LEAD Nigeria

Request for Applications (RFA)
Round 2

Grants to Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

RFA Number: LEAD # 0004
RFA Issue Date: Thursday, 7th May 2015
Application Submission Closing Date: Monday 1st June 2015
Application Submission Closing Time: 12:00 NOON (Nigeria Time)

The Leadership, Empowerment, Advocacy, and Development (LEAD) is a five year project that seeks to improve local governance, access to quality basic education and improve health services in Nigeria. LEAD Nigeria, initiated and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), is implemented by RTI International and its partners. Currently, the project implementation is in Bauchi, Sokoto and Rivers States.

LEAD Nigeria project is seeking applications from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to implement and achieve the project goal. In LEAD extension period of performance (November 12, 2014 to June 30, 2016), the main goal of the project is to create a sustained momentum towards improved local governance with impact on services delivery in health, basic education, water and sanitation. To achieve this goal, the LEAD Project works to achieve the following three objectives:

Objective 1: Strengthening the Capacity of Local Governments and Increasing Transparency of Local Government Operations.
Objective 2: Increased capacity of Local Organizations
Objective 3: Improving Access to Basic Education and Reading and Strengthening the Health System.

Local Government ‘Champions’: While all Local Government Authorities (LGAs) in targeted States will benefit from LEAD’s assistance in the long run, however, as part of roll-out of activities, the under-listed LGA ‘Champions’ are the current beneficiaries of the project in Rivers state-
Akuku-Toru, Khana and Okrika: in the second phase of the project, the target LGAs are Asari-Toru, Ahoada East, Ahoada West, Abua Oдуal, Andoni, Bonny, Degema, Emohua, Eleme, Etche, Ikwerre, Obio-Akpor, Opobo, Ogba-Egbema Ndoni, Oyigbo, Okrika, Ogu-Bolo, Gokana, Port Harcourt and Tai.

**Award Information:** A total of six sub-awards will be awarded under this grant, with each grant estimated between 8 Million – 15 Million Naira per organization for the grant period. The grant performance period is estimated at 10 months, running from July 2015 to April 2016.

In applying, interested organizations should provide a technical response to the illustrative activities and introduce innovative initiatives in accordance with the program focus. Supporting budget proposals must include unit costs relevant to activity proposed. Applicant Organization should submit **ONLY ONE** technical application and supporting budget for program implementation in the local governments of targeted states below.

**Eligibility Criteria:** LEAD seeks applications from Civil Society Organizations with capacity to work in the aforementioned ‘Champion’ LGAs. This is a full and open competition, under which any CSOs meeting the eligibility criteria can apply. To be eligible, CSOs applying must:

- Be Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) registered with the state or legally registered in Nigeria.
- Be resident and operational in either of the two target states and also be willing to implement local governance, health support and basic education service activities in one or more of the LGAs indicated above.
- Provide audited financial statements for the last two financial years.
- Provide contact information for at least three (3) partners (donors, government department, private entities and or other organization) with whom the applicant has worked in the last three (3) years, in the implementation of a similar program.
- Provide their Applications in the specified templates and formats.

Please download the full details of this RFA announcement including eligibility and evaluation information, application instructions and templates at [www.rti.org/rfp](http://www.rti.org/rfp). To request for fillable forms please send an email to cso@lead.rti.org.

All questions concerning this RFA must be submitted in writing to cso@lead.rti.org by Monday, 18th May 2015, 4.00pm Nigeria Time. Questions sent to any other email will not be answered. Responses to the questions will be posted on [www.rti.org/rfp](http://www.rti.org/rfp) on or around Monday, 25th May 2015.