

World Learning



World Learning partners with USAID to streamline the health grants process and make grant administration more efficient, affordable, and flexible.



Photo by Andrew Tibbs

Grants Solicitation and Management Programs

Strengthening communities to drive positive social change

World Learning Grants Solicitation and Management (GSM) programs support sustainable change by helping individuals and communities harness and enhance their full potential.

GSM manages the grants process in health sectors including family planning, HIV/AIDS, maternal and child health, and infectious disease control. GSM also supports community-based service delivery, training, and related activities, including an ongoing major project to improve the health and well-being of populations including displaced children and orphans, war victims, and victims of torture through USAID's Special Programs to Aid the Needs of Survivors (SPANS).

In partnering with the USAID Bureau for Global Health and Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance Office of Democracy and Governance, World Learning assumes full responsibility for grant solicitation, review, award, management, monitoring, and close-out phases. GSM also partners with USAID Missions on any aspect of the grant-making process. Additionally, GSM provides trainings, workshops, and direct technical assistance to NGOs on topics including technical and financial training in grants management, administrative/finance capacity-building assessments, performance monitoring plans, and customized, longer-term technical assistance to grantees. A core priority is to keep costs low and provide the best value to USAID.

Tapping nearly two decades of experience implementing USAID funded sub-grant programs, GSM has managed grants to US private voluntary organizations and local nongovernmental

organizations on behalf of USAID and USAID Missions with activities in more than 30 countries around the world. GSM has developed extensive tools and procedures for effective management of grants, including a grants management database, and has field staff based in Ethiopia and Madagascar.

How World Learning GSM Benefits USAID

- Simplified grant solicitation and management process
- Reduced administrative/management burdens
- Involvement in application reviews and grantee selection as desired
- Optional capacity-building technical assistance for grantee organizations
- Delegated monitoring of grantee compliance and reporting
- Flexible levels of grant/grantee supervision
- Cost-efficient and comprehensive support

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How World Learning GSM Benefits Grantees

- Expedient cash-flow process through the provision of advances or prompt cost reimbursement
- Technical support on compliance with USAID and US government regulations
- Organizational capacity-building services
- Technical assistance to ensure proper funds management and reporting

Special Programs to Aid the Needs of Survivors (SPANS)

USAID awarded World Learning a \$43 million Cooperative Agreement in August 2008 to implement grants solicitation and management for Special Programs to Aid the Needs of Survivors (SPANS). The five-year program supports service delivery, training, and related activities to improve the health and well-being of populations including displaced children and orphans, war victims, and victims of torture.

World Learning administers the SPANS grant-making process from start to finish—from identifying potential grantees and soliciting applications to monitoring project implementation and through closeout. World Learning will also organize periodic meetings and produce a variety of publications to promote and communicate the SPANS projects.

World Learning awards grants on behalf of USAID's Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance Office of Democracy and Governance, providing grants in thematic areas including:

- **Wheelchair** provision, including research, testing and developing international standards



Photo by Andrew Tibbs

- **Displaced Children and Orphans Fund** grants to prevent inappropriate institutionalization of children; assist formerly institutionalized children to integrate into communities; work with ministries to develop appropriate child protection methods; provide emergency child protection measures in conflict situations; and promote early childhood development for vulnerable children
- **War Victims Fund/Disabilities** grants to improve data and information about the use and utility of prosthetic and orthotic devices and physical therapy in rehabilitation; provide vocational training and economic strengthening activities for people with disabilities; and strengthen disabled people's organizations
- **Victims of Torture** grant support for activities that fit with the overall SPANS GSM objective of improved health for vulnerable populations

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World Learning, a nonprofit education, training, and exchange provider, works globally to enhance the capacity and commitment of individuals, institutions, and communities to create a more peaceful and just world. Founded in 1932, World Learning runs international development programs, study abroad, and graduate education in more than 70 countries, with participants from more than 140 countries. Development priorities include civil society and governance, education, HIV/AIDS, international exchange, and capacity development and training. US-based in Washington, DC, and Vermont, the organization has annual operating revenues exceeding \$100 million.

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