REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS (RFA)

USAID MEDIA Small Grant Pool (2021-22)

Indonesia

Publication Date: 26/04/2021

1.0 Summary Data
   1.1 Funder (Prime Funder): Internews (USAID)
   1.2 Funder Project Name: USAID MEDIA
   1.3 Announcement Type: Initial
   1.4 RFA Number: RFA-ID2061-FD-01
   1.5 Requisition Number: REQ-497-20-000055
   1.6 Application Submission Deadline: 31/05/2021, 17:00, WIB

2.0 Program Overview

2.1 Project Goal:
The goal of Internews’ activities in Indonesia is to improve the health of information environments. Healthy information environments are defined by the presence of good, accurate, evidence-based information—information that everyone can access safely, that consumers know how to critically assess, and that is valued by communities and sustained by business models that work. In healthy information environments, governments and businesses are accountable for keeping it that way. Internews’ activities are funded by an award from the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

2.2 Project Description:
Internews is opening a Small Grants Pool offering two types of grants to further broaden the scope and nature of partners involved in achieving the goal and objectives of USAID MEDIA.

USAID MEDIA Goal: Increase the availability of and access to quality information towards strengthening democratic accountability and reducing the risk of conflict.

- **Objective 1**: Strengthen the capacity of public-interest media and CSOs to pursue accountability.
- **Objective 2**: Enable public-interest media and CSOs to safely and sustainably pursue accountability.
- **Objective 3**: Increase the impact of media and CSOs in holding government and business interests to account.

The initiatives and organizations funded through this Small Grants Pool will make an important contribution to the Collaborating, Learning and Adapting (CLA) approach of USAID MEDIA; including testing the MEDIA Theory of Change.
2.3 Scope of Activities:

Internews is seeking subrecipients to perform activities in support of its project in Indonesia.

**Thematic Grants:** To advance specific MEDIA program objectives, specifically physical and digital safety of women journalists including:

- Research and recommendations on gender-based violence (physical and digital) against journalists including data gathering, desk-based research, and participatory assessments.
- Campaigns and advocacy on physical and digital safety for women journalists
- Development of modules and safety protocols for women and/or LGBTIQ journalists
- Training for women and/or LGBTIQ journalists on safety protocols
- Psychosocial support, legal advocacy and/or campaigns for journalists who are victims of gender-based violence (physical and digital).

**Seed Funding Grants:** To support new and emerging media organizations, including piloting new initiatives or kick-starting formal operations. This may include:

- General operational capacity building (M&E, strategic management, etc.)
- Continuing, expanding or replicating existing work
- Obtaining legal status
- Hiring staff

*Construction activities will not be considered for award.*

3.0 Subaward Information

3.1 Subaward Amount:

Under this RFA, Internews anticipates awarding at least two (2) Fixed Award Thematic subgrants (ranging from USD $15,000 to $24,900) and approximately 6 (six) to 8 (eight) Fixed Award Seed Funding subgrants (ranging from USD $5,000 to $15,000).

3.2 Subaward Duration:

Internews anticipates subgrants awarded under this RFA to have a performance period of maximum 6 months.

3.3 Eligibility Information:

Applicants must meet the following criteria in order to be considered eligible for a subaward resulting from this RFA:

1. Be a local and independent organization based in Indonesia including:
   
   - Media organizations, media platforms (*including radio, social media, podcast etc*) and new or upcoming media. Must demonstrate **commitment to public-interest media**.
   - Organizations founded and led by youth, women, LGBTIQ people, or other marginalized groups in Indonesia.
   - NGOs or community groups working on gender and social inclusion.
2. Applicants applying for Thematic Grants of $24,900 or over must also be officially registered in Indonesia (e.g. Yayasan, Perkumpulan, private entity) and have been in operation for at least 2 years.
3. Applicants for seed grants do not require legal registration but must have been operating for at least 12 months.
4. All applicants must have an operating budget of less than 150,000 USD per annum. (Applicants with a budget over 150,000 USD can submit applications only if they are able to present a special need or reason for why they should be prioritized by USAID MEDIA in this call.)
5. Be in good standing in performance and reporting under any previous subgrants, from Internews or any other organization, where applicable.
6. Be willing to take part in Grant Orientation meetings and meet donor branding, marking and reporting requirements.
7. Be able and willing to demonstrate a commitment to gender equality and social inclusion.
8. Be able to meet all reporting requirements and deadlines.
9. Be able to demonstrate how this work is crucial to promoting freedom of expression, and/or improved access to information.
10. Priority will be given to organizations operating in the following geographic locations: Banten, East Java, South Sulawesi, Papua, East Nusa Tenggara, West Kalimantan, and East Kalimantan. However, we also accept organizations operating in Jakarta.
11. Current sub-grantees (Implementing Partners) of USAID MEDIA are not eligible to apply.

3.4 Evaluation Criteria:
Applications will be reviewed and evaluated by a technical committee on a range of selection criteria. Only completed grant applications that address each area of the RFA will be considered. Each application will receive a score, with a maximum potential score of 100 points. Applications will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

1. Quality of Program Idea (including integration of gender equality and social inclusion considerations): 30 points
2. Cost Effectiveness: 25 points
3. Program Monitoring and Evaluation: 20 points
4. Program Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives: 15 points
5. Institution’s Record and Capacity (including personnel experience related to grant activities): 10 points

Subawards shall be made to the respondent whose application is responsive to the RFA and is most advantageous to the project, all factors considered.

3.5 Additional Considerations:
3.5.1 Reserved.

3.5.2 DUNS Number
Prior to receiving any subgrant of USD $25,000, selected applicants must register for and receive a Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet, Inc. A DUNS number may be obtained from D&B by telephone (currently 866-705-5711) or the Internet (currently at http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/).

It takes approximately 1 day to 1 week to receive a DUNS number upon submitting the request to D&B.

3.5.3 Indirect Costs
Selected subrecipients will be eligible for reimbursement of indirect costs if they:
1. Have a Negotiated Indirect Cost Rate Agreement from their cognizant agency, or
2. Accept a *de minimis* indirect cost rate of 10% applied to Modified Total Direct Costs (MTDC). MTDC is defined as all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, employee and consultant travel, and up to the first $25,000 of each subaward or subcontract (regardless of the period of performance of the subawards or subcontracts under the award). MTDC excludes equipment, capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, *participant support costs* and the portion of each subaward or subcontract in excess of $25,000.

*Participant support costs* are direct costs for items such as stipends or subsistence allowances, travel allowances, and registration fees paid to or on behalf of participants or trainees (but not employees) in connection with conferences, or training projects.

3.5.4 **Substantial Involvement:**
Internews may retain substantial involvement in subgrants awarded as a result of this RFA. Substantial involvement may include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Approval of the Recipient's Implementation Plans
2. Approval of Specified Key Personnel
3. Internews and Subrecipient Collaboration:
   a. Collaborative involvement in selection of advisory committee members
   b. Concurrence on the substantive provisions of lower-tier subawards
   c. Approval of the subrecipient's monitoring and evaluation plans

3.5.5 **Cost Principles:**
Proposal budgets will be reviewed in accordance with, and selected subrecipients’ costs will be subject to, the cost principles that apply to them to assure reasonableness, allocability, and allowability:

1. Not for Profit organizations:
   - 2CFR200 Subpart E, Cost Principles
2. For Profit organizations:
   - 48CFR31.2 Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and 48CFR73.12
   - USAID Acquisition Regulations (AIDAR) - Cost Principles for Commercial Organizations

3.5.6 **Subgrant Administration:**
The following regulations and provisions, at minimum, will apply to subawards issued as a result of this RFA. For Non-US organizations:

   - ADS303mab Standard Provisions for Non-U.S. Non-governmental Organizations

3.5.7 **Reporting**
Subgrants awarded as a result of this RFA will include programmatic reporting requirements to be submitted on a quarterly basis.

4.0 **Application Information**

4.1 **Expression of Interest Requirements**
All applicants must first complete a short Expression of Interest online form. Expressions of Interest are reviewed by Internews on a rolling basis from 1 May 2021. Applicants are encouraged to apply as early as possible. If you are eligible, you will receive an invitation by email to take part in a Screening Call with Internews to learn more about your organization and your work.

4.2 **Application Content Requirements:**
Following the screening call, applicants may then be invited to submit an Application Form (template and list of supporting documents will be provided).
Application(s) must meet the following requirements:
1. Include a signature page which bears the signature, title and full contact information of the authorized representative of the respondent, including email address and phone number.
2. Include a completed Subgrant Application Template (provided by Internews).
3. Include a Detailed Budget, using the Subgrants Detailed Budget Template (provided by Internews).
4. Applicants that are not formally constituted must also provide a written reference from either one legally constituted organization (e.g. Yayasan, Perkumpulan, Private Company) or two individuals who are known professionally to the applicant from outside their group/organization.

4.3 Application Submission Requirements:
Applications must be submitted by email to ID-Media@Internews.org by 31 May 2021 5pm WIB.

Individual messages may not exceed 2.5MB. The subject line must include the words “Response to RFA USAID MEDIA Small Grants Pool”. The documents constituting the application must be included as attachments. The email must list and describe the documents to be included as parts of the application. If more than one message is required to transmit the application, each message must be identified as part of a multi-part submission. (E.g. “message 1 of 3”)

Any portion of the application containing confidential or proprietary information should be clearly marked within the application itself either by highlighting or italics. The email must describe specifically how these sections are identified.

5.0 Award Notification and Responses:
All applications submitted will be acknowledged within two (2) working days and will note the documents submitted. The respondent is responsible for ensuring and confirming that the emails comprising the application are received by the Internews email account indicated in the Summary above.

Successful respondent(s) will be notified of selection within forty-five (45) working days following the deadline for submission of applications.

The successful respondent(s) must confirm the application and acceptance of the selection within five (5) working days of selection notification or the selection will be withdrawn due to non-responsive respondent and offered to the next most qualified respondent.

Once selection is finalized, unsuccessful applicants will be notified that an award has been made.

NOTICE OF SELECTION OF THE APPLICATION IS NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS A CONTRACT OR SUBGRANT AWARD. Once the selection is confirmed, a final subgrant agreement will be negotiated and signed with the successful respondent, subject to prime funder approval, environmental clearances, and successful vetting of eligibility.

6.0 Inquiries:
All questions regarding this RFA should be directed via email to ID-Media@Internews.org with your organization’s name in the Subject.

7.0 Attachments:
1. Expression of Interest Form (link)