

 An official website of the United States government [Here's how you know](#)

The Environmental Justice Scorecard has been updated. Phase Two of the Environmental Justice Scorecard was released on July 24, 2024.

[Download the data](#)

[Scorecard](#)[Agencies](#)[About](#)[Contact](#)

2707 Martin
Luther King Jr.
Avenue SE
Washington, DC
20528
(202) 282-8000

<https://www.dhs.gov/> 


DHSEnvironmentalJustice@hq.dhs.gov 

Department of Homeland Security


16 office(s), 247,512 employees, and 8,669 new hire(s) in Fiscal Year 2023

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS or the Department) and its homeland security mission are born from the commitment and resolve of Americans across the United States in the wake of the September 11, 2001 attacks. With the passage of the Homeland Security Act by Congress in November 2002, DHS formally came into being as a stand-alone, Cabinet-level department to further coordinate and unify national homeland security efforts,

Get Involved

[Check out the Department of Homeland Security's public engagement events](#) 


Latest News & Updates

[Find out the latest news at the Department of Homeland Security](#) 

Get Funding & Support

[Find NOFOs,](#)

opening its doors on March 1, 2003. DHS has a vital mission: to secure the nation from the many threats we face. This requires the hard work of more than 260,000 employees in jobs that range from aviation and border security to emergency response, from cybersecurity analyst to chemical facility inspector. The Department's duties are wide-ranging, and its goal is clear – keeping America safe.

[grants, and technical assistance](#) 

DHS approaches environmental justice through the missions and general strategic framework set forth in the [Quadrennial Homeland Security Review](#)

(QHSR), which guides the activities of the homeland security enterprise. As described in the 2023 QHSR, the nation envisions a homeland that is safe and secure, resilient against terrorism and other hazards, and where American interests and aspirations can thrive. In seeking to fulfill this vision, the Department is committed to promoting environmental justice and ensuring equitable outcomes for all communities.

To learn more about environmental justice at DHS, please visit DHS' [environmental justice website](#) .

Some examples of well-known DHS offices, bureaus, or agencies are:

- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Coast Guard
- Customs and Border Protection

Progress on Advancing Environmental Justice

This section demonstrates key progress on advancing environmental justice at the Department of Homeland Security in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

Key Highlights ([show less](#) ^)

Partnership with the Squaxin Island Tribe of the Squaxin Island Reservation

Two Protective Security Advisors in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security

Federal Emergency Management Agency Reflects on the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program

During summer 2023, the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provided an opportunity for stakeholders to share their thoughts and experiences with FEMA, following the initial launch of the

[Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities](#)

(BRIC) Program in FY 2020. BRIC provides proactive investment in resilience for communities so that they are better prepared and remain resilient prior to a natural disaster. It is one of four Justice40 covered programs within the Department of Homeland Security. This stakeholder effort aimed to identify successes and opportunities for reducing barriers to access BRIC funding for state, local, Tribal, and territorial partners. The three-month survey period ended August 31, 2023.

[Learn more](#) 

Agency's Region 10 office have established a proactive, progressive partnership with the Squaxin Island Tribe of the Squaxin Island Reservation through, among other technical assistance, a review of critical infrastructure systems for vulnerabilities that may impact critical services such as clean water, energy, childcare, healthcare, and

FEMA Efforts Advancing Community-Driven Relocation

According to [research](#) from DHS Science and Technology Directorate and the Arctic Initiative at the Harvard Kennedy School's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs, 40% of Alaska Native communities will require relocation due to climate change. As climate change continues to displace people, FEMA – alongside federal partners – strives to assist these communities during the implementation of a climate adaptation strategy known as community-driven relocation. In September 2023, FEMA joined federal partners at an Alaska Institute for Justice workshop to discuss ongoing efforts to support Indigenous-led adaptation strategies and relocation governance frameworks for communities responding to rapid Arctic warming. FEMA informed workshop participants about the efforts of a new working group, current opportunities for federal aid, how agencies can support community access to available resources, and what agencies are

building safety, for Tribal members.

[Learn more](#) 

doing to improve their approach to climate adaptation and resilience.

[Learn more](#) 

Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers Recycling Program

In FY 2023, the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers Recycling Program made strides towards diverting waste from landfills, selling about 504 tons of recyclables, a 4.5% rise from the prior year, supporting efforts to reduce landfill burden on communities with environmental justice concerns.

Community Disaster Resilience Zones Help Identify Natural Disaster Risks for Communities in Need

In September 2023, FEMA [announced](#) the first 483 Community Disaster Resilience Zones (CDRZ) in all 50 states and

the District of Columbia. FEMA used data from the National Risk Index, the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, and other tools to identify the census tracts across the country at the highest risk from natural hazards and those most in need. Communities designated as CDRZ can receive increased financial and technical assistance for Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) projects and technical assistance to plan and implement resilience projects. At the beginning of FY 2023, on October 7, 2022, FEMA announced an increase in program accessibility for communities for the FY 2022 BRIC and Flood Mitigation Assistance grant program application cycle.

[Learn more](#) 

Justice40 Initiative

This section demonstrates progress on the implementation of the Justice40 Initiative at the Department of Homeland Security in


**What is the
Justice40
Initiative?**

Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

Overview

DHS has [four Justice40 covered programs](#), administered by FEMA: Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program; Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Program; Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP); and Risk Mapping, Assessment and Planning (RiskMAP) Program. Each makes communities more climate resilient and focuses more directly on the challenges disadvantaged communities face to better allocate funding in a way that promotes overall risk awareness, avoidance, and reduction. These programs enhance community resilience when disaster strikes.

Disadvantaged communities bear the brunt of climate change and are more likely to be impacted by the associated extreme weather events. The President's Justice40 Initiative strengthens FEMA's commitment to ensure quick and equitable distribution of investments and benefits to the communities who need it most.

For more information on DHS' Justice40 covered programs, please contact fema-justice40@fema.dhs.gov 

The Justice40 Initiative set the goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits of certain federal investments flow to disadvantaged communities that are marginalized by underinvestment and overburdened by pollution.

[Learn more](#) 

Justice40 Covered Programs

([show less](#) ^)

The Department of Homeland Security has:

- **4** Justice40 covered program(s), including **2** Justice40 covered program(s) that is/are funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Inflation Reduction Act, or both

Progress on the Justice40 Initiative

Through President Biden's [Justice40 Initiative](#) , **DHS** is working to deliver benefits to disadvantaged communities. Each program that is part of the Justice40 Initiative delivers benefits in at least one of [seven investment categories](#) , and many programs are delivering benefits to communities across multiple categories of investment. The **4** covered program(s) at **DHS** working to deliver benefits for communities include:

- **4** program(s) protecting communities from the impacts of climate change

Overall, agencies are making concrete, tangible improvements to benefit disadvantaged communities

across America through the Justice40 Initiative. These investments are resulting in cleaner air and water, more affordable clean energy, good-paying jobs, and other results that people are seeing and feeling today and into the future.

Justice40 Covered Program Highlights ([show less ^](#))

The Department of Homeland Security is delivering benefits, or is projected to deliver benefits, for disadvantaged communities through grants or awards made through its Justice40 covered programs, such as:

BRIC Grant Selections Include Benefits to Justice40 Disadvantaged Communities

In August 2023, FEMA announced the selection of 124 projects through the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program's National Competition, utilizing FY 2022 funds. The application period opened in September 2022 and closed January 2023.

[Learn more](#) 

BRIC Grant Selections Tribal Set-Aside

In May 2023, FEMA announced that 34 Tribes were selected in the BRIC Tribal Set-Aside, for an estimated \$54 million in funding, utilizing FY 2022 funds. The application period opened in September 2022 and closed January 2023. For the purpose of the Justice40 Initiative, Federally Recognized Tribes, including Alaska Native Villages, are recognized as disadvantaged.

[Learn more](#) 

Flood Mitigation Assistance Annual Grant Selections Include Benefits to Justice40 Disadvantaged Communities

In August 2023, FEMA announced the final selection of 149 subapplications for the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program, totaling nearly \$642.5 million of available FY 2022 grant funds. The application period was open from September 2022 to January 2023. One example is a selected project in [Canton, Mississippi](#) that aims to

enact long-term sustainable solutions for flood risk. As part of flood mitigation efforts, Canton is looking to carry out a capital improvement project that includes activities to improve detention/retention ponds and drainage channels. The city will also rehabilitate and expand riverbank buffers. The major upgrade of the drainage systems in two areas prone to frequent flooding will result in new and improved driveway drainage structures, restoration and stabilization of open channels for water flow, and implementation of nature-based solutions to reduce the impact of flooding.

[Learn more](#) 

Funding Announcements

([show less](#) ^)

The Department of Homeland Security has:

FY 2022 Notices of Funding Opportunity for Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grants Closed in FY 2023

The FY 2022 application period for FEMA's two competitive hazard mitigation assistance grant programs – Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) – opened on September 30, 2022 (in FY 2022), and closed on January 27, 2023 (in FY 2023). FMA Swift Current opened on April 1, 2022 (in FY 2022), and closed on October 3, 2022 (in FY 2023).

Learn more 

FY 2023 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program Fact Sheet

The FY 2023 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) application period ran from May 24 to July 24, 2023. As outlined in the program's [fact sheet](#) , for FY 2023, FEMA implemented four RCPGP strategic priorities: housing, equity, climate resilience, and readiness, and emphasized the needs of disadvantaged communities.

[Learn more](#) 

Covered Program Design or Modification ([show less](#) ^)

The Department of Homeland Security made program or design modifications to maximize benefits and/or remove barriers or constraints for disadvantaged communities, such as:

Fiscal Year 2023 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program Key Changes

In FY 2023, the Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) prioritized the needs of disadvantaged communities and directed applicants to use the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool to better understand their vulnerabilities and needs. Recipients were expected to involve representatives of disadvantaged communities when developing and integrating preparedness and readiness plans.

[Learn more](#) 

Justice40 In Action ([show less](#) ^)

The Department of Homeland Security is delivering benefits, or is projected to deliver benefits, for disadvantaged communities through the Justice40 Initiative, including:

Mississippi: City of Canton Martin Luther King Stormwater Improvement Project

The city of Canton, Mississippi requested grant funding for the Martin Luther King (MLK) South Flood Mitigation Project. As part of flood mitigation efforts, Canton is looking to carry out a capital improvement project that includes activities to improve detention/retention ponds and drainage channels. The city will also rehabilitate and expand riverbank buffers. This project was announced as a final selection for FEMA Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant funding in August 2023.

[Learn more](#) 

FEMA Funding Danville, Arkansas School District Safe Room

Danville, Arkansas is an Economically Disadvantaged Rural Community and is identified as a disadvantaged community on the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. Danville School District has no protection for its students during severe wind

Texas: Harris County Flood Control District Buyout

A socially vulnerable community in Harris County, Texas, has faced repetitive flooding on 49 National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)-insured homes in Houston, Texas, including some in census tracts identified as disadvantaged using the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. With these homes having 101 flood loss claims submitted, this project will result in the homes being bought and residents relocated out of harm's way to higher ground. The flood-prone area will be restored as a natural floodplain for stormwater storage and protect the larger community from future flood events.

[Learn more](#) 

and tornado events. The community plans to leverage FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) funding to build a multi-purpose safe room next to the elementary school. The proposed safe room will have space for 1,126 faculty, staff, and students. It will have six wheelchair spaces and be Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)-

compliant.

[Learn more](#) 

Environmental and Civil Rights Protection

Federal agencies are advancing environmental justice by carrying out their responsibilities under the law to identify and address disproportionate and adverse public health and environmental, climate-related, and cumulative impacts on communities with environmental justice concerns. Agencies are working to ensure that all communities experience the protection of our country's bedrock environmental laws. The following information reflects some of the environmental and civil rights work at the Department of Homeland Security has done in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Environmental Justice ([show less](#) ^)

This section demonstrates progress on environmental protections, such as the National Environmental Policy Act, at the

What is NEPA?

The

Department of Homeland Security in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

All components of DHS have NEPA policy and guidance. For example: DHS [Directive 023-01 and Instruction 023-01-001](#)

, “National Environmental Policy Act;” FEMA

[Directive 108-1 and Instruction 108-1-1](#) , “Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Responsibilities and Program Requirements;” and Coast Guard [COMDTINST 5090.1](#) , “Environmental Planning Policy.”

Project Modifications

- 6 project modification(s) where environmental justice concerns were raised during NEPA process, including:

Levee in the City of Reedsport, Oregon

In Reedsport, Oregon, FEMA provided a grant for pre-disaster mitigation. The grant was for construction of significant levee improvements, which required the preparation of an environmental assessment in accordance with NEPA. Through analysis, it was determined that

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires federal agencies to consider and disclose the environmental health and community impacts of certain decisions or actions before taking them.

[Learn more](#) 

construction noise would impact nearby low-income residents. Measures to minimize noise were incorporated to reduce the effects of noise during construction.

Demolition/Reconstruction in Modena, Pennsylvania

In Modena, Pennsylvania, FEMA provided a grant for pre-disaster mitigation. The grant was for demolition and reconstruction. In particular, the project was for 10 renter-occupied homes in a community with environmental justice concerns. As a part of the NEPA process, FEMA worked with the state so that the renters were given the first option to return to their homes at the new market rate. This was in accordance with the Unified Relocation Assistance.

Training

- **25** agency training(s) on how to consider environmental justice considerations during NEPA reviews
- **511** employees trained on how to consider environmental justice during NEPA reviews

For example, trainings were provided to all levels of agency employees at the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), Science and Technology

Directorate (S&T), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Coast Guard, and Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC). DHS Headquarters provided training to environmental planning and historic preservation professionals, the intradepartmental Environmental Justice Working Group, and the DHS Climate Change Advisory Group. Additionally, 22 Coast Guard NEPA Warrant holders completed the environmental justice training module which requires the passing of a test to ensure competency.

Environmental or Health Protection ([show less ^](#))

This section demonstrates progress by the Department of Homeland Security on environmental or health protection that also advances environmental justice in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

The FY 2023 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) application period ran from May 24 to July 24, 2023. As outlined in the program's [fact sheet](#) , for FY 2023, FEMA implemented four RCPGP strategic priorities: housing, equity, climate resilience, and readiness, and emphasized the needs of disadvantaged communities.

Civil Rights and Environmental Justice ([show less ^](#))

This section demonstrates progress on civil rights related to environmental justice, for example, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or relevant laws other than Title VI of the Civil Rights Act at the Department of Homeland Security in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

DHS works to ensure that its recipients do not discriminate against individuals with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

Consistent with the November 21, 2022, [memorandum](#) titled “Strengthening the Federal Government’s Commitment to Language Access,” [issued](#) by the U.S. Attorney General, the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) updated the [DHS Language Access Plan](#) throughout FY 2023 and issued it in early FY 2024. CRCL chairs the DHS Language Access Working Group and has requested that each DHS Component and Office that interacts with the public, whether in person, virtually, or through the provision of information or services: (1) review its own language access plan for consistency with the DHS Language Access Plan and make modifications accordingly; and (2) include

other updates and/or steps that a [DHS Operational or Support Component or Office](#)

has taken or will take to strengthen language access in its public-facing programs and activities. CRCL continued to engage with Indigenous migrant leaders and communities throughout FY 2023 to provide information about the draft Indigenous Languages Plan and received input on language access issues that impact Indigenous migrant communities in the United States. Following this outreach and comment period, DHS then [released](#) its first-ever [DHS Indigenous Languages Plan](#) to strengthen language services for Indigenous persons of Latin America in its programs and activities.

Title VI and Environmental Justice ([show less](#) ^)

This section demonstrates progress on civil rights related to environmental justice, such as under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, at the Department of Homeland Security in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

DHS is advancing environmental justice in its work to ensure Department recipients that carry out programs and activities that affect human health or the environment

do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, or national origin (including limited English proficiency) in violation of [Title VI](#) of the Civil Rights Act. The Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties coordinates a federally assisted compliance program and provides guidance and technical assistance to Department recipients to help organizations understand their obligations under Title VI and related civil rights authorities.

- **2** open Title VI investigation(s) or compliance review(s) related to environmental justice

Training

What is Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964?

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires that no person be

excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance on account of race,

- **1** agency training(s) on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and environmental justice
- **1,680** employee(s) trained on Title VI of the Civil Rights Act and environmental justice

color, or national origin.

Centering Environmental Justice in Decision-Making

This section demonstrates progress on community engagement (e.g., partnerships with non-federal organizations, technical assistance, and public processes) and partnership and consultation with Tribal Nations at the Department of Homeland Security in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

DHS continued implementing the Civil Rights Evaluation Tool (CRET), a post-award technical assistance and data collection tool that enables DHS to directly engage recipients, outside DHS' compliance and enforcement activities, to receive data (including any civil rights complaints alleging environmental justice concerns) and ensure these recipients have developed and provided to DHS their civil rights-related policies and procedures for their public-facing programs and activities, including those that may have human health or environmental impacts. DHS reviews and provides feedback to recipients to address gaps. As a Component within DHS, FEMA

deploys a cadre of Civil Rights Advisors to communities impacted by disasters. Among the cadre's responsibilities is engaging impacted community members and informing disaster survivors of their civil rights.

Public Processes ([show less ^](#))

- **1** public process(es) related to environmental justice, e.g., requests for information or listening sessions, including:

National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program

In March 2023, the DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties (CRCL) represented the Department at the 2023 National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program, in which CRCL presented on Title VI and environmental justice enforcement efforts.

Partnership and Consultation with Tribal Nations ([show less ^](#))

This section demonstrates progress on Tribal partnerships and consultations at the Department of Homeland Security, including steps that that agencies take to respect Tribal sovereignty and ensure government-to-government consultation on federal policies in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

DHS has the following Directive and Instructions that outline guiding principles for Tribal consultation: [DHS Directive 071-04](#) , “Consultation and Coordination with Tribal Nations” and [DHS Instruction 071-04-001](#) , “Implementing Consultation and Coordination with Tribal Nations.”

- **3** Tribal Consultation(s) related to environmental justice

Base Seattle Expansion and Modernization Project/CERCLA Removal Action

The Coast Guard initiated formal government-to-government consultation in December 2022 with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and Suquamish Tribe regarding potential actions at Base Seattle that may affect ancestral fishing, hunting, and gathering sites – referred to as Usual and Accustomed grounds – established by the Treaty of Point

Elliott. The Coast Guard is also participating in consultation with these Tribes for a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) removal action at [Base Seattle](#) under the lead of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Coast Guard conducted numerous consultation meetings with the staff and leadership of the Tribes in FY 2023 and is actively working toward one or more memorandums of agreement to address Coast Guard operations at Base Seattle, the CERCLA project, and future expansion and modernization projects. The focus of the consultation is on avoiding potential interference with Treaty-established access to Usual and Accustomed fishing grounds.

Coast Guard Civil Engineering Unit Providence Engages Tribes to Share Resources

In FY 2023, the Coast Guard continued NEPA analysis to potentially remove trees that presented a hazard to life and property on Base Cape Cod in Massachusetts. Through consultation with the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe, the Coast Guard cut down the hazardous trees, and Tribal members collected the felled silver birch (*Betula pendula*) for ceremonial and traditional use.

FEMA Continues to Meaningfully Engage Tribes

FEMA has been working toward meeting goals identified in its first-ever [National Tribal Strategy](#), released in December 2021. The 2022-2026 Strategy outlines the agency's responsibilities to Federally Recognized Tribes, including building Tribal capacities and capabilities to improve readiness and resilience. In 2023, FEMA held Tribal consultation meetings to discuss needed updates to the [Tribal Mitigation Plan Review Guide](#), last revised in 2017. The Review Guide helps FEMA officials review Tribal mitigation plans to identify risks and make long-term strategies to reduce losses to people and property from disasters in a fair and consistent way. It also informs Tribal governments about what the plan must include to receive FEMA approval.

- **37** Tribal listening sessions and other engagements related to environmental justice

For example, in September 2023, the DHS Secretary tasked the Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council with the review of

DHS grants, specifically six FEMA grant programs, and the development of a report with recommendations on increasing Tribal equity and accessibility to important adaptation, response, and recovery actions. The report was [published](#) on January 10, 2024 and made many recommendations such as communicating how DHS plans to promote climate adaptation and resilience, while also helping to advance the Justice40 Initiative through Tribal grant programs. Launched in January 2022, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's [Tribal Affairs website](#) continued in FY 2023 to serve as a clearinghouse of agency services and resources that are available to assist Tribes in strengthening the resilience of critical infrastructure, including risks that may arise from climate change such as disruptions to Tribal emergency management and communications systems. This includes improving operable and interoperable communications, an enhanced cyber posture, consultative engagement, outreach, advocacy, technical assistance, and coordination.

Training

- **14** agency training(s) on Tribal Consultation or working with Tribes and Indigenous Peoples to advance environmental justice
- **588** employees trained on Tribal

Consultation or working with Tribes and Indigenous Peoples to advance environmental justice

For example, the Coast Guard NEPA Warrant program held three training sessions on Tribal considerations that included environmental justice. The Coast Guard Bridge Program also developed and provided training on Tribal Engagement Best Practices nationwide to team members of the Coast Guard Bridge Programs to reference during compliance with National Environmental Policy Act. In July 2023, representatives from the Department's environmental planning and historic preservation program provided an overview of the DHS Environmental Justice Program, the signing of Executive Order 14096, and current federal initiatives at the external Tribal quarterly meeting.

Institutionalizing Environmental Justice

This section demonstrates progress to institutionalize environmental justice at the Department of Homeland Security including to implement [Executive Order 14008](#) and [Executive Order 14096](#) , in Fiscal Year (FY) 2023, which is from October 2022 to September 2023.

Overview

DHS is advancing environmental justice through implementation of Executive Order (EO) 14096. DHS is implementing EO 14096 to advance environmental justice for all, and seeks to ensure that affected communities, regardless of income, race, color, national origin, Tribal affiliation, or disability, are heard from and considered in agency decision-making and activities that affect human health and the environment. The

[DHS Environmental Justice Program](#)

examines environmental justice considerations in the Department's own programs and activities, as well as in programs and activities that affect human health or the environment carried out by DHS recipients. DHS is taking steps to "operationalize" the meaningful engagement/involvement provisions within EO 14096 and is currently revising [DHS Directive 023-04](#) , "Environmental Justice," and developing an accompanying Instruction Manual. The first

[DHS Environmental Justice Strategy](#) was issued in 2012. In May 2021, DHS issued an updated FY 2021-2025 Environmental Justice Strategy signed by DHS Secretary Mayorkas. Currently, DHS is updating its strategic plan per EO 14096 and CEQ guidance. Environmental justice is also part of the DHS [Climate Adaptation Plan](#) , DHS [Sustainability Plan](#) , and will be

incorporated into the Department's revised NEPA procedures in FY 2025. In December 2022, the Department filled its first-ever environmental justice advisor federal position within the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. The Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer is set to hire another environmental justice program manager in FY 2024. Through the allocation of resources, these positions further support the Department's commitment to institutionalizing and advancing environmental justice as it relates to the DHS mission.

- **291** staff who work on environmental justice, either in a full- or part-time capacity
- **2** new or strengthened office(s) or program(s) on environmental justice

Training

- **16** agency training(s) for staff on environmental justice
- **489** employee(s) trained on environmental justice

For example, DHS provided trainings and presentations from the Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer (OCRSO) and the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties at the DHS Climate Change Action Group (CCAG), DHS Tribal Affairs internal monthly and external quarterly meetings, DHS

Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Community of Practice monthly meeting, the DHS Environmental Justice Working Group, the OCRSO office-wide meeting, the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies weekly meeting, and at the National Environmental Justice Conference and Training Program in Washington, DC. These presentations focused on DHS activities with environmental justice considerations, DHS efforts to adapt to climate change by prioritizing facility projects with added benefits to disadvantaged communities, and best practices and tools for environmental justice analysis. DHS held a training for component environmental planning and historic preservation subject matter experts where CEQ presented on the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool and National Environmental Policy Act Guidance on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change. Component training highlights include a new internal Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers environmental justice online training module and an environmental justice module for the Coast Guard NEPA Warrant Program.

Advancing Environmental Justice Policy ([show less](#) ^)

- **Has** issued or updated policy, guidance, or directives related to environmental justice (internal or external)

DHS Equity Action Plan Update

In FY 2023, DHS updated its [Equity Action Plan](#) to include the advancement of equity in FEMA's Individual Assistance Program to increase participation of underserved communities, and through the advancement of Community Disaster Resilience Zones.

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency's Stakeholder Engagement Strategic Plan FY 2023-2025

Finalized in June 2023, and as outlined in its

[Stakeholder Engagement Strategic Plan](#)

FY 2023-2025, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) is prioritizing efforts to effectively engage and collaborate with stakeholders and partners and is developing and strengthening the trusted relationships that underpin whole-of-nation operational collaboration and information sharing. CISA's vital mission to lead the national effort to understand, manage, and reduce risk to our cyber and physical infrastructure ensures overburdened communities that have been historically underfunded have the tools necessary to ensure safe and consistent access to online services in areas such as healthcare and emergency response.

- Over the past four years **is working** to create an Environmental Justice Strategic Plan pursuant to [Executive Order 14096](#)

Advancing Environmental Justice Tools or Resources ([show less](#) ^)

- **3** tool(s) or resources that advance environmental justice, including access to health, environmental or other impacts, such as:

Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool

The Resilience Analysis and Planning Tool (RAPT) includes over 100 preloaded data layers – including community resilience indicators from peer-reviewed research, the most current census demographic data, infrastructure data, and data on weather, hazards, and risk. This data and GIS mapping have the potential to help communities to advance environmental justice. Specifically, the RAPT includes the [Community Resilience Challenges Index](#) (CRCI), which is an index of 22

commonly used indicators on community resilience and social vulnerability. The RAPT also includes data from the [Grant Equity Threshold Tool](#) (GETT), which assists with identifying population characteristics of selected areas of interest, including disadvantaged communities as identified by the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool and [Community Disaster Resilience Zones](#).

Learn more 

Advancing Institutional Partnerships or Federal Advisory Committees ([show less](#) ^)

- **4** new or strengthened internal agency working group(s), committee(s), or partnership(s) to advance environmental justice, or new federal advisory committee(s) on environmental justice

DHS Environmental Justice

Working Group

The DHS Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties and the Office of the Chief Readiness Support Officer co-chair the DHS Environmental Justice Working Group, comprised of members from DHS Component agencies and offices. In FY 2023, the DHS Environmental Justice Working Group met regularly to provide trainings and share information about federal interagency efforts and Departmental environmental justice-related goals.

Environmental justice information and trainings were also provided at the DHS Climate Change Action Group and Tribal Affairs Quarterly Meeting and incorporated into the Department-wide Climate Change 101 training. FEMA also manages an intra-agency Environmental Justice Working Group. Through the DHS Environmental Justice Working Group, all DHS Components have strengthened relationships between their environmental planning/compliance and civil rights teams, in addition to creating new relationships with Tribal Affairs, Human Resources, and Public Affairs staff.

Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council

As a federal advisory committee, the

[Tribal Homeland Security Advisory Council](#)

provides advice and recommendations to the Secretary, through engagement with DHS components, agencies, and offices, and by producing recommendations, studies, reports, and more. The Advisory Council has been charged with collaborating on all matters of homeland security as they relate to Tribal Nations, including those that intersect with environmental justice concerns. DHS [established](#) the Advisory Council in September 2022, as the first ever in agency history.

Interagency Collaboration ([show less](#) ^)

DHS participates in the [White House Environmental Justice Interagency Council](#) (IAC), which President Biden established in 2021 and expanded in 2023 through executive orders on tackling the climate crisis and environmental justice.

[Return to top](#)

Contact

Council on Environmental Quality
730 Jackson Place NW
Washington, DC 20506
(202) 395-5750

Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20503
(202) 395-3080

More information

[Whitehouse.gov](https://www.whitehouse.gov)

[Freedom of Information Act \(FOIA\)](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

Additional government services

[Find a contact at USA.gov](#)

[Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov)

[EnvironmentalJustice.gov](https://www.environmentaljustice.gov)

[Environmental Justice Clearinghouse](#)



The Office of Management and Budget and the Council on Environmental Quality

[Share your feedback](#)