

HAWAII
Quarterly Narrative Report
ARRA Green Jobs State LMI Improvement Grants
SGA/DFA PY-08-17

General Grant Information

SGA Type: **SGA/DFA-08-17**

Grantee Name: **Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**

Project Name: **ARRA Green Jobs State LMI Improvement Grant**

Grant Number: **GJ-19811-10-60-A-15**

Report Quarter Ending: **March 31, 2010**

Date of Submission: **April 25, 2011**

Program Contact Information: **Francisco P. Corpuz**

A. Summary of Grant Activities

Community outreach has been our focus during the first quarter of 2011. We have successfully completed first-round outreach to each of the State's four counties, with the primary objective being the communication of findings from the green jobs baseline assessment report released in December. Presentations to policy makers, the University of Hawaii System, industry associations, local businesses, and community groups has also served as an opportunity for us to gain direct feedback on the development of green workforce development programs and tools. In addition to engaging with our stakeholders via site visits, we continue to participate in both local and national conferences such as the Innovation Symposium hosted by the UH and National Academy of Sciences on January 13-14.

In the area of new green-related content, we are finalizing a model-based forecast of our green jobs baseline assessment in collaboration with the Economic Research Organization at the University of Hawaii (UHERO). This report will be released at the end of April, and includes long-term projections by major industry and occupational groups at an eight-year horizon. We have also completed localized profiles of the top three green industries per county, which include key statistics, occupational descriptions, current projects/employers, and relevant training sources. These are geared primarily as a tool for job seekers and career counselors considering green career pathways. Finally, we have initiated a skills gap assessment. This project was to be outsourced to the UH Community Colleges, however, due to contracting challenges and time constraints, in-house staff was allocated to the project. The skills gap assessment has been scaled to a single-sector approach that will serve as a model for replication to other industries. We anticipate publication of this report by mid-May 2011.

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Content delivery has been our third priority. We continue to work on the development of a green jobs portal, which is currently scheduled for public release on May 5. This website will provide: a real-time green jobs data bank (based on the State of Hawaii's HireNet system); green career pathway profiles and videos; access to green labor market information; customized data dashboard; information on green training programs and funding sources; directory of green businesses. We have also recently procured the data services of several LMI providers including TORQ, HWOL and EMSI. Staff training was provided for all of these products, and we are currently using these tools to support our data analytics.

A request for a grant modification to extend the time of performance to December 30, 2011 was submitted to the federal Project Officer in the ETA San Francisco Region to meet the remaining grant deliverables.

B. Status Update on Strategic Partnership Activities

Community outreach was delivered at the county level. In collaboration with the local workforce investment boards (WIBs) and OneStop Career Centers, trips were scheduled to meet with green stakeholders in Kauai (1/26-27), Hawaii (2/23-25), Maui (3/30-31), and Oahu (ongoing) counties. While each trip was customized to meet local needs, they generally included: presentations to WIBs and OneStop Career Center staff (separately); meetings with community college chancellors; meetings with local economic development boards and county-level energy sustainability offices; worksite visits with local green businesses. In a few cases, we hosted employer workshops and a green workforce development conference open to the general public. Incorporating community feedback into our green LMI product and services deliverables has been a priority, and this is reflected in our multi-channel approach to content delivery.

In partnership with the University of Hawaii's Energy Policy Forum, we were interviewed and will be featured in a green workforce development video that is part of a six-part series, "Hawaii: The State of Clean Energy", aired on local prime-time television on April 20-21, 2011. We are also a co-sponsor of the entire series, which is an important component of the DLIR's community education strategy. Other engagements include participation in programs sponsored by entities such as the City & County of Honolulu's Tour de Trash (community education on sustainability issues) and Malama Learning Center's Green Collar Institute (youth training). We believe that supporting other programs at the county and local levels is essential for ensuring the sustainability of green workforce development.

In addition to these external partnerships, we are strengthening internal relationships via the procurement of innovative LMI data tools, formal training, and a platform of open communication. This includes the sharing of product licensing (e.g., TORQ, HWOL and EMSI) with the Workforce Development Division (WDD) and Workforce Development Council (WDC), accompanied by extensive product evaluation and training. We have also reengaged our Green Workforce Intelligence Network (GWIN), an advisory group comprised of representatives across government, academia, businesses, and civil society. This was done most recently with the convening of a planning session (3/9) to discuss strategies on completing remaining grant deliverables and the potential for a no-cost extension. Finally, we partnered with the WDC to submit an application for the US DOL's Green Jobs Innovation Fund Grant. If successful, this would extend our capacity to further develop green LMI and related analyses in conjunction with green workforce training programs.

We are currently working with the UH Energy Policy Forum to produce: (1) a marketing video highlighting the DLIR's role as a leader in green workforce development; (2) a series of occupational profile videos that reflect local employment opportunities and Hawaii's unique demographics. Both are intended to educate and inspire the local workforce toward the opportunities elucidated by the green jobs baseline report.

We will host a Hawaii Green Workforce Development Forum on May 24, 2011 as a culmination of the LMI Innovation grant. This will be coupled with our sponsorship of a number of local green businesses at a statewide career fair on May 18, 2011.

C. Status Update on Leveraged Resources

No additional resources outside of the grant were used for this quarter.

D. Status of Deliverables and System Building Activities

See Sections A and B above.

E. Key Issues and Technical Assistance Needs

No change from last quarter. We continue to face challenges in finalizing external and internal agreements for acquiring services on our remaining grant

deliverables. Without an approval of a no-cost extension, grant expenditures will likely be impacted.

F. Best Practices and Success Stories

See Sections A and B above. We look forward to sharing some of our best practices and success stories at the ETA State LMI Improvement Grants Symposium to be held on April 28-29, 2011.

G. Additional Information

We submitted a request for a grant modification to extend the time of performance to December 30, 2011.