

**United States Department of State
Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)
Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)**

Announcement Type:	Request for Federal Assistance Awards Applications
Public Opportunity Title:	Combat Wildlife Trafficking in South Asia
NOFO Opportunity Number:	SFOP0004254
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:	19.705 – Transnational Crime
Funding Amount:	\$2,000,000 U.S. Dollars
NOFO Issuance Date:	March 22, 2018
Deadline for Receipt of Questions:	April 20, 2018; 11:59 PM Eastern Time
Closing Date and Time for Submission of Applications:	May 22, 2018; 11:59 PM Eastern Time
Program Type:	INL/C Wildlife Trafficking
Grant Program:	INL/C Program to Combat Wildlife Trafficking
Assistance Type:	Grant
Eligibility Category:	U.S. or overseas-based non-profit/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) having a 501(c)(3) status with the IRS and U.S. or overseas private/state institutions of higher education (See full eligibility criteria below in Section III)
Applicant Type:	NGOs, Educational Institutions
Award Ceiling:	\$2,000,000
Award Floor:	\$500,000
Cost Sharing Requirement:	Not required but recommended

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) leads the Department of State's anticrime and counter-narcotics efforts. INL assistance programs help partner nations to build their capacities to extend the reach of justice under the rule of law, including respect for human rights and gender equality, and to deny safe haven to criminals who would otherwise operate with near impunity. The resources entrusted to us enable INL to deliver technical assistance to: develop civilian law enforcement capacity, regional partnerships, and information sharing; further the administration of justice and corrections under the rule of law with respect for human rights; and enhance international drug control through interdiction and supply reduction. This mission supports **peace and security** by stabilizing and strengthening security institutions and by combating transnational crimes such as wildlife trafficking, money laundering, criminal gangs, and narco-trafficking. It promotes governing justly and democratically by strengthening justice sector institutions, good governance, and respect for human rights.

INL combines forces with other U.S. government and international agencies and takes a regional approach to widespread problems. INL also encourages more developed governments to take responsibility as equal partners in global efforts to support critical country and global programs that combat transnational crime, disrupt illicit trafficking, and build their capacities to extend their reach of justice under the rule of law. The Bureau's priority programs support three inter-related objectives:

- **TRANSNATIONAL CRIME:** Minimize the impact of transnational crime and criminal networks in the U.S. and its allies to oppose and counter corruption; transnational organized crime; wildlife crime; environmental crime; cybercrime; intellectual property rights fraud; crimes that threaten civilian security; and activities using the proceeds of crime.
- **BUILDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS:** Institutionalize rule of law by supporting and assisting in capacity building of host nation justice, law enforcement, and corrections institutions, promote human rights and diversity, protect vulnerable groups, and collaborate with multilateral and international partners to establish global standards and accountability mechanisms.
- **COUNTER-NARCOTICS:** Disrupt the overseas production and trafficking of illicit drugs through targeted counter-narcotics and institution-building assistance and coordination with foreign nations and international organizations.

NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The United States Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, is seeking applications from qualified Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Educational Institutions, and other qualified organizations for a Grant to implement a program entitled "Combat Wildlife Trafficking in South Asia." The authority for this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) is found in the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended.

Pursuant to 2 CFR 200.400g, it is U.S. Department of State policy not to award profit under assistance instruments. All reasonable, allocable, and allowable expenses, however, both direct

and indirect, which are related to the agreement program and are in accordance with applicable cost standards (2 CFR 200 for U.S. and overseas-based non-profit organizations, and universities), may be paid under the grant agreement. *NOTE: Overseas-based nonprofit organizations are legally required to comply with the 2 CFR 200.*

Subject to the availability of funds and pending Department of State management approvals, INL intends to issue awards in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 in total funding. The U.S. dollar amount will be funded from INL allocated funds, for an initial program period of up to two years. INL may award up to two additional years contingent on INL priorities, good performance of the recipient, and funding availability. INL reserves the right to fund any or none of the applications submitted and will determine the resulting level of funding for the award.

Eligible organizations interested in submitting an application are encouraged to read this NOFO thoroughly to understand the type of program sought and the application submission requirements and evaluation process.

To be eligible for an award, the applicant must submit all required information in its application through SAMS Domestic, including the requirements found in any attachments to this opportunity. This NOFO consists of the following Sections:

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This funding opportunity is posted on SAMS Domestic and may be amended. See Section IV for further details. Potential applicants should regularly check the website to ensure they have the latest information pertaining to this NOFO. Applicants will need to have available or download the most updated version of the Adobe program to their computers in order to view and save the Adobe forms properly. If you have difficulty registering on SAMS Domestic or accessing the NOFO, please contact the SAMS Domestic helpdesk at: 1-888-313-4567 or log a ticket via the ILMS Self Service Portal at: <https://afsitsm.service-now.com/ilms/home>.

It is the responsibility of the recipient of this NOFO to ensure that it has been received from SAMS Domestic in its entirety. INL bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission or conversion processes associated with electronic submissions.

Any questions concerning this NOFO should be submitted in writing to Leslie Catherwood via email at CatherwoodLH@state.gov. The deadline for submission of questions for this NOFO is April 20, 2018, 11:59 PM Eastern Time. Responses to questions will be made available to all potential applicants through an amendment to this NOFO and posted on SAMS Domestic.

Issuance of this NOFO does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the U.S. government, nor does it commit the U.S. government to pay for costs incurred in the preparation and submission of an application. In addition, final award of any resultant grant agreement cannot be made until funds have been fully appropriated, allocated, and committed through internal INL procedures. While it is anticipated that these procedures will be successfully completed, potential applicants are hereby notified of these requirements and conditions for award. Applications are submitted at the risk of the applicant. All preparation and submission costs are at the applicant's expense.

SECTION I – PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

BACKGROUND

Wildlife trafficking and environmental crimes are lucrative forms of transnational organized crime (TOC) that have decimated populations of species, such as elephants, rhinos, pangolins, and more. Wildlife trafficking and environmental crimes fuel corruption, threaten the rule of law and peace and security, spread disease, and destabilize communities that depend on wildlife for biodiversity and eco-tourism revenues. Criminal organizations are increasingly involved in this illicit trade, especially the illegal movement of wildlife from source countries to demand countries, such as the movement of ivory from Africa to Asia. Traffickers exploit porous borders and weak institutions to profit from trading in illegal wildlife. Wildlife and wildlife products are transported through multilevel illicit networks of criminal intermediaries and government officials.

In 2013, the U.S. government established an interagency Task Force to address the problem of wildlife trafficking by identifying priority areas for interagency cooperation and action. The National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking was released in 2014, which led to the Implementation Plan for the National Strategy. The Plan focuses on strengthening law enforcement, reducing demand for trafficked wildlife and wildlife goods, and building international cooperation to combat wildlife trafficking (CWT). In 2016, Congress passed the Eliminate, Neutralize, and Disrupt (END) Wildlife Trafficking Act, which enshrines the role of the Task Force and its National Strategy and Implementation Plan. These commitments are reflected in the greatly increased amount of resources – human, technical, and financial – that we are devoting to target the problem of wildlife trafficking.

To advance the U.S. National Strategy for Combating Wildlife Trafficking and its associated Implementation Plan, INL aims to achieve specific objectives to reduce the poaching and trafficking of wildlife through effective programming at the national, regional, and international levels in key source, transit, and destination locations in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. For this funding opportunity, INL intends to focus on South Asia, since it is a key source, transit, and destination for illegal wildlife products. The program will include technical assistance to: 1) strengthen legislative frameworks; 2) enhance law enforcement and investigative capabilities; 3) develop prosecutorial and judicial capacity; and/or 4) support cross border law enforcement cooperation at the provincial, national, regional, and international levels.

INL leverages its unique foreign assistance authorities to contribute to the global fight against wildlife trafficking. To that end, funds will support work that increases the ability of South Asia to CWT. As a key source, transit, and destination for illegal wildlife products, South Asia is a crucial component in the global wildlife trafficking supply chain. Therefore, efforts to stop the global scourge of wildlife trafficking must include South Asia. The ultimate goal of this program is to increase South Asia's desire and ability to CWT and the criminal organizations that perpetrate this heinous crime.

PROGRAM PURPOSE/DESCRIPTION

For the purposes of this NOFO, South Asia includes the following countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

INL seeks to fund programs that improve South Asia's will and capacity to investigate, arrest, prosecute, convict, and sentence to the fullest extent of the law the criminal organizations that perpetrate wildlife trafficking, especially the leaders and mid-level members of those organizations. Proposals must include details on how the applicant proposes to provide technical assistance to South Asia in one or more of the following areas: strengthen legislative frameworks, enhance law enforcement and investigative capabilities, develop prosecutorial and judicial capacity, and/or support cross border law enforcement cooperation at the provincial, national, regional, and international levels.

INL will prioritize proposals for unique, groundbreaking programs, as well as proposals that benefit multiple countries in the region. In addition, INL will prioritize proposals that include anti-corruption activities, and/or combat the criminal organizations that perpetrate wildlife crime.

The program is comprised of the following objectives and corresponding activities.

PROGRAM GOALS

1. Increase South Asia's desire and ability to CWT as source, transit, and destination countries.
2. Improve South Asia's will and capacity to investigate, arrest, prosecute, convict, and sentence to the fullest extent of the law the criminal organizations that perpetrate wildlife trafficking, especially the leaders of those organizations.
3. Advance South Asia's abilities to CWT in one or more of the following areas:
 - a. strengthen legislative frameworks;
 - b. enhance law enforcement and investigative capabilities;
 - c. develop prosecutorial and judicial capacity; and/or
 - d. support cross border law enforcement cooperation at the provincial, national, regional, and international levels.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

As a key source, transit, and destination for illegal wildlife products, South Asia is a crucial component in the global wildlife trafficking supply chain. Therefore, efforts to stop the global scourge of wildlife trafficking must include South Asia. To that end, the goal of this program is to increase South Asia's desire and ability to CWT and the criminal organizations that perpetrate this heinous crime.

INL will prioritize original and innovative programs. Proposals that identify emerging trends or gaps in efforts to CWT, while incorporating new strategies to address those underserved needs, will be ranked higher. Creative and new ideas to CWT are strongly encouraged.

In addition, INL will prioritize regional proposals that benefit two or more countries in South Asia. We prefer programs that leverage the knowledge, skills, and lessons learned in one country to help other nations in the region. Therefore, INL will prioritize proposals in the following manner:

1. Program that incorporates activities to benefit two or more nations in South Asia will be ranked the highest.
2. Program that focuses activities on one benefitting nation in South Asia will be ranked the second highest.

Because corruption facilitates wildlife trafficking, INL will also prioritize proposals that include anti-corruption activities. These activities should focus on steps to prevent and combat the corruption that enables wildlife trafficking, such as police professionalization, engagement of civil society, rewards programs, etc.

INL will prioritize proposals that incorporate activities to combat the criminal organizations that perpetrate wildlife crime, especially the top levels of those organizations. Proposals should improve South Asia's will and capacity to investigate, arrest, prosecute, convict, and sentence to the fullest extent of the law the criminal organizations that perpetrate wildlife trafficking, with a special focus on the leaders and mid-level members of criminal organizations.

Proposals must include activities to achieve at least one of the following objectives listed below. However, the activities listed below are for illustrative purposes; it is not an exhaustive list. Priority will be given to proposals that include new and innovative activities.

Objective 1:

Strengthen South Asia's legislative frameworks to CWT.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Conduct a legal analysis to determine the gaps between the protections offered by national legislation and CITES, and provide technical assistance to develop CITES implementing regulations.
- Brief politicians, wildlife ministry officials, law enforcement ministries, prosecutors, judges, and other relevant stakeholders on wildlife crime laws and the relationship between CITES and national wildlife laws.
- Provide technical assistance to the government, at all levels, to assist with identifying specific laws that apply in wildlife trafficking criminal and administrative cases.
- Develop guidance on the application of wildlife crime laws to assist law enforcement officers, prosecutors, and courts.
- Monitor enforcement of wildlife crime laws and conduct an analysis of when and where application of the laws is weak on wildlife crime.
- Work closely with relevant authorities, including local law enforcement authorities, investigation ministries, courts at local and federal levels, and other influential institutions and decision makers, to ensure prosecution and strict punishments are applied to wildlife crime.

- Advise authorities on issues related to criminal sentencing to promote greater or more appropriate punishment for wildlife crime and avoiding unwanted sentencing disparity.
- Disseminate policies, legislation, and regulations to authorities and the public to ensure knowledge of laws and pursuit of those who engage in wildlife crime.
- Draft policies, legislation, and regulations on returning/repatriation/maintaining live animals caught during law enforcement interventions.

Objective 2:

Enhance South Asia's law enforcement and investigative capabilities to CWT.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Conduct trainings for law enforcement, border control, customs, wildlife authorities, and other relevant government ministries on:
 - What is wildlife trafficking and why it is important to stop it;
 - Organized crime in Asia: what it is and how to investigate organized crime;
 - Wildlife identification;
 - Investigation techniques;
 - Wildlife crime laws;
 - Collection and management of wildlife physical evidence;
 - Documentation of a wildlife crime scene;
 - Wildlife criminals' *modus operandi* and tricks of the trade;
 - Prevention;
 - Detecting signs of wildlife crime;
 - Intelligence-led policing;
 - Use of anti-money laundering tools to investigate wildlife trafficking and related crimes, to uncover networks and enablers, and to provide independent grounds for accusation and prosecution;
 - Role of corruption in facilitating wildlife trafficking;
 - Building a successful case for court;
 - CITES enforcement and compliance;
 - Following through on seizures;
 - Appropriate roles and functions of forensic science and technology;
 - Investigating the online illegal trade in wildlife products;
 - Anti-poaching efforts; and
 - Sustaining law enforcement actions.
- Advise on how to motivate the government and ministry personnel to enforce wildlife crime laws and investigate wildlife crime through various activities such as an incentive system, recognition of wildlife law enforcement as a prestigious assignment, use social media to publicly congratulate successes and identify the responsible ministry by name, etc.
- Follow up trainings by encouraging assignments for the trainees to a short-term detail aimed at implementing the transferred skills.
- Provide external law enforcement mentors to serve as a resource for new and ongoing investigations.

- Provide training to connect wildlife trafficking to money laundering and similar financial flows in Asia to raise the profile of wildlife crime as serious crime, as well as engage Financial Intelligence Units to investigate wildlife crime.
- Contribute technical expertise to wildlife investigations (handle crime scene, forensics, international communications, etc.).
- Engage law enforcement bodies to encourage cooperation among those with a CWT and a counter-corruption function.
- Strengthen the profiling, monitoring, and detection systems at ports of entry/exit by developing and promoting the use of a targeted cargo inspection program for customs to intercept shipments of protected wildlife.
- Support the creation and mentoring of a dedicated, skilled investigative unit to combat wildlife crime.
- Provide technical assistance to define the appropriate roles and responsibilities between the relevant national and provincial ministries and law enforcement entities when investigating wildlife crime.
- Provide small equipment to frontline law enforcement ministries to help with the investigation of wildlife crime.

Objective 3:

Develop South Asia's prosecutorial and judicial capacity to CWT.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Conduct trainings for prosecutors and judges on:
 - What is wildlife trafficking and why it is important to stop it;
 - Organized crime in Asia: what it is and how to prosecute and convict organized crime;
 - Wildlife identification;
 - Investigation techniques;
 - Wildlife crime laws;
 - Collection and management of wildlife physical evidence;
 - Documentation of a wildlife crime scene;
 - Wildlife criminals' *modus operandi* and tricks of the trade;
 - Crime scene examination;
 - Detecting signs of wildlife crime;
 - Building a successful court case;
 - CITES enforcement and compliance;
 - How to overcome legal challenges particular to wildlife crime cases;
 - Appropriate roles and functions of forensic science and technology;
 - Using scientific data and analysis to prosecute and convict;
 - Laws pertaining to and how to investigate and prosecute the online illegal trade in wildlife products;
 - Use of financial information in building a case, and adjudication of cases that include such information;
 - Use of anti-money laundering tools to prosecute wildlife trafficking and related crimes;
 - Role of corruption in facilitating wildlife trafficking;

- Following through on seizures; and
 - Sustaining law enforcement actions.
- Advise on how to motivate the government, courts, and ministry personnel to enforce wildlife crime laws, prosecute wildlife crime, and convict wildlife criminals.
- Follow up trainings by encouraging assignments for the trainees to a short-term detail aimed at implementing the transferred skills and ensure these prosecutors and judges are assigned to wildlife crime cases.
- Provide external mentors to prosecutors to serve as a resource for new and ongoing wildlife crime cases.
- Provide training to connect wildlife trafficking to money laundering and related financial flows in Asia to raise the profile of wildlife crime as serious crime.
- Institutionalize specialized training courses in law schools on the investigation and prosecution of wildlife crime cases.
- Assist with wildlife crime cases (analysis and application of laws and penal code, forensics, coordination with law enforcement, etc.).
- Provide technical expertise on the establishment of a “Green Court” that focuses on environmental crimes.
- Implement a legal alert system to send timely alerts to law enforcement, courts, and other relevant stakeholders to highlight notifications or clarification of new and existing laws, decrees, circulars, and decisions; and successful prosecutions, convictions, and sentencing in courts across the country for the purpose of encouraging similar behavior and setting higher standards of expectations within the legal establishment.
- Provide technical expertise on how to improve the efficiency, speed, and efficacy of the judicial process on wildlife crime cases; for example, by allowing certified written testimonial evidence to be admissible in court.

Objective 4:

Support South Asia’s cross border law enforcement cooperation at the provincial, national, regional, and international levels to CWT.

Activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Encourage and facilitate South Asia’s collaboration with other countries to share intelligence and case information.
- Assist relevant South Asian ministries with sharing information and conducting joint enforcement actions and investigations.
- Support inter-ministry collaboration to improve wildlife law enforcement.
- Develop mechanisms for more frequent experience-sharing among local authorities managing criminal cases relating to wildlife.
- Organize hearings to share lessons learned from notable criminal cases relating to wildlife in other countries and within South Asia.
- Provide technical expertise to establish multi-ministry counter wildlife trafficking task forces or specialized cells.
- Facilitate bilateral dialogues in the region that are separate from high-level meetings.
- Create a formalized information-sharing platform for international cooperation.

- Organize meetings or other channels to encourage collaboration, as appropriate, among government authorities and non-governmental groups or international organizations active on this issue in South Asia.

CROSS-CUTTING AND ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

1. Coordination and De-conflicting of Programs

Where other organizations are conducting similar programming to CWT in South Asia, we encourage collaboration, coordination, and de-conflicting of programs to maximize impact. This includes regional organizations and regional programs that include the five countries included in this NOFO. Include in the proposal a description of any similar work you have performed on this topic and if there is overlap specifically with this program. If there is overlap, explain how this previous work will support the programs outlined in this NOFO. Demonstrate an understanding of other organizations working in the region on this issue and how your program will complement and coordinates with theirs.

2. Utilize Local Resources and Expertise

INL values involving local community experts to help conduct programming, since their knowledge of the local wildlife trafficking and persons involved in the illegal trade will strengthen the program's outcomes. We encourage collaborating with and using local resources and experts in the region when possible.

3. Program Expansion

In the event of a successful program, INL will consider the option of extending the program to future years, subject to availability of future funding. Applicants may include in their proposal a brief section outlining how additional funds could potentially be used to expand work into further activities in future years. Applicants are strongly encouraged to demonstrate how their program might leverage funding through other organizations.

TARGET POPULATION

Applicants should identify target audiences, specific demographics, and the region(s) in which the program will be implemented. It is particularly important to specify the approximate number of beneficiaries to be directly and indirectly impacted by program activities.

DESIRED RESULTS AND ILLUSTRATIVE INDICATORS

By the end of the program, the selected applicant is expected to increase South Asia's desire and ability to CWT. Anticipated results include:

1. Increased South Asia's desire and ability to CWT as source, transit, and destination countries.
2. Improved South Asia's will and capacity to investigate, arrest, prosecute, convict, and sentence to the fullest extent of the law the criminal organizations that perpetrate wildlife trafficking, especially the leaders of those organizations.
3. Advanced South Asia's abilities to CWT in one or more of the following areas:

- a. strengthened legislative frameworks;
- b. enhanced law enforcement and investigative capabilities;
- c. developed prosecutorial and judicial capacity; and
- d. supported cross border law enforcement cooperation at the provincial, national, regional, and international levels.

The recipient shall propose outcomes, outputs, indicators, and/or targets to achieve the anticipated results. INL must approve all of the recipient's proposed outcomes, outputs, indicators, and/or targets.

Example outcome indicators for the program are provided below. The recipient should identify outcome indicators and targets based on what it can reasonably achieve within the performance period of the program, and in an environment of corruption, and based on the expected overall program results described above.

<i>Example Outcome Indicators</i>	<i>Targets:</i>
Strengthened South Asia's legislative frameworks	TBD
Enhanced South Asia's law enforcement and investigative capabilities	TBD
Developed South Asia's prosecutorial and judicial capacity	TBD
Supported South Asia's cross border law enforcement cooperation	TBD

Example output indicators and targets for the program are provided below. The recipient should identify output indicators and targets based on what it can reasonably achieve within the performance period of the program, and based on the outcomes described above.

<i>Example Output Indicators</i>	<i>Targets:</i>
Number of law enforcement and justice sector officials trained	TBD
Number of law enforcement and justice sector officials applying improved law enforcement practices	TBD
Number of wildlife law enforcement operations involving two or more countries	TBD
Other output indicators, as identified by the applicant	TBD

The recipient will be required to collect baseline data for all the indicators during the first year of the program. In addition, certain terms included in the outcomes and indicators will need to be defined at the very beginning of the program so that it is possible to measure the change during and at the end of the program. Baseline information will be critical for both monitoring and evaluation of program progress and results.

[END OF SECTION I]

SECTION II – FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

INL expects to award one grant agreement for the full funding amount based on this NOFO, but may award up to four grant agreements that, when combined, total the full funding amount for this NOFO. The anticipated total federal funding amount will not exceed \$2,000,000. The period of performance is up to two years with an anticipated start date of October 2018. INL may extend the award up to two additional years contingent on INL priorities, good performance of the recipient, Department of State management approval, and funding availability.

The U.S. government may issue up to four awards resulting from this NOFO to the responsible applicant(s) whose applications conforming to this NOFO are the most responsive to the objectives and criteria set forth in this NOFO. The U.S. government may (a) reject any or all applications, (b) accept other than the lowest cost application, (c) accept more than one application, (d) accept alternate applications, and (e) waive informalities and minor irregularities in applications received.

The U.S. government may make an award on the basis of initial applications received, without discussions or negotiations. Therefore, each initial application should contain the applicant's best terms from a cost and technical standpoint. The U.S. government reserves the right (but is not under obligation to do so) to enter into discussions with one or more applicants in order to obtain clarifications, additional detail, or to suggest refinements in the program description, budget, or other aspects of an application.

Applicants please be advised that the following will be required if your organization is selected for this announcement.

State Department Leahy Amendment Vetting Requirements:

Funds provided under this award are subject to Section 620M of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, a provision titled "Limitation on Assistance to Security Forces" (the "Leahy Amendment"). Subsection (a) of that provision states: "(a) In General.—No assistance shall be furnished under this Act [the Foreign Assistance Act] or the Arms Export Control Act to any unit of the security forces of a foreign country if the Secretary of State has credible information that such unit has committed a gross violations of human rights." Accordingly, none of the funds under this award may be used to provide training or other assistance to any unit or member of the security forces of a foreign country if the Department of State has credible information that such unit or individual has committed a gross violation of human rights.

In signing this agreement, the Recipient agrees to exercise due diligence to ensure compliance with the Leahy provision and State Department policy, and to cooperate with the State Department in implementation of the Leahy requirement for funds under this award. The Department implements the Leahy requirement by vetting units or individuals proposed for training or other assistance to check for credible information of a gross violation of human rights by such units or individuals. To facilitate State Department vetting, the Recipient must provide the following information for proposed participants at least sixty (60) calendar days prior to commencing award activities. This information should be submitted to the U.S. Embassy in the country where the award will be implemented in order to initiate Leahy vetting

procedures:

Information needed: Full name, date of birth, country of birth, country of citizenship, gender, rank, title, and organizational affiliation. Please also include the activity and date that the activity will take place—if the person will participate throughout an extended program, please note the timeframe. Participant information should be submitted in the format attached.

Information required for “security forces” personnel: The above information is needed for each member of a foreign police or military unit (security forces, broadly defined) who will participate in any activity under this award. This includes both civilian and military employees of security forces participating in any activities funded under this award, including training, workshops or meetings, conferences, or other activities.

The Recipient must collaborate with the relevant U.S. Embassy on a case-by-case basis to determine if the Leahy requirement applies to specific activities or proposed participants. Individuals who are not members of the security forces but who participate in activities under the award (e.g., politicians, academics, etc.) generally do not need to be vetted.

Submission Deadline: Each candidate must be cleared under Leahy vetting in advance of participation in activities funded under this award. The vetting process typically takes approximately one month, but may take longer if there are a large number of candidates or if issues arise. Thus, all information on proposed candidates must be received by the Embassy at least sixty (60) days in advance of the training event or other activity.

The Recipient agrees that it will not include any security forces candidate in training or other activities funded under this award until the State Department advises that the candidate has cleared Leahy vetting and is approved for participation.

[END OF SECTION II]

SECTION III – ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Eligibility for this NOFO is limited to:

- Applicants that qualify to receive U.S. grants, such as **U.S. not-for-profit/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or U.S. based educational institutions subject to section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. tax code; foreign not-for-profits/non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or foreign based educational institutions**, with the ability to develop and successfully implement a program in South Asia and meet INL’s reporting requirements.
- Organizations must also be able to demonstrate current (or pending) country registration in South Asia, as required by the host country.
- Organizations must either be headquartered in South Asia or, if an international NGO, maintain an office in South Asia.

AND

- Applicants must have demonstrated experience implementing similar education or capacity building programs, preferably in South Asia. INL reserves the right to request additional background information on organizations that do not have previous experience administering similar programs and/or federal grant awards.
- Applicants must have the ability to produce course materials, deliver training, and conduct evaluations in the appropriate South Asian languages and English. The applicant’s staff should be proficient in English, in order to fulfill reporting requirements.
- Applicants must have existing, or the capacity to develop, active partnerships with stakeholders in order to successfully carry out the proposed program.
- Organizations may form a consortium and submit a combined proposal. However, one organization should be designated as the lead applicant.
- Applicants must be able to respond to the NOFO and be able to mobilize in a short period of time.

PLEASE NOTE: Public International Organizations (PIOs) and For-Profit Organizations are excluded from applying to this grant announcement.

To be eligible for a grant award, in addition to other conditions of this NOFO, organizations must have a commitment to non-discrimination with respect to beneficiaries and adherence to equal opportunity employment practices. Non-discrimination includes equal treatment without regard to race, religion, ethnicity, gender, and political affiliation.

Applicants are reminded that U.S. Executive Orders and U.S. law prohibits transactions with, and the provision of resources and support to, individuals and organizations associated with terrorism. It is the legal responsibility of the Recipient to ensure compliance with these Executive Orders and laws. This provision must be included in any sub-awards issued under this grant award.

INL encourages applications from potential new partners.

[END OF SECTION III]

SECTION IV – APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

INL urges prospective applicants to immediately confirm their organization has a current Unique Entity Identifier (Dun and Bradstreet (DUNS) number), as well as a current Central Contractor Registration via www.sam.gov. Additionally, please ensure that registration in the following systems is in a current/active status prior to your organization's application submission.

Important Note:

U.S.-based organizations wishing to conduct business (contracts/grants) with the U.S. Government, please proceed directly to SAM.gov. A U.S. CAGE Code will be assigned at the end of the SAM.gov registration process.

Organizations physically located OUTSIDE of the U.S. and territories that wish to conduct business (contracts/grants) with the U.S. Government must FIRST request a NCAGE Code, followed by a DUNS Number, and then complete the registration process in SAM.gov.

1. CAGE/NCAGE Registration

For US-based organizations, a CAGE code will automatically be assigned to your entity once you submit your entity's registration in SAM.gov and the TIN validation has been returned.

NCAGE Codes are required for all foreign entities prior to starting a SAM registration.

PLEASE NOTE: The organization's name, address, and email information must match what you used to request your Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS Number). Please ensure that alphabets, numerical characters, symbols, spacing, etc. is the same in both systems during the registration process. Otherwise, you will receive error messages when applying for the NCAGE code. Organizations can submit a request for an NCAGE Code using the NCAGE Request Tool at:

<https://eportal.nspa.nato.int/AC135Public/Docs/US%20Instructions%20for%20NSPA%20NCAGE.pdf>. Detailed instructions are posted at that site. For additional information, please call 1-269-961-4623 or send an email to NCAGE@dlis.dla.mil.

NCAGE registrations for overseas organizations can take up to 10 days (or more) to finalize once a request has been received. Please plan accordingly.

2. Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS Number)

All applicant organizations (foreign and domestic) must obtain a DUNS number.

US-based organizations may request a DUNS number by calling 1-866-705-5711 or email: SAMHelp@dnb.com; the DUNS number is usually provided immediately.

Foreign organizations that do not have a Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS number) will need to go to the Dun & Bradstreet website at <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/CCRSearch.do?val=1> to start the process for obtaining a

DUNS number. If further assistance is required, please email: SAMHelp@dnb.com.

NOTE: The organization's name, address, and email information used to request the NCAGE Code must match what is used to request your Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS Number). Please ensure that alphabets, numerical characters, symbols, spacing, etc. is the same in both systems during the registration process.

3. **SAM.gov Registration**

SAM.gov registration is required of all INL applicants prior to registering with SAMS Domestic. If your organization was previously registered in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR), you must still create a new Individual User Account in SAM.gov prior to receiving a future federal grant. Applicant organizations can obtain assistance for SAM.gov registration by using the following link: <https://www.fsd.gov> or by calling 1-866-606-8220 (U.S. calls)/or 1-324-206-7828 (international calls). **PLEASE NOTE: The organization's name, address, and email information used to request your organization's Unique Entity Identifier (DUNS number) and the NCAGE Code must match what is used to request the SAM.gov validation.** Please ensure that alphabets, numerical characters, symbols, spacing, etc. is the same in both systems during the registration process. Otherwise, you will receive error messages when registering in SAM.gov.

US-based organizations that already have a TIN (taxpayer identification number), your SAM registration will take 3-5 business days to process. US-based organizations applying for an EIN (employer identification number), please allow up to 2 weeks.

Foreign organizations **must** have a DUNS number and an NCAGE code prior to completing the SAM.gov registration process. Please follow the above listed instructions to obtain each.

Please note: If your organization is registered with SAM.gov and your status is NOT listed as ACTIVE, you will need to update your registration prior to submitting an application through SAMS Domestic. SAM.gov requires ALL organizations (foreign and domestic) to register on an ANNUAL basis.

4. **SAMS Domestic Registration**

Users who had a GrantSolutions account and were assigned to an award in GrantSolutions will already have an account in SAMS Domestic and will need to unlock their account. All other applicants will need to create an account for the first time. Applicants using SAMS Domestic for the first time should complete their user registration as soon as possible. This process must be completed before an application can be submitted through SAMS Domestic.

For GrantSolutions users who had an account transferred to SAMS Domestic: Users who already have a SAMS Domestic account and need to activate their accounts must log in directly to SAMS Domestic at: <https://mygrants.service-now.com> and click on the "Forgot Password?" link. Your username and email address will be the same as in GrantSolutions. A confirmation email will be sent once the account has been created. If users are

experiencing difficulties with the registration process, please contact ILMS Support at 1-888-313-4567 or log a ticket via the ILMS Self Service Portal at: <https://afsitsm.service-now.com/ilms/home>.

To register for the first time, log in directly to SAMS Domestic at: <https://mygrants.service-now.com> and click on the link “Create an Account” on the homepage. Users will then complete the form with the requested information and click “submit.” A confirmation email will be sent once the account has been created. If users are experiencing difficulties obtaining a user login or completing the registration process, please contact ILMS Support at 1-888-313-4567 or log a ticket via the ILMS Self Service Portal at: <https://afsitsm.service-now.com/ilms/home>.

TECHNICAL FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

For all application documents, please ensure:

- A. All pages are numbered, including budgets and attachments;
- B. All documents are formatted to 8 ½ x 11 paper; and
- C. All Microsoft Word documents are single-spaced, 12 point Times New Roman font, with a minimum of 1-inch margins.
- D. All documents must be submitted in English. (*Please note: Per Department policy, English is the official and controlling language for all submitted application/award documents.*)

Complete applications must include the following for proposal submissions:

- 1. Completed and signed SF-424, SF-424A, and SF-424B, submitted via SAMS Domestic. (*Please see Tab D for instructions for completion of Standard Forms 424, 424A, and 424B.*)
- 2. A copy of your organization’s **most recent audit** (as required per 2 CFR 200.500 – Subpart F). If an audit cannot be provided, an explanation must be submitted with the proposal submission.
- 3. **Cover Page** that sets forth proposal title, name of lead applicant, names of any other participating organizations, name and number of the Target Themes to which the proposal responds, and requested funding amount in U.S. dollars (see the award amount ceiling as stated in the NOFO).
- 4. **Table of Contents** (not to exceed one [1] page in Microsoft Word) that includes a page-numbered contents page, including any attachments.
- 5. **Executive Summary** (not to exceed two [2] pages in Microsoft Word) that includes:
 - a) the target country or countries,
 - b) name and contact information for the program’s main point of contact,
 - c) a statement of work or synopsis of the program, including a concise breakdown of the program’s objectives, activities, and expected results,
 - d) the total amount of funding requested and program length, and
 - e) a brief statement on how the program is innovative, sustainable, and will have a demonstrated impact.
- 6. **Proposal Narrative** (not to exceed fifteen [15] pages in Microsoft Word). Please note the page limit ***does not*** include the required items listed in 7 – 16 (below).
- 7. **Summary and Detailed Line-Item Budget** (in Microsoft Excel) that includes three [3] columns including the request to INL, any cost sharing contribution, and total budget (see below for more information on budget format). A summary budget should also be included

using the OMB approved budget categories (see SF-424 as a sample). Costs must be in U.S. dollars.

8. **Budget Narrative** (in Microsoft Word) that includes an explanation and justification for each line item in the detailed budget spreadsheet, as well as the source and a description of all cost-share offered. For ease of review, INL recommends applicants order the budget narrative as presented in the detailed budget. Personnel costs should include a clarification of the roles and responsibilities of key staff and percentage of time devoted to the program. The budget narrative should communicate to INL any information that might not be readily apparent in the budget, not simply repeat with words what is stated numerically in the budget.
9. **NICRA:** If your organization has a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) and will include NICRA charges in the budget, your latest NICRA must be included as a .pdf file. This document will not be reviewed by the panelists, but rather used by program and grant staff if the submission is recommended for funding and therefore does not count against the submission page limitations, as described above. If your proposal involves sub-grants to organizations charging indirect costs, please submit the applicable NICRA also as a .pdf file (see “INDIRECT COST RATE” below for more information on indirect cost rates). If your organization does NOT have a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) please specify if your organization elects to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of the modified total direct costs. The de minimis rate must be included in the detailed budget and an explanation must be provided in the budget narrative.
10. **Monitoring and Evaluation Plan:** (See **TAB B** below for more information on this section.)
11. **Roles and responsibilities of key program personnel with short bios** that highlight relevant professional experience. This relates to the organization’s capacity. Given the limited space, CVs are not recommended for submission.
12. **Timeline of the overall proposal:** Components should include activities, evaluation efforts, and program closeout
13. **A list of previous and/or current federal assistance awards received:** Include the awarding agency, point of contact, name of the program, start and end dates, and amount of the award.
14. **Risk Analysis:** Provide the required risk analysis information as noted in **TAB B** of this NOFO.
15. **INL Pre Award Annual Survey:** Template provided by INL that reviews the organization’s financial capacity and infrastructure.
16. **Attachments:** (not to exceed **five (5)** pages total, preferably in Microsoft Word) Attachments may include further timeline information, letters of support, memoranda of understanding (MOU)/agreement, etc. For applicants with a large number of letters/MOUs, it may be useful to provide a list of the organizations or government agencies that support the program rather than the actual documentation.

Note: INL retains the right to request additional documentation for those items not included on this form.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB) CIRCULARS

Organizations should be familiar with 2 CFR 200 on cost accounting principles. For a copy of the OMB circular cited, please contact Government Publications or download from http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?tpl=/ecfrbrowse/Title02/2cfr200_main_02.tpl. Overseas-based nonprofit organizations are legally required to comply with 2 CFR 200.

AUDITS

The recipient's proposal should include the cost of an audit that:

- 1) Complies with the requirements of 2 CFR 200 Subpart F "Audit Requirements;"
- 2) Complies with the requirements of American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Statement of Position (SOP) No. 92-9, "Audits of Not-for-Profit Organizations Receiving Federal Awards;"
- 3) Complies with AICPA Codification of Statements on Auditing Standards AU Section 551, "Reporting on Information Accompanying the Basic Financial Statements in Auditor-Submitted Documents," where applicable. When the U.S. Department of State is the largest direct source of Federal financial assistance (i.e., the cognizant Federal Agency) and indirect costs are charged to Federal grants, a supplemental schedule of indirect cost computation is required;
- 4) A non-Federal entity that expends \$750,000 or more during the non-Federal entity's fiscal year in Federal awards must have a single or program-specific audit conducted for that year in accordance with the provisions of 2 CFR 200 subpart F. *The audit costs shall be identified by 2 CFR 200.435.*

INDIRECT COST-RATE

An organization with a negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA) negotiated with a cognizant federal government agency other than the U.S. Department of State must include a copy of the cost-rate agreement. Applicants should indicate in the proposal budget how the rate is applied and if any of the rate will be cost-shared. Per 2 CFR 200.414, any non-Federal entity that has never received a negotiated indirect cost rate, except for those non-Federal entities described in Appendix VII to Part 200—States and Local Government and Indian Tribe Indirect Cost Proposals, paragraph D.1.b, may elect to charge a de minimis rate of 10% of modified total direct costs (MTDC) 200.68 Modified Total Direct cost (MTDC) which may be used indefinitely. MTDC means all direct salaries and wages, applicable fringe benefits, materials and supplies, services, travel, and sub-awards and sub-contracts up to the first \$25,000 of each sub-award or sub-contract (regardless of the period of performance of the sub-awards and sub-contracts under the award). ***MTDC excludes equipment (\$5,000 or greater), capital expenditures, charges for patient care, rental costs, tuition remission, scholarships and fellowships, participant support costs and the portion of each sub-award and sub-contract in excess of \$25,000.*** As described in 2 CFR 200.403, factors affecting allowability of costs, costs must be consistently charged as either indirect or direct costs, but may not be double charged or inconsistently charged as both. If chosen, this methodology once elected must be used consistently for all Federal awards until such time as a non-Federal entity chooses to negotiate for a rate, which the non-Federal entity may apply to do at any time.

[END OF SECTION IV]

TAB A: PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

Proposals should include the following components:

- Introduction and Problem Statement
- Planned Activities
- Indicators

Problem Statement and Rationale: Describe the problem and how the program will achieve or contribute to achieving a sustainable solution and a measurable outcome. The applicant should explain the extent of existing assistance within the particular geographic area, and how the proposed intervention may complement (or differ from) other similar interventions. The implementer should also explain, as necessary, the particular experience and qualifications they bring to the program. The rationale should also reflect understanding of the priorities and policies of the bureau/post or program with which this agreement is associated.

Planned Activities and Indicators: Describe the planned activities, and relevant stakeholders for implementation. The implementer should highlight key stakeholders and their expected role in the program, along with any contingencies. The implementer should list assumptions that are dependent on the ultimate success of the program. This could include elements like geographic location, coordination efforts with other international organizations, or political will from host governments, private sector, and NGOs. As appropriate, limited contingency possibilities should be included in the proposal, in case the initial planning assumptions are not met. Example of a planned activity and contingency:

Planned Activity	Contingency
<i>Energy efficiency workshops in collaboration with the government of Mexico and other representatives from the Latin America region, focused on raising awareness of energy efficiency standards.</i>	<i>If government of Mexico doesn't engage at the expected level, program team will look to other regional stakeholders, such as the OAS, to assist in convening key stakeholders.</i>

In the proposal, there should be a clearly defined link between each of the following elements as delineated:

Problem Statement → Planned Activities/Inputs → Process Indicators → Output Indicators → Outcome Indicators → Impact

Process Indicators measure the activity that has been completed. Please delineate the specific activities to be conducted, such as workshops, roundtables, trainings, forums, exchanges, policy dialogues, etc. All indicators must include targets. Example of a process indicator:

Process Indicator	<i>50 women trained in energy efficiency standards</i>
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Output Indicators, otherwise known as deliverables associated with the agreement, should be included. Unlike process indicators, outputs are what is produced, and are often tangible. At this

level, it is the measurement of ability, knowledge, skills, or access. All indicators must include targets. Example of an output indicator involving the same participants:

Output Indicator	<i>80 percent of participants demonstrate at least 75 percent cognizance of efficiency standards</i>
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Outcome Indicators measure the change in system or behavior or practice. Expected outcomes are the results that come from a series of activities that are necessary to achieve impact. All indicators must include targets. Example of an outcome indicator:

Outcome Indicator	<i>30 percent of efficiency standards being implemented in a participant's country as a result of participant's participation.</i>
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All indicators **must** include measurable, numerical targets, which should serve as the foundation for monitoring and evaluation efforts. Ultimately, proposed activities and achievement of indicator targets will lead to impact.

TAB B: PROGRAM MONITORING AND EVALUATION PLAN and RISK ANALYSIS

INL will work with recipient organizations to implement the appropriate monitoring and evaluation plan that meets both the needs of the bureau and the implementing partner. Incorporating a well-designed monitoring and evaluation component into a program is one of the most efficient methods of documenting the progress and potential success of a program. Successful monitoring and evaluation depend on the following:

- Setting objectives that are specific, measurable, attainable, results-focused, and placed in a reasonable time frame (SMART);
- Linking program activities to stated objectives; and
- Developing key performance indicators that measure realistic progress towards the objectives.

INL expects implementing organizations will track participants or partners as appropriate and be able to respond to key evaluation questions, including satisfaction with the program/training, information learned as a result of the program/training, changes in attitude and behavior as a result of the program, and effects of the program on institutions in which participants work or partner with. Applicants should include the monitoring and evaluation process in their timeline.

Recipients will be required to provide reports with an analysis and summary of their findings, both quantitative and qualitative, in their regular quarterly progress reports to INL.

The monitoring and evaluation plan should include, at a minimum, the following elements:

- A results “Logic Model” planning document (see sample Logic Model template attached as a sample document).
- Indicators, as described in Tab A, as well as details on how each indicator will be measured, frequency of the measurements, units of measure, etc. Provide indicators at the output and outcome levels. Monitoring and evaluation plans should include a chart component that clearly delineates indicators and targets. All indicators must include measurable, numerical targets.
- Establish, where possible, performance baseline data and expected performance targets for each indicator/outcome. In some cases, the baseline may be zero.
- Describe monitoring and evaluation tools, such as rapid assessment surveys, site visits, key stakeholder interviews, etc., that will be used.
- Plans should describe how the program’s impact and effectiveness will be monitored and evaluated throughout the program.

INL has included a sample Monitoring and Evaluation template as an attachment to the NOFO.

PROGRAM RISK ANALYSIS

Risks are unavoidable – all programs inherently contain both internal and external risks. However, with proper identification and management, risks can be prepared for, minimized or mitigated. The purpose of a risk analysis is to identify the internal and external risks associated with the proposed

program in the application, rate the likelihood of the risks, rate the potential impact of the risks on the program, and identify actions that could help mitigate the risks. A risk analysis should not be considered a one-time exercise or a static document. INL defers to organizations to conduct adequate risk analysis and remediation for all of its operations and advises that risk analysis and remediation occur throughout the life of a program and should result in revisions to risk analysis documents and processes as necessary. Applicants should include all assumptions and external factors identified in the logic model in the risk analysis. Applicants should rate the likelihood of a risk and potential impact of the risk as “High,” “Medium,” or “Low.”

TAB C: BUDGET GUIDELINES

Complete budgets will provide a detailed line-item budget outlining specific cost requirements for proposed activities. A minimum of three columns should be used to delineate the bureau funding request, cost-share by applicant, and total program funding. Complete applications will include a budget narrative to clarify and justify individual line-items (i.e., calculations of how the costs were derived per month or year, their necessity, and overall contribution to the program's cost-effectiveness).

The three-column proposal line item budget should include the following components, in the suggested format below:

		INL Request	Cost Share	Total
A. PERSONNEL				
a) Primarily Headquarters-Based Personnel				
-H.Q.-based program -dedicated staff salary (X months)	X% of \$X/yr			
-H.Q.-based administrative staff salary (X months)	X% of \$X/yr			
b) Primarily Field-Based Personnel				
-Field-based Country Director salary (x months or year)	X% of \$X/yr			
-Field-based Program Assistant salary (x months or year)	X% of \$X/yr			
Subtotal Personnel				
B. FRINGE BENEFITS				
a) Primarily H.Q.-Based Fringe Benefits	fringe=X% salary			
-H.Q.-based program -dedicated staff fringe (X months)	X% fringe			
-H.Q.-based administrative staff fringe(X months)	X% fringe			
b) Primarily Field-Based Fringe Benefits	fringe=X% salary			
-Field-based Country Director fringe (x months or year)	X% fringe			
-Field-based Program Assistant fringe (x months or year)	X% fringe			
Subtotal Fringe Benefits				
C. TRAVEL				
a) Monitoring Travel				
-Monitoring Trip: H.Q. to field (X)	\$X/RT flight			
-Per diem (X days)	\$X/day			
b) Field Travel				
Activity 1: Workshop				
-Staff Travel (# staff)	\$X/RT flight/# staff			
-Staff Per Diem (X days)	\$X/day/# day/# staff			
-Participant Travel (# participants)	\$X/trip/# pax			
-Participant Per Diem (X days)	\$X/day/# day/# pax			
Activity 2: Town Hall Meeting				
-Staff Travel (# staff)	\$X/RT flight/# staff			
-Staff Per Diem (X days)	\$X/day/# day/# staff			

-Participant Travel (# participants)	\$X/trip/# pax			
-Participant Per Diem (X days)	\$X/day/# day/# pax			
Subtotal Travel				
D. EQUIPMENT				
a) Primarily H.Q.-Based Equipment (if applicable)				
-H.Q.-equipment (if applicable)	\$X/unit			
d) Primarily Field-Based Equipment				
-Field-equipment	\$X/unit			
Subtotal Equipment				
E. SUPPLIES				
a) Primarily H.Q.-Based Supplies (if applicable)				
-Printing and Photocopying (X months)	X% of \$X/yr			
b) Primarily Field-Based Supplies				
-Markers and dry erase board	\$X/set			
-Telephone (X months)	X% of \$X/yr			
-Office Supplies (X months)	X% of \$X/yr			
Subtotal Supplies				
F. CONTRACTUAL				
a) Sub-grants				
-Local Sub-grantees (X sub-grants)	\$X/unit			
b) Consultant Fees				
-Media Specialist/Honoraria (X days/hours)	\$X/consult			
-Independent M & E specialist	\$X/unit			
-Translation Fees (X pages)	\$X/page			
Subtotal Contractual				
G. CONSTRUCTION	N/A			
H. OTHER				
a) Other Direct Costs				
-Field Office Rent (X months)	X% of \$X/mo			
Subtotal Other				
I. TOTAL DIRECT CHARGES (Sum of A-H Subtotals)				
J. INDIRECT CHARGES				
a) Indirect Costs/NICRA (X% of costs)				
Subtotal Indirect Charges				
K. TOTAL COSTS (Sum I-J)				

Note: This budget is designed to serve as an example of the format for complete budget submissions and is NOT exhaustive. Individual line items included in each applicant's budget should reflect specific program activities. (pax = participants)

Before grants are awarded, INL reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the INL program and availability of funds.

As mentioned above, the detailed budget should also include an accompanying budget narrative document that explains and justifies each line item, in the suggested format below:

LINE-ITEM BUDGET NARRATIVE

A. Personnel – Identify staffing requirements by each position title and brief description of duties. For clarity, please list the annual salary of each position, percentage of time and number of months devoted to the program. (e.g., Administrative Director: \$30,000/year x 25% x 8.5 months; calculation: $\$30,000/12 = \$2,500 \times 25\% \times 8.5 \text{ months} = \$5,312.$).

B. Fringe Benefits – State benefit costs separately from salary costs and explain how benefits are computed for each category of employee - specify type and rate. Fringe benefit application must be consistent with organization's written policy.

C. Travel – Staff and any participant travel (Note: Staff refers to grantee staff only, and not sub-grantee staff or contractors):

- 1) International and/or domestic airfare: Please indicate origin and destination (country/city), number of travelers and unit cost per round trip.
 - NOTE: All travel must be booked with economy class fares only. Applicants must explain differences in fares among travelers on the same routes. Note that all travel, where applicable, must comply with the Fly America Act. For more information see <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/content/103191>.
- 2) In-country travel: Please indicate origin and destination (city), type of transportation, number of travelers and unit cost per traveler per trip.
- 3) Per diem/maintenance: Includes lodging, meals, and incidentals for both participant and staff travel. Rates of maximum allowances for U.S. and foreign travel are available from the following website: <http://www.policyworks.gov/>. Per diem rates may not exceed the published U.S. government allowance rates; however, institutions may use per diem rates lower than official government rates.
 - NOTE: Per diem rates must be prorated and/or removed if applicant will pay for refreshments and/or meals for participants during a workshop/conference.

D. Equipment – Provide justification for any equipment purchase/rental, defined as tangible personal property having a useful life of more than one year and an acquisition cost of \$5000 or more.

E. Supplies – List items separately using unit costs (and the percentage of each unit cost being charged to the grant) for photocopying, postage, telephone/fax, printing, and office supplies (e.g., Telephone: $\$50/\text{month} \times 50\% = \$25/\text{month} \times 12 \text{ months}$).

F. Contractual –

- 1) Sub-grants: For each sub-grant/contract please provide a detailed line-item budget breakdown explaining specific services. Please provide a sub-grant budget using the approved OMB budget format. (See Tab C: Budget Guidelines, above.)
- 2) Consultant Fees: For example lecture fees, honoraria, travel, and per diem for outside speakers or independent evaluators: list number of people and rates per day (e.g., 2 x \$150/day x 2 days). Consultant/outside expert fees/honoraria should be consistent with the level of experience and based on a fair market value. (NOTE: *Consultant Fees and Honorarium should NOT EXCEED \$655/day*)

G. Other Direct Costs – These will vary depending on the nature of the program. The inclusion of each should be justified in the budget narrative. All costs must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable, and consistent with OMB guidelines. **Line items such as “Miscellaneous,” “Other,” “Contingency Fund,” and “Reserve Fund” are not permitted.**

H. Indirect Charges – See 2 CFR 200.414, "Indirect Costs"

- 1) If your organization has an indirect cost-rate agreement with the U.S. Government, please include a copy of this agreement. Please specify if your organization elects to charge the de minimis rate of 10% of the modified total direct costs. This does not count against submission page limitations.
- 2) If your organization is charging an indirect rate, please indicate how the rate is applied--to direct administrative expenses, to all direct costs, to wages and salaries only, etc.
- 3) Do not include indirect costs against participant expenses in the Bureau budget, as it generally does not pay for these costs.

Cost Share/Cost-Effectiveness – Explanation of contributions should be included in the budget narrative, whether cash or in-kind. Assign a monetary value in U.S. dollars to each in-kind contribution. If the proposed program is a component of a larger program, identify other funding sources for the proposal and indicate the specific funding amount to be provided by those sources. In addition, it is recommended that budget narratives address the overall cost-effectiveness of the proposal, including leveraging of institutional or other resources. Cost sharing or matching refers to a portion of project or program cost that is not borne by the Federal Government. Grantees must follow cost sharing or matching policy as stipulated in 2 CFR 200.306. Cost sharing amounts proposed will be incorporated as part of the allowable budget items. If selected for an award, your organization will have to provide the minimum amount of cost sharing as stipulated in the budget approved by the Grants Officer. If your organization does not meet its cost share amount stipulated in the approved budget by the end of the period of performance INL will have the option to (1) reduce its contribution in proportion to your organization's contribution in the event that you do not provide the minimum amount of cost sharing stipulated in the budget or (2) hold your organization accountable for the amount specified in the approved budget.

BUDGET CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS

The Recipient is reminded that funds provided under this agreement must be used in a manner fully consistent with U.S. law. The recipient agrees that none of the funds provided by this award shall be used to lobby for or against abortion. The recipient agrees that none of the funds provided by this award shall be used to pay for the performance of abortion as a method of family planning or to motivate or coerce any person to practice abortions.

Per 22 CFR 200.307 ((e) (1), (2), and (3) of this section please note the following guidance concerning use of Program Income:

- Program income earned during the program period shall be retained by the recipient and, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the award, shall be used in one or more of the ways listed in the following:
 - 1) Added to funds committed to the program by the Department and recipient and used to further eligible project or program objectives.
 - 2) Used to finance the non-Federal share of the project or program.

- 3) Deducted from the total project or program allowable cost in determining the net allowable costs on which the Federal share of costs is based.
- It is emphasized, however, that the above three alternatives are applicable only when the grantee is a non-profit entity. Any grant to a commercial firm must state that the first of the alternatives is not available for program income earned by the grantee. (GAO noted in its Principles of Federal Appropriations Law at 10-57, that “This approach [option (1)] increases program size. Both OMB and GAO have expressed preference for the deduction method [option (3)] since it results in savings to the federal government and to grantees.”)

INL will consider budgeted line-items for the following:

- External evaluations to assess the program’s impact (costs must be built into the overall original budget proposal and must be reasonable);
- Costs associated with an internal evaluation conducted by the grantee (costs must be built into the overall original budget proposal and must be reasonable);
- Visa fees, immunizations, and medical insurance associated with program travel;
- A-133 Audit or internal audit for the INL program (or prorated costs that is shared among other Federal Assistance grants/contracts)
- English translation (cost must be built into the original budget proposal and must be reasonable)

The following cost elements will not be reimbursed and are not allowable in this program:

- Publication of materials for distribution within the U.S.;
- Administration of a program that will make a profit;
- Expenses incurred before or after the specified dates of award period of performance (unless prior written approval received);
- Programs designed to advocate policy views or positions of foreign governments or views of a particular political faction;
- Entertainment and/or alcoholic beverages;
- Costs of entertainment, including amusement, diversion, and social activities and any associated costs are unallowable, except where specific costs that might otherwise be considered entertainment have a programmatic purpose and are authorized either in the approved budget for the Federal award or with prior written approval of the Federal awarding agency;
- Land;
- Construction;
- Direct support or the appearance of direct support for individual or single party electoral campaigns;
- Duplication of services immediately available through municipal, provincial, or national government;
- Expenses listed as “miscellaneous”, “other”, or “contingencies”;
- Expenses made prior to the approval of a proposal or unreasonable expenditures will not be reimbursed.

INL may make conditions and recommendations on proposals to enhance proposed programs. Conditions and recommendations are to be addressed by the applicant before approval of the

award. To ensure effective use of INL funds, conditions or recommendations may include requests to increase, decrease, clarify and/or justify budget costs.

TAB D: GUIDELINES FOR STANDARD FORMS

SF-424 – Complete all fields except fields noted as “Leave Blank” below.

1. Type of Submission: *Application*
2. Type of Application: *New*
3. Date Received: *Leave blank. This will automatically be assigned*
4. Applicant Identifier: *Leave blank*
- 5a. Federal Entity Identifier: *Leave blank*
- 5b. Federal Award Identifier: *Leave blank*
6. Date Received by State: *Leave blank. This will automatically be assigned*
7. State Application Identified: *Leave blank. This will automatically be assigned*
- 8a. Enter the legal name of the applicant organization.
- 8b. Employer/Taxpayer ID Number: *(Non U.S. organizations leave blank)*
- 8c. Organizational DUNS: Organizations can request a DUNS number at
<http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform>
- 8d. Enter the full address of the applicant
- 8e. Enter the name of the primary organizational unit (and department or division, if applicable) that will undertake the assistance activity, if applicable
- 8f. Enter the name, title, organization, and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application
9. Select an applicant type (type of organization)
10. Enter: *Department of State*
11. Enter: the CFDA number is *19.705*
12. Enter the Funding Opportunity Number and title. *This information will already be entered on electronic applications in SAMS Domestic.*
13. Enter the Competition Identification Number and title. *This number will already be entered on electronic applications in SAMS Domestic.*
14. Areas Affected by Program: *List the country or countries where program activities will take place in alphabetical order; for programs that will take place in more than one region enter “Global.”*
15. Enter the title of the proposed program (if necessary, delete pre-printed wording)
- 16a. Enter congressional district of Applicant. *(foreign applicants please enter “90.”)*
- 16b. Enter: *(foreign applicants, please enter “00”)*
- Program: *Leave blank*
17. Enter a start date and a projected end date
18. Enter the amount requested for the program under “Federal”
(18a); enter any cost-share under “Applicant” (18b).
19. Enter “c”
20. Select the appropriate box. If you answer “yes” to this question you will be required to provide an explanation.
21. Enter the name, title, and contact information of the individual authorized to sign for the application.

[END OF SECTION IV]

SECTION V – APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

The technical applications and proposal submissions will be evaluated in accordance with the Technical Evaluation Criteria set forth below. Technical evaluation of applications will be based on the extent and appropriateness of proposed approaches and feasibility of achieving the strategic objectives, in accordance with the following criteria.

If award is not made on the initial applications, INL may request clarification and supplemental materials from applicants whose applications have a reasonable chance of being selected for award. The entry into discussion is to be viewed as part of the evaluation process and shall not be deemed by INL or the applicants as indicative of a decision or commitment upon the part of INL to make an award to the applicants with whom discussions are being held.

I. TECHNICAL EVALUATION CRITERIA

A technical evaluation committee, using the criteria shown in this Section, will evaluate the technical applications. The various functional elements of the technical criteria are assigned weighted scores, so that the applicants will know which areas require emphasis in the preparation of applications.

Where technical applications are considered essentially equal, cost may be the determining factor. Applicants should note that these criteria serve as the standard against which all applications will be evaluated and serve to identify the significant matters which applicants should address in their applications.

The relative importance of each criterion is indicated by the number of points assigned. A total of 100 points is possible.

Quality of Program Idea (Total Possible Points - 25):

- Responsive to the solicitation (5)
- Appropriate in the country/regional context (5)
- Exhibits originality, substance, and precision (5)
- Prioritizes innovation but is feasible (5)
- In countries where similar activities are already taking place, provides an explanation as to how new activities will not duplicate or merely add to existing activities (5)

Program Planning/Ability to Achieve Objectives (Total Possible Points - 25):

- Includes a clear articulation of how the proposed program activities contribute to the overall program objectives (3)
- Each activity is clearly developed and detailed (3)
- Provides a comprehensive quarterly work plan for program activities that demonstrates substantive undertakings within the logistical capacity of the organization (3)
- Objectives are clear, specific, attainable, measurable results-focused and placed in a reasonable time frame (3)
- Addresses how the program will engage or obtain support from relevant stakeholders and identifies local partners where appropriate (3)

- Describes the division of labor among the direct applicant, any partners, and any potential sub-grantees (2)
- Proposal clearly articulates understanding of the security situation/operating environment and plans for ensuring safety of participants (2)
- Includes contingency plans for potential difficulties in executing the original work plan (6)

Cost Effectiveness/Cost Sharing (Total Possible Points - 15):

- The overhead and administration of the proposal, including salaries and honoraria, are explained and justified for the work involved (5)
- All budget items are necessary, appropriate and linked to program objectives (5)
- Personnel costs are reasonable for the work involved (5)

Program Monitoring and Evaluation (Total Possible Points - 15):

The Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan includes:

- Narrative explaining how monitoring and evaluation will be carried out and who will be responsible for monitoring and evaluation activities (5)
- Table listing by program objectives the output- and outcome-based performance indicators with baselines and (yearly and cumulative) targets; data collection tools; data sources; types of data disaggregation, if applicable; and frequency of monitoring and evaluation (7)
- Includes an external midterm and/or final evaluation or justification for why one is not included (3)

Multiplier Effect/Sustainability of Impact Rating (Total Possible Points - 10):

- Clearly delineates how elements of the program will have a multiplier effect (5)
- Clearly delineates how impact will be sustainable beyond the life of the grant (5)

Institution's Record and Capacity Rating (Total Possible Points - 10):

- The proposal demonstrates an institutional record of successful programs in the proposed country and the content area (4)
- Personnel and institutional resources are adequate and appropriate to achieve the program's objectives (2)
- Roles, responsibilities, and brief bios/resumes are included for primary staff, and demonstrate relevant professional experience (2)
- Applicant is a current/past Department of State grantee where performance (2) was/is on target showed/shows responsible fiscal management

OR

- The proposal is from a NEW APPLICANT and proposal demonstrates capacity for responsible fiscal management illustrates success in similar sized programs (2)

COST EVALUATION

Cost will be evaluated for realism, reasonableness, allowability, allocability, and cost effectiveness. The pre-award evaluation of cost effectiveness will include an examination of the application's budget detail to ensure it is a realistic financial expression of the proposed program and does not contain estimated costs which may be unallocable, unreasonable, or unallowable. Applications that have more efficient operational systems that reduce operation costs will be favorably considered.

Applications that maximize direct activity costs including cost sharing and that minimize administrative costs are encouraged. Other considerations are the completeness of the application, adequacy of budget detail and consistency with elements of the technical application. In addition, the organization must demonstrate adequate financial management capability, to be measured by a responsibility determination.

[END OF SECTION V]

SECTION VI – FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

Federal Award Notices: The successful applicant(s) will be notified via email that its proposal has been selected to move forward in the review process; this email IS NOT an authorization to begin performance. The Grants Officer is the Government Official delegated the authority by the U.S. Department of State Procurement Executive to write, award, and administer grants and cooperative agreements. The assistance award agreement is the authorizing document and it will be provided to the Recipient through email transmission or via SAMS Domestic. The recipient may only incur obligations against the award beginning on the start date outlined in the DS-1909 award document that has been signed by the INL Grants Officer. Organizations whose applications will not be funded will also be notified via email by INL. Please refer to the anticipated time to award information in Section E.

Terms and Conditions: Recipients will be held to the applicable terms and conditions found at <https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/271865.pdf>. It is the Recipient's responsibility to ensure they are in compliance with all applicable terms, conditions, and OMB guidance and requirements. Those organizations found to be in non-compliance may be found ineligible for future funding or designated high risk.

2 CFR 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Costs Principles, and Audit

Requirements for Federal Awards: All applicants must adhere to the regulations found in [2 CFR 200 Uniform Administrative Requirements, Costs Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards](#).

Branding Requirements: As a condition of receipt of a grant award, all materials produced pursuant to the award, including training materials, materials for recipients or materials to communicate or promote with foreign audiences a program, event, project, or some other activity under an agreement, including but not limited to invitations to events, press materials, and backdrops, podium signs, etc. must be marked appropriately with the standard, rectangular U.S. flag in a size and prominence equal to (or greater than) any other logo or identity. **Note:** Exceptions to the branding requirement are allowable under certain conditions. If an applicant is notified that their award has been chosen for funding, the Grants Officer will determine, in consultation with the applicant, if an exception is applicable.

Reporting Requirements:

1. Recipients are required to submit quarterly program progress and financial reports throughout the program period. Progress (SF-PPR and narrative) and financial reports (SF-424 and a detailed financial expenditure report) are due 30 days after the reporting period. Final certified programmatic and financial reports are due 90 days after the close of the program period.
 - First Quarter (October 1 – December 31): Report due by January 30
 - Second Quarter (January 1 – March 31): Report due by April 30
 - Third Quarter (April 1 – June 30): Report due by July 30
 - Fourth Quarter (July 1 – September 30): Report due by October 30

All reports are to be submitted electronically via SAMS Domestic and via email to the Grants Officer Representative noted in the award agreement.

2. Awardees that are deemed to be high risk may be required to submit more extensive and frequent reports until their high risk designation has been removed by the Grants Officer.
3. The Awardee must provide to INL an inventory of all the U.S. government provided equipment purchased with grant funds using the SF428 form on an annual basis.

[END OF SECTION VI]

SECTION VII – AGENCY CONTACTS

Any prospective applicant desiring an explanation or interpretation of this NOFO must request it in writing by the deadline for questions specified in the cover letter to allow a reply to reach all prospective applicants before the submission of their applications. Any information given to a prospective applicant concerning this NOFO will be furnished promptly to all other prospective applicants as an amendment of this NOFO, if that information is necessary in submitting applications or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective applicants.

Any questions or comments concerning this NOFO must be submitted in writing by email to Leslie Catherwood via email at CatherwoodLH@state.gov by the deadline for questions indicated at the top of this NOFO's cover letter.

[END OF SECTION VII]