

Frequently Asked Questions – MENA RSOI (SFOP0006397)

Question: In the RSOI, DRL writes: “*Applicants should list countries in the MENA region in which they can reasonably expect to safely conduct the proposed program. However, at the full proposal stage DRL will specify countries for this program to all organizations invited to expand upon their ideas.*” Is DRL requesting a generalized intervention that can be applied to many countries, and those selected countries will be revealed later? Alternatively, is DRL requesting a tailored intervention to a limited number of countries that may not be the full list where an organization can safely conduct programming? Additionally, is there a maximum or minimum amount of countries that the desired intervention will take place in?

Answer: DRL is requesting a more generalized intervention that can be applied to many countries, and asking applicants to note if there are any countries in the region in which their described intervention could not be safely conducted. The exact countries for the program will be determined by DRL and specified to organizations invited to submit a full proposal. There is not set minimum or maximum at this stage. If that is a consideration for the intervention described in your SOI (e.g. for budgetary reasons, you anticipate being able to do the program in X-Y number of countries), please feel free to note that.

Question: The RSOI mentions that the SOI should propose programs designated to foster the holistic security and resilience of DRL partner organizations. In reference to supporting DRL partners, does this refer to entities where a subaward is in place, and/or whether additional local organizations could also benefit from training, coaching and components of a project where we may not have a written agreement or MoUs?

Answer: As the RSOI states, “SOIs should propose programs designed to foster the holistic security and resilience of DRL partner organizations and other civil society organizations operating in closed and closing spaces across the MENA region”, and program activities should include “Targeted digital, physical, and psychosocial safety training and capacity-building for civil society organizations in the MENA region, to be selected in close consultation with DRL”. While DRL does intend for this program to support DRL’s partners, DRL is also open to other local organizations benefitting from the support. However, as noted, DRL would need to be closely engaged in the selection process.