# Community Benefits Plans\* and You!

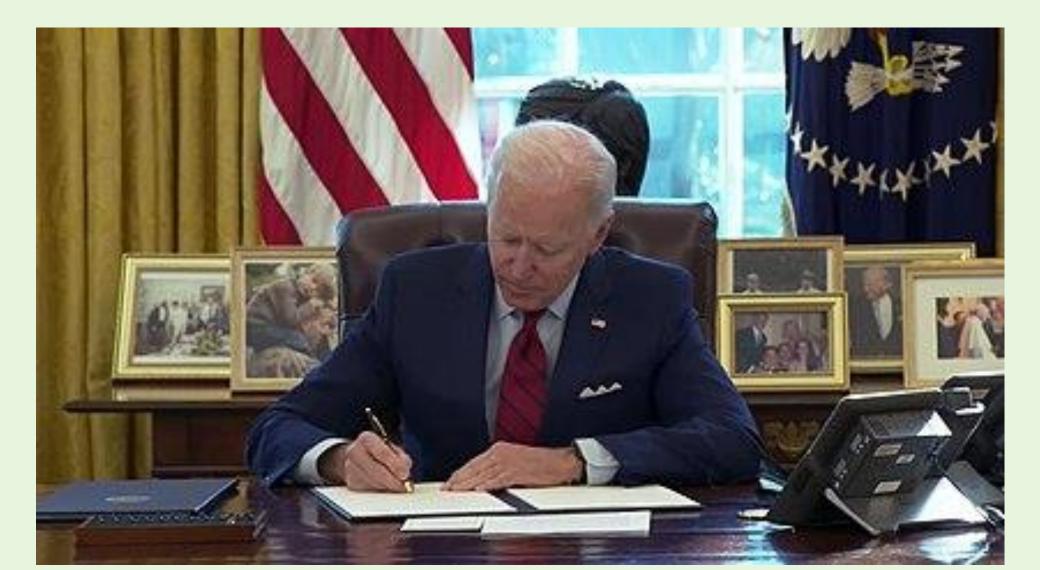
Natalie Alvarado, Rebecca Erwin, & Emily Loker, Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies Office EJ Subcommittee

## What are Community Benefits Plans?

Community Benefits Plans (CBP) are part of all Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) for Programs covered under the Justice 40 Initiative

These plans are designed to:

- Ensure broadly shared prosperity in the clean energy transition
- Confront decades of underinvestment in disadvantaged communities
- Bring critical resources to communities that have been overburdened by legacy pollution and environmental hazards

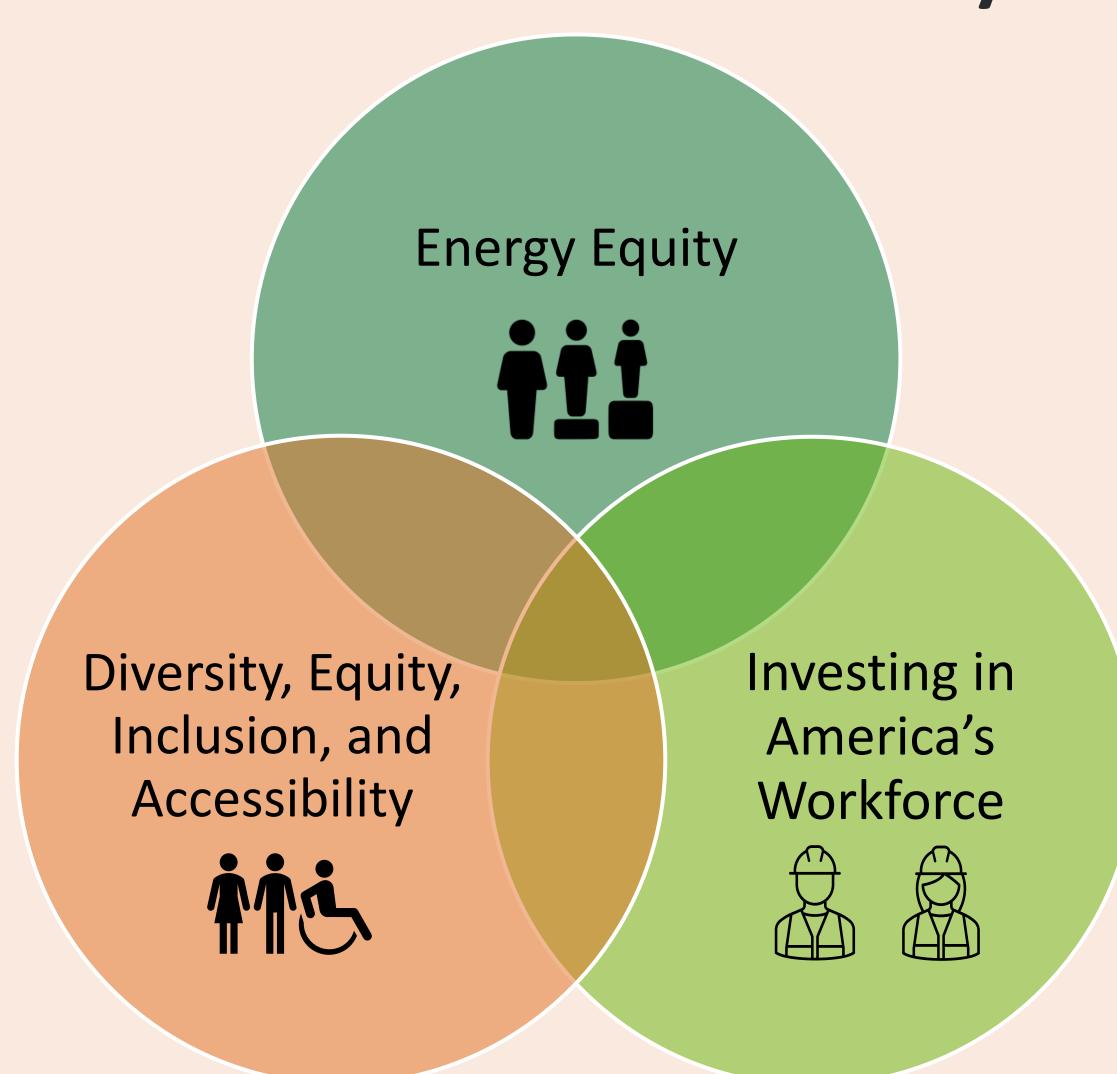


President Biden signs EO 13990: Protecting Public **Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to** Tackle the Climate Crisis, which established CBPs

The plans are meant to be flexible:

- The applicants and partners can work together to create a plan to benefit all parties
- The current plan requirements are different for demonstrations & deployments (D&D) projects and research & development (R&D) projects
- CBPs account for 10-20% of an applicant's score

## R&D Community Benefits Plan Priorities



### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA)

Describe specific actions that will promote an inclusive workplace that values a diversity of people, ideas, cultures, and educational backgrounds

#### **Energy Equity**

Evaluate the near and long-term benefits, constraints and risks of the proposed work and the degree to which they are distributed equally

### **Investing in America's Workforce**

- Create good-paying jobs with strong labor standards to attract and retain diverse and skilled workers
- Evaluates the long-term impacts of commercial deployment on the future workforce

The CBPs describe how applicants will support the Justice40 goal that ≥ 40% of the overall benefits of Federal clean energy investments will flow to disadvantaged communities

## What to Include in Your R&D Community Benefits Plan

The following table shows the components that should be included in the R&D CBP

### Community Benefits Plan

#### DEIA

- Separately considers diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility
- Commitment to track progress towards goals
- Engagement with disadvantaged communities

#### **Energy Equity**

- Improves understanding of distributional benefits and costs associated with technology development
- Clear workplan for engaging communities
- Expertise in energy justice

Workforce Implications

- Engages workforce stakeholders
- Documents knowledge, skills and abilities needed
- Improves understanding of workforce issues for commercial deployment

#### Additional components include:



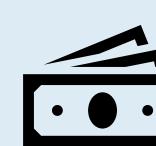
SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, relevant, and timerelated) goals



Expertise of the team



Detail on how the applicant will partner with under businesses and project partners



Budget that includes reasonable levels of • • • funding to support the activities

## Importance of Community Benefits Plans

An R&D CBP allows the applicant to illustrate critical thought about how the proposed work will lead to broadly shared prosperity for the American people, including for workers and

disadvantaged communities

Successful Implementation will:

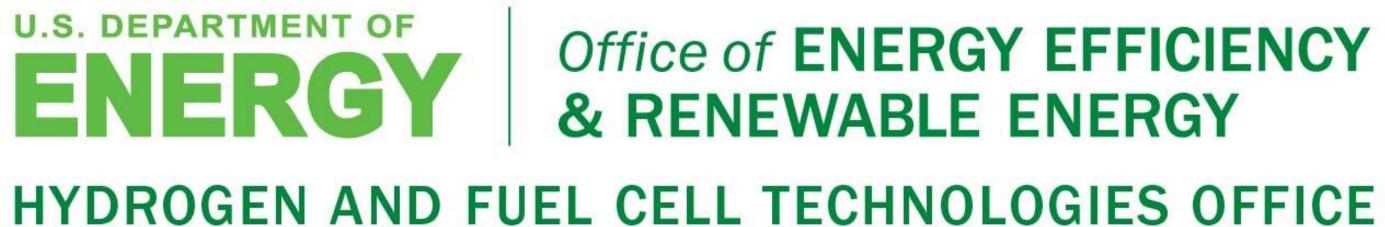
- Reduce risks of opposition and delays
- Provide measurable benefits to DACs
- Build durable support for implementation
- Create a more equitable clean energy workforce

"Establishing clear and inclusive processes to build trust with the local communities and host populations will help avoid the mistakes of the fossil fuel industry" Green Hydrogen Contracting Guidance









\*Note that CBPs are still being refined. This poster represents current R&D FOA plan requirements.