NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPRTUNITY

Tun Mustapha Park Enforcement Assessment and Follow-on Activities

Funding Opportunity Title: Tun Mustapha Park Enforcement Assessment and Follow-on Activities
Funding Opportunity Number: S-MY300-16-GR-TMP
CFDA Number: 19.040
Funding Amount: $250,000.00, single award
Application Deadline: July 30, 2016

Summary:

The Public Affairs Section of the U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur requests proposals from non-profit organizations interested in a grant award to develop a compliance assessment and conduct training and methods pilot projects for the newly-gazetted Tun Mustapha Park in northern Sabah state, Malaysia for delivery in early 2017. The budget for the proposal should be no greater than $250,000 U.S. Dollars.

Background:

After nearly 13 years of consultation, strategic planning and negotiation, the Malaysian Government established Tun Mustapha Park (TMP) in May 2016 measuring more than 1 million hectares with more than 50 islands and islets. The park, located off the northern tip of Sabah Province in Borneo, contains the second largest concentration of coral reefs in Malaysia as well as other important habitats like mangroves, sea grass beds and productive fishing grounds.

The park is pioneering a mixed-use approach to marine conservation, where local communities and the fishing industry can continue to fish in designated zones they themselves have helped select in consultation with Malaysia’s Sabah Parks department and NGOs including the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), which has helped spearhead the project. This is vital in an area that generates approximately 100 tons of catch per day.

Tun Mustapha Park is the largest marine protected area and the first multiple-use park in Malaysia. It will be managed in collaboration with local communities to protect marine and coastal ecosystems as well as to manage the rich resources contained within it.

Unfortunately, the proposed Tun Mustapha Park, home to 250 species of hard corals and approximately 360 species of fish as well as endangered green turtles and dugongs, has not escaped the prevailing environmental issues affecting other areas in the world. It is under threat from habitat degradation and overfishing (including fish bombing and the use of sodium cyanide), that if left unchecked, will leave the area impoverished in marine biodiversity and depleted of fisheries resources.
There is an urgent need for a sustainable management approach to preserve existing biodiversity and to allow depleted fish stocks and damaged coral to recover.

**Funding Opportunity:**

American and local NGO’s are invited to submit a proposal to develop an assessment for a cost effective compliance system for the Tun Mustapha Park placing special emphasis on protection of no-take zones and management of fisheries. The budget for the proposal should be no greater than $250,000 U.S. Dollars.

Length of grant will be for one year to accommodate the follow-on activities.

**Program Objectives:**

Specific objectives include:

1. Develop a practical compliance strategy based on interviews of local enforcement actors, non-government entities, fishers, analysis of existing co-management strategies and one or more comprehensive site visit.
2. Prioritize a series of recommendations to optimize patrol strategies/costs as well as increase detection efficacy using electronic monitoring systems (EMS). The final report will include a holistic compliance system approach and design including:
   a. potential technologies,
   b. Vessel requirements,
   c. community engagement, outreach, and education;
   d. human resource requirements, including training, energy supply needs; and
   e. an overall cost estimate.
3. Based on recommendations accepted by the relevant TMP management authorities develop and implement initial compliance-related training and compliance methods pilot projects, including up to $50,000 to pilot best fit, low-cost compliance infrastructure, equipment and technologies.

**Application Information:**

The recipient is responsible for the conception and structure of the assessment, and training and methods pilot projects. Proposals must provide a detailed and comprehensive narrative describing the objectives of the assessment and address their experience and expertise in the technical aspects of this work, including work in geographies that would applicable to marine compliance in Southeast Asia. Overall, proposals will be reviewed on the basis of their responsiveness to the criteria listed below, as well as coherence, clarity, and attention to detail.

**Proposal Requirements:**

Applicants should include the following in the proposal submission. All submissions must be in English.
• Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424): https://eca.state.gov/files/bureau/sf424_0.pdf
• a description of the work to be performed with respect to each of the criteria
• information about the team of people who would execute the work, with descriptions of the experiences and skills of each and his/her role in the bidder’s organization and in the team
• a management plan for the work
• a schedule for the work
• a detailed budget, including identification matching funds
• administrative costs as low and reasonable as possible
• description of experience in and/or ties with organizations in other Southeast Asian countries, or international expertise.

Eligible Applicants:

Eligibility is limited to U.S. non-profit/nongovernmental organizations subject to section 501 (c) (3) of the U.S. tax code, L3Cs, foreign non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and public international organizations.

Technically eligible submissions are those which: 1) arrive electronically to www.grants.gov by the designated deadline; 2) have heeded all instructions contained in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO); and 3) do not violate any of the guidelines stated in the solicitation and this document.

Cost Share:

Cost share is not required for this application.

Unique entity identifier (DUNS) and System for Award Management (SAM):

Each applicant (unless the applicant is an individual or Federal awarding agency that is excepted from those requirements under 2 CFR §25.110(b) or (c), or has an exception approved by the Federal awarding agency under 2 CFR §25.110(d)) is required to: (i) Be registered in SAM before submitting its application; (ii) provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application; and (iii) continue to maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or plan under consideration by a Federal awarding agency. The Federal awarding agency may not make a Federal award to an applicant until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant.
In addition, if the organization plans any sub-awards, those subrecipients must also have a unique entity identifier (DUNS) number. (See Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) for list of exceptions, and definition of subaward and subrecipient.)

No entity listed on the Excluded Parties List System in SAM is eligible for any assistance or can participate in any activities in accordance with the OMB guidelines at 2 CFR 180 that implement Executive Orders 12549 (3 CFR Part 1986 Comp., p. 189) and 12689 (3 CFR Part 1989 Comp., p. 235).

An exemption from this requirement may be permitted on a case-by-case basis if:
1. An applicant is a foreign organization located outside of the U.S., does not currently have a UEI, and the Department determines that acquiring one is impractical given the geographic location; or
2. If the applicant’s identity must be protected due to possible endangerment of their mission, their organization’s status, their employees, or individuals being served by the applicant.

Review and Selection Process:

PAS Kuala Lumpur will assemble a Department of State panel to review quality of project idea, project planning, ability to achieve objectives/institutional capacity, and inclusive programming.

Review Criteria:

Quality of Project Idea: Proposals should be responsive to the solicitation, appropriate in the Sabah context, and should exhibit substance, technical competence, precision, and relevance to objectives.

Project Planning: A strong proposal will include a clear articulation of how the proposed project activities and expected results (both outputs and outcomes) contribute to specific project objectives and the overall project goal. Objectives should be ambitious, yet measurable, results-focused, and achievable in a reasonable time frame.

Ability to Achieve Objectives/Institutional Capacity: The proposal should address how the project will engage relevant stakeholders and should identify local partners as appropriate. If local partners are identified, prospective applicants should describe the division of labor among the prospective applicant and any local partners. The proposal should outline how Department of State funds will be matched or leveraged to expand the scope and continuity of the proposed project.

Proposals will be measured as follows:
• U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur performs an initial review to make sure proposals meet eligibility requirements and analyze the proposal against each of the criteria noted above.
• If the proposal passes that review, a panel of Department of State employees reviews the proposals and selects a winner.

Application Submission:

There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this deadline. For further information regarding this program or the competition, please contact Frank Whitaker at U.S. Embassy Kuala Lumpur, PublicAffairsKL@state.gov