

Questions and Answers for
Recidivism Reduction and Community Engagement Program (R-CEP);
INL22APS0055-WHPELSAL-RCEP-060822

Date: July 7, 2022

Question 1:

If an organization submits more than one proposal as the Prime applicant, will INL consider making multiple awards to the same Prime applicant?

INL Response: Organizations are allowed to submit more than one proposal as the prime applicant. INL considers the possibility of awarding multiple awards to the same applicant in different cycles. Submission of two applications in the same cycle is unnecessary.

Question 2:

Does INL require that organizations address both general objectives (“strategies to implement alternative sentencing programs through the local justice sector” and “strategies with civil society to implement restorative justice programs within the affected communities,” p. 6) in a single proposal?

INL Response: INL is open to proposals that cover a combination of subject areas and encourages proposals that are cross-cutting in scope, but also welcomes proposals that focus on only one subject area described in the general objective. INL encourages creativity in terms of project proposals and is not limited to the areas defined in the NOFO.

Question 3:

Does INL require that organizations propose projects that improve capabilities of relevant government partners, civil society, AND the private sector, all within one project?

INL Response: INL is open to proposals that improve capabilities for government partners and/or civil society and/or the private sector as practical. INL anticipates that not all proposals will be able to address all three sectors at once.

Question 4:

INL indicates that proposals must identify measurable actions that will reduce recidivism and increase community integrity and security (p. 6). Does INL consider that reduced recidivism will lead to increased community integrity and security? Or does INL wish to see proposed strategies that will increase community integrity and security that are unrelated to reducing recidivism? Does INL envision that all proposals will address community integrity and security at the community level?

INL Response: Based on data from global best practices and studies into reducing recidivism which identify high levels of incarceration as one of the factors in the breakdown of community integrity, INL considers that reducing recidivism will lead to greater community security. The overall R-CEP program addresses community integrity by reducing recidivism. Not every proposal must focus on community engagement, but every proposal must fit into the overall objective of building stronger communities through reducing recidivism.

Question 5:

INL notes that the intended target audience for this project will be “civil society organizations that operate in the juvenile justice and restorative practices sector in El Salvador” (p. 7). Please confirm that INL envisions proposals working directly with relevant government partners to strengthen their capabilities (as alluded to on p. 6).

INL Response: INL intends to work with relevant partners through civil society organizations as project implementers.

Question 6:

Please confirm whether the Cover Page and Table of Contents are included within the maximum of 20 pages allocated for the Proposal Narrative, or if they are considered separate from the 20-page maximum.

INL Response: The cover page and table of contents are included in the 20-page maximum.

Question 7:

Does INL require any specific Key Personnel positions?

INL Response: No. Key Personnel will depend on proposal scope and scale. Please consider that since this is a Cooperative Agreement INL must approve selection of key personnel.

Question 8:

Does INL require that all proposed Key Personnel positions include a proposed candidate at the proposal stage?

INL Response: It is a good practice to include in the proposal key personnel relevant information such as education and experience. If personnel will be hired, please state that in the proposal.

Question 9:

Within the Change Map, does INL require that all indicators be accompanied by their relevant Target and Data Source, at the proposal stage?

INL Response: Yes, proposed indicators must be included and the expected Data Source.

Question 10:

Please confirm whether any standard indicators are required by INL for this project. If there are required standard indicators, please confirm which indicators are applicable.

INL Response: Indicators would depend on the activities proposed by the applicant, this NOFO is open to creative proposals and does not specify particular activities.

Question 11:

For the required Illustrative Performance Indicator Reference Sheet, please confirm which sections of the template are required at the proposal stage. Are sections I, II, and III required? Or is only section III, with three indicators developed, required?

INL Response: Applicants should submit complete Performance Indicator Reference Sheets including all 3 sections. Please include outcome and output indicators.

Question 12:

Is it outside the scope of this project to develop a probation system involving the juvenile court?

INL Response: Developing a probation system involving the juvenile court could be considered within the scope of this NOFO.

Question 13:

Is the focus of the project only related to Juvenile Detention Centers, or does it include the Juvenile Court system as well?

INL Response: The focus of the project includes both juvenile detention centers and the juvenile courts.

Question 14:

Is the goal to uniformly apply Juvenile Justice Policies nationwide or just amend or change only certain policy areas?

INL Response: While the overall goal of the project is to uniformly apply justice reform policies based on global best practices and institutionalize these reforms within the host nation's relevant agencies for long term sustainability, smaller projects to amend or change certain policy areas could be considered as long as they contribute to the overall goal.

Question 15:

Is developing a boot camp program for youthful offenders an appropriate program approach?

INL Response: The applicant must demonstrate how a boot camp program for youthful offenders would support achieving the program's overall goal.

Question 16:

Can the focus of the program be towards rehabilitation or is the punitive policies towards incarceration the focus?

INL Response: The program considers rehabilitation and reinsertion to include restoring the juvenile's relationship with their families and communities and includes working with local partners to improve legislation related to juvenile offenders.