

Questions Sent by Potential Applicants + INL Responses

NOFO Opportunity Number: *INL20CA0002-WHPCostaRica-Forensics-102519*

Public Opportunity Title: *ISO 17025/17020 Quality Control Accreditation of the Forensics Lab, Legal Medicine and Crime Scene Management Units of Costa Rica*

Question #1:

On page 14 of NOFO, it states that the cover page should include “name and number of the target themes to which the proposal responds.” Please clarify which are the target themes.

Answer #1:

A successful proposal address as many, if not all, of the below themes:

- 1- Design and implement crime scene specialists program: specialized training for investigators to acquire a higher level of competence and specialization in crime scene management, with the purpose of improving the quality of evidence collection based on quality criteria and good science. The ultimate purpose is to improve the value chain process from trace collection to issuance of expert report for court.
- 2- Design and implement a basic course program for investigators, which has among its contents, modules of forensic sciences, crime scene management, and legal framework to improve the capabilities of these departments in terms of infrastructure and services offered.
- 3- Expand the areas accredited in the Department of Forensic Sciences by integrating units that receive inputs from Crime Scene Investigations, Homicides and Pathology units, guaranteeing the value chain of the Quality System.
- 4- Activate the accreditation process in the Forensic Pathology section of the Department of Legal Medicine on ISO 17020 and ISO 17025.
- 5- Initiate the accreditation process of the quality control of crime scene management used by the Crime Scenes Investigations unit on ISO 17020 and ISO 17025.

Question #2:

On page 12 of NOFO, it states, "recipient must compile comprehensive corruption statistics and training numbers monthly." How can applicants gain access to corruption statistic numbers during the project?

Answer #2:

The recipient will be able to gather this information from the Public Ministry of the Judicial Branch. The trainings numbers refer to the number of trainings and the number of participants that the recipient will conduct (INL will provide standard forms).

Question #3:

Section III – Eligibility Information states: *Organizations must also be able to demonstrate current (or pending) country registration in Costa Rica, if required by the country of project implementation.* Is Costa Rican registration a requirement for this project?

Answer #3:

No. Registration in Costa Rica is not a requirement to be able to operate there, as long as organizations can have valid registration in their home country.