

State and Private Forestry

FY 2011 Western Competitive Resource Allocation

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

Match, Leverage, and Collaboration

MATCH

A minimum 50/50 match is a **requirement for project eligibility**, as it is for all funding through the S&PF programs involved. The allocated grant amount must be matched in full and along program authorities by the recipient using non-federally funded sources except as authorized for the Insular Areas in 48USC1469a and Amendment of Subsection (d).

According to the FY10 National Guidance, “Matching requirements for dollars awarded through the competitive allocation process may be met through consolidation as currently handled through consolidated payment grants.” Match can include both cash and in-kind non-federal contributions to the project.

LEVERAGE

Measured in dollars and described in a narrative, leverage is the **project-specific value** of contributions by the applicant and project partners toward mutual outcomes. **Leverage will be scored**, considered by members of the Western Competitive Grants Team on elements of quantity (dollars) and quality (narrative description). The narrative description of leverage should emphasize direct, measurable contributions of partners to the project.

Leverage can contribute towards an applicant’s match requirement. The dollar figure for leverage may be *equal to or more than* the dollar figure for match, but will not be less than the match requirement. However, there are two forms of leverage that *do not qualify* as match: contributions of *Federal funds or resources* to the project; and contributions toward the project that *do not meet S&PF program authorities*, such as construction. Leverage can include both cash and in-kind contributions to the project.

COLLABORATION

Measured and **scored as a qualitative evaluation criteria**, collaboration is the demonstrated engagement of partners in project development and implementation. It is the building of relationships that lead to project-specific and long-term achievement of mutually beneficial outcomes.

EXAMPLES OF MATCH, LEVERAGE, AND COLLABORATION

| Type of contribution | Match | Leverage | Collaboration |
|----------------------------------|--|---|---|
| Project planning/ development | Leveraged resources from <i>non-federal</i> resources <i>do qualify</i> as match | Staff or partner time spent developing project scope and particulars Printing services donated by a partner or private firm | Project partners are meaningfully engaged in the development of the project proposal, which supports mutually beneficial outcomes |
| Construction | Leveraged resources <i>do not qualify</i> as match | Costs covered by or work done by a project partner Building materials donated by a project partner | Construction firm engaged in defining project scope and details to ensure its implementation and long-term effectiveness |
| Media attention/ publicity | Leveraged resources <i>do qualify</i> as match | Staff or partner time spent developing and sharing information with the media Print, radio, or TV space or time, such as for a PSA, donated by a media partner | Consistent support or interest from a media outlet throughout the life of a project that will help build a long-term relationship with the applicant organization |