

ONR FOA Announcement # ONRFOA13-006

Date: 21 December 2012

Asia-Pacific Technology and Education Program

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Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) for Asia-Pacific Technology and Education Program (APTEP)

INTRODUCTION:

This publication constitutes a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) as contemplated in the Department of Defense Grants and Agreements Regulations (DoDGARS) 22.315(a). A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), other solicitation, or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued.

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) will not issue paper copies of this announcement. The ONR reserves the right to fund all, some or none of the proposals received under this FOA. ONR provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs. Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this FOA will not be returned. It is the policy of ONR to treat all proposals as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

This FOA is intended for proposals related to the Asia-Pacific Technology and Education (APTEP) Program.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

- 1. Agency Name** - Office of Naval Research
- 2. Funding Opportunity Title** – Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Asia-Pacific Technology and Education Program (APTEP)
- 3. Program Name** - Asia-Pacific Technology and Education Program (APTEP)
- 4. Funding Opportunity Number** – ONRFOA13-006
- 5. Response Date** -

Full Proposals: 02/11/2013

6. Funding Opportunity Description -

The primary goal of APTEP is to promote commerce and partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region through advancements in alternative energy research, technology development and education. This includes continuing development of world-leading U.S. research capabilities; a U.S. economic base providing technologies to meet Asia-Pacific region needs; and a U.S. workforce educated to develop and implement appropriate technologies. The technology development under this project would focus on creating new technologies or demonstrating the viability of applying existing technologies to new alternative energy products and processes in a general way, such as precompetitive technology development in the commercial sector. This is primarily expected to focus on dual-use technologies for the commercial marketplace but have relevance to the Navy's mission and potential future Naval and DoD requirements. In addition, APTEP promotes partnerships with Asia-Pacific nations for the open exchange of technology advancements and joint educational opportunities related to alternative energy research and technology development. There are three major thrusts in the APTEP program - 1) Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM); 2) Technology Research and Evaluation; and 3) Sustainable Technology Development.

Due to global energy demands and, in particular, increasing demands in developed and developing Asia-Pacific nations, the APTEP vision is focused on "alternative energy for sustainability" with the following overall purposes and approaches:

- Promote sustainability through alternative energy research, technology development and education.
- Research, develop and evaluate U.S. technologies applicable to Asia-Pacific regions.
- Promote a U.S. Clean-Tech workforce by linking energy education, energy research and Clean-Tech companies which would serve as a model for the Asia-Pacific region.
- Partner with Asia-Pacific nations to promote and share alternative energy scientific and technological advancements for sustainability.
- Establish strategic partnerships with Asia-Pacific nations through economic, research and educational opportunities.

The objective of this funding opportunity announcement is to select a center to manage the sustainability-oriented applied research and technology development, and evaluation of sustainable alternative energy technology, and assist with business development and product transition activities to accomplish the objectives of the APTEP program.

To promote economic development, partnerships and stability in the Asia-Pacific region through advancements in technology and economic development, the center shall perform outreach activities to develop a cadre of U.S. small to mid-size businesses and academic institutions to create an economic base capable of providing sustainable alternative energy technologies to meet Asia-Pacific regional needs. The center shall identify opportunities where businesses possess the technological expertise to perform research and develop commercial-oriented products to meet future needs, and provide assistance and guidance to promote sustainable alternative energy-related technology development and partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region.

The center shall be responsible for assisting with business and product development to enhance the transition of commercially-oriented technologies that could meet future Navy and DoD needs developed under this program. The center shall assist the technology firms in understanding the business, financial, and technical aspects of applying for federal contracts and performing technology development/evaluation, as well as assist in transitioning new products used in humanitarian assistance/disaster relief.

The major efforts of the center shall be:

1. Identification and promulgation to technology companies and academic institutions of existing and future sustainable energy technology needs in the Asia-Pacific region. Documented justification for selection of needs shall be based on known and projected civilian or naval sustainable energy-related requirements, as well as humanitarian assistance/disaster relief requirements to support the Asia-Pacific region.
2. The conduct of competitions to select appropriate pre-commercial and nascent commercial sustainable alternative energy technologies for evaluation. The conduct of business case/cost-benefit analyses to include consultation with regional technical and cultural experts to support the selection of the technologies and the proposed relevant test sites in the Asia-Pacific operational area. The conduct of formal semi-annual project reviews.
3. Evaluation of selected technologies at test sites representative of conditions encountered in the Asia-Pacific region, and analysis and reporting of intermediate and final test results. Projects shall collect performance and reliability data to de-risk technologies for civilian and defense applications. This includes evaluation of technologies during joint experimentation exercises.
4. Assistance with business development, strategic partnering and product transition strategies for the participant technology companies.

Hawaii is currently the national focal point for APTEP activities due to its geographic location; environmental similarities to other Asia-Pacific regions; cultural, educational and economic ties to many Asia-Pacific nations; and research capabilities in scientific and technology areas highly relevant to Asia-Pacific. Therefore, the above major center efforts should further Hawaii's already-established national role as a marketplace, developer and test-bed for alternative energy technologies applicable to Asia-Pacific energy needs.

Proposals are sought from U.S. organizations with a proven track record in the Asia-Pacific region of mentoring small high technology businesses capable of developing dual-use, sustainable alternative energy technologies; and developing strategic partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region. Required organizational capabilities include: extensive knowledge and experience in identifying, working with and evaluating the capabilities of small business high technology firms; extensive knowledge and experience in identifying and addressing U.S. Naval technology requirements and dual-use technologies that could have future Naval relevance; extensive knowledge and experience identifying and addressing humanitarian assistance/disaster relief requirements; extensive knowledge and experience in interfacing with the U.S. joint and naval commands operating in the Asia-Pacific area of operations (e.g., U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM), and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC)); extensive knowledge and experience in mentoring small business high technology firms, especially in relation to the performance of Government-sponsored research and technology development efforts and product transition; extensive knowledge of and

experience in developing strategic partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region; and knowledge and experience in conducting cost-benefit and business case analysis, and experience with Government sponsored applied research reporting is required; knowledge of, experience with, and sensitivity to the Asia-Pacific region environmental, cultural, and economic issues. Geographic proximity to the Asia-Pacific region military commands will be critical to success of this program.

7. Point(s) of Contact -

Questions of a technical nature should be submitted to:

Program Manager Name: Mr. Clif Ching
Address: Room 102, 3949 Diamond Head Road, Honolulu, HI 96816-4495
Code: ONR 33 Mid-Pacific
Phone: 1-808-853-4265
Email: clifton.ching@navy.mil

Questions of a business nature should be submitted to:

Name: Joe Cloft
Address: 875 N. Randolph St
Code: ONR 253
Phone: 703-696-0989
Email: joseph.cloft@navy.mil

Any questions regarding this solicitation must be provided to the Technical Point of Contact and Business Point of Contact listed in this solicitation. All questions shall be submitted in writing by electronic mail.

Questions submitted within 2 weeks prior to a deadline may not be answered, and the due date for submission of the white paper and/or full proposal will not be extended.

Amendments will be posted to one or more of the following webpages:

- Grants.gov Webpage – <http://www.grants.gov/>
- ONR Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) Webpage-
<http://www.onr.navy.mil/en/Contracts-Grants/Funding-Opportunities/Broad-Agency-Announcements.aspx>

8. Instrument Type(s)

It is anticipated that a Cooperative Agreement award will result from this FOA. However, ONR reserves the right to award a different instrument type if deemed to be in the best interest of the Government.

9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers -

Primary: 12.630
Secondary: 12.330

10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles -

Primary: Basic, Applied, and Advanced Research in Science and Engineering

Secondary: Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM) for K-12 & Institutions of Higher Learning- NAVY

11. Other Information -

This FOA is intended for proposals related to the Asia-Pacific Technology and Education Program.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

The Office of Naval Research plans to make one award under this FOA, which represents the best value to the Government in accordance with the evaluation criteria contained in Section V, Evaluation Criteria.

Amount and Period of Performance- Estimated Total Amount of Funding Available (\$K):

FY2012	FY2013	FY2014	FY2015	FY2016	Total
\$6000	\$6000	\$6000	\$6000	\$6000	\$30000

Any resulting award is expected to be a cooperative agreement with a period of performance of one year with four one-year option periods, for a total potential period of performance of five (5) years. The FY13 and out-year funding levels are dependent on defense appropriations.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

All responsible sources from for-profit, non-profit, not-for-profit, and academic organizations may submit proposals under this FOA. Federally Funded Research & Development Centers (FFRDCs), including Department of Energy National Laboratories, are not eligible to receive awards under this FOA. Navy laboratories and warfare centers as well as other Department of Defense and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to receive awards under this FOA.

Federally Funded Research & Development Centers (FFRDCs), including Department of Energy National Laboratories, are not eligible to receive awards under this FOA. However, teaming arrangements between FFRDCs and eligible principal bidders are allowed so long as they are permitted under the sponsoring agreement between the Government and the specific FFRDC.

Navy laboratories and warfare centers as well as other Department of Defense and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to receive awards under this FOA and should not directly submit proposals in response to this FOA. If any such organization is interested in one or more of the programs described herein, the organization should contact an appropriate ONR POC (listed under section IV below) to discuss its area of interest. As with FFRDCs, these types of federal organizations may team with other responsible sources from academia and industry that are submitting proposals under this FOA.

University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC) are eligible to submit proposals under this FOA unless precluded from doing so by their Department of Defense UARC contracts.

Teams are also encouraged and may submit proposals. However, Offerors must be willing to cooperate and exchange software, data and other information in an integrated program with other contractors, as well as with system integrators, selected by ONR.

Some topics cover export controlled technologies. Research in these areas is limited to "U.S. persons" as defined in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) - 22 CFR § 1201.1 et seq.

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 33.110. Any company, non-profit agency or university that applies for financial assistance (either grants, cooperative agreements or other transaction agreements) as either a prime or sub-recipient under this FOA must provide information in their proposal that describes the necessary processes and systems in place to comply with the reporting requirements identified in 2 CFR 33.220 and Appendix A. Entities are **exempt** from this requirement **UNLESS** in the preceding fiscal year, it received: a) 80 percent or more of its annual gross revenue in Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants), and cooperative agreements; b) \$25 million or more in annual gross revenue from Federal contracts (and subcontracts), loans, grants (and subgrants), and cooperative agreements; and c) the public does not have access to information about the compensation of the senior executives through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process - Full Proposals

Proposals for evaluation must be submitted in accordance with the requirements specified in paragraphs two (2) through (5) below. Failure to follow these requirements may result in the proposal not being considered for award.

2. Content and Format of Full Proposals -

Full Proposals submitted under the FOA are expected to be unclassified.

Unclassified Proposal Instructions:

Unclassified Full Proposals shall be submitted in accordance with Section IV. Application and Submission Information.

Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR Subpart 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information.

FULL PROPOSALS

i. INSTRUCTIONS FOR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS

The following information must be completed as follows in the SF 424 located on www.grants.gov to ensure that the application is directed to the correct individual for review: Block 4a, Federal Identifier: Enter the previous ONR award number, or N00014 if the application is not a renewal or expansion of an existing award; Block 4b, Agency Routing Number, Enter the three (3) digit Program Office Code and the Program Officer's name, last name first, in brackets (e.g., 33 [Ching, Clif]). Applicants who fail to provide a Program Officer code identifier may receive a notice that their proposal is rejected.

To attach the technical proposal in Grants.gov, download the application package

Click on "Research and Related Other Project Information"

Click on "Move form to Submission List"

Click on "Open Form"

You will see a new PDF document titled "Research & Related Other Project Information"

Block 7 is the Project Summary/Abstract -> click on "Add attachment" and attach the project summary/abstract. (You will not be able to type in the box, therefore, save the file you want to attach as Project Summary or Abstract).

Block 8 is the Project Narrative -> click on Add attachment and attach the technical proposal. (Save the file as Volume I- Technical Proposal since you will not be able to type in the box).

Full Proposal Format - Volume 1 - Technical Proposal and Volume 2 - Cost Proposal

- Paper Size - 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins - 1 inch
- Spacing - single-spaced
- Font - Times New Roman, 12 point
- Number of Pages - Volume 1 (Vol. 1) is limited to no more than 15 pages. Limitations within sections of the proposal, if any, are indicated in the individual descriptions shown below. The cover page, table of contents, resumes and current and pending project and proposal submissions information are excluded from the 15 page limitations, but these may have section page limitations as noted below. Full Proposals exceeding the page limit may not be evaluated. There are no page limitations to Volume 2.

Volume 1: Technical Proposal

- **Cover Page:** This should include the words "Technical Proposal" and the following:
 1. FOA number;
 2. Title of Proposal;
 3. Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subawards, if applicable;
 4. Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
 5. Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address) and;
 6. Proposed period of performance (identify both the base period and any options, if included);
 7. Signature of Authorized Representative.

Limit the number of pages for this section to 2.

- **Table of Contents:** An alphabetical/numerical listing of the sections within the proposal, including corresponding page numbers.

Limit the number of pages for this section to 2.

- **Management and Technical Approach:** A discussion of the overall approach to the management of the APTEP center, particularly the four major efforts for the center described in Section I.6, and how this approach effectively achieves the goals of the APTEP program. This shall include a brief discussions of the total organization; use of personnel; project/function/subcontractor/subrecipient relationships; government research interfaces; and planning, scheduling and control practice. Identify which personnel and subcontractors/subrecipients (if any) will be involved. Include a description of the facilities that are required for the proposed effort with a description of any Government Furnished Equipment/Hardware/Software/Information required, by version and/or configuration.

Limit the number of pages for this section to 8.

Project Schedule and Milestones: A summary of the schedule of events and milestones.

Limit the number of pages for this section to 2.

Reports:

The following are sample reports that are typically required under a research effort:

- Technical and Financial Progress Reports
- Presentation Materials
- Final Report

Limit the number of pages for this section to 1.

Current and Pending Project and Proposal Submissions: Offerors are required to provide information on all current and pending support for ongoing projects and proposals, including subsequent funding in the case of continuing contracts, grants, and other assistance agreements. Offerors shall provide the following information of any related proposal submissions from whatever sources (e.g., ONR, Federal, State, local or foreign government agencies, public or private foundations, industrial or other commercial organizations).

The information must be provided for all proposals already submitted or submitted concurrently to other possible sponsors, including ONR. Concurrent submission of a proposal to other organizations will not prejudice its review by ONR:

- 1) Title of Proposal and Summary;
- 2) Source and amount of funding (annual direct costs; provide contract and/or grant numbers for current contracts/grants);
- 3) Percentage effort devoted to each project;
- 4) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subawards, if applicable;
- 5) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- 6) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address);
- 7) Duration of effort (differentiate basic effort);
- 8) The proposed project and all other projects or activities requiring a portion of time of the Principal Investigator and other senior personnel must be included, even if they receive no salary support from the project(s);
- 9) The total award amount for the entire award period covered (including indirect costs) must be shown as well as the number of person-months or labor hours per year to be devoted to the project, regardless of source of support; and
- 10) State how projects are related to the proposed effort and indicate degree of overlap.

Limit the number of pages for this section to 2.

Qualifications: A summary discussion of the qualifications of the proposed Principal Investigator and any other key personnel. Include resumes for the Principal Investigator and other key personnel and full curricula vitae for Principal Investigators and consultants. The resumes and curricula vitae shall be attached to the proposal and will not count toward the page limitations.

Limit the number of pages for this section to 2.

Volume 2: Cost Proposal

For the proposed Volume 2 submission, Offerors shall use the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet (excel) found at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/submit-proposal/contracts-proposal/cost-proposal.aspx>. This document has instructions imbedded into it that will assist in completing the document. The proposal should assume that performance will start 01 SEP 2013.

Click on the "Cost Proposal Spreadsheet" at the link above and save a copy of the spreadsheet. Instructions for completion have been embedded into the spreadsheet. Proposed options that are identified in the Technical Proposal, but are not fully priced out in the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet,

will not be included in any resulting agreement. Options must be separately priced and separate spreadsheets (worksheet) shall be provided for the base period and each option period. In addition to providing summary by period of performance (base and any options), the Offeror is also responsible for providing a breakdown of cost for each task identified in the Statement of Work. The sum of all costs by task worksheets MUST equal the total cost summary.

For proposed subawards, subcontracts, or interorganizational transfers over \$150,000, Offerors must provide a separate fully completed Cost Proposal Spreadsheet in support of the proposed costs. This spreadsheet, along with supporting documentation, must be provided either in a sealed envelope with the prime’s proposal or via e-mail directly to both the Program Officer and the Business Point of Contact at the same time the prime proposal is submitted. The e-mail should identify the proposal title, the prime Offeror and that the attached proposal is a subcontract, and should include a description of the effort to be performed by the subcontractor. Offerors should also familiarize themselves with the new subcontract reporting requirements set forth in the “Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Reporting” paragraph of Section VII, Other Information, of this document.

Offerors shall submit the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet with backup documentation with its Grants.gov proposal submission. The Cost Proposal Spreadsheet should be submitted in a Microsoft Excel 2007 compatible format. All Volume 2 supporting attachments should be submitted in a pdf-compatible format. Should an Offeror amend its proposal, the amended proposal should be submitted following the same hard and electronic copy guidance applicable to the original proposal. The electronic submission of the Excel spreadsheet should be in a "useable condition" to aid the Government with its evaluation. The term "useable condition" indicates that the spreadsheet should visibly include and separately identify within each appropriate cell any and all inputs, formulas, calculations, etc. The Offeror should not provide "value only spreadsheets" similar to a hard copy. **Note:** - Fee/profit is unallowable under assistance agreements at either the prime or subaward level (for subawardees and subcontractors performing research) but may be permitted on any subcontracts for supplies or services issued by the prime awardee.

3. Significant Dates and Times -

Event	Date	Time
Full Proposal Due Date	2/11/2013	3:00 PM Eastern Standard Time
Notification of Selection: Full Proposals*	4/15/2013	
Awards*	9/01/2013	

**These dates are estimates as of the date of this announcement.*

4. Submission of Late Proposals -

Any proposal, modification, or revision that is received at the designated Government office after the exact time specified for receipt of proposals is "late" and will not be considered unless it is received before award is made, the contracting officer determines that accepting the late proposal

would not unduly delay the acquisition and:

- a. If it was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the announcement, it was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 P.M. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals; or
- b. There is acceptable evidence to establish that it was received at the Government installation designated for receipt of proposals and was under the Government's control prior to the time set for receipt of proposals; or
- c. It was the only proposal received.

However, a late modification of an otherwise timely and successful proposal that makes its terms more favorable to the Government will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

Acceptable evidence to establish the time or receipt at the Government installation includes the time/date stamp of that installation on the proposal wrapper, other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation, or oral testimony or statements of Government personnel.

If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that proposals cannot be received at the Government office designated for receipt of proposals by the exact time specified in the announcement, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the announcement closing date, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the announcement on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

The contracting officer must promptly notify any offeror if its proposal, modifications, or revision was received late and must inform the offeror whether its proposal will be considered.

5. Submission of Proposals through Grants.gov

For electronic submission of grant full proposals, 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 Central Contract Registration (CCR), registering with the credential provider, and registering with Grants.gov. See <http://www.grants.gov>, specifically <http://www.grants.gov/GetStarted>.

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 CCR registration process. Applicants who are not registered with CCR and Grant.gov should allow at least 21 days to complete 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 (1-606-545-5035 for foreign applicants) or support@grants.gov.

Special Notices Relative to Applications to be Submitted Through Grants.gov

All attachments submitted through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) must be in Adobe Portable Document Format (i.e., .pdf files). Proposals with attachments submitted in word processing, spreadsheet, or any format other than Adobe Portable Document Format will not be considered for award.

For Program-specific Announcements: Applicants who have registered with Grants.gov are urged to submit their proposals electronically *at least* three days before the date and time that proposals are due so that they will not be received late and be ineligible for award consideration.

Proposal Receipt Notices:

After a full proposal is submitted through Grants.gov, the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) will receive a series of three e-mails. You will know that your proposal has reached ONR when the AOR receives e-mail Number 3. You will need the Submission Receipt Number (e-mail Number 1) to track a submission. The three e-mails are:

Number 1 – The applicant will receive a confirmation page upon completing the submission to Grants.gov. This confirmation page is a record of the time and date stamp that is used to determine whether the proposal was submitted.

Number 2 – The applicant will receive an e-mail indicating that the proposal has been validated by Grants.gov within two days of submission (this means that all of the required fields have been completed). After an institution submits an application, Grants.gov generates a submission receipt via email and also sets the application status to “Received.” This receipt verifies the Application has been successfully delivered to the Grants.gov system. Next, Grants.gov verifies the submission is valid by ensuring it does not contain viruses, the opportunity is still open, and the applicant login and applicant DUNS number match. If the submission is valid, Grants.gov generates a submission validation receipt via email and sets the application status to “Validated.” If the application is not validated, the application status is set to "Rejected." The system sends a rejection email notification to the institution, and the institution must resubmit the application package. Applicants can track the status of their application by logging in to Grants.gov.

Number 3 – The third notice is an acknowledgement of receipt in e-mail form from ONR within ten days from the proposal due date, if applicable. The e-mail is sent to the authorized representative for the institution. The e-mail for proposals notes that the proposal has been received and provides the assigned tracking number.

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria -

Award decisions will be based on a competitive selection of proposals resulting from a scientific and cost review. Evaluations will be conducted using the following evaluation criteria:

1. Overall technical merits of the proposal to achieve the overall goals of the Asia-Pacific Technology and Education Program (APTEP). Specifically, achieving the goals of promoting economic development through mentoring of small high technology businesses developing dual-use, sustainable alternative energy technologies; and building and sustaining partnerships and stability in the Asia-Pacific region.

Key evaluation sub-criteria include the offeror's: (a) knowledge and experience identifying, working with and evaluating the capabilities of small business high technology firms; (b) knowledge and experience identifying and addressing U.S. Naval technology requirements and dual-use technologies that could have future Naval relevance; (c) knowledge and experience identifying and addressing humanitarian assistance/disaster relief requirements; (d) knowledge and experience interfacing with the U.S. joint and naval commands operating in the Asia-Pacific area of operations (e.g., U.S. Pacific Command (PACOM) and U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC)); (e) knowledge and experience in mentoring small business high technology firms, especially in relation to the performance of Government-sponsored research and technology development efforts and product transition; and (f) knowledge of and experience in developing strategic partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region

2. The qualifications, capabilities and experience of the proposed Principal Investigator (PI), team leader and key personnel who are critical in achieving the proposal objectives, including (a) knowledge of and experience developing strategic partnerships in the Asia-Pacific region; (b) knowledge and experience conducting cost-benefit and business case analysis; and (c) experience with Government sponsored applied research reporting;
3. The offeror's capabilities, related experience, facilities, techniques or unique combinations of these which are integral factors for achieving the proposal objectives, including: (a) demonstrated knowledge of, experience with, and sensitivity to the Asia-Pacific region environmental, cultural, and economic issues; and (b) geographic proximity to the Asia-Pacific region military commands (PACOM and MARFORPAC);
4. Extent proposed approach will harness commercially-oriented technologies that could meet future Navy and DoD needs.
5. The realism of the proposed costs and availability of funds.

Overall, the technical factors 1 - 4 above are significantly more important than the cost factor, with the technical factors all being of equal value. The degree of importance of cost will increase with the degree of equality of the proposals in relation to the other factors on which selection is to be based, or when the cost is so significantly high as to diminish the value of the proposal's technical superiority to the Government.

The ultimate recommendation for award of proposals is made by ONR's scientific/technical community. Recommended proposals will be forwarded to the contracts department will perform costs analysis prior to any ensuing negotiations. Any notification received from ONR that indicates that the Offeror's full proposal has been recommended, does not ultimately guarantee an award will be made. This notice indicates that the proposal has been selected in accordance with the evaluation criteria above and has been sent to the contracting department to conduct cost analysis, determine the offeror's responsibility, and any take any other relevant steps necessary prior to commencing negotiations with the offeror.

2. Options -

The Government will evaluate options for award purposes by adding the total cost for all options to the total cost for the basic requirement. Evaluation of options will not obligate the Government to exercise the options during the period of performance.

3. Evaluation Panel -

Technical and cost proposals submitted under this FOA will be protected from unauthorized disclosure. The cognizant Program Officer and other Government scientific experts will perform the evaluation of technical proposals. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, one or more support contractors may be utilized as subject-matter-expert technical consultants. However, proposal selection and award decisions are solely the responsibility of Government personnel. Each support contractor's employee having access to technical and cost proposals submitted in response to this FOA will be required to sign a non-disclosure statement prior to receipt of any proposal submissions.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Administrative Requirements -

- North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code – The NAICS code for this announcement is “541712” with a small business size standard of “500 employees”.
- System for Award Management (SAM): All Offerors submitting proposals or applications must:
 - 1) be registered in the SAM prior to submission;
 - 2) maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application under consideration by any agency; and
 - 3) provide its DUNS number in each application or proposal it submits to the agency.

The System for Award Management (SAM) is a free web site that consolidates the capabilities you used to find in CCR/FedReg, ORCA, and EPLS. Future phases of SAM will add the capabilities of other systems used in Federal procurement and awards processes.

SAM may be accessed at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM/>

- Access to your Cooperative Agreement

Effective 01 October 2011, hard copies of award/modification documents will no longer be mailed to Offerors. All Office of Naval Research (ONR) award/modification documents will be available via the Department of Defense (DoD) Electronic Document Access System (EDA).

EDA

EDA is a web-based system that provides secure online access, storage, and retrieval of awards and modifications to DoD employees and vendors.

If you do not currently have access to EDA, you may complete a self-registration request as a "Vendor" via <http://eda.ogden.disa.mil> following the steps below:

Click "New User Registration" (from the left Menu)
Click "Begin VENDOR User Registration Process"
Click "EDA Registration Form" under Username/Password (enter the appropriate data)
Complete & Submit Registration form

Allow five (5) business days for your registration to be processed. EDA will notify you by email when your account is approved.

Registration questions may be directed to the EDA help desk toll free at 1-866-618-5988, Commercial at 801-605-7095, or via email at cscassig@csd.disa.mil (Subject: EDA Assistance)

NOTE: Central Contractor Registry (CCR) and Certification requirements are all set forth in the ONR Technical and Cost Proposal Template for those submitting contract proposals.

Cooperative Agreements Certification Requirements:

Cooperative Agreement awards greater than \$100,000 not under Section 845, require a certification of compliance with a national policy mandate concerning lobbying. The following certification likewise applies to each cooperative agreement applicant seeking federal assistance funds exceeding \$100,000:

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the applicant, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the applicant shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The applicant shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub awards at all tiers (including sub contracts, 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.

VII. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities

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. It is unlikely that all facilities would be used for any one specific program. The use of these facilities and resources will be negotiated as the program unfolds. Offerors submitting proposals for cooperative agreements should address the need for government-furnished facilities in their technical proposal and indicate which of these facilities are critical for the project's success.

2. 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. Normally, work done under a grant does not require access to classified material. If it is determined that access to classified information will be required during the performance of an award, a Department of Defense (DD) Form 254 will be attached to the contract; and FAR 52.204-2 - Security Requirements will be incorporated into the contract. The Offeror must clearly identify such need by completing Section II, Block 11, DD 254 – Security Classification Specification, of the Technical Proposal Template.

It is not expected that any classified information will be involved with this cooperative agreement.

3. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program

The DoD High Performance Computing Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S&T and RDT&E

communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of ONR contracts, grants, and assistance instruments may be eligible to use HPCMP assets in support of their funded activities if ONR Program Officer approval is obtained and if security/screening requirements are favorably completed. Additional information and an application may be found at <http://www.hpcmo.hpc.mil/>.

4. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

All Offerors and proposed subcontractors must affirm whether they are providing scientific, engineering, and technical assistance (SETA) or similar support to any ONR technical office(s) through an active contract or subcontract. All affirmations must state which office(s) the offeror supports and identify the prime contract numbers. Affirmations shall be furnished at the time of proposal submission. All facts relevant to the existence or potential existence of organizational conflicts of interest (FAR 9.5) must be disclosed. The disclosure shall include a description of the action the offeror has taken or proposes to take to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate such conflict. In accordance with FAR 9.503 and without prior approval, a contractor cannot simultaneously be a SETA and a research and development performer. Proposals that fail to fully disclose potential conflicts of interests or do not have acceptable plans to mitigate identified conflicts will be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award. Additional ONR OCI guidance can be found at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/About-ONR/compliance-protections/Organizational-Conflicts-Interest.aspx>. If a prospective offeror believes that any conflict of interest exists or may exist (whether organizational or otherwise), the offeror should promptly raise the issue with ONR by sending his/her contact information and a summary of the potential conflict by e-mail to the Business Point of Contact in Section I, item 7 above, before time and effort are expended in preparing a proposal and mitigation plan. If, in the sole opinion of the Government after full consideration of the circumstances, any conflict situation cannot be effectively avoided, the proposal may be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award under this FOA.

5. Project Meetings and Reviews

Individual program reviews between the ONR sponsor and the performer may be held as necessary. Program status reviews may also be held to provide a forum for reviews of the latest results from experiments and any other incremental progress towards the major demonstrations. These meetings will be held at various sites throughout the country. For costing purposes, offerors should assume that 40% of these meetings will be at or near ONR, Arlington VA and 60% at other contractor or other government facilities. Interim meetings are likely, but these will be accomplished via video telephone conferences, telephone conferences, or via web-based collaboration tools.

6. Military Recruiting on Campus

Military Recruiting on Campus (DoDGARS Part 22.520) applies to domestic U.S. colleges and universities. Appropriate language from 32CFR22.520 Campus access for military recruiting and Reserve Officer Training Corps(ROTC) will be incorporated.

7. Other Guidance, Instructions, and Information

None