

Climate

Clean Energy + Resilient Communities

Focus Area Strategy

The Problem:

The climate crisis threatens the environment and the well-being of current and future generations.

Unless action to reduce carbon emissions accelerates significantly, the impact of this crisis will worsen.

The Solution:

Newly available federal programs accelerate climate protection. The best way to defend these programs is to support project deployment and highlight community-level successes.

Summary:

A current challenge is to support increased deployment of community-based climate projects that leverage federal programs and attract additional private sector investment. Success in these projects requires additional attention to communications, and continued and new support for various approaches to implementation. Collaborative funding with other climate grantmakers will be important, as will consideration of Program-Related Investments (PRIs), which complement traditional foundation grantmaking. Geographic diversity is another critical aspect of our approach. Moreover, focus should be continued on projects that can be located in disadvantaged communities, particularly with clean energy projects that can support the maintenance and resilience of key community services.

Strategy and Approach

Defend

newly available federal programs for community organizations and municipalities that do clean energy project work.

Support

non-profit intermediary organizations that can build capacity and encourage financing of clean energy projects.

Encourage

non-profits that use clean energy to maintain resilience in key community services (e.g. health clinics, food programs, etc.).

Share

results from LLF grant-funded projects and programs with key audiences to demonstrate successes made possible by federal climate programs.

Diversify

the LLF climate grant portfolio to incorporate grants and PRIs that make use of collaborative grantmaking to achieve our goals in this area.

Outcome and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

- Environmental, health, and economic benefits arising directly and indirectly from projects that have received support from LLF grants and PRIs
- Increase in the dollar value of clean energy projects resulting from LLF grant-funded efforts, especially those associated with organizations implementing awards made possible through the federal Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)
- Increased media content highlighting the benefits associated with LLF grants and PRIs