Proposal:	**TRANS-SAHARA COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIP (TSCTP) BORDER COMMUNITIES ENGAGEMENT PROJECT**
Proposal #:	**RSI-1711**
Funding Requested:	**$2,011,327.00**
Status:	**Regional Review Pending**
Age:	**0 day(s)**
Submit Date:	**24 Apr 2015**

RELEASE IN PART B7(F),B6

Project Owner(s):

	Name	Email	Phone
1.			
2.			
3.			

B6
B7(F)

Project Purpose:

As a component of the TSCTP Border Security Initiative, the TSCTP Border Security Team proposes a Border Community Engagement project. This project will strengthen relationships between law enforcement and communities, build community resilience, and counter violent extremist activity in the Liptako-Gourma border region of Mali, Burkina Faso and Niger. This will be achieved by promoting effective, accountable and responsive border security and management, improved community safety and social cohesion, and alternative livelihoods. Direct communications between border communities and border security providers lead to open, on-going communication and consistent, professional visibility in rural border areas. The project will work to build trust among law enforcement actors and border communities and allow access to the extensive knowledge of community members on cross-border activity. It will help to build resiliency within border communities to counter violent extremist recruitment.

Description of Program Proposed:

This project would be piloted in Liptako-Gourma, an area on the borders of Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger that is vast, under-administrated and suffers from weak border security/management exacerbated by distance from capitals and a challenging security environment. It provides the opportunity for the U.S. to complement a multilateral, comprehensive security and development effort with France, the United Kingdom (UK) Conflict Stability and Security Fund and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) Sahel Initiative. Application of lessons learned would facilitate scale up and replication throughout the region into multi-year programs. Objectives are: 1. Improve communication, trust, collaboration and information sharing between border communities and border security providers. 2. Increase capacity of border security providers through small scale infrastructure, equipment and training. 3. Strengthen community security and conflict management capacity in border areas. 4. Provide youth-at-risk in border areas with alternatives to displacement, criminality and armed violence through capacity building and income generation support. 5. Enable cross-border collaboration and joint efforts among security providers and policy makers. A baseline assessment will examine: working conditions of authorities at border control points and along the border; availability of technical means to

operate border security activities at border control points and along the border; engagement of the regional and local authorities in the border management activities; engagement of the border communities in border management activities and their level of; and, system of coordination and cooperation among border authorities and communities at a national level. Activities could include: Increasing cooperation between communities and border security providers: * Facilitate regular dialogue for the community to better understand the roles and responsibilities of border authorities and for authorities to develop an understanding and familiarity with the community. * Create/institutionalize an anonymous reporting system for illegality/abnormal practices at the border, to fight crime, combat corruption, and strengthen rule of law. Capacity building of border authorities: * Conduct joint trainings for local border authorities from all three countries. Training could include: Community liaison officer skills, conflict analysis and management, human rights, small arms/light weapons management, community engagement and crisis management. * Provide small-scale security sector infrastructure. Enabling cross border collaboration: * Establish links between communities and security providers and across borders to enable cross-border community planning and infrastructure. * Conduct cross-border dialogue to include regional level action planning and a joint operational approach, complemented with policy dialogue at the national level. Improving community safety: * Empower communities to address their own safety/security needs through inclusive and transparent community safety planning that can be articulated to border security providers and government. * Strengthen the capacity of communities and border authorities to conduct community-based conflict and stakeholder mapping to improve understanding of root causes and plan response strategies. * Provide risk education and response training on mines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices to communities and border authorities. Addressing the needs of at-risk youth: * Facilitate dialogues to strengthen inter-generational cohesion and train youth role models in conflict prevention and transformation. Provide youth access to literacy/numeracy courses, entrepreneurship and vocational training and start up kits. * Provide support to community economic infrastructure, livelihoods, capacity building in market linkages and value chain development within border areas.

Specify explicitly how this proposal advances US national security and foreign policy interests:

This project supports CT Bureau's' Proposal Selection Criteria #1 and Criteria #2. It advances CT's Partnership Concept: Sahel Region, as it will contribute to impeding "terrorist transit within the Sahel, especially to and from Libya, through support for (1) enhanced rural border patrol operations by law enforcement agencies; (2) community-oriented and information-led policing approaches with, at, or near border communities." It also advances the January 2014 TSCTP Guiding Strategy in its strategic objective for Border Security: Enhance the capacity of regional governments to survey, patrol, and secure their ground, air, and maritime borders. This project also supports specific objectives and sub-objectives of the Integrated Country Strategies (ICS) for the three targeted countries.

Specify explicitly how this activity supports law enforcement's ability to counter terrorism:

A community-based border security approach facilitates local engagement and can deter border community members from cross-border crime and violent extremism. Through direct communications with communities and security partnerships, there is open, on-going communication and consistent, professional visibility of border authorities in rural border areas.

This approach helps to build trust and allow access to the extensive knowledge of community members on cross-border activity. The project's interagency and cross-border training and exercise will enable better sharing of best practices, tactical cooperation, and information in law enforcement, improving their ability to counter terrorism and violent extremism.

What have the sponsors of the project done to coordinate this program with this interagency or multilateral partners? (What offices/agencies have been consulted. How did you ensure this is not duplicative?)

This proposed concept also furthers the work of the White House Countering Violent Extremism Summit held in February 2015. Department of State J Staff has discussed this proposed concept with the Danish government as a potential deliverable of the Summit and is considering a multilateral donors summit to garner support. This project provides an opportunity for other donors and fora such as the Global Counterterrorism Forum (GCTF) to become involved and provide support, as the concept is scalable and once piloted and monitored, could be replicated and expanded throughout the region. It is worth noting that following the White House CVE Summit, Burkina Faso stated that it would like to cooperate with the United States on CVE efforts within the following themes: Strengthening Community-Police and Community-Security Force Relations as Ingredients for Countering and Preventing Violent Extremism; Identifying Political and Economic Opportunities for Communities Vulnerable to Radicalization and Recruitment to Violent Extremism. This project is responsive to that request. If approved, this concept will provide the opportunity to support law enforcement training and border community activities that are complementary to the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) Maghreb-Sahel Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) Capacity Building Pilot Project, to be launched in June 2015. This concept has been de-conflicted with USAID and close coordination throughout implementation will ensure efforts are not duplicative and help to build upon one another. This concept has been shared with the relevant desk officers at the Department of State, whom were asked to review and share with Posts. We are awaiting response from the desks and Posts but understand that this project, if approved, must be fully supported by and planned with the strong input of the Embassies. This project would provide complementary support to an ongoing four year Border Security and Management program being implemented by the Danish Demining Group (DDG) in Liptako-Gourma, co-funded by the UK Conflict, Security and Stability Fund (Ministry of Defense, Department for International Development (DFID), Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)) and DANIDA Sahel Initiative, building it out for sustainable impact, smart programming and scalability. The TSCTP Border Security Team has been actively working with the newly launched Action for Transborder Cooperation in the Sahel (ACTS) project of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), which is a development and security bottom-up pilot project in Liptako-Gourma. This project would come alongside their multilateral intervention which is currently in assessment phase and provide complementarities and a multiplicative effect, preventing duplication and increasing efficiencies.

Project Monitoring:

Upon award and prior to implementation a performance monitoring plan (PMP) will be developed in coordination with Bureau for Counterterrorism (CT)/ Programs (P) and TSCTP Border Security Team, with 5 percent of the project budget set aside for monitoring. The PMP will delineate metrics to measure progress against the baseline and project objectives. As the baseline assessment is finalized, additional detail will be added to the PMP in an iterative process

to ensure comprehensive monitoring. Upon execution of training, the implementer will collect data against these metrics utilizing pre- and post-training surveys with trainees, trainee evaluation forms, and instructor after action reports. Raw data will be provided to CT/P and AF/RSA for analysis. The combination of this qualitative and quantitative data will generate a picture of the results from the training engagements following each activity and will allow for refinement and adjustments to improve the project.

Time Frame for Implementation:

From: 08/01/2015 **To:** 08/01/2016

Place of Implementation:

- **Burkina Faso**
- **Mali**
- **Niger**

Implementer Information:

	Implementer	Partner	POC Name	POC Email	POC Phone	
1	Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP) Border Communities Engagement Project	Potential Implementer-Danish Demining Group				B6 B7(F)
2	Trans-Sahara Counterterrorism Partnership (TSCTP) Border Communities Engagement Project					

Program Audience:

Police, gendarmerie, customs and small arms commissions in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger; agriculturalist and pastoralist/nomadic communities living in border areas in the region.

Funding Breakdown:

Country	Budget Item	Amount
	Other/Contractor Activities	$386,986.00
	Other/Contractor Logistics and Safety	$208,534.00
	Other/Contractor Investments	$91,015.00

Other/Contractor Expatriate staff	$339,803.00
Other/Contractor Local staff	$583,189.00
Other/Contractor Local administration	$176,798.00
Other/Contractor Project supervision and monitoring	$14,612.00
Other/Contractor Evaluation	$15,902.00
Other/Contractor HQ direct support to project	$10,343.00
Other/Contractor External Audit	$1,790.00
Other/Contractor Indirect costs (calculated as 9.97% (USAID NICRA) of the total of items above)	$182,349.00

Funding/Implementation Mechanism Type:

- **Contract**

Objectives & Indicators:

Objective   **Indicator**

Funding Sources:

- **RSI/ATA**

Fiscal Year:

2014

Comments: