

DRAWDOWN: MARIN STRATEGIC PLAN

APPENDIX D: DRAWDOWN: MARIN GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND SOLUTIONS EVALUATION CRITERIA



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Prepared by County of Marin Sustainability Team

APPENDIX D DRAWDOWN: MARIN GUIDING PRINCIPLES AND SOLUTIONS EVALUATION CRITERIA

The Executive Steering Committee (ESC) determined that it needed to develop principles and criteria to ensure that Collaborative-developed solutions would help achieve Drawdown: Marin goals and are aligned with the Vision. Three members of the ESC formed a subcommittee and developed the following guidance, which was distributed to all Collaboratives. The ESC uses this document when it evaluates the solutions presented to it.

SOLUTIONS ENDORSEMENT AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

Endorsement and Evaluation of Projects

The ESC will evaluate projects on a rolling basis as the Stakeholder Collaboratives are ready to present. The ESC will offer endorsement for solutions that should be implemented now. The ESC will also look for possible links between projects to suggest coordination/combining forces where feasible. All projects presented to the ESC will appear in the Strategic Plan (developed by the Drawdown: Marin Coordinator outlining the entire process and outcomes).

WHAT DOES ENDORSEMENT MEAN?

All Collaboratives will be offered Technical Assistance (as defined below) from the Drawdown: Marin Advisors or other sources to help further develop project ideas. The ESC and Drawdown: Marin Coordinator will help identify appropriate technical resources for each endorsed project. Endorsed projects will also be branded “Drawdown: Marin” projects and will be marketed to the general public as part of the overall initiative marketing and outreach efforts.

ESC preliminary or final endorsement does not imply that funding, from the County or other sources, is available.

Technical Assistance

The ESC and the Drawdown: Marin Coordinator will work with each Collaborative to identify the type of technical assistance needed to further implementation of each solution. Technical assistance may include but is not limited to:

- Third-party review of the solution (technical, financial, etc.) by a Drawdown: Marin Advisor or other technical, policy, or financial expert
- Identification of and/or assistance forming key partnerships needed for implementation
- Identification of potential funding sources that are well-suited for the solution
- Detailed feedback on each solution during the initial presentation as well as additional feedback after the presentation via email.

Technical Assistance will be available for each endorsed solution until the ESC finalizes the Drawdown: Marin portfolio of projects (expected Summer 2020).

Solutions Evaluation Criteria

The seven Drawdown: Marin Guiding Principles, reflected below as headings (in bold), are required to be addressed by each Stakeholder Collaborative (Collaborative) when it presents its project(s) to the ESC. Under each heading is criteria that the ESC and Collaboratives will use to evaluate whether a proposed project aligns with the Guiding Principles. Projects do not need to satisfy all Guiding Principles or all criteria.

Every project must reduce GHG emissions and every proposal must include a plan to measure the success of the project/solution. Drawdown: Marin will promote solutions that:

Help meet Drawdown: Marin goals by reducing GHG emissions dramatically and increasing carbon sequestration,
and:

Align with and exceed State, National, and International Climate Goals Criteria

Does the proposed solution:

- Reduce GHG emissions dramatically and increase carbon sequestration to meet Drawdown: Marin GHG reduction goals?
 - Offer additional environmental co-benefits, e.g. improving habitat/species protection, improving air and/or water quality?
- Align with the Governor's Six Pillars and the Under 20 MOU (limiting emissions to 80-95% below 1990 levels, or to below 2 annual metric tons per capita, by 2050) to reinforce broader goals and enable access to public and private resources?
 - Help us exceed State goals to align our "carbon budget" with the latest climate science to stay below 1.50C?

Seek prosperity, Health, and Resilience for All Criteria

Does the proposed solution:

- Reduce risks from climate impacts and increase capacity to recover from climate related disruptions for our communities, infrastructure, and for all?
 - Honor our indigenous communities by incorporating traditional ecological knowledge if relevant to the solution, e.g. land management techniques, fire prevention, or nature- based adaptation?
 - Increase community preparedness and resilience to climate change?
 - Create a healthier, stronger and robust Marin County?
 - Increase the community's ability to respond to disasters and other climate change impacts?
- Increase equity, health, well-being, and access to resources for the full range of community members?
 - Incorporate priority projects or feedback from frontline communities?
 - Require those responsible for emitting the most take action to reduce those emissions?
 - Provide all socio-economic and age groups access to the tools/resources they need to implement the solution?
 - Consider co-benefits to communities that do not have access to the solution, e.g. jobs, ability to share lessons learned with those communities?
 - Consider the factors that prevent access, e.g. current market conditions, technology barriers, cost, etc. Can the project be changed/modified to address and overcome those barriers?

Are Collaborative and Inclusive Criteria

Does the proposed solution:

- Collaborate and engage in ways that are empathetic, inclusive and build trust
 - Leverage all contributions, seek common interests, and learn from challenges across sectors.
 - Leverage existing community connections and/or expand on and build new connections?
 - Increase trust among community members, organizations, or between the community and local government?
 - Provide community members with educational, leadership, and other ongoing engagement opportunities?

- See diversity (personal, cultural, and sectoral) as fundamental to innovation and resilience.
 - Embrace diversity (personal, cultural, and sectoral) as fundamental to innovation and resilience?
 - Foster leadership by members of frontline communities in planning and implementation, if they are intended to benefit from a project? Did a frontline community actively participate in the design of the solution?

Foster Innovation and Capacity Building Criteria

Does the proposed solution:

- Take a leadership role in developing bold goals and innovative approaches that continually build adaptive capacities across sectors?
 - Exemplify innovation?
 - Is the project high-risk and high-reward?
 - Is it untested but has high potential?
 - Is the approach new and unique? Does it improve current methods and approaches?
- Demonstrate what is possible locally and replicable beyond Marin, attracting strategic partners and resources?
 - Involve scaling an existing, successful project?
 - Solve multiple problems and have lasting impact?

Are Economically Viable, and Build Capital Criteria

Does the proposed solution:

- Present a strong “business case” including clearly defined funding and financing options?
 - Have a funding plan or identify high-likelihood potential funding sources?
 - Is additional funding needed? If yes, what is the gap, and is it feasible to secure that amount of funding?
- Balance diverse forms of capital (financial, manufactured/built, social, human, and natural)?
 - Quantify cost savings or other economic benefits?
 - Create jobs?
 - Enhance local business?

Use a Range of Feasible Strategies Criteria

Does the proposed solution:

- Pursue grounded, in real-world, evidence-based strategies.
 - Pursue a broad mix of policy, programs, technologies, market strategies, social innovation, ecological, and culture-change approaches to increase impact.
 - Have all optimal implementation partners been confirmed or at least engaged?
 - Have new partnerships been considered that are needed for successful implementation?
 - Identify needed partners for implementation?
- Encourage prototyping to gain rapid feedback from target groups.

- Honest and realistic about what it will take to successfully implement a proposed solution?
- Identified opportunities to pilot ideas or proposed approach?

Apply Systems Thinking Criteria

Does the proposed solution:

- Encourage systemic change to build comprehensive understanding or solve complex problems.
 - Acknowledge that a project may impact or influence other sectors?
 - Encourage systemic change (i.e. fundamental change that affects how the entire system functions) by proposing ways to reform the system itself?
 - Cultivate a consistent growth mindset focused on learning and practical problem solving?
 - Provide opportunities for new organizational and social structures to emerge?
- Use system practices such as ecological, circular economy, and regenerative development.
 - Go beyond sustainable practices and GHG mitigation on a path toward restoration and healing?
 - Look to nature for ideas about how to solve climate change and attempts to mimic nature-based solutions?