

GAP Hub Frequently Asked Questions

What is GAP Hub?

- GAP Hub is a new, internal performance management application for EPA's Indian Environmental General Assistance Program (<u>GAP</u>).
- Its primary purpose is to establish a consistent national GAP performance reporting mechanism.
- The American Indian Environmental Office (AIEO) will use GAP Hub to evaluate how well GAP is fulfilling its statutory purpose to help Tribe's build capacity to implement federal programs and to implement solid and hazardous programs, such as:
 - In what program areas are Tribes building environmental capacity?
 - In what program areas is environmental capacity development projected?
 - In what program areas is environmental capacity being lost or rebuilt?
 - What are the results of GAP's contribution to Tribal solid and hazardous waste programs?

Why GAP Hub?

- As the National Program Manager for GAP, AIEO is responsible for efficient program administration and oversight. A pillar of this responsibility is analyzing performance data.
- GAP Hub will use existing data from work plans, progress reports, and EPA-Tribal Environmental Plans to help EPA better answer questions related to how well GAP is doing at assisting Tribes to build environmental program capacity and implement solid and hazardous waste programs.
- Using the reported information provided by EPA Regional Offices, AIEO will prepare national GAP performance reports and may use this information in reports to Congress, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Tribal governments, and others.
- Information in GAP Hub will provide insights into unmet needs and anticipated programmatic areas where support is needed, assist with establishing national priorities, identify success stories, and inform budgetary requests to Congress.

Capacity Indicators

- GAP capacity indicators are environmental program capacity milestones that can be achieved with GAP funding.
- In response to Tribal feedback, Tribes may submit a Tribally Developed Indicator for approval. The request form is available on EPA's <u>GAP website</u>.
- Since 2013, GAP recipients have been using capacity indicators in their environmental planning and program development.
- Starting in October 2023, GAP Project Officers will have access to GAP Hub to enter and update information. A GAP Hub pilot that includes some GAP Project Officers was conducted in fiscal year 2023.

Who will use GAP Hub?

- Importantly, GAP Hub does not increase the administrative burden on Tribes.
- EPA staff, including GAP Project Officers and AIEO, are the primary users.
- GAP Project Officers are responsible for inputting GAP Hub data. AIEO will use GAP Hub for activities such as aggregating data, compiling reports, and sharing information.
- In the future, AIEO may consider additional options for Tribal users.

Where does GAP Hub data come from?

- GAP capacity indicators should be identified in a Tribe's EPA-Tribal Environmental Plan or, for most intertribal consortia, in GAP work plans.
- GAP work plans that include solid and hazardous waste service delivery should include the type of waste managed, its origination, the amount, and disposition in progress reports.
- Information related to progress updates on these indicators may be found in GAP work plans, progress reports, or other end of year reporting.
- See the <u>2022 GAP Guidance</u> for more information.