

The People's JUSTICE40+  
Community Benefit Playbook



The  
Environmental  
and Climate  
Justice  
Playbook



## THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE PLAYBOOK



**The Playbook:** The Environmental and Climate Justice Playbook is a community guide to deepening community knowledge of environmental and climate injustices, identifying potential community strategies to address these injustices, and leveraging the the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to meet community needs. It is one section of a comprehensive Playbook that provides an overview of the Justice40 Initiative, answers a range of questions about the different federal spending bills, and provides a step-by-step guide to building your own Community Benefit Plan. The complete Justice40+ Community Benefit Playbook can be found [here](#).

**The Goal:** This Playbook, and each of the sector playbooks, are designed to help communities:

1. deepen community knowledge of federal investment opportunities;
2. build a multi-stakeholder community coalition to access federal investment opportunities; and
3. develop a Community Benefit Plan that centers community priorities and identifies community-driven strategies for investing in community needs.

## THE PROBLEM

Low-income, rural, immigrant, and/or Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, frontline communities (communities who experience the “first and worst” consequences of climate change), and fenceline communities are challenged everyday by a legacy of environmental racism. Environmental racism has been defined by Dr. Robert Bullard to include “any policy, practice, or directive that differentially affects or disadvantages (where intended and unintended) individuals, groups, or communities based on race.” **Environmental racism** is another form of systemic racism that has evolved due to:

- **Redlining:** Redlining was a practice of designating any community that was inhabited by even a single Black person as a risky investment for banks and mortgage lenders. This practice was adopted by Federal agencies and private banks and applied to mortgages, home improvement loans, commercial construction, and business loans and lines of credit. Redlining denied financial services to any community (or a business looking to invest in a community) inhabited by Black residents, thus incentivizing segregation and fueling disinvestment in communities of color.<sup>2</sup>
- **Polluting Industries:** Due to the low property value, polluting industries sought to site their facilities in low income communities of color.<sup>3</sup>
- **Local Zoning Decisions:** Local zoning boards have the power to divide land into areas designated for specific land uses, such as residential, commercial, and industrial. To accommodate polluting industries, local zoning boards re-zoned communities of color for industrial use.<sup>4</sup>



## THE PROBLEM (CONT.)

In addition to the injustice of environmental racism, low-income communities and communities of color are also disproportionately harmed by climate change (an increase in our global temperature due primarily to the use of fossil fuels and its associated carbon emissions) and its health related impacts<sup>5</sup>. The increase in our global temperature is causing sea levels to rise, which is putting our coastal communities at a greater risk of flooding<sup>6</sup>. At the same time, this is also increasing the risk of droughts that can have lasting public impacts, such as poor air and water quality<sup>7</sup>. Further, communities already experiencing the urban heat island effect are subjected to even hotter days due to the increase in extreme heat events driven by climate change<sup>8</sup>. And the warmer, drier conditions created by the rise in temperature is leading to longer and more active wildfire seasons<sup>9</sup>.

Below are some additional examples of environmental and climate related injustices:

**Proximity to Environmental Hazards:** Discriminatory policies and decision making, as well as segregation, has led to low income communities and communities of color being disproportionately exposed to the environmental hazards, and the adverse health impacts, of the polluting industries sited within their communities<sup>10</sup>. Studies have shown that low income and communities of color are more likely to be in close proximity to hazardous waste facilities<sup>11</sup>, oil and gas facilities and refineries<sup>12</sup>, and chemical plants<sup>13</sup>, with many of these facilities being sited and built within their communities without their participation or consent<sup>14</sup>. Living in close proximity to these facilities has put them at greater risk of morbidity (disease) and mortality (death) due to cancers<sup>15</sup> and respiratory diseases<sup>16</sup>.

**Water Contamination:** Our water can be contaminated in a number of ways. Drinking water can be contaminated by PFAS (harmful chemicals used in consumer products and industrial processes) due to the proximity of airports, military training areas, industrial sites, and wastewater treatment plants to our groundwater supply<sup>17</sup>. Corroded lead service lines (the pipes that connect our homes to our community water system) can send drinking water contaminated with lead into our homes<sup>18</sup>. Stormwater runoff can carry various metals and chemical pollutants into our streams and groundwater<sup>19</sup>. And fracking (a process used to extract oil and gas from the ground) can leak chemicals into our local water supply<sup>20</sup>. You can read more about each of these types of water contamination in the [Water Justice Playbook](#).





## THE PROBLEM (CONT.)

**Greenhouse Gases and Other Air Pollutants** :Particulate matter consists of solid and liquid particles that are emitted into the air through road and agricultural dust, diesel fuel use, and industrial activity<sup>21</sup>, such as fossil fuel production. Due to the size, density, thermal conditions, and wind speed, particulate matter will remain in the air as air pollution—the primary environmental hazard that leads to disease<sup>22</sup>. Fossil fuels—coal, oil, and natural gas—are some of the most pervasive and deadly sources of air pollution<sup>23</sup>. Every stage of the fossil fuel life cycle (extraction, processing, transportation, and combustion) generates greenhouse gas emissions, as well as other air pollutants, and Black, Brown, Indigenous, and poor communities suffer from the disproportionate environmental and health harms associated with this process<sup>24</sup>. In addition to greenhouse gas emissions, PM2.5 (fine air particulate matter) continues to disproportionately impact low income communities and communities of color, despite an overall decline in PM2.5 pollution<sup>25</sup>. Research has shown that communities of color are exposed to a greater than average concentration of PM2.5 emissions sources, such as industry, light duty gas vehicles, heavy duty diesel vehicles, and construction<sup>26</sup>. Further, this disparity exists across states, urban and rural areas, and across income levels<sup>27</sup>.

**Lead Exposure**: Lead is a major neurotoxin that impairs our cognitive, physical, and behavioral functioning—even when present at low levels of exposure<sup>28</sup>. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention has declared that there is no safe level of lead exposure<sup>29</sup>. Lead can be found in leaded paint in older homes built before 1978, and especially before 1950, contaminated soil, air pollution, lead emitting industries, cars, traffic, contaminated drinking water, and tobacco smoke<sup>30</sup>. Children are at an even greater risk of lead exposure due to their rapidly growing bodies making them more receptive to lead if exposed<sup>31</sup>. This is especially true for Black children. Data has shown that Black children are disproportionately more likely to be exposed to lead<sup>32</sup>. A significant racial disparity in blood lead levels among Black children has been documented since 1976 and continues to persist<sup>33</sup>. Being Black remains a strong independent indicator of higher blood lead levels throughout childhood<sup>34</sup>.

**The core principle of infrastructure and clean energy investments should be to invest—first and foremost—in the repair and clean-up of communities impacted most by environmental hazards and climate impacts. In addition to advocating for state and federal funding to remedy environmental harms and climate impacts, consider these strategies in your Environmental and Climate Justice Community Benefit Plan:**

**Human Rights Declaration:** Advocate for clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment for current and future generations. Montana, New York, and Pennsylvania all have language in their state constitutions guaranteeing these rights to their residents. Including the right to clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment in your state constitution could provide an additional tool for challenging state policies that impede your ability to live and thrive in the community you call home. While litigation is not a guaranteed success, youth climate advocates in Montana scored a win in state court when a judge held state energy policies violated their constitutional rights. Advocating for clean air, clean water, and a healthful environment as a guaranteed right could provide an additional path to help remedy environmental and climate injustices in your community.

**Procedural Equity and Procedural Justice:** Demand procedural equity with a vision towards procedural justice. Procedural equity ensures inclusive, accessible, and authentic community engagement and representation in the decision making process. Every regulatory decision that could impact our right to clean air, clean water, or a healthy environment should guarantee procedural equity for the local community members who will be most impacted by those decisions and should ensure impacted community members are adequately resourced to participate in the process. In addition to demanding procedural equity, push for procedural justice. Procedural justice insists on a regulatory framework that centers impacted communities. Rather than defer to industry experts and lobbyists, procedural justice requires that impacted communities lead the decision making process for implementing, monitoring, and enforcing regulations. Demand procedural equity in all water, energy, and environmental regulatory processes and push for community representation on all commissions that oversee water, energy, and environmental regulatory implementation.

**Community Climate Resilience:** Build community climate resilience by planning for extreme weather events. Engage your community leaders and local government officials to discuss emergency preparedness planning and ensure plans are inclusive and accessible to all community members. Common gaps in emergency preparedness or evacuation plans include failing to account for individuals with disabilities, individuals with service or family animals, individuals without access to a vehicle, or people who may experience a language barrier. Collaborate with these climate vulnerable community members, trusted community organizations, and local government officials to ensure emergency preparedness and evacuation plans are inclusive, well advertised, and distributed in the native language of all community members.

**Just Transition Framework:** This Framework outlines a set of strategies that focus on transitioning communities away from an extractive economy that centers capitalism and exploits both people and the planet to a regenerative economy that is sustainable, collaborative, and restorative and centers community. Through the overarching themes of “blocking the bad” and “building the new,” the Just Transition Framework defines the current practices of an extractive economy and outlines a vision for an equitable and just future. Through this visioning and its proposed values, communities can build a local strategy that centers the needs of the community, pushes back against extractive policies, and builds the necessary community infrastructure to support the well-being of people and our planet.



## WHERE TO START

**Clarify Your Community Vision:** Work with your community to identify your community goals and envision the future you want to see for your community. Try not to limit your imagination when engaging in these conversations. Focusing on individual problems may unintentionally narrow the scope of potential solutions. Thinking expansively about what your community wants to achieve can help generate additional creativity around how you can achieve your goals.

**Name Your Strengths:** Think expansively about your community strengths. What skills, knowledge, expertise, resources, or stories does your community hold? Whether it's storytelling, research capabilities, relationship building, public meeting space, or lived experiences, all of these assets will be necessary to implement any potential strategies to fulfill your community vision.

**Identify Strategies to Achieve Your Vision:** Once you've clarified your community vision and named your assets, work backwards to identify potential strategies to accomplish your community goals. Be mindful of the landscape of the particular issue your community wants to address, any power dynamics that may be in play, and any gaps in resources you'll need to fill to implement your strategies. Think through questions around who's responsible for monitoring your key issue and what, if any, state laws and regulations or city ordinances exist to regulate the issue. Identify the players who are working to alleviate your concerns and those who are exacerbating the problems. Get familiar with any regulatory processes that are in place to address any complaints or concerns. Understanding these current structures will help you think expansively and creatively around identifying potential strategies that exist both within and outside our current constructs.

### Tools to Identify, Connect, and Operationalize the Data around Water Infrastructure

[National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Wildfire Tracker](#)—If your community is at risk for wildfires, use the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Wildfire Tracker to identify any potential wildfire risks in your community.

[National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's The Climate Explorer](#)—This mapping tool identifies how our climate is projected to change over time. Using the different types of mapping, you can identify how temperatures, precipitation rates, flooding, and weather events could impact your community in the future. This mapping tool also identifies resources to help facilitate community resilience planning.

[Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#)—The Council on Environmental Quality created the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) to help federal agencies define and identify disadvantaged communities for the purpose of complying with the Justice40 Initiative.

Using CEJST, federal agencies will consider a community disadvantaged if:

- the community is at or above the threshold for one or more of the eight categories of burden AND the community is at or above the threshold for an associated socioeconomic burden (income level); OR
- the community falls within the boundaries of a Federally recognized Tribe (including Alaska Native Villages).



## WHERE TO START (CONT.)

The eight categories of burden include: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development.

Communities will meet the threshold for the category of climate change if they are in a census tract (identified using the 2010 U.S. Census) that:

- is at or above the 90th percentile for **expected agriculture loss rate** OR **expected building loss rate** OR **expected population loss rate** OR **projected flood risk** OR **projected wildfire risk**
- AND is at or above the 65th percentile for **low income**.

**Expected Agriculture Loss Rate:** Expected agriculture value at risk from losses due to fourteen types of natural hazards. These hazards have some link to climate change. They are: avalanche, coastal flooding, cold wave, drought, hail, heat wave, hurricane, ice storm, landslide, riverine flooding, strong wind, tornado, wildfire, and winter weather. The rate is calculated by dividing the agricultural value at risk by the total agricultural value.

**Expected Building Loss Rate:** Expected building value at risk from losses due to fourteen types of natural hazards. These hazards have some link to climate change. They are: avalanche, coastal flooding, cold wave, drought, hail, heat wave, hurricane, ice storm, landslide, riverine flooding, strong wind, tornado, wildfire, and winter weather. The rate is calculated by dividing the building value at risk by the total building value.

**Expected Population Loss Rate:** Expected fatalities and injuries due to fourteen types of natural hazards each year. They are: avalanche, coastal flooding, cold wave, drought, hail, heat wave, hurricane, ice storm, landslide, riverine flooding, strong wind, tornado, wildfire, and winter weather. Population loss is defined by the Spatial Hazard Events and Losses and National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). It reports the number of fatalities and injuries caused by the hazard. An injury is counted as one-tenth (1/10) of a fatality. The NCEI Storm Events Database classifies both direct and indirect injuries. Both types are counted as population loss. The total number is divided by the population in the census tract to get the population loss rate.

**Projected Flood Risk:** A high precision, climate-adjusted model that projects flood risk for properties in the future. The dataset calculates how many properties are at risk of floods occurring in the next thirty years from tides, rain, riverine and storm surges, or a 26% risk total over the 30-year time horizon. The risk is defined as an annualized 1% chance. The tool calculates tract-level risk as the share of properties meeting the risk threshold. The risk does not consider property value.

**Projected Wildfire Risk:** A 30-meter resolution model projecting the wildfire exposure for any specific location in the contiguous U.S., today and with future climate change. The risk of wildfire is calculated from inputs associated with fire fuels, weather, human influence, and fire movement. The risk does not consider property value.





Many of the programs established within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) make investments in clean air, clean water, building community climate resilience, and restoring our ecosystem; however, most of this funding will flow through state or local government agencies or other eligible entities, such as community-based organizations, before it reaches your community. This means collaborating with these entities will be imperative to ensure your community benefits from these programs.

Further, most of these programs will also fall within the Justice40 Initiative. The Justice40 Initiative created a goal for federal agencies to ensure that at least 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments benefit disadvantaged communities.

To clarify which federal investments must benefit disadvantaged communities, the Administration defined a Justice40 Program as one that makes federal investments in one or more of the following categories: climate change, clean energy and energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable and sustainable housing, workforce development, remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and critical clean water infrastructure. Because many of the IIJA and IRA environmental and climate related programs fall within these investment categories, Federal agencies will need to ensure disadvantaged communities are benefiting from these IIJA and IRA investments.

**Programs that Target Low Income and Disadvantaged Communities**—Several programs within IIJA and IRA specifically target benefits to low income and disadvantaged communities. The programs are listed below:

- The **Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program** is designed to fund community-led projects in disadvantaged communities to address air pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to engage in government processes that create environmental and climate policy. Community-based nonprofit organizations can use this funding to support green infrastructure, community microgrids and resilience hubs, brownfields redevelopment, and air pollution reduction related to transportation infrastructure. Work with your local community-based organizations to see how this program can benefit your community.

# GENERAL FEDERAL FUNDING GUIDANCE (CONT.)



7.10

- **Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund**
  - **Solar For All** is designed to help low income and disadvantaged communities access affordable, resilient, and clean solar energy. State, local, and Tribal governments, as well as nonprofit organizations were eligible for this funding to implement this program. Connect with your government officials and solar organizations to get more information about how Solar For All will show up in your community.
  - **The National Clean Investment Fund** provides accessible and affordable financing for clean technology projects, such as zero emissions building development. At least 40% of these funds must be used to provide financial assistance to low income and disadvantaged communities. Engage your local financing institutions (such as credit unions, green banks, and community development financial institutions) to see how this program could benefit your community.
  - **The Clean Communities Investment Accelerator** provides funding and technical assistance to local community lenders (such as credit unions, green banks, and community development financial institutions) to build their capacity to finance clean technology projects in low income and disadvantaged communities. While this funding is technically going to local financing institutions, 100% of this funding must be used to support low income and disadvantaged communities. Work with your local financing institutions to see how your community could benefit from this program.
- **The Fenceline Air Monitoring Program** provides funding to support air monitoring capabilities and activities in low income and disadvantaged communities. Engage your state, local, or Tribal air quality control agencies to ensure your community is benefiting from this air monitoring funding.
- **The Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund** and **Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund** are state programs that provide low interest loans to community water systems for water infrastructure projects, expanding drinking water treatment plants, addressing water contaminants, and replacing lead service lines. Of the funding states received from IIJA, states must use at least 49% of the funding to provide grants and principal loan forgiveness to disadvantaged communities. If clean water is a concern for your community, contact your **Clean Water State Revolving Fund Coordinator** or your **Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Coordinator** to identify ways your community can benefit from this program.
- **The Indian Health Service Sanitation Facilities Construction Program** provides Federally recognized Tribal governments with technical and financial assistance to develop and construct safe drinking water supply, sewage, and solid waste disposal facilities. Engage your Tribal leaders to see how this program can benefit your community.

# GENERAL FEDERAL FUNDING GUIDANCE (CONT.)



7.11

- **The Air Quality Sensors in Low Income and Disadvantaged Communities Program** is designed to provide air quality sensors to low income and disadvantaged communities. This funding is available to state, local, and Tribal air quality control agencies to purchase, deploy, integrate, and operate air quality sensors. If poor air quality is an environmental hazard in your community, engage with these officials to find out how your community can benefit from this additional air monitoring.
- **The Funding to Address Air Pollution at Schools Program** provides funding and technical assistance for school air pollution reduction projects in low income and disadvantaged communities. States, local government officials, Tribes, and nonprofit organizations are eligible for this funding so communities will need to collaborate with these entities to address their school air quality concerns.
- **Tribal Climate Resilience Programs** are available to Tribal communities to help support climate resilience and adaptation or community relocation planning. Engage your Tribal leaders to discuss how your community could use this funding.
- **The Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program for At Risk Communities** provides funding to develop and implement Community Wildfire Protection Plans. Communities considered “at risk” are those who are low income, have a high wildfire hazard potential, or have been impacted by a severe disaster that affects the risk of wildfire. Engage your local government or Tribal officials and state forestry agencies to learn more about this funding opportunity.
- **The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation–Small and Underserved Communities Emerging Contaminants Grant Program** is available to help underserved communities comply with the Safe Drinking Water Act requirements and address emerging contaminants. Engage your state or Tribal water officials to determine if your community is eligible for this program.
- **The Emergency Drought Relief for Tribes Program** is available to fund projects that mitigate near term drought impacts that are affected by Bureau of Reclamation water projects. Impacts include drinking water shortages and loss of resources. If this affects your community, engage your Tribal leaders to learn more about how this program could benefit your community.



## ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

The Environmental and Climate Justice Federal Funding Table below identifies environmental and climate justice goals and related federal programs that can help support those goals. You'll also find more information about each program, some potential strategies for accessing each program, and different entities you should consider engaging and/or collaborating with to ensure the funding opportunity benefits your community. While the list of potential collaborators is not an exhaustive list, it provides a starting point for building a coalition around achieving your desired community benefits. Please also refer to the Water Justice Playbook Funding Table for additional applicable resources.



# The People's JUSTICE40+ Community Benefit Playbook



7.13

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Air Pollution Reduction	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)	\$500M: <a href="#">State Energy Program</a>		This funding is for states to support programs that reduce carbon emissions in all sectors of the economy. Engage your state energy officials to see what programs are available to benefit your community.	<a href="#">State Energy Offices and Organizations</a> , Nonprofits and Community-Based Organizations that perform energy audits or assist with home energy efficiency retrofits.
			\$2.8B: <a href="#">Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants</a>	This funding opportunity is available to community-based nonprofit organizations, and local government entities, institutions of higher education, and Federally recognized Tribes in collaboration with community-based nonprofit organizations, to fund air pollution reduction projects that include implementing green infrastructure, "complete streets," waste reduction programs, home energy efficiency retrofits and community microgrids, brownfield redevelopment, community resilience hubs, and associated workforce development programs. Engage these entities to see if there are air pollution reduction projects being developed to benefit your community.	Community-Based Organizations, Environmental and/or Climate Justice Organizations, Local Workforce Development Boards, Labor Unions, Local Government Officials, and Institutions of Higher Education.
	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)	\$250M: <a href="#">Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grants</a>	\$4.6B: <a href="#">Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grants</a>	States, municipalities, Tribes, and Territories are eligible to use this funding to develop and implement climate action plans, which can include building electrification and energy efficiency upgrades. Engage these entities to discuss your community air pollution concerns and identify potential air pollution reduction projects in your community.	<a href="#">Lead Organizations for Planning Grants</a> , State Air Pollution Control Agencies, Local Air Pollution Control Agencies, Municipal offices, Tribes or Tribal consortiums, Territory offices
		\$50M: <a href="#">Funding to Address Air Pollution at Schools</a>		This program provides funding and technical assistance to states, local governments, Tribes, and nonprofit organizations for projects that support improving the air quality in schools in low income and disadvantaged communities. Projects can include developing air and environmental quality plans and identifying and mitigating air pollution hazards. If air pollution is a concern in your community, engage this eligible entities to develop and implement projects that address poor air quality in your schools.	State Environmental Agencies, Local Government Officials, Tribal Leaders, Teachers Unions, Parent and Student Organizations, Environmental Justice Organizations, and Local Air Quality Board



# The People's JUSTICE40+ Community Benefit Playbook



7.14

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING MECHANISMS	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Air Pollution Reduction	IRA		<p><b>\$117.5M: <a href="#">Fenceline Air Monitoring</a></b></p>		<p>This program is available to state, local, and Tribal air agencies to deploy, support, and maintain air monitoring at or near the fenceline, improve fenceline and emerging air toxics monitoring methods, and to enhance mobile monitoring capabilities, especially in low income and disadvantaged communities. If you live in a fenceline community, engage your state, local, and Tribal air officials to ensure your community is benefiting from this air monitoring opportunity.</p>	<p>State, Local, and Tribal Air Quality Officials, Community Based Organizations, and Environmental and/or Climate Justice Organizations.</p>
				<p><b>\$3M: <a href="#">Air Quality Sensors in Low Income and Disadvantaged Communities</a></b></p>		
			<p><b>\$20M: <a href="#">Methane Monitoring</a></b></p>		<p>This program is available to state, local, and Tribal air agencies to help develop their methane monitoring capabilities. If poor air quality is a concern for your community, engage your local air officials to identify ways this program can benefit your community.</p>	
			<p><b>\$15B: <a href="#">Methane Emissions Reduction Program</a></b></p>		<p>This program is available to states, counties, cities and townships, special districts, territories, Tribal governments (both Federally recognized and non-Federally recognized), institutions of higher education, nonprofits, and other entities for monitoring and reducing methane emissions from petroleum and natural gas systems. Engage these eligible entities to ensure your community is benefiting from these methane monitoring and reduction activities.</p>	

# The People's JUSTICE40+ Community Benefit Playbook



7.15

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA FUNDING	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING MECHANISMS	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Air Pollution Reduction	IRA		<p><b>\$14B:</b>  <a href="#">Greenhouse e Gas Reduction Fund: National Clean Investment Fund (NCIF)</a></p>		<p>This funding is for national nonprofit clean financing institutions to provide accessible and affordable financing for clean technology projects, including net-zero emissions building projects. Engage your local community development financial institution (CDFI), credit union, and/or greenbank to learn more about the clean technology projects and financing options available to your community.</p>	<p><a href="#">African American Alliance of CDFI Chief Executive Officers</a>, Local CDFI, Local Credit Unions, Local Greenbanks, <a href="#">Minority and Women Owned Depository Institutions</a>, and Local Housing Finance Agency.</p>
			<p><b>\$6B:</b> <a href="#">Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Clean Communities Investment Accelerator (CCIA)</a></p>		<p>This program provides funding and technical assistance to local community lenders (such as credit unions, green banks, and community development financial institutions) to build their capacity to finance clean technology projects in low income and disadvantaged communities. Engage your local community lenders to determine how your community can benefit from this program.</p>	<p><a href="#">African American Alliance of CDFI Chief Executive Officers</a>, Local CDFI, Local Credit Unions, Local Greenbanks, <a href="#">Minority and Women Owned Depository Institutions</a>, and Local Housing Finance Agency.</p>
			<p><b>\$7B:</b>  <a href="#">Greenhouse e Gas Reduction Fund: Solar For All (S4A)</a></p>		<p>This funding is for states and territories, Tribal governments, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations to expand residential solar opportunities to low income communities. Engage these entities to see if there are residential solar opportunities available to your community.</p>	<p><a href="#">State Energy Offices and Organizations</a>, Municipal Energy Officials, Community Solar Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Nonprofit Organizations, and Tribal Government Energy Officials.</p>

# The People's JUSTICE40+ Community Benefit Playbook



7.16

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING MECHANISMS	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Community Climate Resilience and Capacity Building	IIJA		<p><b>\$18:</b> <a href="#">Community Wildfire Defense Grant Program for At Risk Communities</a></p>		<p>This funding is available to local governments, Tribes, nonprofit organizations, and state forestry agencies in at risk communities (high wildfire hazard potential, low income, or have been impacted by a severe disaster that affects the risk of wildfire) to develop and implement Community Wildfire Protection Plans. If your community is at risk for wildfires, engage these eligible entities to participate in developing and implementing your Community Wildfire Protection Plans.</p>	<p>Local Government Officials, Tribal Leaders, Homeowner Associations, Environmental Justice Organizations, Community Based Organizations, Community Resilience Organizations, and Community Groups.</p>
				<p><b>\$130M:</b> <a href="#">Tribal Climate Resilience Community Relocation</a></p> <p><b>\$86M:</b> <a href="#">Tribal Climate Resilience Adaptation Planning</a></p>	<p>This funding is available to Federally recognized Tribes to help support decision making around community relocation and to support climate resilience and adaptation planning. Engage your Tribal leaders discuss how your community could use this funding.</p>	<p>Tribal Leaders, Indigenous Rights Organizations, Environmental Justice Organizations, and National Tribal Organizations.</p>
			<p><b>\$88M:</b> <a href="#">National Fire Capacity Program</a></p>		<p>This program provides funding to state and local communities to build community capacity for wildfire prevention, mitigation, control, and suppression. If your community is at risk for wildfires, engage your state and local officials to identify ways this program can benefit your community.</p>	<p><a href="#">State Emergency Management Officials</a>, Local Government Officials, Firefighters Associations, Wildfire Management Organizations, Environmental Justice Organizations, Community-Based Organizations, and Community Resilience Organizations.</p>
	IRA		<p><b>\$2.6B:</b> <a href="#">Investing in Coastal Communities and Climate Resilience</a></p>		<p>This program is available to coastal states, Tribal governments, nonprofit organizations, local governments, and institutions of higher education to help coastal communities prepare for extreme storms and changing climate conditions. If you live in coastal community, work with these eligible entities to identify projects and opportunities that can build resilience in your community.</p>	<p><a href="#">State Emergency Management Officials</a>, Local Government Officials, Tribal Leaders, Local Institutions of Higher Education, Water Advocacy Organizations, Conservation Groups, and Environmental Justice Organizations.</p>

# The People's JUSTICE40+ Community Benefit Playbook



7.17

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Community Climate Resilience and Capacity Building	IRA	\$225M: <a href="#">Tribal Climate Resilience</a>		This program is available to Tribal communities for habitat restoration and adaptation activities. Engage your Tribal leaders to identify how this program can benefit your community.	Tribal Leaders, Indigenous Rights Organizations, Environmental Justice Organizations, and National Tribal Organizations.
		\$10M: <a href="#">Tribal Climate Resilience: Fish Hatchery Operations and Maintenance</a>		This program is available to Tribal communities for fish hatchery maintenance and operations. Engage your Tribal leaders to identify ways this program can benefit your community.	
		\$25M: <a href="#">Kapapahulu Climate Resilience Program</a>		This program is available to state and local government officials in Hawai'i, Native Hawai'ian Community Organizations, universities, and other organizations for climate change related activities, environmental hazard analysis, natural and cultural resource management and protection, adaptation planning, and sustainability technical assistance. Engage your state and local officials to identify ways this program can benefit your Hawai'ian community.	State and Local Officials, Native Hawai'ian Community Representatives, Environmental Justice Organizations, Conservation Groups, Universities, and Community-Based Organizations.
Environmental Hazard Remediation	IIJA	\$11.2B: <a href="#">Abandoned Mine Reclamation Fund</a>		This funding is available to states and Tribes to clean up abandoned coal mine sites and their associated problems, including acid mine drainage. If your community sits near abandoned coal mine land, engage your state officials and Tribal leaders to identify ways this funding can address your community's health, safety, environment, and water concerns.	State Department of Natural Resources, Tribal Leaders, Local Government Officials, Environmental Justice Organizations, Community-Based Organizations, Local Educational Institutions, and Water Advocacy Groups.
		\$1.2B: <a href="#">Brownfields Projects</a>		This funding is available to states, counties, cities and townships, Tribes, public housing authorities, Indian housing authorities, and nonprofits for community engagement and planning and brownfield site assessments, planning, and cleanup. If your community is located near a brownfield site, engage those eligible for this funding to ensure your community concerns are addressed.	State Environmental Agency, County Officials, City or Township Officials, Tribal Leaders, Local Public Housing Authorities, Tribal Housing Authorities, Nonprofit Organizations, and Environmental Justice Organizations.

# The People's JUSTICE40+ Community Benefit Playbook



7.18

## ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
<p><b>Community Climate Resilience and Capacity Building</b></p>	<p>IIJA</p>		<p><b>\$10M: <a href="#">READY Appalachia</a></b></p>		<p>These grants and cooperative agreements are available to nonprofit organizations, community foundations, local governments, and local development districts in the Appalachian states (Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia) to build community capacity by providing flexible funding, hands on training, and cohort based learning that helps recipients leverage federal funding and build community projects that address community issues. Funding provided through this program must support the Appalachian Regional Commission's goals which include building Appalachian infrastructure. Engage your local community-based organizations and nonprofit organizations to assess whether your community could benefit from this capacity building program.</p>	<p>Local Government Officials, Nonprofit Organizations, Community Foundations, and Local Development Districts in the Appalachian States (Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia, and West Virginia).</p>
<p><b>MULTIPLE EJ/CJ GOALS</b></p>	<p>IRA</p>		<p><b>\$2.8B: <a href="#">Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants</a></b></p>		<p>This funding opportunity is available to community-based nonprofit organizations, and local government entities, institutions of higher education, and Federally recognized Tribes in collaboration with community-based nonprofit organizations, to fund air pollution reduction projects that include implementing brownfield redevelopment programs. Engage these entities to see if there projects in development that could benefit your community.</p>	<p>Community-Based Organizations, Local Government Officials, Institutions of Higher Education, and Tribal Leaders.</p>



## WHO CAN HELP

Several national organizations and coalitions are working on Economic Justice and have resources to help you develop your energy agenda. Here are some trusted organizations with resources available:

- [Emerald Cities Collaborative](#)
- [Taproot Earth](#)
- [WE ACT for Environmental Justice](#)
- [Climate Justice Alliance](#)
- [The Chisholm Legacy Project](#)
- [NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Program](#)
- [Justice40 Accelerator](#)
- [People's Climate Innovation Center](#)

### Key Energy Players:

- **Environmental Protection Agency**—Federal environmental and climate justice funding will flow through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Use this [link](#) to get information on how to apply for EPA grants and assistance.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**—This Federal agency provides daily weather forecasts, severe storm warnings, climate monitoring, wildfire tracking, and other tools to help community's prepare for future changes in climate and build climate resilience. Use this [link](#) to access the environmental justice tools and resources that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration provides.

### RELEVANT RESOURCES

- [Dismantling Injustice: A Model for Optimizing and Designing Environmental Justice](#)
- [Harvard Law Environmental and Energy Law: Federal Environmental Justice Tracker](#)
- [Justice40 Accelerator: Justice40 Resources](#)
- [We Power Toolkit](#)
- [Who Holds the Power: Demystifying and Democratizing Public Utility Commissions](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Flood Map Service Center](#)
- [State Revolving Fund Advocacy Toolkit](#)
- [Climate Change Impacts to Water and Sanitation for Frontline Communities in the United States](#)
- [Communities Left Behind: How Local Ordinances Can Obstruct Energy Democracy and a Justice Transition](#)

# The People's JUSTICE40+ Community Benefit Playbook



7.20

## ENDNOTES

- 1 Maudlyne Ihejirika, "What Is Environmental Racism?," National Resource Defense Council (May 2023). <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/what-environmental-racism>
- 2 Russell Fowler, "The Ugly History of Redlining: A Federal Policy 'Full of Evil'," Tennessee Bar Association (January 2023). <https://www.tba.org/?pg=Articles&blAction=showEntry&blogEntry=85873>
- 3 "Local Policies for Environmental Justice: A National Scan," Tishman Environment and Design Center (February 2019). [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d14dab43967cc000179f3d2/t/5d5c4bd0e1d5150001a5a919/1566329811163/NRDC\\_FinalReport\\_04.15.2019.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d14dab43967cc000179f3d2/t/5d5c4bd0e1d5150001a5a919/1566329811163/NRDC_FinalReport_04.15.2019.pdf)
- 4 "Local Policies for Environmental Justice: A National Scan," Tishman Environment and Design Center (February 2019). [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d14dab43967cc000179f3d2/t/5d5c4bd0e1d5150001a5a919/1566329811163/NRDC\\_FinalReport\\_04.15.2019.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d14dab43967cc000179f3d2/t/5d5c4bd0e1d5150001a5a919/1566329811163/NRDC_FinalReport_04.15.2019.pdf)
- 5 Rachel Morello-Frosch, Ph.D., M.P.H., and Osagie K. Obasogie, Ph.D., J.D., "The Climate Gap and the Color Line—Racial Health Inequities and Climate Change." *New England Journal of Medicine* (March 2023). <https://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJMe22132507articleTools=true>
- 6 Rebecca Lindsey, "Climate Change: Global Sea Level," National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (April 2022). <https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-global-sea-level>
- 7 "Health Implications of Drought," Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (January 2020). <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/drought/implications.htm>
- 8 Hannah Drukenmiller, "Urban Heat Islands 101," Resources for the Future (March 2023). <https://www.rff.org/publications/explainers/urban-heat-islands-101/>
- 9 "Wildfire climate connection," National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (July 2023). <https://www.noaa.gov/noaa-wildfire/wildfire-climate-connection>
- 10 Jahred M. Liddie, Laurel A. Schaidler, and Elsie M. Sunderland, "Sociodemographic Factors Are Associated with the Abundance of PFAS Sources and Detection in U.S. Community Water Systems," *Environmental Science and Technology* (May 2023). <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10233791/pdf/es2c07255.pdf>
- 11 Robert D. Bullard, Paul Mohai, Robin Saha, and Beverly Wright, "Toxic Wastes and Race at Twenty: Why Race Still Matters After All of These Years," *Environmental Law* (January 2008). <https://www.nrdc.org/sites/default/files/toxic-wastes-and-race-at-twenty-1987-2007.pdf>.
- 12 "Fumes Across the Fence-Line: The Health Impacts of Air Pollution from Oil & Gas Facilities on African American Communities," (November 2017).



## ENDNOTES

- 13 Lylla Younes, Ava Kofman, Al Shaw, Lisa Song, and Maya Miller, "Poison in the Air: The EPA allows polluters to turn neighborhoods into 'sacrifice zones' where residents breathe carcinogens," (November 2021). <https://www.propublica.org/article/toxmap-poison-in-the-air>
- 14 Gwen Ottinger, "The Winds of Change: Environmental Justice in Energy Transitions," *Science as Culture* (May 2013).
- 15 Lylla Younes, Ava Kofman, Al Shaw, Lisa Song, and Maya Miller, "Poison in the Air: The EPA allows polluters to turn neighborhoods into 'sacrifice zones' where residents breathe carcinogens," (November 2021). <https://www.propublica.org/article/toxmap-poison-in-the-air>
- 16 "Fumes Across the Fence-Line: The Health Impacts of Air Pollution from Oil & Gas Facilities on African American Communities," (November 2017).
- 17 Jahred M. Liddie, Laurel A. Schaidler, and Elsie M. Sunderland, "Sociodemographic Factors Are Associated with the Abundance of PFAS Sources and Detection in U.S. Community Water Systems," *Environmental Science and Technology* (May 2023). <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10233791/pdf/es2c07255.pdf>
- 18 Lead Service Lines–  
Keith Mulvihill, "Causes and Effects of Lead in Water," National Resources Defense Council (September 2021). <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/causes-and-effects-lead-water>
- 19 "After the Storm: A Citizen's Guide to Understanding Stormwater," Environmental Protection Agency (January 2003). <https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi/200049A9.PDF?Dockey=200049A9.PDF>
- 20 Melissa Denchak, "Fracking 101," National Resource Defense Council (April 2019). <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/fracking-101#what-is>
- 21 Prakash Thangavel, Duckshin Park , and Young-Chul Lee, "Recent Insights into Particulate Matter (PM2.5)-Mediated Toxicity in Humans: An Overview," *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* (June 2022). <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9223652/pdf/ijerph-19-07511.pdf>
- 22 Prakash Thangavel, Duckshin Park , and Young-Chul Lee, "Recent Insights into Particulate Matter (PM2.5)-Mediated Toxicity in Humans: An Overview," *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* (June 2022). <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC9223652/pdf/ijerph-19-07511.pdf>
- 23 Timothy Q. Donaghy, Noel Healy, Charles Y. Jiang, and Colette Pichon Battle, "Fossil fuel racism in the United States: How phasing out coal, oil, and gas can protect communities," *Energy Research and Social Science* (May 2023). <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629623001640>
- 24 Timothy Q. Donaghy, Noel Healy, Charles Y. Jiang, and Colette Pichon Battle, "Fossil fuel racism in the United States: How phasing out coal, oil, and gas can protect communities," *Energy Research and Social Science* (May 2023). <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214629623001640>





## ENDNOTES (CONT.)

- 25 Christopher W. Tessum, David A. Paoella, Sarah E. Chambliss, Joshua S. Apte, Jason D. Hill, and Julian D. Marshall, (PM2.5 pollutants disproportionately and systemically affect people of color in the United States,” Science Advances (April 2021).  
<https://www.science.org/doi/pdf/10.1126/sciadv.abf4491>
- 26 Christopher W. Tessum, David A. Paoella, Sarah E. Chambliss, Joshua S. Apte, Jason D. Hill, and Julian D. Marshall, (PM2.5 pollutants disproportionately and systemically affect people of color in the United States,” Science Advances (April 2021).  
<https://www.science.org/doi/pdf/10.1126/sciadv.abf4491>
- 27 Christopher W. Tessum, David A. Paoella, Sarah E. Chambliss, Joshua S. Apte, Jason D. Hill, and Julian D. Marshall, (PM2.5 pollutants disproportionately and systemically affect people of color in the United States,” Science Advances (April 2021).  
<https://www.science.org/doi/pdf/10.1126/sciadv.abf4491>
- 28 Robert J. Sampson and Alix S. Winter, “The Racial Ecology of Lead Poisoning,” Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race (August 2016).  
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/F39AF4724258606DCC1CDA369DC08707/51742058X16000151a.pdf/the-racial-ecology-of-lead-poisoning-toxic-inequality-in-chicago-neighborhoods-1995-2013.pdf>
- 29 Robert J. Sampson and Alix S. Winter, “The Racial Ecology of Lead Poisoning,” Du Bois Review: Social Science Research on Race (August 2016).  
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/services/aop-cambridge-core/content/view/F39AF4724258606DCC1CDA369DC08707/51742058X16000151a.pdf/the-racial-ecology-of-lead-poisoning-toxic-inequality-in-chicago-neighborhoods-1995-2013.pdf>
- 30 Deniz Yeter, Ellen C. Banks, and Michael Aschner, “Disparity in Risk Factor Severity for Early Childhood Blood Lead among Predominantly African American Black Children: The 1999 to 2010 US NHANES,” International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (February 2020).  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7084658/pdf/ijerph-17-01552.pdf>
- 31 Childhood Lead Poisoning: Populations at Higher Risk, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (October 2021). <https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/prevention/populations.htm>
- 32 Deniz Yeter, Ellen C. Banks, and Michael Aschner, “Disparity in Risk Factor Severity for Early Childhood Blood Lead among Predominantly African American Black Children: The 1999 to 2010 US NHANES,” International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (February 2020).  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7084658/pdf/ijerph-17-01552.pdf>
- 33 Deniz Yeter, Ellen C. Banks, and Michael Aschner, “Disparity in Risk Factor Severity for Early Childhood Blood Lead among Predominantly African American Black Children: The 1999 to 2010 US NHANES,” International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (February 2020).  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7084658/pdf/ijerph-17-01552.pdf>
- 34 Deniz Yeter, Ellen C. Banks, and Michael Aschner, “Disparity in Risk Factor Severity for Early Childhood Blood Lead among Predominantly African American Black Children: The 1999 to 2010 US NHANES,” International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health (February 2020).  
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7084658/pdf/ijerph-17-01552.pdf>