

Questions and Answers – August 28, 2023
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
BUREAU OF ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS AFFAIRS
Diversifying Semiconductor Supply Chains
FUNDING OPPORTUNITY #: SFOP0009975

Question #1: Section A4 Main Activities of the Notice of Funding Opportunity mentions that the entity selected should be able to work with 5 countries: Costa Rica, Panamá, Indonesia, Philippines, and Vietnam. However, section E.1 Criteria on 1. Quality and Feasibility of Project Idea says: “Proposal demonstrates a plan to accommodate working with a minimum of seven countries up to a maximum of ten countries”. Who are the additional countries?

DOS Response: Additional countries will be in the Americas and Indo-Pacific region.

Question # 2: Regarding engineering workforce development: Can scholarships be provided through this program?

DOS Response: Scholarships must have a specific purpose within the scope of the project defined in the NOFO, e.g. addressing university/technical schools’ programs and educational gaps and identified workforce development needs.

Question # 3: Regarding the implementation program, please clarify whether it should be executed simultaneously across all countries or if a phased approach is acceptable.

DOS Response: Program implementation should be executed simultaneously across all countries.

Question # 4: The Notice of Funding Opportunity calls for demonstrated experience; however, it does not stipulate a minimum duration of experience. Furthermore, there is no elucidation provided regarding whether this experience should extend across all countries listed.

DOS Response: There is no required minimum level of experience. Successful applicants will have demonstrated experience implementing across multiple countries simultaneously and also the ability to work with relevant stakeholders and meet the needs of the program in target countries.

Question # 5: Can you please clarify the page count for the attachments as noted on page 5 of the proposal submission instructions? Is the page count 5-10 pages per the 3 attachments or 5-10 pages total with those three attachments needing to fit within that 5-10 page count?

DOS Response: All three attachments should fit within the 10-page limit, including the Roles and Responsibilities, Timeline/Schedule of Activities, and Project Monitoring Plan.