

Purpose: There are three sections within the Community Vision Description. This worksheet will help you complete the Challenges section, as required by the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO), Section IV.B.

To complete your Community Vision Description, see also:

- Part 1 of 3: <u>Community Description Worksheet</u> and
- Part 2 of 3: <u>Community Challenges Worksheet</u>

Community Vision Description

The Community Vision Description is the applicant's chance to introduce their community and how their proposed grant activities will advance environmental justice in their community. It includes three sections: (1) community description, (2) community challenges, and (3) community vision. This worksheet will help you develop the Community Vision section.



Goals of Community Vision Section

- Describe the community's vision for how receiving the grant will affect and benefit the community in the near and long-term.
- Describe the short- and long-term benefits the grant activities will have on the priority populations and disadvantaged communities in the Project Area.
- Provide justification for the selected project activities and strategies that will help the community achieve their vision.

Part 3 of 3: Community Vision

Guiding Questions Community Input to Gather

1. How do members of your community tend to want to solve the environmental challenges they are experiencing?

2. How do members of your community describe their short-term goals?

3. How do members of your community describe their long-term goals?



Part 3 of 3: Community Vision

Climate Action [Outcomes]

1.

Each Climate Action Strategy should focus on building climate resilience and/or reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Based on the community's discussion about its environmental challenges and its vision for the future, check the strategies you would like to explore further with your community.

	Green Infrastructure and Nature-Based Solutions.
	Mobility and Transportation Options for Preventing Air Pollution and Improving Public Health and Climate Resilience.
	Energy-Efficient, Healthy, and Resilient Housing and Buildings.
	Microgrid Installation for Community Energy Resilience.
	Community Resilience Hubs.
	Brownfields Redevelopment for Emissions Reduction and Climate Resilience.
	Waste Reduction and Management to Support a Circular Economy.
	Workforce Development Programs for Occupations that Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Air Pollutants.
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How could the strategies you wish to explore make climate change risks in the Project Area less severe in the short term?	

2. How could these proposed strategies make climate change risks in the Project Area less severe in the long term, beyond the life of the project?



Part 3 of 3: Community Vision

Pollution Reduction (Outcomes)

Each Pollution Reduction Strategy can include monitoring, prevention, reduction, and remediation activities that help address pollutants that are harmful to health. Based on the community's discussion about challenges and its vision for the future, check the strategies you would like to explore further with your community.

	□ Indoor Air Quality and Community Health Improvements.
	☐ Outdoor Air Quality and Community Health Improvements.
	☐ Clean Water Infrastructure to Reduce Pollution Exposure and Increase Overall System Resilience.
	☐ Safe Management and Disposal of Solid and Hazardous Waste.
۱.	How will the strategies you would like to explore reduce and prevent exposure to pollution in the Project Area in the short term?

2. How could these proposed strategies reduce and prevent exposure to pollution in the Project Area in the long term, beyond the life of the project?



/ision



- All parts of your project should be community driven and focus on community priorities. Use community input to determine the vision for the Project Area.
- The Community Vision Description should ensure that the priority population of the disadvantaged communities in the Project Area receive the benefits of investments now and in the future.
- The Community Vision subsection and the broader Community Vision Description section should guide the rest of your application. You want grant application reviewers to see a consistent story: Start by describing the community and its assets. Then describe problems and issues the community faces. Conclude with the meaningful change your solutions will produce. Include how the community vision will inform the projects and strategies you select.
- As you move forward, keep in mind that your Climate Action and Pollution Reduction Strategies should respond to the community challenges described in the Community Vision Description.

Resources

1. Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool

This screening tool identifies disadvantaged communities that are underserved and overburdened by pollution.

https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#3/33.47/-97.5

2. **EJScreen**

Environmental Justice Screening and Mapping Tool is a web-based interactive map with layers that allow users to identify disadvantaged communities and their environmental burdens.

https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen

3. EnviroAtlas

EnviroAtlas is an interactive web-based tool that decision-makers can use to inform policy and planning in the places where people live, learn, work, and play. https://www.epa.gov/enviroatlas

4. Mapping Tools for Communities to Identify Assets and Hazards in Local Areas Index of Federal Mapping Tools Related to Environmental Justice and Sustainability https://www.epa.gov/environmentaljustice/mapping-tools-communities-identify-assets-and-hazards-local-areas

5. Re-Powering Mapper

EPA's RE-Powering Mapper, an interactive web application, allows users to identify contaminated lands, landfills, and mine sites for renewable energy development. https://www.epa.gov/re-powering/re-powering-mapper