



USAID | **MACEDONIA**
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

USAID FY 2015 Disability Funding Clarification Meeting

January 15, 2016

General Overview of FY 2015 Disability Funding

- Initiated by USAID's Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance
- Global competition
- Total available funding - \$6 million
- Awards (Subject to Availability of Funds):
 - small fund programs, \$4.2 million, awards from \$150,000 to \$300,000; and
 - large fund programs, \$1.8 million, awards from \$300,000 to \$600,000over a 12 – 36 month period.

What are we looking for?

Applications for projects that:

- Increase the participation of people with disabilities in new or existing USAID programs/activities; and/or
- Strengthen and the capacity and leadership of disabled persons' organizations (DPOs)

Areas of Interest

Proposed projects should reflect the most pressing needs in the country and/or align with **USAID/Macedonia** Strategic Framework, which document is part of the RFA package and can be found at www.grants.gov.

The projects should be guided by the values and provisions set forth by the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The mission encourages projects that also highlight the needs of marginalized groups such as the Roma or LGBTI.

Who is eligible to apply?

Qualified U.S. or Macedonian entities, such as private, non-profit organizations (or for-profit companies willing to forego profits), including:

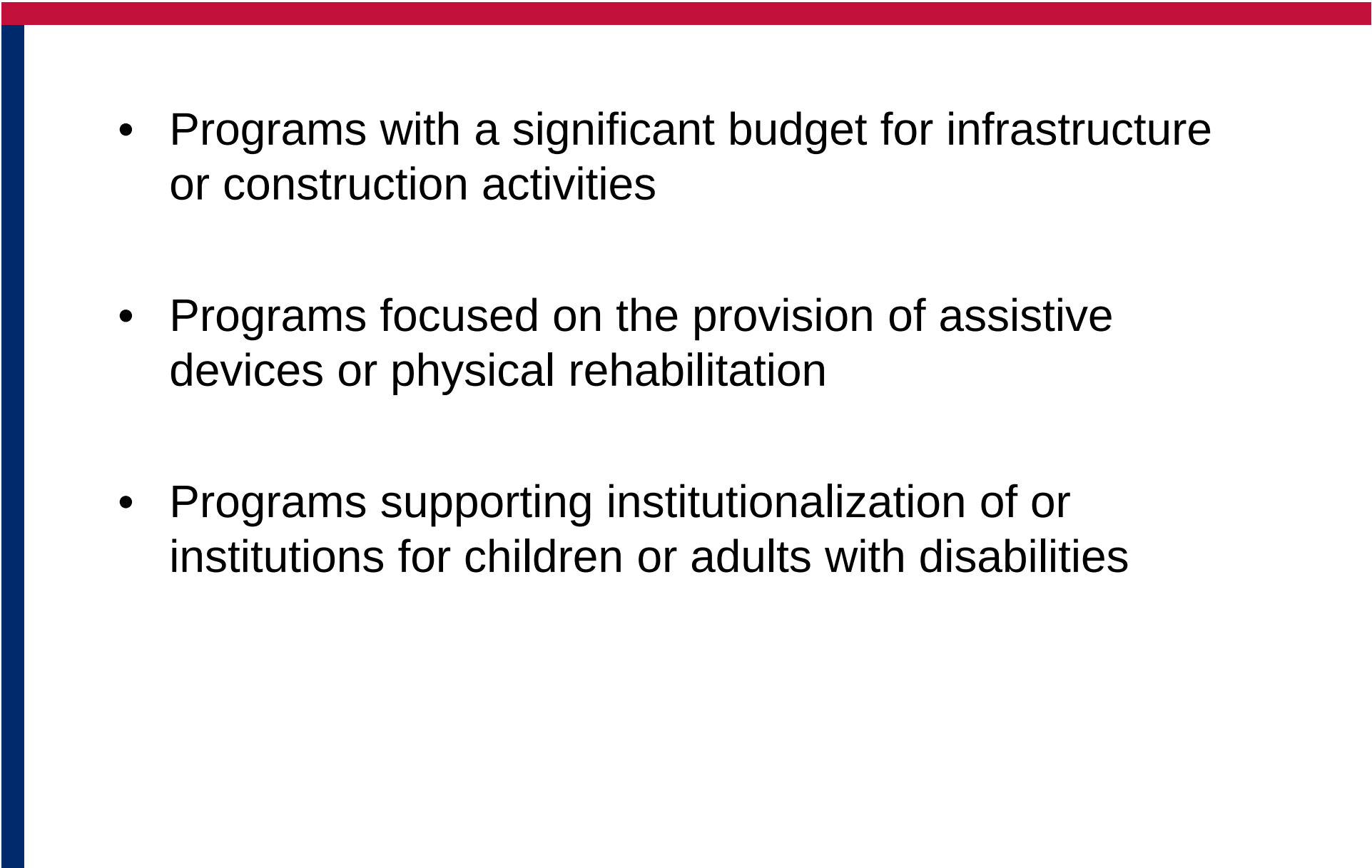
- private voluntary organizations,
- universities,
- research organizations,
- professional associations, and
- relevant special interest associations.

Local Disabled People Organizations (DPOs) are strongly encouraged to apply.

Who is eligible to apply?

- Non-DPOs applying for funds must include in their application letter(s) of signed support from local DPOs they wish to partner with for the purpose of the project.
- All applicants must be legally recognized organizational entities under applicable law.
- Public International Organizations (Foreign Public Entities) are not eligible to apply for funding under this program (such as UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, Council of Europe...)
- Applications from individuals **will not** be accepted.

Activities and Programs Excluded



- Programs with a significant budget for infrastructure or construction activities
- Programs focused on the provision of assistive devices or physical rehabilitation
- Programs supporting institutionalization of or institutions for children or adults with disabilities

Activities and Programs Excluded

- Employment programs promoting sheltered workshops or income generating activities that perpetuate negative stereotypes of people with disabilities and that do not provide for meaningful employment
- Programs with a primary focus on awareness raising

DCHA/DRG disability funding may not be used to support HIV/AIDS-related activities.

Award process

Step 1:

- Applicants submit their application/concept paper by completing the Required Application Format.
(Submissions made using other formats may not be considered.)
- Applications must not be longer than **fifteen pages** (plus 1 pg. cover letter)
- Applications should be sent electronically to Rade Knezevic at e-mail rknezevic@usaid.gov and Albert Rexhepi at email arexhepi@usaid.gov
- Deadline – **February 8, 2016**, 12:00 noon, Skopje Time

Award process

Step 1:

- USAID/Macedonia reviews concept papers and selects the best concepts to submit to Washington
 - No more than 2 small fund concepts and 1 large fund concept.
- **Non-conforming concept papers will not be reviewed**
- Direct submissions of concept papers or applications from applicants to USAID/Washington will not be considered.

Award process

Step 2:

- The Regional Contracting Office (RCO) notifies both the unsuccessful applicants and shortlisted applicants of the status of their applications.
- USAID/Washington determines which concepts they will receive funding.

Step 3:

- RCO requests full applications for those concepts chosen for funding.
- Negotiation and agreement of terms

USAID/Macedonia concept paper evaluation criteria

- How likely the concept paper/application will be chosen to receive funding considering the USAID/Washington review criteria.
- How realistic are the preliminary proposed costs to implement the concept.

Washington concept paper evaluation criteria

- Represents a pressing need in country and/or demonstrates a clear linkage with USAID Mission priorities
- Sound technical approach and likely to contribute to sustainable and institutional change
- Substantial involvement of and direct benefit to persons with disabilities
- Thoughtful integration of gender equality and women's empowerment
- Sound monitoring, evaluation and opportunities for learning

The relative importance of the above criteria is aligned in descending order, i.e. criterion 1 being the most important and criterion 5 being the less important.

Monitoring & Evaluation, and Learning

Sound monitoring, evaluation and opportunities for learning:

- The proposed project includes relevant and meaningful indicators to measure success in meeting the stated objectives, and realistic targets
- At the very least, 3-5 illustrative indicators should be provided.
- The proposed project should also demonstrate how project learning will be captured and shared with a broad audience, including USAID.

Monitoring & Evaluation

EXAMPLES OF GOOD INDICATORS:

- Increase participation of people with disabilities in new or existing USAID programs
 - Number of people with disabilities participating in activities (output)
 - Percentage of youth with disabilities with increased employability skills (outcome)
- Strengthen and support Disabled Persons Organizations (DPOs)
 - Number of internal organizational processes improved (output)
 - Number of actions implemented as a result of DPO networking (output)
 - (OPI) Organizational Performance Index (outcome):
 - o Effectiveness
 - o Efficiency
 - o Relevance
 - o Sustainability

Monitoring & Evaluation

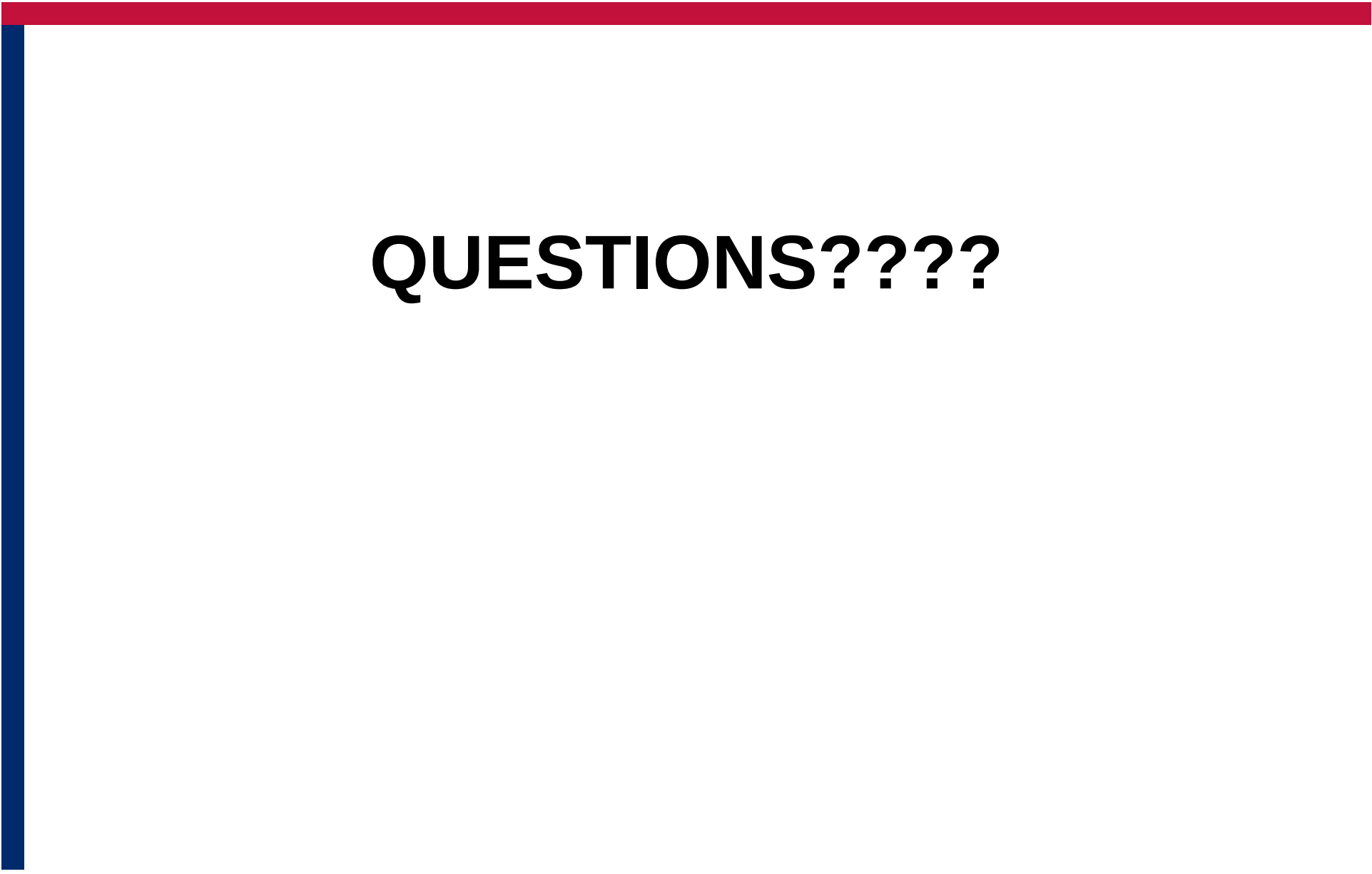
Output/Outcome	Indicators	Targets	Frequency
Objective 1: Increased participation of people with disabilities			
Increased activism of PwD	# of people with disabilities that are active	45	Quarterly
Better prepared youth for employment	% of youth with disabilities with increased skills	70/120 = 58.3%	Annually
Objective 2: Strengthen and support Disabled Persons Organizations			
Increased capacity of DPO	# of internal processes improved	5	Annually
Objective 3: ?			

What makes a good concept paper?

- **Follows application directions.**
- Addresses an unmet need.
- There are well-defined objectives and achievable deliverables.
- Gender is addressed.

What makes a good concept paper?

- The timeline of activities is realistic.
- The budget is realistic and isn't largely devoted to salaries of staff.
- People with disabilities play an active role both in the design and the implementation of the project.
- Indicators are measurable and on the outcome and not just output level.



QUESTIONS????