

Green Financing

New Opportunities to Invest in Housing and Community Projects



New opportunities for green financing are available through the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to reduce the energy burden of communities and revitalize local economies. This guide provides initial information on how HUD program participants can access and benefit from these opportunities by describing:

- Goals and priorities of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund,
- Updates on implementation of the National Clean Investment Fund and the Clean Communities Investment Accelerator, and
- Services to be provided by the grantees and timelines for delivery.

What is the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund?

The EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund is a \$27 billion investment through the Inflation Reduction Act that is being implemented through three grant competitions: Solar for All (see the *Solar Guide*), the **National Clean Investment Fund**, and the **Clean Communities Investment Accelerator**. The Fund combats the climate crisis and ensures American economic competitiveness through its goals to:

- Fund and support **clean technology projects** that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants;
- Mobilize **financing and private capital** to stimulate deployment of these projects; and
- Deliver the benefits of these projects to American communities, particularly **low-income and disadvantaged communities**.

Priority clean technology project categories include: retrofitting existing buildings to reduce emissions, construction of new net-zero emission buildings in low- and middle-income and disadvantaged communities, small-scale power generation and storage, and zero emissions transportation systems.

What is the National Clean Investment Fund (NCIF)?

The **\$14 billion** NCIF provides grants to national non-profit clean financing institutions so they can **improve the access to affordable financing for clean technology projects**. These institutions will provide financial assistance to families, small businesses, communities, and many others so they are better able to cover the up-front costs of investments in clean technology projects. **At least 40 percent of the capital will flow into low-income and disadvantaged communities.**

What is the Clean Communities Investment Accelerator (CCIA)?

The **\$6 billion** CCIA provides grants to "hub" non-profits that can deliver funding and technical assistance to **build the clean financing capacity of local community lenders** such as green banks, housing finance agencies, community development financial institutions, and others. **The entirety of the funding will flow to low-income and disadvantaged communities** to ensure they have the up-front capital they need to deploy clean technology projects.

EPA announced its selections for \$20 Billion in grant awards under NCIF and CCIA on April 4, 2024. Information about the selection process can be found [here](#). Funds are expected to be awarded to selectees by July 2024 and program services are expected start soon after.

Grantees Implementing the National Clean Investment Fund:

Visit the EPA's [site](#) to learn more about the **three** organizations selected for grants under NCIF. Watch for updates on how to access their funding and services as the program is implemented.

- The [Climate United Fund](#) (\$6.97 Billion) will focus on investing in six market segments: consumers, multi-family housing, community infrastructure, small businesses and small farms, schools and minority-serving institutions, and community solar. Its proposal aims to decarbonize 188,000 multifamily housing units across the affordability spectrum.
- The [Coalition for Green Capital](#) (\$5 Billion) will make investments in a variety of projects through loans and loan guarantees. It will provide capital to consumers, small businesses, nonprofits, and affordable housing developers.
- [Power Forward Communities](#) (\$2 Billion) will lead a national financing program to provide customized capital solutions for single- and multi-family housing owners and developers to invest in existing and new affordable rental homes while increasing the supply and demand for clean technologies.

Grantees Implementing the Clean Communities Investment Accelerator Program:

Visit the EPA's [site](#) to learn more about the **five** organizations selected for grants under CCIA. Watch for updates on how to access their funding and services as the program is implemented.

- [Opportunity Finance Network](#) (\$2.29 Billion) will serve as a hub for community lenders, offering grants, technical assistance, and loans, while investing in mission lenders nationwide to transform the market for clean energy finance.
- [Inclusiv](#) (\$1.87 Billion) will deliver technical assistance and capitalization funding to community development credit unions to support homeowners, small businesses, and consumers planning energy efficiency, electrification, and solar access projects.
- The [Justice Climate Fund](#) (\$940 million) will establish a Community-Based Green Lender Certification Program and will deliver assessments, training, and certification to community lenders before they are authorized to receive funding.
- [Appalachian Community Capital](#) (\$500 million) will implement the Green Bank for Rural America to invest in thousands of projects that reduce energy bills, improve air quality, and create high-quality jobs with a focus on coal, energy, underserved rural, and Tribal communities.
- The [Native CDFI Network](#) (\$400 million) will provide capital and technical support to its network of 63 Native community lenders across 27 states. This will enable financing for energy generation, net-zero buildings, and zero-emissions transportation projects in Native communities.

The resources linked below will be updated as information about NCIF and CCIA is made available. Contact Info-BuildForTheFuture@hud.gov with questions about possible applications for your program!

These resources are just the start!
Look for other information that matches your needs here:

[Build for the Future](#) — A wealth of technical resources on energy efficiency and resilience

[Build for the Future Funding Navigator](#) — A user-friendly searchable database for IRA and BIL grants

