

Terraform Provider Aliases

Provider Aliases

- What are Aliases?
- Aliases extends the default provider configuration, by allowing you to define multiple settings for the same provider
 - Aliases are completely optional, and for single region deployments, generally not required
- Aliases allow you to extend your Terraform infrastructure:
 - Multi-region deployment
 - Provision resources in different regions
 - Multi-account access
 - Provision resources, or read state data, in different AWS accounts

```
# The default provider configuration; resources that use this
# it as the default, and it can be referenced as 'aws'
provider "aws" {
    region = "us-east-1"
}

# Additional provider configuration for west coast
# reference this as 'aws.west'.
provider "aws" {
    alias   = "west"
    region = "us-west-2"
}
```

Provider Aliases

- By default, Terraform uses provider setting without alias defined
- In example: "us-east-1" is the default region used, and an additional "west" alias is created to access "us-west-2"
- To create an alias, simply use the `alias` keyword in a new provider setting
 - Define the name of the alias
 - Define additional settings, such as region, profile, etc.
 - Settings depend on what provider you are using

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    region = "us-west-2"
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Provider Aliases

- How can you start using an Alias?
 - You need to specifically mention alias in resource, otherwise Terraform will use default provider settings
- Reference the alias, by the provider key and supply it with alias
- Best practice is to reference the provider at the first line
 - Easier to read and identify which provider is used for particular resource

```
resource "aws_instance" "main" {  
  provider = alias.west  
  ami = data.aws_ami.aws_linux_2.id  
  
  instance_type           = "t3.small"  
  associate_public_ip_address = true  
  
  vpc_security_group_ids = [aws_security_group.allow_ssh.id]  
  
  ebs_block_device {  
    device_name = "/dev/sdf"  
    volume_type = "gp2"  
    volume_size = "2"  
  }  
  
  tags = merge(local.tags, {  
    Name : "levelup_with_terraform"  
  })  
}
```