

Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program

Regional Resilience Planning Grant Program Round 1 Draft Program Guidelines

FY 2022 - 2023



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I. About the RRGP

A. Navigating the RRGP Process and These Guidelines

These Guidelines are a step-by-step guide for learning more about, applying for, and participating in the Regional Resilience Planning Grant Program (RRGP). They reflect legislative requirements on how to use and manage RRGP funds and consider stakeholder feedback gathered during public listening sessions, interviews, and an online survey in summer 2022.

Wherever possible, these guidelines include links to relevant sections within the document and information about external resources that may help applicants. Appendix F: Glossary and Acronyms also defines relevant terms used throughout the guidelines. The goal is to ensure that applicants with different levels of previous experience applying to grants are able to effectively participate in the process. For information on how to reach RRGP staff throughout the application process for help before applications are due, see Section D. Program Contact below.

The RRGP team will post these draft guidelines and present them at public workshops to solicit public comments over 45 days. Staff will review and incorporate public workshop input and submitted public comments on the Round 1 Draft Guidelines before releasing Round 1 Final Guidelines. Currently, staff plan to present RRGP Round 1 Final Guidelines to the ICARP Technical Advisory Council in September 2023. After formally adopting the Guidelines, staff will develop and release the RRGP Notice of Funding Availability in late Spring 2023. Staff will then host public application workshops to provide additional information and resources to interested Applicants. See Section G. Timeline below for those dates.

B. Background

About the RRGP

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR), through the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP), received \$21.3 million (M) in Fiscal Year 2021-22 to fund the Regional Resilience Planning Grant Program (RRGP) [Senate Bill (SB) 170]. The RRGP will help address local, regional, and tribal climate resilience needs and build a pipeline of climate resilient planning and implementation projects at the regional scale. Available to local, regional, and tribal governments, the RRGP will support regions in advancing resilience through three major activities: capacity-building, planning, and project implementation. The RRGP will award funds based on project type (planning and implementation) and consider their respective capacity-building efforts. The RRGP aims to award funds to applications that encourage diverse regional-scale partnerships and collaboration. Planning grants will range from \$150,000 to \$650,000 and implementation grants will range from \$800,000 to \$3 million.



Climate Adaptation vs. Climate Resiliency

Although climate resilience and adaptation are often discussed together, ICARP, guided by public input,¹ has outlined the following distinctions between them. Adapting to climate change refers to natural or human systems adjusting to a new or changing environment, whereas resilience describes the capacity of any entity to prepare for disruptions, recover from shocks and stresses, and adapt and grow from a disruption. California communities are experiencing more frequent, prolonged, and severe impacts of climate change, including extreme heat, flooding, wildfires, drought, extreme weather events, and sea level rise. Preparing for these changes is climate adaptation and taking a series of adaptive measures helps build climate resiliency.

RRGP's Community Engagement Process

Over 295 people representing Community-Based Organizations, advocacy groups, state, regional, and federal agencies; local governments; and California Native American tribes informed the development of the RRGp through a process that included listening sessions, key informant interviews, and an online survey.

C. Summary

- **Who Administers the RRGp:** OPR
- **Total Funding Available in Round 1:** \$21.3M (\$12.5M for Planning Grants and \$8.8M for Implementation Grants)
 - Planning grants between \$150,000 and \$650,000
 - Implementation grants between \$800,000 and \$3M
- **Project Lengths:** 12 to 30-month period
- **Grant Availability Types :** Competitive and Set aside
- **Match Funding Required:** No
- **Disbursement Type:** Reimbursement only (no advance pay)

D. Program Contact

Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program (ICARP)

Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Telephone: [\(916\) 720-4439](tel:(916)720-4439)

E-mail: icarp.grants@opr.ca.gov

¹ Learn more by reviewing [Planning and Investing for a Resilient California: A Guidebook for State Agencies](#) and the [California Adaptation Planning Guide](#).



For more information on the RRGP and to see the latest news, visit the [RRGP website](#) and sign up to [join the RRGP listserv](#).

E. Funding Availability

Funding is available on a competitive basis and through set asides. In the first funding cycle, OPR will award \$21.3 million to implement the program by providing grants, staff support, and technical assistance. Awarded projects should be completed no later than 12-30 months after the start of the grant agreement and OPR issues a Notice to Proceed. The expected grant agreement start date is October 2023. See Section G. Timeline for information on the expected grant project start and expiration dates.

Award Amount by Project Type

Applicants can request the amount of funding needed to carry out the work described in their proposal for the two-and-a-half-year grant term. Minimum and maximum award amounts will be determined based on the project type. RRGP staff may adjust the minimum and maximum award amounts based on demand or unique circumstances. Minimum and maximum awards ranges are as follows:

Project Type	Minimum Award Amount	Maximum Award Amount
<i>Planning</i>	\$150,000	\$650,000
<i>Implementation</i>	\$800,000	\$3,000,000

Funding Set Aside Goals

The RRGP will administer funds both competitively and through funding set asides.

The RRGP intends to allocate at least 25% of grant funds overall to applications benefitting disadvantaged communities.

10% of funds will support California Native American tribes.

While the program provides applicants the flexibility to self-identify their region and regional-scale partnerships, to achieve regional diversity, RRGP intends to fund at least one project from each of the [nine geographic regions defined by the California Climate Adaptation Strategy](#). Specific to Planning grants, the RRGP intends to support two projects to establish tribal and rural regional partnerships.

Grantees that are awarded implementation funds may submit proposals for additional grant funds to procure a technical assistance provider in the first quarter of the grant term.



To the extent OPR does not receive enough eligible applications to use all set aside funding, OPR reserves the right to release un-used set aside funds to the general, competitive grant funding pool.

F. Goals

The RRGP's goals are to help fill regional planning needs, provide communities with resources to identify climate resilience priorities, and help implement climate-resilient projects across the state. Additionally, the RRGP aims to advance ICARP's statutory mission to develop a cohesive, equitable, and integrated² response to the impacts of climate change through direct funding support for local, regional, and tribal adaptation planning across California [SB 246 (Wieckowski, 2015)].

The ICARP's RRGP aims to:

1. Support regional projects aligned with ICARP priorities that improve regional climate resilience and reduce climate risks from wildfire, sea level rise, drought, flood, increasing temperatures, and extreme heat events.

- a. Protect critical natural and built infrastructure while building a community's capacity to respond to climate change.
- b. Implement solutions to enhance and protect natural resources and urban environments consistent with [the State Planning Priorities](#) and/or the 2021 [California Climate Adaptation Strategy priorities](#).
- c. Take immediate actions to reduce present and near future climate change risks while also thinking in the long term. An example action could be responding to continual changes in climate, ecology, and economics using adaptive management that incorporates regular monitoring.

2. Support projects or actions that address the greatest climate risks in the region, particularly in the most vulnerable communities.

- a. Build localized capacity and develop actionable plans that build and integrate climate resilience considerations in decision-making and provide multiple benefits.
- b. Explicitly include vulnerable communities and prioritize actions that promote equity and foster community resilience in those communities.
- c. Base everyday planning, policy, and investment decisions on the best available science, including local and traditional or tribal ecological knowledge (TEK).
- d. Use localized climate projections to identify climate risks and exposures, describe their impact on the community, and identify and prioritize climate adaptation measures

² For more information, see the "Integrated Climate Actions" definition in Appendix E.



and objectives that address such impacts (See Appendix E: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Resources for more guidance and resources).

3. Fill the gaps in climate resilience funding and support sustainable and cohesive climate resilient projects with regional collaborations.

- a. Take all opportunities to identify and avoid investment decisions that could lead to maladaptation, exacerbate conditions in vulnerable communities, or transfer the challenge from one area, sector, or social group to another.
- b. Use adaptive and flexible governance approaches through collaborative partnerships across scales (from household to regional scales) and between sectors to accelerate effective problem-solving.
- c. Align with similar grant programs to address unmet needs, reduce the time and cost burden of grant applications, and support project pipelines that include planning, implementation, and evaluation.

4. Support equitable outcomes

- a. Prioritize communities most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, ensure regional diversity and foster a transparent and accessible grantmaking process.
- b. Encourage transparent governance models to ensure collaborative partnerships include an equitable distribution of decision-making power that allow for community-led initiatives.
- c. Track specific public health, social well-being, and economic prosperity metrics as measures of program success.

G. Timeline

The proposed timeline below is subject to change. The most up-to-date timeline is posted on the [ICARP RRGp page](#).

Milestones	Dates
Draft Guideline 45-Day Public Comment Period	January 17, 2023 – March 3, 2023
Final Guidelines and Application/Solicitation Release	April 26, 2023
Application Help/Technical Assistance (TA) Webinars	April 26, 2023 – July 19, 2023
Deadline to Submit Applications	July 19, 2023, 5pm
Expected Notice of Recommended Awards Posting Date	September 29, 2023



Milestones	Dates
Expected Start Date	October 2023
Optional Program TA Workshop	Q3-Q4, 2023
Optional Program TA Workshop	Q3-Q4, 2024
Optional Program TA Workshop	Q2-Q3, 2025
Expected End Date	May 2, 2026
Invoice Deadline	June 30, 2026

H. Questions

How and where to ask ICARP staff questions about the RRGP program

Contact ICARP staff (see Section D. Program Contact).

Attend the RRGP webinars, which will be posted on the [RRGP webpage](#), once available (see the Application Webinars Section).

Timing

Deadline to Ask. Submit all questions on the program and process by the submission deadline listed in Section G. Timeline.

Q&A Period. At its discretion, ICARP may re-open the question-and-answer period to provide all applicants the chance to get any further clarifications.

Methods of Communication

Q&A Document. ICARP will post responses to frequently asked questions (FAQ) on the RRGP webpage. Staff will regularly update the FAQs and associated answers as the RRGP receives feedback on the Draft Guidelines and releases the Final Guidelines. After initially posting the FAQ online, ICARP staff will announce the availability of this resource through ICARP e-blasts.

Verbal Communication. Any verbal communication with ICARP staff on this solicitation is not binding on the State and will not change a specification, term, or condition of the solicitation. Therefore, all communication should be directed in writing to assigned ICARP staff using the contact information above.



I. Errors

If an applicant finds any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or other error in the RRGP documents, including the Q&A document or the solicitation, the applicant should immediately notify RRGP staff of such error in writing, via email, or phone call, and request a corresponding change or clarification in the document (see Section D. Program Contact). If the error is related to the solicitation, RRGP staff, at its discretion, may provide changes or clarifications by amending the solicitation or by sending a written notice to all parties who requested the solicitation, without divulging the source of the request. OPR shall not be responsible for failure to fix errors.

II: Before Applying

The steps and sections below are meant to help applicants prepare their application. Before beginning the application process, OPR recommends that prospective applicants:

1. Determine whether they and their project are eligible by reviewing Sections A. Eligibility and B. Project Eligibility.
2. Review Section B. Application Components & Scoring Criteria to determine what information and resources you need to gather to apply.
3. Check Section D. Program Expectations to understand what participating in the RRGP may involve.
4. Ask RRGP staff for help. Our contact information is listed in Section D. Program Contact and RRGP staff will announce ways to ask questions and learn more (e.g., through the webinars listed in Section G. Timeline).

A. Applicant Eligibility

Eligible Applicants

Local Public Entities: cities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs), Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs), Councils of Governments (COGs), California institutions of higher education, special districts (e.g., school districts); public authorities; public agencies; political subdivisions; and public corporations (California GC § 811.2, excluding State Agencies).

California Native American tribes: Native American tribes on the California tribal consultation contact list that the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) maintains per Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004 (Pub. Resources Code, § 21073).

Community-Based Organizations (CBO): 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, non-governmental organizations, philanthropic organizations, foundations, California tribal organizations, and other organizations with a history of representing tribal or vulnerable communities. Organizations, collaboratives, networks, and projects that are fiscally



sponsored by any of the organizations, and those fiscally sponsored by academic institutions, are also eligible.³

Ineligible Applicants

For-profit entities are ineligible to apply as fiscal agents or lead or co-applicants but can be subcontracted to provide research or other services.

State and Federal Agencies are ineligible to apply as lead or co-applicants.

Applicant Requirements

Co-applicants. Each lead applicant should have at least one co-applicant. Together, “lead applicants” and “co-applicants” are referred to as “applicants.” At least one of the applicants should be a public entity and/or a California Native American Tribe.

California Native American tribes. OPR acknowledges the sovereignty of federally recognized tribes. Federally recognized tribes serving in this role of Lead or Co-Applicant will not be required to submit a limited waiver of sovereign immunity to OPR.

CBOs.

- If a CBO is applying as the lead applicant, it should partner with a local public entity and/or a California Native American Tribe as a co-applicant to be eligible for the RRGP.
- If a tribal entity (e.g., a tribal NGO) is applying as the lead applicant, it should partner with a California Native American Tribe, as defined in the Eligible Applicant section.

Public Entities. All public entities applying for projects targeted at benefitting vulnerable communities should partner with at least one CBO.

Regional Applicants. Applicants are not required to be a regional agency or regional collaborative to apply. Regional agencies or collaboratives may apply and must follow the requirements below, including having at least one co-applicant, and meet the RRGP definition of “regional focus” (see the Regional Focus Section) for their project application.

State Agency and Federal Agency Involvement. RRGP Staff understands that Federal and State Governments play significant roles in land management and infrastructure that could be part of the proposed resiliency plan or project. While staff encourage coordination with state and federal agencies where appropriate, for the purposes of this grant program, state and federal agencies⁴ cannot be listed as co-applicants. This partnership could grant

³ Such entities need not be 501(c)(3) organizations but should be legal entities authorized and empowered to enter contracts and hold funds.

⁴ See the agencies, conservancies, councils, and commissions listed on the [State Agency Listing](#) and the [Federal Agency Listing](#).



access to other entities for comprehensive updates that could include Federal or State-owned land or assets.

B. Project Eligibility

The proposed project must be considered to be an eligible activity, have a regional focus, consider vulnerable communities, and align with one of the RRGP Goals (See Section F. Goals). Stronger proposals will also be consistent with at least one climate-related state plan (See examples of and links to more information on Climate Impact Statewide Plans in Appendix C: Related Climate Impact Statewide Plans & Grants), address at least two climate risks (see examples in Appendix : Examples of Climate Risks Proposals May Address), and offer multiple co-benefits. Proposed projects should use the best available science in planning and implementation of projects (see resources in Appendix E: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Resources).

Applicants who are just getting started with the resilience planning process can review a selection of example projects in the Planning Applications section. Applicants who are further along in the implementation phase can review a selection of example projects in the Implementation Applications section. Feedback from the RRGP's Listening Sessions helped inform the examples of planning and implementation projects.

Regional Focus

Applicants should identify the region they are working within. A project's region should be defined by shared natural and built environment systems and highest priority climate risks, supported by a regional scale partnership. While various State and other programs define region according to their own needs or policy areas, the RRGP does not intend to align with any one definition that other programs or initiatives use. Applicants may choose to work within a 'region' that is pre-defined for another initiative to the extent that it is helpful to accomplishing their workplan. However, doing so will not receive any preference in scoring or award selection.

Consideration of Vulnerable Communities

Proposed projects should consider and address how the project will serve Vulnerable Community members, including Access and Functional Needs Communities (AFN) and Disadvantaged Communities. Applicants are responsible for identifying and defining the vulnerable populations in their community.

After a public deliberation and review process in 2017, the ICARP Technical Advisory Council released a definition of climate vulnerability and the [ICARP guide on Defining Vulnerable Communities in the Context of Climate Adaptation](#) to supplement the ICARP Vision and Principles. Through that engagement process, ICARP defines climate vulnerability as the degree to which natural, built, and human systems are at risk of exposure to climate change impacts. Vulnerable communities experience heightened risk and increased sensitivity to climate change and have less capacity and fewer resources to cope with, adapt to, or recover from climate impacts. These disproportionate effects are



caused by physical (built and environmental), social, political, and/or economic factor(s), which are exacerbated by climate impacts. These factors include, but are not limited to race, class, sexual orientation and identification, national origin, and income inequality. When identifying and defining vulnerable populations in the community, applicants should reference the [ICARP guide](#), but may also use other information applicable to the community.

See Appendix E: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Resources for more guidance and resources.

Planning Applications

Applicants proposing projects in the planning phase will be considered for the planning grant award. Examples of eligible planning projects are listed below. To see how these examples may address climate risks, see Appendix A: Examples of Climate Risks Proposals May Address.

Amending, updating, integrating, aligning, or preparing one or more state-required, regional, or local planning documents to address climate risk, including, but not limited to: implementation or action plans, tribal government plans, climate adaptation plans, community wildfire protection plans, the Climate Ready Program Plans, disaster recovery frameworks/plans, Emergency Plans, Extreme Heat Event Action Plans, Post-Fire Flood/Flood After Fire Plans, Water Management Plans, Flood Plain Management Plans, Flood Resiliency Plans, Food system resilience plans, General Plans (multi-city or county, including Safety Elements and Housing Elements), Groundwater Sustainability Plans, Heat Contingency Plans, multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plans, Long Range Transportation Plans, Power Disruption Emergency Management Plans, The Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program Plans, State Conservancy Climate Resiliency Plans, Sustainable Communities Strategies

Capacity-building: staff training related to climate resiliency, community education, workforce development related to building climate resiliency, developing a climate collaborative in coordination with two or more jurisdictions, establishing a climate resilience district

Conducting studies: Conducting regional-scale climate vulnerability or risk assessments, including those informed by TEK, conducting studies that explore the efficacy of implemented climate solutions; regional-scale project feasibility studies

Ineligible Planning Projects/Actions

- Legislative lobbying and lawsuits
- Environmental studies, plans, or documents normally required for project development under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) or National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).



Implementation Applications

Applicants proposing to implement regional projects, especially those that use natural infrastructure, that improve regional climate resilience, and reduce risks from climate impacts, including wildfire, sea level rise, drought, flood, increasing temperatures, and extreme heat events, will be considered for the implementation grant award. Examples of implementation projects are listed below. To see how these examples may address climate risks, see Appendix A: Examples of Climate Risks Proposals May Address.

Capacity-building: Workforce, including youth, development related to climate resiliency like forestry efforts or other natural resource-related activities; implementation projects that strengthen new or existing climate collaborative structures; implementation projects that include an educational component (e.g., emergency communication frameworks, wildfire retrofits, energy resilience, water efficiency and conservation)

Implementing state, regional, or local adaptation strategies or planning documents that address climate risk, including, but not limited to plans mentioned in the “Planning Applications” section above, the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program plans, the Climate Ready Program plans, state conservancy climate resiliency plans, City or County Safety Elements of general plans (e.g., improving evacuation routes), local hazard mitigation plans, sustainable communities strategies, long range transportation plans, regional housing needs assessments, and groundwater sustainability plans.

Implementing projects that address various climate risks (e.g., drought, extreme heat events, flood, increasing temperatures, sea level rise, and wildfire), including, but not limited to: regional forest restoration, building and infrastructure retrofits to address wildfire risk, emergency communication frameworks, sea level rise adaptation, water efficiency and conservation, diversifying water supplies (e.g., stormwater re-capture, water recycling and reuse, groundwater recharge projects, cost effective desalination), flood plain management, green stormwater infrastructure projects, urban greening, landslide adaptation, restoring native ecosystems and/or employing nature-based solutions, energy system resilience such as implementing energy storage solutions, a microgrid or other distributed energy resources, hardening or undergrounding grid infrastructure.

Match Funding and Cost Sharing

No match funding is required. Grants will be awarded at a 100% agreed grant rate corresponding to their project type. Planning grants will be awarded between \$150,000 and \$650,000 and implementation grants will be awarded between \$800,000 and \$3 million.

Grantees may use the RRGF funding to provide the required match funding for other funding or grant opportunities. If the project requires funding in addition to the RRGF funding to be executed, include those details in the budget and work plan, including the likely timescale for securing the additional funding. The letters of support from project partners and local community organizations should include and reference additional funding.



III. Preparing and Submitting an Application

Applicants will submit applications electronically. ICARP staff will provide additional information about the application process with the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) and Application materials.

A. Application Help/Technical Assistance

ICARP staff will provide technical assistance during the application window, which begins after the final guidelines and solicitation are released and ends at the application submission deadline (see Section G. Timeline). Unfortunately, third-party technical assistance is unavailable for applicants for the first round. In future rounds of the RRG, ICARP plans to have third-party technical assistance providers who will help develop, implement, and evaluate applications. ICARP staff will be available to provide individual applicants assistance, such as one-on-one consultation and small group facilitation, on a limited and at-request basis. The Questions Section includes more information on how applicants can ask RRG staff for help in the process.

Application Webinars

To help applicants develop competitive proposals, RRG staff will hold the following optional webinars:

- Two application webinars to review the guidelines and answer questions from potential applicants. RRG staff will record these webinars and post them on the [RRG webpage](#).
- Three targeted, application workshops, one for tribal communities, one for the Inland Desert and the San Joaquin Valley regions, and one for the North Coast, Inland North, and the Sierra regions

How to Participate:

- Via the internet (Zoom)
- Via conference call on the date, time, and location listed on the RRG webpage.

B. Application Components & Scoring Criteria

To be considered eligible for funding, the application should be fully complete and submitted before the application due date. No materials will be accepted after the submission due date (See Section G. Timeline). The application includes the components listed below. The next sections will provide more information on the application components, including which documents should be submitted for the application to be considered, some resources that may help applicants prepare those components, and example scoring criterion that include tips.

- Program Goals & Description



- Consistency with the RRG, State Priorities, Local Plans
- Community Need & Priorities
- Co-Benefits
- Community Partnership
- Organizational Capacity
- Budget

Attachment Formatting Requirements:

- Each attachment file size must be 2 GB or less.
- Maximum Optional Attachments Allowed: 10. These can include other media like diagrams, graphics, photographs
- File Name Limit: 125 Characters.
- Font: 11-point, Arial (excluding Excel spreadsheets, original template headers and footers, and commitment or support letters).
- Margins: No less than one inch on all sides (excluding headers and footers).
- Spacing: Single spaced with a blank line between each paragraph.
- Pages: Numbered
- File Format: Electronic files must be in Microsoft Word XP (.pdf format) and Excel Office Suite formats.

The table below shows the maximum amount of points each component of the application can earn.

Application Component	Total Points Possible
Proposed Project Description & Goals	10
Consistency with the RRG, State Priorities, Local Plans	10
Community Need & Priorities	20
Climate Risks and Co-Benefits	15
Regional Partnership	15
Organizational Capacity	15
Budget	15
Total	100

Proposed Project Description & Goals

Formatting Limitations

750 words, 5,000 characters

Information to Include and Corresponding Criteria

Include the following information and note the criteria in checkboxes below to see what the RRG application review panel will consider when evaluating applications:



1. How the project will advance the region's long-term climate resiliency efforts, particularly those that center community-driven climate resilience planning frameworks (See the Resources Section for examples).

- The applicant effectively describes the project and how it will advance the region's long-term resiliency efforts.
- The applicant centers a community-driven climate resilience planning framework.

2. The expected project outcomes.

- The project effectively shows how it will collaboratively build climate resiliency in its region with community partners.
- The project directly and meaningfully benefits vulnerable communities.
- Activities balance and advance equitable outcomes in the short and long term. For example, they consider the availability of public services to vulnerable populations, access to social services, uptake for disaster relief, while working toward physical infrastructure resilience.
- The project shows that it plans to keep the communities in the region and give them decision making power.

3. The work plan (see Appendix D: Work Plan Template)

- The work plan adheres to the 12-30-month expected end date, is detailed, has clear timelines, discrete tasks, and detailed deliverables.
- The work plan adopts an equitable planning framework.

Attachments

- All applications should include the following attachment(s):
 - Work Plan (No page limit)
 - See Match Funding and Cost Sharing for items to consider in the work plan.
- Applications may include the following attachment(s):
 - An equitable planning framework by including an [Equity Checklist](#) and [Equity Resilience Indicators](#) into your workplan.

Resources

- National Association of Climate Resilience Partners examples of [community-driven climate resilience planning frameworks](#)

Consistency with the RRGP, State Priorities, and Local Plans

Formatting Limitations

500 words, 3,500 characters



Information to Include and Corresponding Criteria

Include the following information and note the criteria in checkboxes below to see what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications:

1. Describe how the project ties into the RRGP's goals (see Section F. Program Goals)
 - The project reflects on the RRGP's goals, objectives, and principles.
 - The proposed project activities are directly aligned with the [2017 ICARP Vision and Principles](#).
 - The project supports a vulnerable community, is located in, or represents a vulnerable community, such as rural communities, tribal lands, and Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Communities.
2. Describe how the project is consistent with relevant local, regional, tribal, or statewide plans, climate impact-specific statewide plans (e.g., [California Climate Adaptation Strategy](#), the California [Extreme Heat Action Plan](#), county or regional general plans, hazard mitigation plans, climate action plans, tribal-led plans, integrated regional water management plans, zoning, building intensity, and density requirements, design guidelines, housing elements and applicable goals, policies, and programs)
 - The proposal lists state, regional, tribal, and local plans, policies, or programs that the proposed project will address.
 - The proposal is consistent with relevant local or regional plans and incorporates and aligns activities and objectives across sectors, like transportation, housing, land use planning, public health, etc. For example, the project considers relevant land use designations, zoning, building intensity, and density requirements, design guidelines, and applicable goals, policies, and programs.

Attachments

- All applications should include the following link(s) or attachment(s):
 - Links or attachments of the relevant local, regional, tribal, or statewide plan

Community Needs & Priorities

Formatting Limitations

750 words, 5,000 characters

Information to Include and Corresponding Criteria

Include the following information and note the criteria in checkboxes below to see what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications:

1. How the applicant(s) identified the community's unmet needs and priorities.



- The project describes the intent to use local and/or regional climate projections to identify climate risks and exposures, describe the impact of climate change risks and exposures on the community, and identify and prioritize climate adaptation measures and objectives that address such impacts (For more guidance, see Appendix E: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Resources).
 - The priorities considered feasibility, adaptive capacity,⁵ and building capacity.⁶
 - The community, including vulnerable populations or organizations representing vulnerable populations, helped identify community priorities through a substantial public engagement process.
2. How the applicant(s) determined that the proposed project is most appropriate for meeting the community's unmet needs and priorities and how the project will bolster the community's resilience capacity.
- The community, including vulnerable populations or organizations representing vulnerable populations, helped design and support the project.
 - The proposed project helps build or support climate leadership and resilience efforts in vulnerable communities.
3. Community Support and Partnership. The project describes how the community, local, and/or regional decision-makers and leaders support the project. Include a description of a community engagement plan throughout the process.
- Application materials provide clear and convincing evidence of strong community support (e.g., from elected officials, neighborhood associations, business and civil leadership organizations, environmental advocacy, environmental justice groups, etc.).
 - The project includes information on engaging vulnerable communities, the plan to address the specific needs of climate-vulnerable communities and uses unique methods to involve these groups in the decision-making process.
 - The project clearly explains how partner agencies, businesses, and/or non-profit community-based organizations will be involved throughout the project.
 - The project clearly identifies specific underserved or high-need communities and how they will be involved.

Attachments

- All Applications should include the following link(s) or attachment(s):

⁵ For more information, see the “adaptive capacity” definition in Appendix F: Glossary and Acronyms.

⁶ See tools from Appendix E: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Resources for ideas



- Letters of support from the local and grassroots organizations active in vulnerable communities your project supports
- Applications may include the following link(s) or attachment(s):
 - Community Engagement Plan
 - Community Partnership Plan. The community partnership plan must describe, at a minimum:
 - Key tribes, tribal partners, stakeholders, and other potential partners and when you plan to engage them (the earlier the better)
 - Recent history of engagement with stakeholders, including stakeholder involvement in any planning or adaptation planning activities.
 - Process used to identify the needs of stakeholders during the proposal development phase.
 - Methods that you will use to engage the potential partners, like participatory budgeting or creating an advisory board

Climate Risks and Co-Benefits

Formatting Limitations

750 words, 5,000 characters

Information to Include and Corresponding Criteria

Include the following information and note the criteria in checkboxes below to see what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications:

1. Evaluation of opportunities to increase resilience to multiple climate risks.

Applicants should evaluate the possibility to address multiple, interconnected regional climate risks, where possible.

- The project takes an innovative, systematic approach to address multiple climate risks and provide cross-cutting benefits.
- Applicant clearly and comprehensively describes how the project will maximize resilience by responding to interconnected climate hazards.
- If it is not possible to address more than one regional climate risk due to regional needs, priorities, or other conditions, the project provides a clear and comprehensive justification.

2. The co-benefits the project offers. Applicants should think systematically about the climate impacts facing the communities in their project's region by describing how the project provides multiple benefits across sectors and climate issues. Co-benefits may fall within the following topics: public health, land use, transportation, economy, housing, public infrastructure, public safety, social infrastructure, environmental conditions (e.g., carbon sequestration, natural resource management, water quality, air quality), energy, and agriculture.

- The co-benefits the project offers go beyond climate resiliency.



- Applicant clearly and comprehensively describes how the project will maximize economic, environmental, public health, and other co-benefits to communities within the project area, with a specific emphasis on vulnerable communities.

Examples may include:

- a. Effectively incorporating nature-based solutions that reduce climate risks (e.g., drought, heat, flooding, sea-level rise, extreme precipitation/weather, wildfire, etc.) while providing co-benefits (e.g., improved public health, safety, social equity and infrastructure, carbon sequestration, restoring natural resources, and supporting the local economy).
- b. Prioritizing social services that support climate adaptation and co-benefits, like education access, poverty alleviation, economic inclusion, housing, and food security.
- c. Building climate-responsive energy solutions that improve community capacity to respond to supply deficits during a variety of climate risks and provide climate mitigation co-benefits, such as increased use of renewable energy.
- d. Investigating innovative financing solutions to provide co-benefits.

Resources

- See Appendix B: Examples of Multi-Risk, Multi-Jurisdiction Projects for examples of evaluating multiple climate risks and co-benefits for potential projects.

Regional Partnership

Formatting Limitations

500 words, 3,500 characters

Information to Include and Corresponding Criteria

Include the following information and note the criteria in checkboxes below to see what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications:

1. Describe the applicant, partners, and other stakeholders and how they will organize themselves, manage the project, and build their network's capacity.

The partners represent a diversity of residents and key stakeholders (e.g., community leaders, California Native American tribes or tribal-serving organizations, labor unions, non-profits, faith-based groups, community-based organizations, academics, economic development institutions, workforce development groups, businesses, representatives from local School District, Community College District, and others).

The regional partnership includes two or more eligible entities whose combined jurisdiction enhances their effectiveness in responding to the highest priority climate risks of that region.



- The regional partnership will facilitate capacity building opportunities for co-applicants from underserved or high-need communities.
- Partner entities bring unique strengths and approaches and a proven track record in serving communities.

2. Partner Responsibilities and Long-term Goals. Describe the responsibilities of each of the parties and the long-term goals of the collaboration.

- Partners show commitment to equity, ability to self-govern, and the likelihood of sustaining itself beyond the grant term.
- The community partnership structure will evaluate and measure their progress towards achieving program objectives and describe how they intend to use the findings.
- Partners show commitment, readiness and capacity to implement the proposed work on time and within budget.
- The partnership involves meaningful, actionable internal and external collaboration that reflects a strong commitment from the applicant and partner organization(s) to the proposed efforts.

Supporting Documents

- All applications should include the following link(s) or attachment(s):
 - Letters of Support: One page for each reference, a maximum of three letters (multiple organizations that are part of a coalition may sign and submit a single letter of support).
 - See Match Funding and Cost Sharing for items to consider with the letters.
 - If partnering with a California Native American tribe, submit a letter of support from the partnering tribe(s)

Resources

- Resiliency Guidebook [Community Engagement Best Practices](#)

Note

- If selected, the grant agreement will require that grantees include a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or other type of legally binding agreement between the partners. In addition, public entities will be required to submit a supporting resolution of the governing body.
 - If California Native American tribes or California tribal communities are the lead or co-applicants, the MOU should outline measures that will be taken to protect tribal data sovereignty and the confidentiality of tribal data and Traditional knowledge (including Traditional ecological knowledge, indigenous knowledge, etc.) collected or shared as part of the grant activities.



If a federally recognized tribe is the lead or co-applicant, the MOU should show how the tribe's sovereign status will be respected and upheld.

Organizational Capacity

Formatting Limitations

500 words, 3,500 characters

Information to Include and Corresponding Criteria

In the Organizational capacity section, applicant(s) should describe their organizational capacity to implement the proposed activities successfully, providing examples from previous experience and plans to meet any gaps required for the RRG. Include the following information and note the criteria in checkboxes below to see what the RRG application review panel will consider when evaluating applications:

1. Administrative Experience

- Applicants show they can manage grants, including internal processes for financial tracking and accountability, and can coordinate amongst diverse partners
- Applicants demonstrate an ability to provide advanced payment to co-applicants (only if the proposal includes advanced pay as a mechanism of payment)
- Lead applicant resume demonstrates fiscal agent's expertise in gathering and reporting information on implementing the proposal.

2. Programmatic Expertise

- Applicants demonstrate strong programmatic expertise in the project proposal

3. Plans to Meet Capacity Gaps

- Applicants clearly describe how they plan to close capacity gaps to complete their project

Attachments

- All applications should include the following link(s) or attachment(s):
 - The organization's relevant financial documents
 - Staff resumes

Budget

Formatting Limitations

500 words, 3,500 characters



Information to Include and Corresponding Criteria

Include a budget and a separate document explaining the budget's allocations and reasons for proposed expenditures. Note the criteria in checkboxes below to see what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications. The budget should:

1. Be aligned with the RRGP and only include eligible costs (see the Note section below).
 - The total budget allocates three to fifteen percent towards Evaluation Activities.
 - The project only includes eligible costs
2. Be aligned with the project vision, objectives, and activities outlined in the application and work plan, and be feasible.
 - The project budget is realistic, reflecting organizational strengths and experiences, and feasible financial projections within the 2.5-year grant period
 - The budget aligns with the project vision, objectives, and activities outlined within the application and work plan
 - The budget has reasonable tasks and deliverables, feasible financial projections, and considers the grant term's timelines
3. Be detailed, broken down by task and line item, have all necessary supporting justifications.
 - The budget clearly outlines proposed activities, including allocation of resources across co-applicants and partners to lead or support specific activities, reasonable tasks and deliverables.
 - The budget shows how it considers the number of funded partners, number and complexity of activities, consultant services and other contracting needs, community engagement and participation costs
 - Budget is thorough, showing an understanding of proposed activities
 - The budget allocates resources across entities within the collaborative based on their strengths and experience to lead or support specific activities

Attachments

- All applications should include the following link(s) or attachment(s):
 - Budget (Excel file, no page limit)
 - Budget Narrative
 - See Match Funding and Cost Sharing for items to consider in the narrative.



Resources

- Appendix E: Budget Template

Note

Eligible Costs (Planning and Implementation Projects). The list below provides eligible costs using grant funds. Applicants should ensure that costs proposed in the project budget are eligible for funding. Costs deemed ineligible in the application review process will be removed and the project's recommended total award will be adjusted accordingly.

- RRGP Costs: items listed under Section D. Program Expectations (e.g., optional Peer-to-Peer Learning, Evaluation Activities, and developing reports). Note that 3-5 percent of the budget should be allocated for Evaluation Activities.
- Staff Costs: Grant recipients, subgrantees, and their contractors' staff costs, including salary at an hourly rate, benefits, taxes, and leave. Staff may be full or part-time employees. If applicants wish to use grant funds to pay for interns, fellows, or other positions that are not on an organization's payroll, list these costs in the budget as direct costs via a consultant contract.
- Travel Costs: Travel reimbursements should adhere to the State [rates and conditions set on the CalHR website](#), except for "incidentals" and out-of-state travel, which will not be reimbursable under this grant.
- Language Access: Personnel or subcontractor costs for translation or interpretation services for meetings or written materials
- Administrative Costs: Costs incurred by the recipient to administer the grant, or costs incurred by subgrantees to perform the tasks necessary to fulfill the deliverables outlined in these guidelines. Administrative costs include, but are not limited to:
 - Operating expenses and equipment costs not included as part of direct project costs (functions like accounting, budgeting, audits, business services, information technology, web design services, janitorial; and rent, utilities, supplies, etc.).
 - Tools, subscriptions, and software (subscriptions to tools and other software that will help increase capacity, help with communication, or otherwise help implement the project, like project management software, videoconferencing technology subscriptions, and mapping software.
 - Prorated general liability, workers' compensation (may be included in payroll), and automotive insurance.
- Engagement, Outreach, Education, and Training: Costs related to the engagement, outreach, education, and training activities under the grant, including:
 - Non-tribal applicants: compensation to tribes for engaging and consulting on local plans
 - Materials developed for outreach events, training, and other grant activities, including digital content, or printed materials
 - Access to proprietary data or research materials to conduct research, market, and feasibility studies, compiling and analyzing community needs-related information studies



- d. Facilitating meetings
- e. Marketing and advertisements
- f. Compensating participants for their help developing community work products. Include documentation like sign-in sheets or written surveys. Subcontractors and consultants should be qualified to provide services. The lead Applicant is responsible for complying with all applicable laws.
- g. Transportation stipends and transportation services for community residents, like a vanpool
- h. Rental costs of equipment, facilities, or venues
- i. Providing childcare services for community residents at sponsored events
- j. Food and refreshments that are important for the event (e.g., providing a meal at an event, like a design charrette held in the evening, that replaces a meal otherwise missed by attending the event)

Eligible Costs (Implementation Projects).

- a. Direct costs: Costs directly tied to implementing the Grant Agreement including, but not limited to personnel costs for project management and grant administration, labor, subcontracts, equipment costs, supplies, expenses directly tied to the implementation of the grant.
- b. Pre-development costs: Soft costs for activities such as construction or project plans, specifications and estimates including but not limited to: engineering, architectural, and other design work.

Ineligible Costs (Planning and Implementation Projects). Grant funds may not be used for the following costs and are not reimbursable:

- a. Costs that occur outside of the grant agreement term
- b. Direct lobbying
- c. Office furniture purchases or other capital expenditures
- d. Acquiring vehicles or shuttle programs
- e. Organizational membership fees
- f. The following costs associated with community engagement and outreach:
 - a. Direct cash benefits or subsidies to participants
 - b. Alcoholic refreshments
 - c. Participant incentives, like door prizes, which are unrelated to specific community work
- g. General meetings that do not specifically discuss or advance the RRGF Project

IV. After Applying

A. Confirmation of Application Submission

After the state receives a submitted application, RRGF staff will email applicants confirming that OPR has received the submittal. This is NOT a confirmation that the applicant



submitted all of the required documents. The applicant is solely responsible for ensuring they submit all documents outlined in these Guidelines.

B. Changing or Withdrawing an Application/Proposal

A participating applicant may request to change or withdraw a proposal before the deadline by e-mailing the RRGP staff. RRGP staff will not accept changes after the deadline. A proposal cannot be “timed” to expire on a specific date. For example, a statement like this would not be accepted: “This proposal and the cost estimate are valid for 60 days.”

C. Minor Errors/Immaterial Defect

If an applicant’s proposal has any immaterial defects,⁷ OPR may waive them as long as the defect(s) do not change the proposal or make the applicant non-compliant.

D. Public Records Act

All applications and submitted materials are subject to the Public Records Act ([GC § 6250](#)) requirements and certain information may be publicly disclosed under those requirements. Materials will remain confidential through the evaluation process, after the applicant submits a proposal. However, all submitted documents will become publicly available records after the RRGP posts the awards or the solicitation is cancelled. The RRGP will not accept or retain applications that identify any portion as confidential. If your proposal includes culturally sensitive or confidential information, RRGP highly recommends that you redact that information, remove sensitive information, and provide a general summary of it. The grant agreement will include a data sovereignty agreement, if requested, to protect sensitive and confidential information.

E. Application Review Process and Scoring

After the submission due date, the RRGP team will review the applications it received and award funding on a competitive basis and through set asides.⁸

Competitive Funding

The steps below outline the application review process for applications eligible for competitive funding.

⁷ For more information, see the definition for “immaterial defect” in Appendix F: Glossary and Acronyms.

⁸ For definitions, see “Competitive Funding” and “Set Aside” in Appendix F: Glossary and Acronyms.



1. RRGP staff and an interagency review panel will evaluate applications using the scoring criteria, reviewing the following: eligibility, completeness, submission of proper documentation, content, meeting technical criteria, overall relationship to statewide planning efforts, compliance with state planning requirements; how well applicants describe the project, justify the need for the project and the RRGP funding, reflect the program evaluation criteria, and articulate a concrete work plan and project timeline.
 - a. The example scoring scale show that projects that meet multiple criteria under each section will be evaluated favorably.
2. RRGP staff will post a summary of all applications staff received before making funding decisions.
3. RRGP staff will present the interagency review panel’s recommendations of awards based on the scores to ICARP leadership for their consideration
 - a. If funding remains after awarding the highest scoring applicants, full or partial awards may be made to the next best-scored applicant(s).
4. RRGP staff will make a final determination on all grants in the Summer of 2023.

Reviewers will assess how well the proposal meets each evaluation criterion using the following scale. The score ranges vary by the maximum points each application component may earn. To see the maximum points and the example scoring criterion, see Section B. Application Components & Scoring Criteria.

Point Scale	Component Max. Points: 20	Component Max. Points: 15	Component Max. Points: 10
Excellent: All criteria are addressed with the highest degree of confidence in the response or proposed solution. Exceeds the requirements in providing multiple enhancing features, a creative approach, or an exceptional solution.	17 - 20	12 - 15	9 - 10
Very good: fully addresses the criteria with a high degree of confidence in the response or proposed solution. Offers one or more enhancing features, methods, or approaches that exceed basic expectations.	12 - 16	9 - 11	7 - 8
Good: fully addresses the criteria with a good degree of confidence in the proposer’s response or proposed solution. No identified omissions, flaws, or defects. Any identified weaknesses are minimal, inconsequential, and acceptable.	8 - 11	6 - 8	4 - 6
Poor: does not adequately address the criteria. One or more omissions, flaws, or	4 - 7	3 - 5	2 - 3



Point Scale	Component Max. Points: 20	Component Max. Points: 15	Component Max. Points: 10
defects or the criteria are addressed in a limited way that results in a low degree of confidence in the proposed solution.			
Fair: Inadequately addresses the criteria. Any omissions, flaws, or defects are inconsequential and acceptable.	0 - 3	0 - 2	0 - 1

Set Aside Funding

See Funding Set Aside Goals under Section I. E. Funding Availability for more information.

V. Unselected Applications

If your application is not selected, RRGP staff will be available to provide information on what might help you succeed in subsequent rounds. If another grant program may be a better fit for you or your project, RRGP staff will try to direct your application accordingly.

VI. Selected Applications

This section outlines elements of the RRGP that grantees should expect to meet.

A. Responsibilities and Grant Agreement

Applicants are responsible for carefully reading these guidelines, asking appropriate questions promptly, and drafting and submitting their applications consistent with these guidelines. Grant recipients will commit to implementing their proposal as described in their application as a part of a grant agreement.

The final grant agreement will reference and may incorporate these guidelines. OPR will send the agreement, including the general Terms and Conditions and any additional terms and conditions, to the grant recipient to review, approve, and sign (See Section VI B. No Agreement Until Signed or Approved). OPR reserves the right to negotiate with grant recipients to change the project work plan, the level of funding, or both.

The grant recipients’ governing authority should designate an authorized representative to approve and sign the agreement. Applicants should not submit authorization later than 60 days after the award notice. If OPR is unable to successfully negotiate and execute a funding agreement with a grant recipient, OPR, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to cancel the pending award and fund the next highest-ranked eligible project.

OPR, through its programs, is dedicated to transparency and compliance with state auditing requirements and applicable records retention/disclosure rules. Applicants should expect that grant agreements will reflect consistency with these standards and ensure compliance with applicable rules and requirements.



B. No Agreement Until Signed or Approved

The Grant Agreement is considered fully executed once the grant recipient and OPR's authorized signatories sign the agreement. Once the grant agreement is fully executed, OPR will issue a Notice to Proceed and work can begin. Grantees cannot request reimbursement for any costs incurred or work completed before grant execution. OPR reserves the right to change the award documents before executing the agreement.

C. Disbursement and Accounting Funds

- The RRGF is a reimbursement grant program. ICARP will provide the grant recipient with the necessary grant award and invoicing documents for the reimbursement process.
- OPR will withhold the last five percent of the grant until it determines that the recipient fulfilled the grant terms.
- The grantee cannot request reimbursement for any work completed before the grant agreement is executed.
- Grantees may request reimbursement from OPR every quarter (every three months).
- Partners should invoice the grantee before the grantee submits an invoice to OPR.
- The grantee will be responsible for compiling all invoices, supporting documentation, and reporting materials for themselves and the partners into a single package. Once OPR approves the package for payment, it will disburse funds to the grantee.
- The grantee is responsible for disbursing payment to their partners.
- OPR is not authorized to provide advance payments for the RRGF.

D. Program Expectations

Unless otherwise stated, the following program expectations will apply to grantees awarded Planning or Implementation funds.

Project Action Plan

At the beginning of the grant term, grantees and their partners should develop an action plan that identifies their proposed project's key activities, member roles and responsibilities, and timelines. This should build on the activities and roles submitted as part of the work plan and community partnership components of the RRGF application. The action plan is meant to help guide project implementation and hold partners accountable to one another and the community around activities and outcomes.

Resources to help draft the action plan

See Phase 1 of the [California Climate Adaptation Planning Guide](#) for tips on drafting action plans, including creating budgets, identifying roles, preliminary research considerations, and more.



- Analyze the proposed project's intended outcomes and capacity-building needs. Consider ways to maximize the impact of activities conducted through the grant.
- Coordinate with community organizations and use decision-making processes established in the governance structure detailed in the community partnership agreement to create the action plan.

Include the following in the action plan

- Roles and responsibilities for the different members in the community partnership, showing how they will achieve elements of the overall work plan.
- An analysis on the resources or data needed to successfully implement and maximize the impact of the proposed project. This can include
 - An analysis used to identify the strengths, barriers, assets, relationships, and resources available to the community partnership to accomplish the project work plan.
 - A review and/or analysis of existing plans, community engagement, and needs assessments to help focus areas for additional engagement.
 - An assessment of local policies to identify opportunities to meet community priorities.

Evaluation Activities (3-5% budget)

Grantees will be expected to monitor impact and evaluate how their project aligns with program objectives on an ongoing basis. This is meant to ensure community partnerships are meaningfully serving vulnerable communities. (See Appendix E: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Resources for tips and resources).

Program staff and TA providers will help develop evaluation plans and assess progress throughout the grant term. Throughout the fiscal year, the RRGP staff will evaluate progress against goals and objectives, discuss new strategies to improve program outcomes, and align available funding to maximize results for the state.

Progress Reports

Grantees will submit two formal progress reports over the length of the grant term: a mid-term progress report and a final progress report.

- The mid-term progress report will track the work completed during the first half of the grant term. It will include high-level questions not captured during RRGP workshops, webinars, and informal meetings.
- The final progress report will report on the overall status of the grant and track the work completed during the entire grant term.

Both progress reports should include the following information:

- The members of the community partnership, including any new members.



- Populations served
- An outline of all the activities and the outcome of each activity conducted as part of the project work plan
- Status on the project and grant's development, application, and completion
- Meetings held and actions taken by the grantee(s)
- Information on the program's expenditures.
- The effectiveness of climate resiliency planning based on indicators in the proposed evaluation plan.
- Feedback for program staff including current barriers, challenges, and opportunities.

OPR will track these indicators and metrics when evaluating the projects and will work with grantees to align interim evaluation findings with the progress reports.

Regular Check-Ins

In addition to providing formal progress reports, all grantees can expect to participate in regular check-in meetings with RRPB staff. During these meetings, grantees can describe their work and RRPB staff can offer feedback and guidance on draft deliverables. During each check-in meeting, RRPB staff will take notes on accomplishments, challenges, and lessons learned to identify emerging trends, best practices, opportunities for greater support, and success stories. RRPB staff will also support grantees in meeting the various administrative criteria, connecting to technical assistance resources, and building connections between grantee(s) and State and Federal agencies.

Check-in frequency

- The lead applicant, as the liaison between RRPB staff and the community partnership, will participate in more frequent check-in meetings with RRPB staff.
- The grantee check-in meeting schedule will align with the monthly invoicing schedule.
- Partners can expect to participate in two full collaborative check-ins each grant year.

Case Study

At the end of the grant term, grantee(s) will produce a project case study documenting lessons learned and effective practices through this project. This is meant to help other community efforts learn from each other and advance community planning and capacity. RRPB staff will review and curate case studies to possibly include them in the Adaptation Clearinghouse to help support a community of practice across the state. Grantees will receive technical assistance for support in developing case studies.

This case study should reflect

- Project outcomes



- Lessons learned
- How the project responds to climate change impacts
- Helpful resources

Peer-to-Peer Learning

ICARP staff or partners will host quarterly peer-to-peer learning sessions. Expenses related with participating in peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchange opportunities (e.g., meetings, events, roadshows, and convenings of communities of practice) that RRGP facilitates can be listed as eligible costs (see the Note section under the Budget Application Component).

E. Optional Program Help/Technical Assistance

RRGP staff and other State and Federal will offer awarded grantees assistance throughout the grant term (e.g., through the project's development, implementation, and evaluation phases) through technical assistance. Also, each grantee(s) will participate in regular check-in meetings with RRGP staff (see Regular Check-Ins).

Project Implementation Technical Assistance

In the first quarter of the grant term, grantees that are awarded implementation funds may submit proposals for additional grant funding to procure a technical assistance provider to support achieving their implementation project's scope of work. RRGP staff will support grantees eligible for this additional funding through the proposal process during regular check-in meetings.

Technical Assistance Workshop Series

Throughout the grant term, the RRGP team will host three optional workshops on building short-term capacity to implement the grant and build long-term technical capacity for resilience planning. RRGP staff will survey awarded grantees to understand the specific technical assistance interests to ensure that workshops will cover topics and resources tailored to the needs of grantees during the grant term. See Section G. Timeline for estimated workshop dates. Potential workshop topics may include:

Climate Adaptation 101: Visioning, Pre-planning, and Getting Started

This includes introductory information about climate adaptation planning. Learn how to refine the project motivation and scope, identify necessary teams and resources, and get started with identifying climate impacts and community elements. Learn about introductory best practices and explore example projects and plans.

Resources: [California 2020 Adaptation Planning Guide](#) and the [State Adaptation Clearinghouse](#).

Introduction to Integrated Planning and Plan Alignment



This includes training on aligning plan, specifically resources, best practices, and frameworks for successful whole-community planning approaches and collaboration.

Resources: [ICARP Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Toolkit](#).

Climate Impacts, Vulnerability, and Risk

This is an introduction to understanding and working with climate change impact information and conducting climate vulnerability assessments.

Resources: [Cal-Adapt Enterprise](#); [ICARP Guide to Defining Vulnerable Communities](#); [OPC Sea Level Rise Guidance](#), [California's Fourth Climate Change Assessment](#)

Developing Climate Adaptation Strategies and Actions

This introduces frameworks to develop, organize, and prioritize strategies and actions, with examples from around the state.

Resources: [State Adaptation Clearinghouse](#), [California Adaptation Planning Guide](#), [OPR General Plan Guidelines](#)

Pathways Towards Funding and Implementing Adaptation

Planning Implementation, Funding, Monitoring, and Evaluation

This covers how to prepare an implementation program, including how to identify resources, track progress, and adjust over time.

Navigating State Grants and Applications

This includes both informational and skills-building exercises to find and navigate appropriate state funding programs and build capacity for applying for state implementation funds.

Reporting Templates and Forms

OPR will provide templates for the progress reports, work plan, budget, invoice form, and reimbursement request forms. These documents will record the project's expenditures and assess general progress on deliverables.



VIII. Appendices

Appendix A: Examples of Climate Risks Proposals May Address

RRGP's implementing legislation (SB 170) specifically highlights drought, energy resiliency, flood, extreme heat, increasing temperatures, sea level rise, and wildfire as climate risks that the RRGF should target. When reviewing project proposals, the RRGF review panel will consider whether and how projects address one or several of those climate risks. The tables below include example planning and implementation projects and the corresponding climate risks they may address. The list of climate risks is not exhaustive and proposed projects may address other risks not listed in SB 170.

Symbol Legend:



Drought



Energy Resiliency



Flood



Extreme Heat



Increasing Temperatures







Sea Level Rise










Wildfire

Planning

Preparing, amending, updating state, local, or regional planning documents (listed below)							
Climate Adaptation Plans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Community Wildfire Protection Plans	X	X	X				X
The Climate Ready Program plans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Disaster Recovery Frameworks/Plans	X	X	X		X	X	X
Extreme Heat Event Action Plan		X		X	X		
Flood After Fire and Water Management Plan	X		X			X	X
Flood Plain Management Plan	X		X			X	
Flood Resiliency Plan	X		X			X	
General Plans (city or county, including Safety Elements and Housing Elements)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Groundwater Sustainability Plans	X				X	X	
Heat Contingency Plans				X	X		
Local Coastal Program Plans			X		X	X	X
Local Hazard Mitigation Plans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Long Range Transportation Plans			X			X	X
Power Disruption Emergency Management Plans		X					X
The Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program Plans	X			X	X		X
State Conservancy Climate Resiliency Plans	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sustainable Communities Strategies	X	X	X	X	X	X	X



Implementation

Example Implementation Projects							
Diversifying water supplies (stormwater capture, water recycling and reuse, groundwater recharge, cost-effective desalination)	X		X				
Evacuation Communication frameworks			X			X	X
Flood plain management			X			X	
Green stormwater infrastructure projects			X			X	
Urban greening projects	X		X	X	X		X
Hardening or undergrounding grid infrastructure		X	X	X			X
Implementing a microgrid or other distributed energy resources		X	X	X			X
Landslide adaptation	X		X			X	X
Reforestation project	X		X	X	X		X
Regional carbon sequestration efforts (e.g., reforestation),	X		X	X	X		X
Restoring native ecosystems or employing nature-based solutions	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Sea level rise adaptation			X			X	
Water efficiency and conservation	X	X					
Wildfire retrofits		X					X



Appendix B: Examples of Multi-Risk, Multi-Jurisdiction Projects

Funded project examples from are featured in this appendix to inspire and inform potential applicants. These examples demonstrate how to benefit multiple jurisdictions and address multiple climate risks. Projects in this appendix may not meet every requirement of the RRGF. Inclusion in this appendix does not mean that these projects would hypothetically be granted funding from RRGF.

Urban Greening Bay Area, San Francisco Bay Area

Project Types: Planning and Implementation

Lead Organizations: San Francisco Estuary Partnership (SFEP)

Climate Risks: Flood, Rising Temperatures

Co-Benefits: Carbon Sequestration, Transportation, Natural Resource Management, Water Quality, Air Quality, Public Health

Description: Urban Greening Bay Area is a planning and implementation effort to re-envision Bay Area urban landscapes to include green infrastructure (GI). SFEP will work with partner cities to plan for and track GI projects and find long-term funding for GI implementation throughout the region. The project will also host a design charette to develop cost-effective GI designs for typical roadway intersections and construct a green street at Chynoweth Avenue in San Jose.

More Information: [EPA Case Study - Urban Greening Bay Area](#)

Forest and Watershed Health Program, Tuolumne County

Project Type: Implementation

Lead Organizations: Sierra Nevada Conservancy, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and CAL FIRE

Climate Risks: Wildfire, Flood

Co-Benefits: Natural Resource Management, Carbon Sequestration, Water Quality, Air Quality, Economy, Public Health

Description: The Forest and Watershed Health Program will restore and protect the health of one of California's most vital watersheds by removing dead material from forests that act as fuel for wildfires, controlling and minimizing the spread of noxious weeds, rebuilding rangeland infrastructure such as fencing and wildlife friendly troughs, replanting a diverse and resilient mixed conifer forest, and creating and enhancing strategic fuel breaks to reduce future fire risk throughout Tuolumne County. The project will help millions of residents continue to enjoy the forest's wildlife habitat, clean water, carbon storage, recreation, and wood products.

More Information: [Community Watershed Resilience Program Case Study](#)

Port of Long Beach Microgrid, City of Long Beach

Lead Organization: Port of Long Beach

Project Type: Implementation

Climate Risks: Acute Risks (e.g., flood, storms, wildfire, extreme heat events)

Co-Benefits: Energy, Economy, Air Quality, Transportation, Public Safety

Description: The Port of Long Beach built a microgrid demonstration project that will generate a reliable supply of electricity for the Port's main security facility – the Joint Command and Control Center. The project provides energy resilience for the security center while enhancing air quality by delivering clean power for daily operations. The project also reduces the Port's reliance on diesel generators to produce electricity during outages. The microgrid will help the Port continue to serve the regional economy safely and reliably.

More Information: [Port of Long Beach Microgrid](#)

SAFER BAY Project, Menlo Park

Lead Organizations: San Francisquito Creek Joint Powers Authority (SFCJPA), a joint powers authority comprised of the cities of East Palo Alto, Menlo Park, and Palo Alto, the San Mateo County Flood and Sea Level Rise Resiliency District and Santa Clara Valley Water District.

Project Type: Implementation

Climate Risks: Sea Level Rise, Flood

Co-Benefits: Energy Resiliency, Natural Resource Management, Transportation, Carbon Sequestration, Water Quality, Air Quality, Public Safety, Economy

Description: This is a large-scale infrastructure project that proposes a continuous earthen levee with a living shoreline side, and floodwalls with gates to protect 3.7 miles of infrastructure and an electrical substation. The project will reduce risk to almost 300,000 customers impacted by a loss of function of the substation due to flooding. It will create about 30 acres of tidal marsh transition zone and a resilient, high-quality habitat. Additionally, it will provide nearly five acres of western snowy plover breeding habitat. The snowy plover is listed as an endangered species.

More Information: [FEMA BRIC 2020 Project Award List](#)

Dos Rios Ranch Preserve Floodplain Protection Project, San Joaquin Valley

Lead Organization: River Partners

Project Type: Implementation

Climate Risks: Flood, Drought

Co-Benefits: Natural Resource Management, Agriculture, Carbon Sequestration, Water Quality, Air Quality, Economy



Description: The Dos Rios Ranch project will revert the 2,100 acres at the confluence of the Tuolumne and San Joaquin rivers in the state's Central Valley to a floodplain. As the largest single floodplain restoration project in the state, the project will convert land that farmers no longer want to manage to space where rivers can breathe. Barriers on the Feather River have been altered to allow more water to flow into an existing wildlife area. In West Sacramento, 4 miles of levee along the Sacramento River is being set back.

More Information: [Dos Rios Ranch Project Website](#)



Appendix C: Related Climate Impact Statewide Plans & Grants

Climate Impact Statewide Plans

- [The State's Planning Priorities](#) (Gov Code 65041.1)
- [State Hazard Mitigation Plan](#)
- [2021 California Climate Adaptation Strategy's priorities](#), which are to:
 - [Strengthen Protections for Climate Vulnerable Communities](#)
 - [Bolster Public Health and Safety to Protect Against Increasing Climate Risks.](#)
 - [Build a Climate Resilient Economy.](#)
 - [Accelerate Nature-Based Climate Solutions and Strengthen Climate Resilience of Natural Systems.](#)
 - [Make Decisions Based on the Best Available Climate Science.](#)
 - [Partner and Collaborate to Leverage Resources](#)
- California Air Resources Board [2022 Scoping Plan for Achieving Carbon Neutrality](#)

Climate Impact Statewide Grants

- [California Grants Portal](#)
- [California State Clearinghouse "Investing in Adaptation" Topic Page](#)
- [ICARP's Resilience Funding and Financing Program Timeline](#)



Appendix E: Climate Adaptation and Resilience Resources

Assessing Adaptive Capacity and Climate Vulnerability

For information on how to assess adaptive capacity and identify the climate change risks and exposures within the project, visit:

- [California Adaptation Planning Guide](#)
- OPR General Plan Guidelines Chapters 4 (see: Safety Elements) and 8
- Climate Resilience Plan Alignment Toolkit
- [Cal-Adapt](#), an online platform containing [the State's most current Climate Change Assessment](#) projections data and models that can be used to help identify and plan for specific climate change exposures.
- A local or regional vulnerability or risk assessment, climate adaptation plan, or other studies, assessments, plans, and programs.
- Other tools and data resources, like those on the State Adaptation Clearinghouse Tools and Data page and [Find a Tool](#) feature.
- Any other locally developed projection model.

While not an exhaustive list, the following tools and data can be used to identify climate vulnerable communities and help describe the impact of climate change risks and exposures on the community. As no single tool is currently capable of identifying all vulnerable communities, each Applicant is encouraged to use a combination of at least two tools from the list below to identify their unique, vulnerable communities. If an applicant identifies a tool or dataset that considers factors, such as culture and health, important for identifying their vulnerable communities and that the resources below may not adequately address, the ICARP team will review and consider that tool.

- ICARP's [The Guide to Defining Vulnerable Communities in the Context of Climate Change](#). To learn more about how the ICARP Technical Advisory Council (TAC) deliberated how to define vulnerable communities, see the materials for the [April 2, 2018 TAC Quarterly Meeting](#).
- The California Department of Public Health's [Climate Change and Health Profile Reports](#), which describe the impact of climate risks and exposures for vulnerable populations in each county.
- The CalBRACE Project's [Climate Change and Health Vulnerability Indicators for California \(CCHVI\)](#).
- [Mapping Resilience: A Blueprint for Thriving in the Face of Climate Disasters](#).
- [The UC Davis Center for Regional Change Regional Opportunity Index \(ROI\)](#).
- [California Healthy Places Index \(HPI\)](#) – a dataset and online tool that maps local factors that predict life expectancy and compares community conditions across the state. HPI provides overall scores and data on specific policy action areas that shape health, such as housing, transportation, education, and more.
- [Climate Change & Health Vulnerability Indicators for California \(CCHVI\)](#)– CCHVI helps identify people and places that are more susceptible to adverse health impacts



associated with climate change, specifically extreme heat, wildfire, sea level rise, drought, and poor air quality.

- [Office of Access and Functional Needs \(OAFN\) Web Map](#) - helps identify Access and Functional Needs (AFN) Communities.
- The Social Vulnerability Scores from the [Federal Emergency Management Agency's \(FEMA\) National Risk Index](#) - The [Social Vulnerability Scores](#) can determine the susceptibility of social groups to adverse impacts from current and historic natural hazards for each United States county and Census tract.
- [CalEnviroScreen 4.0 \(CES\)](#)- CalEnviroScreen can describe disadvantaged communities based on historic pollution exposure and socio-economic indicators within the physical scope of the proposed project.

Identifying Adaptation Strategies, Measures, Actions, and Projects

For resources that help identify and prioritize climate adaptation measures and projects that address anticipated climate impact, visit:

- The [2020 Adaptation Planning Guide](#), which guides on assessing climate impacts and adaptation strategies to address them.
- The State Adaptation Clearinghouse for case studies, adaptation plans and strategy documents, and state guidance:
 - [Topic Pages](#) include sector-specific climate change background information, featured state guidance documents, example strategies from Appendix D of the [Adaptation Planning Guide](#) (also available in the guide PDF), and a curated search function for each topic.
 - [The Climate Equity Topic page](#) for information on equitable planning and achieving climate equity in adaptation and resilience efforts.
 - [The Resilient CA Adaptation Planning Map \(RAP-Map\)](#) provides links to local government adaptation planning documents.
 - [The Case Studies page](#) includes summaries of the processes for developing plans and projects across the state.



Appendix D: Work Plan Template

Applicants must include a completed Work Plan that identifies the specific tasks required to complete all proposal activities. It must include a project schedule (timetable) that lists all product and meeting deliverables, and corresponding due dates. The plan should include a milestone/outcomes chart that includes major metrics and milestones that the Applicant will track to demonstrate project success. The Work Plan must include the development of a project case study that will be considered for upload in the State Adaptation Clearinghouse. OPR will provide grantees with a case study template. Case studies should be submitted along with the second to last quarterly report to allow ICARP staff the time to review the draft case study and provide feedback or answer questions from grantees. All work must be scheduled for completion by May 2nd, 2026.

Work Plan

Instructions:

1. Fill out the rows and columns with the requested information.
2. The workplan should provide a sufficient description of tasks to provide reviewers with an understanding of how specific tasks advance project objectives and goals.
3. Applicants are not limited to 5 strategies as exemplified in this workplan -- include more strategies as needed.

Task 1: [Insert]

Subtask	Description <i>Include detail of activities or deliverables</i>	Deliverables / Milestones <i>Major outcome and/or metrics used to demonstrate success</i>	Timeline <i>No later than May 2, 2026</i>	Community Partners Involved <i>If the partners are not identified include future plans to engage</i>	RRGP Eligible Activities Addressed
Subtask A					
Subtask B					
Subtask C					
Subtask D					
Subtask E					



Appendix E: Budget Template

Budget

Instructions

1. Applicants should fill in the white cells only. Do not edit any shaded cells, headers, or cells with formulas included, specifically the entire Indirect Cap Check, "Total RRGF Grant Funds", and "Check" columns.
2. Total RRGF Grant Funds will calculate based on the "Cost per Unit" and "Number of Units". Use the "Task" columns to allocate each budget line item. The sum of the Task columns should equal the "Total RRGF Grant Funds".
3. To add a Task Column, right click on "Task [X]", and "Insert Table Columns to the Left." This will ensure that the formulas properly extend across all tasks.

Proposal Name:

Lead Applicant:

<i>Cost Description</i>	<i>Cost Type</i>	<i>Cost per unit (Examples: Hourly rates, fees, etc.)</i>	<i>Number of Units (Example: Hours worked, fee cost, etc.)</i>	<i>Task 1</i>	<i>Task 2</i>	<i>Task 3</i>	<i>Task 4</i>	<i>Task 5</i>	<i>Task 6</i>	<i>Total RRGF Funds</i>
										\$-
										\$-
										\$-
										\$-

The project budget should provide detail and align with the project vision, objectives, and activities outlined within the application and work plan. A strong project budget will clearly outline proposed activities, including allocation of resources across co-applicants and partners to lead or support specific activities, reasonable tasks and deliverables. Applicants should ensure that the costs proposed in the project budget are eligible for funding. Costs deemed ineligible in the application review process will be removed and the project’s recommended total award will be adjusted accordingly.

It is important that the project budget reflects organizational strengths and experiences and represents feasible financial projections within the 2.5-year grant period.



Appendix F: Glossary and Acronyms

Access and Functional Needs (AFN) – Term referring to individuals who are or have: physical, developmental, or intellectual disabilities; chronic conditions or injuries; limited English proficiency; older adults; children; low-income; experiencing homelessness; transportation disadvantaged or depend on public transit; and pregnant people (California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, 2022).

Adaptive Capacity - The ability of systems, institutions, humans, and other organisms to adjust to potential damage, take advantage of opportunities, or respond to consequences. Vulnerable communities have less adaptive capacity to cope with, adapt to, and recover from climate impacts. Adaptive capacity can be assessed by using publicly accessible tools.

Adaptive Management – A process of incrementally implementing plans and taking actions, despite some uncertainties, allowing opportunities to learn and adjust before moving forward.

Applicant - The lead applicant and co-applicants are collectively referred to as “applicants.”

Application, Proposed Project, Project Proposal, or Proposal - Responses and supporting documents an applicant submits to apply for the grant.

Awarded - An agency commits funding to implement projects (e.g., executed a grant agreement with a Grantee; transferred funds to another agency or program administrator).

California Native American tribe – A Native American tribe in California that is on the contact list that the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) maintains per Chapter 905 of the Statutes of 2004 (Pub. Resources Code, § 21073).

California Tribal Organization - A corporation, association, or group that a California Native American tribe controls, sanctions, or charters. The organization is subject to the laws of the tribe, the State of California, or the United States.

Capacity-Building - The process of strengthening local coordination, leadership, knowledge, skills, expertise, and access to resources in vulnerable communities to help to develop or increase the ability of that community to independently compete for grants and implement projects in the future. Capacity building activities include, but are not limited to, identifying and planning for needed climate change mitigation and adaptation projects in a given region and identifying the tools and resources needed to successfully access, apply for, and receive grant funding.

Climate Adaptation – An adjustment that natural or human systems make to a new or changing environment. Adapting to climate change is when natural or human systems adjust so that actual or expected climatic stimuli or their effects will be less harmful and will not exploit beneficial opportunities.

Climate Equity - Climate change policy considers core equity issues: addressing the impacts of climate change, which are felt unequally; identifying who is causing climate



change to limit its effects; and understanding how climate policy intersects with other dimensions of human development, both globally and domestically.

Climate Hazard – Climate hazard refers to the potential occurrence of climate-related physical events or trends that may cause damage, loss, or other impacts (also see definition for **Risks**).

Climate Impacts – The damage, loss, or other impacts that acute or sustained climate risks create (also see definition for **Risks**).

Climate Mitigation A human intervention to reduce the human impact on the climate system; it includes strategies to reduce greenhouse gas sources and emissions and enhance greenhouse gas sinks.

Climate Resilience/Resiliency - Resilience is the capacity of any entity – an individual, a community, an organization, or a natural system – to prepare for disruptions, recover from shocks and stresses, and adapt and grow from a disruptive experience.

Climate Resilience District - An enhanced infrastructure financing district to finance public capital facilities or other specified projects of communitywide significance, including projects that enable communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change ([SB 852](#)).

Climate Vulnerability – See “Vulnerable Communities” definition.

Co-Applicant - Entities other than the lead applicant that enter into a partnership with other organizations to apply for a Regional Resilience Grant (See “Partner” definition).

Co-Benefits – Also referred to as “multiple benefits.” These are added benefits that go beyond meeting a policy’s main goal, like climate change mitigation. For example, most policies designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions also indirectly benefit the economy, air quality, public health, and reduce energy costs (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency). Co-benefits may fall under the following topics: public health, land use, transportation, economy, housing, public infrastructure, public safety, social equity, environmental conditions (e.g., carbon sequestration, natural resource management, water quality, air quality), energy, and agriculture.

Community-Based Organization - A public or private nonprofit organization that represents a community or significant segments of a community and provides educational or related services to individuals in the community.

Community Engagement - The process of working collaboratively with and through groups of people to address issues affecting their well-being. These groups and people may be geographically local, share a special interest, or are in similar situations.

Community Partnership – A group of community institutions, agencies, organizations and members who share common goals and objectives, distributed roles and responsibilities, and engage in collective decision-making processes. Individual partnership members can represent, but are not limited to, community-based organizations, public water related agencies in their study area such as flood control, retail water agencies, water recycling



agencies, groundwater management agencies, local health jurisdictions, local health departments, health equity-focused CBOs, vulnerable communities, member or representatives of disadvantaged communities, Tribes, educational institutions, local businesses, and other interested groups.

Competitive Funding – Competitive funding grants involve a preliminary review process to ensure that applications are complete and meet the eligibility requirements. A panel of subject matter experts then review and score eligible applications and note the applications’ strengths and weaknesses based on the selection criteria outlined in the grant solicitation.

Direct Costs - Costs directly tied to implementing the Regional Resilience Planning grant, including, but not limited to personnel, subcontracts, equipment, travel, etc.

Disadvantaged Communities - Designation of census tracts and physical locations used to identify the areas most affected by pollution and the people most vulnerable to its effects, based on geographic, socioeconomic, public health, and environmental hazards criteria. The California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) historically bases designations on analyses conducted by the California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen) but can also exercise discretion in developing other criteria and methods.

RRGP staff recognize that the term “disadvantaged” overlooks the many assets these communities also possess, and particularly the community residents for whom these places are home. In many of these communities, organized groups of neighborhood leaders are actively engaged in local planning efforts, policy campaigns, and other activities to make their communities healthier, safer, and more sustainable. These efforts are particularly important today since these communities will disproportionately experience the impacts of climate change. The RRGp is structured to provide existing residents and businesses with the tools and resources to drive change and to ensure they are also able to experience the benefits of investment.

Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities (DUC) - A fringe, island, or legacy community in which the median household income is 80 percent or less than the statewide median household income ([Gov. Code § 65302.10](#)).

Encumbrance - Encumbrances are obligations of all or part of an appropriation.

Fiscal Agent – A legal entity with legal authority, history, and capacity to administer state funds. A Fiscal Agent can make disbursements on the applicant’s behalf.

Grant Agreement - Arrangement between the State and grantee specifying how the State will pay the grantee funds to meet specific Regional Resilience Grant Program Objectives within a specific grant performance period.

Grantee - Designated Lead applicant that has an agreement for grant funding with the State.



Hazard Mitigation - Any action to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazards. The term is sometimes used in a stricter sense to mean cost-effective measures to reduce the potential for damage to a facility or facilities from a disaster event.

Hazard mitigation planning – A process that governments use to identify risks, assess vulnerabilities, and develop long-term strategies that protect people and property from the effects of future natural hazard events.

Immaterial Defect - An error that is insignificant to the budget, quantity, or execution of the proposal compared to the proposal's total budget or scope. The applicant can correct this error with additional information without giving them a competitive advantage over other applicants.

Indicators - Quantitative measures, including project-related metrics, that show changes in conditions over a period of time.

Indirect Costs – General expenses of doing business. These costs are not directly tied to the grant but are necessary for the organization's general operation. Examples of indirect costs may include but are not limited to: personnel costs for administrative, supervisory, legal, executive staff or support units like clerical support, housekeeping, etc. Other examples include operating and equipment costs not part of direct project costs.

Integrated Climate Actions - Through [ICARP's principles](#), integrated climate actions are those that provide multiple benefits, like reducing greenhouse gas emissions and building resilience to climate impacts.

Interagency Review Panel – This panel is responsible for reviewing RRGP guidelines and applications. For the RRGP, this panel includes subject matter experts from the following state agencies: California Coastal Commission (CCC), Ocean Protection Council (OPC), Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), California Department of Water Resources (DWR), California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), Governor's Office of Planning and Research's Planning Team, Governor's Office of Planning and Research's Climate Team, Strategic Growth Council's Resilient Climate Collaboratives Program (RCC), California Department of Public Health (CDPH), California Department of Conservation (DOC).

Joint-powers Authority - A government entity, formed by a formal, legal agreement, comprised of two or more public agencies that share a common power and want to jointly implement programs, build facilities, or deliver services.

Maladaptation – When efforts to adapt to climate change backfire and have the opposite of the intended effect (i.e., increasing climate vulnerability and exposure to climate risks rather than decreasing it).

Mitigation – An effort to reduce the loss of life and property by lessening the impact of disasters (FEMA).



Natural Hazard – An environmental phenomenon that can impact societies and the human environment.

Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) – An organization (e.g., a tribal-serving NGO) independent of the government whose primary mission focuses on environmental, social, cultural, and other issues.

Nonprofit Organization - Any nonprofit corporation qualified to do business in California and qualified pursuant to subdivision (c)(3) under Section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Nontechnical Assistance - Questions unrelated to an RRGF proposal design (e.g., related to format requirements or attachment instructions). See “Technical Assistance (TA).”

Notice to Proceed – A formal notice indicating that work can begin, as outlined in the grant contract.

Partner – Referred to as “Co-Applicants” during the application phase. See “Co-Applicants.”

Plan Alignment – Plan alignment is the process of using connections, information, and resources to build shared language, data foundations, and processes across multiple planning efforts at any scale. The resulting products of plan alignment are:

- a suite of plans (with different scopes and purposes) that share the same data, similar underlying assumptions, aligned visions, complementary goals, strategies, and actions, and
- a shared understanding, process, and structure for multiple entities in a community or region to continue to collaborate and align efforts over the long term.

Post-award Consultation – The period before executing the grant agreement when the State and Awardee determine and finalize the grant agreement’s terms and conditions.

Program Objective - Statements that describe the program’s desired outcomes. The Regional Resilience Grant Program includes the following three program objectives:

- Support regional projects aligned with ICARP priorities that improve regional climate resilience and reduce climate risks from wildfire, sea level rise, drought, flood, increasing temperatures, and extreme heat events.
- Support projects or actions that address the greatest climate risks in the region, particularly in the most vulnerable communities.
- Fill the gaps in climate resilience funding and support sustainable and cohesive climate resilient projects

Proposal – See “Application” definition above.

Public Entities - Include cities, counties, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs), Joint Powers Authorities (JPAs), Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPAs), and Councils of Governments (COGs). Public entities may also include California institutions of higher education, districts, public authorities, public agencies, political subdivisions, and public corporations ([California GC § 811.2](#)).



Request for Proposals - A document that solicits potential grantees to apply for a grant.

Regional Government – Examples include air districts, Community Service Districts (CSD), Councils of Government (COG), Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO), and Regional Transportation Planning Agencies (RTPA).

Risk – The combination of an event, its likelihood, and its consequences – i.e., risk equals the probability of climate hazard multiplied by a given system’s vulnerability.

In climate policy and planning, RRGP implementing legislation (SB 170), and throughout these guidelines, “climate risk” refers to acute (e.g., wildfires, extreme heat events, etc.) and chronic (e.g., persistent drought, sea level rise, etc.) physical climate events or direct results of those events. SB 170 specifically highlights drought, energy resiliency, flood, extreme heat, increasing temperatures, sea level rise, and wildfire as climate risks that the RRGP should prioritize.

Set Aside Funding – Set aside funding, which the RRGP implementing legislation (SB 170) refers to as funding on a “formula basis,” is funding in which applicants do not compete, even though they must submit an application and meet other specified requirements. This funding approach ensures that designated recipients will receive funds, and State Administering Agencies usually administer and manage the funding. Typically, statutes or congressional appropriations acts govern how the administering agency will distribute funds, specifying which factors will determine eligibility, how to allocate funds among eligible recipients, and how the applicant must demonstrate its eligibility for that funding.

Social Infrastructure – The services and facilities that serve a community’s health, social, cultural, and economic well-being. It responds to a community’s basic needs to improve the quality of life, equity, and stability and affects the development of human or social capital.

Social Vulnerability - The susceptibility of social groups to the adverse impacts of natural hazards, including disproportionate death, injury, loss, or disruption of livelihood.

Solicitation – See “Request for Proposals” definition above.

Special District – Public agency that provides one or more specific services to a community like water, sewer, fire protection, parks, and others; school districts are special districts. Special districts provide its specific services within a city or a county.

Technical Assistance (TA) - The process of providing the necessary education, resources, and support to an agency, organization, or community for climate change mitigation and adaptation projects for any of the following:

- Project development
- Grant development and writing for state and federal grant programs.
- The successful and appropriate expenditure of grant money for the successful completion of climate change mitigation and adaptation projects.
- Post-application and project implementation assistance



Tribal Community - A group of people living within reservation or allotment boundaries, on land that otherwise falls under a California Native American Tribe's ownership or jurisdiction, or where a California Native American tribe or other California Tribal Organization serves. Members of the group may be tribal members or members of another tribe.

Tribal Ecological Knowledge (TEK) - Traditional knowledge that, like Western science, is based on accumulated observations. This cumulative body of knowledge and the beliefs about how people fit into ecosystems is transmitted through generations.

Vulnerable Community - Vulnerable communities experience heightened risk and increased sensitivity to climate change and have less capacity and fewer resources to cope with, adapt to, or recover from climate impacts. These disproportionate effects are caused by physical (built and environmental), social, political, and/or economic factors (s), which are exacerbated by climate impacts. These factors include, but are not limited to, race, class, sexual orientation and identification, national origin, and income inequality.

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