# CERF Theory of Change

The second phase of the CERF program will provide implementation grants on a rolling and competitive basis to fund proposals aligned with regional roadmaps established in Phase 1. Projects should aim to transform their regional economy through groups of complementary and aligned projects organized under a unified vision to support socially and environmentally responsible industry growth across the region. A separate SFP for Phase 2 will be released with more detail on project criteria. The Theory of Change of CERF is outlined below:

Inputs

* $5 M to establish HRTC
* Technical assistance from the State
* Existing planning efforts or development processes in the region
* Input from regional stakeholders (e.g. labor, community groups, local governments, business groups, etc.)

Activities

* Community outreach
* HRTC meetings
* Research
* Regional plan and strategy development
* Reporting to State

Outputs

* Inclusive governance and planning structures
* HRTC meetings
* Regional plans
* Recommendations for Phase 2 investments
* Region-specific goals or targets
* Phase 2 investments

Outcomes

* Development of social infrastructure for inclusive regional planning processes
* Increased access to economic development and planning processes
* Measurable criteria for improvement in planning process
* Measurable progress for region-specific goals and targets
* Increased connectivity to related programs and funding sources
* Phase 2 investment outcomes

Impacts & Vision

* Impacts: measurable improvement in plans to increase economic resiliency, job quality and access, and investments in disinvested communities and sustainable industries
* Vision: to build an equitable and sustainable economy across California’s diverse regions and foster long-term economic resilience in the overall transition to a carbon-neutral economy