



NOTICE OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

FEDERAL AWARDING AGENCY: Washington Headquarters Services Acquisition Directorate (WHS/AD)

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY TITLE: Global Water Security Program

ANNOUNCEMENT TYPE: Initial Announcement

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Award Date (Tentative): 30 August 2024

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A. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. SHORT DESCRIPTION OF FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

The Department of Defense is interested in receiving proposals for an assistance mechanism for the Global Water Security (GWS) program to furnish data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. In support of strategic planning efforts, the GWS will have a particular focus on the food and energy implications of water availability and extreme weather events.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE GWS

The FY23 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Section 311 highlighted the need to establish a program to provide and facilitate education, training, and research in civil-military operations, particularly operations that require international assistance and operations that require coordination between the Department of Defense and other Federal agencies. The NDAA Section 311 states the program shall be used to provide and facilitate education, training, interagency coordination, and research on topics such as access to water, food, and energy.

The mission of the GWS program is to furnish data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. In support of strategic planning efforts, the GWS program will have a particular focus on the food and energy implications of water availability and extreme weather events. Key customers for GWS program support include OUSD(P) sponsored initiatives such as the Defense Operational Resilience International Cooperation (DORIC) program, Combatant Commands, allies and partners, and the interagency in support of DoD initiatives to build cooperation and planning. It is anticipated that the GWS program will become a scientific resource across the US Federal Government with a focus on security and stability implications of water, food, and energy challenges.

3. AUTHORITY

The authority for the subject requirement is Section 311 of the James N. Inhofe National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2023 (Pub. L. No. 117-263). Section 311 states “The Secretary of Defense may operate a Center for Excellence in Environmental Security (in this section referred to as the ‘Center’).” Among other missions, “The Center shall be used to provide and facilitate education, training, interagency coordination, and research on [...] access to water, food, and energy.”

As this requirement includes a research component, the Department of Defense’s authority to enter into assistance awards for research under 10 U.S.C. 4001 is also applicable.

4. AGENCY TECHNICAL PRIORITIES

This recipient(s) will support the following areas:

- 1. Fully develop and validate the “Pathways to Impacts” framework.** The GWS program has produced a range of analytical quick looks and more detailed assessments that place anticipated water-related drivers in a context of possible food, energy, and security impacts. The GWS program has labelled this analysis workflow as “Pathways to Impacts”. To fully operationalize this framework to respond to requests for information (RFI) and Statements of Need (SON), the GWS program needs to further build out and test data infrastructure that allows for the rapid identification, access, and analysis of relevant water, climate, and environmental datasets. Achievement of this priority area

will allow the GWS program to scope and deliver research products based on defensible and accurate cost and time estimates. An established and well documented workflow will be used to systematically improve the execution of SoNs and quantitatively prioritize future investments in research expertise and data infrastructure.

- 2. Support of strategic and operational planning.** Combatant Commands require the ability to obtain water and climate-related expertise in support of operational and strategic planning efforts. These demands range from developing and executing wargames to anticipating and planning for Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) efforts at seasonal to sub-decadal time scales. Improved environmental awareness also assists CCMDs in working with partners and allies in planning for environmental threats to infrastructure and readiness.
- 3. Support of allies and partners and defense diplomacy.** Through the Defense Operational Resilience International Cooperation (DORIC) program, OUSD(P) is supporting engagement with the national security forces of partner countries on defense-related environmental and operational energy issues in support of the theater campaign plans of the Geographic Combatant Commands (GCCs). DORIC also provides support for DoD regional centers and the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance. Addressing Statements of Needs (SoNs) related to these, and other defense diplomacy efforts will be a priority for GWSC analysis and support efforts. Areas of particular focus include:

 - Strengthening local mechanisms that support water and food security and/or alleviating food and water shortages as a measure to reduce local and regional political instability.
 - Building partner nation capacity to respond to climate change-related hazards associated with water security.
 - Working with partner nations, ensure that overseas water-security infrastructure is resilient to local conditions.
- 4. Support of OCONUS installation resilience and adaptation planning.** The GWS program will accept RFI and SoNs for data and expert analysis in support to assessing water-related resilience and adaptation planning efforts by overseas DoD installations. These efforts will assist installation commanders and managers in going beyond threat identification screening using the DCAT tool and help provide magnitudes and time frames of potential environmental stressors on installation infrastructure.
- 5. Support of intergovernmental water security efforts.** In accordance with the authorizing NDAA language, the GWS program will serve as a resource across the Federal Government. For interagency work supported under this NFO, the GWS program will align analyses with DoD priorities and prioritize work that supports DoD efforts to execute on its commitments to the US Global Water Strategy in collaboration with interagency partners.
- 6. Support climate literacy and education.** In coordination with DoD partners, the GWS program may provide data, analysis, and training to DoD personnel in support of climate literacy and education efforts. These activities may include preparation of materials to educate personnel on the food, energy, and security implications of water resource challenges and the customized analysis of data to assist in making scientific data relevant, accessible, and actionable for operational and strategic objectives.

5. HISTORY OF THE PROGRAM

The GWS program was previously established under the Pacific Disaster Center Cooperative Agreement. The Pacific Disaster Center (PDC) is an established and authoritative program that conducts applied information research and analysis for the development of more effective policies, institutions, programs, and information products for the disaster management and humanitarian assistance communities of Asia Pacific region and beyond. Given the similarities in the structure and implementation of the PDC and GWSC programs and the maturity of the PDC program, the PDC provided financial and programmatic assistance to the GWS program to support the development of its program.

The FY23 NDAA highlighted the need to establish a program to provide and facilitate education, training, and research in civil-military operations, particularly operations that require international assistance and operations that require coordination between the Department of Defense and other Federal agencies. In accordance with the FY23 NDAA, the Department of Defense was prompted to establish the GWSC as a stand-alone assistance vehicle.

6. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVE

The Department of Defense (DoD) has produced two primary documents guiding its priority water security needs: the 2021 Defense Climate Risk Analysis (DCRA, published by OUSD(P) Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Arctic and Global Resilience (ODASD) and the 2021 DoD Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP, published by OUSD(A&S) Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Environment and Energy Resilience), ODASD(E&ER)). It is anticipated that the GWS program will become a scientific resource across the US Federal Government with a focus on security and stability implications of water, food, and energy challenges.

7. PAST PROJECT EXAMPLES

A GWS project was conducted via the PDC cooperative agreement. The GWS award was a comprehensive effort to provide executable, strategic information to understand water security threats and identify opportunities to address the interconnected challenges to water/environmental security and stability across all levels of planning.

8. SCOPE OF THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

The purpose of this Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO) is to provide the Department of Defense with an assistance mechanism for the recipient to furnish data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. In support of strategic planning efforts, the GWS program will have a particular focus on the food and energy implications of water availability and extreme weather events. Key customers for the GWS program support include OUSD(P) sponsored initiatives such as the Defense Operational Resilience International Cooperation (DORIC) program, Combatant Commands, allies and partners, and the interagency in support of DoD initiatives to build cooperation and planning. It is anticipated that the GWS program will become a scientific resource across the US Federal Government with a focus on security and stability implications of water, food, and energy challenges.

Reliable access to water for operations and the ability to anticipate and respond to sudden, extreme water-related hazards affects DoD operational capability to execute current mission requirements. In the future, increased water scarcity and extreme hydrological events, exacerbated by climate change, will create greater operational challenges, increase global instability and regional tensions, and potentially inflame existing and/or trigger new intra-

state conflicts. Accurate and timely information regarding water-related challenges opens opportunities to anticipate, plan for, and reduce tensions through defense diplomacy.

The incorporation of climate and water security considerations into operational, tactical, and strategic planning are currently hindered by lack of resources to provide data and expertise to decision makers and stakeholders in formats that are accessible and actionable with a turnaround time rapid enough to meet planning and funding demands. The GWS program investments in data infrastructure, the hiring of subject matter experts, establishment of the “Pathways to Impacts” framework, and communication expertise will allow the GWS program to provide analysis products and expert support to a broad range of stakeholders within DoD and the interagency. This NFO specifies the OUSD(P) priority areas for the GWS program, as well as oversight and governance requirements.

Place of Performance

Performance will be in the Continental United States/Outside the Continental United States in support of DoD interests.

Period of Performance

This award made as a result of this NFO will provide potential funding for up to five (5) years. The Government will review the award, or awards, annually to assess the degree to which the recipient or recipients, is making progress towards meeting the objectives of the agreement.

9. GENERAL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT/GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy (OUSD(P)) is the Principal Staff Assistant (PSA) and Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) has oversight for execution of funding. This NFO details the coordinated effort between OUSD(P) and DLA to set the performance and reporting requirements for the GWS program. OUSD(P) will set the technical requirements for the GWS program to align the funded work with DoD priorities. Both OUSD(P) and DLA will jointly review proposed work products for alignment with priority research areas and appropriateness of proposed costs. OUSD(P) and DLA will also jointly conduct annual reviews of the GWS program.

10. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION/SELECTION

Selection of Statements of Needs (SoNs) for prioritization and execution will be based on alignment with the identified Priority Areas. Analyses will be further prioritized based on alignment with OUSD(P)’s list of priority regions and nations.

- No later than 30 days of receipt of funding, the GWS program will provide to OUSD(P) and DLA a list of planned SoNs to be addressed in the following six to nine months. For each SoN, the GWS program will provide: the customer, the topic, an estimated cost, anticipated completion date, and a justification for the prioritization of the SoN related to other SoNs and available funding.
- As the GWS program receives new SoNs and Requests for Information (RFI) during the funding period, the GWS program will provide OUSD(P) and DLA a written summary of the customer, the topic, an estimated cost, anticipated completion date, and a justification for the prioritization of the SoN related to other SoNs and available funding. These “ad hoc” SoNs will be executed based on concurrence from OUSD(P) that the proposed work meets the listed Priority Area goals and will not adversely affect delivery on already prioritized analyses. In cases where the GWS program’s capacity limitations would require a re-prioritization of planned analyses to execute on new SoNs, the re-prioritization will require concurrence by OUSD(P) and DLA.

B. FEDERAL AWARD INFORMATION

1. COMPETITION

In accordance with 32 CFR 22.310, this requirement shall be competed.

2. ESTIMATED TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT

This NFO intends to fund at least one cooperative award recipient with a five-year period of performance. The total amount awarded from this NFO for all recipients is contingent upon Congressional approval. The total amount for Fiscal Year 24 is not to exceed \$9,600,000.00. The total amount for Fiscal Year 25 is not to exceed \$2,000,000.00. These funding amounts include both direct and indirect costs. Applicants are reminded that this request is subject to Federal funding appropriations and Departmental approval. Additionally, funding for each budget year may fluctuate due to Congressional funding priorities.

3. ANTICIPATED NUMBER OF AWARDS

One cooperative agreement will be awarded, with in-scope post-award modifications to add new projects, are intended. There is no guarantee that Congress will approve additional funding or that any of the proposals submitted will be recommended for funding. The Government reserves the right to select for negotiation all, some, one, or none of the proposals received in response to this announcement.

4. INSTRUMENT CHOICE RATIONALE

This Cooperative Agreement being awarded through this NFO will have substantial government involvement. The recipient or recipients will serve as managing partners with the Government, including working with the Government to determine the merits of research ideas, and choosing sub-awardees. The Government will have final choice on all projects going onto the cooperative agreement.

C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

1. ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS

Only institutions of higher education may apply to this opportunity.

2. COST SHARING

Cost sharing is not required for applicants to be considered for award, but highly encouraged.

3. ADDITIONAL ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

Proposals will be reviewed by a panel of experts who will evaluate the responses based on the factors and criteria provided. Applicants who receive a rating of Marginal or Unacceptable in any factor are ineligible for award. Applicants who do not submit the proposal in accordance with the submission instructions are also ineligible for award. Results of the review will be summarized and presented to the selection official for final decisions.

4. SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT REGISTRATION

To apply for grants and other funding opportunities the applicant entity must have an active registration in the System for Award Management (SAM). Applications will not be accepted through Grants.gov or other methods unless the entity is registered in SAM. Registration in SAM now includes the acceptance of Certifications and Assurances. See the Standard Language Describing the Grants.gov Application Process and Section IV.F.4 for details on how to register in SAM, and at Grants.gov.

The Federal Assistance Certifications Report is an attestation that the entity will abide by the requirements of the various laws and regulations; therefore, as applicable, you are still

required to submit any documentation, including the SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (if applicable), and, if applicable, informing DoD of unpaid delinquent tax liability or a felony conviction under and Federal law.

D. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

The GWS program application process is conducted in one stage. The announced application due date and procedures for submission will be strictly observed. Applications received after the established time and date above will not be considered; the burden of timely delivery (including requests for delivery confirmation) is on the Applicant. The application due date is determined by the timestamp and date of the Applicant's submission on <https://www.grants.gov/>. Applications received after the due date and timestamp will not be considered.

2. CONTENT AND FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

a) Address to Request Application Package

Frequently asked questions on grants submission can be found at the following site: <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/applicant-resources.html>.

b) Application Procedures and Requirements

Applications will only be accepted if submitted through grants.gov. Organizations must have a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI), active System for Award Management (SAM) registration, and Grants.gov account to apply for grants.

Applicants are responsible for submitting their applications in sufficient time to allow them to reach Grants.gov by the date and time specified in this announcement. It is strongly recommended that applications be uploaded at least 2 days before the closing date and time. This will help avoid problems caused by high system usage or any potential technical and/or input problems involving the applicant's own equipment. It will also allow any application errors detected by Grants.gov to be corrected in time for the application to be resubmitted. If the application is received by Grants.gov after the exact time and date specified as the deadline for receipt, it will be considered "late" and may not be considered for review.

Acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt by Grants.gov includes documentary evidence of receipt maintained by Grants.gov, and Grants.gov e-mails to the applicant confirming receipt. These e-mails will indicate 1) the application was received on time, 2) application was rejected due to errors, 3) application was received after the deadline. Note that this Grants.gov response may occur over several e-mails, e.g., one acknowledging on-time receipt, and a later e-mail rejecting for errors the system detected. Applicants can also track the status of their applications at <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/applicants/track-my-application.html>.

c) Application Withdrawal

An applicant may withdraw an application at any time before award by written notice or by e-mail. Notice of withdrawal shall be sent to the grants officer identified in this announcement. Withdrawals are effective upon receipt of notice by the grants officer.

d) Intergovernmental Review

Not applicable.

e) General Requirements

All documents must be submitted in Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) in compliance with the guidelines below. Applications with attachments submitted in word processing, spreadsheet, zip, or any format other than Adobe Portable Document format will not be considered for award. NOTE: Titles given to the applications should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this solicitation.

Documents must be submitted with the following specifications:

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11-inch paper
- Margins – 1 inch
- Spacing – single spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 11 point
- PI's and co-PI's name and institutions in header or footer
- Appropriate markings on each page that contains proprietary or confidential information, if applicable.

All applications must be self-contained within specified page limitations. Internet website addresses (URLs) may not be used to provide information necessary to the review because reviewers are under no obligation to view the Internet sites.

It is essential that all applications be complete and accurate at the time of submission. The Government reserves the right to reject applications that are incomplete or that do not comply with submission instructions.

Preparation of proposals in response to this NFO will require no involvement and/or input from the current GWS program staff. Requested information will summarize the management and technical approaches of the proposing entity.

All documentation submitted under this NFO is unclassified.

f) Marking Proprietary or Confidential Information

OUSD (P), DLA, and WHS/AD will make every effort to protect any proprietary information submitted in full applications. Any proprietary information included in application materials must be identified. Prospective proposers should be aware, however, that under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requirements, proprietary information contained in applications (marked or unmarked) may still potentially be subject to release.

It is the prospective applicants' responsibility to notify WHS/AD of applications containing proprietary information and to identify the relevant portions of their applications that require protection. The entire application (or portions thereof) without protective markings or otherwise identified as requiring protection will be considered to be furnished voluntarily to WHS/AD without restriction and will be treated as such for all purposes.

It is the intent of WHS/AD to treat full applications as proprietary information before the award and to disclose their contents to reviewers only for the purpose of evaluation.

- g) Application Package Preparation and Submission
 Submission shall be made through Grants.gov. The following forms are identified in Grants.gov for submission:

Required Forms
SF424 (R & R) [V5.0]
Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424B – R & R) [V1.1]
Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (SF-LLL) [V2.0]
Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A) [V1.0]
Project Abstract Summary [V2.0]
Project Narrative Attachment Form [V1.2]
Research & Related Budget [V3.0]
Research & Related Personal Data [V1.2]
Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile [V3.0]

Project Narrative Components

Submitted documentation should be in PDF format and include in a single document:

- A cover letter (optional), not to exceed one page. The cover letter does not count against the ten page limit.
- A cover page, labeled “APPLICATION,” that includes the NFO number, proposed project title, and prospective applicant’s technical point of contact with telephone number, and e-mail address.

The project narrative (ten page limit, single-sided) must include:

- A project abstract summary. The project abstract should be appropriate for public release and should describe the project in terms that the public would understand. The abstract should summarize the project and specifically identify the principal investigator and offering institution; problems and objectives; technical approaches and anticipated outcome.
- The project plan shall describe the proposed works, management, and project schedule and milestones for the project in its entirety (including any options). It should also include a proposed, estimated project ceiling cost (per year). The plan should also include:
 - key personnel that will perform the work;
 - associated cost breakdown by tasks;
 - project schedule and milestones;
 - anticipated sub-awards and contract requirements;
 - any other material details of the project.

- h) Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

Several one-time actions must be completed in order to submit an application through Grants.gov. These include obtaining a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, registering with the System for Award Management (SAM), registering with the credential provider, and registering with Grants.gov. See <http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>.

The awardee shall use the Grants.gov organization Registration Checklist at http://www.grants.gov/applicants/register_your_organization.jsp, which will provide guidance through the process. Designating an E-Business Point of Contact (Ebiz POC) and obtaining a special password called “MPIN” are important steps in the SAM

registration process. Applicants who are not registered with SAM and Grants.gov should allow at least 21 days for completing these requirements. The process should be started as soon as possible. Any questions relating to the registration process, system requirement, how an application form works, or the submittal process must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov. Successful Applicants not already registered in the System for Award Management (SAM) will be required to register in SAM prior to award of any grant, or cooperative agreement. Information on SAM registration is available at <https://www.sam.gov>.

Special Notice regarding a Waiver of Grants.gov submission requirement: If an Applicant is unable to comply with the requirement to use Grants.gov, for submission of a grant application under this NFO or finds it would be an excessive burden to comply with this requirement, a waiver request may be submitted. Such request should be submitted by the Electronic Business Point of Contact listed in the SAM for the organization and should contain the Organization/Individual's name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address. The request should state the reason for the request in sufficient detail so a decision can be made. The Waiver Request should be submitted to the cognizant Contract Specialist. Such request can be sent by e-mail or registered mail. A decision and response will be issued within 14 calendar days of receipt of the request by the cognizant Contract Specialist. Foreign Grantees who are not registered in SAM may request a waiver on that basis since SAM registration is integral to the Grants.gov application process. If the waiver is approved, DoD will provide a packet of all required documents and submission instructions via e-mail or in hard copy via registered mail.

3. FUNDING RESTRICTIONS

Per 2 CFR 200.216, funds may not be used to procure telecommunications equipment or video surveillance services or equipment produced by:

- Huawei Technologies Company,
- ZTE Corporation Hytera Communications Corporation,
- Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company,
- Dahua Technology Company
- any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities

4. OTHER SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND INFORMATION

Physical/facsimile delivery by the Applicant is not authorized and will not be accepted. Applicants who are not selected for award are not entitled to a debrief.

AMENDMENTS TO ANNOUNCEMENTS

If this announcement is amended, then all terms and conditions, which are not amended, shall remain unchanged. Applicants shall acknowledge receipt of any amendments to this NFO by: (1) identifying the amendment in its application, or (2) by separate letter upon receipt of the amendment. The Government must receive the acknowledgment by the date/time specified for receipt of applications.

MODIFICATIONS AND WITHDRAWALS OF APPLICATIONS

The announced Application due date and procedures for guaranteeing timely submission of Applications shall also be applied to those Applicants submitting modifications to or withdrawals of Applications.

PROTESTS

The decision of the Grants Officer relative to any protest filed will be final unless the protester appeals to the WHS/AD Competition Advocate:

Mr. David Kao
Deputy Director, WHS/AD
4800 Mark Center Drive, Suite 09F09
Alexandria, VA 22350

The Recipient(s) shall proceed diligently with preparation of its Application(s) or performance under an award, pending final resolution of any request for relief, appeal, or action arising under the award, and comply with any decision of the Grants Officer.

The applicant shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, title 31, U.S.C. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

5. WIDE AREA WORKFLOW (WAWF)

Performers are required to submit invoices for payment directly at <https://wawf.eb.mil>. WAWF registration is required prior to any award under this NFO.

E. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

Submissions will be reviewed for their technical merit and relevance to DOD missions. Cost submissions will be reviewed for reasonableness. Cost sharing is not required but will be favorably considered as part of this evaluation factor. The government will use various price analysis techniques and procedures, as needed, to ensure the proposed labor rates are fair and reasonable.

Prior to making the award, the government will review and consider any information about the applicant that is in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM (currently FAPIIS) (see 41 U.S.C. 2313). Applicants may review information in the designated integrity and performance systems accessible through SAM and comment on any information about itself that a Federal awarding agency previously entered and is currently in the designated integrity and performance system accessible through SAM. The government will consider any comments by the applicant, in addition to the other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards when completing the review of risk posed by applicants as described in 2 CFR 200.206.

1. ADJECTIVAL RATINGS

Rating	Description
Outstanding	Demonstrates an outstanding approach to the technical merits of the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. Demonstrates an outstanding approach to the relationship between the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning, and the DoD mission. Demonstrates an outstanding mitigation strategy for risks associated with the quality of the applicant's management systems. Demonstrates an outstanding approach to meeting the management standards as described at 2 CFR 200.205. Application is an outstanding demonstration of the applicant's vision, experience and qualifications. Risk of unsuccessful performance is low.
Good	Demonstrates a good approach to the technical merits of the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. Demonstrates a good approach to the relationship between the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning, and the DoD mission. Demonstrates a good mitigation strategy for risks associated with the quality of the applicant's management systems. Demonstrates a good approach to meeting the management standards as described at 2 CFR 200.205. Application is a good demonstration of the applicant's vision, experience and qualifications. Risk of unsuccessful performance is low.
Acceptable	Demonstrates an acceptable approach to the technical merits of the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. Demonstrates an acceptable approach to the relationship between the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning, and the DoD mission. Demonstrates an acceptable mitigation strategy for risks associated with the quality of the applicant's management systems. Demonstrates an acceptable approach to meeting the management standards as described at 2 CFR 200.205. Application is an acceptable demonstration of the applicant's vision, experience and qualifications. Risk of unsuccessful performance is no worse than moderate.
Marginal	Demonstrates an approach to the technical merits of the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. Demonstrates an approach to the relationship between the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning, and the DoD mission. Demonstrates a mitigation strategy for risks associated with the quality of the applicant's management systems. Demonstrates an approach to meeting the management standards as described at 2 CFR 200.205. Application is a demonstration of the applicant's vision, experience and qualifications. Risk of unsuccessful performance is high. Application is unawardable.
Unacceptable	Fails to demonstrate an approach to the technical merits of the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. Fails

Rating	Description
	to demonstrate an approach to the relationship between the proposed furnishing of data and expert analysis on the water security implications of seasonal to decadal weather and climate events in support of DoD operational and strategic planning. and the DoD mission. Fails to demonstrate a mitigation strategy for risks associated with the quality of the applicant's management systems. Fails to demonstrate an approach to meeting the management standards as described at 2 CFR 200.205. Application fails to demonstrate the applicant's vision, experience and qualifications. Risk of unsuccessful performance is unacceptable. Application is unawardable.

2. AWARD DECISION

The Government reserves the right to select for negotiation all, some, one, or none of the submission received in response to this NFO and to make awards without discussions. Therefore, Applicant Proposals should include the applicant's best response to this announcement. However, the Government reserves the right to conduct discussions if it is determined by the Grants Officer to be necessary.

After selection, the Program Office and the Grants Office will negotiate a Cooperative Agreement with the selected Recipient(s). The Government reserves the right to request additional information once award has been determined. The Government reserves the right to remove Applicants from award consideration should the parties fail to reach agreement on award terms within a reasonable time or the Applicant fails to provide requested additional information in a timely manner.

The Recipient(s) that has been deemed successful will receive a pre-award notice via e-mail from the WHS/AD Grants Officer. The Government may initiate Cooperative Agreement negotiations when deemed appropriate to do so. Unsuccessful applicants will also be notified via e-mail at that time. Applicants are not entitled to a debrief.

Once a recipient of award is announced, the recipient of award only shall submit the required information for electronic submission. The recipient of award shall use the Grants.gov website (<https://www.grants.gov>). Recipient shall complete the mandatory forms in the application package template associated with this NFO.

3. FEDERAL REGULATIONS

Federal regulations, to include but not limited to 2 CFR 200 (Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards), 32 CFR Subchapter C (the DoD Grant and Agreement Regulations), and DoD 3210.6, take precedence over all terms and conditions of Agreement awards.

4. FEDERAL SHARE NOTICE

It is anticipated that the Federal share of any award under the announcement may exceed the simplified acquisition threshold:

(i) the agency will review the information that is currently in the designated integrity and performance system through SAM (currently FAPIIS); (ii) an applicant may review information in FAPIIS and comment on any information about itself; and (iii) the agency will consider any comments by the applicant, along with other information in FAPIIS, in making judgement about the applicant's integrity, business ethics and record of performance under Federal awards when completing a review of risk (see DoD Instruction 3210.08 on use of the

performance and integrity information in FAPIIS and 2 CFR 200.205 “Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants.”

5. ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT AND AWARD DATES

The anticipated date for notifying successful and unsuccessful applications is 1 August 2024. Award will be made no later than 30 September 2024.

F. FEDERAL AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. AWARD NOTICES

The Applicant whose application is recommended for award may be contacted by a Grants Officer or his/her representative. This may include representations and certifications, revised budgets or budget explanations, certificate of current cost or pricing data, subcontracting plan for small businesses, and/or other information as applicable to the proposed award.

The notification e-mail regarding a selection is not authorization to commit or expend DoD funds. A DoD grants officer is the only person authorized to obligate and approve the use of Federal funds. This authorization is in the form of a signed Notice of Award.

Applicants who did not receive an award are not entitled to a debrief.

2. ADMINISTRATIVE AND NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS

[Appendix A to Part 1122—Terms and Conditions for NP Article I, “Nondiscrimination National Policy Requirements”](#)

NP Article I. Nondiscrimination national policy requirements. (December 2014)

Section A. Cross-cutting nondiscrimination requirements. By signing this award or accepting funds under this award, you assure that you will comply with applicable provisions of the national policies prohibiting discrimination:

1. On the basis of race, color, or national origin, in Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ([42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq.](#)), as implemented by Department of Defense (DoD) regulations at [32 CFR part 195](#).
2. On the basis of gender, blindness, or visual impairment, in Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 ([20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.](#)), as implemented by DoD regulations at [32 CFR part 196](#).
3. On the basis of age, in the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 ([42 U.S.C. 6101 et seq.](#)), as implemented by Department of Health and Human Services regulations at [45 CFR part 90](#).
4. On the basis of disability, in the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ([29 U.S.C. 794](#)), as implemented by Department of Justice regulations at [28 CFR part 41](#) and DoD regulations at [32 CFR part 56](#).
5. On the basis of disability in the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 ([42 U.S.C. 4151 et seq.](#)) related to physically handicapped persons' ready access to, and use of, buildings and facilities for which Federal funds are used in design, construction, or alteration.

Section B. [Reserved]

[Appendix B to Part 1122—Terms and Conditions for NP Article II, “Environmental National Policy Requirements”](#)

NP Article II. Environmental national policy requirements. (December 2014)

Section A. Cross-cutting environmental requirements. You must:

1. You must comply with all applicable Federal environmental laws and regulations. The laws and regulations identified in this section are not intended to be a complete list.

2. Comply with applicable provisions of the Clean Air Act ([42 U.S.C. 7401](#), *et seq.*) and Clean Water Act ([33 U.S.C. 1251](#), *et seq.*).
3. Comply with applicable provisions of the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act ([42 U.S.C. 4821–4846](#)), as implemented by the Department of Housing and Urban Development at [24 CFR part 35](#). The requirements concern lead-based paint in buildings owned by the Federal Government or housing receiving Federal assistance.
4. Immediately identify to us, as the Federal awarding agency, any potential impact that you find this award may have on:
 - a. The quality of the “human environment”, as defined in [40 CFR 1508.14](#), including wetlands; and provide any help we may need to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, at [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.](#)), the regulations at [40 CFR 1500–1508](#), and E.O. 12114, if applicable; and assist us to prepare Environmental Impact Statements or other environmental documentation. In such cases, you may take no action that will have an environmental impact (*e.g.*, physical disturbance of a site such as breaking of ground) or limit the choice of reasonable alternatives to the proposed action until we provide written notification of Federal compliance with NEPA or E.O. 12114.
 - b. Flood-prone areas and provide any help we may need to comply with the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended by the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 ([42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.](#)), which require flood insurance, when available, for federally assisted construction or acquisition in flood-prone areas.
 - c. A land or water use or natural resource of a coastal zone that is part of a federally approved State coastal zone management plan and provide any help we may need to comply with the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 ([16 U.S.C. 1451](#), *et seq.*) including preparation of a Federal agency Coastal Consistency Determination.
 - d. Coastal barriers along the Atlantic and Gulf coasts and Great Lakes' shores and provide help we may need to comply with the Coastal Barrier Resources Act ([16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.](#)), concerning preservation of barrier resources.
 - e. Any existing or proposed component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system and provide any help we may need to comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 ([16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.](#)).
 - f. Underground sources of drinking water in areas that have an aquifer that is the sole or principal drinking water source and in wellhead protection areas, and provide any help we may need to comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act ([42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.](#)).
5. You must comply fully with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA, at [16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.](#)), and implementing regulations of the Departments of the Interior ([50 CFR parts 10–24](#)) and Commerce ([50 CFR parts 217–227](#)). You also must provide any help we may need in complying with the consultation requirements of ESA section 7 ([16 U.S.C. 1536](#)) applicable to Federal agencies or any regulatory authorization we may need based on the award of this grant. This is not in lieu of responsibilities you have to comply with provisions of the Act that apply directly to you as a U.S. entity, independent of receiving this award.
6. You must fully comply with the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA, at [16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.](#)) and provide any assistance we may need in obtaining any required MMPA permit based on an award of this grant.

Section B. [Reserved]

[Appendix C to Part 1122—Terms and Conditions for NP Article III, “National Policy Requirements Concerning Live Organisms”](#)

NP Article III. National policy requirements concerning live organisms. (December 2014)

Section A. Cross-cutting requirements concerning live organisms.

1. Human subjects.

- a. You must protect the rights and welfare of individuals who participate as human subjects in research under this award and comply with the requirements at [32 CFR part 219](#), DoD Instruction (DoDI) 3216.02, [10 U.S.C. 980](#), and when applicable, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations.
- b. You must not begin performance of research involving human subjects, also known as human subjects research (HSR), that is covered under [32 CFR part 219](#), or that meets exemption criteria under [32 CFR 219.101\(b\)](#), until you receive a formal notification of approval from a DoD Human Research Protection Official (HRPO). Approval to perform HSR under this award is received after the HRPO has performed a review of your documentation of planned HSR activities and has officially furnished a concurrence with your determination as presented in the documentation.
- c. In order for the HRPO to accomplish this concurrence review, you must provide sufficient documentation to enable his or her assessment as follows:
 - i. If the HSR meets an exemption criterion under [32 CFR 219.101\(b\)](#), the documentation must include a citation of the exemption category under [32 CFR 219.101\(b\)](#) and a rationale statement.
 - ii. If your activity is determined as “non-exempt research involving human subjects”, the documentation must include:
 - (A) Assurance of Compliance (*i.e.*, Department of Health and Human Services Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP) Federalwide Assurance (FWA)) appropriate for the scope of work or program plan; and
 - (B) Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, as well as all documentation reviewed by the IRB to make their determination.
- d. The HRPO retains final judgment on what activities constitute HSR, whether an exempt category applies, whether the risk determination is appropriate, and whether the planned HSR activities comply with the requirements in paragraph 1.a of this section.
- e. You must notify the HRPO immediately of any suspensions or terminations of the Assurance of Compliance.
- f. DoD staff, consultants, and advisory groups may independently review and inspect your research and research procedures involving human subjects and, based on such findings, DoD may prohibit research that presents unacceptable hazards or otherwise fails to comply with DoD requirements.
- g. Definitions for terms used in paragraph 1 of this article are found in DoDI 3216.02.

2. Animals.

- a. Prior to initiating any animal work under the award, you must:
 - i. Register your research, development, test, and evaluation or training facility with the Secretary of Agriculture in accordance with [7 U.S.C. 2136](#) and [9 CFR 2.30](#), unless otherwise exempt from this requirement by meeting the conditions in [7 U.S.C. 2136](#) and [9 CFR parts 1–4](#) for the duration of the activity.
 - ii. Have your proposed animal use approved in accordance with Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 3216.01, Use of Animals in DoD Programs by a DoD Component Headquarters Oversight Office.
 - iii. Furnish evidence of such registration and approval to the grants officer.
- b. You must make the animals on which the research is being conducted, and all premises, facilities, vehicles, equipment, and records that support animal care and use available during business hours and at other times mutually agreeable to you, the United States Department of Agriculture Office of Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) representative, personnel representing the DoD component

oversight offices, as well as the grants officer, to ascertain that you are compliant with [7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.](#), [9 CFR parts 1–4](#), and DoDI 3216.01.

c. Your care and use of animals must conform with the pertinent laws of the United States, regulations of the Department of Agriculture, and regulations, policies, and procedures of the Department of Defense (see [7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.](#), [9 CFR parts 1–4](#), and DoDI 3216.01).

d. You must acquire animals in accordance with DoDI 3216.01.

3. *Use of Remedies.*

Failure to comply with the applicable requirements in paragraphs 1–2 of this section may result in the DoD Component's use of remedies, *e.g.*, wholly or partially terminating or suspending the award, temporarily withholding payment under the award pending correction of the deficiency, or disallowing all or part of the cost of the activity or action (including the federal share and any required cost sharing or matching) that is not in compliance. See OAR Article III.

Section B. [Reserved]

[Appendix D to Part 1122—Terms and Conditions for NP Article IV, “Other National Policy Requirements”](#)

NP Article IV. Other National Policy Requirements. (December 2014)

Section A. Cross-cutting requirements.

1. **Debarment and suspension.** You must comply with requirements regarding debarment and suspension in Subpart C of [2 CFR part 180](#), as adopted by DoD at [2 CFR part 1125](#). This includes requirements concerning your principals under this award, as well as requirements concerning your procurement transactions and subawards that are implemented in PROC Articles I through III and SUB Article II.

2. **Drug-free workplace.** You must comply with drug-free workplace requirements in Subpart B of [2 CFR part 26](#), which is the DoD implementation of 41 U.S.C. chapter 81, “Drug-Free Workplace.”

3. **Lobbying.**

a. You must comply with the restrictions on lobbying in [31 U.S.C. 1352](#), as implemented by DoD at [32 CFR part 28](#), and submit all disclosures required by that statute and regulation.

b. You must comply with the prohibition in [18 U.S.C. 1913](#) on the use of Federal funds, absent express Congressional authorization, to pay directly or indirectly for any service, advertisement or other written matter, telephone communication, or other device intended to influence at any time a Member of Congress or official of any government concerning any legislation, law, policy, appropriation, or ratification.

c. If you are a nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(4) of title 26, United States Code (the Internal Revenue Code of 1968), you may not engage in lobbying activities as defined in the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C., chapter 26). If we determine that you have engaged in lobbying activities, we will cease all payments to you under this and other awards and terminate the awards unilaterally for material failure to comply with the award terms and conditions.

4. **Officials not to benefit.** You must comply with the requirement that no member of Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of this award, or to any benefit arising from it, in accordance with [41 U.S.C. 6306](#).

5. **Hatch Act.** If applicable, you must comply with the provisions of the Hatch Act ([5 U.S.C. 1501–1508](#)) concerning political activities of certain State and local government employees, as implemented by the Office of Personnel Management at [5 CFR part 151](#), which limits political activity of employees or officers of State or local governments whose employment is connected to an activity financed in whole or part with Federal funds.

6. ***Native American graves protection and repatriation.*** If you control or possess Native American remains and associated funerary objects, you must comply with the requirements of [43 CFR part 10](#), the Department of the Interior implementation of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 (25 U.S.C., chapter 32).

7. ***Fly America Act.*** You must comply with the International Air Transportation Fair Competitive Practices Act of 1974 ([49 U.S.C. 40118](#)), commonly referred to as the “Fly America Act,” and implementing regulations at [41 CFR 301–10.131](#) through [301–10.143](#). The law and regulations require that U.S. Government financed international air travel of passengers and transportation of personal effects or property must use a U.S. Flag air carrier or be performed under a cost sharing arrangement with a U.S. carrier, if such service is available.

8. ***Use of United States-flag vessels.*** You must comply with the following requirements of the Department of Transportation at [46 CFR 381.7](#), in regulations implementing the Cargo Preference Act of 1954:

a. Pursuant to Public Law 83–664 ([46 U.S.C. 55305](#)), at least 50 percent of any equipment, materials or commodities procured, contracted for or otherwise obtained with funds under this award, and which may be transported by ocean vessel, must be transported on privately owned United States-flag commercial vessels, if available.

b. Within 20 days following the date of loading for shipments originating within the United States or within 30 working days following the date of loading for shipments originating outside the United States, a legible copy of a rated, “on-board” commercial ocean bill-of-lading in English for each shipment of cargo described in paragraph 8.a of this section must be furnished to both our award administrator (through you in the case of your contractor’s bill-of-lading) and to the Division of National Cargo, Office of Market Development, Maritime Administration, Washington, DC 20590.

9. ***Research misconduct.*** You must comply with requirements concerning research misconduct in Enclosure 4 to DoD Instruction 3210.7, “Research Integrity and Misconduct.” The Instruction implements the Governmentwide research misconduct policy that the Office of Science and Technology Policy published in the Federal Register ([65 FR 76260](#), December 6, 2000, available through the U.S. Government Printing Office website: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2000/12/06/00-30852/executive-office-of-the-president-federal-policy-on-research-misconduct-preamble-for-research>).

10. ***Requirements for an Institution of Higher Education Concerning Military Recruiters and Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC).***

a. As a condition for receiving funds available to the DoD under this award, you agree that you are not an institution of higher education (as defined in [32 CFR part 216](#)) that has a policy or practice that either prohibits, or in effect prevents:

i. The Secretary of a Military Department from maintaining, establishing, or operating a unit of the Senior Reserve Officers Training Corps (ROTC)—in accordance with [10 U.S.C. 654](#) and other applicable Federal laws—at that institution (or any subelement of that institution);

ii. Any student at that institution (or any subelement of that institution) from enrolling in a unit of the Senior ROTC at another institution of higher education.

iii. The Secretary of a Military Department or Secretary of Homeland Security from gaining access to campuses, or access to students (who are 17 years of age or older) on campuses, for purposes of military recruiting in a manner that is at least equal in quality and scope to the access to campuses and to students that is provided to any other employer; or

iv. Access by military recruiters for purposes of military recruiting to the names of students (who are 17 years of age or older and enrolled at that institution or any

subelement of that institution); their addresses, telephone listings, dates and places of birth, levels of education, academic majors, and degrees received; and the most recent educational institutions in which they were enrolled.

- b. If you are determined, using the procedures in [32 CFR part 216](#), to be such an institution of higher education during the period of performance of this award, we:
- Will cease all payments to you of DoD funds under this award and all other DoD grants and cooperative agreements; and
 - May suspend or terminate those awards unilaterally for material failure to comply with the award terms and conditions.

11. **Historic preservation.** You must identify to us any:

- Property listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places that will be affected by this award, and provide any help we may need, with respect to this award, to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 ([54 U.S.C. 306108](#)), as implemented by the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations at [36 CFR part 800](#) and Executive Order 11593, "Identification and Protection of Historic Properties," [[3 CFR](#), 1971–1975 Comp., p. 559]. Impacts to historical properties are included in the definition of "human environment" that require impact assessment under NEPA (See NP Article II, Section A).
- Potential under this award for irreparable loss or destruction of significant scientific, prehistorical, historical, or archeological data, and provide any help we may need, with respect to this award, to comply with the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (54 U.S.C. chapter 3125).

12. **Relocation and real property acquisition.** You must comply with applicable provisions of [49 CFR part 24](#), which implements the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 ([42 U.S.C. 4601](#), *et seq.*) and provides for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced by federally assisted programs or persons whose property is acquired as a result of such programs.

13. **Confidentiality of patient records.** You must keep confidential any records that you maintain of the identity, diagnosis, prognosis, or treatment of any patient in connection with any program or activity relating to substance abuse education, prevention, training, treatment, or rehabilitation that is assisted directly or indirectly under this award, in accordance with [42 U.S.C. 290dd-2](#).

14. **Pro-Children Act.**

You must comply with applicable restrictions in the Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Title 20, Chapter 68, subchapter X, Part B of the U.S. Code) on smoking in any indoor facility:

- Constructed, operated, or maintained under this award and used for routine or regular provision of kindergarten, elementary, or secondary education or library services to children under the age of 18.
- Owned, leased, or contracted for and used under this award for the routine provision of federally funded health care, day care, or early childhood development (Head Start) services to children under the age of 18.

15. **Constitution Day.** You must comply with [Public Law 108-447](#), Div. J, Title I, Sec. 111 ([36 U.S.C. 106 note](#)), which requires each educational institution receiving Federal funds in a Federal fiscal year to hold an educational program on the United States Constitution on September 17th during that year for the students served by the educational institution.

16. **Trafficking in persons.** You must comply with requirements concerning trafficking in persons specified in the award term at [2 CFR 175.15\(b\)](#), as applicable.

17. **Whistleblower protections.** You must comply with [10 U.S.C. 2409](#), including the:

- Prohibition on reprisals against employees disclosing certain types of information to specified persons or bodies; and

b. Requirement to notify your employees in writing, in the predominant native language of the workforce, of their rights and protections under that statute.

3. REPORTING

Progress reports: In accordance with 32 CFR 33.40, Grantees shall submit annual performance reports, although the Government reserves the right to require quarterly or semi-annual reports. Annual reports shall be due ninety (90) days after the grant year, quarterly or semi-annual reports shall be due thirty (30) days after the reporting period. The final performance reports will be due ninety (90) days after the expiration or termination of grant support.

Financial Reports: As specified in 32 CFR 33.41, financial reports will be required no more than quarterly. The due dates for submission are thirty (30) days after the reporting period. Further, financial reports are to be submitted on SF425.

G. AGENCY CONTACTS

For technical subject matter questions:
Janice Rice, Defense Logistics Agency
E-mail: janice.rice@dla.mil

For all other questions on this NFO, please contact:
Grants Officer: Jonathan Bertsch
E-mail: jonathan.e.bertsch.civ@mail.mil

Grants Specialist: Kimberly Hernandez
E-mail: Kimberly.s.hernandez6.civ@mail.mil

H. OTHER INFORMATION

1. FEDERAL STATUTES

Federal statutes take precedence over all terms and conditions of awards.

2. RETENTION AND EXAMINATION OF RECORDS

Retention and access requirements for records shall be as set out at 32 CFR 32.53 for the award.

3. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

In order to facilitate intra-program collaboration and technology transfer, the Government will attempt to enable technology developers to work at the unclassified level to the maximum extent possible. If access to classified material will be required at any point during performance of particular projects, the Recipient must clearly identify such need prominently in its specific Application prior to award of project.

4. RELEASE OF INFORMATION AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SPONSORSHIP

Prior to the release of information relating to the award, the Recipient shall submit one (1) copy of the planned release to the Grants Officer. Release of information shall be approved by the Grants Officer and the concurrence of the requiring office.

Release of information relating to any resulting award, shall include a statement to the effect that:

- the effort is/was sponsored by OUSD(P) and DLA;

- the content of the information does not necessarily reflect the position or policy of the Government; and
- that no official endorsement should be inferred. “Information” includes news releases, articles, manuscripts, brochures, advertisements, still and motion pictures, speeches, trade association proceedings, symposia, etc.

5. TECHNICAL REPORTS

Technical reports and data collection instruments developed by the recipient or its sub-awardees or sub-contractors become the sole property of the Government. The report authors and instrument developers will retain development credit, but may not sell or accept royalty payments for use of these products. The Recipient shall have unlimited use of the technical reports and data collection instruments developed for research projects under terms of this Agreement, but may not sell or accept royalty payments for use of these products.

6. DATA SHARING AND AVAILABILITY

All work products produced by funding provided under this NFO will be shared at the time of completion with OUSD(P) and DLA. Unless restricted by customer requirements and/or security concerns all GWSC data products will be made available to DoD stakeholders on the GWSC web portal through an easily discoverable platform.

7. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT

No member of or delegate to Congress, or resident commissioner, shall be admitted to any share or part of this Agreement, or to any benefit arising from it, in accordance with 41 USC § 22.

8. MODIFICATION OF AGREEMENT

The only method by which the Agreement can be modified is through formal, written modification, signed by either the Grants Officer or the Administrative Grants Officer. No other communications, whether oral or in writing, shall be binding on the parties.

9. GOVERNMENT-FURNISHED PROPERTY/EQUIPMENT (GFP/GFE) AND FACILITIES

During the course of the Cooperative Agreement, individual projects may need to address the use of equipment needed in the project. Under those circumstances, each Recipient will need to provide a very specific description of any equipment/hardware that it needs to acquire to perform the work. This description should indicate whether or not each particular piece of equipment/hardware will be included as part of a deliverable item under the resulting award. Also, this description should identify the component, nomenclature, and configuration of the equipment/hardware that it proposes to purchase for this effort. The purchase on a direct reimbursement basis of special test equipment or other equipment that is not included in a deliverable item will be evaluated for allowability on a case-by-case basis. Maximum use of Government integration, test, and experiment facilities is encouraged in each of the Recipient’s project.

Government research facilities and operational military units are available and should be considered as potential government furnished equipment/facilities. These facilities and resources are of high value and some are in constant demand by multiple programs.

10. PROTECTION OF PROPRIETARY AND SENSITIVE INFORMATION

The parties acknowledge that, during performance of the award agreement resulting from this NFO, the recipient may require access to certain proprietary and confidential information (whether in its original or derived form) submitted to or produced by the Government. Such

information includes but it is not limited to, business practices, proposals, designs, mission or operation concepts, sketches, management policies, cost and operating expense, technical data and trade secrets, proposed Defense policies, cost and operation expense, technical data and trade secrets, proposed Defense budgetary information, and acquisition planning or acquisition actions, obtained either directly or indirectly as a result of the effort performed on behalf of the DoD. The recipient shall take appropriate steps not only to safeguard such information, but also prevent disclosure of such information to any party other than the Government. The recipient agrees to indoctrinate personnel who will have access to or custody of the information concerning the nature of the confidential terms under which the Government received such information and shall stress that the information shall not be disclosed to any other party or to recipient personnel who do not need to know the contents thereof for the performance of the agreement. Recipient personnel shall also be informed that they shall not engage in any other action, venture or employment wherein this information will be used for any purpose by any other party.

11. CODE OF CONDUCT

Applicants for grants, cooperative agreements, or other transaction agreements as applicable are required to comply with 2 CFR 200.318(c), Codes of Conduct, to prevent real or apparent conflicts of interest in the award and administration of any contracts supported by federal funds. This provision will be incorporated into all assistance instruments awarded under this NFO.

12. REPORTING EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND FIRST-TIER SUBAWARDS

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 (Public Law 109- 282), as amended by Section 6202 of Public Law 110-252, requires that all agencies establish requirements for recipients reporting information on subawards and executive total compensation as codified in 2 CFR 170.110. Any U.S. Institutions of Higher Education that applies for financial assistance (either grants, cooperative agreements or other transaction agreements) as either a prime or sub-recipient under this NFO must provide information in its proposal that describes the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements identified in 2 CFR 170.220. This grant and any subawards are also subject to 32 CFR Part 32.

13. NDAA SECTION 889 COMPLIANCE

See Section 11 of the National Policy Article IV. Other national policy requirements. (September 2020) Section A. Cross-cutting requirements, of the DoD R&D General Terms and Conditions September 2021.