



EPA Environmental Justice 101 & Funding Overview

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Environmental Justice

- EPA defines EJ as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. This goal will be achieved when everyone enjoys:
 - The same degree of protection from environmental and health hazards, and
 - Equal access to the decision-making process to have a healthy environment in which to live, learn, and work.


Executive Orders

E.O. 12898: Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations

E.O. 13985: Advancing Racial Equity and Support for Underserved Communities Through the Federal Government

E.O. 14008: Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

E.O. 14096: Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All




Office of Environmental Justice and External Civil Rights (OEJECR)

- Supports the agency's mission by providing leadership on EPA's environmental justice and external civil rights priorities.
- Coordinates implementation of those priorities across the agency's national programs, regions, the Administrator's Office, and across our partnerships with other federal agencies and coregulators in state, tribal, and local government, and communities.
- Provides resources and other technical assistance on civil rights and environmental justice, engages with communities with environmental justice concerns, and provides support for community-led action.
- For more information, visit: <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/about-office-environmental-justice-and-external-civil-rights>

Environmental Justice in EPA Region 10



Environmental Justice in EPA Region 10

- **Supporting States/Tribes/Federal agencies** - OR PPA, WA PPA, lead Western States EJ meeting, participate in R10 EJ States meeting.
 - **Direct Support to Communities** – Annual appropriations as well as ARP, BIL, and IRA are funding dozens of EJ grants and cooperative agreements. We conduct direct outreach to communities and administer grants.
 - **Supporting Internal Integration** - stand up/support regional EJ council (EJAT) & provide regional EJ training, support programs (NEPA reviews, etc.) on EJ.
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R10 Geographic & Media Characteristics

- Urban centers and large swaths of rural communities with EJ concerns, including:
 - Mining impacts (legacy contamination) and agricultural impacts (e.g. pesticides)
 - Drinking water access and waste management, especially in rural areas
 - Environmental impacts on subsistence practices (e.g. water quality and habitat impacts affecting fish consumption)
 - Extreme weather impacts (wildfire, drought and flooding).

Financial Assistance & Technical Assistance Programs



Environmental & Climate Justice Communities Grant Program



Assessment

- Thriving Community Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)
- Assessment Grants

Planning & Project Development

- Planning Grants
- Project Development Grants
- Technical Assistance

Pilots and Partnerships

- EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Grants (EJ-CPS)
- EJ Government to Government Grants (EJ-G2G)


Implementation

- E&CJ Change Grants
- Evaluation and Reporting Technical Assistance

EJ Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)

- Partnership with Department of Energy (DOE) and Federal Interagency Thriving Communities Network
 - The EJ TCTAC program is part of the Federal Interagency Thriving Communities Network and delivers on the Biden-Harris Administration's Justice40 Initiative to ensure that at least 40% of the benefits of certain federal programs flow to underserved and overburdened communities
- A **network** of technical assistance (TA) centers to provide training, and capacity-building support for organizations, stakeholders, and community partners with environmental justice concerns.
- **\$177 million** nationwide
 - Each EJ TCTAC will receive at least \$10 million funded incrementally
 - 5-year project period

Examples of TA and Services


- **Grant writing to strengthen** applications for environmental and energy justice (EEJ) related funding
 - Managing federal grants (e.g., accounting, policies, controls)
 - Identifying funding sources to apply for (federal, local, private)
 - Navigating government grant systems such as SAM.gov and Grants.gov
 - Developing partnerships and coalitions addressing Energy and Environmental Justice issues
 - Community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services for limited English-speaking participants
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Pacific Northwest Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Center – University of Washington


- Akiak Native Community, Swinomish Tribe- Education Division
- Kuskokwim River Intertribal Fish Commission (KRIFC)
- Northwest Indian College
- UW American Indian Studies Department
- Center for American Indian & Indigenous Studies
- Aldo Leopold Wilderness Research Institute
- Clean Energy Institute
- Center for Exposures, Diseases, Genomics, and Environment
- Industrial Assessment Center
- Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- NW Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit
- Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center,
- National Network of Public Health Institutes (NNPHI) (practice)
- El Centro de la Raza
- El Proyecto Bienestar
- Front and Centered
- Sound Defense Alliance

The University of Washington will receive \$12 million to serve communities and tribes in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.

The mission of the UW Center for Environmental Health Equity is to provide technical assistance to tribal and community organizations in EPA Region 10 states (Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) to strengthen capacity and effectiveness in applying to and successfully managing environmental and energy justice (EEJ) grants and programs.

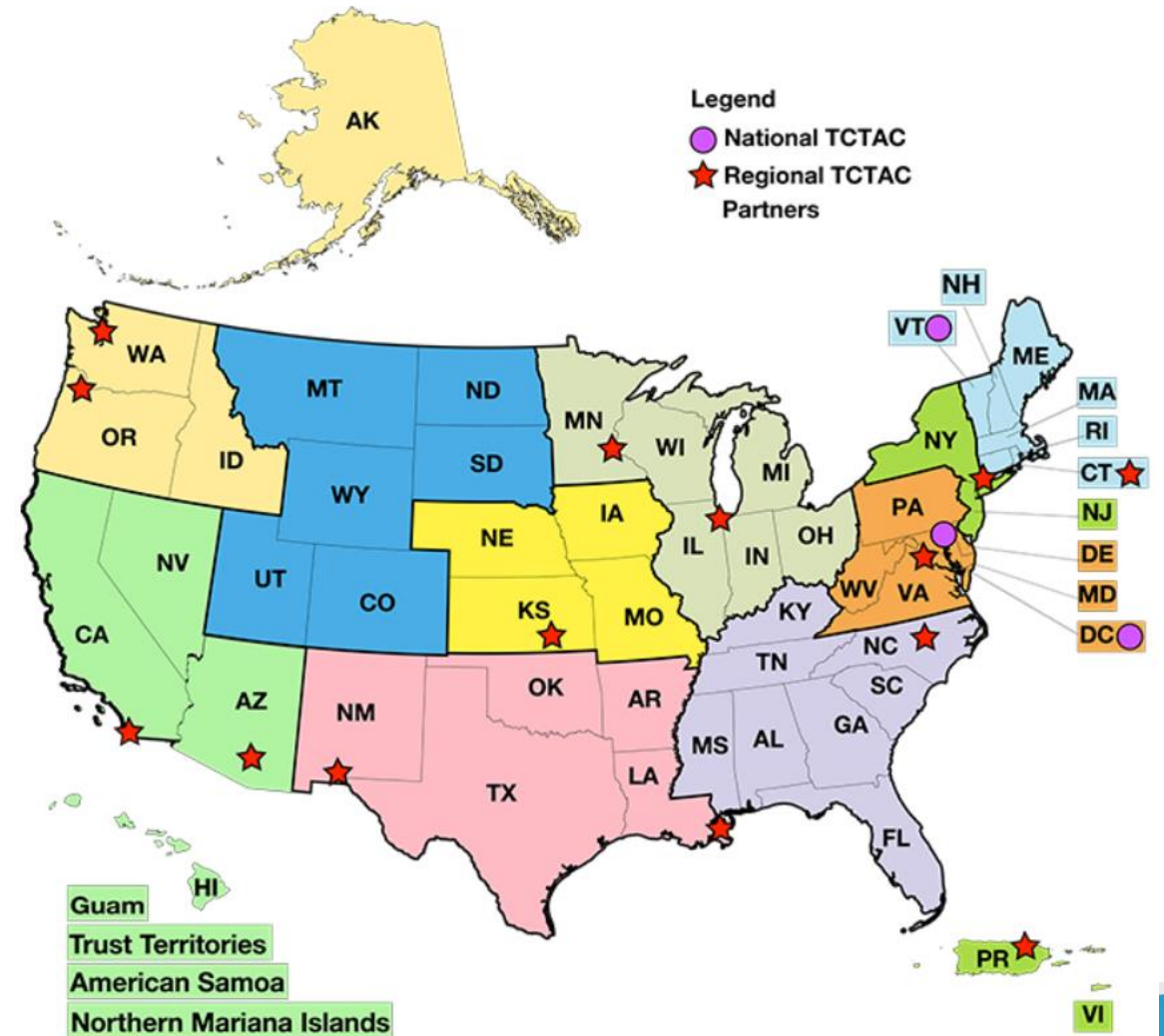


Northwestern Environmental and Energy Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center – Willamette Partnership

- Portland State University
 - Rural Community Assistance Corporation
 - Alai Community Consulting
 - Oregon Public Health Institute
 - Verde
 - Boise State University
 - Kearns and West
 - Community Engineering Corps
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- The Willamette Partnership will receive \$10 million to serve communities and tribes in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington.
 - Activities will focus on underserved communities including Tribal and Indigenous communities, Black, Latinx, immigrant, and disabilities communities, especially in remote and rural areas.
 - The center will provide community engagement, cohort learning and capacity building, and technical assistance to help communities access and use federal and private funding for local projects, equitable energy transitions, and engaging and influencing policy.
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Selectees

1. University of Connecticut (EPA Region 1)
2. West Harlem Environmental Action, Inc. (EPA Region 2)
3. Inter-American University of Puerto Rico-Metro Campus (EPA Region 2)
4. National Wildlife Federation (EPA Region 3)
5. Deep South Center for EJ (EPA Regions 4 and 6)
6. Research Triangle Institute (EPA Region 4)
7. Blacks in Green (EPA Region 5)
8. University of Minnesota (EPA Region 5)
9. New Mexico State University (EPA Region 6)
10. Wichita State University (EPA Region 7)
11. University of Arizona (EPA Region 9)
12. San Diego State University (EPA Region 9)
13. **Willamette Partnership (EPA Region 10)**
14. **University of Washington (EPA Region 10)**
15. International City/County Management Association (National TCTAC)
16. Institute for Sustainable Communities (National TCTAC)
17. National Indian Health Board (National TCTAC)



Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem-Solving Cooperative Agreement (EJ CPS)


- \$30 million total funding
- Up to \$500,000 per grant, with smaller grants of up to \$150,000
- Applications: closed **April 14, 2023**
- Eligibility: Community-Based Non-Profits

To develop solutions that will significantly address environmental and/or public health issue(s) in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms and risks.

Environmental Justice Government-to-Government Cooperative Agreement (EJ G2G)

- \$70 million total funding
- Up to \$1 million per grant – Up to 3 Year Project Period
- Applications: closed **April 14, 2023**
- Eligibility: Federally Recognized Tribal, State, and Local governments in partnership with Community-Based Non-Profits, and U.S. Territorial, Free Associated State, and State Recognized Tribal Governments.

To support and/or create model government activities that lead to measurable environmental or public health results in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms and risks.



EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving and Government-to-Government Programs

- EPA announces \$882,806 for environmental justice projects in **Alaska**
 - EPA announces \$770,133 for environmental justice projects in **Idaho**
 - EPA announces \$3.8M for environmental justice projects in **Oregon**
 - EPA announces \$8.2M for environmental justice projects in **Washington**
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COMMUNITY CHANGE GRANTS

\$2 billion for projects including

- Climate resiliency and adaptation
- Reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution
- Investments in low- and zero-emissions and resilient technologies and related infrastructure

Who is eligible?

- A partnership between a CBO and certain institutions


Timeline

- Applications will be reviewed and selected on a rolling basis for 12 months
- Project must be completed within three years of award



Community Change Technical Assistance

- **\$200M for:**

- More specialized contractor-led technical assistance to support eligible entities to apply for Community Change Grants
 - More specialized TA than EJ TCTACs – focus on planning, project development, multipart financing, etc.
 - EJ TCTACs will direct communities with sufficient capacity and interest in applying for the Community Change Grant to the Community Change TA provider
 - Communities can locate Community Change TA provider directly as well
 - Launched in conjunction with CCG NOFO
 - Will also provide implementation support for Community Change grantees (e.g., project implementation, reporting, tracking, communications, storytelling)
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Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking **(EJ TCGM)**

Up to \$550 million Pass Through Program

Up to 11 Cooperative Agreements at ~\$50 million per award

- 80% of project funds (i.e. \$40 million) must be explicitly budgeted for subgrants
- 3-Year Project Period

Eligibility:

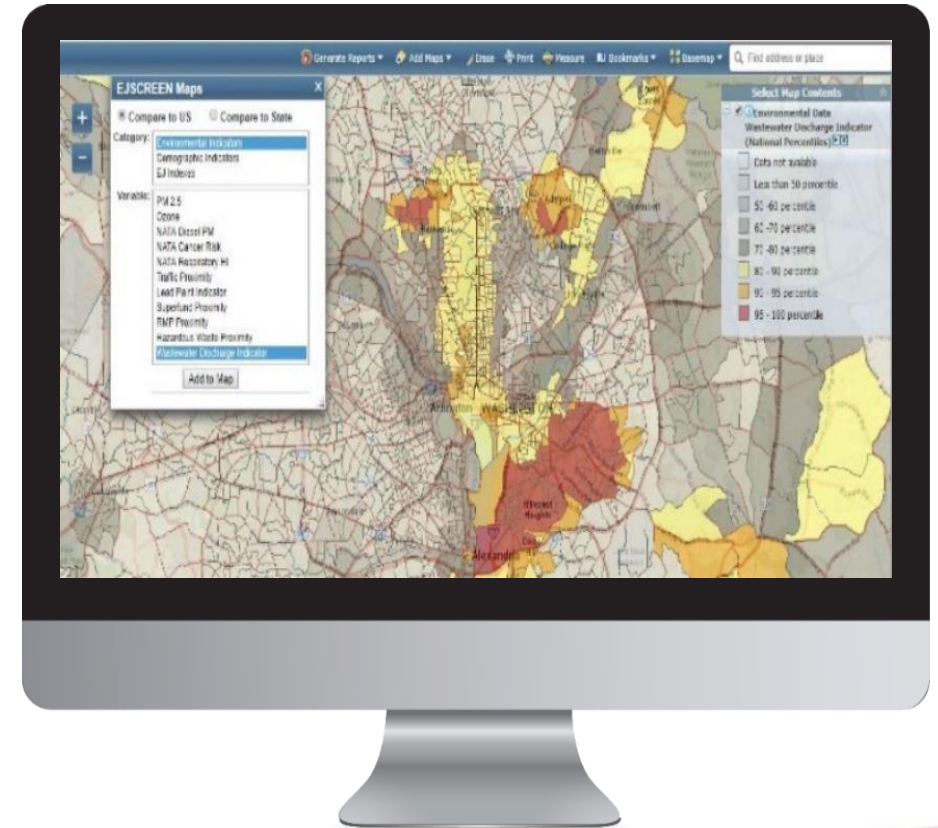
- a community-based nonprofit organization (includes philanthropy and community foundations)
- a partnership of community-based nonprofit organizations
- a partnership between— a federally recognized tribal government and a community-based nonprofit organization
- a partnership between— an institution of higher education and a community-based nonprofit organization;

RFA Closed 6/30/2023

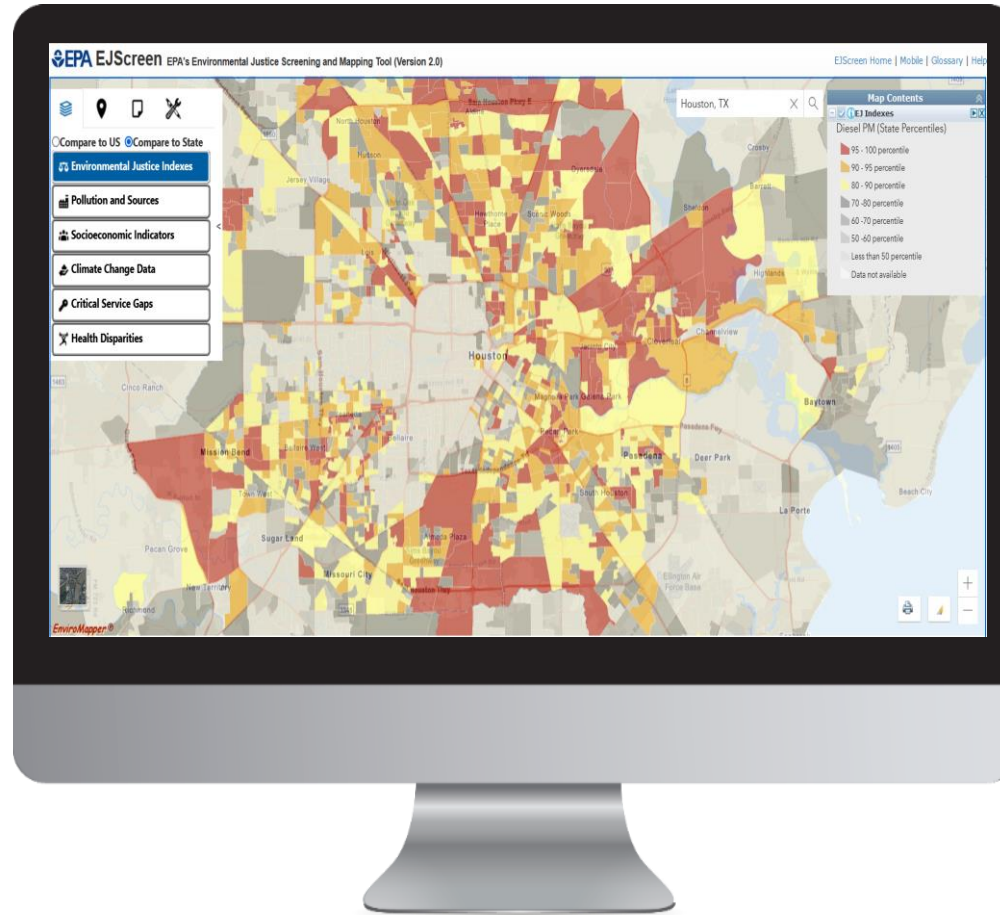


EJScreen

- EPA's web-based GIS tool for nationally consistent EJ screening and mapping
- Combines environmental and demographic data to highlight areas where **vulnerable populations** may be **disproportionately impacted** by pollution



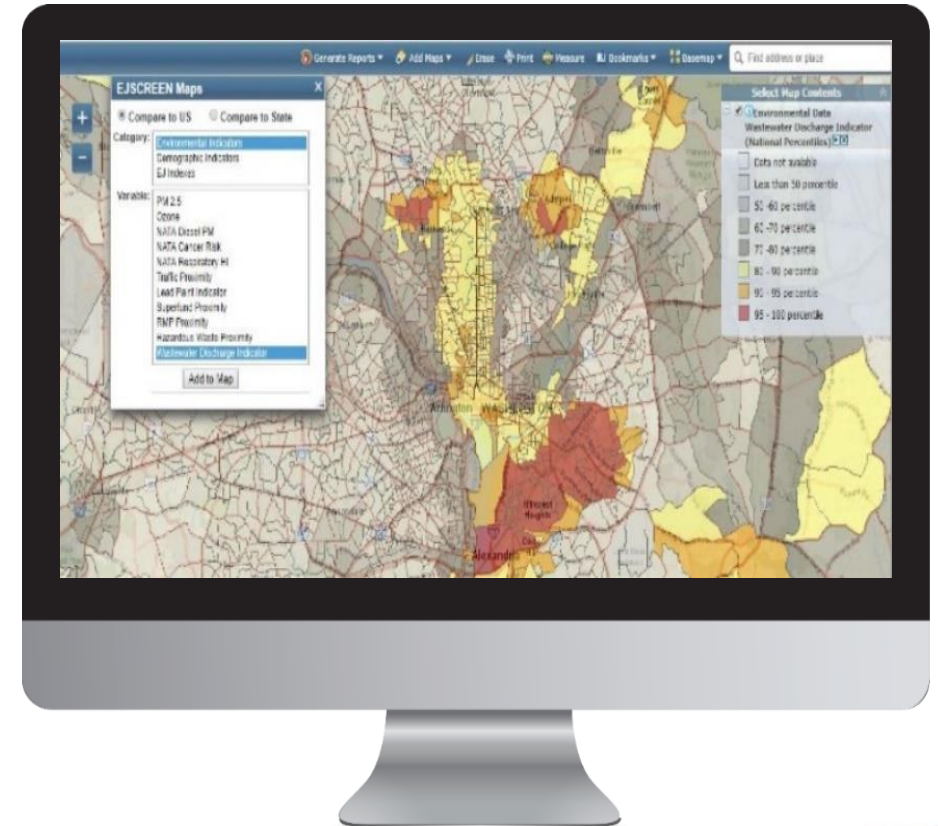
LIVE DEMO



[Click to access EJScreen Tool](#)

EJScreen

- [EJScreen website](#)
- [Trainings and Office Hours](#)
- Reach out directly to Alessandro Molina in EPA Region 10 with questions or requests for assistance





Questions?

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