

Special Notice (SN) DARPA-SN-23-28
Foundational Security for Food Systems (FS2) Disruption Opportunity (DO)
Information Session
January 17, 2023

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) Defense Sciences Office (DSO) is sponsoring an Information Session webcast to provide information to potential proposers on the objectives of the anticipated Foundational Security for Food Systems (FS2) Disruption Opportunity (DO). The Information Session will be held via prerecorded webcast on **January 17, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Advance registration is required for viewing the webcast. Note, all times listed in this announcement and on the registration website are Eastern Time.

The goals of the FS2 DO Information Session are to (1) introduce the research community (Proposers, Academia, and Government) to the FS2 DO vision and goals; and (2) explain the mechanics of a DARPA DO and the milestones of this particular effort. DARPA anticipates releasing the FS2 DO in **January 2023**. If released, the DO will be available on <https://sam.gov/>. Following the event, DARPA may post the presented materials as well as a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) list to the DARPA/DSO Opportunities website.

Disruption Opportunities are released as Presolicitation Notices under the Disruptioneering Program Announcement (DARPA-PA-22-01) and are rapid, targeted, limited scope investments as part of an overall balanced portfolio. Disruptioneering enables DARPA to initiate a new investment in less than 90 days from idea inception.¹

FS2 OBJECTIVE AND DESCRIPTION

DARPA's Foundational Security for Food Systems (FS2) program will explore a pathway-based approach to provide advanced threat detection and warning of crop damage irrespective of the triggering agent. FS2 will conduct research to test the feasibility of applying this approach for defense of cereal crops, specifically rice and corn. The effort does not involve genetic modification of any organism. All research will be conducted in compliance with approved regulatory standards.

Potential proposers may choose to share their information with other registrants via all, some, or none of the following options to discover potential collaboration opportunities:

1. Attendee List (publicly available): Participant contact information (name, organization, email address) will be included on a FS2 Information Session Attendee List published on the DSO Opportunities page on the www.darpa.mil website. The registration website will ask registrants to indicate whether they approve publication of their contact information.
2. Proposer Profile (limited distribution): Information session registrants interested in discovering collaboration opportunities for this announcement may submit a one-page profile. The proposer's profile should include their contact information (name, organization, email, telephone number, mailing address, and, if applicable, organization website), a brief description of their technical competencies, and, if

¹ For the purposes of this Special Notice, "idea inception" is defined as the date an individual Presolicitation Notice (Disruption Opportunity) is posted to <https://sam.gov/>.

applicable, their desired expertise from other teams/organizations. All profiles must be emailed to FS2@darpa.mil no later than 4:00 p.m. on **January 13, 2023**. Following this deadline, the consolidated Proposer Profile will be sent via email to Information Session registrants who submitted a valid profile for distribution. Specific content, communications, networking, and team formation are the sole responsibility of the participants. Neither DARPA nor DoD endorse the information and organizations contained in the consolidated Proposer Profile document, nor does DARPA or DoD exercise any responsibility for improper dissemination of the Proposer Profile.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The FS2 DO Information Session will be webcast on **January 17, 2023 from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Note, all times listed in this announcement and on the registration website are Eastern Time. There is no registration fee for the Information Session webcast.

Registration opens: As of publication of this announcement.

Registration website: <https://events.sa-meetings.com/FS2DOJan23>

Registration closes: **January 10, 2023 at 4:00 p.m.** or when capacity is reached, whichever comes first.

Advance registration via the above website is required in order to receive access to the webcast and is mandatory for every individual intending to view the webcast either alone or as part of a group.

Registrants in excess of the maximum capacity limitations (350 individuals) may be added to a waitlist. Individuals who are unable to register because the deadline has occurred may request to be added to the waitlist. If slots become available due to cancellations, the slots may be filled on a first come, first served basis from the waitlist.

ELIGIBILITY

DARPA is hosting this Information Session to (1) provide potential proposers with information on whether and how they might respond to the Government's research and development solicitations and (2) increase efficiency in proposal preparation and evaluation. Therefore, events such as these are only open to registered potential proposers, i.e., the events are closed to the general public and media. For this particular DO, Information Session registration is open to potential proposers who are U.S. citizens, U.S. permanent residents, and foreign nationals.

All registrants who are not U.S. Citizens must complete and submit either a DARPA Form 60 (U.S. Permanent Resident and Foreign National Visit Request – e.g., industry or academia) or an Official Visit Request (foreign government personnel, only) through the Embassy based in Washington, DC, no later than **4:00 p.m. on January 10, 2023**. Form 60 submission instructions are provided on the registration website and in the registration confirmation email. Contact your Embassy staff for assistance in submitting the Official Visit Request.

Q & A

Administrative, technical, and contractual questions about the FS2 DO should be emailed to FS2@darpa.mil. All questions must be in English and must include the name and email

address of a point of contact. Following the Information Session, DARPA will post an FAQ list to the DARPA/DSO Opportunities website.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please refer to the FS2 Information Session in all correspondence.

- Technical Point of Contact: Molly Jahn, Program Manager, FS2@darpa.mil
- Registration Website: <https://events.sa-meetings.com/FS2DOJan23>
- DARPA/DSO Opportunities Website: <https://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/opportunities>

DISCLAIMERS AND IMPORTANT NOTES

Viewing the FS2 DO Information Session webcast is voluntary and is not required to propose to the anticipated FS2 DO. Interested parties to this notice are cautioned that nothing herein obligates the Government to issue a solicitation. The Information Session does not constitute a formal solicitation for proposals. This announcement is issued solely for information and planning purposes and is not a Request for Information (RFI). Since this is not an RFI, no submissions against this notice will be accepted by the Government, with the exception of the one-page Proposer Profile referenced above. No classified, ITAR controlled, or proprietary information shall be presented by the Government at the Information Session. DARPA will not provide reimbursement for costs incurred to participate in this Information Session. Recording the Information Session webcast is not permitted.