

September 22, 2011

Hello again friends,

Please enjoy this week's edition of the Newsflash. By the end of this Newsflash you should be able to map out potential ideas for a project proposal. You will do this by:

- 1.) Defining a problem within your community.
- 2.) Brainstorming about that problem
- 3.) Hypothesizing causes of the problem
- 4.) Developing solutions to the problem

In addition you will learn that all of these areas are critical to the development of a proposal.

We hope that you enjoy the diagrams, key points, and examples.

We wish you the warmest regards,

The Firelight Team

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(Call for Nominations) UNEP seeks nominations for the 2012 Champions of the Earth Awards

(Call for Submission) Youth from all over the world invited for Essay Competition themed "Visions of Youth on Effective Aid & Development"

(Call for Proposals) Pac Rim on Disability & Diversity seeks innovative proposals for the conference to be held in Hawaii during March, 2012

(Call for Applications) 2021 STARS Impact Awards

(Tutorial) How to define the problem and framework for a project proposal

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(Call for Nominations) UNEP seeks nominations for the 2012 Champions of the Earth Awards

United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) is seeking nominations for the 2012 Champions of the Earth – the United Nations' flagship environment award is aimed at recognizing the outstanding visionaries and leaders in the fields of policy, science, entrepreneurship and civil society action.

Nominations are invited from individuals who have made a significant contribution globally, regionally and beyond, to the protection and sustainable management of the environment and natural resources.

Persons may nominate themselves, their own organizations, or a third party whom they believe should receive recognition. All nominations must be supported by three referees.

Deadline: October 31, 2011

For more go to: <http://www.unep.org/champions/>

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(Call for Submission) Youth from all over the world invited for Essay Competition themed "Visions of Youth on Effective Aid & Development"

Fourth High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness (HLF-4) is going to be held at the Bexco convention centre in Busan, Korea, from 29 November to 1 December 2011. The forum will be attended by ministers from across the globe, from both developing and donor countries, government representatives, parliamentarians, civil society organizations and private sector

representatives.

The forum is expected to be attended by approximately 2000 delegates from around the world who will review global progress in improving the impact and value for money of development aid and make new commitments to further ensure that aid helps reduce poverty and supports progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals.

The HLF-4 presents a unique opportunity for achieving better aid and development through more effective, harmonized cooperation among governments, civil societies and the private sector. This multi-stakeholder event will seek a new vision and strategies for a more effective and inclusive development partnership to meet new development challenges and to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015

In this context, the Government of the Republic of Korea will host the 2011 HLF-4 has announced International Essay Contest as a preparatory event with the purpose of sharing young people's inspiration and vision on aid and development. Young people from around the world are invited to submit their innovative ideas on effective aid and development.

Theme of the Essay Competition is Visions of Youth on Effective Aid & Development

#### Prizes

- 1st Prize – Certificate and Prize of \$ 2,000 1 entrant
- 2nd Prize – Certificate and Prize of \$ 1,000 2 entrants
- 3rd Prize – Certificate and Prize of \$ 200 5 entrants

1st and 2nd prize and 2nd prize winners will be invited to the Youth Forum which will be held during the HLF-4 as one of its special events. (Travel expenses and accommodation will be covered by the Government of Korea).

#### Other Guidelines

- Essays may be submitted by anyone ages between the ages of 18 and 32 (as of December 1, 2011).
- Essays must be 2000 words or less and be in English.
- Essays must be original and unpublished.
- Essays must be written by one person. Co-authored essays will not be accepted.
- Copyright of the essays entered will be assigned to the event organizers.

Deadline: October 7, 2011

For more go to: <http://www.aideffectiveness.org/busanhlf4/en/component/content/article/41-busan-hlf4/496-int>

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(Call for Proposals) Pac Rim on Disability & Diversity seeks innovative proposals for the conference to be held in Hawaii during March, 2012

The Pacific Rim International Conference (Pac Rim) on Disability & Diversity has been widely recognized over the past 27 years as one of the most “diverse gatherings” in the world. The event encourages and respects voices from “diverse” perspective across numerous areas, including: voices from persons representing all disability areas; experiences of family members and supporters across all disability areas; responsiveness to diverse cultural and language differences; evidence of researchers and academics studying disability; stories of persons providing powerful lessons; examples of program providers, natural supports and allies of persons with disabilities and; action plans to meet human and social needs in a globalized world.

Each year the conference hews to its traditional areas which have bred much of the interdisciplinary research and educational advances of the last three decades. But each year new topics are introduced to foment discussion and change. The intent is to harness the tremendous synergy as generated by the intermingling of these diverse perspectives, thus, creating a powerful program which impacts each individual participant in his or her own unique way.

In this context, Pac Rim on Disability & Diversity is seeking proposals for the conference to be held during March 26 & 27, 2012 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

#### Target Audience

Activists, Clinicians, Community Advocates, Community Members, Direct Support Workers, General Public, Paraprofessionals, Parents and Families, Postsecondary Educators, Primary Educators, Professionals, Secondary Educators, Self-Advocates, Technology Experts, Youth

#### Topic Areas

The 2012 Pacific Rim International Conference program design is organized into three broad, thematic, areas. Please click on the areas below for more information on these themes:

**Foundational Program Themes**—This program area or theme refers to those topical areas in which the Center on Disability Studies traditionally has been or is currently engaged in through projects or activities under interdisciplinary training, research, advocacy or service.

**Exploration Program Themes**—This program area of the conference encompasses those topic areas not presently addressed through research or advocacy initiatives at the Center on Disability Studies yet prevail as salient issues important to our diverse communities.

**Innovational Programmatic Themes**—The Pacific Rim Conference planning team knows that as we enter the new millennium, the world is faced with massive challenges as well as opportunities to solve them. This programmatic area is interested in dynamic, creative ideas and sustainable solutions which can be adopted in a society or community, resulting in positive social changes.

#### Presentation Formats

Pac Rim presentations are in seven formats: Poster Presentations, 30-Minute Topical Presentations, 60-Minute Breakout Presentations, 90-Minute Seminar/Colloquium and 120-Minute Interactive Workshop. All papers submitted will be reviewed by the appropriate strand chairs and evaluated on the basis of the submission criteria. The strand chairs will decide the

appropriate format for your submission.

Deadline: December 16, 2011

For more go to: <http://www.pacrim.hawaii.edu/submissions/>

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(Call for Applications) 2021 STARS Impact Awards

Each Impact Award combines US\$100,000 of unrestricted funding with tailored consultancy support and a package of media benefits, offering organisations the flexibility they need to respond to local challenges and plan for the future. Our approach is underpinned by a rigorous selection process, developed with PriceWaterhouseCoopers LLP.

We provide detailed feedback to all applicants and through the data we collect, our understanding of the challenges facing local organisations continues to grow. We share this knowledge at every opportunity.

There are six Impact Awards in total: three Awards for Africa-Middle East and three for Asia-Pacific, across the categories of Health, Education and Protection.

Each Impact Award provides a package of support comprising:

- 1. US\$100,000 of unrestricted funding – Giving recipient organisations the flexibility to respond more effectively to the challenges they face and to the needs of the children they serve
- 2. Tailored consultancy support – Offering recipient organisations access to training or skills and helping them to maximise the benefits of their Award
- 3. Media training, content and access – Providing recipient organisations with the tools and opportunities to use the Award to enhance their profile

This year, thanks to a partnership with the Ashmore Foundation, STARS is able to increase the number of Awards it intends to offer to 14. Of these, 6 Awards are made up of US\$100,000 of unrestricted funding and additional consultancy support (as described above) and the other 8 Awards will range in value from US\$15,000 to US\$60,000.

For more go to: <http://www.starsfoundation.org.uk/impact-awards/>

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(Tutorial) How to define the problem and framework for a project proposal

## **1. How to define the “problem” in a project proposal**

### Defining the Problem

The foremost part of any proposal is to identify and analyze the problem we have seen in your area. Start by writing them down, drawing them out, and brainstorming.

These are the general problems that you may notice in your project area. But simply writing down these problems will not help. We need to be analytical to know why these problems are occurring and then you can arrive at a solution.

We all know that every problem has a cause. We have experienced it in our own life. Similarly, we need to think here before writing the proposal that every problem we see around us has a cause! So we need to know what is causing the problems we see in our communities. This is what it means to be analytical.

## **2. The Framework for NGOs to identify Problems, Causes, Issues & Solutions while writing project proposals**

The below table can become larger as we keep identifying more causes to the causes we have already identified. Once we think that we have arrived to the root of the cause and there is a possible solution that can be applied to it, we can stop and start writing the proposal.

The solution is your idea for the project!

For example set up a table like the one attached to this email.

1. Think of the problem: "A lot of youths are roaming around without any work."
2. Ask why you think this may be happening. Start with the phrase: "A lot of youths are roaming around without any work because...."
3. Brainstorm on the cause of the problem. There may be more than one cause for the problem. For example: " A lot of youths are roaming around without any work because families are unable to afford higher education for youths in the villages."
4. Again ask why. Why are families unable to afford higher education for youths? Your answer begins with "Because."
5. Brainstorm further on the causes. "Families are unable to afford higher education for youths because families lack adequate financial resources to afford higher education for their youths." Again, There may be more than one cause and you should write them down as you analyze further.
6. Finally, we can think about a possible solution to this problem. The solution often takes more creative thinking than generating the problem and the causes. Key ideas are to think of how the solution is empowering not only families but also the community, how the solution will benefit children, and if it is a sustainable idea. For example a possible solution to our proposed problem is "Families can be motivated to increase savings and take credit through microfinance to afford education for their youths."

There are additional examples to explain how to use this tool in the table attached. Remember, there may be more than one cause to a problem, and as your work has shown you, there are many solutions. It is just a matter of determining the right one for your CBO.

## **3. Identifying Beneficiaries**

Another advantage of the framework to identify problems, causes and effects is that it also gives us an idea of the project beneficiaries or targeted audience. A specific target audience

has to be identified and separated in any proposal. It gives a clear understanding for the donor and also for our targeted actions.

In our example proposal, we can identify the following targeted beneficiaries:

- 1) Unemployed and uneducated youths in villages
- 2) Men farmers from poor and disadvantaged groups
- 3) Vulnerable women

For more information about how to define your next project proposal, follow this tutorial at: <http://www.fundsforngos.org/free-resources-for-ngos/how-to-define-problem-in-a-project-proposal/>

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As part of the Firelight Foundation's Capacity Building Program, Firelight provides "Newsflashes" to share relevant resources and information with our active grantee-partners via weekly emails and via post on a monthly basis. We hope that by facilitating access to information for grassroots, community-focused organizations, programming for children and families, as well as organizational development, is enhanced. Past editions of the Firelight Newsflash can be found on our website: <http://www.firelightfoundation.org/newsflash.php>.

We welcome your comments, feedback and ideas for upcoming Newsflashes at [newsletter@firelightfoundation.org](mailto:newsletter@firelightfoundation.org).

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Staff mailing list

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<http://headquarters.firelightfoundation.org/mailman/listinfo/staff>