

Action Team Definition and Purpose

A RE-AMP Action Team is a diverse¹ group of people collaborating to solve a problem within the framework of the RE-AMP systems analysis in an equitable² way.

Action Teams will:

- Respond to a problem or opportunity that is identified through our shared systems analysis
- Be a collaborative effort
- Propose a solution to the identified problem
- Create excellent plans for action
- Commit to sharing what they've learned with the Network

Our intention behind Action Teams are that they:

- Are outcome oriented
- Help build capacity or support member capacity
- Are a structure to allow groups of people to come together around discrete pieces of work³.
- Help enrich our shared systems analysis
- Include individuals or communities who are most impacted by work
- Are not permanent

Action Team Application Process and Support

We propose three levels of Action Teams, with three corresponding levels of support, as described below.

¹ We encourage Action Teams to seek diverse participation to the best of their ability, recognizing that the environmental movement can still be rather homogenous. Diversity includes demographics, geographic, types of organizations, strategies and tactics considerations.

² For purposes of Action Teams, we consider two types of equity: Equity in an outward facing way, employing the three basic principles of Environmental Justice (1) Ensure public involvement of low income and minority groups in decision making; (2) Prevent "disproportionately high and adverse" impacts of decisions on low-income and minority groups; and (3) Assure low-income and minority groups receive proportionate share of benefits. A second type of equity is inward facing: that work and benefits are distributed equitably among Action Team members, (recognizing that equitable doesn't always mean equal)

³ Discrete pieces of work may include: toolkits, research, analysis, campaigns, reports, models, etc.

Action Team Levels

Level One

Level one Action Teams would have a low bar to get established. Creation of a level one Action Team would come with the expectation that they will share their learning with the wider Network through an agreed upon method (e.g. Annual Meeting session, webinar, conference call, written resources, etc.)

Interested groups complete a one page application to become a Level One Action Team. Applications will be available on the RE-AMP Commons beginning in April/May 2017. Completed applications are emailed to Action Team Committee. Applications to become a Level One Action Team are considered on a rolling basis. Requests to become a Level One Action Team will receive a response within 10 business days.

Criteria for establishment

- At least three organizations are interested, majority of which are RE-AMP members;
- At least two states represented. Action Team topic is applicable to other states as well.
- Submission of a written document that demonstrates how it comports with the systems analysis

Support provided

- A page on the RE-AMP Commons
- Internal dedication of resources (i.e. RE-AMP staff time)

Information to collect on the application

- Contact individual and organization
- Names of interested organizations
- Action Team name
- Number of RE-AMP members represented
- States represented (or an indication that it is a national or regional group)
- Idea/description/ goal of Action Team
- How does this fit into the systems analysis both in terms of policy and equity?
- Is there anything else you want us to know?

Evaluation

We have identified the following possible ways to evaluate Level One Action Teams:

- The quality of their deliverables
- Participation in Network-wide sharing (presentations at AM, webinar or conference calls,

posting of deliverables to Commons, etc.)

- Evaluation by participants
- Stable participation of Action Team members throughout the life of the Action Team
- Equity framework applied throughout

Level Two

Applications to become a Level Two Action Team are considered on a quarterly basis by the Action Team Committee. Applications for becoming a Level Two Action Team will be brief (approximately 2 pages) and available on the RE-AMP Commons. A budget must accompany the application. Action Teams must have a fiscal sponsor within the team that receives the grant and manages any regranting.

Criteria for establishment

- Helps us fill in the most urgent gaps of our analysis
- At least five organizations are interested, the majority of which are RE-AMP members
- At least two states represented, with three or more encouraged. Action Team topic is applicable to other states.
- Representation of communities impacted by the work
- Proposed solution should include an equity analysis of any proposed policy outcomes

Support provided

- Includes Level One support
- Funding to support:
 - Meetings: travel, participant time/stipends (based on need), food, facilitation, venue, lodging
 - Research or analysis, case studies/report done by Action Team member
 - Outside consultants, (with a preference for working with RE-AMP members when possible)
 - Administrative support for convening Action Teams (e.g. support for an Action Team member to convene and plan meeting logistics)

Information to collect on the application

- Contact individual and organization
- Names of participating organizations
- Action Team name

RE-AMP Action Teams
Approved by the RE-AMP Steering Committee
March 15, 2017

- Number of RE-AMP members represented
- States represented (or an indication that it is a national or regional group)
- Summary/ report from Level 1 work
- What is the problem you are trying to solve?
- What is the goal of the Action Team?
- How it fits into the systems analysis both in terms of policy and equity
- Expected timeline
- Budget
- How will you share the outcomes of your Action Team?
- Menu of options for support
- How does your Action Team meet the definition of a RE-AMP Action Team?
- How are communities impacted by the problem you are trying to solve represented on your Action Team?

Renewing support for Action Teams

Action Teams receiving support are eligible to reapply for funding in subsequent years. A brief application will be required to reapply for continuing support, which will ask the Action Team to make a case for why it is still necessary. Action Teams will be less likely to receive continuing support in subsequent years, however. Level 2 proposals and rapid response proposals will be evaluated along with other proposals. To receive a renewal for Action Team funding, Action Teams must show that they have applied for funding from somewhere else, even if that funding is not approved.

Level Two renewal application:

- Contact individual and organization
- Names of interested organizations
- Action Team name
- Number of RE-AMP members represented
- States represented (or an indication that it is a national or regional group)
- Summary/ report from Level 1 work
- What is the problem you are trying to solve?
- What is the goal of the Action Team?
- What is your theory of winning?
- How it fits into the systems analysis both in terms of policy and equity
- Expected timeline
- Budget
- How will you share the outcomes of your Action Team?
- Menu of options for support

- Other sources of funding/ support sought
- How does your Action Team meet the definition of a RE-AMP Action Team?
- How are communities impacted by the problem you are trying to solve represented on your Action Team?

Rapid Response

A rapid response pathway is also offered for seeking support for an Action Team outside of the regular application process. The funding pool for rapid response is 20 percent of the total funding pool for Action Teams within a calendar year.

Information to collect on the application

- Contact individual and organization
- Names of participating organizations
- Action Team name
- Number of RE-AMP members represented
- States represented (or an indication that it is a national or regional group)
- Summary/ report from Level 1 work
- What is the problem you are trying to solve?
- What is the goal of the Action Team?
- How it fits into the systems analysis both in terms of policy and equity
- Expected timeline
- Budget
- How will you share the outcomes of your Action Team?
- Menu of options for support
- How does your Action Team meet the definition of a RE-AMP Action Team?
- How are communities impacted by the problem you are trying to solve represented on your Action Team?
- Why does this qualify for rapid response funding?

Evaluation

We have identified the following possible ways to evaluate Level Two Action Teams (including Rapid Response):

- The quality of their deliverables
- Participation in Network-wide sharing (presentations at AM, webinar or conference calls, posting of deliverables to Commons, etc.)
- Evaluation by participants
- Stable participation of Action Team members throughout the life of the Action Team

- Equity framework applied throughout

Level Three

After completing deliverables promised of them, Level Two Action Teams can apply for Level Three support, which would involve RE-AMP engaging with our funding partners to try to identify aligned funding for the work described by the Action Team. Level Two Action Teams wishing to become Level Three Action Teams must complete a brief application that includes a summary of the work completed by the Action Team. The application would be reviewed by staff, staff would make a recommendation to the Action Team Committee. Applications would be accepted on a quarterly basis.

Criteria for establishment

- Helps us fill in the most urgent gaps of our analysis
- At least five organizations are interested the majority of which are RE-AMP members
- At least two states represented, with three or more encouraged. Action Team topic is applicable to other states.
- Representation of communities impacted by the work
- Proposed solution should include an equity analysis of any proposed policy outcomes
- Completed deliverables as promised
- Presented learning with wider Network

Support provided

- Presentation on a call with RE-AMP funders
- Staff support to help identify and secure aligned funding

Information to collect on the application

- Contact individual and organization
- Names of interested organizations
- Action Team name
- Number of RE-AMP members represented
- States represented (or an indication that it is a national or regional group)
- Summary/ report from Level 2 work
- What is the problem you are trying to solve?
- What is the goal of the Action Team?
- What is your theory of winning?
- How it fits into the systems analysis both in terms of policy and equity
- Expected timeline

- Budget
- How did you share the outcomes of your Action Team?
- Menu of options for support
- Other sources of funding/ support sought
- How does your Action Team meet the definition of a RE-AMP Action Team?
- How are impacted communities represented on your Action Team?

Funding for Action Teams

- Level 1: \$0 in direct funding
- Level 2: \$5,000 - \$15,000
- Level 3: \$0 in direct funding

Action Team Committee

The Action Team Committee will be comprised of 5-9 volunteers from the RE-AMP Network who represent diverse perspectives. To create the committee, each year RE-AMP staff will put out a call to members to join the Action Team Committee. RE-AMP Staff and/or Steering Committee will review the list of volunteers to ensure we have diverse representation. Committee members serve one year terms, with the opportunity to volunteer for future terms. Any committee members applying for Action Team support must recuse themselves from the vote if their application is under consideration.

Selection considerations

In general, when deciding which Action Teams to select, the committee should consider the following:

- Is it included in, or bounded by or stem from our systems analysis?
- Does it help bring about a just transition⁴ to a clean energy future?
- Does it change the power dynamic?
- Does it generate sufficient member interest?
- Does it have strong resistance from other RE-AMP member groups⁵

The Committee should:

⁴ Just transition framework created by the Climate Justice Alliance: Fight the bad, Build the new, Move the resources, Change the rules, Change the story, Strengthen democracy

⁵ As identified by the Action Team Committee

- Measure proposal against the systems analysis (in terms of policy and equity)
- Ensure that Action Teams include an equity analysis for their proposed solution
- Think about the goal to support the participation of many members and ensure resources are being distributed equitably. Guideline for Action Teams: skills are monitored and we strive to lift all boats, strive to enhance everyone's capacity.

Intellectual property

Deliverables developed by Action Teams or completed through the work of an Action Team, should be available to all RE-AMP members.