



Full Application Evaluation Criteria Track One

Program Priorities	Evaluation Criteria
<p>Risk Reduction: This factor evaluates the extent to which the proposed approach, strategies, and actions reduce risk to coastal communities, infrastructure, economies, and ecosystems from weather and climate impacts.</p>	<p>For Track One (10 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the risk from weather and climate impacts within the project area? If not, does the proposal include activities to assess risk and vulnerability within the project area? 2. Articulate a regional resilience vision and propose development of strategies, approaches, or plans to support implementation of future adaptation actions? 3. Describe specific needs or gaps within the region that will be addressed by the collaborative’s activities? If not, does the proposal describe a process to identify them? 4. Describe how the benefits of a regional approach will flow to coastal communities? 5. Describe the impact the strategy will have when implemented and how the collaborative will pursue implementation?
<p>Regional Coordination and Collaboration: This factor evaluates the extent to which the applicant includes the appropriate entities for a specific geography in the collaborative team and proposes activities that are likely to advance specified goals.</p>	<p>For Track One (20 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the geographic scope of the regional collaborative and how the size facilitates collaboration? 2. Include the necessary collaborators and partners to accomplish stated goals (including appropriate government entities) and how each of the collaborators are connected to the priorities? 3. Articulate steps and actions to create and sustain the collaborative team? Include activities to incorporate Indigenous, local, and community knowledge and values related to climate adaptation within the region? 4. Describe the leadership, organizational, and administrative framework for the collaborative team, or propose activities that will result in an organizational and administrative framework?
<p>Equity and Inclusion: This factor evaluates the extent to which the proposed activities are co-developed with tribes or marginalized, underserved, and underrepresented communities and support development and implementation of equitable adaptation strategies and actions.</p>	<p>For Track One (15 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify, or propose to identify as an action, those who are most vulnerable to weather and climate impacts within the geography of interest, including tribes or marginalized, underserved, and underrepresented populations, as well as disadvantaged communities? 2. Include both short-term and long-term activities that are led by or engage with, and provide resources to, tribes or marginalized, underserved, and underrepresented communities? This should include resources for these communities to lead projects or engage in the process (e.g., attend meetings, provide expertise, etc.). 3. Describe how those tribes or marginalized, underserved, and underrepresented communities have co-developed or will be integrated into project activities? Does it clearly explain what inclusion looks like? 4. Describe activities to overcome known barriers to engagement of tribes or marginalized, underserved, and underrepresented communities, or propose activities to identify barriers?

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<p>Enduring Capacity: This factor evaluates the extent to which the proposed activities will build enduring capacity for adaptation within specified regions, including tribes or marginalized, underserved, and underrepresented communities.</p>	<p>For Track One (10 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include activities to improve planners, decision-makers, and coastal stakeholders' access to and capacity to apply data and information related to current and future environmental, economic, and social conditions and integrate information into sound planning and decision-making? 2. Include a plan to sustain regional collaboration beyond the period of performance or propose to develop a plan for long-term, sustained collaboration? 3. Invest in capacity-building of those involved in the collaborative team and relevant communities by providing training? Support activities that will ensure sharing the lessons learned with other regions and communities?
<p>Technical Merit: This factor assesses whether the approach is technically sound and/or innovative, if the methods are appropriate, and whether there are clear goals and objectives for the activities.</p>	<p>For Track One (15 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have a clearly defined, focused, and realistic vision? Include activities that are appropriate for accomplishing the stated vision and are achievable within the proposed time frame? 2. Incorporate current guidance, authoritative data and science, and/or technical advancements in the design and implementation of the proposed work? 3. Reference scientific sources from federal and non-federal sources, and/or Indigenous knowledge related to weather and climate risk? 4. Include activities for evaluating and reporting performance of the overall effort and specific adaptation actions?
<p>Overall Qualifications of Funding Applicants: This factor assesses whether the funding applicant and any sub-applicants possess the necessary education, experience, training, facilities, and administrative resources to accomplish the project.</p>	<p>For Track One (15 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include a lead entity with the capability or experience in successfully administering a federal award, or propose activities for the lead entity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to successfully administer a federal award? 2. Clearly describe the roles of collaborators? Does the application include letters of collaboration that describe the scale and scope of involvement for the collaborators? 3. Identify a team of collaborators who have knowledge of and experience working in the specified geographic region? Does the team of collaborators have broad support for the proposed effort as reflected in letters of cooperation and/or letters of support?
<p>Project Costs: This factor evaluates the budget to determine if it is realistic and commensurate with the project needs and time frame.</p>	<p>For Track One (10 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Include a budget request that is reasonable and does the applicant justify the proposed budget request? Are requested funds for salaries and fringe benefits only for those personnel who are directly involved in implementing the proposed regional collaborative or are directly related to specific products or outcomes of the proposed regional collaborative? 2. Describe how the proposed activities include strategic partnerships with collaborating institutions, agencies, foundations, community organizations, or private-sector partners? Do the proposed activities leverage resources from other organizations or funding sources? Or describe efforts and associated challenges in identifying leveraging opportunities? 3. Have administrative costs been minimized to the greatest extent possible? This includes, but is not limited to, an assessment of effective direct and indirect costs across all categories in the proposed budget according to the type, size, and duration of project and project objectives.

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<p>Outreach and Engagement: This factor assesses whether the proposal includes a strategy to engage stakeholders beyond the collaborative team in improving resilience of the region.</p>	<p>For Track One (5 points), does the proposal:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reflect outreach to one or more of NOAA’s partnerships (see Section II.C)? 2. Outline a strategy that will improve and sustain dialogue and information sharing with supporters and other stakeholders, particularly marginalized, underserved, and underrepresented communities, and tribes?