Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program Technical Assistance Webinar

May 4, 2023

https://www.energy.gov/scep/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-program-technical-assistance-opportunities
DOE is committed to providing TA to everyone in the EECBG Program at every step of the way.
Agenda

- Technical Assistance Background
- Blueprints
- DIY Tools
- Expert Support
- Capacity Building
- Feedback
- Q&A
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  • DIY Tools
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This presentation will discuss Technical Assistance that complements and amplifies your EECBG program allocations.

The focus of today’s session is not the Technical Assistance “Voucher Option.”
What is Technical Assistance (TA)?

Technical assistance refers to support that EECBG recipients can receive from DOE, the national labs, and partners.

**TA Categories:**

1. **READ:** Written Resources & Guides
2. **ANALYZE:** Online, Interactive Tools
3. **ASK:** Hands-On Help

**Levels of Support**

- Do-it-yourself resources
- Hands-on, in-depth, customized help

**TA Examples:**

- Case studies and best practices guides
- Data visualization and Analytic tools
- Capacity building, Trainings
- Customized technical analysis
- Financial analysis
- Program design and planning assistance
- Stakeholder engagement and coordination
Technical Assistance Enhances Limited Grant Funds

EECBG Program provides the seed funds to governments and Tribes to develop strategies and build local clean energy capacity.

Technical assistance, can stretch limited grant dollars and maximize the impact of the investments.

Grantees catalyze long-term, impactful and self-sustaining plans and programs in every region of the country, including rural and DACs.
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Blueprints | Why & How to Use Them

1. **Inspire** high-impact and effective projects and programs based on best practices

2. **Summaries how to implement** each topic with step-by-step approach

3. **Highlight** tools, resources, and technical assistance opportunities

4. **Suggestions for** incorporating Justice40 and equity goals into your project

5. **Spotlights other grants** to leverage from Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) investments

6. **Streamline** the application review and approval process for eligible entities with a signed NEPA statement of work

**Blueprint Topics**

1. **Comprehensive Energy Planning**
2. **Energy Efficiency**
   - Energy Assessments and Building Upgrades,
   - Energy Savings Performance Contracts,
   - Building Electrification Campaign,
   - Building Performance Standards & Stretch Codes
3. **Renewables**
   - Solar PPAs and Direct Ownership,
   - Solarize Campaign,
   - Community Solar,
   - Renewable Resource Planning for (rural and tribal) communities
4. **Transportation**
   - Electric Vehicles for Fleets & Fleet Electrification,
   - EV Charging Infrastructure for the Community
5. **Financing Solutions – Revolving Loan Funds**
6. **Workforce Development**

Once you’ve selected a blueprint, join the blueprint cohort. Cohorts will receive regular email updates with pertinent information. Cohorts will meet virtually on an ongoing basis, starting Summer 2023 to:

- Ask and answer questions
- Provide updates
- Share experiences
- Hear from experts
- Troubleshoot common areas of concern
- See tool demonstrations
- Share success stories

Sign up now to join a Blueprint Cohort: https://forms.office.com/g/Phr3DWKiWJ
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TOOLS, TOOLS, TOOLS

We have the Tools!

• Planning
• Modeling
• Options analysis
• Impact calculators
• Demographics

Big picture to detailed
• State-wide
• Site-specific
• Project-specific

We will train you to use them!

• DOE will offer trainings to learn how to use the tools
City of Plainville is starting from the beginning...

Step 1 – Check out the blueprints for inspiration

Step 2 – Do some research to understand your community’s context, energy data, and biggest opportunities.

Step 3 – Get feedback from your stakeholders

“How do I choose a project?”
Example question #1 - What’s the biggest source of greenhouse gas emissions in my county?
Example question #2: What would electrification do to GHGs in my county?
Why Justice40 & CEJEST?

1. Transform local infrastructure & economies
   Drive quality job creation, including the opportunity for union jobs

2. Lift up historically disadvantaged communities

3. Mitigate and build resilience to the climate crisis
   Modernize and upgrade American energy infrastructure

Example question:
Where are the disadvantaged communities in my area?

For more information, visit the DOE Justice40 Website at: https://www.energy.gov/diversity/justice40-initiative
Example question:
If my state wants to lower energy burdens in disadvantaged communities, which building types should we concentrate on: mobile homes, single-family or multi-family buildings?

The Low-Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool visualizes energy burden and low-income household characteristics.
**ResStock** and **ComStock** provide highly granular modeling of the US building stock – both in the residential and commercial sectors.

**Example question:** Which efficiency technologies would save people in my state the most money?

- [https://resstock.nrel.gov/](https://resstock.nrel.gov/)
- [https://comstock.nrel.gov/EL](https://comstock.nrel.gov/EL)

State fact sheets such as the above show the most cost-effective energy efficiency options.
Jobs and Economic Development (JEDI) Tool provides detailed economic impact analysis for renewable energy projects:

• Example: How many jobs would my community create from a Solarize Campaign?

• Assumptions: 100 households sign up for 7kW of rooftop solar in Arizona in 2024

• Local Economic impacts:
  o 21.6 near-term jobs
  o $991,500 in earnings
  o $1.6 million in value added to the local economy

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<th>Earnings</th>
<th>Output</th>
<th>Value Added</th>
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<tr>
<td>Construction and Installation</td>
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https://www.nrel.gov/analysis/jedi
PV Watts & RE+Opt will help you to understand how to design your solar projects

**PV Watts**
- Enter a building’s address to find the production potential from rooftop solar

**RE+Opt**
- Defines optimal storage and savings due to solar panel installation
- Recommends optimal mix of renewable energy, conventional generation, and energy storage to meet cost savings, emissions reductions etc.
Example Resources:
• Stakeholder engagement
• Procurement support
• How to build the dream team
• Financing solutions
• And more!

https://www.energy.gov/scep/slsc/all-state-local-solution-center-resources
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- **Expert support**
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Ask for technical assistance at any time in the project design process.

You can ask your project officer or write to: technicalassistance@hq.doe.gov
Each EECBG participant must complete an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy (EECS)

– The EECS indicates your community’s:
  • Overarching energy and/or climate goals
  • Choice of blueprint or alternative project activity
  • Teaming plans
  • Efforts to support disadvantaged communities

National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) is available now to support you

• NREL can provide an overall picture of your community’s energy landscape and help you determine which path may be the best choice for you
• NREL can help you with all the tools!

How to Access:
Email NREL today to request your customized strategy support!
EECS_TA@NREL.GOV
**Expert Support | Guidance from Across DOE**

**Connect to experts around Blueprint Projects**

*Blueprints:* Building performance standards, stretch energy codes  
**DOE Office:** Building Technologies Office

*Blueprints:* Community solar, solar permitting and interconnection  
**DOE Office:** National Community Solar Partnership, SolSmart, I2X

*Blueprints:* Electrification of vehicles and EV charging stations  
**DOE Office:** Vehicle Technologies Office and Clean Cities Program

**Doing Something Different?**

Customized decision support available for topics that do not fall in any of the above categories

**DOE Office:** Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) Expert Match
NREL Helps Cohoes Community With Floating Solar System and Historic Building Retrofits

- The Expert Match team of researchers provided guidance on appropriate design and installation of the floating solar panels.
- The result was the design for a 3.2-MW, municipally owned and operated floating solar project—the first of its kind in the nation.

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Capacity Building | Webinars

- DOE will continue to hold webinars on hot topics throughout the EECBG Program
- Justice40 webinar coming up next week
- Send us your webinar or training ideas: TechnicalAssistance@hq.doe.gov
DOE-sponsored staff based in communities to help increase the capacity and impact of EECBG-funded projects. Will be provided on a competitive basis.

Eligible applicants are EECBG local governments and tribes not using vouchers. Eligible applicants are EECBG local governments and tribes are designated as disadvantaged communities and/or using their EECBG funds to serve disadvantaged communities.

Priority will be given to those:
  ✓ Using Blueprints
  ✓ Working in teams

Further details available Summer 2023.
Conclusion

- Get inspired: Read the blueprints
- Use the tools: State and Local Solution Center
- Talk to each other: Sign up for the blueprint cohorts
- Get expert help: Reach out to NREL for strategy support; Ask for technology-specific support from around DOE

Email us your questions! technicalassistance@hq.doe.gov
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How will you engage with the EECBG technical assistance described in this webinar? *Send in the number(s) that you are most excited about...*

1. Follow a Blueprint
2. Join a Blueprint Cohort
3. Use analytical tools
4. Energy Efficiency and Conservation Strategy support from NREL
5. Technology-specific, customized expert assistance
6. Capacity building webinars
7. Apply for a Field Fellow
8. TA Voucher
9. None of the above
What other technical assistance should DOE provide?

*Take a moment to brainstorm and let us know in the Q&A (as many as come to mind!)*
THANK YOU!

- Reach us at TechnicalAssistance@hq.doe.gov
- Check out our website: https://www.energy.gov/scep/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-program-technical-assistance-opportunities
Q&A