

General Narrative Questions

Applicant Information

Proposed Project Name: [Enter response here]

Lead Applicant: [Enter response here]

Instructions

1. **Review the scoring criteria checkboxes** for each component of the application to understand what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating these responses. The scoring criteria checkboxes are included in Section 3.2 of the RRGP guidelines and in the Scoring Criteria document.
2. **Review the Set-Aside + Funding Goals** under Section 1.5 Funding Availability of the RRGP guidelines to determine whether the project qualifies for set-aside funding and will need to address that in the response.
3. **Provide clear and brief responses** to each of the following application components in the text boxes, which included instructions in brackets.

Notes

- **Word counts** are listed for each question. Adhering to word counts is required. The RRGP application review panel will deduct points for responses that exceed the word count limit.
- **Maps, figures, and pictures** may also be included as part of the responses. Words in maps, tables, and figures will count towards the total word count for the response. Avoid including excessive maps, figures, and pictures to ensure readability.
- **Formatting** such as bullet points (•, ○, Ø), lettering (a, b, c), or underline may be used to organize responses. Avoid excessive formatting to ensure readability.

Application Components & Questions

Project Description & Goals (750 words)

Provide the following numbered information in bold text and consider the guiding questions in the response. The questions are optional and meant to guide responses to show what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications.

1. Project Description

Optional guiding questions:

- 1.1. What is the project, its main activities, and the region it focuses on?
- 1.2. Does the project align with activities and objectives that relevant published or draft local, regional, tribal, or state plans, programs, or policies outline?
 - 1.2.a. If so, please explain and highlight or directly quote the exact section of the published or draft plan that the project aligns with.
 - 1.2.b. If not, describe relevant past experience. Has the applicant or co-applicant(s) completed similar projects? What framework or process will the applicant use to complete the project?

2. Who the project serves

Optional guiding questions:

- 2.1 Who does the project serve?
- 2.2 Will the project serve, benefit, or represent any vulnerable and/or disadvantaged communities (DACs)? Please explain.
- 2.3 Do DACs make up at least at least 51% of the project applicants' combined jurisdiction by census tracts or population? If so, identify the combined jurisdiction boundaries and how the project meets the 51% by number of census tracts or population.

3. Expected Project outcomes

Optional guiding questions:

- 3.1. What are the project's expected short- and long-term outcomes, including its climate resiliency outcomes?
- 3.2. Do these outcomes consider the other RRGP application components, like the [Community Partnership, Needs & Priorities](#) (1,000 words), [Regional Partnership](#) (

Climate Risks and Multiple Benefits (,



Organizational Capacity (, or



Budget components? Please explain.

3.3. If the project qualifies for the DAC set-aside, how will the project directly benefit disadvantaged communities?

[Enter response here (750 words)]



Community Partnership, Needs & Priorities (1,000 words)

Provide the following numbered information in bold text and consider the guiding questions in the response. The questions are optional and meant to guide responses to show what the RRG application review panel will consider when evaluating applications.

1. What the community's needs and priorities are

Optional guiding questions:

- 1.1. What are the community's needs and priorities?
- 1.2. Does the project consider and address the current, most pressing inequities the communities face, while building resilience in built, natural, and social systems? Please explain.
- 1.3. Do the priorities consider feasibility, adaptive capacity, and building capacity? Please explain.

2. Who identified the community's needs and priorities and how

Optional guiding questions:

- 2.1. Who identified the community's needs and priorities and how did they identify them?
- 2.2. Did community members help or will help identify community priorities through a substantial community engagement process? Please explain.
 - 2.2.a. Did or will this process meaningfully include vulnerable populations or community-based organizations representing vulnerable populations? Please explain.
 - 2.2.b. Did or will this community engagement process involve all affected and necessary parties, including those who may be part of the community partnership structure? Please explain.
 - 2.2.c. If the applicant has not conducted a substantial community engagement process, why not and what is the plan to address this gap? Do the work plan, budget, and community engagement plan reflect those efforts to close the gap during the grant term?

3. How the community's needs and priorities informed the project design

Optional guiding questions:

- 3.1. How did the community's needs and priorities inform the project design?
- 3.2. Did the community help define and design the project through a substantial community engagement process? Please explain.
- 3.3. Did or will this process meaningfully include vulnerable populations or community-based organizations representing vulnerable populations? Please explain.
- 3.4. Did or will this community engagement process involve all affected and necessary parties, including those who may be part of the community partnership structure? Please explain.
- 3.5. Does this project have strong community support? Please explain.



4. The project's community engagement and partnership plan

Optional guiding questions:

4.1. What is the project's community partnership structure and how will partnering with the community build climate resiliency in the project's region?

4.2. Does this project have a community engagement plan to meaningfully engage communities throughout the project's timeline? If so, please attach a copy.

4.2.a. Does the plan explain how it will involve vulnerable communities? Please explain.

4.2.b. Does or will the engagement process make it easy for community members to participate in meetings and in the decision-making process? Please explain.

4.2.c. Does the plan show how materials will use accessible language and messaging?

4.3. Does the community partnership structure represent a diversity of residents and key collaborators? Please explain.

4.4. How will those in the community partnership structure be involved throughout the project, from design to evaluation?

4.4.a. Will the project clearly and meaningfully shift or share decision-making power with vulnerable communities? Please explain.

[Enter response here (1,000 words)]

Climate Risks and Multiple Benefits (1,000 words)

Provide the following numbered information in bold text and consider the guiding questions in the response. The questions are optional and meant to guide responses to show what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications.

1. The region's greatest climate risks

Optional guiding questions:

1.1. What are the region's greatest current and future climate risks?

1.1.a. If the region has not yet identified the greatest climate risks, describe the local or tribal ecological knowledge of climate risks.

1.2. Do the region's greatest climate risks align with the risks the RRGP addresses (drought, flood, extreme heat events, increasing temperatures, sea level rise, wildfire)? Please explain.

2. Whether the application addresses the region's greatest climate risks

Optional guiding questions:

2.1. Will this project address the region's greatest climate risks identified in #1 above? Please explain.

2.2. How will the project maximize resilience? Will it address multiple, interconnected regional climate risks using a systematic approach?

2.2.a. If it is not possible to address more than one regional climate risk due to regional needs, priorities, or other conditions, why not, and does the applicant have any plans to address multiple regional climate risks?

3. Methods the project will use to address the climate risks

Optional guiding questions:

3.1. How did the applicant evaluate opportunities during the project design process to increase resilience to the region's greatest climate risks?

3.2. Were the applicant or co-applicant(s) able to evaluate whether the project could use natural infrastructure to address the climate risks? If so, how?

3.3. Will the project use natural infrastructure to respond to the climate risks where feasible? Please explain.

3.3.a. If using natural infrastructure is infeasible, please explain why not.

3.4. Did the applicant and co-applicant(s) apply systems-level thinking and problem-solving when developing the project? Please explain.

3.5. Will the project use climate projections based on the best available science and local and/or regional data 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? Please explain.

3.6. Are those climate projections and science relevant to the issue the application is trying to address? Do they support the application and why this is a priority for the community? Please explain.

4. The multiple benefits the project offers

Optional guiding questions:

4.1. How will the project benefit communities within the project area?

4.1.a. Does the project prioritize benefits toward vulnerable communities?

4.2. Do the benefits the project offers go beyond climate resiliency, are cross-cutting, and span sectors and climate issues? Please explain.

[Enter response here (1,000 words)]

Regional Partnership (1,000 words)

Provide the following numbered information in bold text and consider the guiding questions in the response. The questions are optional and meant to guide responses to show what the RRG application review panel will consider when evaluating applications.

1. The regional partnership structure (i.e., who are the applicants and co-applicants)

Optional guiding questions:

- 1.1. What is the project's regional partnership structure?
- 1.2. Does the regional partnership include two or more eligible entities whose combined jurisdiction enhances their effectiveness in responding to the highest priority climate risks of that region? Please explain.
- 1.3. Do the regional partners reflect the community and include a diversity of eligible entities? Please explain.
- 1.4. Do the regional partners bring unique strengths and approaches and have a proven track record serving communities? Please explain.
- 1.5. Will the regional partnership facilitate capacity building opportunities for co-applicants from disadvantaged communities? Please explain.

2. Partner responsibilities and long-term goals.

Optional guiding questions:

- 2.1. How will the regional partners organize themselves, manage the project, and build their network's capacity?
- 2.2. What are the regional partnership's long-term goals?
 - 2.2.a. Are the regional partners committed to equity, self-governance, and sustaining the partnership beyond the grant term? Please explain.
 - 2.2.b. Will the regional partners evaluate and measure their progress toward achieving program objectives? If so, how do the regional partners intend to use the findings?

[Enter response here (1,000 words)]

Organizational Capacity (500 words)

Provide the following numbered information in bold text and consider the guiding questions in the response. The questions are optional and meant to guide responses to show what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications.

1. Administrative Experience

Optional guiding questions:

1.1. Can at least one co-applicant in the partnership structure manage grants and this proposal, including internal processes for financial tracking and accountability, and coordinate amongst diverse partners? Please explain.

1.2. If the lead applicant plans to provide advanced payment to co-applicants, does the lead applicant have the ability to do so? Please explain.

1.3. Does at least one of the co-applicants have the expertise and experience to act as a fiscal agent in gathering and reporting information on implementing the proposal? Please explain.

1.4. Do the regional partners show commitment, readiness, and capacity to implement the proposed work on time and within budget? Please explain.

2. Programmatic Experience

Optional guiding question:

2.1. Do the applicants possess the programmatic expertise needed for this project? Please explain.

3. Plans to Meet Capacity Gaps

Optional guiding questions:

3.1. How do the regional partners plan to close capacity gaps, including those related to the administrative and programmatic expertise, to complete the project?

3.2. Do the work plan and budget show how the applicants will maintain or create sustainable staffing levels to support capacity building?

[Enter response here (500 words)]

Budget (500 words)

Provide the following numbered information in bold text and consider the guiding questions in the response. The questions are optional and meant to guide responses to show what the RRGP application review panel will consider when evaluating applications.

1. A high-level budget justification that summarizes the overall project costs

Optional guiding questions:

- 1.1. Does it reflect organizational strengths and experiences and feasible financial projections within the 12- to 30-month grant period? Please explain.
- 1.2. Does the budget have reasonable tasks and deliverables, feasible financial projections, and consider the grant term's timelines? Please explain.
- 1.3. If applicable, does the budget include funding from sources other than the RRGP? Please explain.
- 1.4. How will the project allocate resources across co-applicants and partners to lead or support specific activities, reasonable tasks, and deliverables?
- 1.5. Does the budget consider the number of funded partners, number and complexity of activities, consultant services and other contracting needs, community engagement and participation costs? Please explain.
- 1.6. Does the budget show an understanding of proposed activities? Please explain.
- 1.7. Does the budget allocate resources across entities within the collaborative based on their strengths and experience to lead or support specific activities? Please explain.
- 1.8. What funds, besides the RRGP's funding, will support the project overall?

2. How the requested budget aligns with the project goals and work plan.

Optional guiding questions:

- 2.1. Does the budget align with the project goals and activities outlined within the application and work plan? Please explain.
- 2.2. Do the project costs align with the RRGP (e.g., the total budget allocates 3-15% towards Evaluation Activities, up to 5% towards Peer-to-Peer Learning, and only includes eligible costs)? Please explain.

[Enter response here (500 words)]

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