

# PG&E Better Together Resilient Communities Grant Application 2021

## Overview & Eligibility

With the projected impacts of climate change, California faces a continued and growing threat of a variety of climate hazards, including sea level rise, changing precipitation patterns, extreme heat, and wildfires. Communities need resources to help prevent and prepare for climate risks and build local climate resilience through collaborative, community-driven approaches.

Through the Resilient Communities grant program, PG&E is requesting grant proposals of \$100,000 to fund four projects in 2021 that build community resilience and capacity to withstand climate-related effects. Priority will be given to those that demonstrate past or projected exposure to climate hazard(s) and to those that address the needs of disadvantaged and/or vulnerable communities.

Projects should aim to bring together a sustainable local network to address preparedness and resilience within communities. The focus of this grant is to support collaborative, community-driven efforts to build local capacity and promote environmental stewardship.

Eligible applicants will be governmental organizations, educational institutions, or certified 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations and must include a local or tribal government within PG&E's service area as a partner. Applicants must be prepared to provide documentation to demonstrate they meet PG&E's criteria for charitable giving.

## Evaluation Criteria

Proposals must comply with all submission instructions and guidelines to be considered for funding. To help align with these criteria, applicants should refer to the glossary of climate change adaptation terms and the list of sample climate change resources that are included later in this document.

Each compliant proposal will be evaluated based on how well it meets each of the criteria listed below.

- 1) Appropriateness
  - a. Is exposure to one or more climate hazards clearly described and supported by use of data? Is the current and future risk of the climate hazard(s) described?
  - b. Does the proposal describe the vulnerability and sensitivity of the community to the identified climate hazard(s)?
  - c. Does the proposal focus on and describe the needs of disadvantaged and/or vulnerable community members?
- 2) Approach, outcomes, and potential impact
  - a. Are the methods of enhancing community resilience sufficiently detailed?
  - b. Does the approach detail a process for identifying and engaging with stakeholders?
  - c. What is desired impact of the proposal? Is there a direct and clearly explained connection between the proposed approach and this impact? Does the proposal describe how success will be measured?
  - d. Is it clear how the project will create or enhance the adaptive capacity of the community?
  - e. Does the approach include details on how others will be able to learn from the proposed work?
- 3) Project feasibility and support
  - a. Are the identified partners appropriate and are their roles in the project clearly defined?
  - b. Are the budget and timeline appropriate and realistic for the proposed work?

## Grant Requirements

Funded applications will be expected to complete the following actions:

- Respond to a PG&E questionnaire about the project.
- Participate in quarterly update calls with PG&E.
- Provide a report to PG&E detailing project actions, stakeholders engaged, capacity building achievements, additional resources leveraged, and other outcomes, including an executive summary.

## Applying

The deadline for applications is **Tuesday, August 31, 2021**. Applications should be submitted to [BetterTogetherGrantPrograms@pge.com](mailto:BetterTogetherGrantPrograms@pge.com). Applicants are encouraged to transfer questions beginning on page 4 of this PDF to a Word document or contact PG&E at the email address above to request a digital Word version of this application.

[Visit this page](#) for additional information on the Resilient Communities grant program and previous winners.

## Glossary of Climate Change Adaptation Terms

Note that all definitions are quoted directly from [CalOES' Adaptation Planning Guide](#), except for *partner* and *stakeholder* (which are defined for the purpose of this grant).

- **Adaptive capacity:** The combination of the strengths, attributes, and resources available to an individual, community, society, or organization that can be used to prepare for and undertake actions to reduce adverse impacts, moderate harm, or exploit beneficial opportunities. The ability to adjust to potential damage, to take advantage of opportunities, or to respond to consequence.
- **Climate hazard:** An event or physical condition that has the potential to cause fatalities, injuries, property damage, infrastructure damage, agricultural losses, damage to the environment, interruption of business, or other types of harm or loss.
- **Disadvantaged community:** Areas disproportionately affected by environmental pollution and other hazards that can lead to negative public health effects, exposure, or environmental degradation, or with concentrations of people that are of low income, high unemployment, low levels of homeownership, high rent burden, sensitive populations, or low levels of educational attainment.
- **Environmental justice:** The fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.
- **Exposure:** The presence of people, infrastructure, natural systems, and economic, cultural, and social resources in areas that are subject to harm.
- **Partner:** Individual(s) or organization(s) that will be involved in the design and implementation of the proposed work.
- **Sensitivity:** The level to which a species, natural system, or community, government, etc., would be affected by changing climate conditions.
- **Social vulnerability:** Social vulnerability is the susceptibility of a given population to harm from exposure to a hazard, directly affecting its ability to prepare for, respond to, and recover.
- **Stakeholder:** Individual(s) or organization(s) that experience the climate vulnerability that the project is working to address, who occupy the area where the project will be implemented, and/or are otherwise affected by the design and implementation of the project.

- **Vulnerability:** Climate vulnerability describes the degree to which natural, built, and human systems are susceptible to harm from exposure to stresses associated with environmental and social change and from the absence of capacity to adapt.
  - *Vulnerability to climate change is determined by considering the exposure to the hazard (is the area currently or expected to experience the hazard?), sensitivity (if the area does experience the hazard, how severely will it be affected?), and adaptive capacity (are there qualities, policies, or other supporting infrastructure that could help protect against, mitigate, or help recover from the impacts of the hazard?)*
- **Vulnerable communities:** 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. *Note: There is overlap in the definitions of disadvantaged communities and vulnerable communities.*

## Resources

The resources listed below are meant to help understand and identify potential climate exposure, impacts, and adaptation options. This is not a comprehensive list of possible resources, and applicants should not feel obliged to include them in the application or be limited to this list.

## Climate Hazard Exposure

- Multiple hazards:
  - [Cal-Adapt](#) provides tools, data, and resources to show how climate change might affect California. For the purpose of this grant, Cal-Adapt provides interactive [climate data visualizations](#) for future temperature, precipitation, snowpack, and sea level rise.
- Heat:
  - The [California Heat Assessment Tool \(CHAT\)](#) provides health-informed heat thresholds for communities and examines the projected future frequency and severity of local heat waves under climate change.
- Sea level rise and coastal hazards:
  - The [Our Coast our Future Flood Viewer](#) provides visualizations of coastal flood and erosion projections under a variety of sea level rise and storm scenarios.
- Inland flooding:
  - The [FEMA National Flood Hazard Layer Viewer](#) shows the current effective flood data for the United States. It shows effective Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) databases and Letters of Map Revision (LOMRs).
- Wildfire:
  - The [California Public Utility Commission Fire-Threat Map](#) shows the extent of Tier 2 (Elevated) and Tier 3 (Extreme) CPUC Fire-Threat areas.

## Impacts of Climate Change on People and Sectors

- The [California 4th Climate Assessment](#) provides an overview of updated climate science for California and a better understanding potential climate impacts across sectors and populations, as well as potential actions for building resilience.
- The [California Emergency Response Infrastructure Climate Vulnerability Tool](#) provides visualizations of a number of potential climate impacts to critical emergency response infrastructure throughout the state, including the number and value of assets affected by coastal flooding and wildfire.
- [CalEnviroScreen](#) is published by the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment and is a mapping tool that helps identify which California communities are most affected by pollution, including

consideration of which populations are more vulnerable to pollution due to environmental, health, and socioeconomic factors.

- [California Healthy Places Index](#) provides geospatial information on factors that influence public health, including housing, transportation, education, environment, healthcare, and more.
- [Climate Change & Health Vulnerability Indicators for California](#) (CCHVIs) provides visualizations of environmental exposure, population sensitivity, and adaptive capacity indicators of public health.

#### **Potential Actions for Resilience and Adaptation**

- The [Adaptation Capability Advancement Toolkit](#) helps local governments understand what barriers they face and capabilities they possess in terms of pursuing climate adaptation. The toolkit also helps them identify how to overcome such barriers and opportunities for building their capability.

## **BEGIN APPLICATION**

### **Registration**

1. Organization Legal Name:
2. Tax ID Number:
3. Organization Official Address:
4. Organization Main Phone:
5. Organization Mission Statement:
6. How did you hear about the Better Together Resilient Communities grant? (Optional)

### **Primary Contacts**

7. Name of Organization's Highest-Level Employee:
8. Associated Title (e.g., "Executive Director"):
9. Associated Email Address:
10. Name of Grant Manager:
11. Grant Manager Main Phone:
12. Grant Manager Email:

## **Application Part 1 – Project Overview and Goals (please limit responses to each subsection to 150 words or less).**

1a. Provide a title for your proposed project.

1b. In which county or jurisdiction will grant funds primarily be used?

1c. Briefly (e.g., elevator pitch) describe the proposed project and project goals.

1d. What is the project duration, including anticipated start and end dates? Note that Part 4 of the application provides more room for providing a detailed timeline.

**Application Part 2 – Statement of Need and Project Appropriateness (please limit responses to each subsection to 200 words or less).**

2a. State the need that this project is aiming to fill. Provide any background and context necessary to understand the project's purpose.

2b. Provide a clear characterization of what climate hazard(s) this project will address, including the current and future exposure and risk of the climate hazard(s) using appropriate data.

2c. Describe the community that this project will work with, including the vulnerability and sensitivity of the community to the identified climate hazard(s).

2d. How will your project identify and serve the needs of disadvantaged and/or vulnerable communities?

**Application Part 3 – Project Approach, Outcomes, and Potential Impact (please limit responses to each subsection to 300-400 words).**

3a. Provide a detailed description of project approach, including the specific activities that will help achieve project goals. Describe your approach and rationale for planned stakeholder involvement in the project.

3b. Describe which organization(s) you will partner with and why and the role of these partners in your project.

3c. Describe the anticipated outcomes your project will have. How will the project create or enhance the adaptive capacity of the community? How will you measure success?

3d. How will your project enhance community resilience to identified climate hazard(s) beyond the life of the grant? How will others be able to learn from the project?

**Application Part 4 – Timeline and Budget (Does not count against word limit).**

*Please detail the specifics of how this grant will be spent below.*

4a. Include a timeline of your project including specific tasks, schedule, and outcomes for the project. Timeline can be in a table or outline form.

4b. Budget table and narrative required.

**Application Part 5 – Letters of Support (optional).**

*To supplement your grant proposal, please consider attaching letters of support from your project partners, community members, or other stakeholders. Letters of support are optional, but recommended to demonstrate community support for your proposal.*

**Certification**

*Please read this section thoroughly and confirm that your organization is in compliance with the following terms and conditions. Please note that disagreeing to any statement will disqualify you for a charitable donation.*

The applicant is, and shall remain, in compliance with all federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations, including if applicable the California Nonprofit Integrity Act of 2004.

The applicant does not and shall not, in its by-laws, policies, or practices, discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, age sex, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, veteran status, marital status, pregnancy, sexual orientation, gender identity, or any basis prohibited by applicable law.

The applicant agrees that any donation from PG&E will be used only for charitable purposes and will not be used to promote or oppose any candidate or ballot measure, to advocate any legislative or administrative action, or to personally benefit or compensate any elected official.

The applicant and each of its grantees, if any, is in full compliance with all statutes, Executive Orders, and regulations restricting or prohibiting U.S. persons from engaging in transactions and dealings with countries, entities, or individuals subject to economic sanctions administered by the U.S. Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control, the applicant is aware that a list of countries subject to such sanctions, a list of Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons subject to such sanctions, and overview and guidelines for each such sanctions program can be found at <http://www.treas.gov/ofac>, and the applicant does not and shall not promote or engage in violence, terrorism, bigotry, or the destruction of any state, or make grants or otherwise furnish support of any kind to any individual or entity that engages in such activities. Should any change in circumstances pertaining to this certification occur at any time, the applicant will notify the Community Relations Department of Pacific Gas and Electric Company immediately.

I am the duly appointed representative of my organization. I am authorized to certify and affirm all the statements above, and to submit the application on behalf of my organization.

I have read all of the statements and responses in this application and certify that each is accurate.

I agree that electronic submission of this application will be deemed to be the equivalent of my written signature for purposes of this certification and application.

By accepting any funds or in-kind donations from PG&E, my organization agrees to all terms, conditions, and certifications specified within the application and the transmittal letter.

**Compliance Certification**

My name is:    My position title with this organization is:

Signed by (initial):    Signed on this date: