



RAZA
DEVELOPMENT
FUND
SERVING AMERICA
A Support Corporation of UnidosUS

CLIMATE EQUITY

GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION FUND
UNIDOSUS FALL AFFILIATE CONVENING



INTRO TO RDF

Raza Development Fund, Inc. (“RDF”) is a Latino-led and serving Community Development Financial Institution (“CDFI”) formed in 1999 by UnidosUS, (formerly, National Council of La Raza), the country’s largest and longest-serving Latino civil rights and advocacy organization.

RDF was created to advance economic opportunity, social mobility, and racial justice.

Since inception, RDF has directly invested over a billion dollars in 38 states, leveraging over **\$6 billion** in the areas of **education, affordable housing, healthcare, social services,** and **entrepreneurship.**



WHY CLIMATE EQUITY?

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNIDOSUS



01.

PROMOTING CLIMATE RESILIENCY

We embed clean energy, greenhouse gas reduction tactics and other climate adaptations into the projects in which we invest in order to help vulnerable Latino/a/x communities become environmentally, socially and economically sustainable and resilient.

AFFILIATE FIRST LENS

creating opportunities in healthcare, education, affordable housing, small business/entrepreneurs, and environmental advocacy & justice

02.

We can create shovel ready and worthy projects with UUS Affiliates to ensure that diverse Latino/a/x communities have access to these funds.

WE BELIEVE

- Vast majority of UUS Affiliates are working in Environmental Health and Climate Issues – no matter what you call it
- All Affiliates should have access to the information on the resources to decide if these opportunities are aligned with their organization's mission and future work

03.

Come Summer 2024, we will have that pipeline ready to help Awardees understand how their resources can be deployed rapidly in partnership with CBOs.

EPA: RESOURCES



ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE JUSTICE COMMUNITIES GRANT PROGRAM

Step Four = Implementation Level

These grants are for community coalitions ready for large grant funding (Community Change Grants)

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 Community Change Grants
- Evaluation and Reporting Technical Assistance

“The EPA — whose annual budget for 2023 is just **\$10 billion** — has received roughly **\$100 billion** in new, supplemental funding through two high-dollar pieces of legislation, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act.”

EPA: RESOURCES



ENVIRONMENTAL & CLIMATE JUSTICE GRANT PROGRAMS

<p>Over \$800 million is being deployed quickly to build the project pipeline by funding technical assistance, as assessments, planning, and pilots.</p> <p>~\$2 billion are allocated for the new Community Change Grants to launch soon.</p>	Name	Funding	Description	Timing
	Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers (TCTACs)	\$177 million	17 awards to establish technical assistance centers across the nation to support communities with environmental justice concerns access federal funding.	Announced selections on April 13
	EJ Collaborative Problem-Solving Grants (EJ-CPS)	\$30 million	Up to 83 awards to assist recipients in building collaborative partnerships with other stakeholders (e.g., local businesses, government, medical providers) to develop solutions to environmental or public health issues at the community level.	Applications closed April 14 Announce selections in October 2023
	EJ Government to Government Grants (EJ-G2G)	\$70 million	Up to 70 awards at the state, local, territorial and tribal governments to support and/or create model government activities (existing program).	Applications closed April 14 Announce selections in October 2023
	EJ Grantmakers (EJ-TCGM)	\$550 million	11 Grantmakers who will each make hundreds of subawards	Application closed May 31 Announce selections in December 2023
	Technical Assistance (TA) For IRA Funded Grants	\$200 million	To provide TA to eligible entities and grantees for the IRA funded grants	Available in 2023
Community Change Grants	~\$2 billion	Focus of the presentation today.	Open application period in a few weeks	

EPA: RESOURCES



STATUTORY BASIS FOR OEJEER IRA GRANTS

The Environmental and Climate Justice Grants (ECJ) program was created by the Inflation Reduction Act and is contained in Section 138 of the Clean Air Act with flexibility for program design within the following parameters:

- Funding: Approximately \$2 Billion for the ECJ Change grants. An additional \$200 million is available to provide TA for the IRA funded grants.
- Period of Performance: The grants cannot exceed [three years](#). No extensions afforded.
- Eligible Entities For the Grants:
 - A partnership of [community-based non-profit organizations](#) (CBO)
 - A partnership between a CBO and a [federally recognized Tribe, a local government, or an institution of higher education](#)

Other organizations and entities may be able to participate and be involved in the Community Change Grants projects as collaborating subrecipients

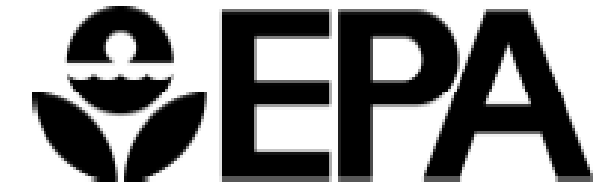
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STATUTORY BASIS FOR OEJECR IRA GRANTS

Grants can be for the following activities:

- Community-led [air and other pollution](#) monitoring, prevention, and remediation, and investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure and [workforce development](#) that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants;
- Mitigating [climate](#) and health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events;
- Climate resiliency and adaptation;
- Reducing indoor toxics and [indoor air pollution](#); or
- Facilitating [engagement](#) of disadvantaged communities in State and Federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, and other public processes.

EPA: RESOURCES



Project / Award Categories

The NOFO will have two tracks

- **Multi-Projects:** Multifaceted holistic vision of projects addressing a variety of environmental and climate justice challenges along with education, engagement, workforce, capacity-building efforts
 - Applications must address some combination of categories (climate / pollution / workforce development) to make it multifaceted and of greatest benefit to communities
 - \$10-20 M award range
- **Engagement-specific “Government Equity” projects:** Projects that focus specifically on advancing meaningful engagement between communities and government processes / institutions
 - Facilitate the engagement of disadvantaged communities in governmental processes (e.g., permitting advisory boards and ECJ academies)
 - \$1-3 M award range

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF): 3 Program Objectives



Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and other air pollutants

Tackle the climate crisis and protect public health by supporting the climate goals of the US and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050



Deliver benefits to ALL communities - especially low income and environmentally disadvantaged communities



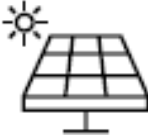
Maximize the benefits of GGRF investments - such as energy bill savings, pollution reduction, and workforce development



Mobilize financing and private capital to stimulate additional investments

Catalyze market transformation by addressing the barriers to mobilizing private capital into clean projects in undercapitalized markets

Overview of GGRF

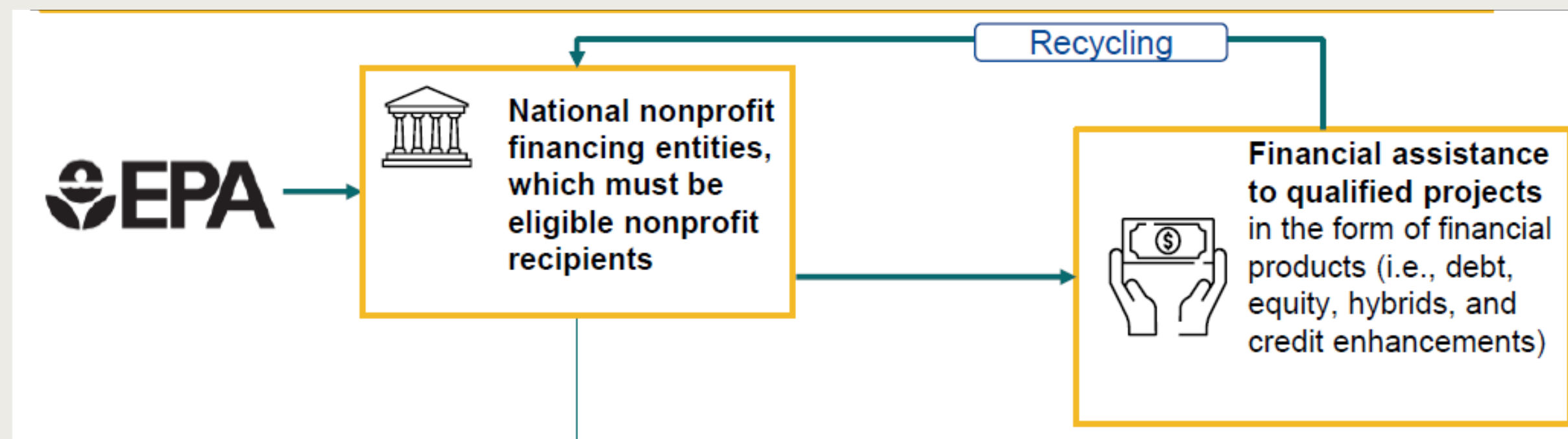
	 National Clean Investment Fund	 Clean Communities Investment Accelerator	 Solar for All
Competition description	Fund national nonprofit financing entities to create national clean financing institutions capable of partnering with the private sector to provide accessible, affordable financing for tens of thousands of clean technology projects nationwide	Fund hub nonprofits to provide funding and technical assistance to specific networks of community lenders, financing clean technology projects in low-income and disadvantaged communities while simultaneously building the capacity of community lenders that serve those communities	Fund states, territories, Tribal governments, municipalities & nonprofits to develop long-lasting programs that enable low-income & disadvantaged communities to deploy and benefit from distributed residential solar
Grantees	2-3 national nonprofit financing entities	2-7 hub nonprofits	Up to 60 government and nonprofit financing grantees
Funding amount	\$14 billion	\$6 billion	\$7 billion
Deadline to apply	October 12, 2023	October 12, 2023	September 26, 2023

GGRF: NCIF Flow of Funds

EPA will award grants to 2-3 national nonprofit financing entities to **create national clean financing institutions** capable of partnering with the private sector to provide accessible, affordable financing.

At least 40% of program funds must be used for the purpose of providing financial assistance in low income and environmentally disadvantaged communities.

*Slide based on EPA Guidance



National Clean Investment Fund grant recipients develop long-lasting programs that:

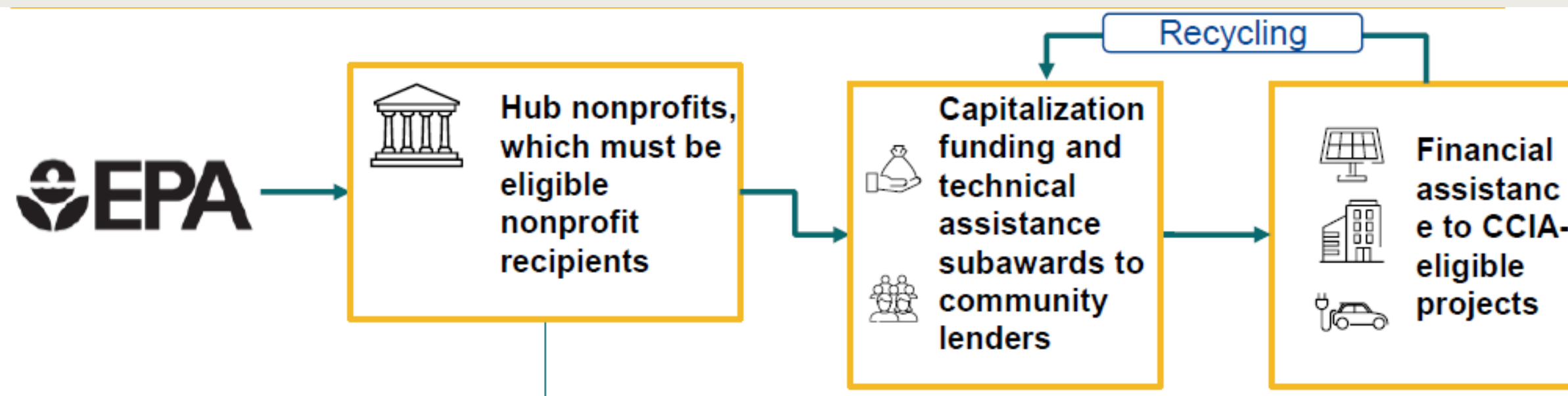
- Provide financing to individuals, families, nonprofits, businesses, and others deploying qualified projects
- Provide financing to community lenders and other similar institutions so that they can, in turn, provide financing to the communities that they serve
- Support predevelopment and market-building activities that are reasonable and necessary to deploy financial assistance to qualified projects
- Mobilize private capital, with each dollar of public funds generating several times more private investment

Applications due October 12, 2023

GGRF: CCIA Flow of Funds

EPA will award grants to 2-7 hub nonprofit that will provide **funding and technical assistance to public, quasi-public, not-for-profit, and nonprofit community lenders.**

100% of program funds must be used for the purposes of providing financial and technical assistance in low income and environmentally disadvantaged communities.

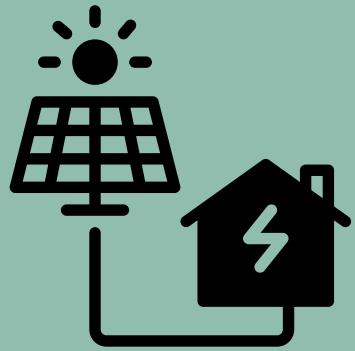


Clean Communities Investment Accelerator grant recipients develop long-lasting programs that:

- **Provide capitalization funding (up to \$10M, unless EPA provides an exception) to community lenders**, which could include community development financial institutions (including Certified Native CDFIs), credit unions, green banks, housing finance agencies, minority depository institutions, and others
- **Provide technical assistance subawards (up to \$1M, unless EPA grants an exception) as well as technical assistance services to community lenders**
- **Focus exclusively on CCIA-eligible projects**, which are qualified projects in three priority project categories (distributed energy generation and storage, net-zero emissions buildings, and zero-emissions transportation) that are in low-income and disadvantaged communities

Applications due October 12, 2023

GGRF: 3 Priority Project Categories



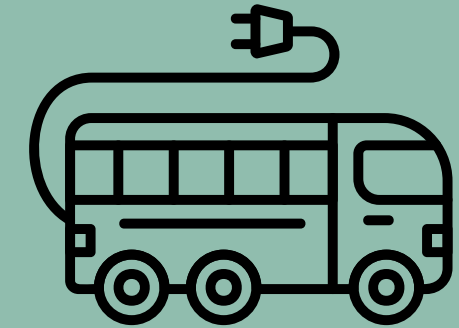
DISTRIBUTED ENERGY GENERATION AND STORAGE

Projects, activities, and technologies that deploy small-scale power generation and/or storage technologies (1 kW to 10,000 kW) (Residential, MF, Commercial, Community Services)



NET-ZERO BUILDING EMISSIONS

Projects, activities, and technologies for (1) retrofits of existing building making substantial contribution getting to net-zero over time or (2) construct new net-zero buildings (Residential, MF, Commercial, Community Services)



ZERO-EMISSIONS TRANSPORTATION

Projects, activities, and technologies that deploy zero-emissions transportation modes and enabling infrastructure, especially in communities that are overburdened by existing diesel pollution, particulate matter concentration, and degraded air quality.

Given the funding available to invest in climate justice

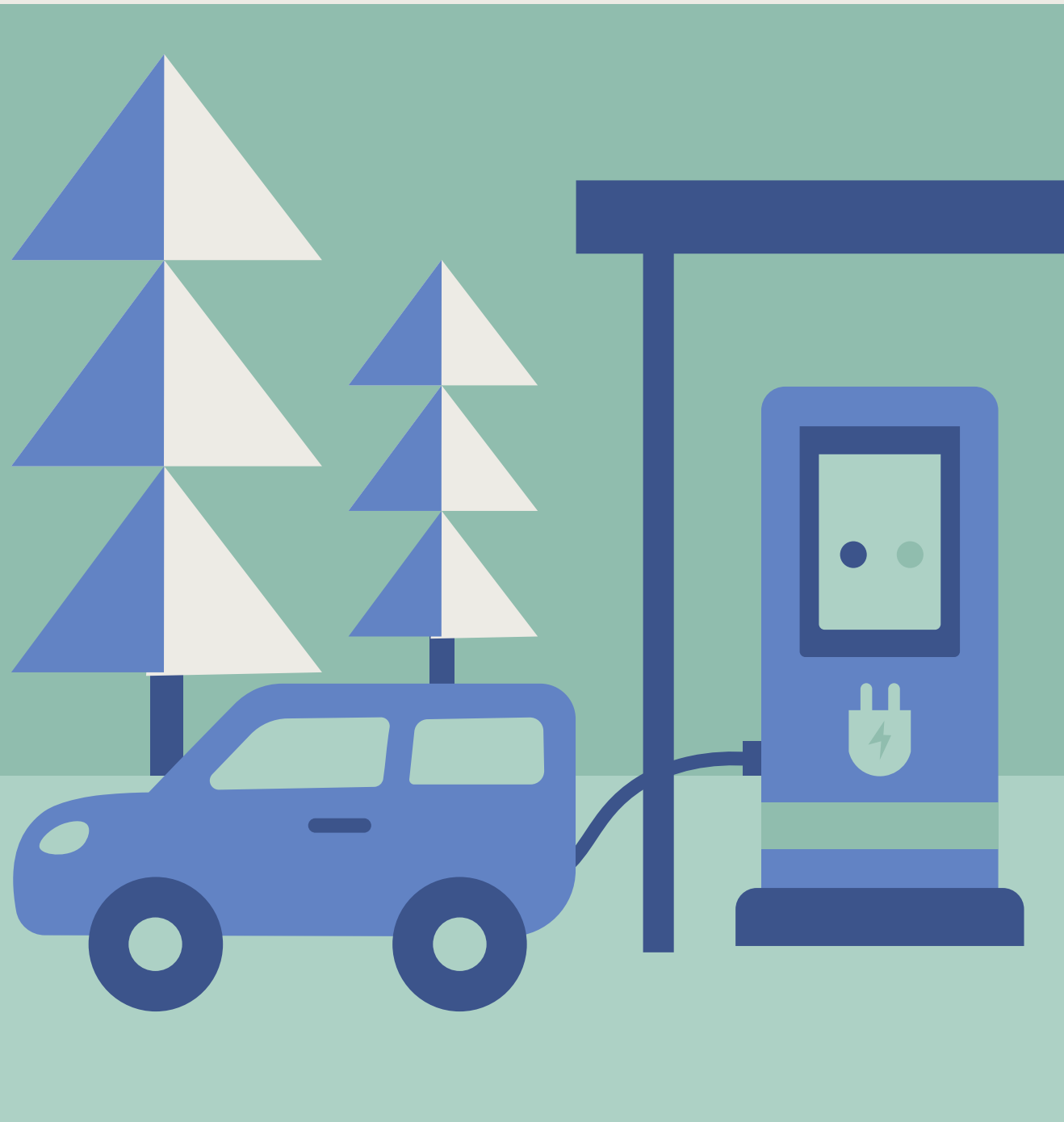


What are the opportunities that align with your mission and current services?

- Affordable Housing
- Community Facilities
- Workforce Development
- Small Business Development/Entrepreneurship
- Environmental Justice and Advocacy



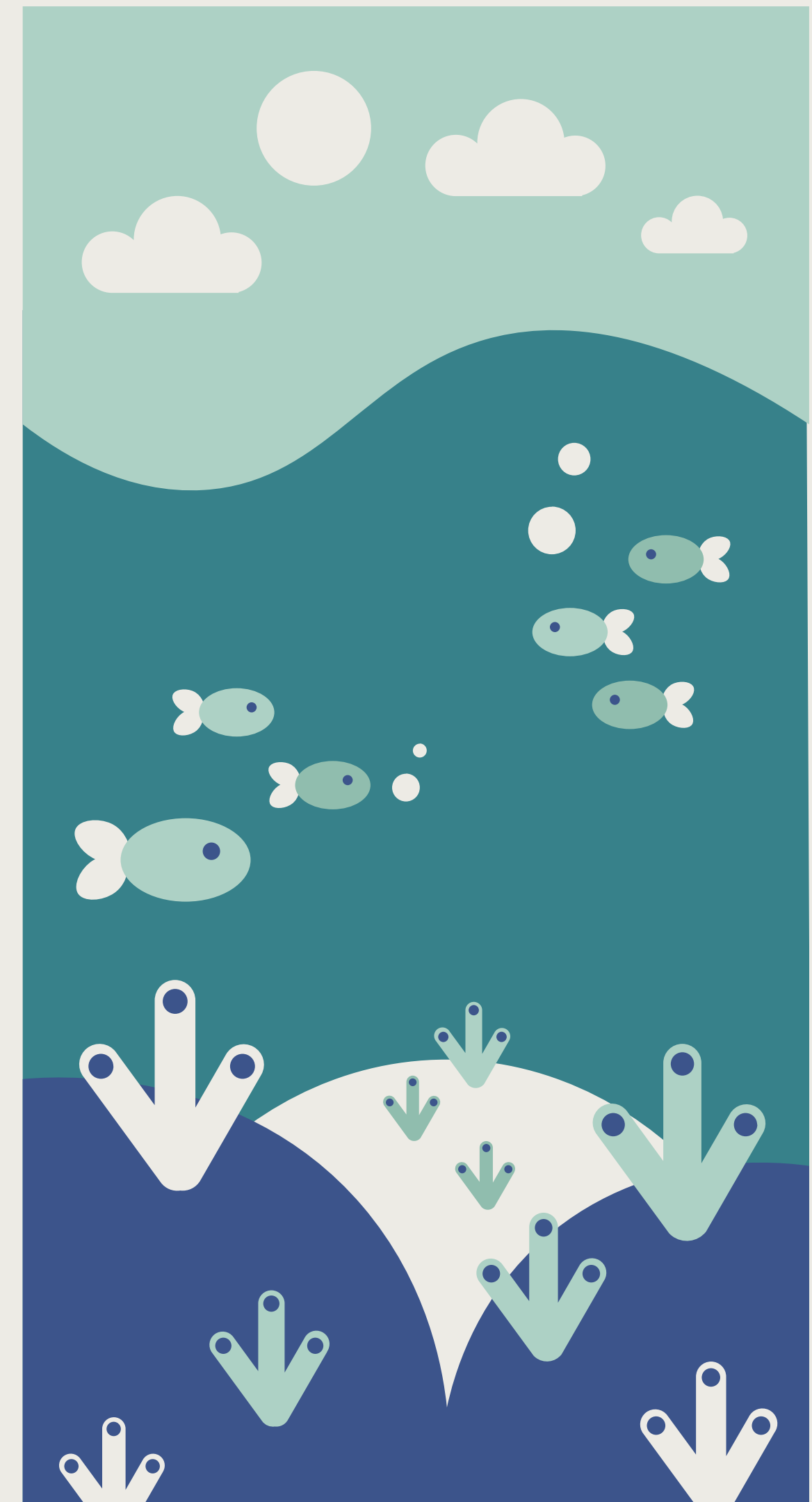
What are the barriers to moving forward or scaling your organization's climate resiliency projects?



What do we need to hear?

What resources would be most helpful to your organizations?

- Connecting with National Experts
- Trainings/Webinars
- Best Practices/Pilot Project Examples
- Seed Funding/Financing
- Partnerships



**Thank you
very much!**

