## 1.0 FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA)

Funding Agency:	Funding Instrument:	Cooperative Agreement
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Alaska District PO Box 6898	Funding Opportunity No.:	W911KB-25-2-0005
JBER AK 99506	CFDA No:	12.005
	Program Authority:	16 U.S.C. 670 (Sikes Act)
Issue Date: 03 April 2025	Application Due Dat	e: <mark>04 June 2025</mark>

#### Overview:

Pohakuloa Training Area Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance Support, Range Division Hawaii, Integrated Training Area Management - This project is intended to provide Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) support to Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) on the island of Hawaii in support of the U.S. Army Range Division Hawaii (RDH) Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Sustainable Range Program. The ITAM Program is responsible for maintaining sustainable training lands and resources to help the Army meet its training requirements providing training land management capability across the total Army in an environmentally sound manner. The Recipient will provide soil, water and vegetation protection and repair, erosion control, vegetation and soil rehabilitation, sensitive area protection and habitat management to the impacted military training areas.

Estimated Total Funding: \$7,584,162.87	Estimated Number of Awards: 1
Contents of Full Text Announcement	
Funding Opportunity Description	V. Application Review Information
II. Award Information	VI. Award Administration Information
III. Eligibility Information	VII. Agency Contacts
IV. Application Information	VIII. Other Information

**Contact Information:** Questions relating to Grants.gov including the registration process and system requirements should be directed to the Grants.gov Contact Center at 1-800-518-4726. For assistance with the requirements of this Funding OpportunityAnnouncement, please contact the Grants Specialist, <a href="mailto:pamela.iverson@usace.army.mil">pamela.iverson@usace.army.mil</a>.

Instructions to Applicants: The complete Funding Opportunity Announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov.

Applications in response to this Funding Opportunity Announcement shall be submitted by the application due date. Applications may be submitted electronically via email or through Grants.gov.

Applicants shall have a Unique Entity Identification (UEI) number, registration with the System of Award Management (SAM), and registration with Grants.gov, if submitting application through Grants.gov.

See Section IV of the Funding Opportunity Announcement for complete application submission information.

#### **Section I: Funding Opportunity Description**

#### **Statement of Work**

# Pohakuloa Training Area Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance Support Range Division Hawaii, Integrated Training Area Management March 27, 2025

## **Project Ceiling \$1,454,183.14**

#### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Statement of Work (SOW) is to provide Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) support details to be performed by a Recipient in support of the Range Division Hawaii Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) Program through a Cooperative Agreement (CA) administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - Alaska District (USACE) ) to implement goals and objectives established by the United States Army Garrison Hawaii (USAG-HI) Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP).

Tasks provided for execution under this CA by USACE do not include any functions to be performed that are inherently governmental. This determination is made with the assessment that places emphasis on the degree to which conditions and facts restrict the discretionary authority, decision-making responsibility, or accountability of Government officials using Recipient services or work products.

#### 2.0 BACKGROUND

Range Division Hawaii (RDH) is responsible for visioning, planning, program management, and sustainment of Range and Training Area capabilities for the Army in Hawaii ensuring that the training resources are managed in a coherent, integrated, and sustainable manner. Range Division develops programs, implements, and manages a comprehensive range complex sustainment and modernization plan that ensures adequate training infrastructure supporting the operating forces, formal schools, and command's current and future requirements for the installation, in order to ensure attainment and maintenance of unit combat readiness levels, and successful completion of programs of instruction.

RDH manages activities on various military training areas in Hawaii that are located on the island of Oahu and the island of Hawaii. The training lands managed by RDH on the island of Oahu include Schofield Barracks (SB), South Range (SR), East Range (ER), Kahuku Training Area (KTA), Dillingham Training Area (DTA), and Makua Military Reservation (MMR); and Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA) on the island of Hawaii.

The ITAM Program is a function of RDH and is a core component of the Sustainable Range Program (SRP). The ITAM Program is responsible for maintaining training lands and resources to help the Army meet its training requirements providing training land management capability across the total Army. The ITAM Program is an essential part of the Army's commitment to sustainable training. ITAM establishes a systematic framework for decision-making and management of Army training lands, which allows the Army to manage its land in an environmentally sound manner to ensure no net loss of training lands for accomplishing primary activities or for impacting the overall

training capability.

The effective integration of stewardship principles into training land management practices ensure that the Army's lands remain viable to support future training and mission requirements indefinitely. LRAM is a preventive and corrective land rehabilitation and maintenance procedure that reduces the long-term impacts of training and testing on installation lands. Its primary function is to maintain land to ensure its capability to support the mission in an environmentally sustainable manner. It mitigates mission, training, and testing effects by combining preventive and corrective land rehabilitation, repair, and maintenance practices to reduce the impacts of training and testing on the training lands. It includes training area redesign and/or reconfiguration to sustainably meet training requirements.

# 2.1 Objective

The RDH ITAM Program requires support on the island of Hawaii at PTA to assess and sustainably maintain, repair, and reconfigure training lands and implement training area improvement projects to promote better land utilization while protecting training resources.

#### 3.0 MAJOR TASKS AND REQUIREMENTS

Recipient purchases, rentals, travel, and services in support of this CA require approval by the onsite Government Representative (GR) prior to acquisition. All field work requires coordination with the onsite GR to deconflict with reserved land and training prior to work commencing. All Recipient employees are required to have current First Aid and CPR training. All Recipient employees are required to wear orange reflective safety vests and appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) while working.

The Recipient shall provide the necessary resources (except for those identified in Section 6.0 Government Furnished Property (GFP)) to support the following tasks.

#### 3.1 LRAM Heavy Equipment Support

The Recipient shall provide LRAM heavy equipment support on the island of Hawaii at PTA. LRAM support involves maintenance, repair, reconfiguration, and improvements utilizing heavy equipment on existing Army training resources to include aggregate roads and trails, training lands, landing zones (LZ), observation points (OP), firing points (FP), and ranges for increased safety and sustainability utilizing LRAM Best Management Practices (BMPs).

- **3.1.1 Trail Maintenance and Repair.** Work consists of removing and hauling portions of the current aggregate trail to approved stockpile locations; scarifying, cutting, and shaping the trail to remove irregularities such as potholes, ruts, gullies, and corrugations; loading, hauling, and spreading additional aggregate; grading and compaction to provide a proper trail surface slope to direct water off the trail to appropriate drainages; application of copolymers and dust palliatives; and restoration and emplacement of LRAM storm water mitigation BMPs for up to forty (40) miles annually.
- **3.1.2 Training Land, LZ, OP, FP, and Ranges Repair, Reconfiguration, and Improvement.** Work consists of repair, reconfiguration, and improvement for up to thirty (30) acres annually by scarifying, grading, hauling, and spreading aggregate

from existing stockpiles on training lands, shaping the terrain to remove irregularities, reshaping berms with the addition of material, compaction, cutting vegetation, and spraying herbicide and palliatives.

# 3.2 Range and Training Land Assessment (RTLA) Support

RTLA support consists of Army training resources field assessments at PTA to including LZs, FPs, OPs, range roads, and training lands through data collection, data maintenance, and data storage utilizing global positioning system (GPS) units and geographical information system (GIS) software; maintenance, acquisition, and analysis of RTLA baseline data and field data to identify current conditions; and submission of written report results and GIS data to the GR. The Recipient shall maintain all GIS data in accordance with (IAW) SRP standards and provide all RTLA GIS data for integration into the GIS geodatabase. All RTLA support work must be approved by the GR prior to implementation.

#### **4.0 REPORTS AND DELIVERABLES**

**4.1** The Recipient shall provide the following documents for review and approval to the onsite

GR prior as outlined in the table below:

- Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) Maintenance Plan
- Safety Plan
- Deliberate Risk Assessment utilizing DD Form 2977
- Travel Plan/Itinerary
- **4.2** All Recipient employees must complete the following online training (online resources shall be provided by the onsite GR):
  - AT Level I awareness
  - OPSEC Level I training
  - iWatch training
- **4.3** Monthly Status Report (MSR). The Recipient shall submit its first monthly status report (MSR) no-later-than (NLT) the 18th of the month after the first full month of the agreement performance. Subsequent reports shall be submitted on the 18<sup>th</sup> of every month until all efforts are completed.
- **4.4** The Government shall review all reports and provide comments within ten (10) calendar days. Government comments shall be incorporated and a revised report shall be provided within ten (10) calendar days after receiving Government comments.

Deliverable	Transmittal Form and Quantity	Schedule
GFE Maintenance Plan	E-mail	Within thirty (30) calendar days of award

Safety Plan	E-mail	Within thirty (30) calendar days of award
Deliberate Risk Assessment	E-mail	Within thirty (30) calendar days of award
Travel Plan/Itinerary	E-mail	Two (2) weeks prior to travel
AT Level I awareness	E-mail certificate	Within thirty (30) calendar days after employees report for duty
OPSEC Level I training	E-mail certificate	Within thirty (30) calendar days after employees report for duty
iWatch training	E-mail certificate	Within thirty (30) calendar days after employees report for duty
First Aid/CPR training	E-mail certificate	Prior to commencement of work
Monthly Status Reports	E-mail	NLT the 18 <sup>th</sup> of each month

# **5.0 PLACE OF PERFORMANCE**

- **5.1 Place of Performance.** Tasks shall be performed at Government owned facilities on the island of Hawaii at PTA.
- **5.2 Hours of Operations.** Work under this CA shall be performed during daylight business hours between the hours of 6am through 6pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays observed by Range Division Hawaii. Exceptions to these hours require approval by the GR.

# 6.0 GOVERNMENT FURNISHED PROPERTY (GFP)

The Government will provide the facilities, utilities, equipment, and materials identified below and described herein as GFP. GFP consists of Government-Furnished Facilities (GFF), Government-Furnished Utilities (GFU), Government-Furnished Equipment (GFE), and Government-Furnished Materials (GFM) placed in the Recipient's custody. The Recipient shall not use GFP for any other purpose than execution of work under this agreement. The Recipient is responsible for all GFP and upon completion of the task the Recipient shall return all GFP to the Government. The

Recipient shall be responsible for safeguarding all GFP provided for Recipient use. At the close of each work period, Government facilities, equipment, and materials shall be secured. The Recipient shall not remove GFP without approval from the onsite GR. An initial inventory of GFP will be made jointly by the Recipient and the GR to verify quantities, condition and availability of the equipment offered to the Recipient by the Government. During the joint inventory between the Government and the Recipient all equipment deficiencies will be identified. GFP shall be returned to the Government in the same condition as it was issued with allowances for normal wear and tear. Recipient purchases, rentals, travel, and services in support of this CA require approval by the GR prior to acquisition.

- **6.1 GFF.** The Government shall furnish the Recipient with access and use of a gravel yard secured with chain link fence for equipment storage and supply storage to include fuel, oil, herbicide, and other supplies located at PTA. Onsite are three 20-foot shipping containers and two 40-foot shipping containers for storage utilization. The Recipient shall keep facilities clean and orderly for appearance and safety and comply with all environmental compliance laws and regulations. The Recipient is responsible for Environmental Compliance Officer (ECO) training and functions for the yard including all compliance related supplies. ECO training is provided by the Government. The yard must be kept locked when no Recipient staff are present. The Government will also furnish the Recipient use of office space within the ITAM office building located on the cantonment area at PTA.
- **6.2 GFU.** The Government shall furnish utilities for the GFP listed in this SOW to include electricity, water, sewage, and refuse collection.
- **6.3 GFE.** The Government shall furnish the Recipient with the following GFE for general use for all tasks:
  - shop tools and hand tools
  - one (1) Mack Granite twelve (12) cubic yard dump truck with pintle hitch for towing
  - one (1) Mack 2,000 gallon water truck
  - one (1) Kubota Skid Steer
  - one (1) John Deere 624K Wheel Loader
  - one (1) John Deere 710 Backhoe
  - one (1) John Deere 700K Dozer
  - one (1) Caterpillar 130G Grader
  - one (1) Volvo SD115B Vibratory Roller

#### Additional notes:

- The Recipient will be required to supply all maintenance, repairs, replacement
  of lost or non-repairable equipment, parts, oil, grease, services, and other
  requirements to utilize, maintain and repair GFE.
- All repairs and deliveries require GR approval and coordination.
- Operation of the dump truck and water truck requires a Commercial Driver's License (CDL).
- If additional equipment is needed due to equipment being down for repairs or
  was not provided by the Government, then the Recipient is required to procure
  the required equipment to accomplish the work identified in this SOW. An
  articulating dump truck will be required for heavy road repairs and an
  additional water truck is required for copolymer applications.
- The Recipient shall furnish all necessary broadband hotspots and computers for the onsite staff to conduct work requirements.

- The Recipient shall report all damage to GFE to the onsite GR within twenty-four (24) hours.
- **6.4 GFM.** The Government shall furnish the Recipient with the following GFM for use: fuel for vehicles and heavy equipment and water for spraying palliative. The Recipient may use funds, with the approval of the GR, to purchase additional materials required to complete the tasks such as aggregate, palliatives, and other materials.
- **6.5 Key Control.** The Recipient shall develop procedures covering key control that shall be included in the Safety Work Plan. The Recipient shall establish and implement methods of making sure all keys issued to the Recipient by the Government are not lost or misplaced and are not used by unauthorized persons. No keys issued to the Recipient by the Government shall be duplicated. Such procedures shall include turn-in of any issued keys by personnel who no longer require access to locked areas. The Recipient shall report any occurrences of lost or duplicate keys/key cards to the GR within twenty-four (24) hours. In the event keys are lost or duplicated, the Recipient shall, upon direction of the GR, re-key or replace the affected lock or locks.

The Recipient shall prohibit the use of Government issued keys/key cards to any persons other than the Recipient's employees. The Recipient shall prohibit the opening of locked areas by Recipient employees to permit entrance of persons other than Recipient employees engaged in the performance of assigned work in those areas, or personnel authorized entrance by the GR.

#### 7.0 HAZARD INFORMATION

There is no requirement for the Recipient to handle hazardous materials. The Recipient shall accomplish tasks on range land that may extend into areas identified as depleted uranium areas. All safety instructions and training will be provided by the Government. Any hazardous material that the Recipient's employees may encounter shall not be handled and shall be reported immediately to the Range Control personnel. Range personnel will determine if work can proceed or must cease. Recipient employees shall attend a safety briefing by the Range Division personnel prior to commencement of work.

A Safety Plan is required that addresses practices and procedures for all work Recipients perform that includes hazard analysis, personnel protective equipment, accident prevention, and safety practices. A Deliberate Risk Assessment accompanying the Safety Plan is also required utilizing DD Form 2977. The GR will provide the required DD Form 2977.

#### **8.0 PERSONNEL**

- **8.1 Conduct of Personnel.** If an employee is removed from the job site or dismissed from the premises, the Recipient is not relieved of the requirement to provide sufficient personnel to perform the services as required by this SOW. IAW 18 USC 1382 and AR 380-49, the authority of the Installation Commander to control and deny an employee entry to all or part of the installation is absolute. The individual concerned has no right to appeal.
- **8.2 Recipient Personnel Communication.** All personnel must be able to read, write, speak, and comprehend the English language.

#### 9.0 PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

The period of performance is 12 months from date of award. This SOW is intended to be a multi-year agreement subject to availability of funds with four (4) additional optional years.

# 10.0 POINTS OF CONTACT (POC)

The Army POC for this project is: TBD

Any modifications to Cooperative Agreement activities as outlined by this SOW must be coordinated through the Grants Officers Representative (GOR) and approved by the Grants Officer (GO) prior to Recipient implementation. The USACE GO is the only person with the authority to act as agent of the Government under this agreement.

The GOR and POC USACE Project Manager is TBD. Cooperative Agreement questions should be addressed to the Grants Officer, Michelle Mandel. Correspondence should be addressed as follows:

GOR and POC USACE Project Manager: TBD

Grants Officer:
Michelle Mandel
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Contracting Division
Attn: CEPOA-CT
P.O. Box 6898

JBER, AK 99506-0898 Phone: (907) 753-2502

Email: michelle.r.mandel@usace.army.mil

# **Section II: Award Information**

This Funding Opportunity Announcement is for a competed cooperative agreement. The period of performance for this requirement is twelve (12) months from the date of award, with the option for four (4) additional 12-month Option Periods subject to availability of funding. This does not obligate the Government to extend this agreement beyond the initial 12-month period of performance. The total Project Cost Ceiling for this requirement is \$7,584,162.87. Provide proposed cost information for each period of performance (Base and Option Periods). The Government will have substantive involvement throughout the execution of this requirement.

Announcement Issue Date: 03 April 2025 Application Due Date: 04 June 2025

Estimated Award Date: 16 June 2025

# **Section III: Eligibility Information**

- 1. Eligible Applicants Open to all that meet the criteria of this announcement. Award shall be limited to States, local governments, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals, pursuant to the authority of 16 U.S.C. 670c-1(a).

  2. Cost Sharing – This action will be 100% funded by USACE.
- 3. Other Information None noted.

#### **Section IV: Application and Submission Information**

1. Address to Request Application Package:

The complete Funding Opportunity Announcement, application forms, and instructions are available for download at Grants.gov. USACE is not responsible for any loss of internet connectivity or for an applicant's inability to access documents posted at the referenced website.

The administrative point of contact is the Grants Specialist, Pamela Iverson pamela.iverson@usace.army.mil.

2. Content and Form of Application Submission:

All mandatory forms and any applicable optional forms must be completed in accordance with the instructions on the forms and the additional instructions below.

- a. SF 424 Application for Federal Assistance
- b. SF 424 A Budget Information for Non-construction Programs
- c. SF 424 B Assurances Non-Construction Programs
- d. Program Narrative Brief program description illustrating applicant's ability to meet the goals and objectives described in Section VI Scope of Work of this announcement.
- 3. Application shall be submitted **NO LATER THAN 04 JUNE 2025**, **2:00 PM (Alaska Time)** via email or through Grants.gov.
- 4. Submission Instructions:

Applications may be submitted by email or via the internet through Grants.gov. Choose ONE (1) of the following submission methods:

Via Email: Format all documents to print on Letter (8 ½ x 11") paper. E-mail proposal to the Grants Specialist, Pamela Iverson, at pamela.iverson@usace.army.mil.

Via Grants.gov: Applicants are not required to submit proposals through Grants.gov. However, if applications are submitted via the internet, applicants are responsible for ensuring that their Grants.gov proposal submission is received in its entirety and within the date and time required. The Government bears no responsibility for data errors resulting from transmission of conversion processes associated with electronic submissions. The Government will bear no responsibility for delays in submissions due to technical difficulties at or with the Grants.gov website. All applicants choosing to use Grants.gov to submit proposals must be registered and have an account with Grants.gov. *It may take up to three (3) weeks to complete Grants.gov registration.* For more information on registration, go to <a href="http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants">http://www.grants.gov/ForApplicants</a>.

# **Section V: Application Review Information**

# **Application Submission Evaluation Criteria and Basis of Award**

# Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance (LRAM) Support Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA), Hawaii

## **April 2025**

The Government will evaluate technical submissions in accordance with the criteria described herein and award a cooperative agreement to the eligible, qualified, and responsible applicant whose submission is determined to be most likely to be successful. The Government will not award a cooperative agreement to an applicant whose submission contains a deficiency.

The evaluation factors for this action are:

Factor 1: Experience (most important technical factor)

Factor 2: Technical Approach (2<sup>nd</sup> most important technical factor)

Factor 3: Cost (3<sup>rd</sup> most important factor)

After listing submission strengths, weaknesses and deficiencies, the Government will assign an adjective rating of Outstanding, Good, Acceptable, Marginal, or Unacceptable to each technical factor which reflects the Government's confidence in each applicant's ability, as demonstrated in its submission, to perform the requirements stated in the Statement of Work (SOW). The adjectival ratings shall be assigned, using the following criteria, which incorporate a submission risk assessment:

Adjectival Rating	Description
Outstanding	Submission indicates an exceptional approach and understanding of the requirements and contains multiple strengths.
Good	Submission indicates a thorough approach and understanding of the requirements and contains at least one (1) strength.
Acceptable	Submission indicates an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements.
Marginal	Submission has not demonstrated an adequate approach and understanding of the requirements or contains an element of risk.
Unacceptable	Submission does not meet requirements of the solicitation and, thus, contains one (1) or more deficiencies and is unawardable.

#### APPLICATION EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Each applicant shall be evaluated in accordance with the selection criteria below. The selection criteria are listed in descending order of importance.

# Factor 1 Experience

The applicant shall demonstrate prior project experience relevant to the attached SOW, completed within the last five (5) years of this Funding Opportunity Announcement, and other qualifications and technical competence in all of the following areas:

- Experience supporting Department of Defense (DoD) natural resource management programs and understanding conservation elements necessary to monitor, manage, protect, and conserve training areas and range facilities for optimal management of public lands under military control. Applicant(s) may receive greater consideration for previous experience partnering with the Government in an aforementioned capacity.
- 2. Experience with management/treatment of vegetation control/modification, erosion control/soil stabilization, fuel breaks, forest management, seeding/re-vegetation, fertilization, culvert management, and trail maintenance on military lands.
- Experience maintaining quality training lands by repairing training areas and sites that have been damaged and provide improved soldier training environments for continued mission use.
- 4. Experience planning and managing time critical work, performing studies, projects, or plans in accordance with applicable guidance and regulations.

The applicant shall provide examples of up to four (4) past projects of similar size, scope, and complexity that best demonstrate the above qualifications. Submit projects that are at least 50% complete or were completed within the past five (5) years. The example project summaries shall be limited to one (1) page each. The example project summaries shall identify:

- Title/Subject
- Location
- Duration
- Brief description
- Roles and work self-performed
- Date project began and if completed
- Complexities or key accomplishments
- Client contact information

The Government will utilize the example project summaries to evaluate the capability and experience as a basis for comparing applicants to determine the applicant most likely to be successful in delivering results.

#### Factor 2 Technical Approach

The applicant shall provide a brief narrative of their technical approach and a milestone schedule. The narrative shall be no more than two (2) pages per main task and must include:

- A discussion of the technical approach to accomplish the SOW requirements.
- A discussion of the quality assurance, quality control, and other technical activities that will be implemented to ensure that quality data are collected to support project data quality objectives.
- A discussion of applicable regulatory requirements and how project requirements will be implemented.
- A discussion of all assumptions. The inclusion of numerous assumptions that significantly "assume away" applicant risk regarding major issues or problems that may be encountered on the project will be considered unacceptable.

The applicant shall also provide an organizational chart with the proposed project team with defined roles, responsibilities, and lines of communication for all key personnel and subrecipients. The Government will review, evaluate, and compare the technical approach documentation received from each applicant to determine the applicant most likely to be successful in delivering results.

#### Factor 3 Cost

Provide proposed cost to the Government during the Period of Performance, to include Optional Periods of Performance, as this data must be reviewed and evaluated to aid in determining fairness and reasonableness. In accordance with Title 2 of the Code of Federal Regulations, non-Federal entities may not earn or keep any profit (or comparable fees) resulting from Federal Financial Assistance actions. Therefore, any applications that contain profit and/or fees will be excluded from consideration because the government cannot compensate for profit or fees on Federal Financial Assistance awards (i.e., Grants and Cooperative Agreements).

Allowable costs incurred by States, local governments, Indian tribes, non-governmental organizations, and individuals are determined in accordance with the provision of Cost Principles of 2 CFR 200, negotiated indirect rates. OMB's cost principles are contained in 2 CFR 200.400-.475 et seq.

Cost is considered less important than non-cost factors and will be evaluated for fairness and reasonableness, per OMB cost principles. If more than one (1) application is rated as having equal non-cost factors, the lowest cost budget of the applications received would be granted as the preferred budget unless there are extraordinary reasons for not doing so.

# **Section VI: Award Administration Information**

Reserved.

**Section VII: Agency Contacts** 

Reserved.

# **Section VIII: Other Information**

Reserved.

All questions or inquiries regarding this Funding Opportunity Announcement shall be directed to the agency contact(s) noted in Section IV.