

**USIP Pakistan Program**

**Peace Innovation Fund**

**Concept Note**

The Peace Innovation Fund (PIF) supports new, experimental ideas that test creative approaches to peacebuilding in Pakistan. This is a micro-award fund that seeds innovations that are cost effective and have the potential to be expanded, if successful, on a larger scale.

PIF especially focuses on support for social entrepreneurs and small organizations. Typical awardees are grassroots activists, reformers, and social enterprises whose work or ideas ultimately can be sustained through local funding and recognition.

1. **Characteristic of a best PIF project:**

* Local support/Community buy in
* Program can be sustained when USIP funding ends
* Cost-effective and scalable
* Experimental and innovative
* Generates learning and builds capacity for the field of peacebuilding

**Innovative of an idea will be gauged through the following dimensions:**

* 1. New experimental idea that is not tested before
  2. A tested approach with experimental/new tools
  3. A tested approach with gender and other social inclusion considerations
  4. An idea with a creative implementation strategy, project design and efficient human resource

Inclusion considerations:

Gender, minorities, USAID priority regions

**Concept Note Template**

1. **Overview:**

* A brief description of the proposed project
* The specific need / problem that the project will address including information specific to the region / area of implementation
* The objectives (long term impact) the project intends to achieve
* A brief summary of the project’s theory of change (the process by which this project will achieve long term impact).
* Please describe how is this project idea innovative?

1. **Project Design**

* List of activities which will be conducted during the project. Activities must be clear and logically contribute to achieving stated objectives.
* The project’s expected outcomes, or what will have been achieved at the end of the project.
* How will you evaluate / assess project outcomes and the likelihood of long term impact?
* Project’s implementation timeframe
* Project estimated costs (both total cost and the amount requested from USIP in US Dollars).
* A rough budget indicating the breakdown between activities.

1. **About the Applicant:**

* A short statement describing your organization, including its purpose, and registration status.
* Names of project technical leads; their qualification and relevant experience.

Please note that after review of concept notes, only shortlisted applicants will be contacted and invited to submit full grant applications to USIP.