The Justice40 Initiative, launched by Executive Order in 2021, mandates that 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to communities that have been marginalized, underserved and overburdened by pollution and climate change.

It impacts the direction of tens of billions of dollars in funds from legislation including the Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The TCTAC program was launched by EPA, in conjunction with the Department of Energy, to ensure that environmental justice communities receive the technical assistance they need to benefit from the funding directed by the Justice40 Initiative.

There are currently 16 TCTACs: 3 national TCTACs, and 13 regional TCTACs (RFPs were reissued for Regions 1 and 8).
WE ACT Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Center (TCTAC) Purpose

**Grant Assistance**
Training and other assistance to build capacity for navigating federal grant application systems, writing strong grant proposals, and effectively managing grant funding.

**Community Engagement**
Guidance on community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services for limited English-speaking participants.

**Accessibility**
Removing barriers and improving accessibility for communities with environmental justice concerns.
WE ACT’s Region 2 TCTAC Details

Grant Period: 5 years
Official Launch Date: October 30, 2023

Funders: Joint program of the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy, with the EPA playing the leading role in administering the program

Region: EPA Region 2 includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. WE ACT’s TCTAC has been assigned to serve New York, New Jersey, & 8 tribal nations.

Format for Technical Assistance:
1. Curriculum of trainings
2. On-demand technical assistance, including referrals
3. Resource library
4. In-person annual convenings
Primary Technical Assistance Areas

Grant Writing & Fundraising
- Focused on federal grants, with assistance ranging from portal registration, identifying and understanding RFPs, developing project concepts, and developing strong proposals
- We’ll also develop additional trainings and provide technical assistance on private philanthropy and individual fundraising

Building Partnerships and Engaging with Decision Makers

Connecting EJ Groups with Academic Partners

Introductory Training in Environmental Justice (using EHJLT modules)

EJ Policy and Regulatory Analysis

Energy Justice and Energy Projects

EJ Needs Assessments

Grants Management
Upcoming Training Opportunities

November 8 & 22
SAM.gov Office Hours
Environmental Protection Network

December TBD
Introduction to Community Solar
Clean Energy Group

January 22
Introduction to Justice40 & the CEJST Tool
Institute for Policy Integrity at NYU Law School

February 28
Environmental Justice & Community Organizing 101
South Ward Environmental Alliance
Upcoming Funding Opportunities

EPA: Environmental Justice Community Change Grants

Total Funding
$2 billion

Each Award
$10-20 million, or $1-3 million depending on the project

Timeline: NOFO imminent
Applications expected to open Fall 2023, open for 12 months.
Applications will be reviewed and selected on a rolling basis based on available funding.

Who can apply?
• A partnership between at least two community-based non-profit organizations (CBOs).
• A partnership between a CBO and one or any combination of the following:
  1. Federally-Recognized Tribe
  2. Local Government
  3. Institution of Higher Education
Upcoming Funding Opportunities

EPA: Environmental Justice Community Change Grants: Eligible Activities

**Climate**
- Climate resiliency and adaptation

**Air Quality**
- Community-led air and other (including water & waste) pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation

**Green Jobs**
- Workforce development that supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions & other air pollutants

**Heat**
- Mitigating climate & health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events

**Technology**
- Investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure

**Indoor Air**
- Reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution

**Community Engagement**
- Facilitating the engagement of disadvantaged communities in State and Federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, and other public processes
EJ Thriving Communities Subgrants will be available for three distinct phases of community-readiness:

- Phase I subgrants will be for one year up to $150,000 assessment projects
- Phase II subgrants will be for 1-2 years up to $250,000 planning projects
- Phase III subgrants are for two-year up to $350,000 project development projects.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

EPA: Thriving Communities EJ Small Grants

In 2024, the EPA is launching a Thriving Communities EJ Grantmaking program, in which one organization in each EPA Region will serve as a Grantmaker awarding at least $40 million in EJ Thriving Communities Subgrants.
# Upcoming Funding Opportunities

## EPA: Thriving Communities EJ Small Grants: Eligible Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monitoring of effluent discharges from industrial facilities</th>
<th>Improving food access to reduce vehicle miles traveled</th>
<th>Illegal dumping activities, such as education, outreach, &amp; small-scale clean-ups</th>
<th>Environmental job training for occupations that reduce greenhouse gases &amp; other air pollutants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fenceline air quality monitoring</td>
<td>Small cleanup projects</td>
<td>Pesticides &amp; other toxic substances</td>
<td>Healthy homes that are energy/water use efficient &amp; not subject to indoor air pollution</td>
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<tr>
<td>Air quality &amp; asthma</td>
<td>Environmental justice training for youth</td>
<td>Lead &amp; asbestos contamination</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water quality &amp; sampling</td>
<td>Stormwater issues &amp; green infrastructure</td>
<td>Emergency preparedness &amp; disaster resiliency</td>
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The Challenge has two phases. All eligible entries will be evaluated, and separate prizes will be awarded for each of the two phases.

- **Phase 1** will focus on design of an innovative concept to enhance community-driven efforts to mitigate health disparities and advance health equity or the development of an effective approach to support a previously developed concept. Entries for Phase 1 will be accepted from September 18, 2023 until January 30, 2024.

- **Phase 2** will focus on small-scale testing or implementation of well-developed approaches for community-led efforts to mitigate health disparities and advance health equity. Entries for Phase 2 will begin in Spring 2024.

Upcoming Funding Opportunities

**US Department of Health & Human Services:**

**Environmental Justice Community Innovator Grant**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced the launch of a nation-wide HHS Environmental Justice Community Innovator Challenge to support disadvantaged communities and Tribes facing the brunt of environmental injustices, including health harms due to climate change. This Challenge aims to uplift community-level solutions to address health inequities with prizes totaling $1,000,000 that will be awarded in two phases.
Next Steps

- People interested in receiving assistance from the TCTAC can reach out to ejtctac@weact.org

- Our TCTAC website is: weact.org/tctac. On the site you can access a brief intake form to request technical assistance.

- We'll follow up by email with additional next steps and information about funding and training opportunities.

- Scan this QR code (or visit the link at the bottom of weact.org/tctac) to sign up for our email newsletter and stay informed about upcoming trainings and funding opportunities.
Questions & Answers

Please drop your questions in the chat!