What is a DPR Alliance Grant?

- Promotes or increases the implementation, expansion, and/or adoption of effective, proven, and affordable integrated pest management (IPM) systems or practices in agricultural, urban, or wildland settings.
- Decreases risks to public health and the environment.
- Brings together a team (alliance) of experts committed to supporting successful project execution.

What makes a successful project?

Photo: Sam Ernshaw

- Demonstrate strong partnerships, outreach, and/or an educational or training component to promote IPM and the broad application of the proposed IPM systems or practices

- Can serve as a model for similar situations

- Have a high potential for wide adoption

- Do not focus on conducting research (for projects conducting research, see DPR's Research Grants Program)

What is an Alliance Team?

- An Alliance Team is a group of individuals and organizations with broad influence as experts in their fields of work who will jointly accomplish the goals laid out in the proposal application.

- Includes a lead principal investigator (PI) who will oversee overall coordination of the project.

- Can include a broad swath of participants, but the strongest teams have members with relevant knowledge in the field of study and strong connections to the intended audiences.

Assembling an Effective Alliance Team

Members should actively participate in the project and have these types of industry or community affiliations:

Commodity group representatives

Pest control advisors (PCAs) or pest control operators (PCOs)

Growers

Academic and private advisors

School district representatives

Representatives of public health entities

Urban or industry representatives

Sustainability or certification programs

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)

Other entities with a regional scope

Role of DPR's Grant Manager

- DPR's grant manager will actively participate as a member of the Alliance Team assisting with:

  - Creating collaborative partnerships
  - Setting priorities
  - Carrying out the project

- Oversees grant objectives, tasks, and deliverables, including associated required reporting

Creating Educational/Training Programs

- Training programs should include time and travel funds for trainers to meet and practice as part of the scope of work and budget.

- On-line course creation requires experienced online course designers and a realistic estimate of time required.

- Content must come from those who are "experts" and their costs, if any, must be included in the scope of work and budget.

Words of Wisdom from Alliance Team Members

Photo credit: Humboldt State University

- Principal investigators and team members from seven alliance projects were interviewed about their experience creating strong Alliance Teams

- Several common elements emerged
  - ➢ Reaching out to the right contacts is critical
  - ➢ Involve the Alliance Team in the proposal development process
  - ➢ Proposal flexibility matters
  - ➢ Consider the number and role of Alliance Team members
  - ➢ The PI has a unique role
  - ➢ Hit the ground running

Reaching Out to the Right Contacts is Critical

Photo Credit: Wild Farm Alliance

- Stay up to date on the recent advances and happenings in the project field areas so you are familiar with and reach out to the right professionals and experts.

- Look at your objectives and tasks and reach out to contacts that are highly qualified in these areas.

- Some organizations have lots of partners that they can reach out to and possibly include as Alliance Team members.

Involve the Alliance Team in the Proposal Development Process

- Start reaching out to team member contacts several months ahead of the proposal due date.

- Communicate with members individually and as a group during the proposal development process.

- Involve members in the proposal development process so they can help shape the proposal and have a sense of commitment.

- Let members know what is specifically expected of them and the required timeline (this can be done by assigning hours to activities in the scope of work).

- Request letters of support from members, as well as their relevant constituents, to include in the proposal.

Proposal Flexibility Matters

- Write the proposal to build in some flexibility (for example, sometimes there is a need for a specific team member, but the individual hasn't been identified during the proposal development process).

- Have some flexibility for members to contribute to the team in the way they want.
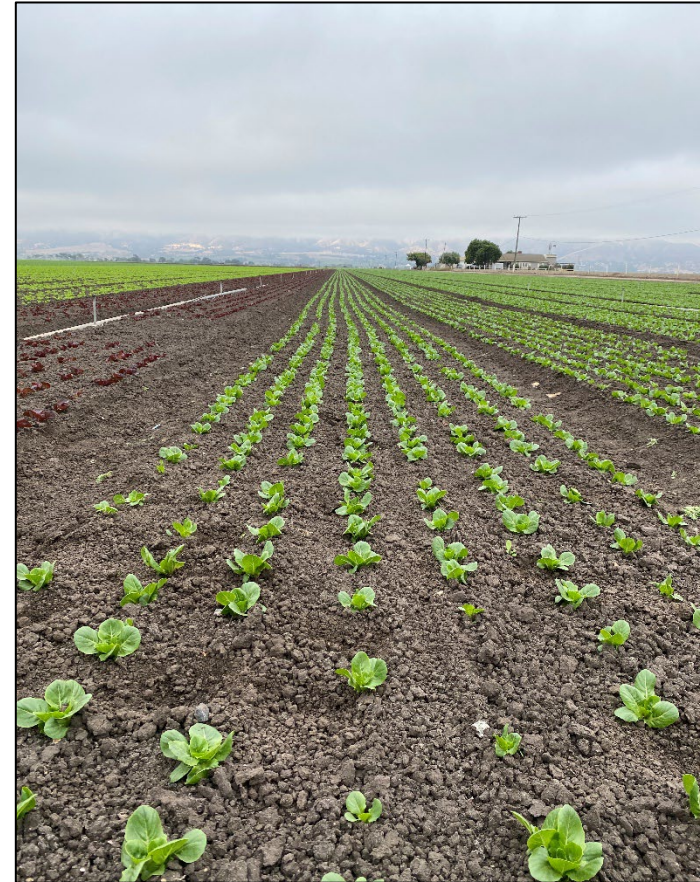
Consider the Number and Role of Alliance Team Members

- The ideal number of Alliance Team members depends on the project and tasks that are assigned to members.

- Start with a small core team that understands the tasks and is committed to completing the project. Other members will likely emerge as the project takes shape.

- Engage team members and allow them to contribute in a way that is fun and meaningful to them.

- Make members feel invested so they have a sense of ownership (such as authoring a chapter, participating in a video, being part of a publication, etc.).

The PI Has a Unique Role

- The PI has the primary responsibility for financial management and control of project funds and is responsible for all aspects of project administration.

- The PI should handle the logistics to ensure the team functions well.

- The PI needs to build in resiliency. When there are inevitable issues, it is up to the PI to make up the difference, without putting too much pressure on the team.

- The team process is slow and the PI needs to anticipate and accommodate for that.

- The PI needs to be patient and accepting of all input.

Hit the Ground Running

- Plan a team meeting very early in the proposal development process for members to begin to work collaboratively and envision the objectives for the project.

- Use this time to write well-constructed objectives and tasks that will allow project work to start right away.

Photo credit: NPS / Connar L'Ecuyer

Example Alliance Grant Project – Overview

- Project: Employing community science for early detection and rapid response to optimize control of invasive plants in California wildlands.

This example can be found in its entirety in the Sample Alliance Scope of Work and Budget contained within the supplemental guidance documents included on the Alliance Grant Application Materials Webpage.

Example Alliance Grant Project – Goals

- Engage and educate community members and field crews in identifying and documenting observations of invasive and early detection and rapid response species through the use of a mobile application.

- Devise a plan for land managers to verify observations submitted by community members and field crews and implement appropriate control methods.

- Evaluate and refine the early detection and rapid response program for future adoption.

- Perform outreach by promoting and demonstrating the program in other regions.

This example can be found in its entirety in the Sample Alliance Scope of Work and Budget contained within the supplemental guidance documents included on the Alliance Grant Application Materials Webpage.

Example Alliance Grant Project: Team Formation

AUDIENCE

- Community scientists (members of the public, volunteer groups, and work crews)
- Land managers

NECESSARY EXPERTISE TO ACCOMPLISH GOALS

- Weed science, as it relates to California ecosystems
- Relevant software development (plant observation mobile application)
- Teaching and communication

This example can be found in its entirety in the Sample Alliance Scope of Work and Budget contained within the supplemental guidance documents included on the Alliance Grant Application Materials Webpage.

Example Alliance Team

Principle Investigator: Non-profit Organization	Designer for Plant Identification Mobile Application	Coordinators for Volunteer Group Organizations	Regional and State Park Liaisons
• Expertise in California invasive plant management and carrying out early detection and rapid response programs • Administer workshops and trainings • Project administration	• Tailor mobile application to different user groups • Create user-friendly informational material	• Know needs of volunteer groups • Facilitate communication with the public and volunteer groups • Inform program that will work for volunteer groups across state	• Know needs of land managers • Facilitate communication with land managers • Inform program that will work for land managers across state

This example can be found in its entirety in the Sample Alliance Scope of Work and Budget contained within the supplemental guidance documents included on the Alliance Grant Application Materials Webpage.

Alliance Team Members:

Provide the names, organizations, and role on the project (Principal Investigator, Key Personnel, or Non-Key Personnel) for all identified members of the Alliance Team. Add additional rows to the table as needed.

Name	Organization	Role on the Project
Anne Vassiv	California Habitat Conservancy	Principal Investigator
Erin Dao	California Habitat Conservancy	Non-Key Personnel
Tim Ericks	California Habitat Conservancy	Non-Key Personnel
Beau Tannock	CalPhyta	Key Personnel
Al Anthis	California Wildlands Protection Agency	Key Personnel
Rob Inya	Sacramento Valley Regional Park District	Key Personnel
Phil Ariss	Boots On Sacramento	Non-Key Personnel
Sal Zola	Friends of Sacramento Parks	Non-Key Personnel

Example Alliance Team

This example can be found in its entirety in the Sample Alliance Scope of Work and Budget contained within the supplemental guidance documents included on the Alliance Grant Application Materials Webpage.

Resources and Questions

For additional questions, please email **IPMGrants@cdpr.ca.gov**.

For more information on DPR's Grants Program and to access application materials, please visit **https://www.cdpr.ca.gov/dprgrants.htm**.