Climate Action Initiative

Funding Programs

Community Engagement in Climate Action Research   August 26, 2024

uckeepresearching.org/california-climate-action/community-engagement/

Funding Programs

Welcome: Vanity Campbell, UC Office of the President

Opening Remarks:

▪ Elizabeth Grassi, California Strategic Growth Council

Breakout Rooms

Readout and Discussion

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Our Agenda

- **Getting Grant Ready**

- **Prioritizing Community Engagement**

- **Peer Knowledge Sharing**

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Funding Success Formula

KNOW **WHERE** TO FIND FUNDING ➕ KNOW **HOW** TO TARGET FUNDING = *GRANT READY*

About the CA Strategic Growth Council

- Works with community and the whole of government to define and iterate solutions that comprise **equitable, place-based, and resilient transformation**

- Coordinates across **seven state agencies**
    - Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation
    - California Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency
    - California Environmental Protection Agency
    - California Department of Food and Agriculture
    - California Health and Human Services Agency
    - California Natural Resources Agency
    - California State Transportation Agency

- Since 2008, SGC has invested over $3.5 billion in projects **strengthening communities and addressing climate change**

Strategic Growth Council: Annual Report 2021-2022 (ca.gov)

Know **WHERE** to Identify and Track State Funding

California Grants Portal

California State Library

https://www.grants.ca.gov/

California Climate Investments Resource Portal (non-research)

California Climate Investments

https://www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov/cci-programs

California Energy Commission

https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/solicitations

Know HOW to Strategically Assess Opportunity Fit

Strategic Growth Council
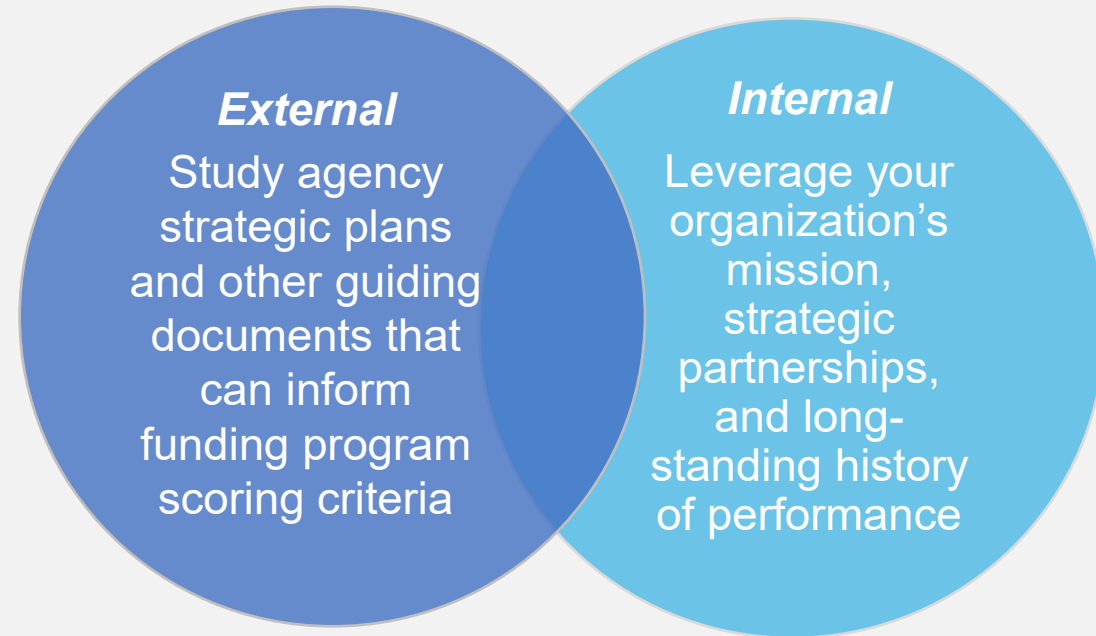
Racial Equity Action Plan (2023-2025)

California Air Resources Board

2022 Scoping Plan Achieving Carbon Neutrality

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

CAL FIRE Strategic Plan 2024

External
Study agency strategic plans and other guiding documents that can inform funding program scoring criteria

Internal
Leverage your organization's mission, strategic partnerships, and long-standing history of performance

Scope of Work

What is the purpose of the opportunity (capacity-building, community development, service delivery, applied research)? What are the deliverables?

What partnerships are needed? What existing infrastructure and resources are required?
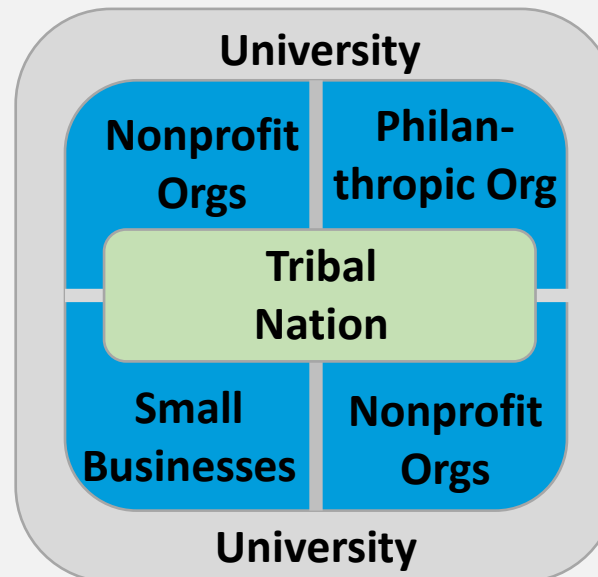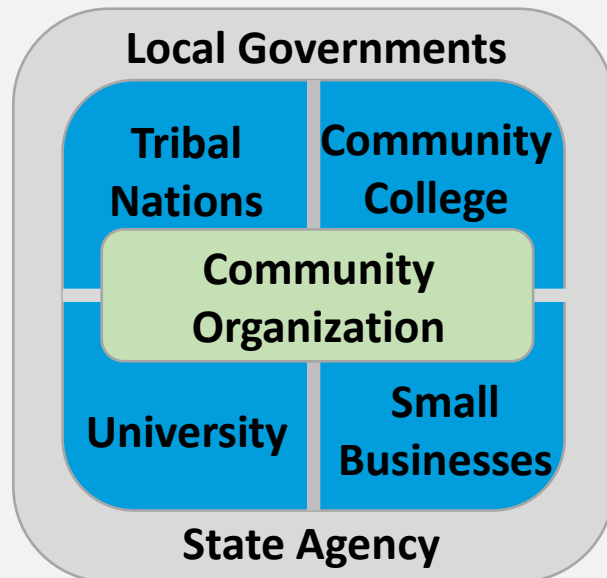
Do you have the right performance history and experience?

Partnership Structures

Which organizations are best situated to serve frontline communities?

What organization has the appropriate performance and successful history working with such communities as well as performing the proposed scope of work?

Local Governments

Tribal Nations	Community College
Community Organization	
University	Small Businesses

State Agency

University

Nonprofit Orgs	Philan-thropic Org
Tribal Nation	
Small Businesses	Nonprofit Orgs

University

County Government

Corporation	Community Orgs
City Government	
Community College	University

NGOs

SGC Connecting Communities

The program aims to accelerate community-led climate projects statewide and demonstrate best practices in centering communities burdened by pollution and other structural harm while advancing strategic collaborations with the philanthropy sector and other private funding sources to further enhance investment into underserved communities across the state:

- Supports SGC's current grantees and unawarded applicants with grant writing assistance and other tailored resources for grant applications to the US EPA funding under the Inflation Reduction Act.

- Supports a vast array of community-driven priorities, including extreme heat mitigation, workforce development, and other climate resilience projects.

U.S. EPA Inflation Reduction Act Community Change Grants Program

Funds environmental and climate justice activities to benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges.

Open Until November 21, 2024!

https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/inflation-reduction-act-community-change-grants-program

SGC's Community Assistance for Climate Equity

Tribal Capacity Building Pilot Program
Offers technical assistance and tailored support to help California tribes secure grants for projects that bolster resilience and address the root causes of climate change.

Regional Climate Collaboratives (RCC) Program
Funds coalitions of community-serving partners in under-resourced communities to establish community priorities, develop a pipeline of projects, and align projects with state, federal, and philanthropic funding opportunities.

BOOST Program
Supports capacity building in under-resourced local governments so they can advance their climate, resilience, and equity goals.

Partners Advancing Climate Equity (PACE) Program
Connects frontline community leaders across California to learn together, tackle shared challenges, and build capacity to advance climate equity locally and statewide.

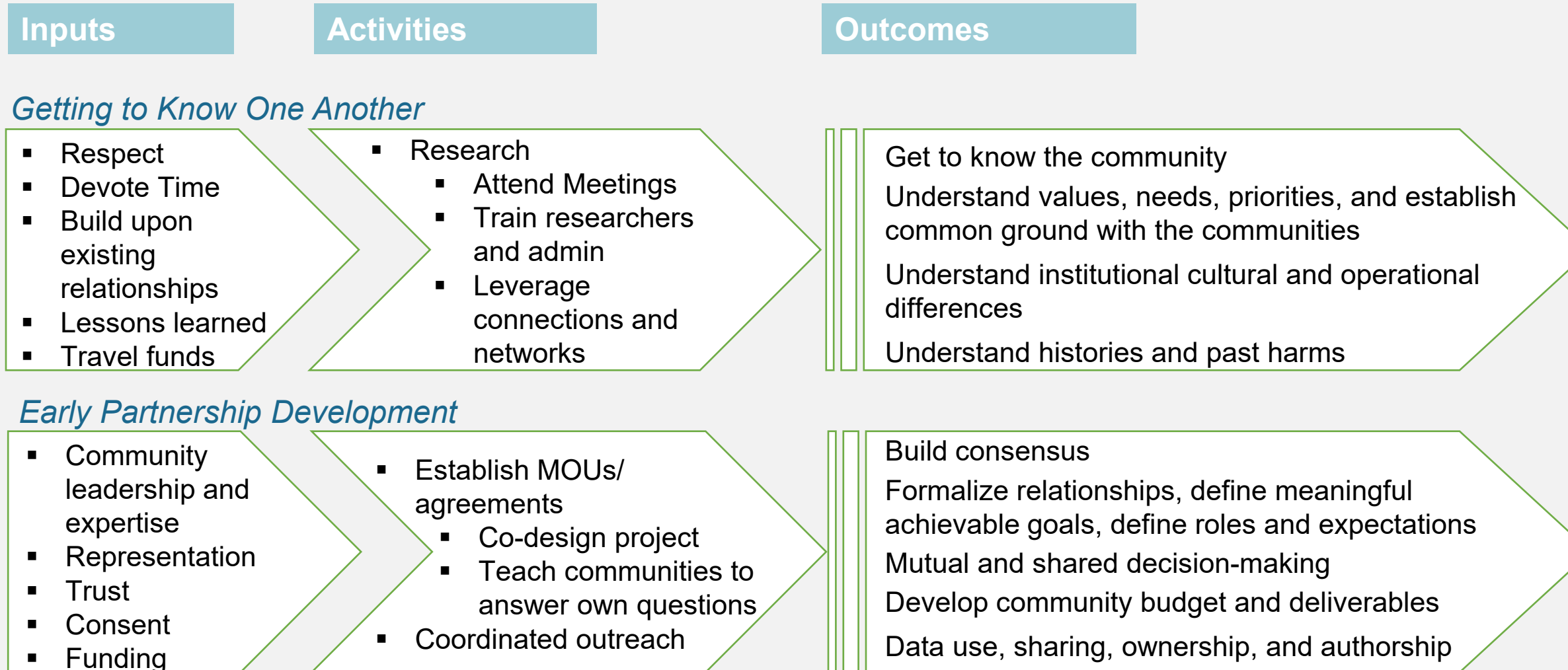# Get Involved and Respond to Public Comment Requests

CARB's Office of Community Air Protection Program requests public comment on the Draft Cycle 5 RFA that will inform the criteria for the Draft Cycle 5 RFA. **The public comment period closed on August 25, 2024.**

The Community Air Grants (CAGs) provide funds to California community-based nonprofit 501(c)(3) organizations and California Native American Tribes to support community-driven projects to reduce harmful emissions and exposures to air pollution in communities most impacted by poor air quality in the state.

The CAGs are funded, in part, through the State's portion of Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF).

CALIFORNIA
AIR RESOURCES BOARD

Prioritizing Community Engagement

Inputs	Activities		Outcomes

Getting to Know One Another

Inputs:
- Respect
- Devote Time
- Build upon existing relationships
- Lessons learned
- Travel funds

Activities:
- Research
  - Attend Meetings
  - Train researchers and admin
  - Leverage connections and networks

Outcomes:
- Get to know the community
- Understand values, needs, priorities, and establish common ground with the communities
- Understand institutional cultural and operational differences
- Understand histories and past harms

Early Partnership Development

Inputs:
- Community leadership and expertise
- Representation
- Trust
- Consent
- Funding

Activities:
- Establish MOUs/ agreements
  - Co-design project
  - Teach communities to answer own questions
- Coordinated outreach

Outcomes:
- Build consensus
- Formalize relationships, define meaningful achievable goals, define roles and expectations
- Mutual and shared decision-making
- Develop community budget and deliverables
- Data use, sharing, ownership, and authorship

Inputs

Activities

Outcomes

Developing and Sustaining Partnerships

- Community approval
- Relationships
- Transparency
- Staffing
- Funding/ cost-share
- Institutional support
- International engagement principles
- Rules of engagement
- Facilities
- Data

- Co-lead and conduct project
  - Continuous learning
  - Attend events and gatherings outside of the project
    - Assess changing priorities and resources
    - Maintain commitments and agreements
  - Adapt and establish new arrangements
- Manage and resolve conflict
- Submit grant applications

Build capacity and empower communities

Translation and communication of data to the community

Define long-term roadmap for ongoing collaboration

Follow-on projects and funding

Community-specific impacts

Connect and Discuss

1.) What resources or connections are you missing that could help you find funding opportunities or write successful proposals?

What are some ways to begin to bridge those gaps?

2.) What resources do you need to fully participate in Requests for Information and inform the Request for Proposal development process?

3.) What are the challenges your community is facing right now?

Do you see these issues being addressed in current funding opportunities and legislation?