

**Questions and Answers for
Regional Caribbean Police Professionalization and Modernization
SFOP0008031**

Revised: May 27, 2021

NOTE TO ALL APPLICANTS:

INL would like to confirm that while CBSI includes the countries of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Suriname, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, The Bahamas, and Trinidad and Tobago, efforts are not expected in every Eastern Caribbean country. Activities will focus on the Bahamas, Dominican Republic, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and Barbados as a hub for the Eastern Caribbean.

Question 1:

We were looking at this opportunity in SAMS but not finding any information for applicants. Is there additional information available to describe what is requested for this opportunity?

Answer:

Please visit www.grants.gov for more information.

Question 2:

We are seeking assistance on the eligibility requirements of SFOP0008031: Regional Caribbean Police Professionalization and Modernization. We would like to know if we are allowed to participate in the grant application as a small business partner to an applicant that meets the eligibility requirements. Thank you for your assistance.

Answer:

Per the 2 CFR 200: The non-Federal entity may concurrently receive Federal awards as a recipient, a subrecipient, and a contractor, depending on the substance of its agreements with Federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities. Therefore, a pass-through entity must make case-by-case determinations whether each agreement it makes for the disbursement of Federal program funds casts the party receiving the funds in the role of a subrecipient or a contractor. An award can be provided by a pass-through entity to a subrecipient for the subrecipient to carry out part of a Federal award received by the pass-through entity through any form of legal agreement (ie. subaward), including an agreement that the pass-through entity considers a contract.

Question 3:

On page 11, Section D, the solicitation states that the proposal narrative is “maximum 15 pages” and includes the cover page, table of contents, and executive summary. Would INL please consider removing the cover page and table of contents from the 15-page narrative limit?

Answer:

The cover page and table of contents do not need to be included in the narrative limit. (Please understand that this is the decision for this NOFO only and not a requirement across all INL NOFOs.)

Question 4:

On page 11, Section D, the solicitation states that proposal narrative is “maximum 15 pages” and includes the timeline and activity map. The timeline and activity map are quite complex and will take up a large number of pages. Would INL please consider moving the Timeline and Activity Maps to Annexes?

Answer:

The Timeline and Activity Maps may be submitted as annexes. (Please understand that this is the decision for this NOFO only and not a requirement across all INL NOFOs.)

Question 5:

On page 14, Section D, the solicitation states that “12 point Times New Roman font “ is required. Would INL please confirm that applicants may include graphics, charts, tables, and graphs in 10-point font?

Answer:

Yes, graphics, charts, tables, and graphs may use font smaller than 12 point. (Please understand that this is the decision for this NOFO only and not a requirement across all INL NOFOs.)

Question 6:

On page 6, Section A, under component #2, how many CBSI partner nation academies does INL envision targeting with IMPACS?

Answer:

INL primarily envisions coordinating with IMPACS on CBSI-Connect, including identifying gaps and potential academy/in-service courses that could address gaps in current courses currently offered on CBSI-Connect.

Question 7:

The International Association of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) is the only known Police accreditation organization that has certified organizations outside the United States. If IADLEST has already committed to working with another

Organization responding to this funding opportunity; how does this affect the applicant if unable to obtain a letter of support from IADLEST?

Answer:

A letter of support from IADLEST is not required. INL's understanding is that other organizations support international police academy and/or unit/organizational accreditation. The NOFO also offers certification as an option under Component 3.

Question 8:

How many Caribbean Law Enforcement Departments are expected to be accredited by the end of the project implementation period?

Answer:

The NOFO does not outline an expected/targeted number of Departments to be accredited. Component 3 identifies the initial priority academy and a potential second academy.

Question 9:

Is the requirement to certify academies within the one-year time frame, or to prepare for accreditation by end of year 1 and accreditation by end of year 2?

Answer:

The expectation is for the academy accreditation process to be initiated within year 1 for at least the priority academy identified in the NOFO.

Question 10:

Under Component #4, the implementer is expected to work with INL-CBSI Program Officers in Washington, DC, INL Directors of country programs, and CARICOM IMPACS to identify critical gaps in police professionalization and deploy advisors/consultants on an as-needed basis to provide targeted technical assistance based on international best practices. Is a budgeted line item required for this open-ended commitment?

Answer:

Yes. INL understands this is open-ended and may vary depending on gap areas, needs/priorities, and budget but an estimated budget should be included.

Question 11:

Does each of the countries identified have one central police academy?

Answer:

Yes, with the exception of the Eastern Caribbean countries.

Question 12:

In the event that academy site visits become possible, is it expected that site visits will only occur at one location per country?

Answer:

That will ultimately be determined by the implementer but INL site visits for components 1-3 would only require travel to the academy location.

Question 13:

Are the expected costs of accreditation materials (self-assessment material and certification) the responsibility of the implementer or the specific police department?

Answer:

The NOFO states the implementer will provide “guidance and advisory support”. INL will provide more information and details at the kickoff call for this project.

Question 14:

Will each training academy be assigning a project manager and/or point of contact to support content reviews and approval processes?

Answer:

This will be discussed during a project kick off meeting.

Question 15:

Is the requirement to certify academies within the one-year time frame, or to prepare for accreditation by end of year 1?

Answer:

The expectation is for the academy accreditation process to be initiated within year 1 for at least the priority academy identified in the NOFO.

Question 16:

What percentage of training is performed or expected to be performed online v. in-person?

Answer:

INL does not have an explicit expectation for online vs. In-person training.

Question 17:

What level of political commitment is there from the senior political leadership in the priority countries for this project?

Answer:

This varies by country, but INL Program Managers and INL country sections will provide guidance and support on political commitment.

Question 18:

Travel. What is INL's expectation of the travel situation for the applicant/consultants when the project kicks off in August 2021? Do you expect that there will be travel restrictions at the beginning of August in any of the 13 CBSI countries that would cause INL to recommend that the applicant/consultants not travel there due to COVID-19 conditions or other issues? If there are such conditions, how long do you anticipate they will last?

Answer:

Travel restrictions vary from country to country and it is difficult to anticipate travel restrictions that may be in place in August or how long restrictions might last. INL will share any relevant travel guidance or restrictions for implementors and the selected implementer should use www.travel.state.gov as a resource as well. If there are COVID-19 travel restrictions, INL and the implementer will discuss options including virtual visits, front loading assessments for countries with fewer restrictions, and other alternatives.

Question 19:

Training Academy Evaluations. What is INL's expectation about how the initial evaluations of the police training academies are to be conducted? Will the applicant be expected to conduct these evaluations virtually if travel is not possible?

Answer:

See response to question 18.

Question 20:

In-country contact information. In countries where the U.S. has an embassy or consulate, would State Department staff provide the applicant assistance (i.e., provide points of contact, make introductions, etc.), particularly if virtual academy evaluations are required?

Answer:

Yes, in-country Program Directors or other appropriate INL staff will provide contact information and/or facilitate introductions/connections via email.

Question 21:

Curriculum Development. Based upon previous work with INL Regional Offices, we know that some of the offices have a unit that develops training curricula. Does the INL Regional Office overseeing this project also have a unit that would assist with developing lesson plans?

Answer:

INL/WHP does not have a unit that is able to assist in developing lesson plans.

Question 22:

Do the cover page and table of contents count toward the 15-page limit for the project narrative?

Answer:

No, the cover page does not need to count towards the page limit.

Question 23:

Are there any specific countries within the 13 Priority Region/Countries that the Project should focus on in general?

Answer:

The project should focus on the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Bahamas, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname, Guyana, and Barbados as the focal point for the Eastern Caribbean. The other Eastern Caribbean countries do not require individual assessment, technical assistance, etc.

Question 24:

More specifically for Component 1, are there any specific countries within the 13 Priority Region/Countries that the Project should focus on?

Answer:

See response to question 23.

Question 25:

For Component #3 - Academy Accreditation, is there a particular international accreditation that is being sought?

Answer:

No, a specific international accreditation is not being sought.

Question 26:

For Component #3 - Academy Accreditation, is accreditation thought to be for each respective National Police Academy, or for the CBSI-Connect curriculum?

Answer:

Accreditation is not expected for each police academy or for the CBSI-Connect curriculum. Component 3 identifies the initial priority academy and a potential second academy.

Question 27:

For Component #5 and Objective #5 - Advisory Support for Institutional Reform, is there a goal of how many police institutions or countries should receive technical assistance under the project?

Answer:

There is not a goal number of police institutions or countries that will receive technical assistance. INL understands this is open-ended and may vary depending on gap areas, needs/priorities, and budget but an estimated budget should be included.

Question 28:

For components 1-4 are travel, meals, and lodging for SMEs arranged by INL or the recipient organization?

Answer:

The recipient organization will arrange travel, meals, and lodging for SMEs.

Question 29:

For component 4, are in-country technical assistance training participants eligible for meals, lodging, and travel reimbursements? If so, are these items arranged by INL or the recipient organization?

Answer:

In country technical assistance are eligible for travel reimbursement (including of meals/M&IE and lodging). Travel will be arranged by the recipient organization.

Question 30:

For component 4, is the recipient organization required to provide catered breaks during the delivery of targeted technical assistance in-country?

Answer:

The recipient organization may determine whether to provide catered breaks.

Question 31:

For component 4, are SMEs required to be U.S. citizens, or can in-country or non-U.S. based SMEs be used to provide targeted technical assistance?

Answer:

SMEs are not required to be U.S. citizens, but must have relevant background and experience to provide subject matter expert advising and technical assistance.

Question 32:

Dutch-English translation is defined in the NOFO; should the recipient organization also budget for Dutch-English interpretation for site visits, assessments, and targeted technical assistance occurring in Suriname?

Answer:

The recipient organization should plan for interpretation for assessment only.

Question 33:

Regarding Leahy vetting requirements, will there be one central contact for the recipient to submit proposed participant lists to INL? Or is the recipient organization required to submit proposed participant lists to separate U.S. Embassy contacts for each of the 14 target countries?

Answer:

INL will work to streamline the process, but the recipient organization should plan to submit participant lists to separate U.S. Embassy contacts in each target country. The Eastern Caribbean countries do not require individual travel.