

Governors' South Atlantic Alliance: Development of Action Plan Approach

The South Atlantic Alliance Executive Planning Team has developed a strategy identifying four major priority issue areas to serve as the foundation for the initial set of programs and activities for the South Atlantic Alliance. These issue areas are: healthy ecosystems; working waterfronts; clean coastal and ocean waters; and disaster-resilient communities. For each issue area, a set of general goal statements has been prepared, which are listed in the South Atlantic Alliance onepage document.

The next step is the development of the Governors South Atlantic Alliance Action Plan. Based on the South Atlantic Alliance Framework document, the Action Plan will include a general strategy for implementation and provide additional details on goals and action items for the four issue areas. This will be accomplished through the following process:

- Each Governor, or his/her designated appointee on the Steering Committee, shall identify a staff person to represent that state for each of the four issue areas.
- The state representatives for each issue area shall (s)elect a chair, and further populate the Technical teams with representatives of state and federal government, academia, existing regional programs, and non-profits who possess knowledge and expertise in the issue area and relevant regional priority needs.
- For each general issue area goal statement within each issue area, the Technical Teams shall identify one or more action items that will (continue to) be undertaken under the auspices of the Alliance. The action item(s) for each general goal statement shall be achievable within a 12-18 month period, and shall not require additional (significant) resources to complete.
- For each general goal statement within each issue area, the Technical Teams shall also identify long-term initiatives that address critical regional needs and will require additional resources to undertake.
- After the compilation of the action items for all four issue areas into a Draft Action Plan, input from the public and other interested stakeholders will be solicited. Comments will be compiled and amendments, as appropriate, made to the Draft Action Plan. The Draft Action plan will be submitted to the Steering Committee for review and action.

- Upon approval by the Steering Committee, the first Action Plan will be published with a strategy describing, to the extent feasible, the process and venues that will implement the Action Plan. This strategy will include a description of the mechanisms for involvement by the public and interested stakeholders.

The compilation of the results of these tasks will constitute the initial Governors South Atlantic Alliance Action Plan.