

Director, Office of Procurement Services.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Intent to Fund the International Labor Organization (ILO)

AGENCY: Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to award up to \$10 million to the International Labor Organization (ILO) under cooperative agreement #E-9-K-4-0006.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), intends to fund up to U.S. \$10 million under a new cooperative agreement #E-9-K-4-0006 with the International Labor Organization (ILO) for the International HIV/AIDS Workplace Education Program. The Conference Report for the FY2004 Labor-HHS-Education appropriation (Conference Report on H.R. 2673, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2004—November 25, 2003) states that "In implementing this agreement, the Departments and agencies should be guided by the language and instructions set forth in House Report 108-188 and Senate Report 108-81 accompanying the bill H.R. 2660." The Conference Report likewise states that: "The Conference agreement includes \$10,000,000 for the purpose of assisting the International Labor Organization in implementing a program to confront HIV/AIDS in the workplace." The activities that will be implemented with the additional funds will commence no later than September 30, 2004 and continue for a period of four years until September 26, 2008. USDOL/ILAB intends to award this cooperative agreement on or after September 6, 2004.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lisa Harvey, Grant Officer, U.S. Department of Labor, Procurement Services Center, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room N-5416, Washington, DC 20210.

Telephone: (202) 693-4570. E-mail address: harvey.lisa@dol.gov. All inquiries should make reference to the USDOL FY 2004 International HIV/AIDS Workplace Education Program.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The project funded will be a new cooperative agreement with the following three objectives:

- Education: to increase awareness and knowledge of HIV/AIDS by focusing on a comprehensive workplace education program(s) addressing behavior change, gender issues and linkages with care and support services.
- Policy: to improve workplace environment by assisting business and labor to develop appropriate workplace policy statements to address issues stemming from the stigma and discrimination associated with HIV/AIDS.
- Capacity: to develop the legislative framework, tripartite collaboration, and sustainability of the program by increasing the political will and capacity of social partners (government, business and labor) to respond to the epidemic.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 31st day of August, 2004.

Valerie Veatch,

Director, Procurement Services Center.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Office of the Secretary

Notice of Intent to Fund the International Rescue Committee (IRC)

AGENCY: Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor.

ACTION: Notice of Intent to award up to \$500,000 to the International Rescue Committee (IRC) under cooperative agreement #E-9-K-2-0118.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), intends to add up to \$500,000 to cooperative agreement #E-9-K-2-0118 with the International Rescue Committee (IRC) to continue implementing a job skills and micro-enterprise development training project in Afghanistan. The activities that will be implemented with the additional funds will commence no later than September 30, 2004 and continue for a period of one year until September 29, 2005. USDOL/ILAB intends to award this cooperative agreement on or after September 6, 2004. USDOL awarded the original \$3 million grant to the IRC in September 2002 for a three-year project