



**California Emerging Technology Fund
Working Statement**

**ARRA Match Funding and Submission of Unsolicited 2009 Concept Proposals
April 24, 2009**

The following is the Working Statement regarding the process for ARRA match funding and submission of unsolicited Concept Proposals in 2009.

The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) to date has committed one-third of its seed capital to venture philanthropy grantmaking. Please see the Annual Report online for a complete listing and description of all the grants approved to date. CETF currently does not have an open Request for Proposals (RFP) in progress and is not seeking grant applications, but reserves the right to invite an Investment Proposal should an opportunity arise to support an exceptionally promising strategy or proven program to close the Digital Divide. CETF currently is focusing on: supporting existing grant investments; implementing major policy initiatives (such as Digital Literacy, School2Home, California Telehealth Network (CTN), and Smart Housing); ensuring the success of the Broadband Education and Adoption **Get Connected!** to increase adoption; and developing strategic partnerships to attract more resources to close the Digital Divide.

CETF also is working in partnership with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Governor's Administration, Legislature and California Congressional Delegation to secure a fair share of broadband and related-program funding for California from federal economic stimulus American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The CETF Board of Directors has committed up to \$16 million of additional seed capital to leverage and match ARRA funds, of which \$1 million is dedicated for CTN. At the request of other partners, CETF will be preparing and submitting up to three consolidated applications to the federal government on behalf of consortia implementing "shovel-ready" projects related to: (a) Broadband Education and Adoption; (b) Digital Literacy (adult and youth) and Workforce Development; and (c) Computer Recycling (Refurbishing). CETF is reaching out to partners and stakeholders to help develop and prepare these proposals. If you have an existing program and "shovel-ready" project related to one of these three program focuses and want to be considered as part of one of the consolidated application consortia, you may submit the organization profile and complete the Conceptual Proposal form online. CETF also is working with our Rural Regional Consortia and Regional Broadband Collaboratives to identify "shovel-ready" deployment projects and will be cooperating with the CPUC to determine how the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) and CETF seed capital can best be used to attract ARRA funding for broadband deployment in California. The first priorities for use of the CETF seed capital dedicated to leverage ARRA funds will be for these stated purposes. After the first round of ARRA applications and decisions have been made, CETF will assess the availability of remaining seed capital designated for ARRA leverage and decide whether or not to invite proposals from individual organizations for match funding.

Outside of an open RFP timeframe, interested parties may submit Concept Proposals as per the instructions on the CETF website. An inventory of submitted Concept Proposals will be retained and reported periodically to the CETF Board of Directors to determine if a complete Investment Proposal should be invited. However, CETF does not commit to reviewing or evaluating any of the Concept Proposals submitted outside an open RFP. Those submitting Concept Proposals outside of an open RFP will be notified directly when an RFP is released. Those that have submitted Concept Proposals will have an opportunity to revise and refine them in response to the RFP. Interested parties should closely review the CETF Strategic Action Plan and Annual Report to determine whether or not their organization focus and proposed project align with the CETF mission and priorities. Prospective grantees also need to be prepared to strive for the highest levels of performance and to work diligently to achieve outcomes as partners with CETF.