

**Questions and Answers for
Response to Sexual Gender Based Violence
OFOP0001260
Date: December 15th, 2023**

Question 1: Is training in person or virtual? If in person, are there specific cities/regions that the training needs to take place?

INL Response:

Training is expected to be in-person. There are no specific cities/regions for the training to take place, the applicant should design the training calendar according to institution's needs.

Question 2: Is the funding supposed to cover travel and lodging for trainees?

INL Response:

Yes, funding includes all expenses to carry out training, venue, travel expenses for trainees and trainers if applicable, training materials, transportation, etc.

Question 3: Can any training take place outside of El Salvador (i.e. in the US)?

INL Response:

There is no limitation about the location of training, if the applicant considers that international training is important and cost-effective it should be included.

Question 4: Does DOS provide Leahy vetting for participants?

INL Response:

Yes, Leahy vetting is required for armed forces such as the National Civilian Police and the Municipal Agent Corps, vetting does not apply to civilian participants.

Question 5: In Activity 1.3 it states that a minimum of 100 police and first responders need to be trained during the first year and then 300 first responders in years 2 and 3. In Deliverable 1.3 it states that a minimum of 130 officials will be trained during the first year and 330 officials in the second and third years. Can you provide clarity on which sets of numbers are correct 100 and 300 or 130 and 330?

INL Response:

The correct numbers are 130 for the first year and 330 for year 2 and 3, these were modified to include 30 participants from the Municipal Agents Corps.

Question 6: Activity 1.3 states that a basic training of a minimum of 100 police or first responders needs to be implemented. In Deliverable 1.3, it states that there needs to be a basic training and a train the trainer. Can you clarify how many people need to be part of the basic training in the first, second and third years and how many people would need to be included in the trainer the trainer course in the first, second, and third years?

INL Response:

The applicant should design the training plan and define number of participants per cycle, the requirement is to include on the first year a train the trainer iteration considering participants of institutions involved.

Question 7: Activity 1.3 – Is it possible that the groups of the 300 first responders in years 2 and 3 are trained via the individuals who completed the train the trainer or is it required to be taught by SMEs from the U.S.?

INL Response:

The applicant should design the training plan, instructors that completed the train the trainer program could be supporting trainers initially and become lead trainers in future iterations.

Question 8: How long to do the train-the-trainer programs need to be? Are they two days/16 hours?

INL Response:

The applicant should design the train the training curriculum and define the length of the course.

Question 9: For Activity 3.3 what is the desired format for the campaign? Print/social media/billboards/tv/radio?

INL Response:

Applicant should propose the format for the campaign, please consider that it is an internal awareness campaign for institutions.

Question 10: The title of the NOFO states “Response to Sexual GBV.” Is the focus of this funding limited to sexual GBV or can it be broader GBV?

INL Response:

The project can be on broader GBV. It does not need to be limited to sexual GBV.

Question 11: The NOFO identified specific institutions to work with. Can our application include additional institutions not mentioned in the NOFO but plays a vital role in addressing GBV in El Salvador?

INL Response:

Yes, applicants can propose to include other institutions.

Question 12: Under objective 1, the NOFO mentioned working with the Public Defender's Office, do you mean the *Procuraduría General de la República*? Is it the unit or the entire agency?

INL Response:

Yes, the institution is *Procuraduría General de la República*, specifically units working on GBV matters.

Question 13: Is there a specific geographic area of interest, or can the applicant identify which geographic areas to focus on?

INL Response:

There are no specific cities/regions for the training to take place, the applicant should design the training calendar according to institution's needs.

Question 14: Does INL have an expectation for how many activities should be fully in-person, or hybrid combining both in-person and virtual elements?

INL Response:

Training is expected to be in-person. The applicant should design the training plan and define number of participants per cycle.

Question 15: What is the envisioned approach and anticipated dynamics in collaborating with the Municipal Agent Corps in El Salvador?

INL Response:

Training plans should include at least 30 municipal agent corps (CAM) members in each year's plan. INL could help with identification of potential CAM trainees. CAM agents are first responders and provide service to GBV victims.

Question 16: Is the utilization of the Project Risk Analysis template mandatory, or do we have the flexibility to employ our own customized template?

INL Response:

The provided template is mandatory. The applicant can add risks not considered by INL.

Question 17: Considering that the objectives of the project require working with certain institutions and their agents, it is relevant to know if INL has ever approached GOES organizations to discuss the objectives and initiatives of the project and to commit to collaborate with them. Institutions to be included are: Attorney General's Office, Supreme Court of Justice, National Civil Police, Public Defender's Office, Forensic Institute, Ministry of Health, the Salvadoran Institute for Women's Development, and the Municipal Agent Corps.

INL Response:

INL works across justice sector institutions on GBV issues and has ongoing relationships and projects with all the included institutions. INL will support the grantee with introductions and overall support for the project.

Question 18: In relation to training activities:

- a. Will INL have any participation in the selection of the agents who will receive training, or will the profile of participants sent to the courses depend exclusively on each institution?
- b. Will face-to-face implementation be privileged or can it be done virtually?
- c. Is there any previous commitment between INL and the beneficiary institutions of the trainings, guaranteeing the attendance of the required number of people?

INL Response:

- a. Institutions propose participants, applicant and INL should review that participants meet the profile required.
- b. Training must be done in-person.
- c. No. INL will support the grantee with introductions and overall support for the project, but the grantee is responsible for guaranteeing the attendance of the required number of people.

Question 19: Can the activities be implemented in the capital city or is a territorially decentralized approach required?

INL Response:

There are no specific cities/regions for the training to take place, the applicant should design the training calendar according to institution's needs.

Question 20: Could INL kindly confirm if selected candidates for Key Personnel need to be named at the proposal stage, or would a description of the positions and criteria for staff that will be recruited if we are awarded the project be sufficient? If we do have to name Key Personnel selected candidates, will there be any flexibility to change these candidates after the award date, if necessary?

INL Response:

If Key Personnel are identified, they should be included in the proposal. This helps the TEP to evaluate the experience and qualifications. If personnel have not been identified a position description is ok. INL approval will be required to change candidates.

Question 21: Could INL kindly confirm that applicants only need to present 3 indicators in the PIRS? Does INL have a preference for whether these 3 indicators are at the impact, outcome, or output level?

INL Response:

At the proposal stage, applicants only need to submit three illustrative indicators rather than a full monitoring plan. The more the applicant can fill out, the better, but INL understands that

such information may not be available at the proposal stage. For the illustrative indicators in the proposal, INL does not mandate what level these indicators should be at (impact, outcome, output), but the applicant should keep in mind that the quality of these indicators contributes to INL's assessment of the proposal. In general, it is probably best to think about the highest level of achievable change within the period of performance, and how you would measure that + any major contributing changes that need to happen to achieve the highest level of achievable change.

Note that a full monitoring plan (as described by the Change Map and PIRS) is due as an early deliverable after the grant is awarded. At that point, INL would expect indicators for all aspects of the project that merit indicator-based monitoring (i.e., almost certainly more than three).

Question 22: Could INL kindly confirm if there are any standard indicators that they would like applicants to consider when compiling the illustrative PIRS?

INL Response:

Please include output and outcome indicators, INL would like to measure the impact of the project. When a proposal is selected, INL will provide feedback on the PIRS.

Question 23: Could INL kindly confirm if applicants must use the objectives stated in the NOFO as is, or if is there any flexibility to adjust the wording of the objectives?

INL Response:

The applicant must use the objectives stated in the NOFO. In the narrative of the proposal, the applicant can provide justification for slight changes to the wording of the objectives.

Question 24: Could INL kindly confirm if applicants are allowed to add activities/deliverables to the proposal in addition to those that are prescribed in the NOFO? Or should applicants present a program that only includes the activities and deliverables listed in the NOFO?

INL Response:

Applicants can only present a program that only includes the activities/deliverables that were listed in the NOFO.

Question 25: Could INL kindly confirm if applicants should submit information about their History of U.S. Government Federal Assistance Awards for a specific time frame (i.e., awarded within the last 5 years), or is INL requesting that applicants submit information about all assistance awards ever received in the history of the organization?

INL Response:

According to the NOFO, this document outlines the applicant organization's experience with implementing U.S. government-funded federal assistance awards, including current and completed projects.

A timeframe is not specified, the applicant should include all awards that consider relevant for the technical evaluation panel review.

Question 26: Regarding the PIRS, since some of the proposed activities involve working with authorities at the central level, could INL kindly confirm whether this would be considered an action at the national or local level for the “geographic level for data reporting”?

INL Response:

It would be considered a national level action.

Question 27: Considering that some activities may take more time than has been provided in the NOFO, could INL kindly confirm if it is possible to extend the specified delivery times for each of the activities?

INL Response:

The project is considered to last 36 months, maintaining the timeframes stated in the NOFO is required.

Question 28: Given the timeframe provided for the activities, does the project outlined in the NOFO build on existing INL-funded programs and partnerships? If so, will INL support a transfer of knowledge to new partners?

INL Response:

INL works across justice sector institutions on GBV issues and has ongoing relationships and projects with all the included institutions. INL will support the grantee with introductions and overall support for the project.

Question 29: The activities and outputs in the NOFO do not specify geographic targeting. To what extent should applicants engage with national versus departmental and municipal stakeholders/ authorities?

INL Response:

This project primarily targets justice sector institutions at a national level. Some municipal-level training is required as defined in the NOFO.

Question 30: Page 11 in the NOFO indicates that additional guidance on the proposal template can be found in Annex A. However, Appendix A (page 23) only expands on the performance monitoring plan. Is there another document intended to provide additional information on the project proposal?

INL Response:

There isn't another document to provide additional information on the project proposal. According to the NOFO the proposal narrative must include:
-Cover page,

- Table of contents,
- Executive summary,
- Project context,
- Theory of change and implementation plan,
- Gender, equity and inclusion analysis,
- Description of prior work,
- Future spending plan/sustainability

Question 31: How does INL define “other vulnerable groups”? Does the definition include children and adolescents who experience GBV?

INL Response:

Yes, INL supports a broad definition of “other vulnerable groups” to include children and adolescents who experience GBV. Other Vulnerable groups includes women, children, adolescents and LGBTQI+ who experience GBV.

Question 32: Are there required INL standard indicators that should be included in the project logic? If so, which ones? Is an end-line evaluation required for this activity?

INL Response:

No standard indicators will be provided by INL. The applicant should create them.

If full performance monitoring information is not available at the time of the proposal, applicant should indicate that the indicators and associated information are notional. If selected, a final version of the above listed documents will be required as an early deliverable.

There is no end-line evaluation included in this activity.