



# CAP

Capable Partners Program

## Why CAP?

CAP's unique features include:

**C**ompetitively-awarded LWA by USAID/Washington; no additional competition needed to execute Associate Awards under CAP

**A**ssistance to Missions to design programs for Associate Awards

**P**roven methodologies for institutional strengthening and sustainability

**A**ssociate Awards may be executed until 7/31/08 and continue through 7/31/13

**B**road sector expertise in health, democracy and governance, conflict mitigation, and others

**L**everaging of CAP's core-funded work in Advocacy, M&E and Public-Private Partnerships, as well as the CAP Web portal, NGOConnect.NET

**E**ngagement of any local or international partner organization

# Capable Partners Program

## What is CAP?

The Capable Partners Program (CAP) is a USAID Leader with Associates (LWA) Cooperative Agreement to strengthen the organizational and technical capacities and sustainability of NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, networks, and intermediate support organizations (ISOs).

CAP works with Missions to design and implement interventions that are adapted to local contexts and based on proven approaches. CAP's Associate Awards mechanism may be used across the full range of technical sectors.

## CAP's Programmatic Objectives:

- Strengthening the operational and technical capacity of local NGOs, networks and ISOs;
- Enhancing linkages among local organizations such as NGOs, cooperatives, networks, governments, and businesses;
- Increasing the capacity of NGOs, networks, and ISOs to engage in advocacy for key policies or programs; and
- Disseminating tested innovations, best practices, and lessons learned.

## Associate Awards

The CAP Cooperative Agreement was competitively awarded by USAID/Washington. Therefore, Associates Awards may be executed under CAP with no further competition, making procurements significantly easier. Associate Awards may be made through July 31, 2008 and may run for an additional five years through July 31, 2013.

Each Associate Award is designed with the sponsoring Mission or operating unit, which designates its own CTO.

Examples of CAP Associate Awards:

- USAID/Kenya and USAID/Mozambique PEPFAR-funded Small Grants and Institutional Strengthening Programs
- USAID/Mexico Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Shelter Program
- USAID/Liberia NGO Strengthening and Democracy Promotion Program
- USAID/Washington Conflict-Sensitive Monitoring and Evaluation Workshop
- USAID/Ghana and USAID/Sudan Advocacy Skills and Capacity Building Programs

## Core-funded Activities

CAP's core-funded activities include training programs, customized technical assistance, small grants programs, a Web portal, and a learning agenda.

1. Training Series: Eighteen-month training programs for local NGOs and networks to build technical capacity and depth in: **Advocacy, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Public-Private Partnerships.**
2. NGO Institutional Strengthening: Customized technical assistance and training is provided to meet priority needs for organizational development.
3. Small Grants Programs: **Innovation Grants** support the development of NGO networks; **Action Grants** provide follow-on support for selected organizations participating in core training.
4. Interactive, Electronic Web Portal: **NGOConnect.NET** provides a forum for communities to exchange information, share best practices, build linkages, and participate in distance learning, as well as an **online library.**
5. Learning Agenda: Research and publications, including NGO network case studies, and organizational assessment and strengthening tools.

## Expertise

CAP works in a variety of country contexts and is designed to support activities in any technical sector – or across sectors – to integrate organizational development into technical programs. CAP's extensive experience in sectors such as health, economic development, democracy and governance, and conflict mitigation allow for a broad scope of work and wide range of potential activities. Sample activities include:

**Advocacy**—designing a program to train organizations to create, implement and monitor action plans for specific advocacy campaigns.

**Monitoring and Evaluation**—training NGOs to develop, use and report on M&E indicators specific to anti-trafficking programming.

**Training**—facilitating a training series for HIV/AIDS-related NGOs on financial management and resource diversification.

**Technical Assistance**—working with USAID to design and implement country-specific or regional NGO-strengthening programs.

**Grants Management**—designing and implementing small grants programs to support the institutional strengthening of civil society organizations dedicated to helping HIV/AIDS orphans and vulnerable children.

**Public-Private Partnerships**—developing small grants programs to catalyze public-private partnerships in agribusiness.

**NGO/Government Partnerships**—fostering the development of effective partnerships among NGOs, business and labor organizations, and local governments to enhance economic development.

**Multi-Sectoral Programs**—designing and implementing training programs to create coalitions between education and health NGOs to combat human trafficking.

**Information Technology**— applying IT as a training and education tool for organizations supporting substance abuse and mental health counselors.

## How to Access CAP

- Contact CAP CTO Adele Liskov (aliskov@usaid.gov) to discuss a proposed activity.
- Notify your procurement office.
- Receive e-mail “concurrence” from the CTO.
- Send a program description to CAP Director Barney Singer (bsinger@aed.org).
- Receive back from AED a draft program narrative and budget for discussion and refinement.
- Negotiate an Associate Award cooperative agreement with AED.

## Contacts

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## Partners

CAP is implemented by AED in partnership with Management Systems International (MSI). AED has partnered with the following organizations, which have proven experience in supporting local NGOs and networks across a variety of technical sectors and cross-cutting areas. These organizations and any other local or international partners are accessible through the Associate Awards mechanism.

- Academy for Educational Development
- The Advocacy Institute
- Aga Khan Foundation, U.S.A.
- The American Red Cross
- Citizens Development Corps
- Freedom from Hunger
- Goodwill Industries International
- The Huairou Commission
- Institute for Multi-Track Diplomacy
- International Center for Not-for-Profit Law
- The Kenan Institute
- Management Systems International
- Mercy Corps
- National Cooperative Business Association
- ORT International Cooperation
- Social Impact





CAP is implemented by



Academy for Educational Development

in partnership with



**E-MAIL** [NGOConnect@aed.org](mailto:NGOConnect@aed.org)

**CAP WEB SITE** [NGOConnect.NET](http://NGOConnect.NET)

**AED WEB SITE** [www.aed.org](http://www.aed.org)