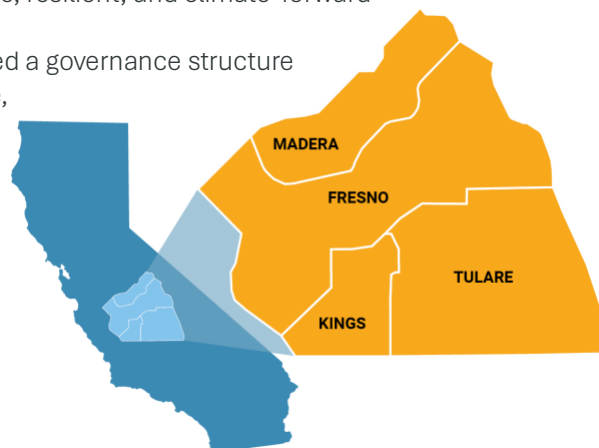


What is CA Jobs First?

California Jobs First is an initiative focused on fostering job creation and economic growth within California. It aims to prioritize and promote economic and workforce development, creating good jobs and prioritizing industry sectors for future growth.

What is Sierra San Joaquin Jobs?

- a. In 2023, the Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Initiative (S2J2) embarked on an **intensive, community-led process, fueled by data**, to identify regional goals and economic opportunities in line with the State's 'Jobs First' objectives. Data showed that despite having abundant natural resources and a young, growing working population, the Central San Joaquin Valley suffers some of the worst economic, health, and social disparities in the country. Fueled by an unwavering commitment to better the place we call home, our coalition set out to answer the question: "What will it take to fundamentally transform our region and forge an inclusive, resilient, and climate-forward economy?"
- b. In 2023, S2J2 (formally known as Valley CERF) established a governance structure for equitable participation across Fresno, Madera, Tulare, and Kings Counties. Over 120 residents from various stakeholder groups formed 'Local Tables,' conducting SWOT analyses, engaging in monthly meetings, and participating in regional congresses. Grassroots organizations were commissioned, and research partners produced a Baseline Report and identified promising economic frameworks. Local CBOs and civic organizations were surveyed for projects aligned with California Jobs First goals.



How is S2J2 structured?

- a. The Valley CERF coalition represents all aspects of inclusive economic and community development in California's Central San Joaquin Valley. The coalition is as diverse as the region, yet we share this vision: "to foster an inclusive, resilient, and sustainable economy that creates quality jobs and provides equitable economic access to all across the Central San Joaquin Valley."
- b. Recognizing the geographic size, diversity, and complexity of the region and the need to balance power among stakeholders and across multiple jurisdictions, S2J2 offers a collaborative governance structure and decision-making process that allows for maximum input and inclusion at the local level.
- c. There are four "**Local Tables**", each representing a different region (Fresno Rural, Fresno Urban (DRIVE), Madera, Kings/Tulare) and is made up of multiple representatives from the following stakeholder groups: (1) Labor/Worker Centered Organizations; (2) Employers, Business Associations, and Economic Development Organizations; (3) Education, Workforce Development and Training; (4) Local Governments; (5) Tribal entities; (6) Environment and Environmental Justice; and (7) CBOs and Community Voices.

Glossary of Terms

1. Local Stakeholders
2. Local Convener
3. Regional Stakeholders
4. Regional Convener
5. Regional Plan Part 1
6. Spring Sprint
7. Regional Plan Part 2
8. Regional Congress

Who is part of the Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Team?

Here we can say CVCF is the Fiscal Agent and Regional Convener. And then mention our Local conveners and what area they convene.

Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Timeline

Phase 1: Planning Phases

Each region received \$5 million to establish an inclusive regional economic development process, fueled by research, to inform economic development strategies and create regional economic development plans.

Phase 2: Catalyst Program

Each region received up to \$14 million to sustain inclusive regional economic development processes and bridge the gap between Planning Phase and Implementation Phase.

Phase 3: Implementation

The State will invest a total of \$268 million into ready-to-go projects that align with Regional Economic Development Plans, through rolling competitive grants between Winter 2024 through Fall 2026.

Join Us!

Stay in the loop with all things S2J2 Initiative!

View Our Upcoming Events

Stay in the loop with our comprehensive online calendar, showcasing all S2J2 meetings & events.

[View Calendar](#)

Get Monthly Updates

The Sierra San Joaquin Jobs Initiative newsletter will be your go-to source for staying informed on the latest updates and exciting developments.

[Sign Up Today!](#)