Climate Pollution Reduction Grants:

Low Income/Disadvantaged Communities (LIDAC) Benefits Analysis

Housekeeping Notes

- Mics are automatically muted and all cameras are turned off.
- Please enter all questions in the chat box and “like” any questions already asked that you would also like answered. Please submit questions prior to the Q&A session, if possible. Questions will be answered during the Q&A session.
- Note: We cannot answer any questions regarding the implementation grants at this time.
- We encourage you to answer the poll questions which will pop-up periodically throughout the training and will also show up in the chat box (Reserved for Grantees).
- Slides and links to additional resources will be shared after the training with registrants.
- A recording and Q&A document will be posted to the CPRG website after the training.

Disclaimer

The information contained in this presentation is intended for the sole purpose of providing tools and technical assistance to planning grant recipients under EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants program. Specific questions on how this information relates to a particular grantee's deliverables should be directed to that grantee's EPA Project Officer.

Nothing contained in this presentation should be construed as creating new requirements beyond those already enumerated in the CPRG planning grant program guidance or the terms and conditions that apply to the grantee.

LIDAC Benefits Analysis Webinar

- Purpose of LIDAC Benefits Analysis
- Overview of CPRG Planning Grant LIDAC Requirements
- Definition of Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities
- LIDAC Benefits Analysis Expectations
- Categories of Potential Benefits
- Methods for Quantifying Benefits
- Illustrative Examples
- Resources and Upcoming Webinars

The Low-Income and Disadvantaged Community Benefits Analysis Technical Guidance can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/cprg-tools-and-technical-assistance-low-income-and-disadvantaged

The Purpose of the LIDAC Benefits Analysis for CPRG

- Justice 40 and focus of LIDAC in CPRG provision (CAA Section 137(c)(2))
- Starts with meaningful community engagement
  - Understanding the needs of a community
  - Assessing how a community is impacted by GHG emissions and other harmful air pollution
  - Quantifying project benefits and how they will mitigate risk and burden to the community can inform selection of measures
- Meaningful engagement should be woven into the selection of the measures and the identification of the benefits
  - Offer multiple opportunities for community members to authentically provide input
  - Confer with community members and other interested parties to best identify and prioritize knowledge gaps, community-specific concerns, aspirations, and any shared goals
  - Prioritize measures where there are areas of alignment with community members

CPRG Requirements – LIDAC Benefits Analysis

- Priority Climate Action Plan – Due March 1, 2024 for states and MSAs
  - Preliminary list of each community impacted by the measures (Census tract or block group ID)
  - Qualitative discussion of expected benefits to LIDACs associated with GHG reduction measures
  - Overview of planned and/or ongoing engagement with representatives and residents

- Comprehensive Climate Action Plan – Summer/Fall 2025
  - List of each community impacted by the measures (Census tract or block group ID)
  - Qualitative discussion and quantitative assessment of expected benefits
  - Proportion of benefits expected to accrue in the identified communities as compared to the total benefits, where possible
  - Update on meaningful engagement activities, summary of engagement conducted, summary of community input and how input was incorporated

- Status Report – 4 years from award
  - Updated analyses of above requirements

Defining Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities for CPRG

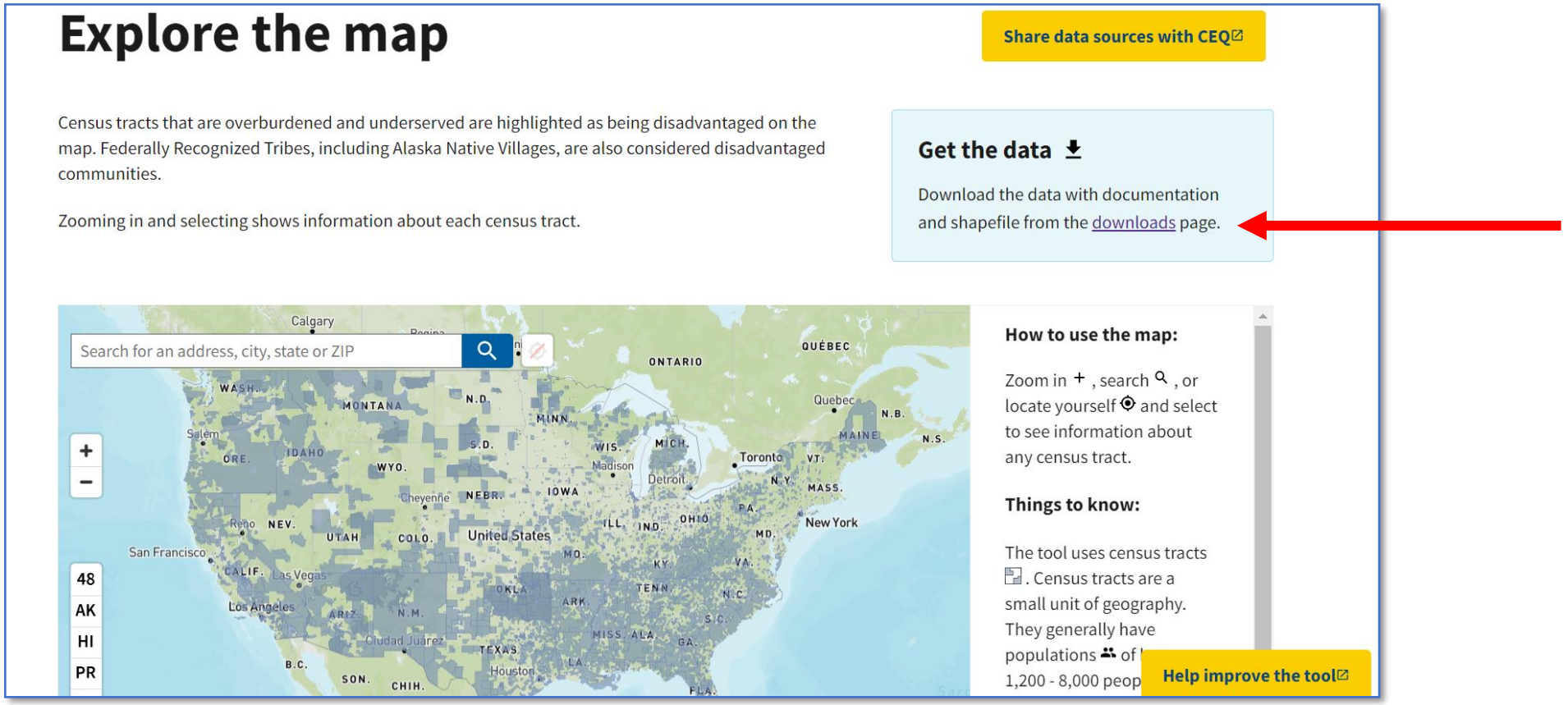
Any community that meets at least one of the following characteristics:

- Identified as disadvantaged by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST);
- Any census block group that is at or above the 90th percentile for any of EJScreen's Supplemental Indexes when compared to the nation or state, and/or
- Any geographic area within Tribal lands as included in EJScreen.[1]

[1] The Tribal Lands category in EJScreen to use for this purpose includes Alaska Native Allotments (EPA Metadata Record), Alaska Native Villages (EPA Metadata Record), American Indian Reservations (EPA Metadata Record), American Indian Off-reservation Trust Lands (EPA Metadata Record), Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas (EPA Metadata Record)

Pause Presentation for Screen-Share

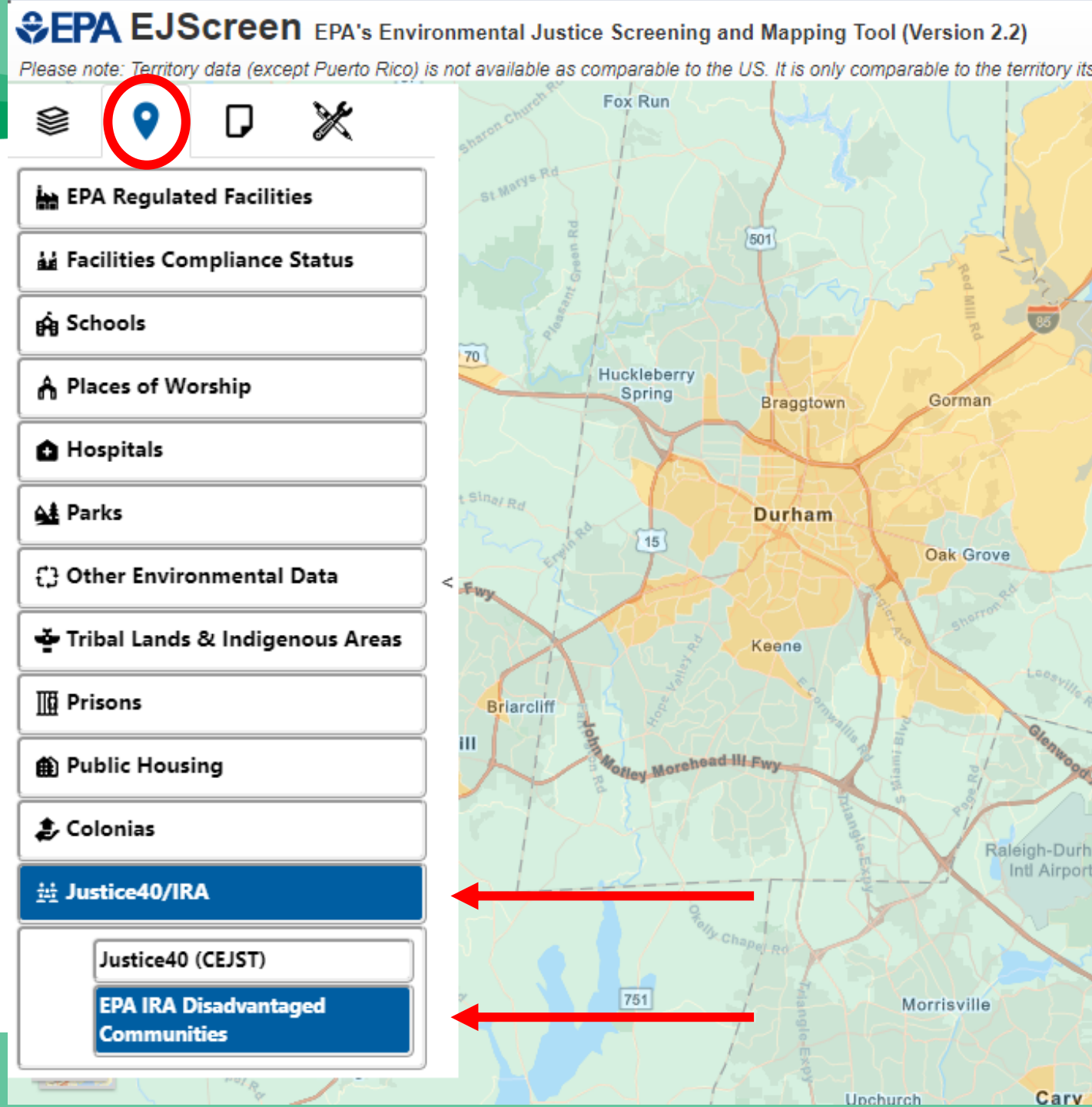
Using CEJST to Identify Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities



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

Using EJScreen to Identify Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities

- A combined CEJST and EJScreen Layer is available at: https://ejscreen.epa.gov/mapper/
- This tool provides the Census Tract ID. Please include this ID in your PCAP list of communities.



LIDAC Benefits Analysis Expectations

- In this context, “analysis” can be as simple as a list or description of expected benefits.
- The PCAP should include a *preliminary* analysis, with a higher level of detail required for the CCAP and Status Report.
- The analyses for the PCAP, CCAP, and Status Report can be qualitative descriptions or quantitative estimates.
- Numerical estimates of emissions reductions in LIDACs or other benefits to LIDACs should be included if available, but they are not required.
- These analyses do not require a breakdown of benefits by census tract.

Categories of Potential Benefits

- Climate Impacts and Risks

Grantees should identify the specific climate impacts or risks to which disadvantaged communities in their jurisdiction are particularly vulnerable, which could include:

  - Extreme weather events, e.g., hurricanes, extreme rainfall;
  - Extreme heat and urban heat island effects;
  - Flooding;
  - Coastal erosion, saltwater intrusion, and other impacts of sea level rise;
  - Drought; and/or,
  - Wildfires.

This climate assessment could be as simple as a list of the potential climate impacts or risks to each community. Grantees could provide a more detailed vulnerability assessment, if desired.

Categories of Potential Benefits

- Air Pollution and Public Health Improvements
  - Reductions in GHGs
  - Reductions in Ozone and PM2.5 (particulate matter) emissions
  - Reductions in Air Toxics
- Energy Cost Savings
- Economic Development and Job Creation
- Community Capacity Building
- Other priority benefits identified during community engagement

Examples of Quantifying Community Benefits

- Estimated tons of greenhouse gases reduced in identified communities;
- Estimated tons of criteria air pollutants and pounds of toxic air pollutants reduced at the lowest spatial resolution available in the identified communities;
- Estimated number of jobs created in identified communities;
- Estimated public health benefits (reduced morbidity/mortality, hospital visits, absences from school/work, etc.);
- Estimated decreased energy costs in dollars or dollars per kilowatt-hour for residents of the identified communities;
- Area of green space created for urban heat island mitigation; and,
- Number of community events, participants, and/or dollars spent to engage with organizations and residents of identified communities.

Methods for Estimating GHG Emission Reductions Benefits

GHG reduction benefits to disadvantaged communities can be:

- Described qualitatively;
- Estimated as a proportion by area, population, etc. of the communities in relation to the total benefits;
- Conveyed analytically through modeling or GIS software.

Resources available on the CPRG website:

- CPRG Training Webinars
- EPA Programs, Tools, and Resources used for Evaluation and Quantification of GHG Reduction Measures Presentation
- Tools and Technical Resources

URL for tools: https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/quantifying-energy-savings-and-greenhouse-gas-ghg-reductions

Methods for Quantifying Co-pollutant Benefits

Co-pollutant reduction benefits to disadvantaged communities can be:

- Described qualitatively;
- Estimated as a proportion by area, population, etc. of the communities in relation to the total benefits reported by the tool or analysis;
- Conveyed analytically through modeling or GIS software.

Resources available on the CPRG website:

- Co-Pollutant Inventory and Future Projections Benefits Analysis Presentation
- Several tools that can be used to estimate GHG reductions can simultaneously quantify co-pollutant benefits
  - EPA's AVoided Emissions and geneRation Tool (AVERT)
  - EPA's GLIMPSE modeling tool
  - EPA's MOtor Vehicle Emission Simulator (MOVES)

URL for tools: https://www.epa.gov/inflation-reduction-act/quantifying-energy-savings-and-greenhouse-gas-ghg-reductions

Example of GHG Measure with LIDAC Benefits #1

Description of measure: State or local incentives or mandate to reduce GHG emissions from oil-fired electricity generators by replacement with zero-carbon electricity.

Identification of the communities potentially impacted by GHG measure: Several of these generators are located in communities that are identified as a LIDAC using EPA's definition. Additionally, several generators not located in a LIDAC may decrease emissions downwind from the source.

Qualitative Description of Benefits	Quantification of Benefits (where possible)
Risks of climate change	Tons of GHG emissions reduced
Reduced exposure to air pollution	Tons of NOx and pounds of benzene reduced in total and in LIDACs
Reduced traffic from trucking oil to generator	Air quality modeling and public health benefits analysis, where possible (localized and downwind)
Reduced noise pollution from generator	Change in energy bill costs per household
Community involvement in planning and implementation of measure	Number of community events; dollars spent to engage with residents
Public health benefits	

Example of GHG Measure with LIDAC Benefits #2

Description of measure: State or local program to replace residential fossil-fired furnaces with electric heat pumps, targeted in census tracts identified as LIDAC using EPA's definition. The program would include an education campaign about benefits of heat pumps and a workforce development program to train local community members in conducting retrofits.

Identification of the communities potentially impacted by GHG measure: Incentives and workforce development program are only applied to certain census tracts.

Qualitative Description of Benefits	Quantification of Benefits (where possible)
Risks of climate change	Tons of GHG emissions reduced
Reduced exposure to air pollution	Tons of NOx and PM2.5 reduced
Increased understanding of community benefits	Air quality modeling and health benefits analysis, where possible
Reduced energy bills	Change in energy bill costs per household
Workforce development	Number of local jobs created through workforce development program
Community involvement in planning and implementation of measure	
Public health benefits	

Resources

- Technical Reference Document for Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities Benefits Analysis
- EJScreen – Click on the "Justice40/IRA" category under the "Places" tab to access the "EPA IRA Disadvantaged Communities" Layer
- CEJST - Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool
- CPRG Training Webinars
- CPRG Website

Upcoming Trainings

- **Aug 23, 2-3 PM ET:** Workforce Planning Analysis
- **Aug 30, 2-3 PM ET:** Meaningful Engagement - Update and Technical Resources
- **Past Trainings - CPRG Training, Tools and Technical Resources**: Slides, Recordings, and Additional Qs and As not covered in Training Recordings posted here

CPRG Technical Assistance Forums

- Opportunity for peer-to-peer technical assistance, collaboration, and mentoring.
- Sharing of case studies, best practices, and lessons learned.
- Forums will focus on key plan elements (e.g., climate planning analytics, climate planning process, low income/disadvantaged communities, key sectors for GHG reductions, and additional topics of interest for tribes and territories, etc.).
- Facilitated and led by EPA subject matter experts and contractors.
- Registration for forums will be sent out to lead organizations within the next week!

Q & A

- Please enter questions via the chat box
- Please keep questions on-topic
- We are not able to answer questions about the implementation grants at this time