

Governors'
South Atlantic
Alliance



North Carolina • South Carolina • Georgia • Florida

Overview of GSAA Funding Needs & Options and a Vision for Long-Term Stability

Kristine Cherry
GSAA Coordinator

May 1, 2014

Overview

- What is the fiscal challenge?
- What are the immediate options?
- What is the funding need?
- What are some options for long-term stability?

Assessment of the Challenge

- Single funding source to date – NOAA ROP Grant Program
- ROP Grant Program was not part of NOAA's FY2014 appropriations
- Funding provided by FY2013 appropriations (Year 1) will expire September 30, 2014
 - Could extend six months/one year
 - Available funding would not support Coordinator's position beyond January 2015
- Request for Year 2 was \$190,000
- Projects no longer funded

Options to Diversify Funding

- Find programmatic partners with similar priorities to conduct joint projects
 - No support for operations, but leveraged resources
 - Internship/studentship project list
 - World Ocean Council (Moore Funding - \$623k)
 - Rhode Island Sea Grant (Moore Funding - \$659k)
 - SeaPlan (Moore Funding - \$2.5M)
 - NOAA Habitat Blueprint
 - Ports
- Find programmatic partners with similar priorities to support projects
 - Support operations with indirect costs
 - NOAA CRest Program / Regional Coastal Resilience Grants
 - BOEM FY2015 Environmental Studies Plan
 - EPA Wetlands Program Development Grant
 - DoD Legacy Grant
 - Industry engagement through WOC
- Find direct operational support

Options for Direct Operational Support

- Federal
 - NOAA finds funds elsewhere in the agency to fund Year 2 of the ROP Grant (approx. \$3.2M)
 - Elsewhere in OCRM/CSC budgets?
 - Other parts of the agency supporting NOP/NOC?
 - Another Federal Agency identifies funds
 - DOI – BOEM in particular would benefit from continued marine planning efforts, USGS? (new Director has coastal background), USFWS?, HQ very involved in NOP/NOC activities
 - DOD – Military has a huge presence in our region already, support and value regional partnership, and Navy is our lead Federal agency for an RPB

Options for Direct Operational Support

- State
 - CZM and Fish & Wildlife programs across all four states dig for a few \$k each (there are 7 state agencies in the GSAA)
 - Elevate the potential for the partnership to be discontinued to the Steering Group, possibly Executive Group
 - Demonstrate the value of the partnership and need for it to continue
 - Request funding
 - Reaffirm commitment to collaborate

Options for Direct Operational Support

- Private Foundations
 - Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation
 - National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF)
 - Walton Family Foundation
 - Z. Reynolds Smith Foundation
 - David and Lucile Packard Foundation
 - William and Flora Hewlett Foundation
 - University Foundations

... More tomorrow

Operational Funding Needs

- \$200k to \$250k per year
- Includes
 - Meetings: *Technical Teams, EPT, and Annual*
 - Travel: *non-federal attendance at GSAA meetings; Coordinator, EPT, and IATT travel for outreach and stakeholder engagement*
 - IATT Seed Fund
 - Communications
 - Supplies and Equipment
 - Coordinator Salary and Fringe
 - DHEC Professional Staff Salary and Fringe
 - DHEC Indirect Cost Rate: *15% - 17% of Salary and Fringe*

Operational Funding Needs

- GSAA Coast and Ocean Portal (RIMS)
 - Investment to date: \$472,272
 - Support ended March 31, 2014
 - Proposals submitted to EPA and DoD
 - Annual Maintenance Funding: \$25,000

- Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (AMBUR-HVA)
 - Investment to date: \$457,578
 - Support ended March 31, 2014
 - No current proposals; however, states moving forward
 - Annual Maintenance Funding: \$17,400

Options for GSAA Funding Stability

Competitive

1. NOAA Supported (Current Model)

Operational support from any single federal agency through a program dedicated to supporting ROPs.

Pros

- Single source of operational funds
- Dedicated to federally-supported ROP priorities

Cons

- Existing model is not stable
- Limited funding

2. Multiple Grants (federal & private)

Operations supported through indirect costs and partial operational requests in multiple project grants.

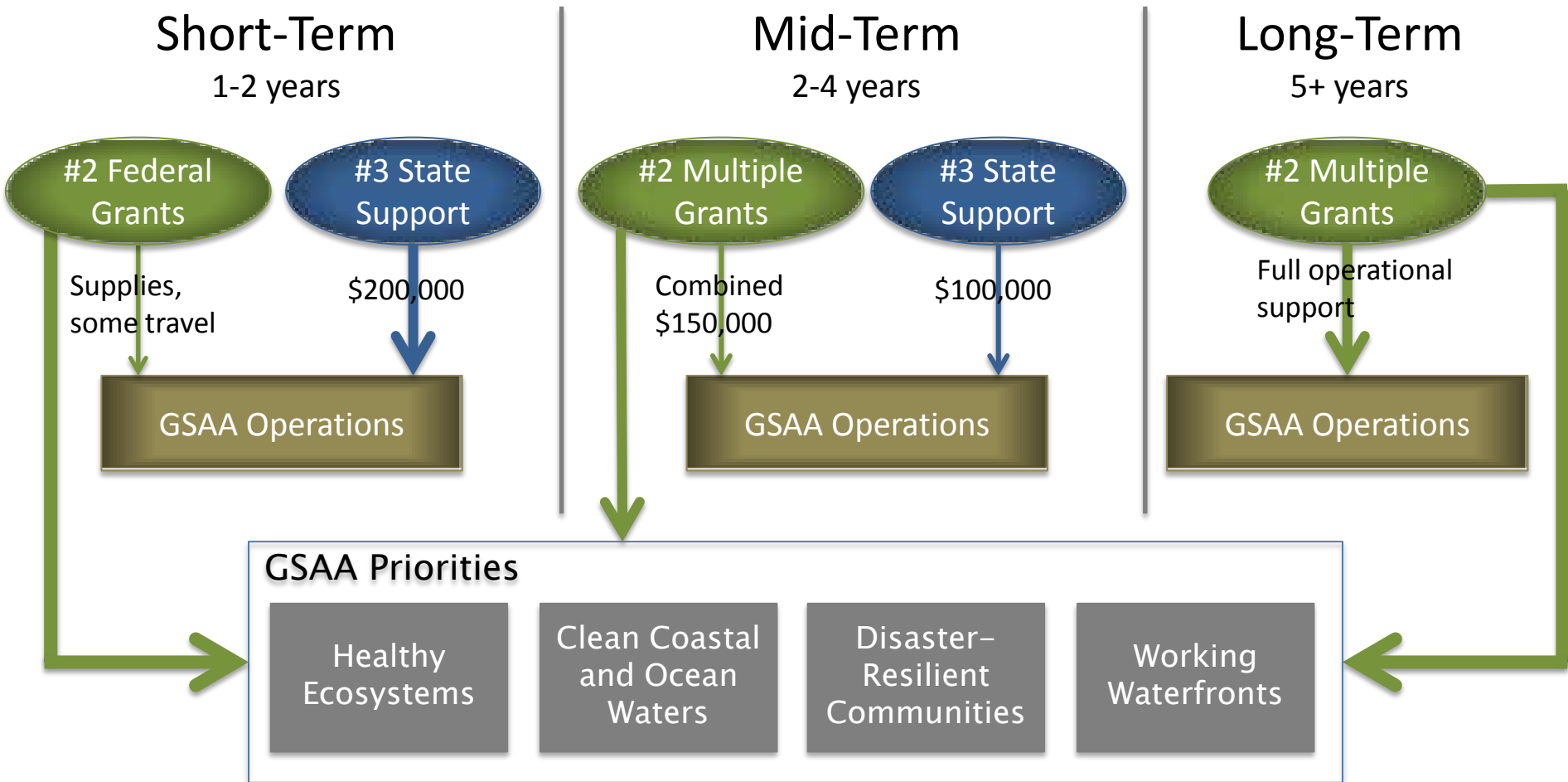
Pros

- Diversity of funding increases stability
- Funding limited by number of successful grant proposals

Cons

- Priorities must be responsive to funding opportunities
- Time consuming, heavy administration
- Difficult to find dedicated operational support

Vision for GSAA Funding Stability



Options for GSAA Funding Stability

1. NOAA Supported (Current Model)

Operational support from any single federal agency through a program dedicated to supporting ROPs.

Pros

- Single source of operational funds
- Dedicated to federally-supported ROP priorities

Cons

- Existing model is not stable
- Limited funding

1. Agency Supported (Alternative Model)

Operational support from a single federal agency or multiple agencies through a program dedicated to supporting ROPs.

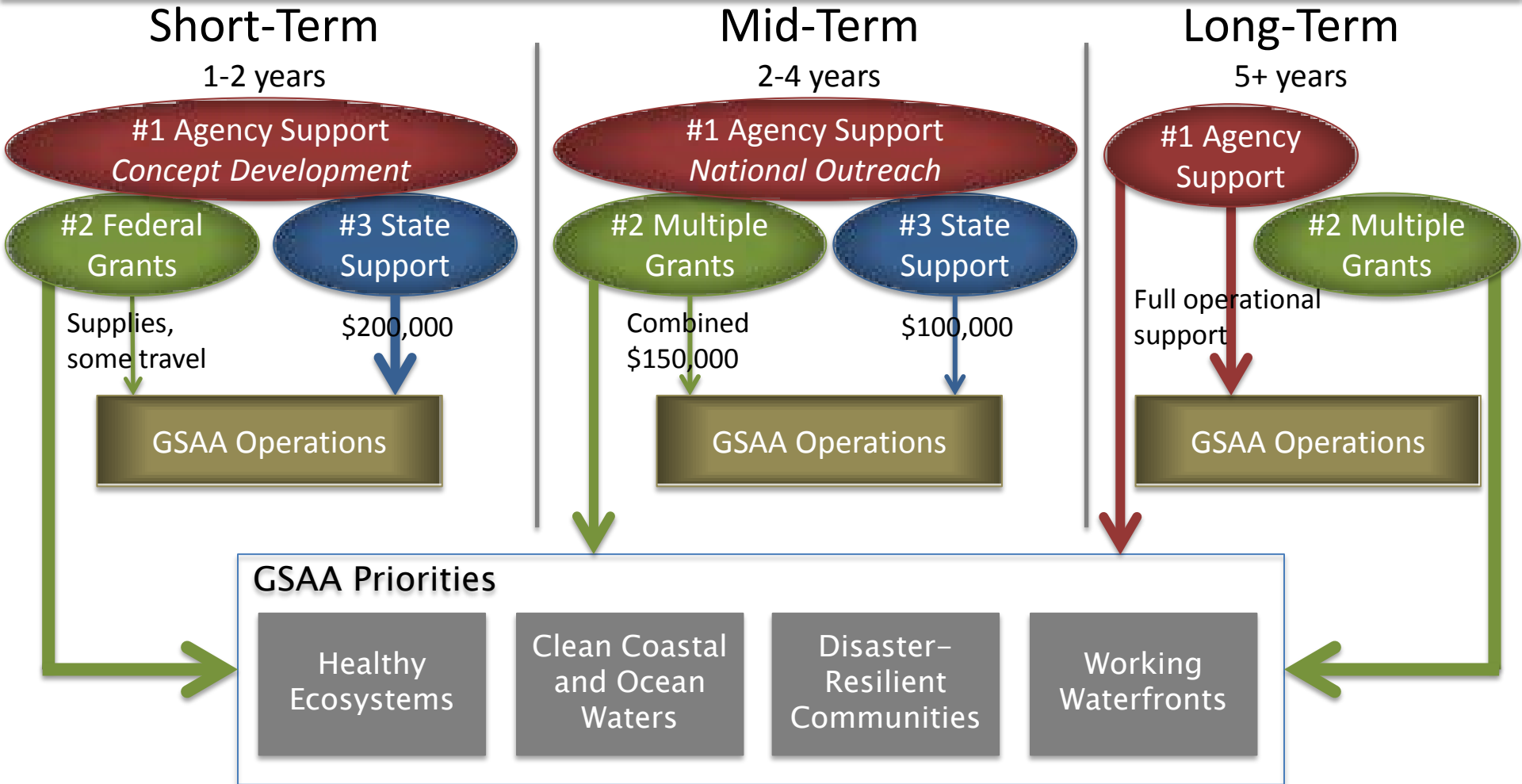
Pros

- Single source of operational funds
- Dedicated to federally-supported ROP priorities
- Complete re-branding to separate ROP initiative from National Ocean Policy

Cons

- For model to be stable, would require significant national budget initiative
- Success based on ability to get state and partner support behind initiative
- Timeframe could be 5+ years for multiple-step process

Vision for GSAA Funding Stability



Relationship to Resilience

Short-Term

1-2 years

IATT resilience-related projects

- Post-disaster recovery planning with local communities
- Outreach on water quality best management practices
- Working waterfronts inventory
- Ecological and social resilience

Mid-Term

2-4 years

IATT guided resilience projects

- Living shorelines and other restoration projects
- Sediment management planning

Long-Term

5+ years

Prepared Coast

- Large and small-scale projects have provided practical, effective products and information
- Should an environmental or natural disaster impact the South Atlantic, the GSAA has a clear role in supporting state and federal response, recovery, restoration, and redevelopment efforts

Conclusions

Keys to success

- Building relationships with industry, academia, and other private sector partners
- A stable source of core operational funding
- A long-term vision for the GSAA and its financial stability
- Executive Planning Team actively invested in the success of the GSAA
- Good communication