

**Questions and Answers for
Western Hemisphere Regional Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing Assessment
SFOP0008097**

Date: June 14, 2021

Question 1:

We have one question, however, with which you might be able to help that touches on the proposed roundtables mentioned in the NOFO. Would it make sense to propose a total of four roundtables, one for each of the four objectives, and can these be virtual, to be convened and jointly branded by our organization together with appropriate country-based institutions?

Answer: Applicants may propose an increase in the number of roundtables as appropriate to engage with the public and stakeholders on project findings. Roundtables can be virtual and convened and branded by the grantee.

Question 2:

Are you anticipating that the eventual grantee will pursue each objective and each activity listed within the RFP for all nine priority countries? Or will it be possible to focus on just a few of the countries, objectives, or activities listed?

Answer: Preference will be given to applicants who address all objectives and activities for each priority countries listed.

Question 3:

Under the Priority Regions/Countries section, the NOFO lists a total of 9 countries in 3 regions. Is there a minimum number of countries that must be included in a proposal or is it required that we include all countries?

Answer: Preference will be given to applicants who include each priority country in their proposal.

Question 4:

Logic Model is not listed under the Required Application Documents in the NOFO but is included in the INL Templates folder on grants.gov. Can you please clarify whether a logic model is required for this opportunity?

Answer: A logic model is not required for this opportunity. Applicants should instead fill out an activity map, outlining the project goal, objectives, sub-objectives (if applicable), activities, and indicators. Refer to the table in Appendix A for additional guidance.

Question 5:

Is the budget ceiling of USD \$300.000 a must, or is it possible to present a bid lower than this amount?

Answer: The final proposed budget should be based on the needs of the applicant in order to achieve the goals/objectives outlined in the project. Lower budget proposals are at the discretion of the applicant.

Question 6:

Regarding the countries selected for the NOFO, could we get some background or details as of why these are priority countries under this working theme, or in which areas is it preferable to focus when working with this country focus?

Answer: Priority countries were selected based on demonstrated need and/or political will to address IUU fishing and prevalence of IUU fishing in surrounding areas as well as countries in which INL can execute programming. Applicants should focus on fishing activities in the territorial and contiguous waters and exclusive economic zones of priority countries.

Question 7:

Should the round tables in each country cover all 4 objectives, or would the idea be to have one separate roundtable per objective in each country?

Answer: Applicants may choose to cover all four objectives in one roundtable or have separate roundtables.

Question 8:

Would we need to provide some small budget allocation for catering/venue hire for the round tables? If yes, under which budget category can we include this?

Answer: Applicants should allocate part of the budget for expenses related to the roundtables with a breakdown of estimated expenses. These expenses may be included under Other Direct Costs?

Question 9:

Under the “Required Application Documents”, under the mention “Project Proposal”, does the Proposal Narrative with a maximum of 15 pages also covers the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and the Projects Risks Analysis, or should these two be presented in their respective templates outside the maximum of 15 pages?

Answer: The Monitoring and Evaluation Plan and Project Risk Analysis do not have to fit within the 15-page maximum of Project Narrative. They can be considered as annexes to the 15-page proposal.

Question 10:

Regarding the list of activities under each objective, is there a possibility of adding activities if we consider it appropriate or is this a closed list provided by the INL?

Answer: Applicants may propose additional activities, but the applicant should explain how the proposed activities will meet the objectives and overall project goal.

Question 11:

Under Activity 3 (Provide a chart of country participation in existing international IUU fishing-related treaties with an analysis, for States Parties and particularly government-backed malign actors, of compliance with these treaty obligations.)

Checking compliance of foreign flag vessels active in the 9 focus countries could be potentially problematic without engaging directly with state/flag authorities in those countries. This may need to be attempted but responses cannot be guaranteed. Does INL have any views/guidance on this?

Answer: Applicants should state in the proposal how they plan to address any difficulties in achieving the project objectives and activities.

Question 12:

Under Activity 2 (Research and analyze law enforcement physical capacity to inspect vessels for IUU fishing activity).

Could you please provide some detail on the differences between Activity 1 and Activity 2 under Objective 2, given that assessing the physical capacity of law enforcement is already part of assessing the surveillance capacities of law enforcement?

Answer: Activity 1 refers to law enforcement technologies and tools to detect IUU fishing vessels. Activity 2 refers to law enforcement capabilities to physically inspect or deter IUU fishing activity.

Question 13:

Under Activity 1 (Provide a chart of organized crimes associated with IUU fishing activities (e.g. money laundering and human smuggling) and map the criminal networks participating in these activities).

Is any type of digital tool expected as a deliverable of this activity, or is it up to the applicant to specify the form in which this chart and mapping should be delivered?

Answer: The applicant should specify the form in which the chart and map will be delivered.

Question 14:

Under Activity 3 (Develop a publicly-releasable map of the impact of these crimes, including infographics and other social-media friendly graphics, including in Spanish).

Are there any specifications so far for the “publicly-releasable map” under this activity? Should this be in digital form as an interactive piece or a printable type of version?

Answer: The applicant should specify the form in which the publicly-releasable map will be delivered.