



MULTIMEDIA
ENVIRONMENTAL
FINANCE CENTER



EPA Community Grants Training Session 1

September 25, 2025

Training Objectives

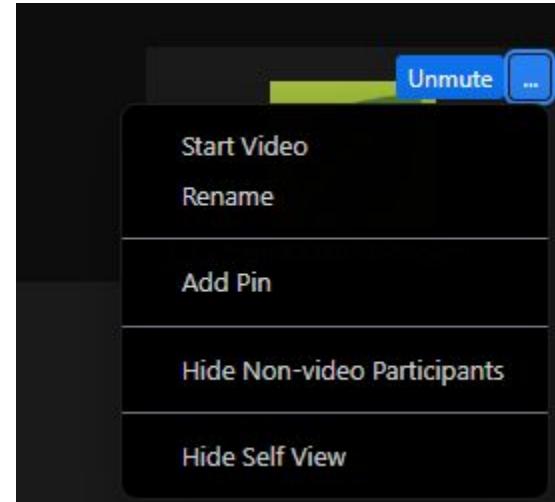
- Share resources to apply for and manage Community Grants
- Create a supportive peer-to-peer network
- Increase local grant writing and management capacity

Disclaimer!

The training provides guidance, but not authoritative interpretations of federal laws, rules or regulations.

Housekeeping

- Participation
 - Add your location next to your name
 - Hold questions for the end of the presentations
 - Please turn your camera on, if possible, during Q&A
- Recordings
 - Presentations will be recorded
 - Q&A and discussions will not be recorded
 - Recordings and slides will be posted on SSDN's website



Curriculum

1. Community Grants Basics - 09/25

2. Support Resources, Waiver Eligibility - 10/09
3. Application Components - 10/16
4. Entity Registration; Other Funding Options - 10/30
5. NEPA and Other Cross-Cutting Regulations - 11/13
6. Procurement Regulations - 12/04
7. Grant Management and Reporting - 12/11



Session 1 Agenda

1. Introduction to SSDN's EFC
2. Community Grants basics
Brendan Held, EPA Region 4
3. Q&A and peer connections

1. Intro to SSDN and the EFC

Your Host



Catherine Mercier-Baggett

- Director of Federal Technical Assistance
- Background in
 - Sustainability and resilience
 - Stormwater green infrastructure
 - Landscape architecture
 - Urban planning

Southeast Sustainability Directors Network

Member-Driven Network

- Peer learning
- State networks
- **Technical assistance**

Technical Assistance

- **Southeast Sustainable Recovery Center**
 - Member-focused support
 - Grant resources: tracking, analysis, and other services
- **EPA Region 4 Multimedia Environmental Finance Center**
 - Technical assistance for water projects
 - All communities in Region 4 are eligible
- **Local Infrastructure Hub**
 - Support to access funding
 - Targeting specific grant authorities and communities
- **NREL ETIPP Technical Assistance**
 - Energy transition
 - Focus on remote communities

Environmental Finance Center

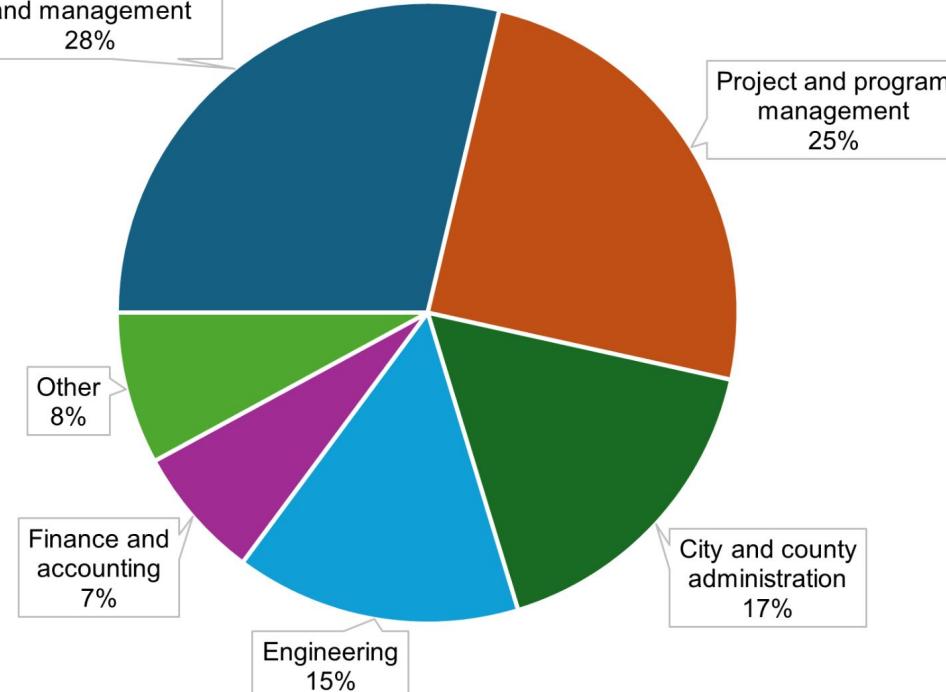
Services

- Capacity building
 - Peer learning
 - Training
 - Technical assistance one-on-one
- Community outreach and facilitation
- Project scoping
- Policy analysis
- Funding strategy

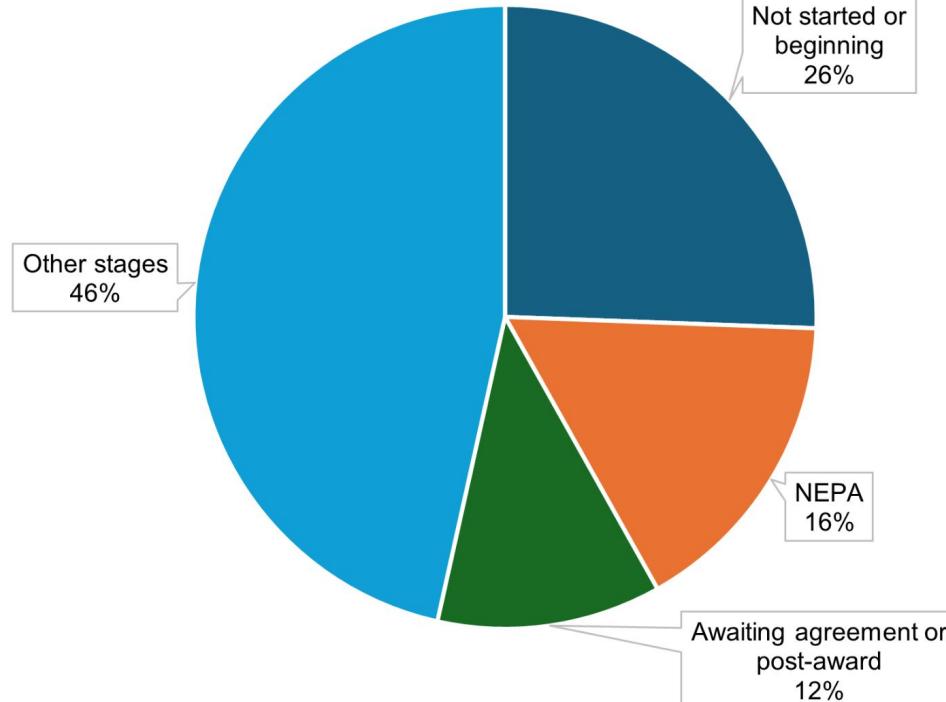
2. Community Grants basics

3. Q&A and peer exchange

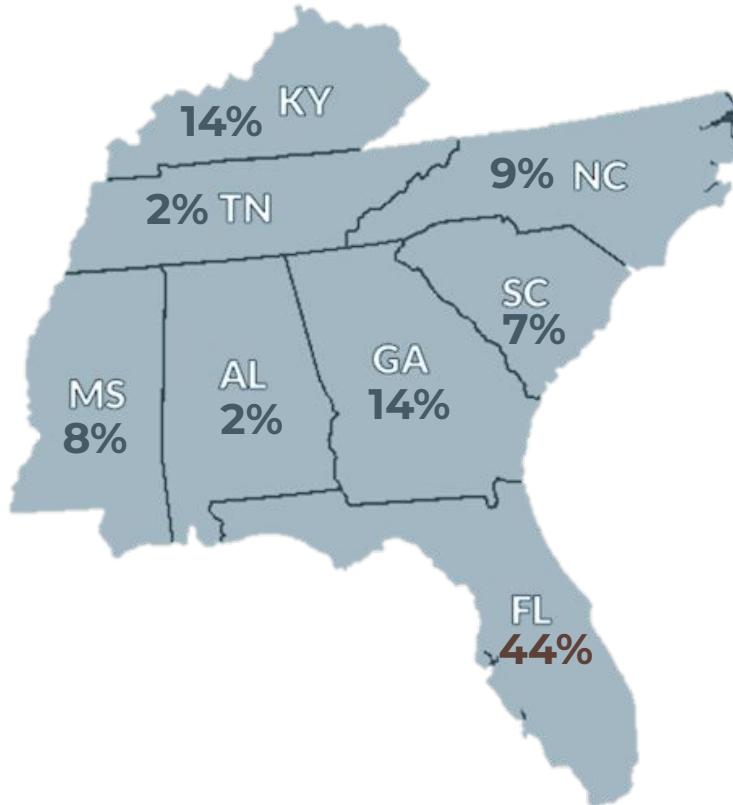
Training Participants



Application Progress



State Representation



Open Floor



Next Session

Oct. 9: Support Resources, Waiver Eligibility

Contact Information

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