

Space-Based Machine Automated Recognition Technique (SMART) Program						
SMART BAA 19-04						
NOTICE: IARPA will accept questions until March 6, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. EST - via email at iarpa-baa-19-04@iarpa.gov						
Industry Questions and Government Answers - ROUND 3 - 03-05-2020						
Question number	Round	Industry Questions	Paragraph & Page #	Government Responses	Change to BAA (Yes/No)	Paragraph & Page #
question 23	round 3	Is there a time on March 6 when questions need to be in by? Is that COB March 6, 2020 and does COB equate to 5:00 PM EST?	Page 6	IARPA will accept questions until March 6, 2020 @ 5:00 P.M. EST - via email at iarpa-baa-19-04@iarpa.gov	yes	Page #6
Section 1 - TECHNICAL PROGRAM OVERVIEW						
question 11	round 2	Regarding the IARPA Smart BAA, I would like a clarification.	Page 17 (TA-2)	The SMART program calls for the system to operate online as well as off-line. Online assumes the data.	No	
question 12	round 2	Question regarding a possible typo in the SMART BAA (IARPA-BAA-19-04).	Page 10 under	The > 8,000 square meters references the minimum size of the area, in which an event or activity.	Yes	See BAA Page 10, paragraph 3 - under "Technical Area-1; The
question 13	round 2	Does the dataset to be analyzed have to be space-based or can it be a large geographical dataset collected	Paragraph 1.D	The goal of the SMART program is to automate the quantitative analysis of space-based imagery in	No	See BAA summary of the program page 6.
question 14	round 2	The first four metrics in Table 1 are not defined anywhere in the document. What does "calibration"	Table 1; Page 25	Absolute radiometric calibration is a process that converts the voltage recorded by a satellite sensor of	No	
question 15	round 2	Aerosol Optical Depth is not mentioned elsewhere in the BAA outside of Table 1. Do we need to compute it	Table 1; Page 25	Calibration techniques for absolute calibration often rely on in-situ measurements (e.g., aerosol optical	No	
question 16	round 2	Table 1 gives a metric threshold in False Positive Rate (FPR), but this rate is not defined in Section 1.F	Table 1; Page 25	The fraction of Non-Relevant events, or activities (or sequential phases) that are incorrectly identified as	No	
question 17	round 2	How is the time accuracy metric (last row of Table 1) assessed? Is it expected that the entire temporal	Table 1; Page 25	The metric relates to identification of an individual event or activity phase within the temporal bound of	No	
question 18	round 2	What is the size of the data to be addressed across the program phases? The nonzeros data briefing	Page 10 under	The > 8,000 square meters references the minimum size of the area, in which an event or activity.	No	
question 19	round 3	Per section 1.H.2 site visits are required up to four times per year. Will all subcontractors be required to attend every site visit in person, or is it possible for them to join remotely? Is there a requirement that the whole team be together in person for a certain number of site visits?		Team members can join site visits remotely.	no	
question 20	round 3	Is this BAA intended to be limited to only satellite or airborne electro-optical data sources and not include satellite based synthetic aperture radar (such as Sentinel 1)? Are algorithms using synthetic aperture radar data sought for Technical Area-2 (TA-2)?		See response to question 13.		
question 21	round 3	"The goal of TA-2 is to develop algorithms capable of BAS over 8,000 square meters...". Is "8,000 square meters" the metric you are looking at? Would it be of benefit to do such a BAS over areas > 8,000 Sq Km? If so, how would such a capability be evaluated?		See answer to question no. 12. The Government will evaluate the capability per its overall scientific and technical merit, effectiveness of proposed work plan, contribution and relevance to the IARPA mission and program, relevant experience and expertise.		See BAA Section 5.A.1 (a-e), pages 48 thru 49.
question 22	round 3	What data will be provided to TA-2 only performers specifically as TAI performers develop databases/calibration/correction/registration methodologies?		Prototype systems will be demonstrated, leveraging the developed SMART Database.	no	
question 23	round 3	Will the T&E team provide database-like data for TA2 only performers? What is the expectation from IARPA about TA2 performers handling TAI scope - i.e. data fusion?		See response to question 22.	no	
question 24	round 3	Should TA2 only performers should plan to collaborating with TAI performers? Are there any restrictions to such collaboration?		Collaborative efforts and teaming among Offerors are highly encouraged.	no	
question 25	round 3	Incoming data needs to be normalized to a common data format, what is the desired normalization format (which scientific file format)? Is this format expected to change or adapt to accept new formats?		The Government will be seeking feedback from Performers on the GFI version of the API and framework, made available to Performers at the outset of the SMART program.	no	
question 26	round 3	What are the critical key features that must be supported in the normalized format?		See response to question 25.	no	
Section 2 - AWARD INFORMATION						
Section 3 - ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION						
question 1	round 1	We currently work at the ODNI. Are we prohibited to participate in this effort? If has nothing to do with		J. A.1 Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI) - In accordance with FAR 9.5, Offerors are required to	no	See BAA pages 32 - 33; paragraphs 5.
question 2	round 1	We would like to know if non-US citizens, permanent residents and HRB visa holder may participate in the		Foreign entities and/or individuals may participate to the extent that such participants comply with any	no	See BAA paragraph 4 page 17
Section 4 - PROPOSAL INFORMATION						
question 3	round 1	Paragraph 4.B.1.a Section 1 Cover sheet & Attachment 1 letter states the following: "type contract vehicle	Paragraph 4.B.1.a	There are two types of instruments that can be awarded under this BAA: procurement or other	no	See BAA page 6, footnote #1
question 4	round 1	Paragraph 4.B.1.d Section 4 Attachments, Attachment 10: Security Plan is "Not Applicable". Can all	Paragraph 4.B.1.d	The Government anticipates proposals submitted under this BAA will be UNCLASSIFIED.	no	See BAA page 35, paragraph 3
question 5	round 1	SMART Proposer's Day 29 May 2019. Request a list of attendees.		IARPA's website contains the Proposer's Day slides for SMART. It also includes vendors'	no	
question 6	round 1	SMART Proposer's Day 29 May 2019. Request a list of attendees.		See response to Question 5	no	
question 7	round 1	May I please get SMART training info?		See response to Question 5	no	
question 8	round 1	May I please have possible training information such as contact information of interested parties for this		See response to Question 5	no	
question 9	round 1	Will SMART Team, I assume find a list of the Industry Day attendees for this BAA. Can it be queried for		See response to Question 5	no	
question 10	round 2	Can a university submit as a prime, along with a team consisting of two universities and an industry		Collaborative efforts and teaming arrangements among potential Offerors are strongly encouraged.	no	See BAA Page 34, paragraph 2, Section 3.C.1
question 27	round 3	In 4.C.2 of the solicitation it indicates that the Offeror shall submit basic cost information, but not a full Cost Proposal. This is a deviation from other government efforts that we have proposed in the past. What is IARPA's intention for not requesting the full Cost Proposal? Does the Cost Proposal we submit at negotiations have to match the total cost requested when we submit our Technical and Management Proposal, or can the amount deviate?		Yes, our process of only requesting full Cost Volumes from those offerors that have been determined selectable or selectable with modification may deviate from other Government efforts. Our process was designed to reduce the administrative burden following the principles of FAR Part 35 which states "the submission and subsequent evaluation of an indeterminate number of proposals from sources lacking appropriate qualifications is costly and time consuming to both industry and the Government (35.007(f))." FAR 35 also recognizes that cost or price is not normally the controlling factor in selecting a contractor to perform R&D (35.007(f)). That being said, budget constraints are considered in making selectability determinations as stated in BAA Section 5. Therefore, it is important that BAA section 4.B.1.b.e., Technical Resource Summary, is adequately addressed in your proposal so that the Government can assess the Resource Realism evaluation criteria, Section 5.A.1.e. It is also imperative that you address Cost, Schedule and Milestones - BAA section 4.B.1.c, f, in your technical proposal so that the Government can consider the Budget Constraint evaluation factor (see BAA Section 5.A.2.a.).	no	See BAA Section 4.B.1.c, Page 39, paragraph, 2, and Section 4.B.2 Volume: Cost Proposal, Page 44, paragraph 11
question 28	round 3	According to 4.B.1, the Offeror would have 10 business days from notification by the Contracting Officer to submit their full Cost Proposal. Would additional time be permitted to submit this volume, or is the 10 business days firm?		The intent is to have the Cost Volume submitted within 10 days after CO request. It is assumed that offerors would have much of this work prepared when they completed their technical proposal (e.g., Technical Resource Summary, Cost, schedule and milestones sections). The CO may authorize a longer period but it is not advisable for offerors to plan on that.	no	
question 29	round 3	In 4.B.2.b, the solicitation referenced an Excel document that is provided in Appendix B. Could you please provide the referenced Excel file? It does not seem to be attached as Appendix B.		Appendix B - Estimated Cost Breakdowns - excel spreadsheet attached	no	
question 30	round 3	Could our SMART deliverables make calls to access imagery?		This is a business decision on the part of the offeror in developing its technical and cost proposals. The proposal shall provide the detailed, in-depth discussion of the proposed research as well as supporting information about the Offeror's capabilities and resources. The Offeror's cost proposal shall contain sufficient factual information to establish the Offeror's understanding of the project, the perception of project risks, the ability to organize and perform the work and to support the realism and reasonableness of the proposed cost, to the extent appropriate.	no	See BAA Section 4.B.1.b - Section 2 Summary of Proposal, Paragraphs A thru E, pages 38 - 39. See Section 4.B.1.c - Section 3: Detailed Proposal Information. See BAA Section 4.B.2 page 44, paragraph 4 and Section 4.B.2.c, Section 2, Estimated Cost Breakdowns, page 45 - 46.
question 31	round 3	Could we charge for a license as part of the SMART program?		This is a business decision on the part of the offeror. Please consider this when you address 4.B.1.b.e., Technical Resource Summary, in the cost breakdown table described in BAA section 4.B.1.c, f and in Appendix A.3. There are other sections of the BAA to consider when making this decision such as 6.B.2 and evaluation criteria 5.A.1.e. Also, see responses to questions 26 and 28.	no	See BAA Section 4.B.1.b - Section 2 Summary of Proposal, Paragraphs A thru E, pages 38 - 39. See Section 4.B.1.c - Section 3: Detailed Proposal Information. See BAA Section 4.B.2 page 44, paragraph 4 and Section 4.B.2.c, Section 2, Estimated Cost Breakdowns, page 45 - 46.
Section 5 - PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION						
question 32	round 3	How will the government evaluate an offer for "solely" proprietary offer or a hybrid offer (including some open source and some proprietary technology)?		The SMART program will emphasize creating and leveraging open source technology and architectures. Offerors are discouraged from proposing solutions based on proprietary technologies. It is intended that fully applied research efforts be able to make effective and immediate use of the results of the SMART program and to easily add, remove, substitute, and modify software components. Because open algorithms facilitate rapid innovation by providing a base for future users or developers of program technologies and deliverables, a non-proprietary, open approach to IP is preferred. The Government will evaluate proposals on the basis of technical and funding availability factors as outlined in Section 5.A	no	See BAA Sections 4.B.1.d - page 42 Attachment 2 and 4.B.2- Intellectual Property, page 51, paragraph 2 for more details on intellectual property (IP). See BAA Section 5.A Technical and Funding Availability Evaluation Factors - page 48 - 49.
Section 6 - AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION						