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Mapping Tools for Communities to Identify Assets and Hazards in Local Areas

Federal Investments

Name	Agency Lead	Website	Description
Community Commons	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	http://www.communitycommons.org/	<p>Community Commons is an interactive mapping, networking, and learning utility for the broad-based healthy, sustainable, and livable communities' movement. Registered users have FREE access to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 7000 GIS data layers at state, county, zip code, block group, tract, and point-levels. • Contextualized mapping, visualization, analytic, impact and communication tools and apps. • Searchable profiles of hundreds of place-based community initiatives (multi-sector collaboratives) working towards healthy/sustainable/livable/equitable communities - funded by government and private philanthropy - complete with text & video narratives on "what's working." • Peer learning forums in the "interactive commons" with colleagues exploring similar interests and challenges - hosted by leading national Technical Assistance providers. <p>(Please note: Community Commons is a general resource for health-related data. While CDC provided initial funding for the project, the agency does not currently lead the work.)</p>
Housing and Urban Development American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Grant	U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)	http://www.usda.gov/recovery/map/	Mapping HUD's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grants. This mapping application, hosted by USDA, allows you to see where HUD, USDA, and The Department of Commerce's recovery grants are being targeted.

CMTS Data Map	Committee on the Marine Transportation System (CMTS) - Chaired by The Department of Transportation (DOT)	www.cmts.gov/index.html	This tool plots Federal marine transportation system infrastructure, both physical and informational, and has been operational for the last five years. The MTS generally includes ports, waterways, and the "last mile" of the intermodal connectors, and is a significant subset of the Freight Transportation System of the U.S. The Federal rail and highway funding are shown on the map, but do not necessarily comply with the "last mile" concept due to the lack of granularity in the specific investments funded.
Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food	U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)	http://www.usda.gov/maps/maps/kyfcompassmap.htm	Updated in October 2012, the Compass map shows you the local foods landscape in your community and around the country. Data includes USDA and other federally supported local food projects, farmers markets, food hubs, meat processors and more. Now fully searchable.
Sustainable Communities Grants & Technical Assistance	Partnership for Sustainable Communities : U.S. DOT, EPA, HUD	http://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/map.html	Sustainable Communities Grants & Technical Assistance Since forming the Partnership for Sustainable Communities in 2009, Housing and Urban Development, The Department of Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency have announced a series of grants and other assistance to communities across the country. The interactive map includes information on awards already made through Partnership programs.
Cleanups in My Community	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://iaspub.epa.gov/apex/cimc/f?p=255:63:1494546438538001:::	The Cleanups in My Community map lists areas where pollution is being or has been cleaned up throughout the United States.

Federally-provided data

Name	Agency Lead	Website	Description
Data.gov	Multi-agency	www.data.gov	As a priority Open Government Initiative for President Obama's administration, Data.gov increases the ability of the public to easily find, download, and use datasets that are generated and held by the Federal Government. Data.gov provides descriptions of the Federal datasets (metadata), information about how to access the datasets, and tools that leverage government datasets. The data catalogs will continue to grow as datasets are added. Federal, Executive Branch data are included in the first version of Data.gov
Area Resource File (ARF)	Department of Health and Human Services - Health Resources and Sources Administration (HHS/HRSA)	http://www.arf.hrsa.gov/index.htm	The basic county-specific Area Resource File (ARF) is the nucleus of the overall ARF System. It is a database containing more than 6,000 variables for each of the nation's counties. ARF contains information on health facilities, health professions, measures of resource scarcity, health status, economic activity, health training programs, and socioeconomic and environmental characteristics. In addition, the basic file contains geographic codes and descriptors which enable it to be linked to many other files and to aggregate counties into various geographic groupings.
Environmental Public Health Tracking Network	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	http://ephtracking.cdc.gov/showHome.action	The National Environmental Public Health Tracking Network (Tracking Network) is a system of integrated health, exposure, and hazard information and data from a variety of national, state, and city sources. On the Tracking Network, you can view maps, tables, and charts with data about: chemicals and other substances found in the environment; some chronic diseases and conditions; and, the area where you live.

WISQARS (Web-based Injury Statistics Query and Reporting System)	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	http://www.cdc.gov/injury/wisqars/index.html	WISQARS™ is an interactive, online database that provides fatal and nonfatal injury, violent death, and cost of injury data from a variety of trusted sources. Researchers, the media, public health professionals, and the public can use WISQARS™ data to learn more about the public health and economic burden associated with unintentional and violence-related injury in the United States. Users can search, sort, and view the injury data and create reports, charts, and maps based intent of injury, mechanism (cause), body region, nature (type) of injury, geographic location where the injury occurred, and sex, race/ethnicity, and age of the injured person.
EJView	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/compliance/ej/mapping.html	EJView, formerly known as the Environmental Justice Geographic Assessment Tool, is a mapping tool that allows users to create maps and generate detailed reports based on the geographic areas and data sets they choose. EJView includes data from multiple factors that may affect human and environmental health within a community or region, including: demographic; health; environmental; facility-level data.
Community Planning and Development Maps	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://egis.hud.gov/cpdmaps/	Identify your community's needs through mapping current grant activities, local housing market and economic data, Census data, and other data sources, and see homeless grant planning data.

Empowerment Zone(EZ) & Renewal Communities (RCs)Locator	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://egis.hud.gov/ezrclocator/	This site has been recently modified to improve the experience for businesses and residents of EZ/RC communities. The Address Locator allows you to determine if an address is located within an Empowerment Zone or Renewal Community. This online tool can help verify if a particular location is eligible for the tax incentives or other benefits offered in EZ/RC areas. If your business in an Empowerment Zone, you may qualify for tax credits and other incentives.
Single Family Home Locator	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://sfgis.hud.gov/index.html	View maps of Real-Estate Owned (REO) properties for sale, Revitalization Areas (RA), Asset Control Areas (ACA), and Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) target areas.
Tribal Directory Assessment Tool (TDAT)	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://egis.hud.gov/tadat/Tribal.aspx	Identify tribes and provide appropriate tribal contact information to assist with initiating Section 106 consultation.
National Housing Locator	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://www.huduser.org/RFMap/RuralFund.html	Disaster victims use this tool to instantly find available temporary housing.
Qualified Census Tract Locator (QCT)	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://209.48.228.153/qctmap.html	The QCT Locator allows users to identify whether a specific address is located in a Qualified Census Tract (QCT) for purposes of the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program. The Locator also provides information explaining why the tract was or was not designated a QCT.
Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Explorer	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://iaspub.epa.gov/triexplorer/tri_release.chemical	The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Explorer allows users to generate reports on releases, transfers, and waste managed that can be displayed by facility, chemical, geographic area, industry (NAICS code), reporting years, or mapped. You can also generate State factsheets.

EnviroFacts	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/enviro/	National information system that provides an integrated single point of access to data on Superfund sites, drinking water, toxic and air releases, hazardous waste, water discharge permits, and grants
Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa-echo.gov/echo/	Go to database to search for facilities in a community to see if an agency has conducted air, water or hazardous waste compliance inspections, violations were found, or enforcement actions were taken.
Compliance and Enforcement Data Systems	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/compliance/data/systems/	Find information that EPA uses to manage and assess performance of the Agency's enforcement and compliance assurance program
The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://epa.gov/ttn/atw/nata2005/tables.html	The National-Scale Air Toxics Assessment (NATA) is EPA's ongoing comprehensive evaluation of air toxics in the U.S. EPA developed the NATA as a state-of-the-science screening tool for State/Local/Tribal Agencies to prioritize pollutants, emission sources and locations of interest for further study in order to gain a better understanding of risks. NATA provides estimates of the risk of cancer and other serious health effects from breathing (inhaling) air toxics in order to inform both national and more localized efforts to identify and prioritize air toxics, emission source types and locations which are of greatest potential concern in terms of contributing to population risk. This in turn helps air pollution experts focus limited analytical resources on areas and or populations where the potential for health risks are highest. Assessments include estimates of cancer and non-cancer health effects based on chronic exposure from outdoor sources, including assessments of non-cancer health effects for Diesel Particulate Matter (PM). Assessments provide a snapshot of the outdoor air quality and the risks to human health that would result if air toxic emissions levels remained unchanged. It is the data base EPA uses for its rulemaking.

Air Data & Air Quality Index	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/airdata/	The AirData website gives you access to air quality data collected at outdoor monitors across the United States, Puerto Rico, and the U. S. Virgin Islands. The data comes primarily from the AQS (Air Quality System) database. You can choose from several ways of looking at the data: download data into a file (or view it on the screen); output the data into one of AirData's standard reports; create graphical displays using one of the visualization tools; investigate monitor locations using an interactive map. AirData lets you display and download monitored hourly, daily, and annual concentration data, AQI data, and speciated particle pollution data.
EJ Links - Data Tools and Resources	Department of Transportation (DOT)	http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/environmental_justice/resources/lib_linksdata.cfm	List of data tools and resources can improve the ability of transportation agencies to identify and address the effects of their programs, policies and activities on low-income and minority populations. This list includes select web sites offered for your convenience in accessing related information. Linking to a web site does not constitute an endorsement by U.S. DOT, or any of its employees, of the sponsors of the site or the products presented on the site
Transit Oriented Database	Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Transit Authority	http://toddata.cnt.org/	The National TOD Database is a project of the Center for Transit-Oriented Development. Intended as a tool for planners, developers, government officials, and academics, the Database provides economic and demographic information for every existing and proposed fixed guideway transit station in the U.S.

Smart Location Database	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/smartlocationdatabase.htm	EPA's Smart Location Database characterizes several built environment, demographic, and regional accessibility variables for every census block group in the United States. This dataset is available to the public for download, web service, or viewing online. Variables are selected for their relevance to travel demand modeling studies. However many have relevance to equity analyses (for instance, number of jobs accessible within a 45 transit commute, number of low wage workers, and proportion of households that own 0 vehicles).
Sustainable Communities HotReport	Partnership for Sustainable Communities - US DOT, EPA, HUD	http://thedataweb.rm.census.gov/TheDataWeb_HotReport2/EPA/EPA_HomePage2.html	The HotReport is designed to give community leaders and residents a quick and easy way to determine how well your community is performing on a variety of sustainability indicators.

Grant-specific Data tools

Name	Agency Lead	Website	Description
Choice Neighborhoods Mapping Tool	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://www.huduser.org/RFMap/RuralFund.html	This tool allows applicants for the Choice Neighborhoods program to identify a customized area where they would target Choice Neighborhoods funds and to electronically submit that area to HUD. The tool also generates a PDF report for the custom geography with data relevant for program design.
Rural Innovation Fund	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://www.huduser.org/RFMap/RuralFund.html	This tool assists Rural Fund applicants to prepare data to submit with their grant application by allowing applicants to draw the exact location of their target neighborhood.
Neighborhood Stabilization Project Mapping Tools	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://www.huduser.org/nsp1/map.aspx	These tools allow NSP 1, 2, and 3 grantees to identify Census Tracts where are targeting their funds
Neighborhood Stabilization Project 2	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://www.huduser.org/nspgis/map.aspx	
Neighborhood Stabilization Project 3	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)	http://www.huduser.org/NSP/NSP3.html	

Tools Not Yet Publicly Available

Name	Agency Lead	Website	Description
Housing and Transportation Affordability Initiative	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/sustainable_housing_communities/housing_transaffinitative	<p>HUD's Office of Sustainable Housing and Communities, in partnership with the Department of Transportation, is heading up the federal Housing and Transportation Affordability Initiative. The initiative seeks to enhance our understanding of the relationship between housing and transportation costs in order to be more effective in advancing housing affordability for both individuals and communities at large. It will produce the Location Affordability Portal which is a reliable, user-friendly source of information on combined housing and transportation costs that help allow families, realty professionals, policymakers, and developers make more informed decisions about where to live, work, and invest. As a companion to this resource, HUD is conducting research on the potential for integrating transportation costs into HUD programs and policies in order to promote greater affordability in HUD-assisted communities.</p>
EnviroAtlas	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/research/healthscience/health-nationalatlas.htm	<p>EnviroAtlas is an index to provide data, research, and analysis on the relationships between nature, people, health, and the economy. This multi-scaled tool with local to national level data. Features the <i>Community</i> component (formerly UrbanAtlas) which estimates the extent to which ecosystem services contribute to the basic needs of populated places. Additionally, the Atlas will reveal underserved areas where management to enhance specific ecosystem services would benefit community health and well-being.</p> <p>**The pilot phase will begin in May 2013. Contact Anne Neale at neale.anne@epa.gov to participate. Expected release date is September 2013.</p>

C-FERST (Community-Focused Exposure and Risk Screening Tool)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/heads/c-ferst/	<p>C-FERST is expected to increase the availability and accessibility of science for risk ranking and understanding the environmental health consequences of community decisions. It will incorporate the latest research estimating human exposures to toxic substances in the environment. In doing so, C-FERST will assist communities with the challenge of identifying and prioritizing environmental health issues and potential actions. The tool provides easy access to maps, information, and location-specific environmental data for decision-making and problem solving. C-FERST and related research that will populate the tool will be used by stakeholders to make informed, cost-effective decisions to improve public health.</p> <p>Currently in pilot phase. Expected release date is 2014.</p>
T-FERST (Tribal-Focused Environmental Risk and Sustainability Tool)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/research/healthscience/health-tferst.htm	<p>EPA is collaborating with tribes and partners to develop the Tribal-Focused Environmental Risk and Sustainability Tool (T-FERST), which will provide the best available human health and ecological science to tribes across the country. Researchers are working with tribes and tribal organizations to identify issues facing tribes, providing critical science for tool development and piloting the tool to test and improve its effectiveness.</p> <p>Currently in pilot phase. Expected release date is 2014.</p>

Community Cumulative Assessment Tool (CCAT)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/research/healthscience/health-ccat.htm	<p>CCAT is a computerized, guided process that informs users of the steps involved in a cumulative risk assessment (CRA), such as problem formulation, conceptual model development, and the consideration of multiple stressors; it is based strongly on EPA CRA recommendations. It clarifies relationships between stressors, sources, and health effects; highlights decision points in the cause-effect chain where actions could improve health and the environment; and helps identify areas of highest uncertainty. CCAT pays particular attention to susceptible and vulnerable populations and a range of chemical and non-chemical stressors to further inform EJ assessments. It accesses informational resources such as C-FERST and GeoPlatform to inform the CCAT decision-making process. A CCAT prototype is complete; a beta-test version will be available for limited stakeholder use, testing, and evaluation in early 2013; a final version will be ready for review, clearance, and distribution in the second half of 2013, followed by public release. CCAT is planned as a module for C-FERST.</p>
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Environmental Quality Index (EQI)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/nheerl/eqi/	EPA is developing an Environmental Quality Index tool (Epidemiological index) for measuring county level environmental quality, which will increase understanding about how multiple stressors simultaneously contribute to health disparities in minority, low-income, tribal, and indigenous populations. It will include high-resolution mapping for 100-250 populated areas selected along several gradients of concern (e.g., size, location, demographics, and environmental and health condition). It will feature selected small towns and rural communities, including rural Tribal lands. By mapping the current availability of “green” infrastructure and applying existing models for pollutant removal, water storage, and other functions.
Human Well Being Index	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	N/A	Includes metrics on ecosystem services, social structure, and economic health. Uses eight dimensions (drawing from sources such as the Generalized Social Survey, CDC data, etc.) to map social well-being. EPA is exploring ways to downscale it so that it is more useful at the local scale. Currently available to County level. For future release and should be complete by 2013 for the country, also at county scale.
Regional Vulnerability Assessment (ReVa)	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	http://www.epa.gov/reva/	ReVA is a statistical tool that works with spatial data - it provides good options for combining data into indices while correcting for bias from correlated data. The tool is being transitioned in 2013, including being rewritten into open source (from SPlus into R) and being made into an analytics module that will link first to the Atlas, then to C-FERST and other tools later.