



Justice 40: Investing In Communities That Need It The Most

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Introduction

For the first time in our nation's history, the Federal Government has made it a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain Federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized, underserved, and overburdened by pollution.

President Biden made this historic commitment when he signed Executive Order 14008, [Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad](#) within days of taking office.

By this order, President Biden made climate and environmental justice center points of his policy agenda for this country's future.

Primary goal: Environmental Justice for All

Section 223 has come to be called the Justice 40 Initiative -- or just plain “Justice 40”

It requires that 40 percent of benefits from specific investment flow to disadvantaged communities.



Key Terms

Disadvantaged Communities: Agencies will use the CEJST to help identify disadvantaged communities who will benefit from programs that are part of the Justice40 Initiative.

The screenshot shows the 'Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool' interface. At the top, there is a logo and navigation links: 'Explore the map', 'Methodology & data', 'About', and 'Contact'. A 'Public engagement' button is located on the right. The main heading is 'Explore the map'. Below this, a text box explains that census tracts that are overburdened and underserved are highlighted as disadvantaged on the map, and that Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are also considered disadvantaged communities. A 'Get the data' button is present, with a sub-link to 'Download the data with documentation and shapefile from the downloads page.' A map of the United States is displayed, showing various census tracts highlighted in shades of blue and green. A search bar at the top of the map allows users to search for an address, city, state, or ZIP. A sidebar on the left lists state abbreviations from 48 to VI. On the right side of the map, there is a 'How to use the map' section with instructions on zooming and searching, and a 'Things to know' section explaining that the tool uses census tracts and ranks them by burden using percentiles. It also mentions that thresholds or cutoffs are used to determine if a tract is disadvantaged.

Key Terms: Covered Programs



Climate change



Clean energy and energy efficiency



Clean transit



Affordable and sustainable housing



Remediation and reduction of legacy pollution



Clean water and wastewater infrastructure



Training and workforce development

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How Are Doing? Accountability:

Covered programs are also required to report data on the benefits directed to disadvantaged communities.

- @ THE WHITE HOUSE
- JUSTICE40
- A WHOLE-OF-GOVERNMENT INITIATIVEHOMEENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
- “We’ll create good jobs for millions of Americans...and we’ll do it all to withstand the devastating effects of climate change and promote environmental justice.”
- PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN, 2022 STATE OF THE UNION

EPA will include direct investments (i.e., money) as a benefit for many programs.

We are aiming to exceed j40 goals at EPA

Deepen integration of environmental justice in EPA work.

Overview of Justice40 At EPA

Drinking Water
State Revolving
Fund

Clean Water
State Revolving
Fund

Reducing Lead
in Drinking
Water

Superfund

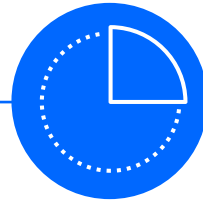
Brownfields

Diesel Emissions
Reductions Act
Program (DERA)

Engaging partners and underserved communities



Monthly National EJ Community Engagement Calls have featured J40 programs.



Public Meetings with NEJAC and WHEJAC, including Public Comments, have discussed J40 at EPA.



Program-specific stakeholder engagement.

**TO HELP
PRIORITIZE
DISADVANTAGED
COMMUNITIES
FOR PROGRAMS
COVERED UNDER
JUSTICE40, EPA:**

Program modifications

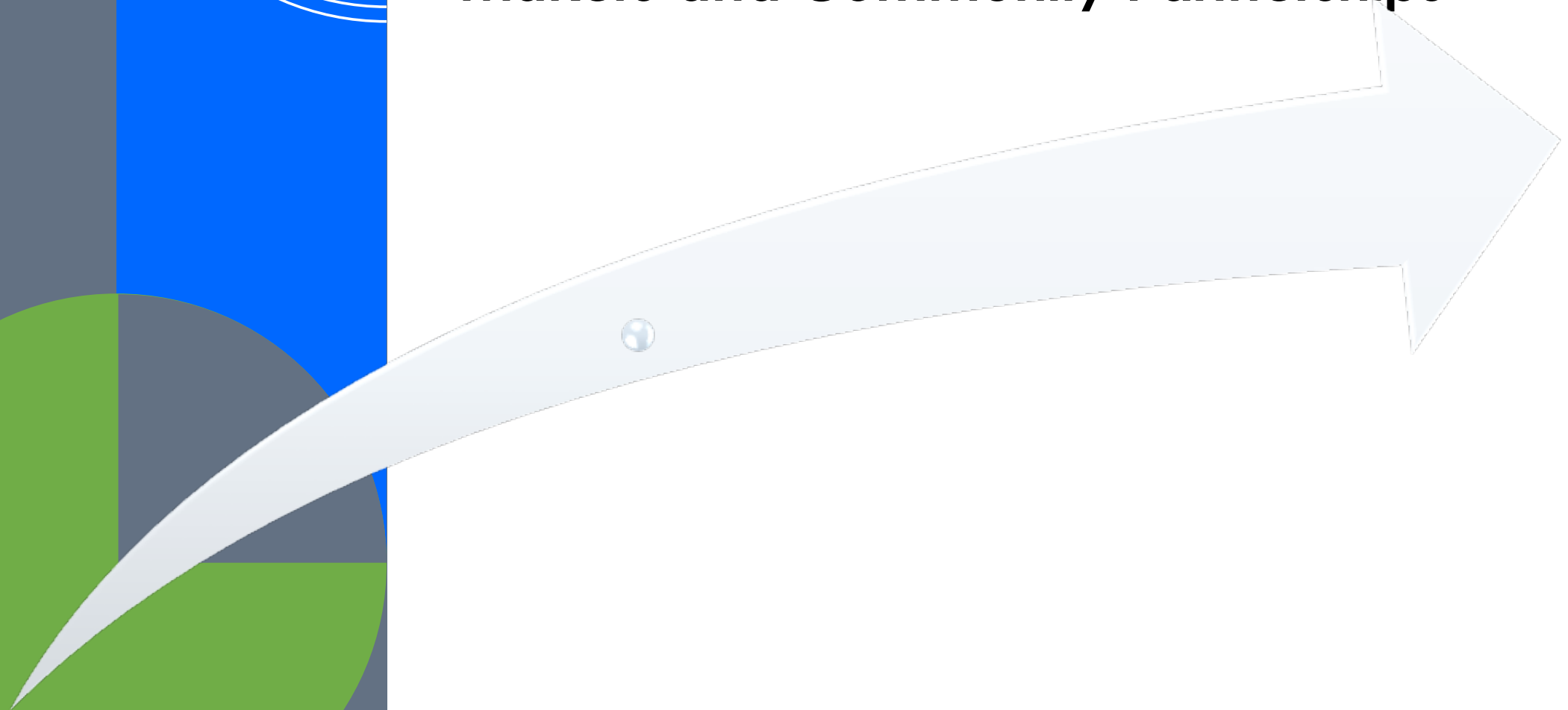
- Developed resources for states revising their definitions and affordability criteria through the [Clean Water State Revolving Fund \(CWSRF\)](#) and [Drinking Water State Revolving Fund \(DWSRF\)](#), [Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation \(WIIN\)](#), and BIL funding.
- Engaged with various State Revolving Fund partners to prioritize disadvantaged communities;
- launched technical assistance pilots for these communities: Coachella Valley (California), Hawaii County (Hawaii), Kauai County (Hawaii), and Gila County (Arizona); and increased support to American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Guam.



**LAUNCHED NEW
GRANT
DELIVERY
NETWORK:
DELIVERING
ACCESS**

TCTACs: 17 total, 14 regional and 3 national (1 of the national TCTACs is focused on assistance for tribes)

- **On The Road to Full Implementation: Grant Makers and Community Partnerships**





Thank you

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