



WELCOME CURTAIN RAISER EVENT

South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP)

**SAREP Partnership Fund (SPF)
Request for Applications (RFA) – FY 23 – 01
(Amendment I)**

October 31, 2022, 1830 IST
Revised

CURTAIN RAISER EVENT

SAREP Partnership Fund (SPF) - Request for Applications (RFA)

Time	Session	Speaker
1830 IST	Welcome Remarks and Introduction to the event	Master of Ceremony - Bhumika Suri, Training and Events Specialist, SAREP
1835-1845 IST	Key-Note Address – Indo-US Energy and Climate Partnership Collaboration	John Smith-Sreen, Director Indo-Pacific Office, USAID India
1845-1850 IST	About SAREP - Movie	Bhumika Suri – Training and Events Specialist, SAREP
1850-1905 IST	Introduction to SAREP Program, SAREP Partnership Fund and Grants awarded through the first round of SPF	Anurag Mishra, Senior Clean Energy Specialist, USAID India
1905-1925 IST	SAREP Partnership Fund RFA – Eligibility, submission requirements and Timelines	Naveen Devnani, Director Finance and Grants, SAREP
1925-1930 IST	Vote of Thanks	Namrata Mukherjee, Deputy Chief of Party - Trade & Investments, SAREP



John Smith-Sreen

Acting Deputy Mission Director, USAID/India
and Bhutan

- Bachelors in Science,
- Global Development Professional,
30+ years of experience

John Smith-Sreen has been serving as the Director, Indo-Pacific Office of the USAID since October 2021. Previously, he served as the Economic Growth Office Director in Bangladesh and as Deputy Mission Director in Karachi, Pakistan. From 2016-18, he was the Director of the Afghanistan Division in the Office of Afghanistan and Pakistan Affairs (OAPA) in Washington D.C.

A member of the Senior Foreign Service, he joined USAID in 2000 and has now served in seven missions including India, Jordan, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Kenya/East Africa, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. Over the years, he has worked with CARE, Catholic Relief Services, the American Red Cross, and the World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF).



Anurag Mishra

Senior Clean Energy Specialist, USAID/India

- Masters in Environmental Planning
- 20+ years of experience

Anurag Mishra serves as the Senior Clean Energy Specialist for net-zero carbon energy transition at the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), covering South Asia. He brings more than 20 years of experience in climate, sustainability, and international cooperation. He oversees the USAID's South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP) program and manages activities under the technical pillars of the U.S.-India Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 Partnership. His current work areas include market-based approaches to clean energy deployment for industries, buildings, power sector and transport, policies and regulations, and innovative financing. In addition to South Asia, he has worked on programs in Thailand, Vietnam, and South Africa.



South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP)

Program Introduction

October 2022



South Asia Regional Energy Partnership (SAREP)

A **five-year** initiative supporting Indo-US collaboration with following objectives:

1. Developing high performing modern utilities
2. Increase deployment of advanced energy solutions and systems
3. Enhance private investments, markets and transparent, best value procurement
4. Regional energy cooperation and integration of markets



Program Period: 2021 – 2026

Key Bilateral Partners: Ministry of Power (MOP), Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE)

Key Central Sector Stakeholders

FOR, PFC, NTPC-REL, IREDA, EESL, SECI, SGKC, NPTI, SCGJ, PSSC, POSOCO, CEA, CTU

Key State Sector Stakeholders

Energy Department, Transmission and Distribution utilities, SLDCs, SERCs, SNAs, SDAs

Key Regional Stakeholders

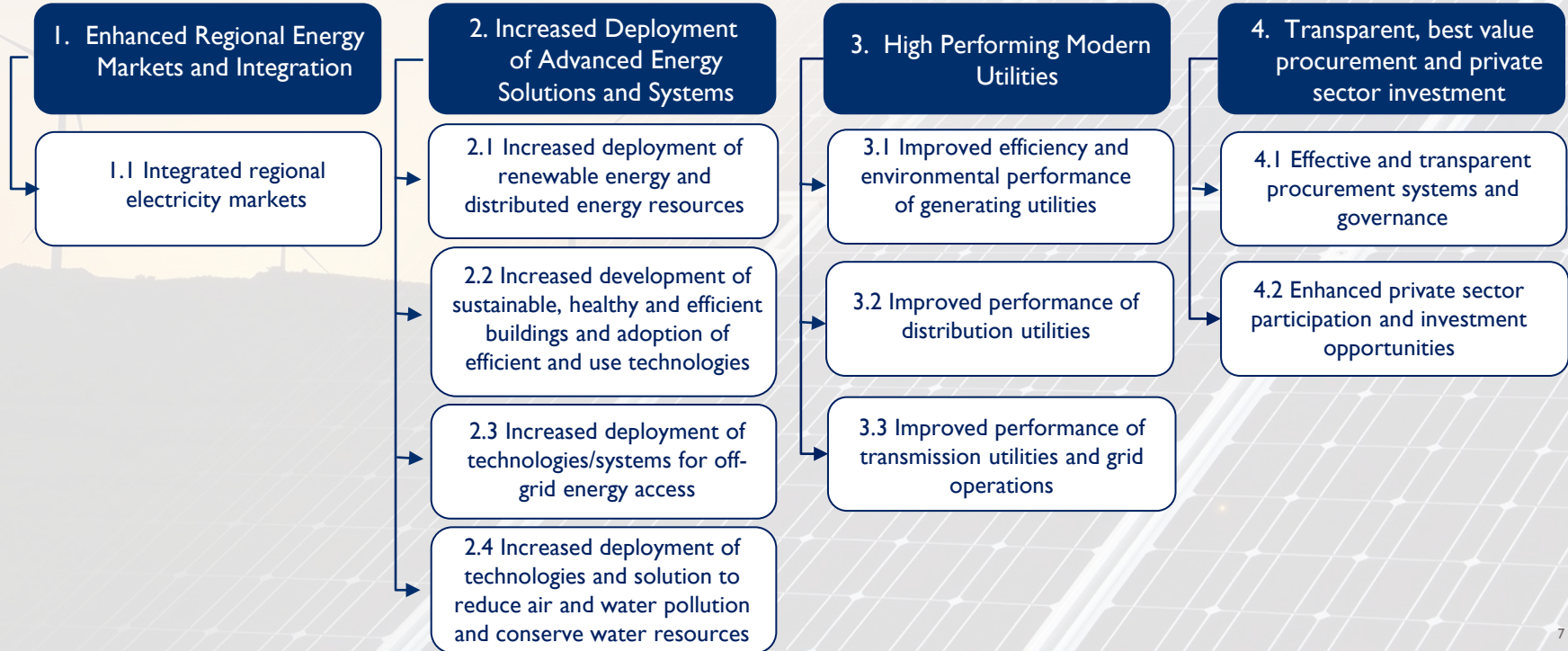
NEA, DHPS, BPDB, URA, CEB, MoWRI
SREDA, DRE, SLSEA, AEPC

FOR: Forum of Regulators; PFC: Power Finance Corporation Ltd.; NTPC-REL: NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd.; IREDA: Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd.; Energy EESL: Energy Efficiency Services Ltd.; SECI: Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd.; SGKC: Smart Grid Knowledge Center; NPTI: National Power Training Institute; SCGJ: Skill Council for Green Jobs; PSSC: Power Sector Skill Council; SERC: State Electricity Regulatory Commission; SNA: State Nodal Agency; SDA: State Designated Agency; SLDCs: State Load Dispatch Centers

SAREP Workstreams and Objectives

Management Workstream: Communication, Collaboration, and Coordination

Technical Workstream: Four Interlinked Objectives



SAREP's Program Strategy

Technical assistance and capacity development

Enable partnerships and alliances

Enhance cross learning and outreach



Develop new business models, improve access to financing and accelerate private sector investments

Grants for innovative solutions under Strategic Partnership Fund through competitive procurement

SAREP's activities will contribute to the following outcomes

Expected Results



Leverage

\$7 BILLION

in investment in power infrastructure



Deploy

5000 MW

of clean energy



Save over

435 GWh

through energy efficiency



Facilitate

4 TWh

worth of cross-border trade



Strengthen Capacity of

10,000+

professionals and technicians

Large-scale RE Capacity Added

Reliant Grid and High Performing Utilities

Pilot Demonstrations, Incubation support and Innovation in SA

Private Participation and Investments Mobilized

Partnerships and Alliances Established

Design and Deploy Decision making tools and Policy Advocacy

SAREP is supporting India's clean energy transition



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
**MINISTRY OF NEW
AND RENEWABLE ENERGY**

- Repowering Wind
- Green Hydrogen
- Solar Rooftop Vendor Rating



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF POWER

- Grid flexibility, resilience
- Pumped Hydro Energy Storage
- Power market



- Resource adequacy
- Ancillary services and Reserves
- Energy storage, EV and other technologies



- Implementing Net Zero 2030 strategies
- Renewable procurement
- Energy efficiency programs
- Green bonds



- Smart metering and RDSS
- Distribution Utilities Network
- Advanced technologies for distribution sector
- Capacity building



- Alternate Investment Fund
- Green bonds
- Solar Rooftop



- Green hydrogen
- Solar PV and Solar thermal
- Clean financing



- Energy efficient chillers
- Enabling super ESCO model
- Green bonds

SAREP's collaboration with leading training institutes and skill councils to sustain capacity building



- Smart-metering
- Cybersecurity

Smart Grid Knowledge Centre (SGKC)

- Tech Incubation Centre
- Innovation Park

1. Training needs assessment on new areas

2. Training course development and digitalization



4. Facilitate collaborations with other South Asian institutes

3. Roster of trainers and delivery partners



- Smart metering
- Electric Vehicles



- Hydrogen
- Solar Rooftop
- Solar Thermal

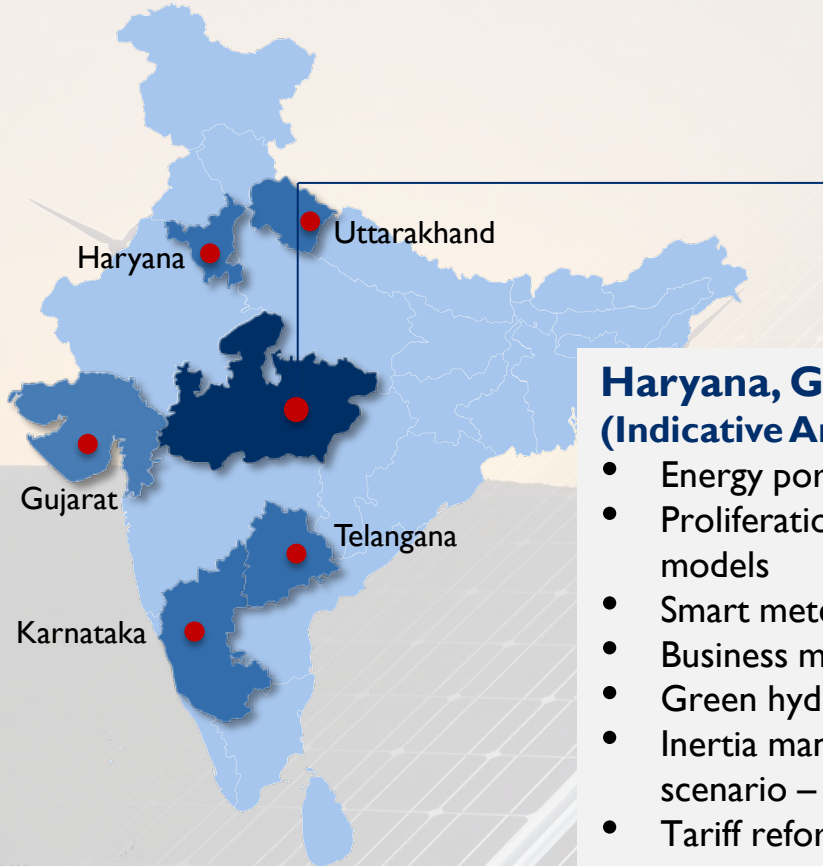
Support at sub-national level: Key Interventions

Madhya Pradesh (Activities Commenced)

- Modernizing distribution utilities – 3 pilot projects on –
 - smart meter data analytics;
 - asset health management;
 - drone applications

Haryana, Gujarat, Telangana, Karnataka, Uttarakhand (Indicative Areas)

- Energy portfolio management and resource adequacy planning
- Proliferation of solar rooftop – demand assessment, innovative business models
- Smart meter implementation and data analytics
- Business models for creating new demand centers – EV and RE
- Green hydrogen policy framework development
- Inertia management and reactive power compensation under high RE scenario – pilots
- Tariff reforms and enabling private investments, PPP models in the state



SAREP Partnership Fund (SPF)



Support market-based transformative solutions to enable transition to clean energy.



Promote innovative and sustainable activities designed, owned, and implemented by grantees.



Harness innovative business models, solutions, technologies, resources, experiences and networks.

Grants awarded through the previous RFA



Swayam Shikshan
Prayog

Challenges Addressed

- Access to innovative and affordable energy solutions in rural areas
- High wastage of agri-produce affecting farmer income
- High energy costs affecting rural households

Value Offered

- Women led entrepreneurship to drive adoption of low-cost, efficient solutions such as vegetable coolers and bio-digesters

Activity Type

- Training, Business model development, Marketing, Financing
- Grant duration : 2 years

Partners/ Beneficiaries

- Rukart, Sistema.bio
- Villages in Bihar and Maharashtra



Challenges Addressed

- Address increasing electricity peak demand and grid congestion in urban areas
- Reduce higher energy supply cost, reliability issues and increase in emissions

Value Offered

- Behavioral Demand Response program (specifically critical peak rebate) for domestic, commercial and industrial by leveraging smart meter data

Activity Type

- Deployment of tools and business model, Knowledge sharing
- Grant duration : 2 years

Partners/ Beneficiaries

- Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd.
- National Smart Grid Mission



Challenges Addressed

- Exponential growth of building electricity demand in near future
- Demand side flexibility from buildings to support peak demand and renewable integration is unexplored

Value Offered

- Develop, deliver and disseminate India-specific Grid-Optimal metrics and analysis methodologies for major building typologies

Activity Type

- Market assessment, Design of decision - making tools, Pilot demonstration
- Grant duration : 2 years

Partners/ Beneficiaries

- National Smart Grid Mission,
- Electricity Distribution Utilities,
- Building Owners



Naveen Devnani

Director, Finance and Grants

- MBA – Finance ; Masters in Commerce
- 24+ years in Development Programs

Naveen has led the Finance and Operations function in several large donor funded programs across themes such as environment and climate change, education and public health. He has worked with multilateral and bilateral funding organizations and several international implementing agencies. His areas of expertise include:

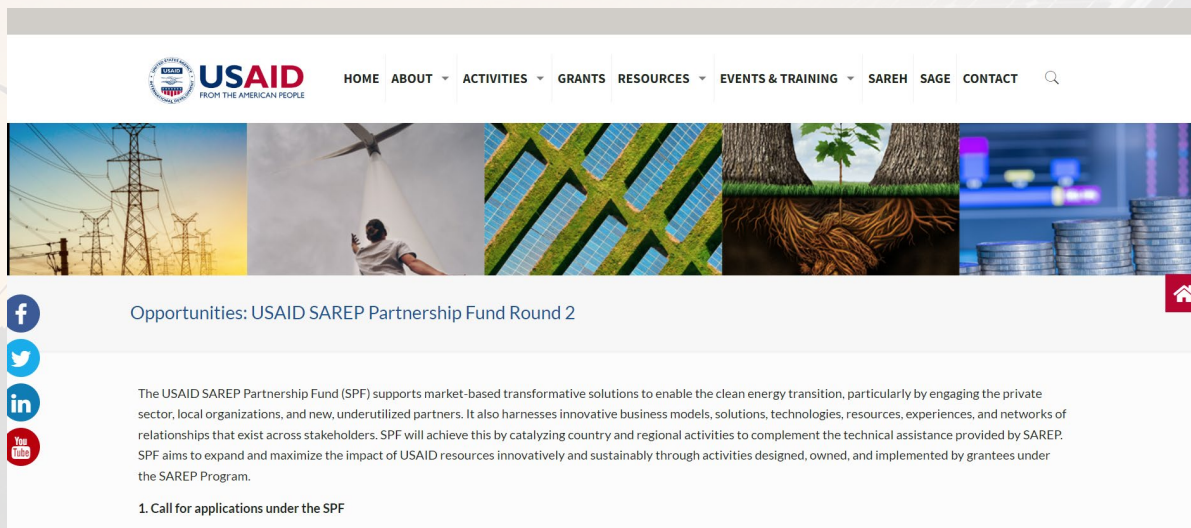
1. Compliance and regulatory matters governing non-profit entities
2. Financial management
3. Administering Grants
4. Internal control and risk management



Requirements and Procedures for Submission of Applications

Application Information

RFA can be obtained from SAREP Website : <https://sarepenergy.net/>



The screenshot shows the USAID SAREP Partnership Fund Round 2 announcement page. The header features the USAID logo and navigation links: HOME, ABOUT, ACTIVITIES, GRANTS, RESOURCES, EVENTS & TRAINING, SAREH, SAGE, CONTACT, and a search icon. Below the header is a banner image with five panels: power lines, a person flying a kite, solar panels, tree roots, and stacks of coins. The main content area has a title "Opportunities: USAID SAREP Partnership Fund Round 2" and a description of the fund's purpose. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube are on the left. A red home icon is on the right.

Opportunities: USAID SAREP Partnership Fund Round 2

The USAID SAREP Partnership Fund (SPF) supports market-based transformative solutions to enable the clean energy transition, particularly by engaging the private sector, local organizations, and new, underutilized partners. It also harnesses innovative business models, solutions, technologies, resources, experiences, and networks of relationships that exist across stakeholders. SPF will achieve this by catalyzing country and regional activities to complement the technical assistance provided by SAREP. SPF aims to expand and maximize the impact of USAID resources innovatively and sustainably through activities designed, owned, and implemented by grantees under the SAREP Program.

1. Call for applications under the SPF

Questions and Applications to be submitted at : sarep-grants@rti.org

Eligible Organizations: (RFA-Section 5) Revised

Grantees should be registered in any of the countries not expressly prohibited in ADS 310 (<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/310.pdf>) and ADS 310maa (<https://www.usaid.gov/sites/default/files/documents/1864/310mac.pdf>).

ADS 310 states that Grants/cooperative agreements using USAID program funds may be made/entered into without regard to the nationality of the prime recipient as long as that organization is not otherwise restricted by statute, regulation, Agency policy, or administrative determination (i.e., suspension and debarment) from receiving assistance

- Private sector/for-profit entities
- Not-for-profit organizations
- Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)
- Civil society organizations
- Business service organizations
- Industry, trade, or other private sector associations
- Educational/training or academic institutions
- Think tank/research entities
- **Local Organizations, New and Under-utilized partners are encouraged to apply!**

Eligible Organizations: (RFA-Section 5)

Applicants must be legally authorized to receive foreign funded grants and conduct activities in the country for which application is made and accordingly demonstrate compliance with all applicable local legal and regulatory requirements such as but not limited to:

- **India** : Comply with Foreign Contributions Regulations Act FCRA
- **Bangladesh** : Comply with the provisions of Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulations Act
- **Bhutan** : Comply with norms of Civil Society Organization Authority (CSOA) and the Bhutan Royal Monetary Authority
- **Maldives** : Comply with applicable regulations and provisions of Ministry of Youth, Sports & Community Empowerment and the Associations Act 1/2003
- **Nepal** : Comply with The Social Welfare Act, 2049 (1992), Associations Registration Act, 2034 (1977) and The Income Tax Act, 2002 (2058)
- **Sri Lanka** : Have registrations and approvals from the relevant Government Ministry. In addition, comply with regulations specified by External Resources Department under the Ministry of Finance and provisions specified by Voluntary Social Service Organizations (Registration and Supervision) Act, No. 31 of 1980, as amended
- Any other applicable laws and regulations not listed above

Eligibility Criteria cont... : (RFA-Section 5)

- Have sound financial systems
- Have no real or apparent conflicts of interest
- Have internal controls to safeguard assets and protect against fraud and waste
- Have or commit to secure a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) from SAM.GOV
- Abide by applicable regulations and required certifications of USAID
- Able to report on achievements and outputs in line with RTI's approved M&E plan
- Have written and well-articulated ethics/conflict of interest policies
- Ensure compliance with environmental monitoring and mitigation requirements

Ineligible Organizations: (RFA-Section 5)



The following types of applicants will not be eligible for receiving grants from SAREP:

- Any Public International Organization
- Government or parastatal entities
- Entities with record of misusing U.S. Government funds or promoting illegal activities
- Entities excluded by the U.S. Government's System of Award Management (www.sam.gov)
- Political parties or partisan political organizations
- Applicants engaged in or proposing activities that may have a negative environmental impact
- Applicants that have child protection, human trafficking, or exploitation violations and are in violation of international human rights standards
- Applicants that are affiliated with RTI or any of its subcontractors, officers, directors, or employees
- Any entity with a member that appears on the U.S. Department of Treasury Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) Specially Designated Nationals (SDN) and Blocked Persons list
- Any entity with members directly or indirectly involved in money laundering, acts of terrorism, gambling, or drugs
- Any entity that is undergoing bankruptcy or restructuring under a legal or regulatory process
- Applicants found ineligible during the due diligence process

Ineligible Activities: (RFA-Section 4)



- Support any **carbon-intensive fossil fuel-based energy projects**.
- Purchase of restricted and prohibited goods (USAID ADS 312)
- Procurement and use of “covered telecommunication equipment or services” in accordance with Section 889 of the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act
- Procurement of goods or services from suppliers with a nationality from countries restricted or prohibited in accordance with USAID ADS 310 or from individuals or organizations listed as suspended or debarred at www.sam.gov or at www.epls.gov.
- Construction activity, including renovation, etc.
- Other unallowable costs as per 2 CFR 200 Subpart E

Evaluation Process (RFA-Section 6)

Pre-screening: All applications meeting the minimum eligibility criteria and conformance to the application content requirements of this RFA (Section 9) will be evaluated.

A **three-step** evaluation process will be adopted:

Step 1: Alignment with and relevance to the SAREP objectives

Step 2: Applications shall be evaluated based on the prescribed criteria

Step 3: Discussions and negotiations with the shortlisted applicants

Evaluation Criteria : (RFA-Section 6)

Criteria	Weight
Technical Approach and Merit	60%
Organizational Capabilities	20%
Commitment to gender diversity and inclusion	10%
Past performance record	10%

Evaluation Process and Criteria : (RFA-Section 6)

CRITERIA-I

#	CRITERIA	WEIGHT
I.	Technical Approach and Merit <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Innovativeness of the Conceptb) Expected impact and its scalec) Soundness of the implementation plan and strategyd) Relevance and potential for scaling and replication across South Asiae) Sustainability after the end of grant supportf) Funds leveraged in relation to the grant amount soughtg) Environment sustainability and greenhouse gas (GHG) mitigation potentialh) Demonstrated evidence of collaboration/commitment with host institutions, i.e., a beneficiary that will enable sustainability and scaling of the grant-funded activitiesi) Return on investments, i.e., impact achieved relative to the grant amount proposed	60%

Evaluation Process and Criteria : (RFA-Section 6)

CRITERIA-2

#	CRITERIA	WEIGHT
2.	Organizational capabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Quality of the technical and management teamb. Organizational capacity and soundness of management and accounting practicesc. Applicants local to the country of implementation or otherwise demonstrate local knowledge and implementation experience	20%

Evaluation Process and Criteria : (RFA-Section 6)

CRITERIA-3

#	CRITERIA	WEIGHT
3.	Commitment to gender diversity and inclusion (applicant's gender and diversity approach should be integrated into the technical design)	10%

CRITERIA-4

#	CRITERIA	WEIGHT
4.	Past performance record	10%

Application Package: (RFA-Section 9)

The application package should consist of :

1. **Part – I** : Grant application form duly signed
2. **Part – II** : Agreement to the Terms and Conditions duly signed :
 - Executive Summary
 - Program Description
 - Implementation Plan and strategy
 - Monitoring and evaluation plan
 - Sustainability Plan
 - Organizational capabilities, technical and management team, and brief
 - Budget (Attachment A) and Budget Narrative
 - Completed Organizational Control Environment Questionnaire (Attachment B)
 - UEI number (Attachment C) or an undertaking to submit the same
 - Past Performance References
 - Anti-Terrorism Certification
 - For Non-U.S. Organizations, proof of registration in the relevant country and proof of eligibility to receive foreign grants

Budget and Budget Narrative: (Attachment A)

- **Budget and Budget Narrative** : Applications must have a **detailed** line-item budget (**US\$**) in Excel accompanied by a **detailed budget narrative** explaining all **assumptions**. **Lump sum budgets will be considered non-responsive and will be rejected**
- All costs must be broken out by unit costs
- Each line item should identify the type of cost, e.g., labor, equipment, travel, communications, etc.
- All costs must be based on market rates and/or historical costs
- **No fee or profit is allowable to the Grantees under the SAREP partnership fund.**
- Please indicate the amount to be leveraged and their potential sources (non-US Govt.)

Reporting and Audit Requirements: (RFA-Section 8)

- Upon signing of the Grant award, the recipient commits to provide all required **progress, performance and financial reports** in accordance with the grant schedule which will be specified in the Grant award
- Any Income generated as a result of the Grant Award shall be reported and applied towards the proposed project activities. For details refer to 2 CFR 200.307 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-2/subtitle-A/chapter-II/part-200/subpart-D/section-200.307>)
- SAREP may require an **external audit** of Grant funds at any time during the period of the Grant to determine if the costs incurred are reasonableness, allocable, and allowable

Timelines

#	ACTIVITY	TIMELINE	ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION
1	Release of RFA	October 17, 2022	
2	Information Dissemination	October 31, 2022	
3	Questions from potential applicants due	November 10, 2022	sarep-grants@rti.org
4	Answers to questions due	November 21, 2022	
5	Complete applications due	December 15, 2022 (23:59 hours IST)	sarep-grants@rti.org

Please keep watching the **SAREP Website** :
<https://sarepenergy.net>





Namrata Mukherjee

Deputy Chief of Party — Trade & Investments

- MS and MBE
- 19 Years of experience

Namrata has several years of experience in marquee organizations across policy and regulatory affairs in the power sector, commercial and market related aspects of (a) Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution, (b) Renewable Energy including solar, wind, small hydro and biomass technologies (c) Energy Efficiency and (d) Climate Change. Her areas of expertise include:

1. Electricity Sector – Competition, Regulation, Reforms, Tariff Setting – South Asia and Southeast Asia.
2. Renewable Energy based Generation – Policy and Regulatory Aspects like Tariffs, Quotas and Green Certificate Mechanisms: Europe, USA, and Southeast Asia Country Experience
3. CDM and Climate Policy – Kyoto Mechanisms, UNFCCC Methodologies, PDD Writing, Carbon Markets, including knowledge on EU-ETS, Joint Implementation and other Climate change related regulatory and policy issues.

THANK YOU!

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND UPDATES, VISIT THE
SAREP WEBSITE : <https://sarepenergy.net>

