

Questions-Comments-Responses to EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 – Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO))

1. Monday 1/30/23

We are currently exploring the Funding Opportunity- **Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions** and brainstorming the project design. We had a few queries that we hope you would address so that we get further clarity on our application.

1. Our organisation is a non-profit working in different countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Are we eligible to apply for this funding opportunity to implement the project in Nepal?
2. Do we need to implement the activities in one specific country, or can we do the activities in multiple countries (within Asia, Latin America and Africa)?

Response sent 2/1/23: Thank you for your interest in Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

To determine your eligibility, please refer to the eligibility criteria in Section III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION, pages 10-12.

While an applicant can submit a proposal to implement activities in one specific country, organizations can also submit a proposal to implement activities in multiple countries. Please refer to Section I-B. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION - Program Goals and Objectives, pages 4-6.

2. Thu 2/2/23

Funding is conveyed by USAID or directly by EPA?

Response sent 2/3/23: Thank you for reaching out and inquiring about eligibility. To determine your eligibility, please refer to the eligibility criteria in Section III, pages 10-12 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 – Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions.

All funding from this Notice of Funding Opportunity comes from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Please refer to Section II. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION, pages 9-10.

3. Fri 2/3/23

We have difficulties accessing the full documents electronically. Could share further information about the grant opportunity and guidance on how to apply?

Response sent 2/4/23: Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

Attached is a pdf version of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

4. Fri 2/3/23 Question

Can you confirm that international organizations NOT based in the US are eligible?

Response sent 2/6/23:

Thank you for reaching out and inquiring about eligibility. International Organizations with Non-Profit Status are eligible to apply for funding, per Section III, pages 10-12 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 – Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions. In accordance with Assistance Listing No. 66.034 and EPA’s Policy for Competition of Assistance Agreements (EPA Order § 5700.5A1), competition under this solicitation is available to states (including the District of Columbia); local governments; U.S. territories and possessions; Indian tribes; international organizations; public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, and laboratories; and other public or private non-profit institutions. International organizations that are non-governmental organizations with non-profit status are eligible to apply; however, the organization must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) and Grants.gov to do so.

5. Fri 2/10/23 Question

Would you please provide us with your guidance on the following questions:

1. Can we apply as a consortium or should it be only one lead organization with partnerships?
2. Can we apply to cover only the African region?
3. Can we apply covering only one qualifying clean cooking technology?

Response Sent 2/14/23: Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

We are not able to comment or review pre-application concepts or materials. Please refer to the NOFO Section I, pages 3-8 to determine if your proposal aligns with the NOFO. Also refer to Section I-B. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION - Program Goals and Objectives, pages 4-6. Eligible organizations can decide to apply as a consortium or as a lead organization with partnerships. If a consortium, there does need to be one organization that is the key contact with EPA and receives the funding. Applicants are not limited geographically or by fuel type or number of fuels.

6. Tue 2/14/23 Question

I would like to ask the following clarifications in relation to the NOFO EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 'Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions':

- If a proposed sub-awardee (University) will not receive a budget amount from the lead organization, can it be considered a sub-awardee within the proposed project? The University will receive supplies/equipment/in-kind through the project. Does this amount need to be included in the equipment/supplies section of the budget, or in the subgrant line in 'Other'?

If this University will provide staff under the proposed project, will this be considered as staff personnel costs (cost-sharing) to be included under the personnel cost line?

- If the sub-awardee is a University, do they need to have the UEI number/SAMS registration in place?

- If we have a NICRA negotiated with USAID can this be considered valid to calculate Indirect Costs in the budget that will be presented to EPA?

Response sent 2/15/23:

Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

Please refer to the NOFO sections listed for additional clarifications:

II. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION – pgs. 9-10

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION – pgs. 10-12

B. Voluntary Cost Sharing or Matching Funds

No cost sharing/matching funds or leveraged resources are required as a condition of eligibility under this competition.

EPA will use the USAID indirect cost rate.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION pgs. 12-26

7. Wed 2/15/23 Question

We are preparing to make our application to further expand our knowledge by making proper implementation clean cooking solutions at house level. As in the announcement, it does not mention any specific region for eligible application at

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=345368>

I kindly would like to request if the announcement is targeted towards any specific region or generic for anywhere in the world that is having low or middle income status?

Response sent 2/15/23:

Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions.

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We are not able to comment or review pre-application concepts or materials. Please refer to the NOFO Section I, pages 3-8 to determine if your proposal aligns with the NOFO. Also refer to Section I-B. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION - Program Goals and Objectives, pages 4-6. Applicants are not limited geographically or by fuel type or number of fuels.

8. Wed 2/15/23

Standard Question

I am writing this email to request for the Project Narrative Attachment Form for the US EPA Call- Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions. We tried accessing the form through the link provided, however it shows error.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Response sent 2/15/23:

Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions.

Attached is a pdf version of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

9. Thu 2/16/2023 Question

Are the grants for any organisation from any country? Is the call only for USA? Is the project to meet needs of people in USA or can an international organisation apply to get funding and execute the project there?

Response sent 2/16/2023:

Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

We are not able to comment or review pre-application concepts or materials. Please refer to the NOFO Section I, pages 3-8 to determine if your proposal aligns with the NOFO. Also refer to Section I-B. FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION - Program Goals and Objectives, pages 4-6.

Applicants are not limited geographically or by fuel type or number of fuels.

10. Fri 2/17/23 Question

Is a non-profit organization registered and working in clean cooking sector in **Nepal** eligible to apply for the following call by EPA:

Title: Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions

ANNOUNCEMENT TYPE: Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NUMBER: EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02

ASSISTANCE LISTING NUMBER: 66.034

Looking for your response. Thank you.

Response Sent 2/17/23: Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions. Thank you for reaching out and inquiring about eligibility. International Organizations with Non-Profit Status are eligible to apply for funding, per Section III, pages 10-12 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 – Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions. In accordance with Assistance Listing No. 66.034 and EPA’s Policy for Competition of Assistance Agreements (EPA Order § 5700.5A1), competition under this solicitation is available to states (including the District of Columbia); local governments; U.S. territories and possessions; Indian tribes; international organizations; public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, and laboratories; and other public or private non-profit institutions. International organizations that are non-governmental organizations with non-profit status are eligible to apply; however, the organization must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) and Grants.gov to do so.

11. Sun 2/19/2023 Question

As per the notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)-EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 cleaner cooking and reducing household energy emissions, it has been mentioned that the project should match the EPA strategic goals and objective, Goal 4 and Objective 4.2. The objective 4.2 is associated with the reduction of radiation.

Is there a chance a project gets funded if it is related to reduction of household energy emission in general but not directly related to radiation reduction?

Response sent 2/22/23:

EPA’s Strategic Goals and Objectives are written broadly to encompass numerous areas. The NOFO is focused on reducing impacts from household energy use in low to middle income countries and is not related to radiation reduction; therefore, we are looking for proposals related to the reduction of household energy emission in general.

12. Mon 2/20/2023 12:09 PM

I hope this email finds you well. I wish to confirm if organizations operating outside the US are eligible to apply for the opportunity below.

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=345368>

Response sent 2/21/2023:

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Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

Thank you for reaching out and inquiring about eligibility. International Organizations with Non-Profit Status are eligible to apply for funding, per Section III, pages 10-12 of the Notice of Funding Opportunity - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 – Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions. In accordance with Assistance Listing No. 66.034 and EPA’s Policy for Competition of Assistance Agreements (EPA Order § 5700.5A1), competition under this solicitation is available to states (including the District of Columbia); local governments; U.S. territories and possessions; Indian tribes; international organizations; public and private universities and colleges, hospitals, and laboratories; and other public or private non-profit institutions. International organizations that are non-governmental organizations with non-profit status are eligible to apply; however, the organization must be registered in the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) and Grants.gov to do so.

13. Wed 2/22/2023 3:57 PM

We are trying to apply for a call for applications, but I have been trying to obtain the UEI (Sam.gov) for a week now, but these days when I log in, I do not receive the verification codes, so we cannot finish this step.

I hope you can give us a solution to this step and let me know what information is required to continue with the process.

Response sent 2/23/23:

Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

Your organization needs to do this to document the problem before it can be elevated as an issue. This will serve as the record of whatever the potential issue is. Also, if your organization doesn’t do this there isn’t a record that could justify submitting and EPA accepting your application via email rather than through grants.gov.

Refer to the NOFO Section IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

IV.A.1.a: “Contact the Federal Service Desk for help with your SAM.gov account, to resolve technical issues or chat with a help desk agent: (866) 606-8220. The Federal Service desk hours of operation are Monday – Friday 8am – 8pm ET.”

IV.A.1.b. “Contact Grants.gov for assistance at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov to resolve technical issues with Grants.gov. Applicants who are outside the U.S. at the time of submittal and are not able to access the toll-free number may reach a Grants.gov

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representative by calling 606-545-5035. The Grants.gov Support Center is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week, excluding federal holidays.”

SAM.gov has a help line you can call for assistance. The international number is 1 334 206 7828, it may take a while to get through to customer assistance, therefore, be prepared you may have to be on hold for approximately 90 minutes or more.

14. Mon 2/20/2023

Could you please confirm whether it is possible to submit, as additional annexes, documents signed from local authorities in a language different from English, submitting also the related translation?

Response sent 2/23/23:

Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

Refer to the NOFO Section IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

c. Optional Attachments. These are optional and are not included in the 12-page limit. Use the Other Attachments form in Grants.gov.

- Biographical Sketch – Resumes or curriculum vitae for Principal Investigators and any other key personnel.
- Support Letters – These should indicate how the supporting organization will assist in the project.

15. Fri 2/24/2023

Are references/citations permitted as additional attachment outside of the 12 page limit, or should they be included in the limit? We are unable to find guidance on this front in the NOFO or the posted Q&As.

Response sent 2/23/23:

Thank you for your interest in the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) - EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02 Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02).

Refer to the NOFO Section IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

c. Optional Attachments. These are optional and are not included in the 12-page limit. Use the Other Attachments form in Grants.gov.

- Biographical Sketch – Resumes or curriculum vitae for Principal Investigators and any other key personnel.

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- Support Letters – These should indicate how the supporting organization will assist in the project.

16. Wed 3/1/2023 10:40 AM

We submitted our application by the deadline; however, we were missing an important letter from our partner. Can we still submit the letter?

Response sent 3/3/23:

EPA has extended the application period for this Cleaner Cooking and Reducing Household Energy Emissions (EPA-OAR-ORIA-23-02) NOFO to March 14, 2023. We hope that this additional time enables you to include the Partnership Letter with your application attachments.