Making Justice40 a Reality

October 29, 2021
Webinar Logistics

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100% Clean Energy Collaborative

Assists states and other entities that have 100% clean energy goals (or are considering adopting such a goal) by providing knowledge-sharing activities and analysis so that they can address program challenges and opportunities.

The 100% Clean Energy Collaborative is managed by the Clean Energy States Alliance in partnership with the US Climate Alliance.

in partnership with

www.cesa.org/projects/100-clean-energy-collaborative
Webinar Speakers

Colleen Callahan, Deputy Director, UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation

Silvia González, Director of Research, UCLA Latino Policy and Politics Initiative

Cassia Herron, Immediate Past Chair, Kentuckians For The Commonwealth

Warren Leon, Executive Director, Clean Energy States Alliance (moderator)
Making Justice40 a Reality for Frontline Communities

Lessons from States’ Climate and Clean Energy Investments
Core Advisors

- **Dr. Ana Baptista**, The New School; Equitable and Just National Climate Platform
- **Helen Chin**, Communities First
- **Cassia Herron**, Kentuckians For The Commonwealth
- **Mark Magaña**, GreenLatinos
- **Jacqueline Patterson**, The Chisholm Legacy Project
- **Dr. Nicky Sheats**, Kean University; Equitable and Just National Climate Platform
- **Dr. Sacoby Wilson**, University of Maryland; National Environmental Justice Advisory Council
- **Miya Yoshitani**, Asian Pacific Environmental Network; White House Environmental Justice Advisory Council
Justice40

Initiative established by President Biden’s executive order on climate action:

A government wide effort to target 40% of the benefits of climate and clean infrastructure investments to “disadvantaged communities.”

Clear pathway to deliver on Biden-Harris’ top priorities:

- Provide economic relief
- Tackle climate change
- Advance racial equity, civil rights, and environmental justice
1. Why Justice40?

2. Where and for whom to target equitable investments?

3. How to operationalize effectively and equitably?

4. How to fund equitably?

5. What are powerful program models?
NEED:
Address disparities that hinder an equitable, clean energy economy

- Pollution & health impacts
- Impacts of climate change
- Limited local government & community capacity
- Impacts on fossil fuel workers
- Uneven costs and benefits in transition to clean energy

OPPORTUNITY:
Learn from states addressing disparities through their own climate and clean energy investments

- Ex: NY
- Ex: VA
- Ex: CA
- Ex: IL
- Ex: WA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>WA</th>
<th>VA</th>
<th>NY</th>
<th>MD</th>
<th>IL</th>
<th>CA</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Investment minimum % for dis-advantaged communities</strong></td>
<td>40% target and 35% min. Plus additional 10% for tribal communities</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>40% target and 35% minimum</td>
<td>Act states intent to prioritize but no specificity</td>
<td>Carve outs for low-income communities</td>
<td>35% investment minimum</td>
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<td><strong>Equity benefits / strengths</strong></td>
<td>Package of laws to phase out fossil fuels passed with diverse coalition including tribes</td>
<td>Creates program to reduce energy burden for low-income customers</td>
<td>Most equity centered law as a result of justice advocates</td>
<td>Screening tool and just transition/worker elements</td>
<td>Strong worker provisions. Led by IL Clean Energy Jobs Coalition</td>
<td>Over $4 billion invested in and benefiting EJ communities</td>
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WHY JUSTICE40?

JUSTICE40 DESIGN: Guiding principles toward a just economy and society for all

JUSTICE DRIVEN
Resource and center disadvantaged communities.

COMMUNITY POWERED
Achieve transformational change from the bottom up.

ACCOUNTABLE CHANGE
Institutionalize equity and justice into government agency practices, policies, and systems.
WHERE TO TARGET EQUITABLE INVESTMENTS?

Summary of Recommendations for Screening Tools

**DO:** Allow for multiple screening tools at the agency level that build upon the core Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool.

**DO:** Develop next generation tools to identify and track the absolute magnitudes of disparities within communities over time to support robust evaluation and accountability.
HOW TO OPERATIONALIZE?

Summary of Recommendations for Guidelines

DON’T: Think of 40% as the ceiling or rely on trickle down “benefits for disadvantaged communities.”

DO: Establish strong guardrail to ensure Justice40 objectives are achieved across agencies and states.

DO: Set clear guidelines and processes to give frontline communities agency in local investments and ensure that investments do no harm.
WHAT ARE PROGRAM MODELS?

Examined most equity-centered programs of California Climate Investments (CCI), nation’s longest-running Justice40 equivalent:

- Transformative Climate Communities (TCC)
- CCI Technical Assistance
- Sustainable Transportation Equity Project Pilot (STEP)
- Partners Advancing Climate Equity Pilot (PACE)
- Clean Cars 4 All
- EmPower (cross-sector partnership)
WHAT ARE PROGRAM MODELS?

Important models of local investments that can be applied to designing and implementing initiatives such as Justice40.

- **ReGenesis: Spartanburg, South Carolina** - model of community-led investments for environmental justice, economic development, and regenerative local revitalization.

- **Portland (OR) Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund** - nation’s first climate fund created and led by communities of color.
Summary of Recommendations for Program Investments

**DO:** Invest in programs that build power for frontline communities through leadership of residents and organizations.

**DO:** Invest in systematic technical assistance and capacity building as tools to advance social and racial equity.

**DO:** Take others steps to remove participation/access barriers.

**DO:** Prioritize multi-sector approaches.
THANK YOU
Approach

- Sought advice and feedback from environmental justice movement leaders, scholars, philanthropy, and agency staff.
- Analyzed state-level clean energy and climate investments in disadvantaged communities as well as models from the local level.
- Explored in-depth the longest-running Justice40 equivalent at the state-level (California) to identify lessons learned.
Study Scope

Looks back: Identifies lessons, both dos and don’ts, from states across nation as well as key investment models at the local/municipal level.

Looks ahead: Makes recommendations to assist federal decision-makers in improving upon current and proposed approaches across the country for a transformative and accountable Justice40 Initiative.
Thank you for attending our webinar

Warren Leon
Executive Director
Clean Energy States Alliance
wleon@cleanegroup.org

Learn more about the 100% Clean Energy Collaborative at
www.cesa.org/projects/100-clean-energy-collaborative
Upcoming Webinars

Energy Storage for Social Equity (ES4SE): An Introduction to the DOE-OE Initiative
Monday, November 1, 3-4pm ET

Solar+Storage for Clean Energy and Cost Savings at Albuquerque Public Schools
Friday, November 5, 1-2pm ET

Exploring Europe’s Approach to Using Offshore Wind for Green Hydrogen Production
Tuesday, November 9, 11am-12pm ET

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