



# United States Institute of Peace

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## Communication for Peacebuilding – Priority Grant Competition

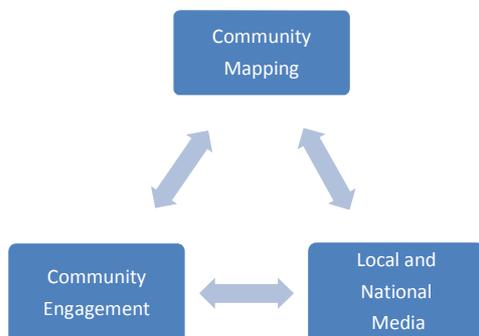
### *Call for Proposals: Participatory Digital Mapping, Local Media, and Community Engagement*

#### Background

In 2011, the United States Institute of Peace launched the **Communication for Peacebuilding** priority grant competition (CfP). The program will support innovative practice and research designed to increase understanding of how communication flows and communication technology can best be leveraged to improve the practice of peacebuilding. The CfP initiative is based on the premise that because communication is fundamental to peacebuilding, the nature of communication flows within and around conflict has a significant impact on the practice of peacebuilding. The CfP program does not have a geographic focus, and applicants in all countries and regions are welcome to apply.

#### Call for Proposals

Participatory digital mapping efforts have facilitated information sharing and timely responses in conflict situations. For mapping initiatives to have a greater peacebuilding impact, however, they must be linked to broader communication flows, including to local media and community actors. Such linkages enable more effective information gathering and also increase the likelihood that mapping data can be used to manage conflict and engage in peacebuilding at the community level.



The focus of this year's Communication for Peacebuilding solicitation is to support projects that strengthen the impact of participatory digital mapping initiatives by using local media and community organizations to increase information input from affected populations and information use by relevant peacebuilding actors.

Grants may support either “stand-alone” projects or projects that form a portion of wider conflict management initiatives. Proposed projects can include:

- Pilot and proof-of-concept programming.
- Evaluation and assessment of current and past programming.
- Consultations and capacity building to understand, leverage, and strengthen information flows.
- Action research and other forms of reflective practice.

This list is not exhaustive, and we welcome other creative ideas.

### **Proposal Guidance**

Stronger project proposals:

- Will articulate not just how the project will support a mapping tool, but how the project builds sustainable linkages and strengthens information flows that contribute to peacebuilding outcomes.
- Will understand and work with the dynamic relationship between sender, message, medium, receiver, and context.
- Will demonstrate capability to engage communities, including through the use of local media, and capability to engage with relevant local actors that can catalyze substantive change.
- Will have organizational capacity and personnel who are based in the countries where the grant funds are being applied.
- Will demonstrate skills and capacity in relevant mapping, mobile, and web technologies.
- Will demonstrate an awareness of possible risks and security challenges, as well as strategies to mitigate them.

## Eligibility

All U.S. and foreign non-profit organizations and universities are eligible to apply for funding, although preference will be given to applicants who can demonstrate a presence in the area in which the project will be implemented. Support cannot be provided to government agencies or to individuals working for government agencies.

Current USIP grantees are not eligible to apply. Individuals who are currently working as USIP contractors may not be eligible to apply for grant support depending on the nature of the contract.

Projects in all regions and countries will be considered. The Communication for Peacebuilding program does not have a geographic focus.

To determine eligibility prior to submitting an application, please email Elizabeth Murray at [emurray@usip.org](mailto:emurray@usip.org).

## How to Apply

This Call for Proposals involves a mandatory two-step application process. The first step in the process is to submit a 3-page concept note. There is no form or specified format for the concept note. The note should describe the proposed project, including a clear description of the goals and the activities that will be implemented. Please also describe the qualifications of the organization and the project team. Please pay attention to the “Proposal Guidance” section above when developing your concept note.

**Concept notes must be submitted by April 6, 2012 by email to [cfp@usip.org](mailto:cfp@usip.org). At the top of the concept note and within the body of the email, please provide the name of the contact person, the name of the implementing organization and the email address of the contact person.**

For concept notes that receive a positive evaluation, applicants will be contacted and asked to submit a full proposal.

### Timeline

- Submission of Concept Notes: April 6, 2012 (5:00pm Eastern Standard Time)
- Request for full proposals: No later than April 13, 2012
- Full proposals due: May 8, 2012
- Funding decision: June 30, 2012
- Initiation of projects: August 2012

This timeline is subject to change.

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## **Funding**

Contingent on available funding, current plans for this solicitation envision:

- Total funding: \$200,000
- Number of projects funded: 3-5
- Grant range: \$40,000-\$60,000

Final decisions regarding funding will be made by the United States Institute of Peace Board of Directors.

If you have any questions, please email Elizabeth Murray at [emurray@usip.org](mailto:emurray@usip.org).

## **About The United States Institute of Peace**

The United States Institute of Peace (USIP) is an independent, nonpartisan organization created and funded by Congress. Through its work the Institute provides the analysis, training, and tools that help to prevent, manage, and end violent international conflicts, promote stability and professionalize the field of peacebuilding.

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