

THE REGIONAL SCIENCE PROGRAM

Program Background

EPA's Regional Science Program plays a vital role in linking ORD with EPA's regional offices. The program, managed by ORD's Office of Science Advisor, Policy and Engagement, is implemented by a headquarters staff and a team of scientists and engineers located across the EPA regions: Regional Science Liaisons (RSLs). The Regional Science Program builds networks and partnerships between regional and ORD scientists, supports regionally-focused research, and provides technical assistance to help solve challenging environmental problems throughout the U.S.

Regional Applied Research Effort (RARE) Program

The RARE program provides a mechanism for ORD, the regions and other partners to collaborate on near-term regional research priorities. RARE research addresses a wide range of environmental issues, from human health concerns to ecological effects of various pollutants. The RSLs coordinate RARE activities and help communicate research results within their regions.

Regional Research Partnership Program (R2P2)

R2P2 provides short-term training opportunities for regional technical staff to work directly with ORD scientists in ORD laboratories, centers, and offices. The program builds technical capacity in the regions, enhances the skills and knowledge of regional and ORD staff, and promotes the development

of stronger ties between ORD and the regions. The RSLs facilitate the application process in their regions and help candidates establish connections with ORD.

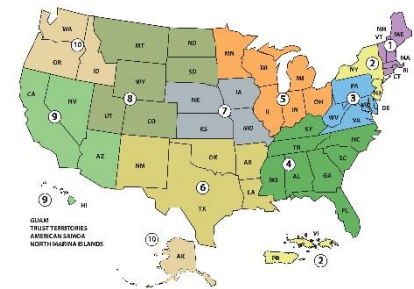
Regional/ORD Community of Science Networking (ROCS-Net) Program

ROCS-Net is an ORD orientation and networking program that provides an opportunity for regional and state staff who have limited familiarity with ORD to visit an EPA research facility and discuss collaborative research opportunities, science priorities and cross-cutting issues with ORD scientists. The program includes overviews of ORD research programs, meetings with laboratory scientists, facility tours, research demonstrations and information sharing sessions between participants.

The Regional Science Program addresses high priority regional science needs through collaborative research activities and technical support.

Note: The RSLs coordinate two additional research partnership programs: The Regional Sustainable Environmental Science (RESES) program, administered by ORD's Sustainable and Healthy Communities (SHC) Research Program, supports community efforts to assign value to ecosystem goods and services through the use of the best available scientific tools and information. The Innovations program supports projects that use

innovative approaches to address regional and state science priorities. The RSLs coordinate RESES and Innovations program activities and research communications in their regions.



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