

2005 Grants

Africa: 7 projects

Name of Organization: Mississippi Consortium for International Development

Location: Jackson, Mississippi

Subject: Strengthening Democratic Governance

Under this grant, the Mississippi Consortium for International Development (MCID) will conduct a multi-phased exchange program to strengthen democratic governance in three Nigerian states (Kaduna, Kano, Katsina). Activities will include in-country workshops that will bring lawmakers, executive branch officials and civil society representatives together to enhance their capacity to build alliances in support of high impact legislation; a U.S. study tour consisting of representatives from the three Nigerian states, including civil society leaders; the formation of state-to-state partnerships between three U.S. states and their Nigerian counterparts participating in this program; and in-country capacity building training and technical assistance to build the capacity of lawmakers and civil society representatives in monitoring and evaluating successes achieved.

Country(ies): Nigeria

Region: Africa

U.S. State: Mississippi

Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: National Council of State Legislatures

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Accountability to Constituents in African Parliaments

The National Council of State Legislatures (NCSL) will conduct a one-year exchange program between members of parliament and staff from seven French-speaking African countries (Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Senegal) and U.S. state legislators and legislative staff. The program will focus on how a legislature serves a population diverse in religion, ethnicity, educational levels or socio-economics, and it will demonstrate to the African parliamentary members and staff how legislators in the U.S. are open and accessible to diverse groups in society and how these groups engage the legislature. Activities will include: (1) two two-week U.S. study tours for African parliament members and staff; (2) a two-week African study tour for U.S. legislators and staff culminating in a regional forum for the African counterparts; and (3) a workshop on the role of parliamentary staff in facilitating the representation of social diversity to parliamentarians and the political process.

Country(ies): Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal

Region: Africa

U.S. State: Washington, DC
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: Southern Illinois University

Location: Carbondale, Illinois

Subject: African Media Promoting Transparency in Government

Southern Illinois University (SIU) will conduct a five-stage exchange program with Uganda, Kenya and Ethiopia on the promotion of transparency in government through quality journalism. Activities include travel to the U.S. by 16 African journalists, journalism educators, government officials and leaders of NGOs to participate in workshops and media visits in Carbondale, Chicago and Washington, DC, and travel to East Africa by nine Americans to conduct large-scale workshops.

Country(ies): Uganda, Kenya, and Ethiopia
Region: Africa
U.S. State: Illinois
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance and Media

Name of Organization: League of Women Voters

Location: Washington, DC

Subject: Developing Democracy & Governance in Kenya

The League of Women Voters Education Fund (LWVEF), in partnership with the National Council of the Women of Kenya (NCWK), will conduct a grassroots level exchange designed to promote good governance in Kenya by strengthening accountability and transparency in government institutions and by building trust among civil society, government and members of parliament. The first phase of the program will bring Kenyans to the U.S. to observe the way local government and civil society interact. Activities will include meetings with elected members of the U.S. Congress and key staff, Executive Branch officials, representatives of local professional associations, and national civil society organization leaders; teaming with a member of the Lobby Corps for a day of lobbying on Capitol Hill; and shadowing an elected official and a member of a national civil society organization. In the second phase, LWVEF member-professionals will travel to Kenya to participate in a series of small meetings throughout the country to discuss the importance of good governance.

Country(ies): Kenya
Region: Africa
U.S. State: Washington, DC
Theme(s): Democracy & Governance

Name of Organization: Altadena Rotary Charities
Location: Altadena, California
Subject: Promoting Informational Technology and Entrepreneurial Training in Healthcare Services

The Altadena Rotary Charities will provide information technology and entrepreneurial training for Zambian youth, plus guidance in using these skills to develop healthcare services and IV/AIDS prevention efforts. Local Rotary clubs in California and Zambia, as well as Junior Achievement-Zambia, will assist in implementing the project. Activities include IT training of Zambian youth in California and Zambia; development of new print and electronic curricula on using IT in healthcare services; exchanges of participants between the U.S. and Zambia; and assistance to trained youth in getting relevant jobs.

Country(ies): Zambia
Region: Africa
U.S. State: California
Theme(s): Health

Name of Organization: WSOS Community Action Commission
Location: Fremont, Ohio
Subject: Promoting Capacity Building in Tanzania

WSOS Community Action Commission will provide professional capacity building for two delegations of five Tanzanians each. Participants will receive a 20-day study tour experience in northwest Ohio, including workshops, round-table discussion, site visits to regional business and business associations, individual meeting with entrepreneurs, mentoring and interaction with U.S. partners in both urban and rural areas. The 15-day out-bound component includes two teams of five Americans each who will organize three workforce development workshops in Tanzania and will participate in professional events and provide consultations and assistance with follow-on projects.

Country(ies): Tanzania
Region: Africa
U.S. State: Ohio
Theme(s): Business

Name of Organization: Washington State University
Location: Pullman, Washington

Subject: Developing Information Technology and Entrepreneurial Training in Rwandan Secondary Schools

Washington State University's (WSU) Center to Bridge the Digital Divide (CBDD) will develop information technology and entrepreneurial training at five secondary schools in Rwanda, working with the Rwandan Ministry of Education, Science, Technology and Research. The grant builds on work initiated by CBDD earlier this year and will include travel to WSU by Rwandan stakeholders to learn on-site about WSU/CBDD activities, especially its training modules, and travel to Rwanda by a WSU team to assist with training there.

Country(ies): Rwanda
Region: Africa
U.S. State: Washington
Theme(s): Business