

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN INSTITUTE

e33 UNITED NATIONS PLAIA new vonx wzw vonx 10017

TEL: (212) 949-5666 c .LE.,.,A"

I .

#### AFRICAN TRAINING FOR LEADERSHIP AND ADVANCED SKILLS

We are pleased to announce that the African-American Institute (AAI) has been awarded a five-year contract with the Agency for International Development to administer the African

Training for Leadership and Advanced Skills (ATLAS) Project, Phase I. ATLAS is a cooperative effort of participating governments, American universities, the Council of Graduate Schools in the United States, and the Agency for International Development (A.I.D.).

The goal of the ATLAS Project is to improve the ability of African institutions and organizations to plan and promote sustainable development. The project's objective is to strengthen leadership and technical abilities and enhance the professional excellence of individuals serving in African public and private sector entities, including universities

, research centers and other key development institutions.

The ATLAS Project, as a successor to the African Graduate Fellowship (AFGRAD)

Programs, will continue to offer undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate fellowships for highly qualified Africans to undertake academic programs in the United States. ATLAS will provide advanced studies in disciplines critical to development, such as economics, business

administration, public health, agriculture and engineering. At least thirty percent of the awards will go to women in order to increase their ability to fill leadership and non-traditional roles in African development. It is estimated that approximately 600 participants

will be trained during the five year period, with the first to begin their programs in the 1991-

92 academic year.

The most significant departure from the AFGRAD Program is the elimination of A.I.D.

centrally-funded scholarships. Primary funding for ATLAS Fellowships will be provided by the participating USAID Missions. The African-American Institute's cooperative relationship with the Council of Graduate Schools and the contribution of tuition scholarships by U.S. universities will continue under the ATLAS Project.

USAID Missions participating in ATLAS will determine their training needs in relation to their overall and sector strategies and the objectives of A.I.D.'s Development Fund for Africa (DFA). Briefly put, the overall goal of the DFA is to encourage broad-based, sustainable economic growth.

An exciting component of ATLAS is the post-training professional enhancement program. The enhancement program encourages professional development and networking among AFGRAD and ATLAS alumni as well as among returned participants from other USAID-funded training programs. The new field activities will include:

national and regional symposia on topics critical to African development  
support grants to African professional societies and organizations  
re-entry workshops in Africa  
regularly updated directories and newsletters for alumni and networking through alumni associations

i-l'i-l'

AAI selected four subcontractors to assist in meeting the challenges of ATLAS:

t The African Academy of Sciences (AAS), based in Nairobi, will be primarily involved in the symposia and other field activities

it The National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) will be the liaison with historically black colleges and universities

l Arthur D. Little, Inc. (ADL) will design special seminars for participants in the US. and provide expertise for some of the field activities

it Management Systems International (MSI) will assist AAI in refining the existing AAI management information system to meet the requirements of ATLAS.

For further information contact: (Mrs.) Heather Monroe

Chief of Party, ATLAS

The African-American Institute

833 United Nations Plaza

New York, NY. 10017