



## **Invitation to Join with Action Learning, Action Research Association Inc (ALARA) in a Strategic Alliance**

Action Learning Action Research Association Inc (ALARA) has operated since 1991. It has members around the globe, who are dedicated to the promotion and use of Action Learning and Action Research.

ALARA wishes to identify significant people and organisations that are willing to engage in strategic alliances or joint ventures to further ALARA's aims to grow the recognition and use of Action Learning and Action Research within the world's communities. These people and organisations will have a similar desire to expand the use of Action Learning and Action Research, possibly as a means to further their own business or community objectives.

ALARA therefore wants to work with organisations with Action Learning / Action Research interests to utilise ALARA's reputation to develop new ideas and new activities related to Action Learning and Action Research. While ALARA would expect that the partner organisation would have a relatively free hand to develop its particular area of interest, ALARA would need to reach agreement with that organisation to define the activities, limits to decision-making, and other operational guidelines, so that both organisations can flourish, while maintaining their separate sovereignty.

ALARA has previously arranged such alliances with organisations to conduct Australasian conferences and World Congresses (the 2015 World Congress in South Africa in November this year being a current example).

These alliances or joint ventures are not limited, however, to conferences. Examples of the types of activities envisaged with this initiative include:

- Education programs for communities and groups who wish to undertake a project using Action Learning / Action Research
- Development of and production of online or hard copy publications in Action Learning / Action Research, including publishing abstracts, case studies and other content about researchers and practitioners' work in Action Learning and Action Research
- Community, organisational or group projects utilising Action Learning / Action Research, possibly with the support of expertise from amongst ALARA's membership
- Skill development and skill recognition for Action Learning / Action Research practitioners
- Development of online resources in Action Learning and Action Research
- Expansion of ALARA's network of Action Learning and Action Research practitioners through connections with other similar networks and organisations

ALARA would aim to ensure that each alliance / joint venture was discrete and not directly competing. ALARA's Management Committee would oversee these alliances / joint ventures, possibly through a joint steering group with peers from the partner organisation.

ALARA seeks business cases and proposals from organisations interested in collaborating with ALARA. These proposals can be relatively brief, but should address the following key points.

- Title
- Brief overview

- Information about the proposer (which could be links to website and material about the proposer) to allow ALARA to gain an understanding of the proposer's background, usual activities / operations, why Action Learning and Action Research is important to the proposer, and information about the proposer's past activities in this area
- Desired outcomes from the venture / activity
- Anticipated audience(s)
- Commencement date and length of the venture / activity
- Description of the proposed venture / activity, including relevance and impact to Action Learning and Action Research in the community / intended audience
- Resources required (number of people, specific skills, physical and non-physical resources, finances, etc.)
- Source(s) of those resources
- Anticipated total budget and expected overall cost or profit
- Use and ownership of intellectual property (IP) arising during the venture / activity <sup>(1)</sup>
- Expected input from the proposer
- Expected input from ALARA
- Termination or transition arrangements <sup>(2)</sup>

(1) Any IP owned by ALARA and the partner organisation before the agreement would remain the property of the original owner. The proposal should address use of either party's IP, and the ownership of new IP developed during the venture / activity. For example, it is ALARA's practice to share copyright of published material with the authors of that material.

(2) The proposal should address what will happen at the end of the venture / activity: what happens to any remaining resources, finances, expenses, etc.?

The Management Committee has developed the following description of ALARA to define the boundaries for these strategic alliances / joint ventures. The statement contains ALARA's Vision, Mission and services (the types of activities it wishes to provide its membership and the community of Action Learning / Action Research in general).

## **Action Learning, Action Research Association Inc**

### **Who We Are**

Action Learning, Action Research Association Inc (ALARA) is a global network of programs, institutions, professionals, and people interested in using Action Learning and Action Research to generate collaborative learning, training, research and action to advance social change and transform workplaces, schools, colleges, universities, communities, voluntary organisations, governments and businesses.

### **Our Vision**

ALARA's vision is that Action Learning and Action Research will be widely used and publicly shared by individuals, groups and organisations creating local and global change for the achievement of a more equitable, just, joyful, productive, peaceful and sustainable society.

### **Our Mission (Corporate Objective)**

To promote by all available means the scientific study, practice, research and teaching of Action Learning, Action Research and Process Management, and to bring together those of whatsoever professional discipline who are concerned with Action Learning, Action Research and Process Management

### **Our Services and Activities**

ALARA accomplishes its mission through direct services to its member institutions, programs, professionals and people. It achieves this Mission currently, and into the future, by:

#### **1. Centrally**

- Advancing and promoting the purpose, values, principles, objectives, and use of Action Learning and Action Research
- Developing, promoting and growing a global network of Action Learning and Action Research practitioners and organisations
- Liaising and collaborating with institutions, schools, colleges, universities, communities, voluntary organisations, governments and businesses interested in Action Learning and Action Research through consortia, alliances and joint projects
- Directly influencing organisational, government and country policies in relation to Action Learning and Action Research
- Organising and conducting (often in conjunction with a local branch, chapter or organisation(s)) Action Learning and Action Research World Congresses
- Organising and co-ordinating (often in conjunction with a local branch, chapter or organisation(s)) Continent / Region Conferences (such as the Australasian Conferences)
- Publishing a globally available peer-reviewed Journal on Action Learning and Action Research
- Providing an electronic publishing location(s) that encourages the documenting of the theoretical and practical work of Action Learning and Action Research practitioners, and in particular, developing practitioners

- Promoting curriculum development and innovation and providing a forum for publication and discussion of Action Learning and Action Research scholarship, practices, and issues
- Developing and maintaining a global electronic resource of Action Learning and Action Research articles, stories, sound, picture and video files, and information for use by those interested in Action Learning and Action Research
- Promoting the establishment of local ALARA branches and chapters across member institutions, programs, professionals, and workplaces for collaborative inquiry to advance social change issues
- Promoting Action Learning and Action Research joint projects with member institutions, programs, professionals, and people
- Developing appropriate Action Learning and Action Research principles and accreditation for member institutions, programs, professionals, and people, and a mechanism for recognition of achievement against those principles and requirements
- Recognising outstanding achievements by Action Learning and Action Research practitioners through a Global Honour Society

## **2. Locally**

- Advancing the purpose, values, principles, objectives, and use of Action Learning and Action Research
- Encouraging the networking of Action Learning and Action Research practitioners at a local level, and with their global peers
- Conducting local events (seminars, workshops, conferences) related to Action Learning and Action Research
- Providing training, coaching, and mentoring in Action Learning and Action Research
- Providing internship / externship opportunities and research publications for students, faculty, and career resources for graduates
- Honouring best practices in Action Learning and Action Research that build towards high achievement