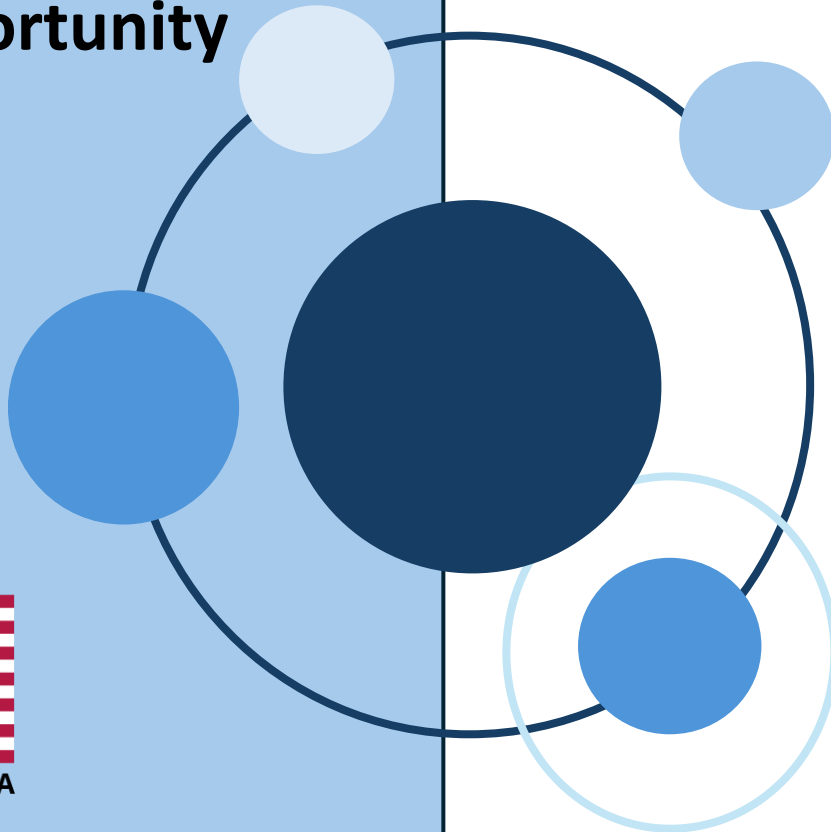


Goals and Focuses of a Central American Regional Security Initiative (CARSI) Notice of Funding Opportunity



U.S. EMBASSY PANAMA



CARSI Goals

1. Create safe streets for the citizens of the region.
2. Disrupt the movement of criminals and contraband to, within, and between the nations of Central America.
3. Support the development of strong, capable, and accountable Central American governments.
4. Re-establish effective state presence, services, and security in communities at risk.
5. Foster enhanced levels of coordination and cooperation between the nations of the region, other international partners, and donors to combat regional security threats.

Example of Embassy Priorities

A.1 Background

The objective of this grant is to support local and sustainable solutions to improve the delivery of government services with attention to vulnerable and/or marginalized communities; increase the government's ability to combat corruption and reduce the level of impunity; and strengthen government institutions to promote transparency and accountability. Panama will hold general elections on May 5, 2024. Proposals should consider ways to foster collaboration in the post-election climate among civil society organizations and government institutions, while advocating for improved government transparency across all levels. This call for proposals expresses particular interest in civil society coalition building, stewardship of natural resources, and networking and communication strategies among community-based organizations.

Espacio Cívico

Project Summary: This project promotes transparency through a digital informed voting guide with information about Parliament candidates, a bus tour to engage voters, and civil society capacity building through social innovation.

NOFO	Proposal
CARSI Goal #3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of strong, capable, and accountable Central American governments. 	The Informed Voting Guide gives citizens easy access to candidates' information and stand on policy/issues.
Root Causes Pillar #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen democratic institutions to improve governance and rule of law. Prioritize an anticorruption agenda. Improve the administration of public resources. 	While the Informed Voting Guide and Bus supports transparency, the technological social innovation activities enhance democracy innovation and sustainability.
Section I – Program Description ...In addition, applicants should consider the implications of the upcoming electoral process on project activities.	The Informed Voting Guide and bus tour activities related directly to the election.
Project Objectives Proposals should foster collaboration among CSOs and government institutions—through technology solutions, capacity building, or other means—to advocate for change and improve government transparency and accountability.	Espacio Cívico's project includes all of the Embassy's focus areas.

Native Future

Project Summary: This project assists the Wounaan people to hold corrupt actors accountable for illegally trafficking Indigenous lands and ignoring environmental laws. Native Future will train CSOs to use an environmental monitoring system and formalize collaboration between those CSOs and GoP environmental authorities.

NOFO	Proposal
CARSI Goal #3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the development of strong, capable, and accountable Central American governments. 	Native Future's proposal includes not only CARSI Goal #3, but all of the CARSI goals as well.
Root Causes Pillar #2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen democratic institutions to improve governance and rule of law. Prioritize an anticorruption agenda. Improve the administration of public resources. 	This project meets all of the RCS Pillar #2 criteria. Formalizing government and Indigenous Wounaan cooperation will hold corrupt actors accountable for illegally trafficking Indigenous lands and ignoring environmental laws.
A.1 Background Proposals should consider ways to foster collaboration in the post-election climate among CSOs and government institutions, while advocating for improved government transparency across all levels.	This project includes collaboration between CSOs and government institutions.
This call for proposals expresses particular interest in civil society coalition building, stewardship of natural resources, and networking and communication strategies among community-based organizations.	Native Future's proposal includes all of the Embassy's focus areas.